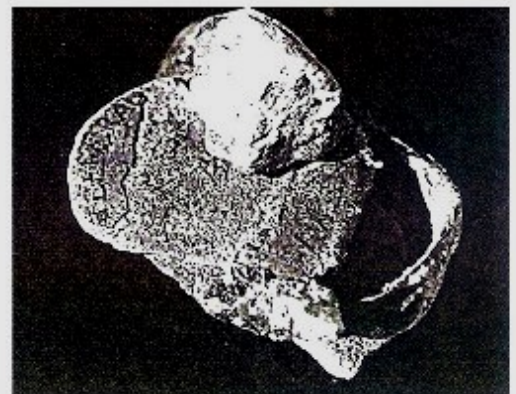
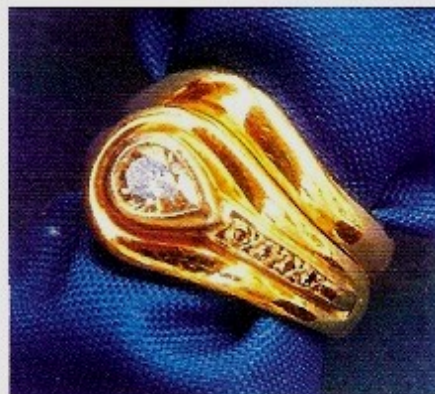
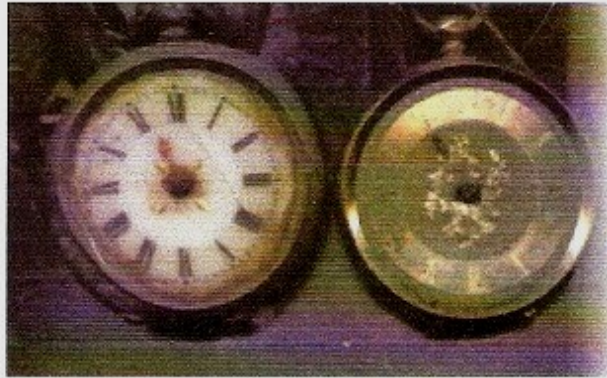


TREASURE TALK

NEWSLETTER FOR SOUTH AFRICAN METAL DETECTING ENTHUSIASTS
NUUSBRIEF VIR SUID AFRIKAANSE METAALVERKLIKKER ENTOESIASTE
Third Quarter 2001 Derde Kwartaal

The finalists in our
Find of the Year
Competition.



Also in this issue : The winner of our "Best Article" competition!

LETTER FROM THE EDITOR/ BRIEF VAN DIE REDAKTEUR

Dear reader

Andy Naude from Stellenberg is the winner of our best-article competition with his article *Wishes Do Come True* (See TT Special Edition 2001). Andy wins a Garrett Treasure Ace 200 metal detector sponsored by Doculam, Randburg Coins and Bickles. Congratulations Andy and a big word of thanks to our friendly sponsors!

As you have seen on our front page, the entries for our Find of the Year Competition is published in this issue. Thanks to everyone who have send in entries. A voting form is included with this newsletter and I would like to ask all our readers to vote for a winner before the 15th of September 2001. Although it is not compulsory to vote, readers **MUST** send us their names/addresses via the voting forms (if they wish to receive Treasure Talk in future). This will ensure that my address list is up to date for the next 12 months.

.....

Beste leser

Andy Naude van Stellenberg is die wenner van ons beste-artikel kompetisie met sy artikel *Wishes Do Come True* (Sien TT Spesiale Uitgawe 2001). Andy wen 'n Garrett Treasure Ace 200 metaalverklikker wat geborg is deur Doculam, Randburg Munte en Bickels. Baie geluk Andy en 'n baie dankie aan ons vriendelike borge!

Soos u op die voorblad kon sien, publiseer ons in hierdie uitgawe die finaliste in ons Vonds van die Jaar Kompetisie. Baie dankie aan almal wat inskrywings gestuur het. Soos verlede jaar, versoek ek weer ons lesers om vir 'n wenner te stem – 'n stembrief word by hierdie uitgawe ingesluit en moet ons asseblief voor 15 September 2001 bereik. U is nie verplig om te stem nie, **MAAR U IS WEL VERPLIG** (indien u in die toekoms Treasure Talk wil ontvang) om u volledige adresbesonderhede via die stembrief aan ons terug te pos. Sodoende is ek verseker dat my adreslys vir die volgende 12 maande op datum is.

Vriendelike groete / Kind regards

Pierre Nortje
Redakteur / Editor

Address: Treasure Talk. PO Box 816, Durbanville 7551 South Africa.
Telephone / Fax: (021) 976-2260
E-Mail: nortjem@iafrica.co.za

Hierdie nuusbrieff word geborg deur **SANTAM** korttermynversekeraars
This newsletter is sponsored by **SANTAM** short term insurers

WISHES DO COME TRUE!



Andy Naude, the winner of our best article competition, receives his prize, a Garrett Treasure Ace 200 Metal Detector, from Melani Apostoli, representative of Doculam, the sponsor of the competition. Well done Andy and also a big thank you to our other two sponsors, Randburg Coins and Bickles Coins. Please see the display adverts of our sponsors in this newsletter.

LETTERS FROM OUR READERS / BRIEWE VAN ONS LESERS

Hi Pierre

Ik bid mijn excuses aan dat het is zo lang geweest sinds ik geschreven heb. Ik heb de "speciale uitgawe" van Treasure Talk ontvangen van u - zeer vriendelijk bedank!

De laatste tijd heb ik minder metaaldetectie kunnen doen dan gewoonlijk, omdat het is een bijzondere natte lente geweest. Nu zit alle velden onder de gewassen, dus ben ik vooral bezig met gewoon coinshooting in nabijliggende parks. Twee weken geleden heb ik een klein goud ring bevonden die bevat vijf zeer klein diamantjes - mijn eerste goud voorwerp sinds 3 of 4 jaar. Ongeveer twee mand geleden heb ik ook een "live" 55mm artillerie granaat vanuit de tweede wereldoorlog gevonden. Ik moest de ontmijningsdienst opbellen te komen deze gevaarlijke vondst weg te halen.

Sinds zez maande ben ik zeer bezet met het werk in ons labo (laboratorium). Gelukkig heb ik nog steeds tijdens weekends mijn hobby om te kunnen ontspannen.

Het beste en veel geluk,

Steve Raiguel
Zemst Weerde (België)

Dear Pierre

Thank you for sending me Treasure Talk. I tell you I cannot wait for the next issue. I would also like to thank Mr. M Pitt of Bloubergstrand for introducing me to your newsletter.

Pierre, is it possible that you could put me in contact with other hobbyists in the Southern Suburbs (Cape Town)? I would like to meet them, as I do not know of anybody out my way here. (Readers who wish to contact Vernon can call me. ED)

Once again, thanks to Santam for sponsoring our wonderful hobby of metal detecting.

Kind regards

Mr Vernon Bowers
Kenwyn

MORE LETTERS FROM OUR READERS / NOG BRIEWE VAN ONS LESERS

Dear Pierre

Thank you very much for all my copies of Treasure Talk I have really enjoyed reading and studying them I have also shown family and friends of the great and exciting finds it increase my confidence and keeps my interest alive.

Please keep me on your mailing list. I treasure every copy and have the following copies on file *Vol. No. 1 Dec 97, Summer 2000, First Quarter 2001, Second Quarter 2001, Special Edit 2001 and Second Special Issue 2001*. If you have any *old copies*. I would like to get these and share in the great exciting finds. If you are in Port Elizabeth please come and see me I have lots of questions to ask. Through your magazine I have spoken to Lukas, Wolfgang, Clarence and Dawie. I have met with John Mulder and his wife. I am a beginner compare to the above names.

Cindy my daughter and I are still very keen metal detectors and beachcombers. We have been doing this hobby for 3½ years. We have two Garrett Machines and a Bounty Hunter.

We have picked up:

- R1 995.00 in money which amounts to 7 317 coins
- Rings = 7 gold, 20 silver and 10 other
- Earrings = 4 gold, 10 silver, 6 other
- Chains = 3 gold, 4 silver, 3 other
- Bangles = 1 gold, 2 silver, 6 other

We have also found lost items for about 12 people.

Regards

Cornelius Nilsen
Port Elizabeth

Pierre

It will be appreciated if you could kindly keep me on your mailing list as I really look forward to all your newsletters and correspondence. I much appreciate it.

Kind regards

Ina Basson
Table View

Pierre

Eers wil ek dankie sê vir die nuusbriewe wat ek ontvang het. Dankie ook vir die lekker saam grawe by Colesberg. Dis nie elke dag wat mens vier sulke gawe en vriendelike mense raakloop om saam mee te bly en die slagvelde op te soek nie. Daarmee vra ek jou om asseblief my groete oor te dra aan Wolf, Andy en Peter.

Ons hier in Gauteng het nou wel nie strande waar ons kan grawe nie, maar die plek is weer ryk aan Boereoorlog Slagvelde, Engels Kampe en meer. Aangesien jy al reeds 'n artikel het omtrent die Droog Gelegte Meer hier in Randfontein met al sy munte en ringe, vertel ek nie weer die oorsprong en geskiedenis nie. Lukas het breedvoerig genoeg verslag gedoen.

Nou'n bietjie nuus van my persoonlike vondste hier uit die meer:

Gedurende November 1999 het ek verskeie goue seëlinge uitgehaal. Laat Desember het ons vorige bure Eddy en Jean Cox (nou woonagtig te Somerset-Wes) by ons kom inloer tydens hul vakansie. Die geselskap het met verloop van tyd in die rigting van metaalverklikker vondste beweeg. Ek het die ringe vir hulle gewys en Jean het dadelik een ring geëien as sou dit aan haar broer, Lex, behoort. Ek het haar gevra om haar broer te skakel en hom daarvan te vertel. Dieselfde aand het Lex my terug geskakel en die ring 100% geëien. Ons het afgespreek dat hy die ring kan kom haal. Ek het ook ons plaaslike koerant (Die Herald) ingelig en hulle het 'n berig geplaas waarin Lex vertel hoe hy die ring van sy ouer suster gekry het toe hy slegs sewentien was. Hy het die ring in die meer verloor toe hy ongeveer agtien was. Die dag toe hy die ring by my kom afhaal, was hy sewentig jaar oud, so hy het uiteindelik sy ring teruggekry na agt-en vyftig jaar wat dit in die meer was. Die uitdrukking en blydschap wat op sy gesig getoon het is die beloning wat my altyd sal by bly.

Op 21 Maart het ek en my kleinseun weer die meer ingevaar opsoek na nog munte en ringe. 'n Hele paar ringe en munte het uitgekom asook 'n goue armband. Aan die buitekant van die armband was die naam "Barbara" gegraveer en aan die binnekant "Love Vernon 18-10-1949". Die vonds het weer ons plaaslike koerant gehaal met die doel om die regmatige eienaar op te spoor. Tot nou toe het niemand egter nog die vonds opgeëis nie. Op 12 April het die meer weer geroep en ek en my kleinseun het weer gaan soek. Buiten die ongeveer 30 munte en 4 ringe het ons weer 'n kleiner soliede goud armband uitgehaal met "Rhona" buite en "25-8-1934" binne gegraveer. Ook hierdie armband wag om opgeëis te word.

Die ou staatsmaker wat ek nou al die afgelope 5 of 6 jaar gebruik is die Garret Grand Master Hunter CX 11, waarmee ek al vele plesier gehad het en ook talle vondste opgespoor het. Vir die manne wat partykeer moedeloos word wil ek net sê "Moed hou en hard werk", die vondste wag om gevind te word.

Groete

Kobus Nel
Randfontein

MORE LETTERS FROM OUR READERS / NOG BRIEWE VAN ONS LESERS

Hello Pierre

Thank you for your letter in which you offer to post a copy of Treasure Talk. I will be very pleased to be placed on your mailing list.

I am the man who has the Garrett Master Hunter CX for sale that we have talked about in the past. You did mention that you had placed an ad in the May issue.* The instrument remains unsold and I will be grateful if you will continue to promote its sale from your end. I have another basic Garrett given to me by a friend, and although I'm not as active as I was, my interest in the Boer War relics of this area remains.

Sincerely

Barrie K Milne
Colenso

*The ad was placed in our Special 2001 edition on page 5. An arm rest and training video is also included. Readers can call Barrie at 036-4222349 or 0827707617 or write to him at PO Box 260, Colenso 3360.

WANTED

A FULL SET OF ORIGINAL TREASURE TALK NEWSLETTERS.

Vol. 1 No.1 (Dec 1997), Vol. 2 No. 1 (May 1998), The New Treasure Talk (March 1999), June 1999, August 1999, October 1999, First Quarter 2000, Second Quarter 2000, Special Bonus Edition 2000, Spring 2000, Summer 2000, Second Summer Edition 2000, First Quarter 2001 (with inset), Second Quarter 2001, Special Edition 2001, Second Special Edition 2001.

With the exception of the Second Quarter 2000 issue, Second Summer 2000 issue, and Second Special Edition 2001 issue, all issues must have color front pages.

WILLING TO PAY R250.00 PLUS POSTAGE

Please contact me via Treasure Talk

PO BOX 816

DURBANVILLE 7551

LOOKING TO SEE THE ELEPHANT

By Alan Miller

I suppose all metal detectorist hope to find the magic metal, gold. Most accomplish it eventually but now and again something or someone spurs one on to seek the real stuff, like nuggets or gold dust, the stuff dreams are made of. We all know about the 10-kilogram nuggets that Australia produces but what about South Africa, it is so much closer?

I was triggered to begin searching for the yellow stuff when approached, whilst beach detecting, by a farmer who was on holiday in the Cape. He asked me if my detector could find gold. He told me that he had a farm in the Eastern Transvaal where a 16-pound nugget was found many years ago. A friendly conversation and a bit of diplomatic wheedling eventually got me an open invitation to visit his farm situated near Barberton. However, this is about as far as one can go in South Africa away from Cape Town and the logistics and expense made the trip something to consider at another time.

The opportunity made me think of that old detectorists watchword, Research, Research and eventually I found out that one did not have to drive more than half an hour from my home to find at least two genuine gold bearing sources and others an hour away, but what made me sit up was a paragraph I read in a local book, long out of print, of a gold strike in the Karoo a 120 years ago, even mentioning the names of the farms involved. This led to endless phonecalls to archives, visits to libraries and personal contacts. I was amazed how everything fell into place as I even obtained an original facsimile of two mining engineers reports, these even describing the appearance of the nuggets with tiny quartz crystals adhering.

A further contact with a geologist friend had within half an hour the name of a colleague and thus followed the name and telephone number of the farmer I needed. A tricky business, getting permission from a stranger to detect on his land. It took lots of courage and diplomacy to breach the subject then several contacts to eventually let me stay on his farm for a week for which I offered to pay him well. All turned out right as we became good friends.

Once established I decided to buy a dedicated gold detector and coils and received lots of support from Doculam for the Gold Stinger. I had endless problems trying to get electronic headphones and special gold probes from America but all arrived just in time. The best news was that a Department of Mines official told me that metal detecting for gold did not qualify as prospecting thus releasing me from the endless bureaucratic jumble of obtaining prospecting licenses.

The trip began with all the high expectations of every 'Gold bug'. That year I found, the Karoo had received the heaviest rains for decades and as I drove off the tar I had an 80

kilo dirt road to negotiate which began with a 'Road Closed' sign! An alternate route would have entailed an extra 120 kilos, luckily a road grader driver arrived whilst I was quietly fuming and he radioed another colleague and I was told to keep to the side of any pools and I would be OK. The following two hours were a nightmare of near stalls in thick mud and low lying bridges covered in debris. Every road sign showing depressions with wavy lines made my heart sink as there were no farms for miles and no other vehicles likely to be driven by idiots like me for help.

The farm, I discovered was 90 square kilometers in extent, a lot of searching with an eight-inch coil. Other details from the farmer was that the portion of the farm where gold was originally found had been sold off to an absentee tenant, he did however tell me that he was supervisor during the owners absence. The following morning I consulted a 110-year-old sketch map with 'gold' printed here and there over a five-kilometer stretch adjacent to and including a river bed. It was almost impossible to gauge from only a line sketch where everything started and ended. The river was in spate after the heavy rains, this in the Great Karoo, no gal. My initial probes surprisingly gave out signals at the lower end of the discrimination scale, these in eroded rock which had formed crevices millimeters wide and centimeters deep, impossible to reach. A very good pounding with a geological hammer and then with a test magnet drew out a piece of old rusty fencing wire about half a centimeter long. This was to be a very tiresome and consistent target item.

I did lots of discrimination experiments and those wire bits went too far up the reject scale to ignore, who wants to reject unknown targets? I had several good non-ferrous signals and these were heartstoppers and often at the bottom of those small fissures; anyone want a handful of bird shot and airgun pellets? It was only when the Sun rose over the rim of the river valley that I realized that I had begun my detector holiday several weeks too close to summer. The farmer was later helpful aligning my sketchmap with the landscape and without giving anything away, he showed me that part of the farm where he said the prospectors had worked.

Over the next few days I traced the riverbed through dry thorn bush and various tributaries each productive with rusty wire and an amazing amount of old farm rubbish everywhere, It was very tiresome recovering bootnails and broken farm implement pieces in the fierce heat that the Karoo Sun was producing. I finally traced an old prospector's location hoping to find the odd cache and loose nugget. There were indeed quite a few buttons, overall buckles and odd rusty tools underground, but that day all I caught of concern was a large bont tick on my leg which resisted a burning match and attention from the focussed rays from the Sun through a magnifying glass. One of the consistent warnings in gold prospecting books is about 'Hot Rocks' which give false signals in gold bearing areas.

Believe every word of it. They range from small stones to huge boulders and really make a specialized detector necessary for gold searching. I can say I worked very hard under miserable heat conditions and somewhat in the dark as far as what I was doing.

One of the characteristics of this particular gold field was that the productive section was on another adjoining farm. My farmer very kindly phoned his neighbor who agreed to come to our farmhouse the next evening. About an hour before the neighbor arrived, my host presented me with a small glass jar for my interest. The jar had a label " Gold from the farm," It was threequarters full of nuggets. They were all about 2 to 3mm square. My magnifying glass revealed the little quartz crystals attached to most of the nuggets.

I was very expectant in my naivety that the farmer would reveal the place to begin digging the things out, but things seldom work out so favorably, but at least I knew they were there for finding. A quick test showed that even the smaller nuggets were detectable down to about 5 inches using my small elliptical coil and volume at maximum. Good! The neighbor subsequently arrived and we had a most pleasant evening discussing metal detecting and chatting. The final task was to get permission to detect on his farm on a particular kopje which was where the gold was found all those years ago in the hundreds of ounces.

This is where the whole thing fell apart. Apparently the farmer was a tenant on the farm and the owner was the original farmer's widow. The terms of the contract were that no one, even the tenant was allowed to exploit any minerals on the farm. I had to accept this and I believed the farmer. His wife was also disappointed, as she was thrilled that one could find gold with a metal detector. My farmer friend was also sorry but he didn't lessen my disappointment with a conciliatory clue or two. I had told my farmer friend that any gold I might recover was his, as I just wanted to find some and photograph it. I had in mind at that time to write an article for an overseas Treasure magazine to recoup some of my expenses.

This was not an idle piece of subterfuge and I really wasn't interested in possessing small amounts of gold per se as I had up till then been quite successful in hoarding a goodly number of rings from my previous detecting activities. The finding would be the thrill not the possession. The heat finally got to me after a very intensive battery draining exercise and several kilometers of rusty wire in tiny lengths among other things. I suddenly said to myself aloud whilst standing in a dry river bed " What am I doing here looking for gold. I can find it any day ready made up into rings back home for nothing"

A few days later I went metal detecting with my friend Peter on a local beach and found two gold rings which all goes to prove the adage 'Gold is where you find it'

TALK TO TREASURE TALK ... Please write us an article!

TIPS FOR THE TREASURE HUNTER

By Vernon Bowers

- It is good to observe and listen to people. You can stick a card on a billboard, or hand out cards letting people know that you will look for lost items and make some money. There is also the Lost and Found section of newspapers.
 - Where do you go searching? Where people are or have lived. And not always outside... A wall, skirting boards, chimneys, doorways, under floors (remember that old wooden floors sag) and don't forget the old dining-room settee or chair. In old houses you can take a bent piece of wire, go along the skirting boards and you will also find coins.
 - Another place where people also hid or liked to hide their valuables is the fowl run, as fowls are good alarms.
 - Old maps can also tell you where picnic-spots or camping grounds were. Reading old newspapers of year's back can also tell you of the location of places to search.
 - Do not forget to get permission from the owner when detecting on private property.
 - Do not detect where electric cables might be in the ground, be careful of pipes and watch while digging.
 - Beach hunting can also be profitable. Many people put on sun tan lotion and lose rings, or put jewelry in their swimming trunks and loose it. After weekends and especially after a winter storm is a good time to look for items. At high tide if you dig behind any beam, like bathing-houses or obstacles, you are sure to pick up coins, as the water leaves it behind.
 - To protect your machine on windy days, it is advisable to use a plastic bag to cover the housing from the sand and dust.
 - When digging for coins or any object in grass, try and make the smallest hole to retrieve it and remember to fill it again.
 - Catalogue your finds (as a precaution in event of theft).
 - Know or learn first aid and out door survival. Do not take chances and never think you are younger or agile than you actually are.
 - And last but not least... ENJOY THE HOBBY!
-

2001

**TREASURE TALK FIND OF THE YEAR COMPETITION
TREASURE TALK FONDS VAN DIE JAAR KOMPETISIE**

**Sponsored by/ Geborg deur
Excalibur Mining**

**Sole Importers of /Alleenverspreiders van
FISHER METAL DETECTORS**

THE FINALISTS / DIE FINALISTE

- A) Erica Mulder: Pierre Cardin goue dameshorlosie**
- B) Michael J Bull: Anglo Boer War identity plate**
- C) Peter Batchelor: 18ct gold ring with pear shaped diamond**
- D) Pat Cassidy: Britse Halfkroon van 1953**
- E) Marius le Roux: Koningin Victoria gedenkmedalje van 1887**
- F) John Mulder: 18kt goue ring met 0.9kt ovaal diamant**
- G) Andy Naude: Gold Ring corroded between 1c piece and rock**
- H) Peter Stoklas: Old Lacrosse Belt Buckle**
- I) Lukas van der Merwe: Goue en Silwer Sakhorlosies****
- J) Kobus Nel: Twee inskrywings – 18 kt goue armbande**
- K) W Roux: Holbrook's Bottel (Circa 1899)**

*** Although he is the sponsor of the competition, I asked Lukas to share this find with our readers.*

*** Alhoewel hy die borg van ons kompetisie is, het ek Lukas gevra om hierdie inskrywing met ons lesers te deel.*

PLEASE PICK A WINNER / KIES ASSEBLIEF 'N WENNER

Voting form included in this newsletter / Stembrief ingesluit in hierdie nuusbrieff

FINALIS A

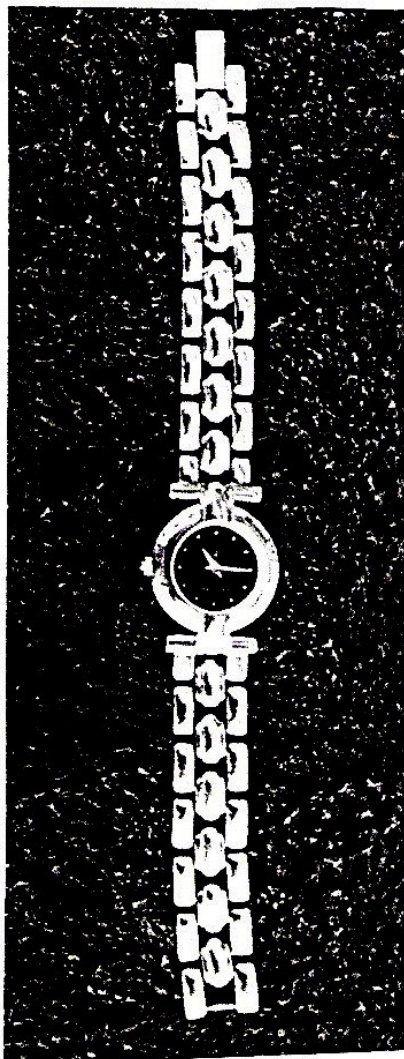
Naam: Erica Mulder van Plettenbergbaai

Inskrywing: Pierre Cardin Goue Dames Horlosie

Masjien gebruik: Fisher CZ7

Waar en wanneer gevind:

Ek en my man, John, het die oggend van 7 Februarie 2001 op Lookout-strand gestap. Ek het 'n baie diep sein van ongeveer 30 cm in die nat sand gekry. Tot my verbasing het ek die Pierre Cardin goue horlosie uitgegrawe. Dit is in perfekte toestand aangesien dit blykbaar net die vorige dag daar verloor is. Wat kan ek sê? 'n Goue horlosie..., ongeskonde en in perfekte toestand. Dit was iets wat ek al so lank begeer het!



FINALIST B

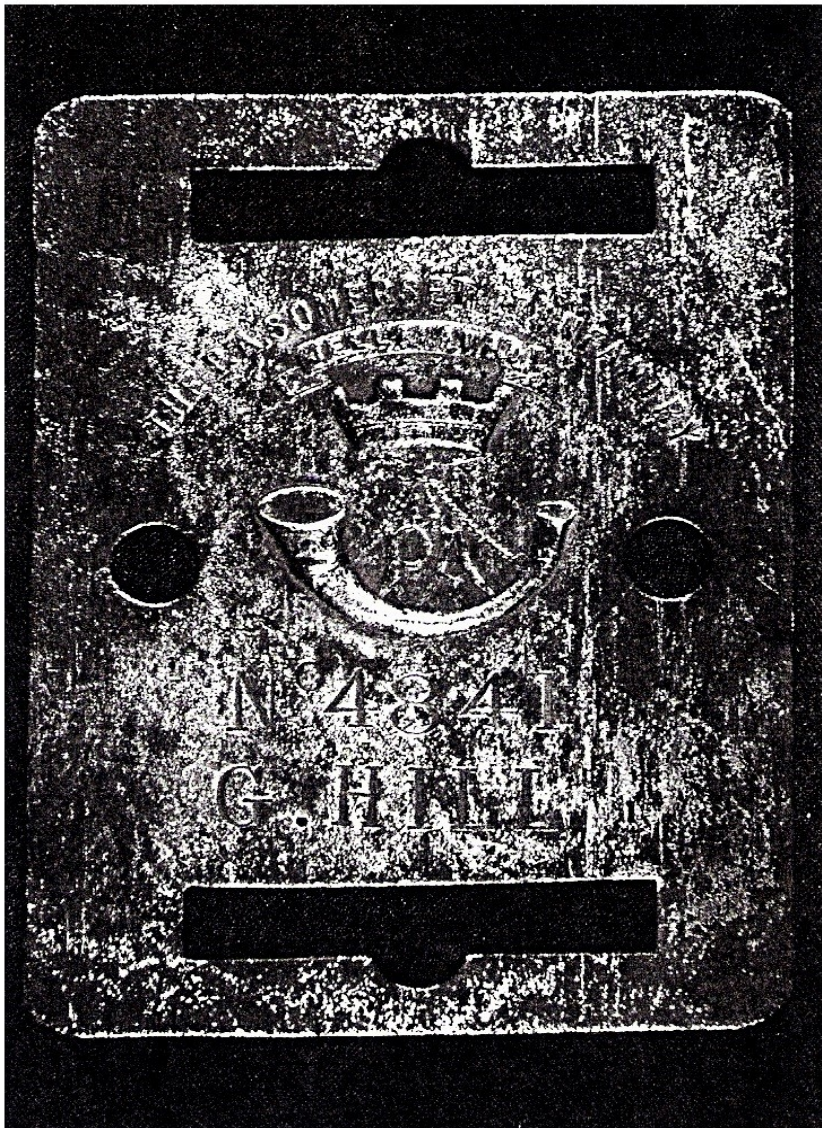
Name: Michael J. Bull from Springs

Entry: Identity plate belonging to Private G Hill No 4841 of the Prince Albert Somerset Light Infantry. Issued during the Anglo Boer War (1899 – 1902). The identity plate was attached to the soldiers hospital bed for easy recognition.

Detector used: C-Scope 4ZX

Where and when it was found:
(Short background)

The item was found on a campsite in Heidelberg (Gauteng) during January 2001. It was at a depth of approximately 30 cm. The library at the Johannesburg War Museum was able to confirm that the soldier survived his wounds and returned to England. At this time I am trying to locate the descendents of Private Hill in order to give them his I.D. plate.



FINALIST C

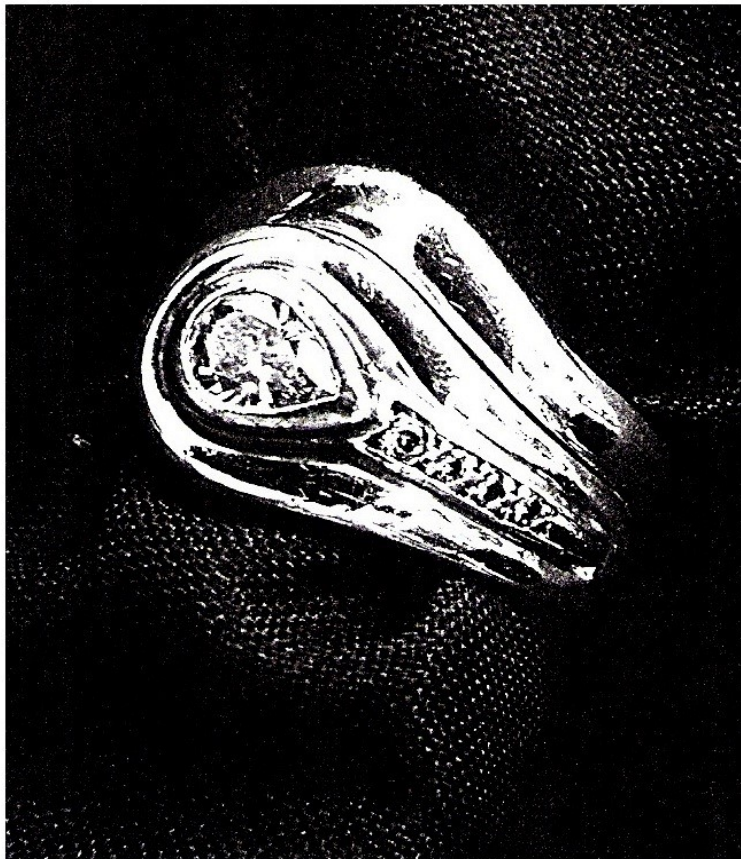
Name: Peter Batchelor

Entry: 18kt Gold ring with pear shaped diamond insured for R19 000.00

Detector used: Fisher CZ7a

Where and when it was found:
(Short background)

I found this beautiful diamond ring at Fish Hoek beach – Please read the full story as described by Sunette van der Merwe, who lost it, in Treasure Talk (Second Quarter 2001 edition). This is an extract...”On the 24th December, I went to Fish Hoek beach for the morning with my children, my sister and her children. I hardly ever take my wedding ring of (I had the engagement and wedding ring combined in the mean time.) And that morning I unfortunately made no exception ... At one stage I was carrying my eldest child in my arms and we were enjoying the waves. He wanted to swim on his own so I pushed him away from my body, but my hand got entangled with his Bentley belt and I felt my ring slip off my finger. It was the most helpless feeling I have had in a long time – I could feel my ring fall of my finger, but I could not see it...”



FINALIS D

Naam: Pat Cassidy van Rosendal

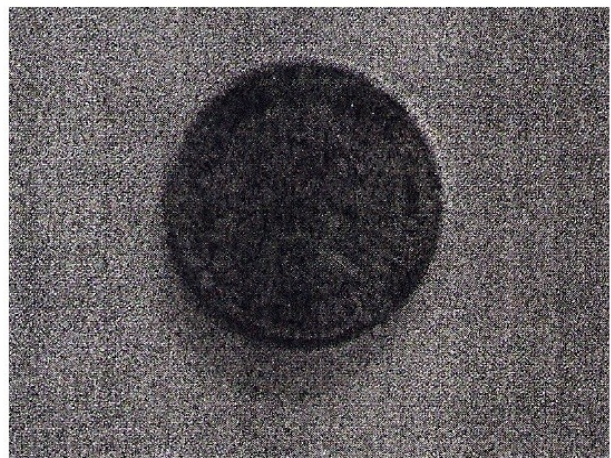
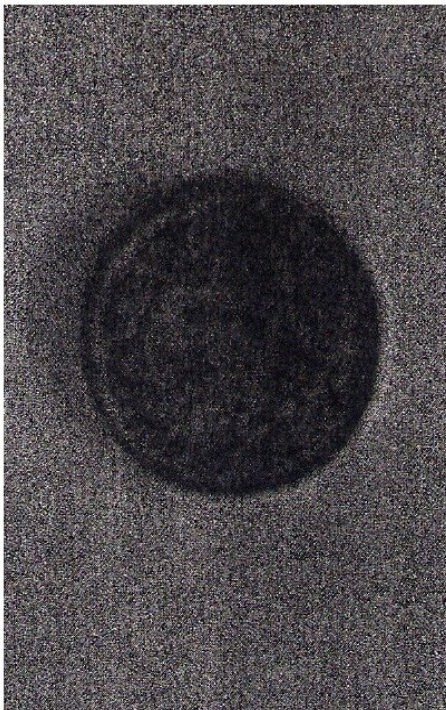
Inskrywing: Britse halfkroon van 1953

Masjien gebruik: Fisher 1280X Aquanaut

Waar en wanneer is dit gevind?

(Kort agtergrond)

Ek het onlangs van Gauteng hier na die Weskaap getrek en vir die eerste keer 'n metaalverklikker gekoop. In Maart 2001 het ek een oggend op Bloubergstrand gaan stap met my masjiem, maar daar was die betrokke oggend soveel mense op die strand dat ek maar koers moes kies na 'n klipperige area weg van hoofstrand. Na 'n goeie sein het ek die ou muntstuk uitgrawe, maar kon dit nie dadelik identifiseer nie. By die huis gekom, het ek die munt skoon gemaak en dit toe geidentifiseer as 'n halfkroon van die eerste jaar van Koningin Elizabeth die tweede se heerskappy.



FINALIS E

Naam: Marius le Roux
Inskrywing: Koningin Victoria Gedenkmedalje uit 1887
Masjien gebruik: Minelab Musketeer XS

Waar en wanneer is dit gevind?
(Kort agtergrond)

Hierdie gedenkmedalje van Koningin Victoria is gevind in 'n park in Mosselbaai in Augustus 2000. Die item was ongeveer 30cm diep. Die medalje is van brons en agterop is "Divine Hall" gegraveer. Aan die voorkant is die volgende inskripsies:- "Regd No 52773" asook "Born 1819", "Crowned 1838", "Married 1840" en "Jubilee 1887"



FINALIS(T) F

Naam: John Mulder van Plettenbergbaai

Inskrywing: Diamantring, 18kt goud met 0.9kt diamant - gewaardeer vir R40 000

Masjien gebruik: Fisher Impulse

Waar en wanneer is dit gevind?
(Kort agtergrond)

Donderdag 10 Mei, 10h30 arriveer ons by die strand en tot ons verbasing is die see stormagtig en ongeskik - reuse branders wat kort kort die waterlyn amper 100 m terugtrek see toe en dan weer volspoed op die strand uitjaag.

Een oomblik loop jy op nat sand en onverwags 'n paar minute later is jy in diep water wat jou onderstebo wil stoot.

Dit is egter alles goeie nuus want dieselfde toestand het die vorige dag reeds 'n halwe meter sand op die middel van die strand waar die mense gewoonlik lê weggespoel.

Na ongeveer 2 uur kom wys Erica my die goue ring en munte wat sy reeds gekry het en ek deel haar mee dat ek darem R40 munte gevind het maar geen juwele - ons besluit om netnou te vertrek.

Oudergewoonte loop ons albei nog 'n laaste paar kronkel draaie oppad motor toe en in die proses ontdek ek vir oulaas 'n kol sand wat heelwat R5/R2/R1 oplewer en waar ek eintlik meer tyd spandeer as wat ek beplan het, in so 'n mate dat nog 'n halfuur verbygaan en ek besef nou is dit tyd om haastig te word en loop sommer so al soekende reguit motor toe.

Ek is reeds so moeg dat ek nie eers meer al die seine grawe - net die vlakkes en die dowwes, want die koper sente en botteldoppies soebat die hardste op die Impuls dat ek hulle moet uitgrawe. Net toe kry ek weer 'n sein wat my oortuig om te grawe en skaars 15cm diep kry ek hierdie 18kt goue ring. Die gewig en geel kleur sê dadelik dit moet 18kt wees maar sonder leesbril en in die helder sonlig lyk die ovaal steen eers soos 'n ontwerp saamgestel uit klein steentjies. Toe ek egter weer mooi kyk sien ek dat dit in werklikheid een groot ovaal steen is. Verbasend hoe mooi so 'n steen skitter as jy hom na drie uur se harde werk in jou hand het. Die ring is gewaardeer vir R40 000.



FINALIST G

Name: Andy Naude from Stellenberg

Entry: Gold Ring corroded between old 1 cent piece and rock

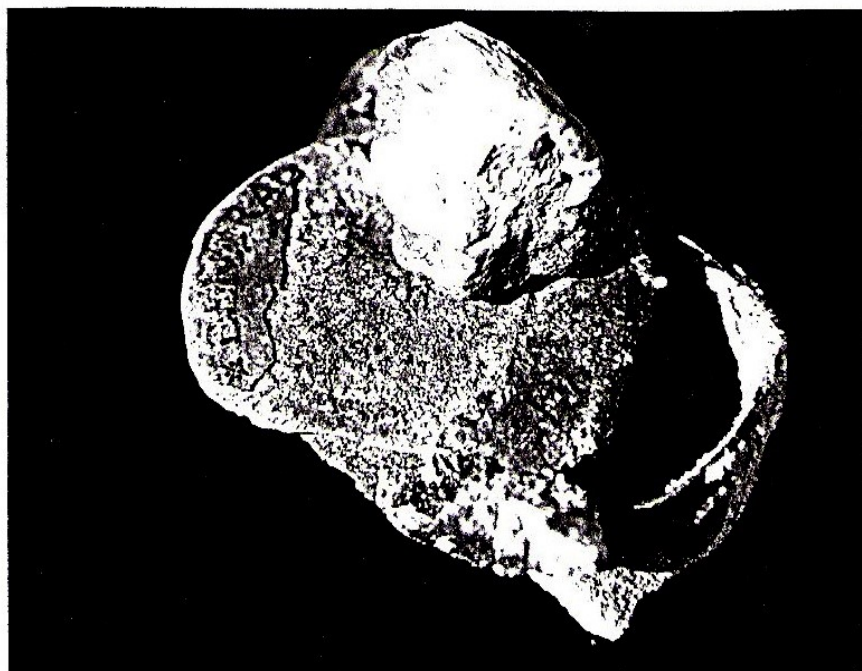
Detector used: Fisher CZ20

Where and when it was found:
(Short background)

One of my most coincidental finds in recent months, whilst Scuba diving for treasure, was a mixed signal. I had decided that it was most probably a pull-tab or one of the older nickel coins, both of which sometimes give mixed signals. As I fanned away the sand I eventually saw green corrosion and thought that I had found a coin. I fanned some more and saw the large old 1c piece, circa 1961, in the hole. The coin was corroded into a bit of rock. On closer inspection I saw that between the rock and the 1c piece was a gold mans signet ring. I decided not to clean it, but keep it as a conversation piece, calling it "between a rock and a hard place!"

Who Says
Our Hobby
Has No
Surprises ?

Gold Ring
Corroded
Between
Coin and
Stone.

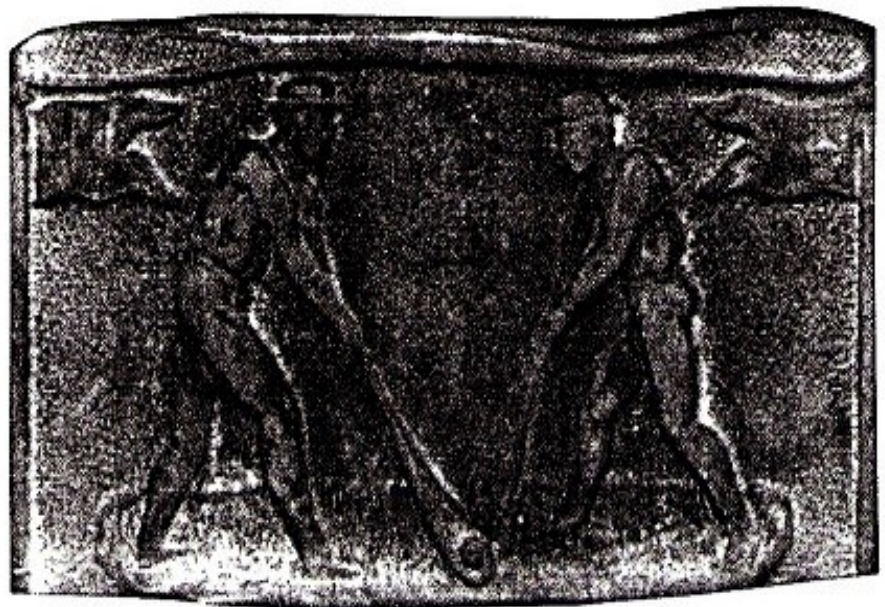


Name: Peter Stoklas

Entry: Lacrosse Belt Buckle

Detector used: White's Spectrum

Where and when it was found:
(Short background)



Friends of mine received permission (and invited me with them) to search near the old Karoo town of Matjiesfontein which served as a large military camp for Anglo forces during the Anglo Boer War (1899 –1902). The town itself is a national monument and we therefore were only allowed to detect the areas surrounding the town. When I found the buckle no one in our group knew what it was so I asked a friend of mine to do some research on the internet. It was identified as a Lacrosse (sport) belt buckle. Here is some information on the sport and also the history of Matjiesfontein...

LACROSSE, The national game of Canada. It derives its name from the resemblance of its chief implement used, the curved netted stick, to a bishop's crozier. It was borrowed from the Indian tribes of North America. The game, also called baggataway, attracted much attention from the early French and British settlers in Canada. However, it was not until 1867, the year in which Canada became a Dominion, that G.W. Beers, a prominent player, suggested that Lacrosse should be recognized as the national game, and the National Lacrosse Association of Canada was formed. From that time the game has flourished vigorously in Canada and to a less extent in the United States. In 1868 an English Lacrosse Association was formed, but, although a team of Indians visited the United Kingdom in 1867, it was not until sometime later that the game became at all popular in Great Britain. Its progress was much encouraged by visits of teams representing the Toronto Lacrosse Club in 1888 and 1902, the methods of the Canadians and their wonderful "short-passing" exciting much admiration.

MATJIESFONTEIN: The Scot, James Douglas Logan, catapulted Matjiesfontein with its dreamy, rural serenity to a top tourist resort in the last century. When James Logan arrived at Matjiesfontein, it was a bleak and desolate place. A solitary wood and iron shed stood alongside rails that vanished northwards over the plains. But Logan looked past the barren landscape. He saw a way of making a fortune from the Karoo's scarcest commodity - water. As an experienced railway man Logan knew that every locomotive needed 250 000 litres of water to cross the Karoo, and that there was no reliable source between Touws River and De Aar, so he was strategically placed. Logan spent over £1 000 finding a source capable of delivering 50 000 litres an hour and piping it to Matjiesfontein. With more water than he needed, he developed an elaborate "water world" which was opened in November, 1889, with the grandest of parties. Hundreds of guests were invited to the "water world" opening. Logan had arranged cricket, clay pigeon shooting, billiards, tennis and croquet for the entertainment of his guests. Logan was an expert photographer, an amateur magician and member of the Magic Circle, a dentist, horse-breeder, boxer, and a keen sportsman. The development of cricket in South Africa owes much to this man. He invited Edward Alfred Lohmann, considered by many to be one of the world's greatest ever all-rounders, to Matjiesfontein. It is said that the first cricket 'international' in South Africa was played at Matjiesfontein against an English team. No records could be found suggesting that Lacrosse was ever played there.

FINALIS I

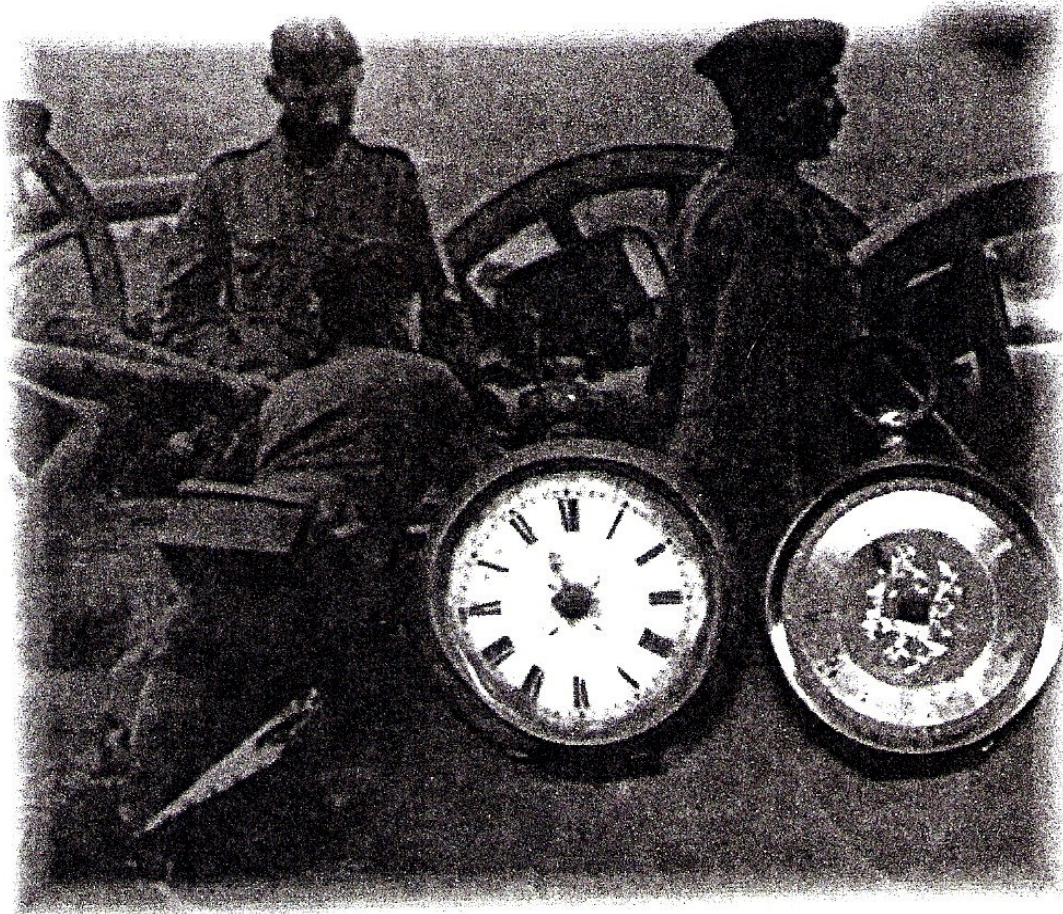
Naam: L van der Merwe van Randgate

Inskrywing: Een goue en een silwer sakhorlosie (gelyktydig gevind)

Masjien gebruik: Fisher 1225X

Waar en wanneer is dit gevind ? (Kort agtergrond)

Ek het die items gevind naby by 'n ou Britse militêre kamp uit die Anglo-Boere Oorlog naby Rensburg stasie in die Colesberg distrik. Op 'n koppie het ek 'n klipvesting gevind waar 'n kanon gestasioneer was. By 'n groterige klip het ek 'n sterk sein gekry. Ek gee 'n redelike diep steek in die grond en rol die sooi om. Ek hoor toe dat die item uit is en krap 'n silwer sakhorlosie uit. Ek is toe sommer kwaad vir myself, want dit lyk toe vir my of ek die glasie stukkend gestee het. Die silwer horlosie het sulke goue insetsels in die gesig, wat my toe laat bly word dat ek darem ietsie goud ontdek het. Ek besluit toe om te kyk of daar nie nog iets in die gat is nie – moontlik 'n muntstuk of ketting. Tot my verbasing sien ek hoe 'n goue sakhorlosie vir my lê en loer. Ek kon dit nie glo nie – hoe kom twee horlosies hier bo op die koppie, en dan nog in dieselfde gat?!



Nota van Redakteur/ Note from the editor: Sien my kommentaar oor hierdie inskrywing vroeër in hierdie nuusbrieff / Please see my comment on this entry earlier on in this newsletter.

FINALIS J

Naam: Kobus Nel van Randfontein

Inskrywing: J(1) 18 Karaat Goue Armband ("Rhona")
J(2) 18 karaat Goue Armband ("Barbara")

Masjien gebruik: Garrett CX11 Master Hunter

Waar en wanneer is dit gevind?
(Kort agtergrond)

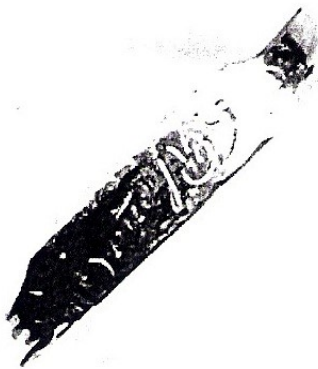
Beide items is gevind op onderskeidelik 21/03/01 en 12/04/01 in die leeg gepompte Robinson meer in Gauteng.

J(1) is 'n 18 kt goue vroue armband met "Rhona" buite op gegraveer en aan die binnekant die datum "25-8-34"

J(2) is ook 'n 18kt goue vroue armband met "Barbara" buite op gegraveer en aan die binnekant die woorde "'Love Vernon 15.10.45".

RHONA

25 / 8 / 34



BARBARA

LOVE VERNON

15 . 10 . 45



FINALIS K

Naam: W Roux van Sonstraal

Inskrywing: Holbrook's Bottel (Circa 1899)

Masjien gebruik: White's Spectrum

Waar en wanneer is dit gevind? (Kort agtergrond)

In Mei 2001 het ek het saam met vriende by Arundel in die Noord Kaap by 'n ou Britse militêre kamp (Anglo Boere oorlog) gaan soek. Een van my eerste seine van die oggend was 'n harde vlak sein. Net onder die grondoppervlak het ek 'n perde roskamp uitgegrawe, maar daar was nog 'n sein in die gat. 'n Ou geroeste blik het te voorskyn gekom. Nog steeds het ek 'n sein gehoor. Tot my groot verbasing het ek 'n pragtige Holbrook's bollel uitgegrawe met die glasproppie nog in perfekte toestand. Maar hoe kon my masjien die glas "hoor"? Weer het ek die spoel in die gat gedruk en daar was nog steeds 'n sein. 'n Tweede roskam het te voorskyn gekom. Ek weet nou nog nie waarom die kakie 'n 100 jaar gelede al die items in dieselfde gat begrawe het nie, maar hoe ook al sy, die bottel is nou wat ek 'n toevallige vonds noem.

Die bottel is dieselfde as die regterkanste een op die foto (Foto uit Bottles & Bygones deur Ethleen en Al Lastovia , Tweede uitgawe 1990 bladsy 65)



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DOWSE - DETECT - DIG

by Owen Timmermans

High and dense the grass grew --- not exactly a place to go metal detecting. Should really come back some other time, bring along the weed-eater I had purchased specially for such surroundings. But what is that? Looking more closely I recognised hidden amidst the grass the skull of a wart hog — a male judging by the magnificent long curved incisors. My lucky day — I simply love ivory. I was once given a truly magnificent pestle and mortar carved out of solid, warm yellow coloured ivory. And at home I have securely locked away, the tooth of a hippopotamus.

The African elephant once freely roaming the forests of Central Africa supplies most of the ivory of commerce. Tusks average about 15 - 16 pounds in weight though tusks around 70 pounds and over have been obtained.

The best African ivory is of a warm transparent mellow yellow with little grain or mottling. The ivory I had just discovered, the curved teeth of the male warthog is rather coarse, but ivory it is!

Being as pleased as punch, future searches filled my imagination. There is the story of the communal grave yard whereto all old, magnificently tusked bull elephants migrated to spend their last days. A fable I am sorry to conclude. What's not a fable is that powerful Black chiefs collected and at times of war buried ivory hoards which in many cases still lie where they were hidden.

I vividly remember a story I once read about the Mahdi's revolt in 1885 in the Sudan. The German-born governor of Equatoria -- the Southern Sudan province -- Emin Pasha, had to flee for his life. What was he to do with the two hundred tons of ivory he had so industriously collected? A number of large caches of tusks were buried in separate localities, to be dug up on his return. Arab slavers murdered the good man in 1892 and into his grave sank the secret of the valuable caches.

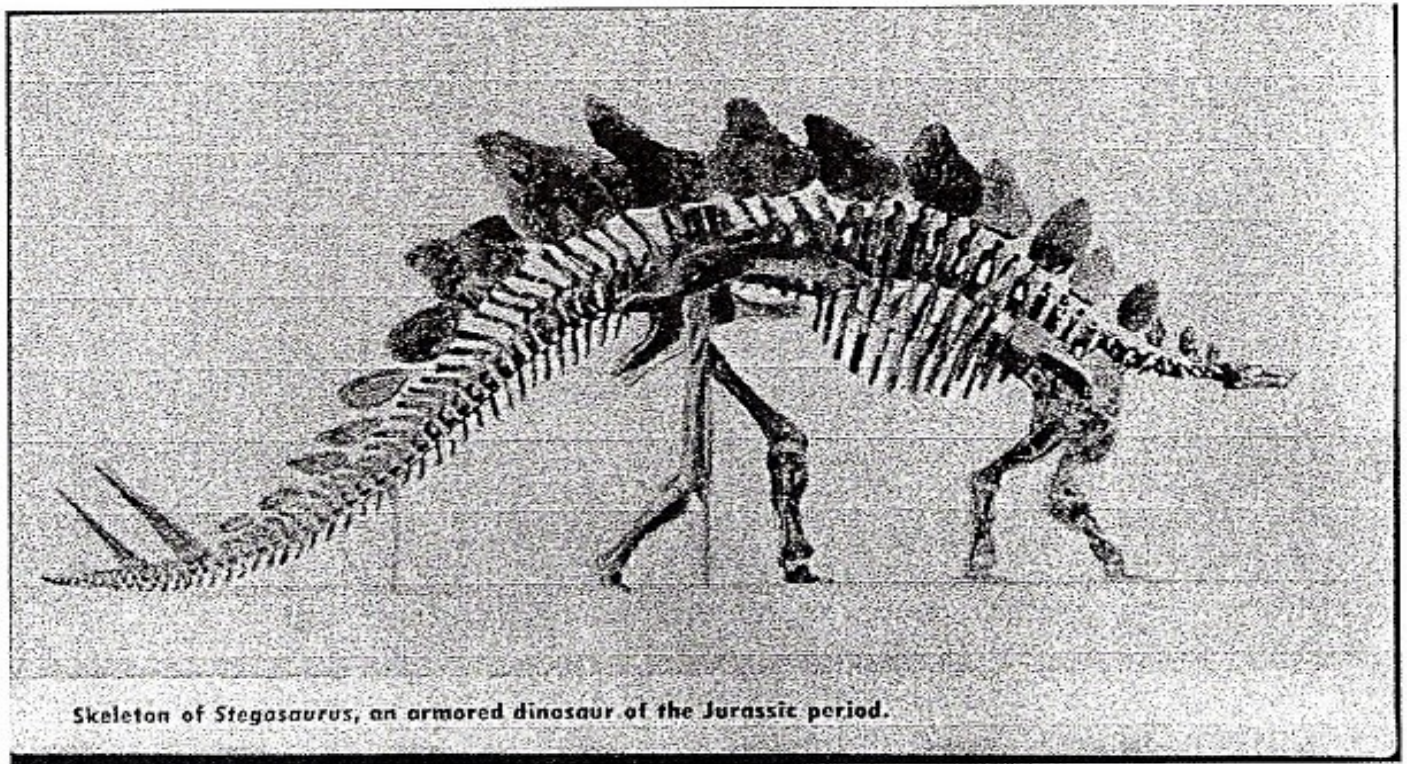
Let's not forget fossil ivory, obtained from the remains of an early elephant, the woolly mammoth now extinct some 200 000 years. Its ivory, as perfect as on the day this creature succumbed to the icy weather of the fast approaching ice-age. Mostly found in Siberia. And let's not forget the Mastodon extinct even longer. Its graves are found in Alaska, around the Yukon river.

All very far away, what about something in that line closer home?

The Karoo! The late Robert Broom, famous Paleontologist once stated that the Karoo had the richest fossil beds the world had ever known and his discoveries proved that giant Dinosaurs once hunted South Africa's brooding silent expanses. Fossilized bones of long extinct Dinosaurs — palaeontologists go mad about them — famous museums will pay a fortune to have rare skeletons or even parts of skeletons of these denizens of the Cretaceous period of the world's history, sixty million years ago.

The thrill of detection is there, the outdoor exercise too but the metal detector is failing us or are we failing it? Neither ivory nor bone carry metal. Dowsing is the answer!

Few people believe in dowsing and fewer still are good at it. About 10% of the population would make good dowsers, and roughly 70% make average dowsers on



Skeleton of *Stegosaurus*, an armored dinosaur of the Jurassic period.

Skeleton of *Stegosaurus*, an armoured Dinosaur of the Jurassic period.



Naaupoort Heights — a British Military Garrison, the site of which I found by map-dowsing Note the loopholes in the wall.



A vast hoard of ivory in the north-west of the Congo, Most of these marvellous tusks were buried in a number of caches in the Lake Albert region. It is rumoured that they were never discovered

working hard at it.

Uri Geller, the well known psychic, famed for his spoon bending demonstrations, was a successful dowser, in fact made millions out of finding gold and oil deposits.

It's hard work, judging by his own testimony: *"Remote sensing as I practice it, involves very intense concentration over a long period. Before I visit a prospecting area, I study the maps I have been given for at least two hours a day, sometimes more. I memorise their main features, so that I will recognize them when I am helicoptering over them later. I do regular spells of map dowsing. Eventually I find myself zeroing in on certain regions which I mark in pencil on the map. I check these over and over again for days or even weeks, to make sure that my impressions remain the same. When they do, I feel very confident, and mark the areas to be flown over, on site for some aerial dowsing and eventually to be tramped over inch by inch for the 'fine tuning' and the location of exact spots .*

I would love to be able to claim I am always 100% correct, but I cannot!

There is no need to be the great Uri Geller to be successful in dowsing. I have never found, nor searched for great oil and gold deposits, but much lower down the scale, yet using the same psychic senses , have found producing water wells on my farm – where the need was great!

Then on making a survey of Anglo-Boer war battle and skirmish sites, I used the L-rods to find an old blockhouse where my metal detector found several Lee-Enfield cartridges, a host of cartridge cases, brass tunic buttons, a strangely shaped meat fork, and several empty food tins all ex British troops.

Some other day, while out examining old gold mines along the north slopes of the Witwatersberg mountain chain, I took out my L-rod in an attempt to find one of the old shafts. Locking the picture of a small shaft in my mind, I followed the rod and guess where it took me? To a small shaft hidden by trees that had grown all around it. I never realized its presence until it was almost too late.

Still searching for Anglo-Boer War sites I wanted to find the once presence of a very large garrison mentioned and extensively discussed by Amery in his 'Times History of the War in South Africa'. *"Early in January 1901, Babington took post at, an exceedingly strong position on the Witwatersberg, commanding the narrow valley which separates that range from the Magaliesberg.*

Babington with 2000 men held an entrenched camp on the Naauwpoort Heights, eight miles south of Olifant's Nek.

I decided that this would be an excellent area to search for relics of that war. It's quite distant from the Rand and other populated centers and hopefully not so much disturbed.

Searching map 2527CD REX I readily found Olifant's Nek. But on measuring 8 miles to the south, found my pencil resting on the farm Rhenosterhoek 359JQ or possibly Leeuwpoort 357JQ, but definitely not on Naauwpoort 355JQ.

Enquiries directed to the South African Museum for the History of War in Johannesburg drew a blank. A letter to the War Museum of the Boer Republics in Bloemfontein was no more successful.

In exasperation I decided to map-dowse for the entrenched camp. Locking the image of a large concentration of British mounted men, infantry, their picturesque tropical helmets and balloon tents in my mind, I searched the map of the Naauwpoort area with my pendulum and ---- felt a pull to the south. The pendulum hovered over the northern section of Syferfontein 381JQ.

I thought I was wrong, but it was exactly there where the entrenched camp had once stood, and where my metal detector found an endless number of Anglo-Boer War relics.

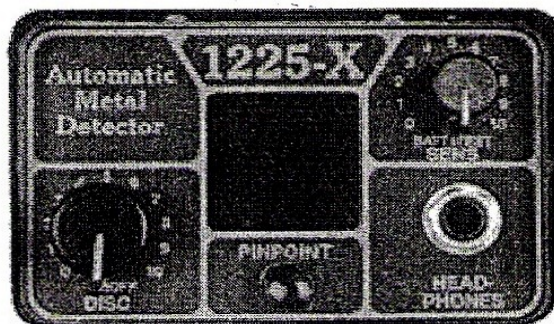
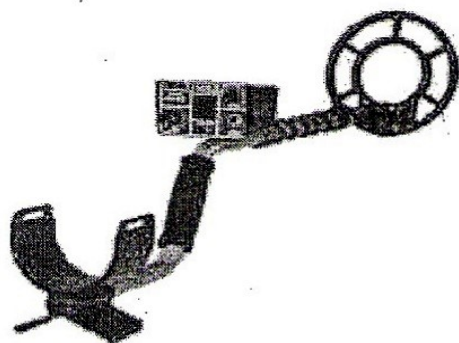
The metal detector is indispensable, dowsing makes it even more so!!



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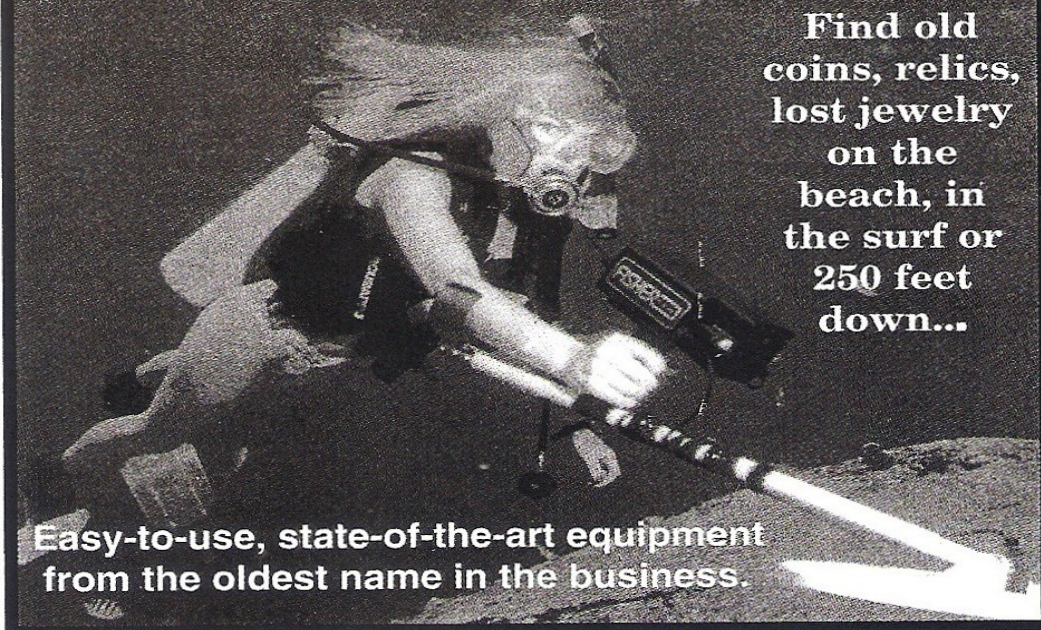
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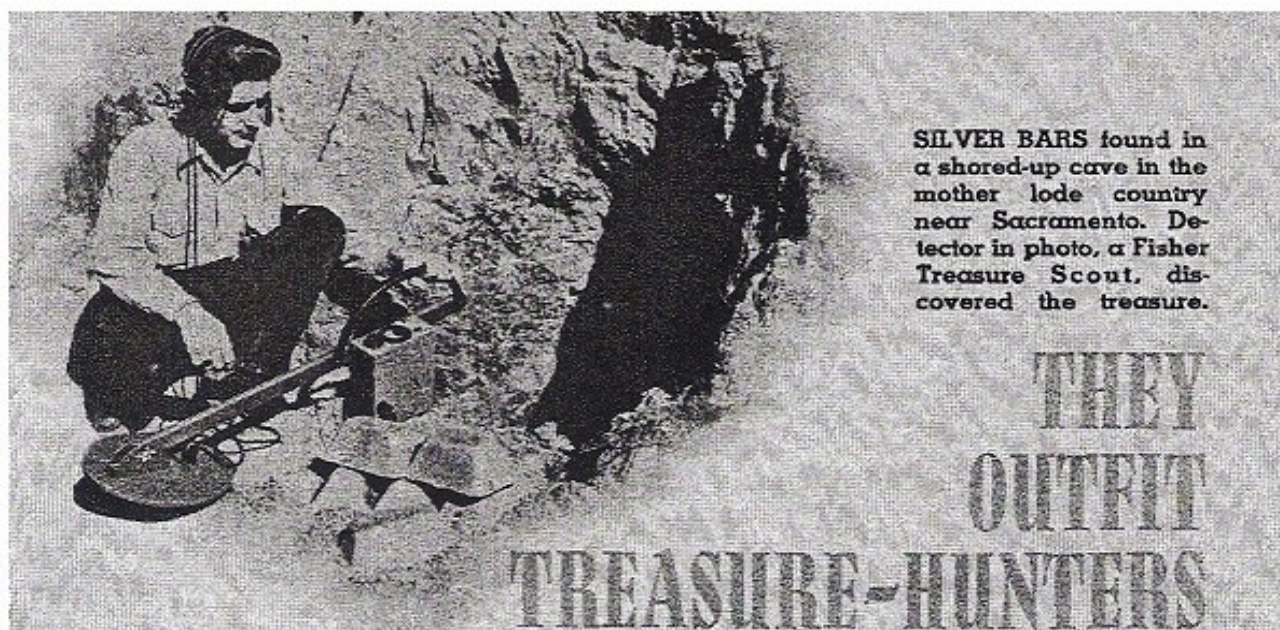
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SILVER BARS found in a shored-up cave in the mother lode country near Sacramento. Detector in photo, a Fisher Treasure Scout, discovered the treasure.

THEY OUTFIT TREASURE-HUNTERS

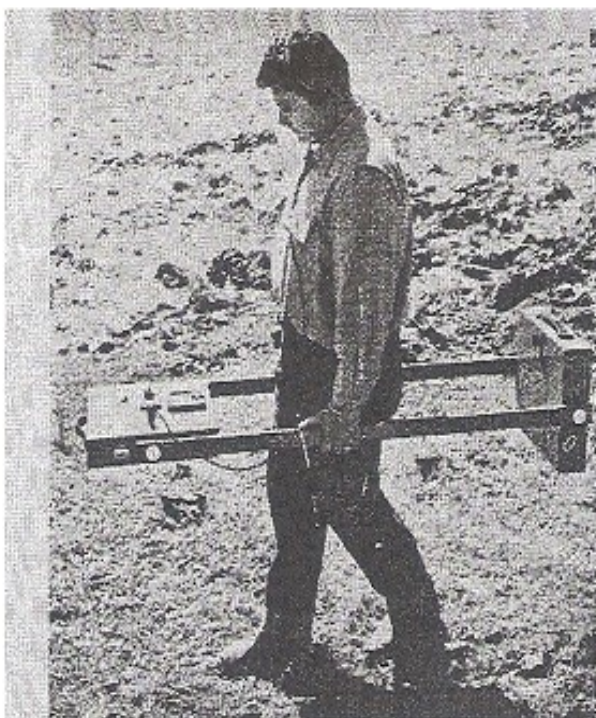
By John W. Aberle

THERE was once a GI who listened to stories told by Filipino guerrillas of a cache of gold buried by retreating Japanese soldiers. Taking his discharge in Manila, the ex-soldier wired Gerhard and Curt Fisher of Palo Alto, Calif., makers of treasure-detectors, for some equipment. One early morning after six weeks of hunting the detector started to buzz. After an hour of digging the gold was discovered

SPANISH COINS found under a crumbled adobe house in northern California.



CONTINUED ...



HEAVY DUTY M-Scope Type MA is for deep probing by prospectors, mining engineers.



EXPLORER MODEL in use. Transmitter is carried behind user, receiver is forward.

in an oil drum embedded in concrete.

That sort of story is all in the day's work for the Fisher brothers, who have been helping treasure hunters for years. It began in 1929 when Gerhard Fisher invented the detector while working as an electronics research engineer for the Federal Telegraph Company of Palo Alto. Curt Fisher was a shop foreman

in the same company at the time. In 1932 Gerhard took his savings, which amounted to \$300, and formed a company, using his garage as a factory.

Over the years Curt Fisher has become a sort of consultant on the disposal of newly-found wealth. On the day I talked to him he had a call from the wilds of Mexico. A treasure hunter had found a pile of silver bars and a mound of silver coins. "We can hide the bars so no one will know we have them," the caller said, "but the coins will have to be moved in saddle packs. Bandits will be sure to notice." Curt's advice: "Play it safe, and leave the coins. Take the bars to Mexico City, put them in a safe deposit vault, and contact a bank. Keep your mouths shut, and when news of the discovery dies down, go back after the coins with an armed guard."

Curt Fisher's ideas have not always been accepted. Back in 1932, when he and Gerhard tested their invention in California's gold fields, people in Palo Alto shook their heads. A local banker from whom Curt attempted to solicit a loan, said, "Why should I let you go adventuring with my depositors' money?"

Three days later, the Fishers' adventuring paid off when Palo Alto was without water, due to a hidden break in the water main. Workmen couldn't trace the pipe. Curt says, "People thought I was crazy when I showed up holding a gadget that looked like a carpet sweeper with earphones attached." The gadget quickly located the pipe and the break was found. The banker made the loan.

"When we started out in 1932," says Curt, "we spent most of our capital on magazine advertisements. Each day we waited anxiously for the mailman. When an order came in, we built the detector, painted the exterior, made the shipping crate, and took the whole thing down to the express company in our automobile. Since we couldn't afford to manufacture for stock, we tried to fill each order the day it arrived. If there were several orders we continued working until each was filled. For many years we never took a day off."

Today the company, Fisher Research Laboratory, Inc., occupies a 16,000

square foot building. Sales range between \$800,000 and \$1,000,000 per year. The volume of detector sales is about 40 per cent of these figures. The Fishers employ 60 people making three models, the *Treasure Scout*, which sells for \$59.50, the *Fisher T-10*, selling for \$127.50, and the *Explorer*, which sells for \$158.50.

Each detector consists of a directional transmitter, together with a directional receiver. Current is supplied by batteries. The transmitter generates an electromagnetic field in any metal object below the earth's surface. The range in depth is 2½ feet for the *Treasure Scout*, 4½ feet for the *T-10* and 20 feet for [Continued on page 160]



JEWEL BOX of coins was found by W. D. Thompson with detector. With it were turquoises, teamster's knife.

ODDS AND ENDS found along the Oregon Trail with a detector by historians searching for the Trail itself.



the Explorer. The directional receiver locates the metal by detecting the induced electromagnetic field as a buzzing in the headphones and a visual indicator meter reading. A handle, or handles, depending on the detector model, is provided to connect the transmitter and receiver. The transmitter is always carried behind and the receiver in front of the operator.

The buzzing of Fisher detectors throughout the world has turned up a variety of items besides gold and silver. The Strategic Air Command uses them overseas to find good runway locations. Bedrock vital as a base to support the enormous planes contains small quantities of ore which the detectors pick up.

A geologist member of a government mission to Taiwan located a small fortune in critically-needed steel rails that had been lost amid river gravels during a typhoon.

An expedition to Puerto Rico found a cave containing more than 3000 cases of Scotch and brandy. Used as a storage place by rum runners, the cave had been dynamited shut by a Coast Guard patrol in 1933. Submachine guns that had been sealed in with the liquor aroused the detector.

Uses to which the detectors have been put illustrate man's boundless ingenuity. To locate coins, jewelry, and ornaments lost in the sand, a modern beachcomber uses one each evening during the summer on a large West Coast public beach. Rewards for his findings enable him to live comfortably. Civil War historians use them to find metal unit insignia, thereby

pinpointing the exact positions of Northern and Southern troops on the battlefields. Not long ago, San Francisco police used a detector to help find the life savings of an eccentric recluse who'd forgotten where he'd buried them.

A prominent corporation attorney—descendant of a once-wealthy Southern family—owes his present position to a detector. "Just before Sherman's troops entered Atlanta," his great-grandmother told him, "my mother buried the silverware. Mother died so soon afterward,

though, that I never learned where it was hidden." Desperate for money, the young heir borrowed a detector from a friend, and searched the grounds that had once surrounded the family mansion. He found the silverware, and funds obtained from its sale paid his law school tuition.

Andrew C. SoRelle, a Houston oil man, is using the Fishers' detectors to search for the legendary treasure of the pirate, Jean LaFitte. In 1816, the story goes, LaFitte was having gold and silver worth two million dollars hauled to St. Louis when, just north of Carthage, Texas, the wagons were intercepted by Spanish lancers. The lead driver, followed by the others, drove at full speed into a nearby strip of water known as Hendrick's Lake. The lancers killed every man in the party, but did not bother the submerged wagons. A few weeks ago, one of SoRelle's workers discovered a wagon tire. SoRelle now plans to drain the lake.

Most of the Fishers' detectors are sold on the installment plan. Less than two per cent of the buyers fail to keep up their payments. As a result, Curt sometimes has financed guys with fabulous tales but no money. Not long ago, a dirty, bearded character got off a freight in Palo Alto. "I know where there's a fortune to be found," he told Curt. "I'm broke, but I need a detector and a grubstake."

Three months later a Cadillac pulled up in front of Curt's office and a well-dressed man stepped out. He handed Curt an envelope, then returned to his car. Inside the envelope was cash in excess of the amount owed, and a piece of paper on which was written the single word "Thanks."

Another treasure hunter walked into the laboratory one day with a large tarnished, copper kettle. He told Curt he

wanted to split a find he'd made. "Heard you were going to search a certain spot with one of your detectors, so I beat you to it," he said.

"You're talking to the wrong person," Curt said. "I'm not the one you heard about."

"Well," said the man, "in that case, I'll keep everything." Then he added, "But you can have the pot."

The incident did not depress the Fisher brothers, who feel that as long as men have good reason for hunting treasure, Fisher detectors will be in demand. The word "men" is the right one—treasure hunting is an all-male game, in the Fishers' experience. Women, they say, go after treasures men have already found. •

LEë RICHARDSBAAI

Deur Dawie Berg

Ons het vir die kinders in Richardsbaai gaan kuier. En natuurlik is dit mos ook my kans om daar vir 'n slag op hulle strand te gaan soek met my metaalverklikker. Ek weet daar is drie mense wat gereeld daar loop, maar dit maak mos nie saak nie.

Dit was net na ses toe ek op die strand aankom. En daar sien ek vir Koos en sy vrou. Hulle is een van die drie wat gereeld daar loop. Hulle was nogal aangenaam verras om my weer daar te sien. Vertel my dat hulle nou so elke tweede week loop.

Dan loop hulle so vir twee dae en dan is die strand leeg. Dit is nou hulle derde dag, daar is een plek wat hulle gou vir 'n uur of so wil gaan loop, want die strand is nou LEEG. Die ander wat daar loop was ook juis gister daar en hulle het amper niks gekry nie. Nadat ons nog so 'n ruk gesels het, is elkeen sy koers in. Wel ten eerste is ek nie met my Fisher daar nie. Ek het hom saam gebring, maar sy batterye is pap, en ek het vergeet om my laaier in te sit. Ek gebruik toe my seun se Whites Classic ID. Dit dieselfde gehalte as die Fisher 1225X of die Garret 200, wat nie slegte verklikkers is nie. Onthou ek is eintlik 'n Fisher man - elkeen het sy eie keuse, maar myne is natuurlik 'n Fisher CZ 7.

Die Whites se batterye is nie vol gelaai nie, maar ek weet ek sal 'n hele paar uur met hom kan werk. Sjoë, ek was so jammer dat ek my laaier by ons huis in Shelly Beach vergeet het. Dit was die hele plan om hier eers my verklikkers se batterye te kom laai. Wel, troos ek my, dit is nou my kans om weer met 'n goedkoop masjien te werk. Ek soek altyd daai bietjie ekstra diepte wat die CZ 7 of CZ 20 my gee. En ook nou dat almal die strand leeg gewerk het ... dit is 'n goeie toets vir my en die metaalverklikker.

Ek het nie ver geloop nie of ek kry my eerste munt. Onthou ek hou baie van my stokperdtjie ... en as ek nie veel kry nie maak dit nie regtig saak nie. Maar natuurlik is dit mos lekker om iets te kry - soos 'n boks sjokolade, jy weet nooit regtig wat jy uithaal nie. Jy weet min of meer, maar nie altyd presies wat daar onder die grond lê en wag vir jou nie.

Nadat ek so twee silwer items en tien munte uitgehaal het voel ek baie beter.

Koos-hulle het al lankal geloop. Ek het hulle ook weer dopgehou. Presies soos laas te keer. Hulle sal nooit regtig alles uithaal nie. Net soos die ander maak hulle dieselfde foute oor en oor. En ek het hulle al gewys en gesê, so dit is maar beter vir my. Hulle loop so vinnig en hou die verklikker so hoog van die grond af. Al sou hulle die beste masjien in die wêreld gehad het sou ek hulle nog met dié verklikker wen.

Omdat hulle die verklikker so hoog van die grond af hou gaan hulle seker maar so 3 of 4 sentimeter diep in die grond in. So hulle kry maar net die munte wat bo lê, enige munte wat dieper is verloor hulle. Soos ek al agter gekom het is baie van die geld tussen 4 en 6 sentimeter, party tot 8 sentimeter.

Ek kyk op my horlosie en sien dat ek al drie uur op die strand is. Die son is ook al lekker warm, hier in Richardsbaai kan dit goed warm word, en ek is maar bang vir die son. Dit is my tweede dag op die strand, en ek dink aan wat Koos my gesê het - as ek vier munte gaan kry is ek gelukkig. Gister het ek oor die veertig munte uitgehaal.

Ek hoop net dat die batterye gaan hou want ek gebruik net herlaaibare batterye. Die meeste van die tyd loop ek soos wat 'n mens gras sny. Vat 'n blok en loop heen en weer. Wanneer dit klaar is neem ek 'n tweede blok. Nat sand loop ek weer anders. Ek loop so van die water tot by die droë sand en dan weer terug na die water soos 'n W. Kry ek iets loop ek 'n sirkel om hom. As daar nie nog iets is nie, stap ek verder aan. Dit is ook my manier om 'n "hotspot" te kry. Maar dit is nie altyd so nie. Jou beste kans vir 'n hotspot is in die winter, maar ook enige tyd wanneer die see so 'n trap uit die strand geskep het. Dit is dan wanneer ek die meeste geld kry, of moet ek sê skatte?

Wel ek het 106 munte uitgehaal waarvan die waarde R45,80 was en ook 12 silwer munte.

Is dit die verklikker? Sou ek beter gedoen het met die Fisher CZ7? Kyk die verklikker is goed, maar ek sê dit weer - in 80% van die gevalle is dit die man agter die verklikker en 20% die verklikker. As dit nie so was nie, hoekom het my vriende dan nie alles uitgehaal nie? Hulle het ook goeie masjiene gehad, maar verkeert geloop. Sou ek beter gedoen het met die Fisher? Ja, ek sou, maar nie veel nie. Party van die munte het ek ook diep uitgehaal, want ek het probeer om die masjien so na as moontlik aan die grond te hou, en ek het "overlap", so ek het die beste uit die masjien gekry.

So as julle nie die beste masjien het nie, dit maak nie altyd saak nie, behalwe as jy soos ek amper elke dag op 'n strand is, en baie op die nat sand ook loop. Dan is dit lekker om 'n goeie masjien te hê, want die skatte lê net daar en wag vir iemand om hulle uit te haal.

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MUSCLE POWER

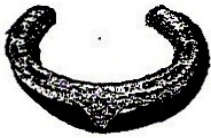
Owen Timmermans

George Bernard Shaw (1856-1950), famous Irish dramatist and author, after a visit to South Africa, is said to have remarked: "miles and miles of sweet buggery!"

As judged by Britain's efforts in controlling South Africa they must have only agreed with the first part: ... miles and miles..."

Not to be defeated by these distances Britain in 1899 saw to the mobility of its invading forces.

Steam had conquered the oceans, and moved locomotives on land. There were even steam driven lorries but where the fighting was to take place, on the veld and in the mountains it was still very much the realm of muscle power. No wonder we found plenty of evidence of the beast of burden as the following pictures will show.



(P. 2-110)



Figure 1 Front and side view of cavalry horseshoe.

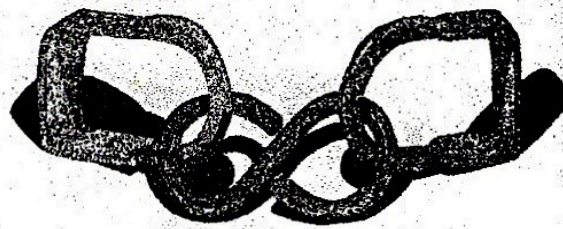


Figure 2 Horse-drawn vehicle fitting.

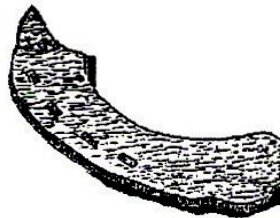


Figure 3 Ox-shoe



Figure 4 Another type of ox shoe



Figure 5 Pelham bit



Figure 6 Snaffle bit

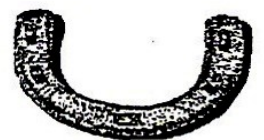


Figure 7 Donkey shoe - front view



Figure 8 Donkey shoe – side view



Figure 9 Heel iron for Tommy's boot



Figure 10 Toe iron for Tommy's boot

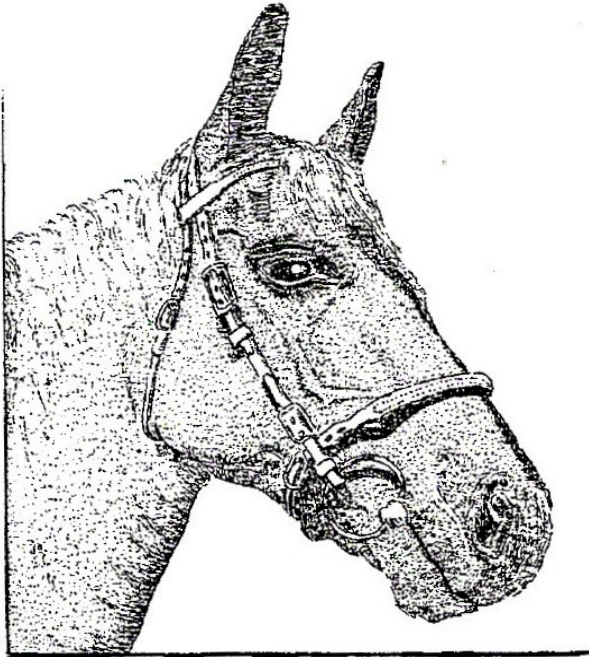


Figure 11 Several of the small brass or bronze bridle buckles were found.



Figure 12 Horse memorial, Port Elizabeth.

The Boers had horses too. Excellent ones, salted horses that did not catch the various horse diseases which imported animals were liable to contract. But out of necessity, the Boers were like phantoms in the night – arrive, act and disappear, swallowed up and protected by their untold miles and miles of veld and bush.



MILNERTON SE STRAND SPOEL OOP

(Maar nog is dit Krismis niet!)

Deur Pierre Nortje

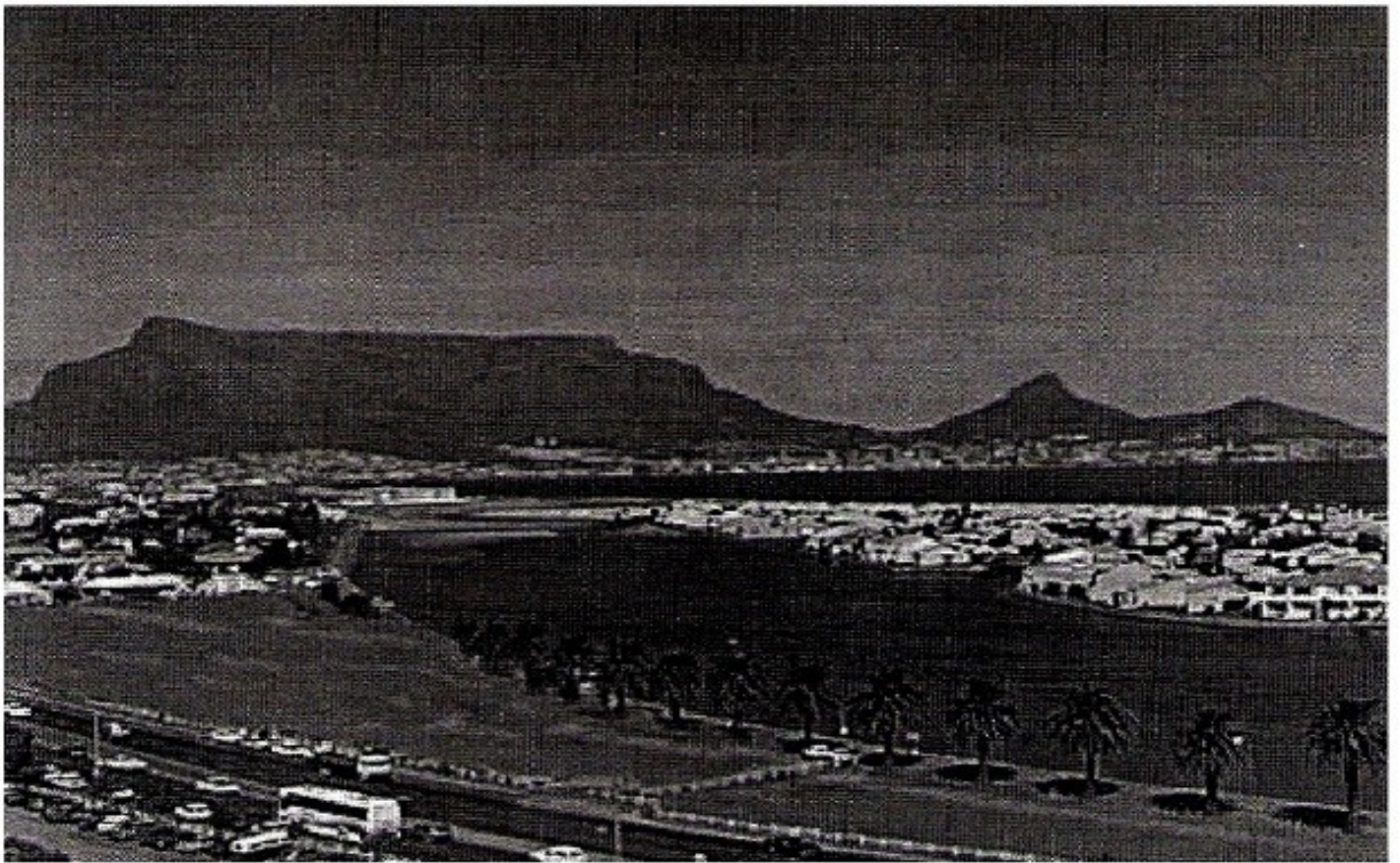
Een Vrydagaand, vroeër hierdie jaar, lui my telefoon. Dit is Pieter Bender, 'n metaalverklikker vriend van my wat in die suidelike voorstede van Kaapstad woon. Aangesien ek in die noordelike voorstede woon, sien ons mekaar ongereeld, maar gesels darem nou en dan lekker oor die telefoon. Pieter, as boekhandelaar, is 'n lopende ensiklopedie in die geskiedenis van ons land, en ek skakel hom gereeld as ek vrae oor een of ander verwante onderwerp het. Dié betrokke aand vertel hy my dat hy die vorige week by Milnerton se strandmeer gesoek het en heelwat ouer munte daar uitgehaal het.

My gereelde metaalverklikker vriende kon nie die volgende dag, 'n Saterdag, saam met my gaan soek nie, en ek besluit toe om twee ander vriende van my wat naby Milnerton woon, te bel. Dit was eers die middag laagwater, en ons het afgespreek om mekaar om 12h00 by die meer te ontmoet. Wat 'n mislukking was dit nie? Ek het darem 'n mooi sikspens van my geboortejaar (1960) gekry, maar dit was omtrent die somtotaal van my vondste.

Die ander twee het moed opgegee na 'n uur of wat en besluit om huis toe te gaan. Ek het egter besluit om by Milnerton se swemstrand, sowat 'n halwe kilometer verder, te gaan soek. Ek moet sê dat ek nie baie van die betrokke strand hou nie, en die een of twee keer wat ek al daar gesoek het, was my vondste maar so-so. Maar hierdie keer was dit anders... alhoewel die gety nie baie laag was nie, kon ek duidelik sien hoe kleibanke naby die waterlyn sigbaar was... 'n baie goeie teken.

Eers het 'n vrot gevrete R5 te voorskyn gekom, en toe die een na die ander munt. Ongelukkig was dit al laterig die middag, en ek moes vyfuur by die huis wees. Binne 'n uur of twee het ek oor die sewentig moderne muntstukke uitgehaal asook vier silwer sjiellings, 'n sikspens, tienie en 'n paar ou koper munte. Verskeie hangertjies, wapentjies en ander items is ook gevind. Ek sou graag langer wou soek, maar moes teen 16h30 ry - dikbek of te nie.

Die volgende Saterdag was dit super springgety, en ek, Wolf en Peter kon nie wag om Milnerton weer te besoek nie – ons was net bang dat die strand weer toegespoel het. Ons vrese is gelukkig besweer toe ons daar kom en sien dat die strand nog meer oopgespoel het - 'n hele bank was teen die hoogwatermerk weggespoel. Ter inligting kan ek net meld dat die betrokke strand “snaaks” is in die opsig dat die afstand van die hoogwatermerk na die laagwatermerk relatief kort is aangesien die strand baie steil afsak na die see toe. Hoe ook al sy, ons drie het soos besetenes op en af oor die kleibanke met ons verklarers gedrafstap. Al drie van ons het nagenoeg 'n honderd moderne munte elk uitgehaal. Ek het ook 18 silwer munte en 7 juweliersitems gekry – 25 silwer items in totaal is 'n rekord vir my. Ongelukkig het geen goue items te voorskyn gekom nie, maar dit gebeur ook. Teen middagete was ons stokflou en is met oorvol bladsakke daar weg.



Milnerton met die strandmeer in die voorgrond

Daardie aand skakel 'n vriend my en ek vertel hom van die goeie dag wat ons by Milnerton gehad het. Die volgende oggend is hy vroeg daar en soos die geluk dit wou hê is een van sy eerste vondste 'n mooi goue nekhangerjê!

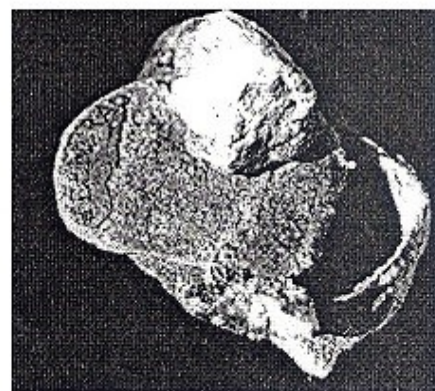
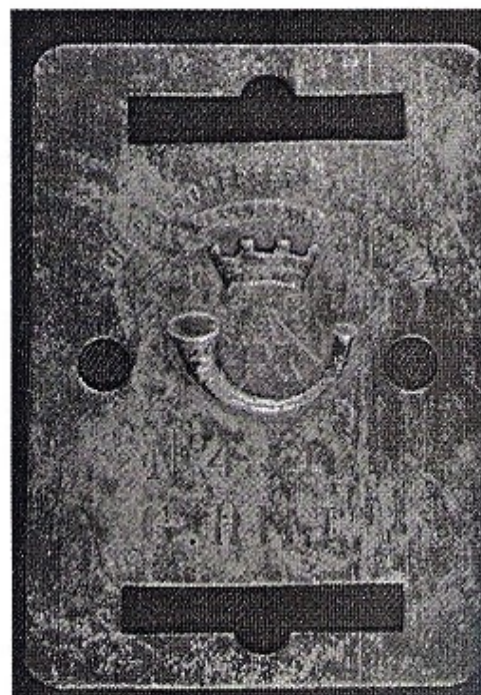
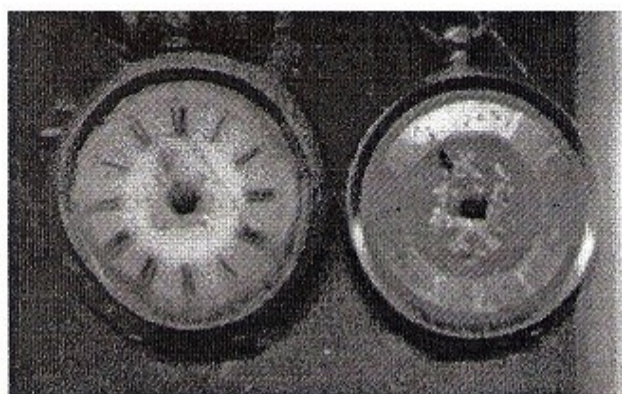
Die volgende week is ek die Donderdag en Vrydag na werk deur om verder te gaan soek, en steeds het die strand nie toegespoel nie. Die Donderdag haal ek 118 moderne munte uit en onder meer ook 8 ouer silwer munte. Die Vrydag doen ek nog beter met 130 munte en 12 silwer items. Maar glo dit of nie – nie een enkele goue item is deur my gevind oor die vier dae se soek nie.

Nou hoe werk dit? Ek het twee teorieë – eerstens is Milnerton se strand (die area naby die lighthouse) bekend as 'n swemplek vir oorwegend jonger mense wat nie noodwendig duur goue juweliersitems dra nie. Maar dit geld ook vir Grootbaai naby Bloubergstrand waar ons al verskeie goue ringe gevind het – so ek weet nie of hierdie teorie veel *gewig (!)* dra nie. Tweedens, soos ek reeds vermeld het, het Milnerton 'n baie steil strand en dit kan wees dat die swaarder items almal die see in gespoel het. Ook hierdie teorie is onder verdenking aangesien ons 'n paar (swaar) twee-sjiellingstukke en groter munte soos koper pennies uitgegrawe het.

So ek weet nie wat die verklaring is nie – miskien was ek maar net ongelukkig. Elke hond kry sy dag en met oor die vier honderd moderne munte (R105.22) en 53 silwer items kan ek mos nie kla nie. En soos oom Dawie Berg sal sê: “Een van die dae lê die goue ringe weer lekker vir my en lag!”

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WHO IS GOING TO BE THE WINNER?**

Sien ons vierde kwartaal uitgawe / See our fourth quarter issue



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