

# TREASURE TALK

NEWSLETTER FOR SOUTH AFRICAN METAL DETECTING ENTHUSIASTS  
NUUSBRIEF VIR SUID AFRIKAANSE METAALVERKLIKKER ENTOESIASTE

FOURTH QUARTER 2001 VIERDE KWARTAAL



The winners of our Find of the Year Competition.

Lukas van der Merwe (left) hand over the first prize, a Fisher 1225x metal detector to Mike Bull (right). Please see editor's letter inside for full details.



## LETTER FROM THE EDITOR / BRIEF VAN DIE REDAKTEUR

Our Find of the Year Competition, like the previous one, was again a nail biter. Lukas van der Merwe received the most votes for his entry, the gold and silver pocket watches, with Mike Bull's entry (Identity plate) receiving a few votes less. As sponsor of the competition, Lukas sportingly decided to award the first prize to Mike who is now the proud owner of a brand new Fisher 1225X metal detector. Well done Mike and a very big thank you to Lukas and his company, Excalibur Mining.

A while ago, my friend Wolfgang Roux was asked by the local Scouts to demonstrate the use of metal detectors in finding treasure. According to Wolfgang, the boys had a wonderful time and some of their letters are published on the inside of the back page. Some of it is hilarious – if you can decipher their spelling! Also see our big surprise – the article by Lukas on our trip to Colesberg! What a wonderful time we had...please read the article.

Enjoy your summer holidays and please send us some articles, letters, photos etc. for the next issue.

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Ons Vonds van die Jaar Kompetisie, soos verlede jaar, was weer 'n naelbyter. Lukas van der Merwe het net-net daarin geslaag om die meeste stemme te kry (goue en silwer sakhorlosies), met Mike Bull 'n kort kop agter (identifikasie plaatjie). Lukas het 'n pragtige gebaar gemaak, deur as borg van die kompetisie, die wenprys aan Mike te oorhandig. Laasgenoemde is dus nou die trotse eienaar van 'n splinternuwe Fisher 1225X metaalverklikker. Knap gedaan Mike en baie dankie aan Lukas en sy maatskappy Excalibur Mining.

My vriend, Wolfgang Roux, is onlangs deur die plaaslike "Scouts" gevra om die gebruik van metaalverklikkers aan hulle te kom demonstreer. Volgens Wolfgang het die seuns hul "gate" uit geniet en van hul briefies verskyn op die binnekant van die agterblad. Sommige van die briewe is moeilik ontsyferbaar, maar baie snaaks. Sien ook ons groot verassing – die artikel deur Lukas oor ons besoek aan Colesberg! Watter wonderlike paar dae het ons nie beleef nie...lees asseblief die artikel.

Geniet die somer vakansie en stuur asseblief vir ons artikels, briewe en fotos om in ons volgende uitgawe te publiseer.

Vriendelike groete / Kind regards

Pierre Nortje  
(Redakteur / Editor)

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**A THANK YOU LETTER FROM ANDY NAUDE**  
(The winner of our "Best Article" competition)

Dear Pierre

I would like to thank you and the sponsors, **Doculam, Randburg Coins and Bickels Coins**, who sponsored the Garrett Ace 200 metal detector for the best article, which I am proud to have won.

I would like to take this opportunity to say that I believe that you (we) have a world class newsletter in quality, contents and in the enthusiastic and professional manner it is compiled. I would also like to thank the above named sponsors, who I believed have helped to take our newsletter to a new level in encouraging detectorists to put pen to paper and tell of their experiences, after all that is what a newsletter is made of. It is hartening to see businesses like these putting something back into our hobby – thank you.

I believe it is also appropriate to thank Santam for their continued support in the publication of the newsletter.

Thank you once again to all.

Kindest Regards.

Andy Naude  
From Down Under

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## LETTERS FROM OUR READERS / BRIEWE VAN ONS LESERS

Hello Pierre

Just a line to thank you so much for the latest copy of "Treasure Talk". It came as a complete surprise – a very welcome one at that. The nature, the quality, the interest factor makes it a very attractive publication. You are to be congratulated in every way. Even more surprising was the finding of my earlier letter to you for the disposal of my "Garrett". Thank you again for all the trouble you have gone to in this regard. It is most appreciated.

Sincerely

Barrie Milne  
Colenso

Dear Pierre

I met Lukas van der Merwe yesterday to view his range of metal detectors, as I would very much like to start this fascinating hobby. I am a Boer war enthusiast and have visited many battle sites and cemeteries in this regard. Boy, did I have a great hour chatting with Lukas (hardly had time to look at his kit!) I loved his collection and display. He mentioned that it might be possible to be placed on your mailing list for copies of "Treasure Talk." I would really appreciate it if you could do this for me.

Sincerely

Jeff Baxter  
Johannesburg

Dear Pierre

I have an Aquapulse 1B Kit together with 15-inch and 8 inch search coils, a 36-inch Ferrite probe and underwater bone phone. It is ten years old and I have never used it in water. In fact, the total operation time is not more than 30 hours. My reason for selling it is that I am now 70 years old and cannot see myself using the machine to it's full potential. If you are able to offer this unit in your magazine, my phone number is (011) 3953147, e-mail [bobbet@iafrica.com](mailto:bobbet@iafrica.com)

Kind regards

Robert Boggis  
Aston Manor



Dear Pierre

I had an interesting coincidence yesterday. You may perhaps remember when we were at Matjiesfontein we found some rather fat, heavy lead bullets. I mentioned then that they were Schneider .577 bullets and my thoughts at the time were that they were of the wrong time period for the Boer war site we were detecting. Those bullets I knew were from an early British rifle which was a conversion from muzzleloader to breechloader, a Schneider Enfield. This rifle was made from 1873 to about 1880 then a smaller caliber Henry Martini became standard until about 1893. Our cartridge finds were from Lee Medford / Lee Enfield rifles in 303 caliber, the successor and first modern British repeater.

In the evening I went to a lecture about rifles from Flintlocks to Lee Enfields held by the South African Black Powder Association. After the lecture was over I spoke to one of the officials and casually mention that we had found several Schneider bullets at Matjiesfontein, several of which like examples were on a table with the muskets, before me. The chap then said "Oh we put them there. We have our Schneider shoots at Matjiesfontein. We fired them from the butts towards the kopjie and I'm afraid they ricocheted all over the place. I expect you even found them behind the kopjie" Quite a coincidence hey? how often does one solve a small mystery like that?

I let Peter Stoklas know of your dealings with the Lacrosse buckle. I have a pictorial encyclopaedia dated 1925 and they showed identical netted sticks as in the buckle. The game was introduced into England from Canada in 1863 and was still very popular in 1925. I looked in another illustrated book showing curiosity photographs from the late 19th century and the dress of the two players appeared to be civilian dress of the period. The cap on the right hand figure of the buckle looked like contemporary leather peaked cap popular with the working class.

The reply from the Canadian didn't seem to appreciate the nature of your original enquiry and how the buckle was found. It is quite likely, however that it ties in with the period when the troops were there. When told of the entry for find of the year, Peter said wearily " What am I going to do with yet another metal detector" and then grinned and said " I have just had an idea."

After the recent blow the southern beaches opened up slightly, produced a few coins and a silver chain bracelet. Gold, this winter, has been very scarce on the Atlantic side. Even silver bits are now rare. I think all the years of detecting has gone a long way to scavenging the old losses and require the unusual conditions you experienced at the Strand recently to expose the goodies, but there must be kilograms of precious metal hidden just off shore a meter or so down.

Happy hunting.

Alan Miller



## THREE LETTERS FROM TRACY MACDONALD\* (USA)

\*Tracy was one of the Americans that detected with us (Pierre and Lukas) last year in England

### Letter 1

Hey there Pierre and Lukas

I bet you two feel like me...a helium balloon with no helium. A detectors without England! As you both know, group 1 is done with Discovery Tours. Group 2 (the group I always go on) is leaving tomorrow! I feel heartbroken not being there! I'm sure both of you are getting pangs for England as well. What can we do? I have tried to keep myself busy the past couple of weeks. I've been water hunting just about every day and it has helped, but it is not England. I did find a gold ring last week, so that made me feel better. Do let me know how you two are getting on! Pass on some treasure stories to me...my eyes and ears are open! I hope this finds you both well!

### Letter 2

Hi Pierre

I've been getting a few words here and there from people in group 1 that just got back from England. One gold coin came up for sure (1/4 noble of Edward IV I think) and some Viking stuff also came to light. If I get further details and better confirmation, I will pass it on. I was heartbroken on Monday when everyone left. Here it is Wednesday and I guess I feel better about it...It still stings a little to think of England.

### Letter 3

Hi Pierre

I have some more news from England. From group 1: Two gold coins were found, one medieval and one from King George 111. My friend Sherm found a bronze age ax dated 1500BC. Group 2 is there now. You remember Natalia, right? Well, she kicked butt on the first day out: found a Viking Disc Broach with enameling and a silver Glove Ring with initials (they are not sure of the age yet)! The second day out, Mike Martin found a Celtic Gold Coin of the Iceni Tribe Circa around 43AD from what I was told. Also, a very nice seal was found (I think it was gold or silver but not sure). I will make sure to pass along a hello from both of you next time I speak with my contact. The fields are really producing thanks to all the rain! I'm happy for them!

Maybe someone will finally find a find a hoard! Wouldn't that be great?

Take care  
Tracy Macdonald



## MORE LETTERS FROM OUR READERS / NOG BRIEWE VAN ONS LESERS

Beste Pierre

Jy doen so 'n groot werk vir ons almal wat in hierdie stokperdjie deel! Baie dankie! Gaan asb. daarmee voort. Die vondste van ander spoor 'n mens weer aan. Ek het die afgelope jaar werklik niks besonders gevind nie. Pas 'n mooi 18kt goue ring met 15 diamante uitgehaal. Nou nie dié groot stene waarvan ander vertel nie. Die plesier is tog net so groot en die ontspanning baie werd – veral as die litte begin styf word.

Net die mooiste jou toegewens.  
Graag jou vriend.

Tjaart Theron  
Caledon

Dear Mr Nortje

Thank you for your letters regarding Treasure Talk. Firstly, allow me to apologize for what must seem atrocious manners in not communicating before now, but I have slowly recovering from an illness which restricted my abilities to some extent, and, whilst this may seem to be of little consequence in mitigating my lack of courtesy, I can only say - "The mind was willing". I rush to add that the receipt of Treasure Talk has been of tremendous value to me during my inactivity, for, if for any reason one cannot pursue our hobby (?) ourselves, the next best thing is to read of other peoples activities. Please continue to include me on the mailing list as I hope to be a detecting contributor in the future. (Certainly when I can write better!)

Kind regards and many thanks.

Geoff Bickers  
MooiPlaas

Hello Pierre

I am working (detecting) at Taaibos Spruit and next on my list will be Greylingstad. Thank you for everything.

All the best

Philip Anthony Fisher ("Die ou Toppie")  
Vereeniging



# MY FIRST GOLD RING – BEGINNERS LUCK?

By John Strickland

Saturday morning, my first chance to use my new (second-hand) MINELAB SOVEREIGN XS-2A, purchased in England.

I laid out on the lawn all the items recommended in the manual and passed my detector over them to see what they sounded like. Great fun and very informative. I played around with the various settings and then decided to search the lawn.

Almost immediately I got a signal – I dug it up with great excitement and it turned out to be a R1.00 coin dated 1988. Not bad I thought. My next signal was a really rusted nail (I have since learned how to use discrimination – I had set the machine to detect everything). My next signal was a 1c piece (Copper).

Now, on the scene appears my wife. Although I had dug carefully in the lawn, the three holes (filled as the instructions indicated) were quite visible. She had a quiet word with me and said I had better not dig up her lawn anymore if I valued lunch/dinner/my life etc.

I ignored her.

My next signal was really loud and I went back to the items laid out on the lawn and passed the coil over my gold wedding ring – almost the same. I dug. Carefully removing the grass plug and placing it on a piece of newspaper, I put the coil in the hole – no signal. Oh no, I thought, a false signal! Now I am really in it up to my neck. I then remembered that you must also search the grass plug – there the signal was. So I poked around in the plug and found nothing. Search with the coil again – the signal is there. Twice more I repeat this and then I see it, a blackened ring in the roots of the grass. I jumped for joy, ran inside to show my wife the find. To make peace, I offered her the ring. “What do I want an old piece of junk for?” she said. “It’s not junk, Its GOLD” I Said.

I took it to a jeweler to have it cleaned and appraised. It is indeed gold - 9 CT. This is why it had blackened; the earth had reacted with the other alloys in the ring. A good polishing and it now looks nice. The ring had seen a lot of wear as part of it is slightly worn away.

My home was built as a show house, so many people must have come and viewed the place before I purchased it.

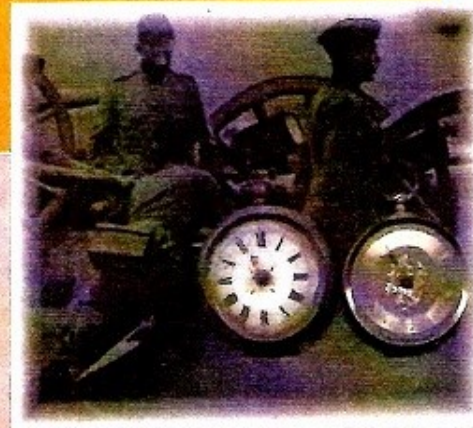
Is this find beginners luck or is it really that easy? I found out that a lot of hard work is required...

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# TREASURE TALK



## COLESBERG

13 MEI 2001

OP DIE SPORE  
VAN DIE  
ANGLO-BOERE OORLOG  
1899–1902



## DAG EEN - OP PAD

Jare se kyk en verby ry het nou tot 'n punt gekom. Navorsing is gedoen, en nou vir die groot oomblik. Ek en Kobus is Maandag na 'n lang dag uiteindelik op pad, 10:00 se vertrek het nou 15:00 geword. Wens Pierre en sy ander travante kan ook nou al by ons aansluit het - hulle eie skuld - maar dit is nie net van grou nie! Die navorsing moet nou eers in die veld gedoen word, 'n plek kan seker in n honderd jaar drasties verander. By ons gastehuis-vriende aangekom, Manie en Cornelia Wium van die plaas Arundel. Hulle was al siek van bekommernis, want die Transvalers kom net nie uit nie. Na 'n lekker koppie koffie is ons na ons gastehuis geneem... wat 'n verrassing. Die huis is vir seker so 10 families gebou. Ventersfontein is so 5 km vanaf die hoofpad en so 26 km vanaf Colesberg op die Graaf-Reinet pad. "Dis die plek vir ons. Die boeke word uitgehaal en foto's gewys, maar "Nee!" die Wuims weet nie waar dit is nie! Dit lyk bekend, maar hulle het nie eers geweet daar was n Britse- kamp nie. Die naam Arundel Stasie is bekend, maar waar die Britse kamp is weet niemand nie. Nou-ja, nou vir die soek en fotopas tyd.....en slaap tyd

## DAG TWEE: DINSDAG

Na 'n vreeslikke lekker ontbyt deur die kok Kobus - eiers, wors, pap en sous, is ons weer op pad na die Wium's. Ek en Kobus en al die informasie is nou reg vir die aksie. Manie verwys ons na sy swaer: P.J van der Merwe, sodat ons darem net toestemming kan kry om rond te beweeg. Maar nou-ja, so's die Karoo Mense. Die vriendelikheid is ongelooflik. Soos hulle is, word ons al die

toestemming gegee om orals te beweeg, selfs die hekke se sleutels word vir ons gegee. Nou wat nou? Hier moet ek en Kobus met 'n doodskis na die volgende plaas ry na die ene Hennie Pienaar - die plaas: "Vischgat". Langs die pad word daar eers gehuil oor die persoon wat dood is, en ons nie eers ken nie. By die plaas aangekom, word ons weer met die vriendelikheid oorweldig. Hennie stem dadelik in om ons na die kamp te neem op sy plaas. Met die veldfiets vooruit, volg ons hom tot by die berg - Vischgat (S30 55.655') EO (24 55.835'). Dit is ook die eerste keer wat ons gebruik maak van 'n "GPS" vir verdere naavorsing. So 13.48 km van Ventersfontein en 8.76 km vanaf Arundel Kamp. Die potensiaal lyk goed, maar die verklikkers is maar stil. Hennie kry die eerste geluid. (Ons het een van ons spaar metaalverklikkers vir hom geleen.) 'n Bully Beef Blikkie. Hy is langwerpig met 'n ronde insetsel wat met lood geseel word - In die middel was daar 'n gaatjie waar die laaste lood ingegooi is. Ouma het altyd gese in die ou tyd moes hulle pasop vir die vishoek. Dit was die laaste bietjie lood in die gaatjie wat 'n draadjie gevorm het in die bully beef self wat soos 'n vishoek gelyk het.

## BRITSE WATERBOTTEL





Op die berg het ons baie Bully Beef Blikke gevind en een Lee -Metford doppie. Die koppie is in die begin van die Boere oorlog 1899-1902 deur die Boere beset en skanse is gebou vir die beskerming van die Vrystaatse grens. Verder is daar 'n lepel, baie skrapnel, 'n lidiet lood bal-letjie, 'n gedeelte van 'n mondfluitjie, en baie draad gevind. Ek dink, 'n ou wat draad versamel sal baie goed doen daar by die kampe. Maar nog nie die plek wat ons soek nie. Daarna



'n snuif blikkie.

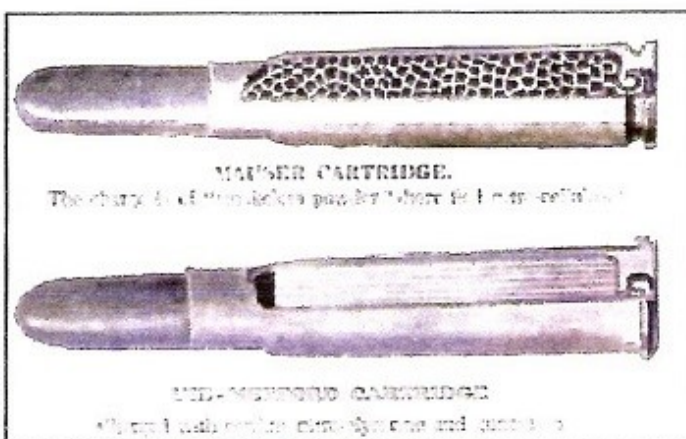
het ons weer terug beweeg na Arundel om die ware Jakob te soek. Ons het meer foto's by Hennie gekry wat ons meer inligting sou gee. Maar waar is die kamp? Die berg wil nie ooreenstem met die foto nie, maar wie nie soek nie, sal nie vind nie. Op die berg: Camps Hill, by Arundel, vind net een Lee-Metford-doppie. Onder gekom, maar niks! Waar ons dink die kamp moet wees, vind ek 'n lidietbom se veiligheidsprop. 'n Staal tent pen word ook gevind. Intussen het Kobus 'n Britse waterbottel gevind, 'n Dubben-blikkie - 1897, en 'n Royal Laboratories No 66 Blikkie? Asook

Dit is nou tyd om Gastehuis toe te gaan, maar 'n mens kan voel daar is 'n atmosfeer want die tyd hardloop uit, en ons kry net nie die kamp nie, iets is nie reg nie, maar dit bly interessant. Het iemand al hier gesoek of het hulle nie so baie goed verloor soos in die Transvaal nie? En .....die ander skattejagters is op pad! 'n Bietjie "Bobbejaan sop" en 'n vleisie braai maak weer op vir die dag, maar môre...? Jy kan sommer hoor aan Kobus se snork, hoe hy die kamp in sy slaap soek

### DAG DRIE: WOENSDAG

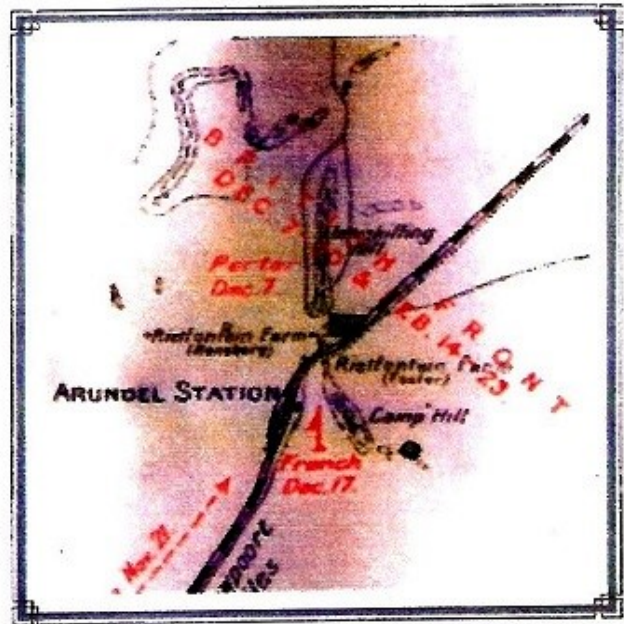
Woensdag, en wat 'n mooi dag en lekker ontbyt! Kobus weet net hoe. Met Foto's, boeke en positiwiteit is ons weer op pad - Vandag? - Ons ry sommer reguit tot agter die berg, want volgens "The Times History - Amry" is die kamp Noord van Camps Hill. Kobus kry 'n stukkie skrapnel, twee Lee Motford Doppies tussen ons twee en baie muskiet byte. Nou gaan ons eers Colesberg toe en kry 'n teen voeter vir die muskiete. Gekry wat ons wil hê, en weer boeke vat!

Hoera, die een foto pas honderd persent, maar die ander een nie so goed nie. Ry 'n kaapse draai, maar nog wil hy nie pas nie. Dis al 12:00. Op Van der Merwe se plaas besluit ons om 'n draai op die randjies te maak so 3,04 km vanaf Arundel. 'n Plat Martini- Henry Punt maak sy opwagting. Ons besluit om 'n ander kop





te bestyg. Op die kop kry ek 'n stuk van 'n perdeskoen, 'n nierbakie, skoenstaal, en toe die kersie op die koek, n mooi sein wat ek kry vind ek 10 lewendige Lee - Metford patrone en so meter daarvandaan nog 32 lewendige patrone in die gat. Lyk vir my die Engelsman het daar gelê, net toe hy van die uitkykpos moes afkom, begrawe hy eerder die patrone as om af te dra onder toe. Dit is nogal styl na onder toe. Maar oor n honderd jaar daarna dra 'n skattejagter dit af onder toe. Dit was darem die moeite werd! Nou kan ons weer beginne asem haal. Maar nou-ja, die kamp bly nog in ons gedagtes, en die Wolfgang-hulle is op pad - en nog geen kamp nie. Ons besluit toe om na Arundel-Stasie toe te gaan en dan vanaf die stasie (nuwe een) na Camps Hill te beweeg. Eers vind ek die ashoop (baie Bully Beef Blikkies en 'n Eno's prop) Toe 'n koper ringetjie, brass pen, 2 lewendige Lee Metford patrone, 2 gas houertjies vir soda vir die Whisky. Kobus kry toe 'n swart pot, maar geen ponde nie - Sorry Kobus. Toe weet ons, hier is die kamp. Nou kan ons baljaar. Dis 17h00 - Die muskiete byt, en nou kan ons lekker gaan slaap, en die Kaapenaars moet net hulle gatte roer. Ek en Kobus besluit toe dat ons die kamp eers los tot die manne van die Kaap hier aankom, en dan kan ons hom van 'n kant af begin. In tussen gaan ons môre maar na Gariep dam se kant beweeg en plekke soos Norvals pont en Colesberg besoek.



#### DAG VIER: DONDERDAG

Vandag gaan ons Norvals Pont toe, ons is eers weer na Manie toe. Hy het gesê dat daar n plek onderkant sy plaas is waar daar baie blikkies en draad lê. Met nadere ondersoek vind ons net baie Bully Beef Blikkies, 'n Britse waterbottel en blikkies met datums op van 1897 an nog met die Britse "Royal laboratories wapen op" so dit moes 'n moewiese kamp gewees het. By A.C. de Villiers van Norvals Pont aangekom, wys hy ons die swartes se grafte wat by Norvals Pont Konsentrasie kamp dood is. Naby die grafte vind ons 'n kamp wat lyk my deel was van die persone wat die grafte gegrou het. Kobus het die een onderklere knoop na die ander gevind, en daarna 'n Regiments knoop. Ek het darem 'n onderklere knoop, perdehoef en gedeelte van die staal versterking onder die Britse skoen. Nadat ons 'n bietjie doorninghout gelaai het wat ons by die vriendelike boer gekry het vir vanaand se grooooot kuier, is ons op pad na Norvals Pont self toe. Oorkant die brug aan die regter



Veiligheids prop van lidiet bom

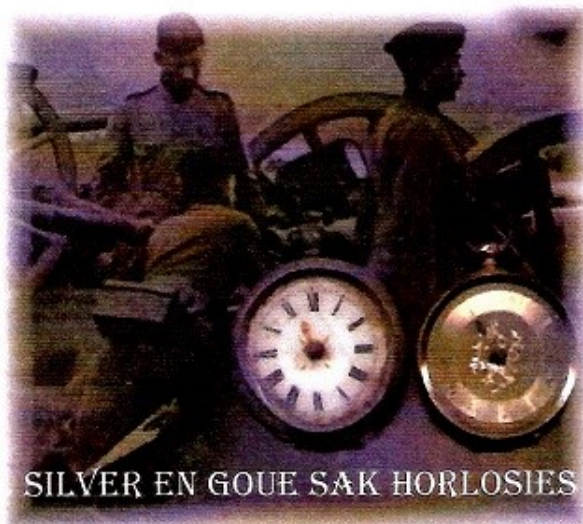


kant van die pad in die Vrystaat kant is daar op 'n koppie met blokhuisse op . Kobus besluit toe hy sal sommer in die bakkie bly terwyl ek gaan ondersoek instel. Na 'n uur se grouery kry ek 2 Britse regiments knope , 3 lewendige Lee- Metford patrone ,buckles, tentpenne en 'n perdehoef. In Colesberg lê ons eers besoek af by Manie se skoonma . Na 'n interessante geselsie en deur die versameling Anglo-boere oorlog boeke kyk , verkas ons terug Arundel toe.

Met 'n warm bosveld vuurtjie en 'n naguil wat sy maat soek , kom die Kapenaars met 'n gejuig daar aan asof die suid – ooster hulle aangedryf het. Elkeen word 'n kamer aangewys , en Andy kry die “ hunneymoon suite” . Nou word die opgewondenheid gestreel met al die inligting en die vondse wat al gevind is . Die kele word natgemaak en die vleisie sis lekker op die doringhout vuur. So normal soos amper jare lange vriendskap word daar gekuier tot laatnag.

#### DAG 5:

Na nog 'n goeie vullende ontbyt word die verklikkers gelaai , battery nagegaan , boeke en ietsie vir die groot dors word ook gelaai. Nou vir die groot soek. Intussen het ons ook toestemming gekry by Hugo , die plaas waarop Rensburg stasie geleë is. By Arundel aangekom, het ons eers 'n draai gemaak by die ashoop , om dit meer aantrekliker te maak.



SILVER EN GOUE SAK HORLOSIES

Al wat die Karoo se stilte nou breek is die geselsie van verklikkers met die geskiedkundige relike onder die grond. Britse knope , lewendige Lee- Metford patrone , selfs bottles word gevind . Wolfgang het selfs 'n woestersous bottel , kompleet met sy glas prop uitgehaal. Intussen is ek en Kobus oppad na Rensburg stasie toe , waar ons die einaar ontmoet en toestemming kry , met 'n sleutel van die hek. By Rensburg stasie los ek vir Kobus , en gaan saam met die Hugo na die Colesbergse museum om meer inligting te kry oor die kampe naby die stasie.

French het sy kamp vanaf Arundel na Rensburg stasie toe geskyf. By die museum het ek baie foto's en inligting gekry en vinnig beweeg na Arundel waar Wolfgang hulle besig was met hulle verklikkers. By Arundel het hulle al heelwat meer relike gevind. Nou is ons oppad Rensburg stasie toe , daar aangekom , staan Kobus by 'n groot gat met baie doppies van die boere ammunissie. Martini Henrië , Duitse Mauser , Musket no 2 en ook 'n medisyne botteltjie. Baie gedeeltes waar ashoop was word gevind , maar die kamp bly maar net 'n raaisel , iets om weer na uittesien as ons weer kom. Aan die linkerkant van die spoor , oppad Colesberg toe , beweeg ek na so koppie toe . Heelwat skanse kan gesien word wat langs die treinspoor gebou is vir die beskerming van die spoor. Naby die koppie kry ek Kobus , en ek se toe vir hom dat ek boontoe gaan , of hy wil saam gaan .Kobus se toe sy “ staal ” knieg kan dit nie meer vat nie. Bo-op die koppie beginne ek Lee-Metford doppies kry asook 'n lewendige Lee-Metford patrone. Ek beginne al meer langs die skanse beweeg na die stasie se kant toe.



By n grootterige klip , kry ek 'n sterk sein , en ek gee 'n redelike diep steek in die grond in en rol toe die sooi om. Ek hoor toe dat die item uit is , met die krap ek 'n silver sakhorlosie uit , ek is toe sommer kwaad vir my self , want dit lyk toe vir my dat ek die glasiestukkend gestee het. Die horlosie het sulke goue insetsels in die gesig , wat my toe laat bly word dat ek darem ietsie goud ontdek het. Ek dink toe , dat ek gaan kyk of daar nie nog iets in die gat is nie , dalk 'n muntstuk of die silver ketting . Tot my verbasing sien ek hoe 'n goue sak horlosie vir my loer , dit kan nie wees nie , hoe kom twee horlosies hier bo , dit in een gat. Ek laat weet toe vir Kobus en Wolfgang – hulle dat hulle moet op kom , want die potentiaal lyk baie goed . Terwyl ek vir hulle wag , sien ek 'n gedeelte waar 'n kanon op gestaan het. Met ondervinding weet ek dat daar baie goed daar sal wees. So is dit dan ook so , lewendige Lee-Metford patrone , Britse knope gespes en nog vele meer . Toe Kobus hulle bo kom , wys ek hulle die horlosies , en hulle kon dit nie glo nie. Dit was nou ware geluk , in meer as twintig jaar het ek dit nog nie beleef nie. Die beste fonds nog op die Boere Oorlog slagveld.

Na n moeë dag en 'n lekker afspoel in die skape se krip is ons oppad terug gastehuis toe . By die gastehuis word al die skatte uitgepak en lekker gesels oor die dag.

Terwyl die vuurtjie kletter en die vleisie sis , beplan ons vir môre se skattejag.

#### DAG 6

Vandag is ek en Kobus se laaste dag , Kobus besluit hy gaan by die huis bly en sommer kook . Ek en die manne besluit om na Vaalkop te gaan , want die Boere is daar deur die Britte verdryf . Met van der Merwe se sleutel in die hand is ons oppad soontoe. By sy plaas bestuurder aangekom , vat hy ons tot aan die onderkant van die kop . Bo-op die kop kry ons heelwat skralnel en 'n paar doppies . Ek en Pierre besluit om af onder toe te gaan waar daar iets is wat lyk soos 'n kraal . By die kraal aan gekom , kry Pierre 'n veiligheid skroef van 'n lidiet bom , lidiet balletjies en Martini – Henry doppies van 1897 . Ek het heelwat skrapnel en groot gedeeltes van die lidietbom ontstekers gekry. Wolfgang hulle het later by ons aangesluit en ook gedeeltes in die fondse.

Ek het besluit dat ek dit 'n dag roep , en met 'n hartseer , besluit ek om maar klaar te maak . Wolfgang hulle het besluit om weer terug te beweeg na Arundel toe. By die gastehuis aangekom , het dit geruik as of ek by die huis was . Kobus het 'n heerlike ete voorberei , maar dit om deur die manne van die Kaap verorber te word , want Lukas is mos baie sshaastig huis toe.

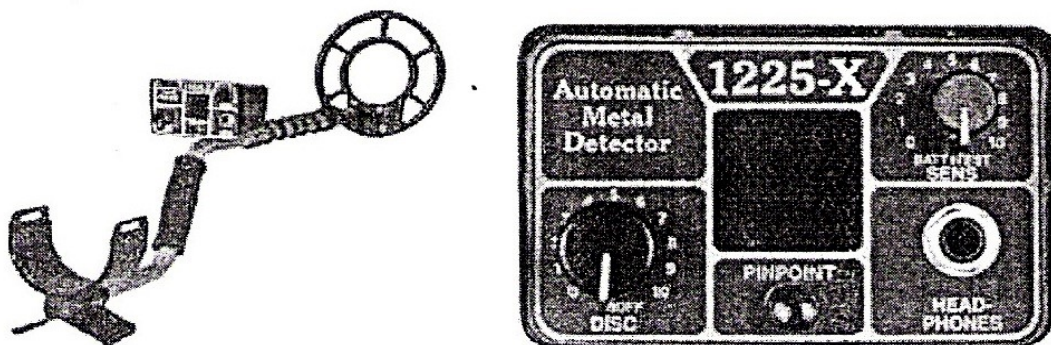
By Arundel groet ons die manne , en besluit om weer so te maak in die toekoms. Op pad terug gesels ons oor die wondelike vriendskap wat ontstaan deur ons stokperdjie .

“ SKATTEJAG JY BLY N WENNER ” !!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!



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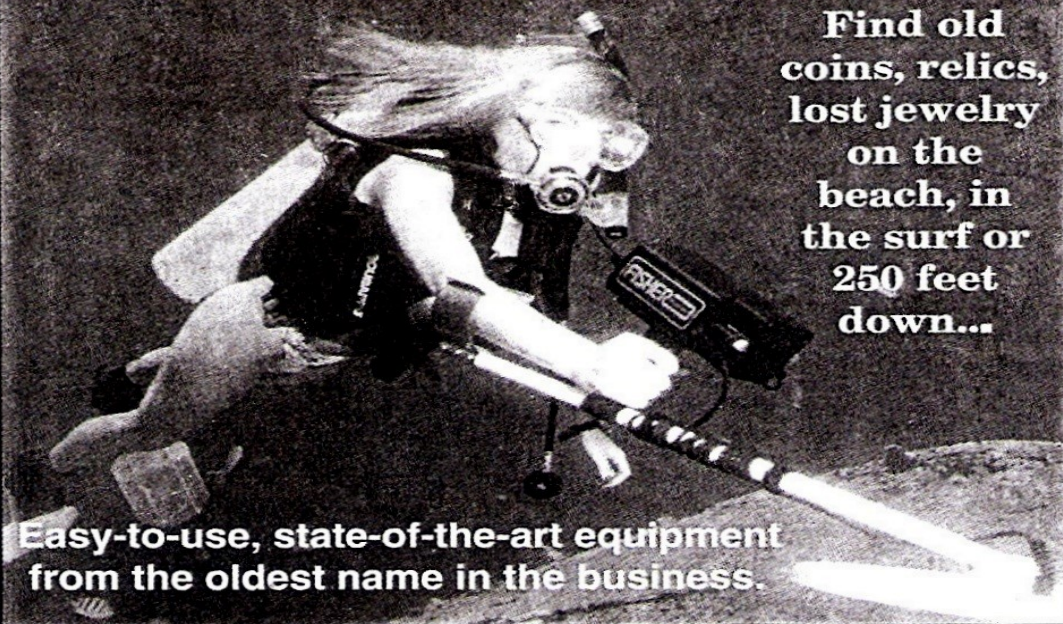
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## DANGER AHEAD

by Owen Timmermans

On my visits to Naauwpoort and Boons in the West Transvaal, searching for stories and relics of the Anglo-Boer Conflict, I came across stretches of the old, old Jameson road, the cart track that connected Bechuanaland with Paul Kruger's Zuid Afrikaansche Republiek

Boons was originally known as Zwartlaagte, on account of a stretch of thick black turf found there. The old road passed over this turf and in the wet season, carts would regularly get stuck in the sticky black mud, so sticky it would even cause one to lose one's boots.

The name Jameson's Raid whisked us back in time to 1896 and Dr. Leander Jameson's infamous Raid.

For six long months Dr. Jim had prepared for the great Raid, the chance of his life time, to beat the Boers and annex the Transvaal for his beloved British Empire, an empire already so extensive that the sun never found time to rest.

For years the Transvaal had been blessed with a series of gold discoveries, crowned in 1886 by the greatest discovery of all times, the Rand banket offering investors steady gold values over hundreds of miles — enough to last well into the 21<sup>st</sup> century. In terms of gold, the Transvaal had become the richest country in Africa, perhaps even in the world and bloated gold-ticks Rhodes, Beit and Wernher felt it should by right be a part of British Overseas Possessions.

To that purpose Beit had financed the Johannesburg Revolutionary Uitlanders who were to rise. Dr. Jameson was to support the rise with an armed invasion.

The raid was Rhodes' baby — Jameson was in his employ. His force was made up of 400 mounted police of the Chartered Company which administered Rhodesia, a new British colony north of the Transvaal. It virtually belonged to Rhodes!

Volunteers from Mafeking in the Cape Colony swelled the number of men to six hundred. Jameson had also managed to gather six Maxim machine guns, two mountain guns and a 12½ pound field piece.

The Maxim was at the time a new type of machine gun — a frightening machine that spewed several hundred lead bullets per minute.

Dr. Jameson, nervous but ardent supporter of Rhodes couldn't wait to be on his adventure. Several coded telegrams, not signed, but obviously from his boss Rhodes, had warned him that the Revolutionaries were hesitating. Then, on 29<sup>th</sup> December 1895 a telegram arrived instructing him to call off the raid. Jameson was disappointed to say the least — he was stubborn too! Not taking notice of the instructions he decided to go in, there was no stopping him and that very evening the Raid, now his Raid, became a page of history.

Orders, bugles sounded, a swirl of dust and six hundred mounted men, guns and carts loaded with officers' belongings clattered down the rutted cart-track heading south to the promised land — the Golden Rand.

Jameson, supremely confident, never doubted that victory would be his ---- but soon he



realized that Boers trailed him., picking off stragglers. Casualties mounted! Jameson's men fought back as they had learnt to fight Lobengula's impis with the rat-tat-tat of the Maxims and the crash of shrapnel from the field gun. To their surprise they found that strategy utterly useless for the enemy was invisible but for puffs of smoke that appeared to rise out of ant heaps, even out of the bare soil.

The black turf of Zwartlaagte was a head-ache too. It was end December, the height of the rainy season, the road almost impassable.

Four gruelling days after their departure, the early morning of 2 January 1896, found Jameson and his exhausted invaders halted close to a small white washed farm stead south of a koppie known as Doornkop. The promised land — the Rand! In the distance rose mine head gears busily hoisting endless numbers of hoppers filled to the brim with rich gold bearing rock. Some of the troopers were convinced there was a smell of gold in the air. Avaricious dreams destroyed by the sudden crackle of rifle fire. The invisible enemy — dangerously real bullets — they couldn't move! Then a white flag appeared — no, not a flag, the white apron of an African servant girl. Silence returned. From all around them the Boer marksmen rose up out of the ground. Very humiliating! The British invaders had lost 16 men killed, the Boers one! Somebody was crying — Dr. Leander Jameson seated on a cart on his way to the Pretoria goal.

On discussing the Jameson Raid with some farmers in the Boons area, one of them suggested that I should visit Breet's vlei, situated on Rietpoort 395JQ.

The owner of the farm told me that the old Jameson road passed over the rantjies, which he duly pointed out to me, then down a steep slope to turn east and continue parallel and below the said rantjies.

The Boers had been patiently waiting for the learned doctor and his raiders to ride down the steep incline.

Judging by the lie of the land, the Burghers must have seen the raiders coming from several hundred yards distance and were never short of time to get ready.

When at last they did arrive, a salvo of rifle fire greeted them. Totally surprised, down the incline they galloped, spreading in all directions.

So goes the story!

A careful investigation with the metal detector rewarded me with the discovery of three Maxim cartridge cases. The raiders obviously attempted a defence — very futile for it's virtually impossible to fight an invisible enemy.

In 1896, the Boers were still armed with Martini-Henry and Wesley-Richards (martini-type) rifles as well as with the old Sannah musket.

Martini-Henry soft wall cases we did indeed find in cleverly chosen strategic positions behind rock outcrops.

All war dead from miles and miles around seem to have drifted to the Garden of Remembrance in Krugersdorp and it was there that we found graves of Boers that fell in the Jameson Raid.

At the time of Dr. Jameson's surrender at Doornkop, the raiders had lost sixteen dead as against the Boer's one. But there must have been several wounded on both sides



and the relevant Boer graves we found at the cemetery came to five.

One of these, George Jacobs was shot by the raiders while offering a drink of water to a wounded enemy.

At least some of the fallen sixteen raiders are buried there too. We located three individual graves, side by side. One of these headstones bears the name Captain Barry of the B.S.A., the British South Africa Police. It is recorded that he died on the day of surrender, 2 January 1896, but miraculously held on to dear life till the very end of January.

\*\*\*\*\*



Doornkop — an hour before Dr. Jim, noisily crying, was taken by mule cart to the Pretoria prison.



# “KLIPPE” VANUIT DIE BUITENSTE RUIM

Deur Bertie Rietveld

My betrokkenheid is grootendeels om Boereoorlog goeters te soek, maar het onlangs ook 'n meteoriet krater ontdek, wat na veel navorsing positief ge-identifiseer is, maar na talle vrugtelose ure met my Garrett GTI 2000 het ek geen metaal meteoriet stukke of skerwe gevind nie.

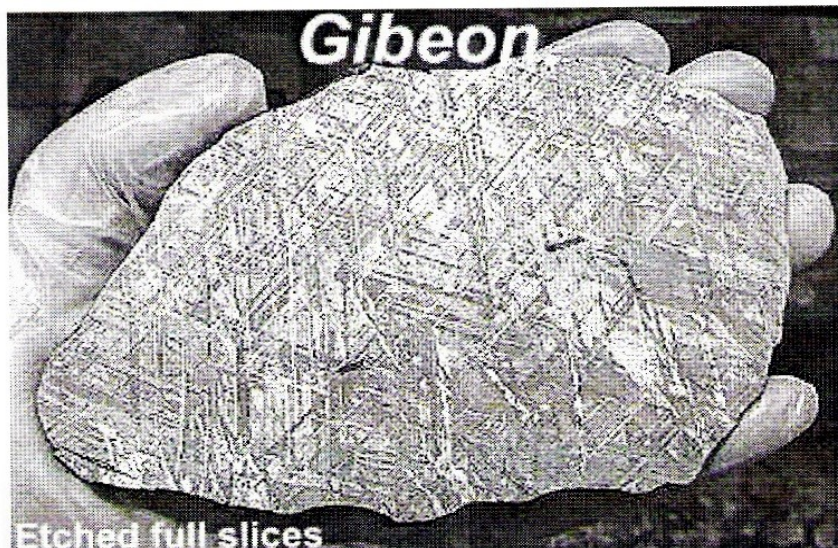
Heelwat “shatter coning” op rotse en gesmelte rots is egter gevind, wat definitief op 'n meteoriet dui, maar slegs ongeveer 6% van alle meteore wat die aarde tref is van metaal. Al die ander is rotse – dan is daar ook nog die snelheid van die meteor, wat dikwels onsettend hoog is, en dan, wanneer die meteor die atmosfeer binnedring, kan dit smelt om die buitekant en wanneer dit dan die aarde tref is die ontploffing so geweldig dat die meteor “vaporize” en net die krater los!

Wat veroorsaak het dat die Gibeon meteoriet in Namibië geen krater gelos het nie, maar skerwe van die yster – nikkel meteoriet oor 'n wye gebied van etlike kilometers gestrooi het, kan 'n mens net oor wonder. Alle metaalverklikker-entoesiaste in Suid Afrika moet maar hulle oë oop hou vir “klippe” wat die masjiene laat skree – miskien ontdek jy die raarste en kosbaarste metaal op aarde – vanuit die buitenste ruim! Ek sluit 'n webblad kopie in vir verdere inligting:-

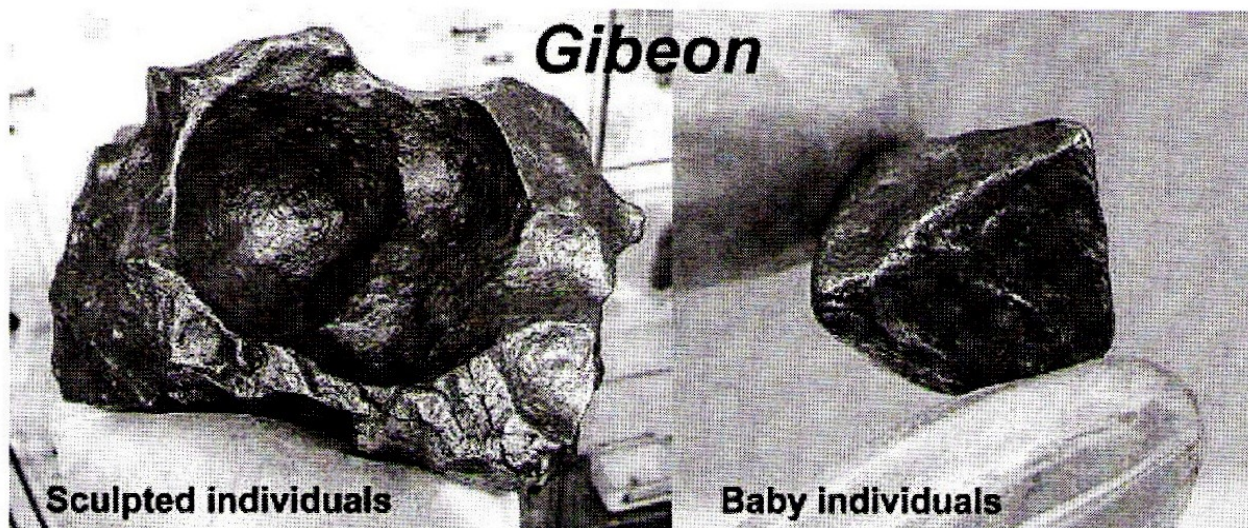
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## **BESTE LESER / DEAR READER**

**I URGENTLY NEED ARTICLES FOR OUR FIRST ISSUE OF 2002  
EK KORT DRINGEND ARTIKELS VIR ONSE EERSTE 2002 UITGAWE**

Ek het al baie keer gesien dat persone wat hul eerste pogings in druk sien, die selfvertroue kry om meer en meer artikels vir Treasure Talk te skryf – waarom probeer jy nie ook om vir ons 'n ietsie in skrif deur te stuur nie? Moenie bekommerd wees oor spelling en taatgebruik nie – moontlike foutjies sal deur ons reggestel word.

**PLEASE TALK TO TREASURE TALK!**



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## SUBMISSION TO TREASURE TALK

FROM JOHN AND ERICA MULDER

### DO YOU BELIEVE IN MIRACLES AND A DIVINE GUIDANCE?

It all started with the miraculous find of the Languioule - Napoleon knife (see Treasure Talk of Spring 2000 - translated here in abbreviated composure for overseas readers).

On Sunday 27 June 1999 a man told us he had lost his pocket knife on a local beach measuring approximately 1km long and 100m wide, but he had no idea of where he had lost it, it could have been anywhere on the entire beach, right down into the shallow water.

When I woke up one morning a week later, I had a very clear and powerful premonition that if I went to the beach that morning, I would find the knife - but I had no idea of where I may find it.

On arrival at the beach I walked straight into the water with the metal detector and lowered the search coil into the water - at that moment as I switched the metal detector on, I received a signal and retrieved the pocket knife from the sand below the water.

A calculation of the relevant factors revealed that I had a chance of about 1 in 2,5 million to achieve this miraculous find.

Now consider the circumstances of the following four finds:

- A. On 26 November 2000 I found a 1,5ct engagement ring for DJ in the waves within three minutes of commencement of the search.
- B. On 13 January 2001 I found a solitaire diamond ring outside the designated search area and in the final minutes of a 2 hour search - also in the waves (for Hilton & Molly Rogoff).
- C. On 16 January 2001 I found a gold chain, also in the waves, within 10 minutes of commencement of the search, but this time it was lost three weeks ago (for Mr Meyerowitz).
- D. On 12 January 2001 I found a golden eardrop behind the waves in water about 1 metre deep (for Mrs Gunner).

#### A. BINGO 1,5ct DIAMOND RING RECOVERED FROM THE WAVES

On Sunday 26 November at 7pm as we were leaving Lookout Beach for home a car stopped next to us in the parking area and the driver disembarked saying to us "I have been looking for you all day."

He briefly informed us that his fiancé had lost her ring and asked if we would come and search for it at Solar Beach about 3km away. As it was after sunset and getting dark he went via his home to fetch a torch.

At Solar Beach he made two parallel lines on the beach, 6 metres apart, heading straight out of the water and informed us that she had lost the ring during low tide at 11am in the morning, in the waves. Since that time there had passed a high tide at 3 in the afternoon which could have moved the ring and also they could have been mistaken about where she had lost the ring.

As it was getting dark I realised we had to move fast and therefore promptly directed Erica to cover the wet sand whilst I ventured into the water heading for the waves - saying to myself this is an impossible task.

After walking less than 10 metres to where the water was about knee deep I received a signal and after the second attempt the target was in the scoop. After rinsing the sand out of the scoop I looked inside and saw what appeared to be a ring with a very large diamond. I called him over to see if it was the ring they had lost and he immediately became ecstatic and



couldn't believe his eyes. He had also practically given up hope of ever seeing the ring again, but there it was, all R60 000 worth of solitaire diamond. He couldn't stop laughing with excitement and we departed from the beach in less than 5 minutes after our arrival there. The ring was not insured.

#### **B. A SECOND ENGAGEMENT RING RECOVERED AT SOLAR BEACH**

On Saturday 13 January our planned search at Main Beach was delayed from 11h30 to 12h30, but this turned out to be fortuitous.

Soon after our arrival at Main Beach a couple turned up and requested our assistance to find an engagement ring lost in the surf at Solar Beach the previous day.

The location where the loss occurred was demarcated on the sand and extended twice as the search progressed over the next two hours until it was about the size of two tennis courts.

The tide was coming in and it started to rain but the prospect of abandoning the search and the ensuing disappointment was too depressing to contemplate.

As a last effort I decided to make one final sweep into the waves way outside the demarcated area.

After about 10 seconds and 15 metres the metal detector sounded a signal and a ring was retrieved from below the sand in water about 1 metre deep.

Hilton immediately identified the ring and called Molly over. Indescribable joy and happiness followed. This was Molly's engagement ring from 32 years ago.

Hilton's persistence to locate us on Saturday and call for a search, actually paid off.

#### **C. GOLDEN EARDROP RECOVERED ON FRIDAY 12 JANUARY FOR MRS GUNNER FROM U.K.**

I was busy searching the surf at Main Beach when Mrs Gunner approached me and asked if I would look for her eardrop lost in the surf.

After searching the identified location in water about thigh deep for 20 minutes, I looked into the clear water behind the waves and saw something glitter on the sand below, about 6 metres from where I was. When I got there it had disappeared from sight but the metal detector quickly located it. It was in the shape of a spiral shell, hollow inside, but sealed off.

Great joy and happiness to Mrs Gunner.

What luck (or was it luck?) that I looked that way at the moment before it disappeared since I would not have searched in water that deep.

#### **D. GOLD CHAIN RECOVERED FOR MR MEYEROWITZ ON 16 JANUARY**

In a round about way Mr Meyerowitz located us and requested if we would come and search for his gold chain which he lost in the waves at Robberg Beach 3 weeks earlier.

Much as this sounded to me like a fruitless exercise, I have learnt from previous experience that one never can tell what may happen.

Within 10 seconds and 10 metres after entering the waves I received a signal and recovered the lost chain.

It is truly amazing that after 3 weeks since the chain was lost and several days of gigantic pounding waves, the gold chain still remained in the area where it was lost and was found only about 30cm below the sand in water about knee deep.



# SKATTEJAG IN AUSTRALIË

Deur Dawie Berg

Ek en my vrou het onlangs vir 'n maand in Australië by my suster gaan kuier wat baie siek is. Ek het my verklikker saam geneem en hier volg my storie...

Ek staan op Sawtell strand – die eerste keer dat ek hier in Australië met my verklikker op die strand is. Ek het die dag tevore kom kyk hoe dié strand en ook die volgende strand, Coff Harbour, lyk. Die mense het my ondermeer vertel dat daar twee weke gelede 'n vreeslike seestorm was, die golwe het tot in die bosse gegaan. Die strande hier is ook baie smal – met normale springgetye gaan die water amper oor die hele strand tot net so 'n halwe tot een meter van die bosse af. Die seesand is baie fyn, fyner as die Kaapse seesand. Somtyds is daar egter “hard pan” in die nat seesand. Dit is amper soos rivierklei of modder en 'n kopseer om in te grawe. Net 'n graaf of handgrafie kan dan gebruik word – dit is regtig hard en swaar om te grawe!



Druk besig om te grawe naby 'n groot Pier.

Ek kyk weer na die strand en sien daar was 'n storm, amper al die bo-sand is weggespoel. Net die harde onderlaag lê oop en bloot. Na twintig minute toets ek weer die masjien, alles is stil en ek kry niks nie, nie eens 'n “pull tab” of proppie nie. Nee, met die verklikker is daar geen fout nie. Na 'n uur gee ek moed op en gaan huis toe – met my eerste soektog in Australië het ek slegs 1 muntstuk gekry! Ek was baie teleurgesteld, maar beseft dat die see alles weggespoel het.



(By Sawtell en Coff Harbour waar ons gebly het, was die weer baie soos Johannesburg se winter weer, so dit was maar baie koud. Elke aand het ons vuur gemaak. Daarvan het ek baie gehou.)

Die volgende dag kan ons die motor vir 4 ure leen. Wel, moenie dink dat ons oral wou rond ry nie; netnou kom ons in Egipte of êrens uit! Daarom is ons reguit strand toe. Ons het so 'n halfuur se ry van die strand af gebly, so dit gee my drie ure se stap op die strand. Die wind waai, dit is 'n regte wintersdag en niemand swem nie. Daar is darem so hier en daar mense wat op die strand loop en so drie branderplankryers. Daar is ook verskeie vissermanne – in Australië is die mense, klein en groot, baie lief vir visvang. Ek het opgelet dat hulle baie kleiner visstokke as ons gebruik.

Hierdie keer loop ek heen en weer oor die nat en droë sand soos 'n W. Die keer het ek darem 5 munte uitgehaal, wat vir my vir drie ure se soek uiters swak is. 'n Paar van die Aussies het met my gesels en gevra of ek al iets gekry het.



**Sawtell Creek – die water is bitter koud!**

Twee dae daarna neem my swaer-hulle ons na Sawtell Creek piekniekplek. Daar is 'n rivier wat in die see loop en in die somer swem die mense daar en vang ook vis. Wat vir my snaaks was, was hul braaiplekke wat onder dak ingerig was soos onder 'n Lapa. Daar is plate waarop jy jou vleis braai en dié werk met gas. Jy druk so 'n rooi knoppie, dan maak 'n gas-vuur die plaat warm, maar gaan na 5 minute dood. Dan druk jy maar net weer die knoppie en hou so aan totdat jou vleis gaar is. So het ons 'n lekker Australiaanse braai (barbecue) gehad. Terwyl die ander vleis braai het ek my kans geneem om te gaan soek en hierdie keer het dit darem 'n bietjie beter gegaan met 7 munte wat ek opgetel het.



Oor die volgende twee weke was ek weer op Sawtell en Cliff Harbour se verskillende strande, maar almal was maar regtig power. In totaal het ek maar 47 munte uitgehaal. Dit was so 18.84 Australiese dollar of R79.12 in ons geld. Ek beseft dat ek die verkeerde tyd van die jaar daar gesoek het, maar ek het dit baie geniet. Ja, dit was vir my baie lekker!

Terwyl ons nog daar was, was daar weer 'n vreeslike storm. Miskien het dit die geld weer terug op die strand gegooi. Maar ek sal nie weet nie, die volgende dag was ons in die 747 op pad terug na Suid Afrika toe!

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**Metaalverklidders**

**Kontak: Noël Swartz**

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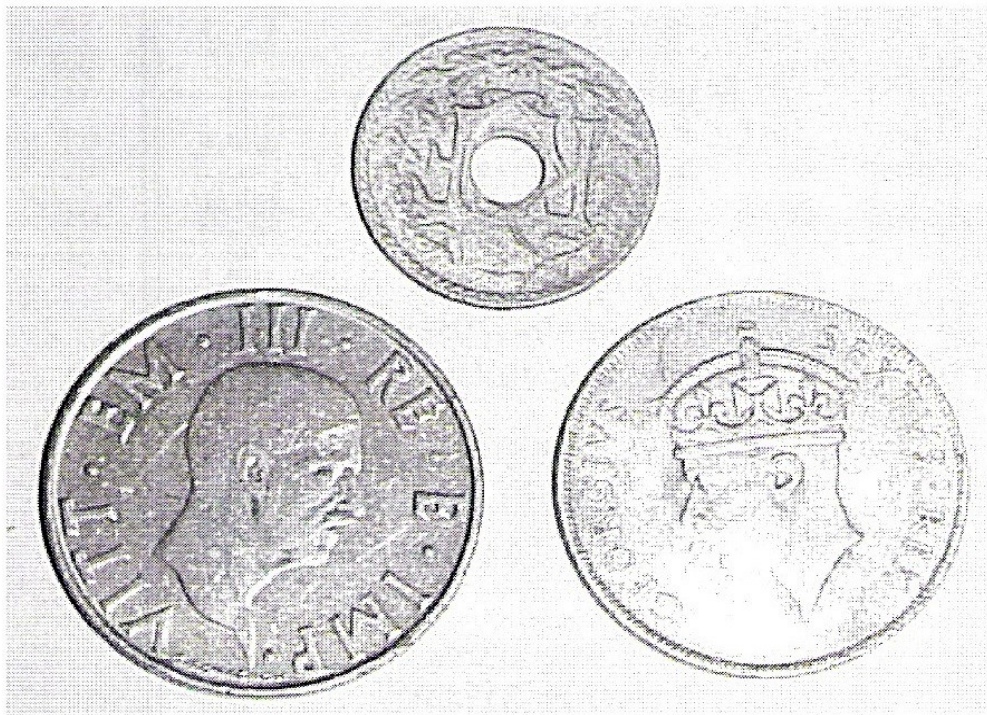


# C.SCOPE

PROFESSIONAL METAL DETECTORS



1929,1939,1949!



Not all coins that are taken from the sea are necessarily in a bad condition. This three coins (top photo is the reverse and the lower photo the obverse) are all in a very nice condition. The coins are a 10 Cemes from France (1929) a 2 Lire from Italy (1939) and a 1 Shilling from East Africa (1949). All three coins were found on different days in the seawater of the Western Cape. (Pierre Nortje)



....and  
**More**

# Cub Capers

Gareth  
I like the metal detectors  
ther ar difrint cinses  
of them



Fr: 2000-06-12

## Metal Detectors Visit



General consensus?.....

It was COOL!!

Ross

The metal Detector man came to cubs  
and shode us how to yooos a  
metal Detector and it was fun and  
I fownd a key and 20cs and many  
and he shode us ren's.



One Friday a man  
came to cubs and  
he brought metal  
detectors. And I  
found a R5.5c. And  
one guy found  
an American  
coin without  
a metal detector  
From Stuart

Hi my name is Andrew .

Oneday at cubs there was a  
Man he had Some thing  
weard it had mikmer phons on it.  
SO I thout He was going to sing  
a song but then I saw he  
had lobs of gold

KAREN

On Friday we had a visitor.  
Mr Roux came as a sapperor of Fisher Mscope  
We got to look for things.  
I found a 2c coin from 1981 and an  
unknown coin from 1961

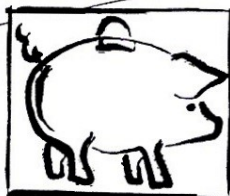


Did YOU know???

A man <sup>Jacob</sup> came to show us  
how to use a metal  
dectector. We found an old  
abatoir hook from whn  
the building was dn  
it was great!

TESSIE

I loved the  
dectecting metal  
ourselves! dectecting day. It was fun! We got to do metal



one Friday a man brought a  
whole lot of metal detectors The most  
valuable thing we found was  
a coin from 1887 from america  
It was cool. Joseph Rom

Wolfgang Roux gave a lecture/demonstration on the use of metal detectors at the local 1<sup>st</sup> Durbanville scout group (Cubs). These letters were published in their newsletter in June 2000. Well done Wolfgang, for promoting our hobby to the next generation of TH'ers.



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