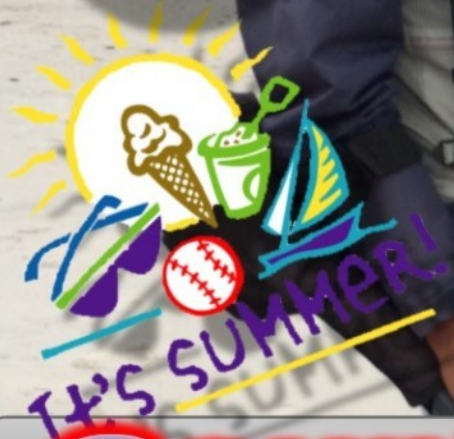


# TREASURE TALK SA

EST 1986

NOV - DEC 2015

**Best Find  
2015**



## Couples Stories

Engaged with a 1c Piece found..?

Beach-Relics-Underwater- Bottles and Dumps




# TREASURE QUEST TREASURES

QUALITY METAL DETECTING ACCESSORIES

Beach Scoops  
Relic Spades  
Digging Picks  
Edge Diggers  
Detector Bags  
Finds Pouches  
Treasure Hunting Books  
Survival Bracelets  
Hunting Vests  
Detector Harnesses  
Shoulder Bags  
Diamond Testers  
Scales  
Loupes  
Caps & Hats



LET THE ADVENTURE BEGIN

WEB: [www.treasurequesttreasures.co.za](http://www.treasurequesttreasures.co.za)  
EMAIL: [info@treasurequesttreasures.co.za](mailto:info@treasurequesttreasures.co.za)  
 TREASURE QUEST TREASURES  
PHONE: 083 366 9445 / 072 297 7833

Products also available at

METAL DETECTORS  
4 AFRICA



# FROM THE EDITOR VAN DIE REDAKTEUR



**W**ow what a great response on the find of the year. It started off slow in the beginning but as soon as the cut-off date was announced, the entries just kept pouring in.

Great to see all the gold and silver found, and also the relics with great personality.

This is a fast growing hobby in South Africa and also overseas. Social networks have been a great instrument in bringing people together and helping them show off their finds

Choosing the best find was not as easy as I first thought. Firstly to find the best way to choose the winners and not leave anyone behind was a daunting task.

I got specialists to help select winners in the different categories and it still was not an easy decision. A special mention to Tonie Cilliers to say thank you for all your help. The winners were chosen.

Hopefully we will see many more entries for the best find of 2016!

So, at the end, it was Gold that is still "King of the soil"

Keep on hunting and send those finds to Treasure Talk SA for all to admire.

The "General"  
Lukas van der Merwe



**S**kitterend om te sien al die mooi fondse wat ingeskryf was vir die fonds van die jaar vir 2015. Dit het maar stadig gegaan in die begin en gelukkig het daar heelwat inskrywings gekom voor die afsny punt .

Dit was nie maklik om te bepaal hoe die trekking sou wees nie. Ek het dit gedeel met van die Lede van verskillende afdelings.

Hoekom ek dit nie op facebook gedoen het nie , was dat daar heelwat persone is wat die ander een ken , en net vir die persoon stem en nie die fonds nie.

Dankie ook vir Tonie Cillier vir die hulp.

Na al die spesialiste geskies het wie vir hulle die beste fonds in die afdeling was , kon die Facebook vriende toe stem.

Baie geluk ook aan Wade met die fonds

Hoopelik gaan ons meer inskrywings in 2016 sien .

Ek sien dat die jaar sommer goed

begin het met al die fondse wat al gevind is.

So in die einde het goud weer koning gekraai .

Hou die spoel op die grond , en stuur al julle stories na Treasure Talk SA

Die " Generaal "

Lukas van der Merwe





ALFRED  
LEEJE

**I WANT YOUR STORY**

**FOR THE NEXT**

**“Treasure Talk”**

# Contents / Inhoud



Engadge with a 1c piece found..!  
Page 6  
Monique van der Merwe

Couples Storie  
Page 9  
Henry Clapton



A Beach Hunters Storie  
Page 13  
Henry Clapton

The Manliest of Men  
By Darren Epstein  
Page 36

What happen at a  
Annual Hunt  
Last Episode  
Page 20  
Pierre Nortje

## What Happen on a Annual Hunt

28th Annual  
Karoo Boer War Hunt  
7 - 14 September 2013

Come experience the Karoo with us...!  
Experienced by Pierre Nortje

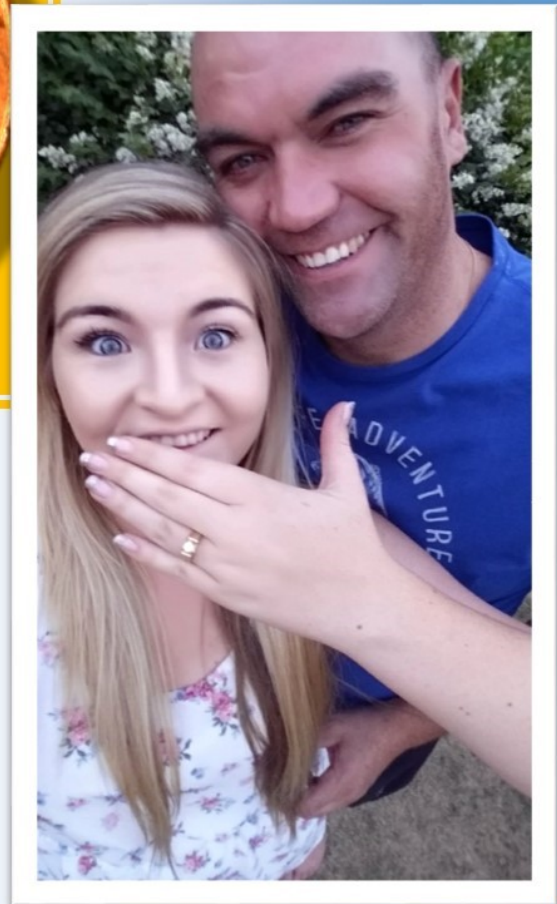
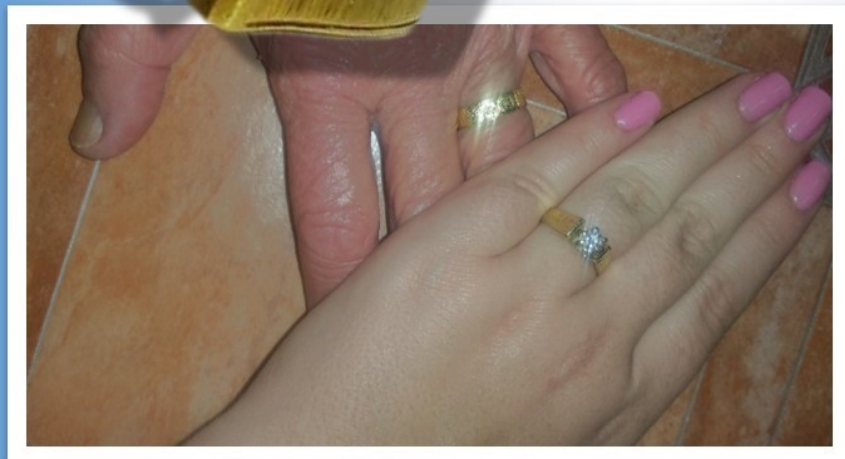


# True Life Treasure Stories

# GRANDPA SAKKIE



By Monique van der Merwe





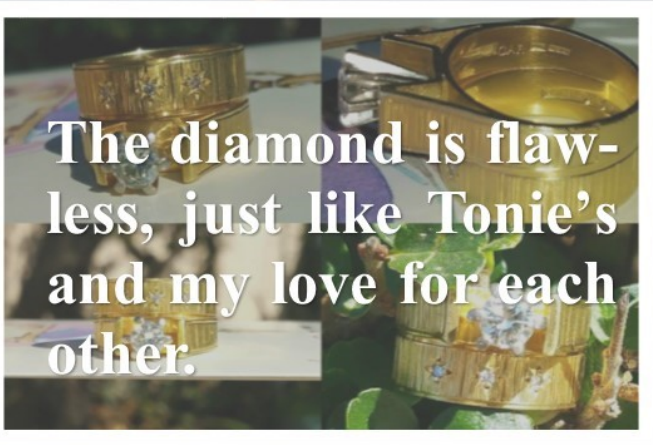
# True Life Treasure Stories

**E**very small girl dream of meeting her prince one day, but first you learn real love from a king. My grandpa.

A grandpa is someone with silver in his hair and gold in his heart. I will never forget his sincere love and humbleness. He once said ; ‘To hold a grandchild’s hand can be likened to hold a piece of heaven’. He made every day special with so much joy. I wish he could have been with us longer but the impact he made on us will last a lifetime. He raised five wonderful sons, seven grandsons and, two granddaughters and smiled upon the two great grandchildren from heaven. As grandchildren we learn a lot from

through the night on the beaches. But one specific story is the most beautiful to everyone: Told by Oom Lukas: “I remember when my dad found this ring. He was busy metal detecting at Margate after a rainstorm at the lagoon. The lagoon broke through into the sea and in the water with the Fisher Impulse he got a signal and it was a new 1 cent piece and upon lifting the scoop a beautiful gold ring flushed into

When I was small I heard about this beautiful ring my grandpa found at Margate beach. My grandpa gave the ring to my grandma and asked her quite a few times to have the ring readjusted to fit her finger, but regardless they kept it safe until the day I am 21 years old. The first time my grandma showed me the ring I couldn’t believe how beautiful the ring was.



I met Tonie and he heard the story of how my grandpa found the ring quite a few times. We visited many jewelry stores the past three years and looked at many beautiful rings but none of them compared to my grandpa’s ring. Tonie asked me a lot how I would like my engagement ring. My answer was I have a ring. My grandpa’s ring. I mentioned to Tonie that I would like to wear this ring as my engagement ring and then to have the wedding band readjusted for my grandma so she could wear it. Tonie made our dream come true. He placed the most beautiful ring on my finger. My grandma is wearing the wedding band. It is very special to me and my grandma because we are very close. We are ringed by our grandpa’s love. The diamond is flawless, just like Tonie’s and my love for each other.

our uncles and is thankful for a close family. Not all family members are in metal detecting but we are trying our best to involve them. We can remember as children how our parents metal detected during vacations, it was normal for us but most enjoyable. I remember the coin finds being our vacation spending money.

the scoop. He was so happy that he was screaming and everybody heard him and was rushing towards him to see what he had found. I had a guest on the farm the other day and he remembered the guy finding a gold ring on Margate beach. He also walked away with a metal detector. My grandpa wanted to gold-plate the one cent but left us before he could do that. It was his wish to give it to the eldest grand daughter. So oupa Sakkie we salute you!”

My grandma loved telling us how she and my grandpa dug



# You Can send your Story under these Headings



**Field Test**



**Treasures in the Headlines**

**BREAKING NEWS**

**Beach Finds**



**Coins**



**War Relics**



**Dump Digging**



**Club News**



**More about my Find ?**







# Couples and Metal Detecting

## By Henry Clapton



ple, having to go shopping or visiting the in laws. The list is endless. I am sure many men can relate to this.

ment when walking with a metal detector in the public eye thinking that we are scrounging for food money in the

This brings me to my point; metal detecting together can not only be fun but also allows for good quality time spent together. Sure, you cannot really talk and hold hands in the field, but one can be in close proximity to each other and share the excitement and rewards of being in the outdoors, especially when good finds are being made.

We have invested in a pair of two way



While driving back from a successful treasure hunt some time back Angelique gave me a great idea. Why not write a short article about couples and

metal detecting.

After giving it some consideration it was decided that we need to get this hobby out of the shadows of being a male dominated past time to being something that couples could do and enjoy together.

Metal detecting has always (in many instances) been given the cold shoulder by many female spouses. This is some-



radios that we take on our hunts. This allows us to communicate regardless of how far apart.

Metal detecting has moved from the crusty dirty reputation it has had in years gone by into a main stream past time. With more and more folks getting involved it's the perfect platform for couples. Surely not all spouses are uninterested in the history that can be found in the ground on fields or the lure of treasures on beach.

There is also that feeling of embarrass-

dirt. Unfortunately most of the public are unaware of what detecting is all about. Having a couple detecting changes the perception radically, especially when ladies are doing it next to their men.

We have been approached on many occasions by other couples on the beaches and the ladies feel more relaxed chatting to both of us than a lone male with a spade looking like a scientist. (Yes, I have been called that on a few occasions). Almost every encounter has ended on a positive note with the newly educated party wanting to join and be part of this incredible past time.

We are seeing many more couples taking up the challenge of late and it's absolutely fantastic to hear and see them doing this together.

**Well done couples lets fly our flag high!!**



thing that most ladies are just not interested in. The men often have to make ridiculous compromises in order to get time off for metal detecting. For exam-

# The Treasure Book Review



THIS MONTH WE LOOK AT ANOTHER POPULAR TITLE BY GARY, COUPLED WITH A BETTER UNDERSTANDING ON SITE READING WITH CLIVE'S BOOK. BOTH OF THESE BOOKS GO HAND IN HAND WHEN IT COMES TO SUCCESSFUL BEACH HUNTING.

## HARDCORE BEACH HUNTING – Gary T Drayton.

Soft cover, 96 pages, 38 Chapters.

In this manual Gary steps up the pace and reveals a more serious approach to hunting beaches successfully.

As most of you are well aware of Gary's finds, this book really



about Gary will concur. Have you ever seen a picture that Gary has displayed with any clue on location? This is a simple but a basic example. Other hunters will study and look for clues in your finds and photos and what you say.... It's a cutthroat world out there.

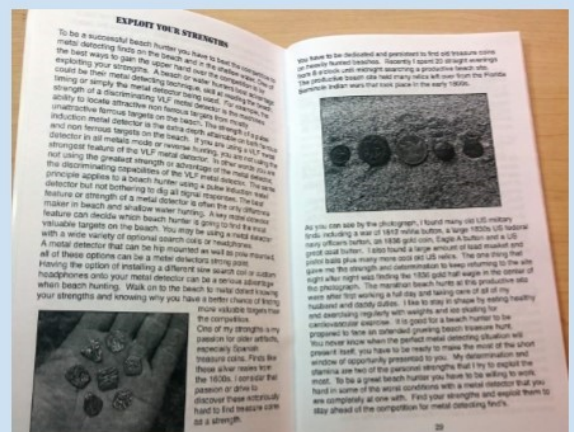
I loved this book and read it a long time ago. It was nice to refresh my memory and smile at some of the points made by Gary as I recall using them on many occasions to be successful.



gets you into the author's way of thinking, allowing you to understand why he does so well at this type of treasure hunting. It's not because he is just lucky

and hunts a lot. Gary really approaches this hobby with a specific goal in mind. His goal is to find gold and valuable jewelry, period. If this is your goal then you need to learn how to achieve this.

The book is not called 'Hard Core Beach Hunting' for nothing. It's a 'take no prisoners' look into being successful. Treasure hunting is a one man hobby and having better knowledge and techniques over the competition will produce results. Those that know





## SITE READING for Gold and Silver – Clive James Clyruck.

Soft Cover, 105 pages, 50 Chapters.

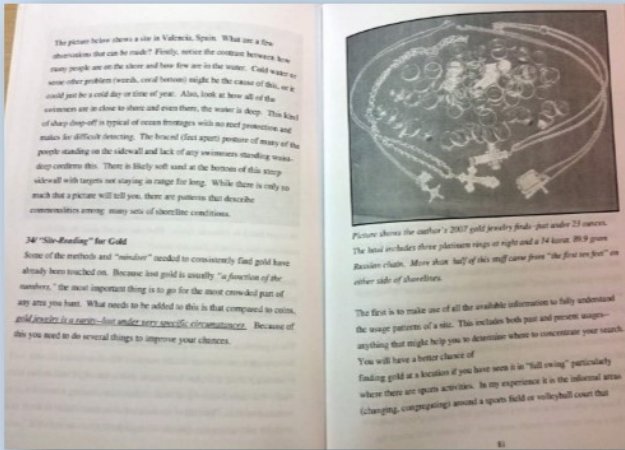
Anybody can pick up a metal detector and head off to the beach for a great day hunting coins and whatever else presents itself. Only an educated disciplined hunter can do the same and go home with Gold and Silver.

It all starts with research. In this book Clive takes you into the realm of looking for clues, tips and features that will give away good hunting locations. Some of which are right on your doorstep! It amazes me how



feel on his information.

The above titles and others are available for purchase at Treasure Quest Treasures.

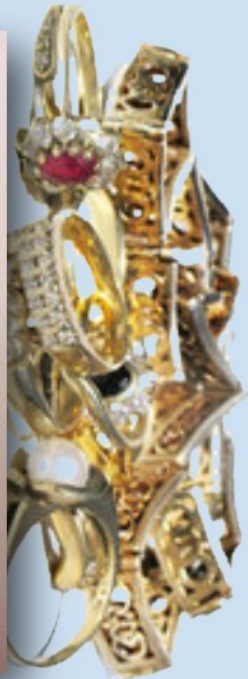


few people actually bother to look at the history of beaches and possible fruitful locations. Clive has done a Stirling job in bringing these factors and tips to your attention under one cover.

The book starts with details on your equipment, skills and techniques. It builds you up to information overload with details on sites, what and where to look and it just keeps on going in typical Clive style.

I absolutely love Clive's books and his style of writing. He actually talks to the reader while giving a personal

Contents: 1/ Introduction 2/ Equipment 3/ Your "Kit" 4/ Some Site Basics: "Sampling" 5/ "A Function of the Numbers" 6/ Activity: "What Goes On?" 7/ Dollars: "Who Goes There?" 8/ "Start Four Engines" 9/ Skill Building: Target Information 10/ Versatility: "Matching the Match" 11/ Depth: Overcoming the "Signal to Noise" Problem 12/ Accuracy and Target Separation 13/ Iron 14/ 15/ "Reverse Hunting" 16/ Detector Stability 17/ Signal Boosters 18/ Physical Site Features (Break, Grades, Rooms / "Sampling") 19/ Working "The Box" 20/ "Horsepower" 21/ Coverage: "Finishing the Job" 22/ Following Through on Your "Hunches" 23/ A Basic Site Assessment 24/ Making Comparisons 25/ Understanding Strata 26/ Inland Site Strata 27/ Shoreline Strata 28/ Understanding "Precipitate" 29/ Excretia 30/ Strata, Precipitate and Excretia: Putting it all Together 31/ "Site-Reading" in Action: A "Trial Run" 32/ Sports Locations 33/ "Site-Reading" for Gold 34/ Coincency 35/ Site Logs 36/ Keeping an Inland Site Log 37/ Keeping a Shoreline Site Log 38/ Mapping 39/ Bells and Colonial Sites 40/ Homesteads 41/ Research 42/ Conclusion 43/ Appendix: "Reverse Hunting" Chart 44/ Related Reading 45/ Resources 46/ Maps Online 47/ Forums with Research Boards 48/ Ethics 49/ Other Books by this Author



KNOWLEDGE IS POWER!!

By Henry Clapton

15 November 2015



Postnet Suite # 70  
Private Bag X40106  
Walmer  
Port Elizabeth  
South Africa  
6065

Henry 083 366 9445 / Angelique 072 297 7833  
Email - info@treasurequesttreasures.co.za

# TREASURE QUEST TREASURES

METAL DETECTING ACCESSORIES - NAUTICAL / MARITIME COLLECTABLES



# Couples and Metal Detecting By Monikie



I

t was a Saturday like any other Saturday. Waking up with a tinge of excitement knowing today may be the day to find an awesome treasure. While driving, to site I could imagine all the awesome goodies just waiting. Upon, reaching my destination donned all the necessary aides for the dig and got stuck in. Started finding a few old coins and thought today is going to be good.

Then I looked up and saw a bakkie full of people arriving. They got out laughing and joking and the mood was jovial. They, too, knew they arrived at an awesome site. As they came closer my world stood still. Everything happened in slow motion. Somehow, I knew my biggest life treasure was standing there right in front of me with a detector and spade in hand. I remember her name vividly etched into my mind...Monikie!

I tried to be close to her as much as possible. Even marking deep targets for her to dig but she wanted none of it. She wanted to detect her own targets and dig them on her own. So, I retreated and just watched her go about digging away. When we were done we said our good byes and deep inside me I knew I met my match... My life's treasure. Every time after that day when I saw her we got closer and better friends. She always went with me detecting and started finding real cool finds and at times even putting me to shame. I didn't mind. As long as I could be close to her.. That's all that mattered.

I knew this was my biggest and best find

of a lifetime. Someone to share the ups and downs with and someone who understands my need to be outdoors...metal detecting, exploring, searching and enjoying life to the fullest with someone you love.

I love you Monikie van der Merwe and want to spend the rest of my life with you... Metal detecting!



Saturday, I woke up feeling Like I dont want to do anything today. My dad was all dressed up and ready to go detecting. He passed by asking if I wanted to go with... I remember that day I first

met Tonie. Oh boy, that deep blue eyes were so fascinating! While we were detecting (I think the first 20 times, was just to be close to each other) I caught him watching me....

I knew the day I met him an ADVENTURE was going to happen. We became best friends....

Tonie taught me patience to rejoice in small grains which others take for granted. He taught me tolerance to accept that your perspective is different and deserves respect. He taught me to work hard for what I want most, encourage me to fight for the things I want most in life.... To do the extraordinary.... To never ever give up. He taught me endurance to go on when I feel I wanted to give up (finding relics...haha) He

taught me to love at a deeper level than I ever thought possible.

And as crazy as it sounds, before we even started officially dating, I knew I wanted to marry HIM.



Everyday is beautiful with you. You came thoughtfully, love me faithfully. My stomach is filled with one million butterflies. I know the best is ahead. Im blessed to have the most beautiful memories with the most beautiful heart by my side.



# Beach Finds



A BEACH HUNTERS TALE - 2014

By Henry Clapton

It's time to look back on 2014 and take stock, not just physical stock but mental as well. Having been detecting for 20 plus years and not taking things seriously; 2013 / 2014 saw a change in my lifestyle. Metal Detecting was one of them. I decided to set personal goals, the beaches being my challenge and finding gold my ultimate goal. Hunting means many things too many people and we all have our reasons for doing and enjoying this hobby. I made finding gold my challenge due to it being so difficult to locate, but also knowing it is there in large quantities. The key and challenge is how to get at it.

This story was not written for bragging rights, but to show you and what is possible. There are many hunters here in SA that have tally's larger than mine in many ways. So many factors come into play when we have to show figures and lay the cards on the table. Time and good equipment was number one on my list. Basic knowledge of your quarry, how it behaves and where it lives is a close second. I forced myself to play to a given set of rules and the results were astounding when one applies these rules.

My driving force was not personal enrichment as many would think. It was pitting my skills against the elements and the ever presence of the grinding competition this hobby commands.

It was a good year looking back. I have grown and still am. I had to draw knowledge from great local and international hunters to get to where I am today. The support and willingness to share info and techniques was invaluable and I thank you all. Being able to ask, listen and apply was crucial.

## The finds:

In the past I would not record any items of



76 x Gold rings in one year





# A BEACH HUNTERS TALE 2014



value and had no system of keeping track of my finds. It was time I got organised. In the latter part of 2013 when the penny dropped, I kicked into top gear. Every find of value is recorded, especially gold. Gold and silver are weighed, bagged and tagged. I keep a meticulous photographic record of the days finds. Photos of the location and current conditions came into play on many occasions when returning to a site.

The ever presence of coins was a big speed bump in my book. Dig em out or leave them and cover more productive ground. In 2013 and the beginning of 2014 I was digging an average of R1000 in usable coins per month! I'm down to about R 200 per month now. Eventually I saw the coins as the beaches way of slowing me down. Very clever Neptune! I eventually got over my pre-programmed mind-set of having to dig coins; it was difficult at first but no more. I'm not here to collect coins. My coin count is ridiculously low for 2014.

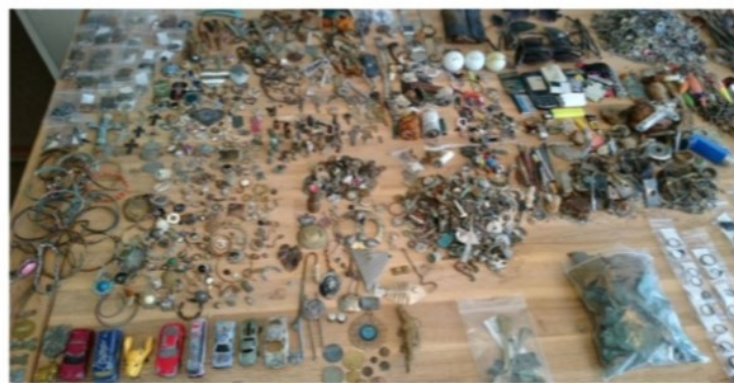
## 2014 Finds:

1 x Platinum ring, 76 x Gold rings, 18 x other gold items (283.2gr in total). Scrap gold is in the bag on top of the ring case.

32 x Silver rings (76.8gr), 16 x Silver coins and 47 x other silver items (205.8gr), 2 x Titanium rings.

25KG's of lead, 954 x pull tabs (yes, I kept them all) and 164 x junk rings.

It is actually quite amazing to look at all the items I kept over a 12 month period. Each item represents a signal and a hole.....that's a lot of holes!



# Can't wait to see the tally for 2015 !

# RAMC



## Couples and Metal Detecting By Lana Pienaar



Above :

David & Lana in one of our favorite fields Middelburg Transvaal



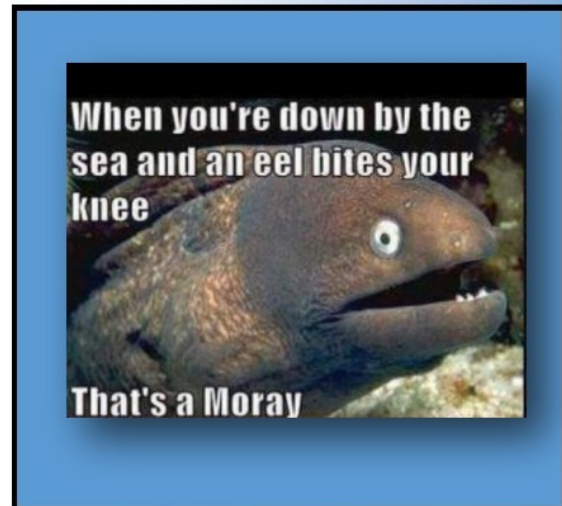
Above:

What a great week in Heilbron – as the first woman Ever on an Annual hunt it was a great privilege to have Shared this experience with my husband and love of my Life!



uring November 2014– November 2015 we had a few wonderful outings with our metal detectors, always ready to go and to do it together, David bought his Minelab Safari November 2014, and he got a pin pointer for Christmas 2014! As we went out to the fields I started using his detector and soon we realise

one detector does not work between 2 people going into different directions. He bought my Minelab Xterra 705 for me soon after his and I was ecstatic and so we started as a great team finding some of the most awesome relics together. We have visited a lot of places during 2015 and enjoyed every trip we took. The sharing between us is priceless and the great feeling when finding a rare relic is just priceless. Where ever we are and whenever we find a great relic we will first look for each other in the field and when we see the look on the other one's face we just know something great was just found! We do not need to speak any words at first as we just know – and I do believe every detectorist has that look when something rare is found and to share this with your best friend/partner/love of your life is just the most terrific feeling under the sun!





When Lukas van der Merwe asked me to do an article for the couples edition I have wondered what I should share and which photos, I have decided to share our finds together as we found it together and not focus on individual finds. We have dug many holes and have dug in shiny weather, rainy weather from the hardest ground to the rockiest soil!

*Here are some of our greatest finds together during the last year! All found by David & Lana Pienaar*



*We are going to a Field at least once A week! We just Love the history and Finding relics!*







David and I do a lot of research on possible sites where we can go and detect. David does most of the reading as he just loves books and has a very wide knowledge of history and he has a lot of books acquired during years! We do have a few old bottles also in our collection and will soon start working on our display for our rarest of relics found so far. Some of our friends think we are totally crazy but all enjoy seeing what we find. We have met a lot of new friends with this hobby and always nice to do a hunt with them.

Manicured nails are totally out for me, but I must admit my nails have never been so long and strong since my hands were in the ground digging doing metal detecting

**DURING THE LAST 12 MONTHS WE HAVE WON A FEW 'FIND OF THE MONTH' COMPETITIONS ON METAL DETECTING SA:**

- March 2015 Coin
- April 2015 Relic
- May 2015 Coin
- May 2015 Relic
- May 2015 Beach
- June 2015 Coin
- June 2015 Relic
- August 2015 Relic
- October 2015 Coin
- November 2015 Relic



We would like to thank Tonie Cilliers for the caps and also Metal Detector SA club for always supporting us and all the friends for their appreciation of the hobby and relics we found during 2015! These caps are worn with great pride!



Hi Just Visited My Detecting Friend In Germiston. Together We Have Found 8 I.D. Plates In Heidelberg Over The Years The Plates Are The Somerset Light Infantry. The Soldiers Names Are W. Perry. A. Rayson. S .Stagg. W. Gifford. J. Chatwynd. B Ryden. G.Hill A.Burge. Gifford And Burge Both Died Of Enteric Fever. –Mike Bull



Micheal Andre Conradie Very nice tags Mike, never seen such before and different from the bed plates we often find. Your W. Gifford was a L/Cpl and died of disease at Standerton on 03/06/1901 - he was attached to the 2nd Som LI, Pte A. Burge also died of disease at Kroonstad on 07/08/1900 and also attached to 2nd Som LI.

Michael Bull My Wife And I Visited Kroonstad Cemetary Years Ago And Saw Burges Grave And His Name On The Memorial.





**I WILL ALWAYS CHECK LOCAL LAWS BEFORE SEARCHING. IT IS MY RESPONSIBILITY TO “KNOW THE LAW “**

**I WILL RESPECT PRIVATE PROPERTY AND WILL NOT ENTER PRIVATE PROPERTY WITHOUT THE OWNER’S PERMISSION. WHERE POSSIBLE, SUCH PERMISSION WILL BE IN WRITING.**

**I WILL TAKE CARE TO REFILL ALL HOLES AND TRY NOT TO LEAVE ANY DAMAGE.**

**I WILL REMOVE AND DISPOSE OF ANY AND ALL TRASH AND LITTER THAT I FIND.**

**I WILL APPRECIATE AND PROTECT OUR INHERITANCE OF NATURAL RESOURCES, WILDLIFE AND PRIVATE PROPERTY.**

**I WILL AS AN AMBASSADOR FOR THE HOBBY, USE THOUGHTFULNESS, CONSIDERATION AND COURTESY AT ALL TIMES.**

**I WILL WORK TO HELP BRING UNITY TO OUR HOBBY BY WORKING WITH ANY ORGANIZATION OF ANY GEOGRAPHIC AREA THAT MAY HAVE PROBLEMS THAT WILL LIMIT THEIR ABILITY TO PEACEFULLY PURSUE THE HOBBY.**

**I WILL LEAVE GATES AS FOUND.**

**I WILL BUILD FIRES IN DESIGNATED OR SAFE PLACES ONLY.**

**I WILL REPORT TO THE PROPER AUTHORITIES ANY INDIVIDUALS WHO ENTER AND OR REMOVE ARTIFACTS FROM GRAVES AND MONUMENTS.**

Join the  
**Historical Metal Detectives SA**  
Today

**[hmdrsa@gmail.com](mailto:hmdrsa@gmail.com)**



# Treasures in the Headlines

**BREAKING NEWS**

**STILBAAI NEWS** - Roy Marlow, a local resident loves beach combing for treasures with his metal detector. This hobby came to the rescue of a frantic lady when she lost her engagement ring on the beach.

"On Thursday, 8 October I received a phone call from the friendly lady at my local bank who always kindly exchanges the weather-beaten old coins that I sometimes find in search of my fortune. She informed me that a very distraught young lady has lost her white gold and diamond wedding ring on the beach near Lapskuit on the previous day and wondered if I maybe can assist in finding it."

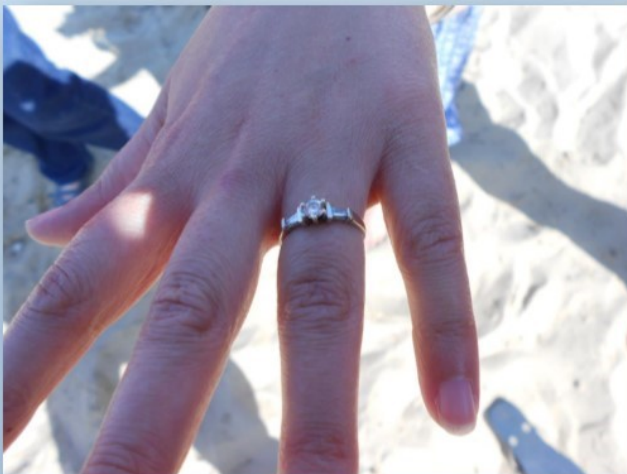
Understandably he was expected immediately and dropped everything he was busy with on the farm and rushed to the beach in a rather disheveled condition. "After obtaining as much information as I could about the missing ring, I started searching. After a few swings with the metal detector, I heard the sweet tone of gold in my earphones and managed to retrieve the very valuable piece of jewelry from the concealing sand."

Marlise Gomes had tears of joy and relief. "Nothing could surpass the wonderful feeling I had knowing that I helped this young lady recover one of her beloved possessions. On returning home I discovered that the reward insisted upon was far to generous."

In conversation with Gomes she expressed her utter joy and gratefulness towards Marlow for finding the ring so quickly.

"It was in a matter of minutes."

According to Gomes she and husband Mario drove through to Stilbaai on Wednesday afternoon hoping to find the ring without success.



"Mario told me to let go and not to make myself ill over a ring. That evening I prayed to God. On Thursday I went back to Stilbaai to distribute posters asking for help. Before I could put any posters up I received the phone call about Roy. I really believe God answered my prayer and made a miracle happen."

Marlow has decided to make himself available to search for valuable items, lost long ago or recently.

**ARTICLE: LOUISE MOUTON, SOUTH CAPE FORUM - JOURNALIST**

*'We bring you the latest Stilbaai, Hessequa news'*



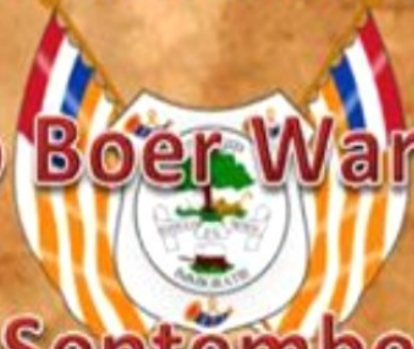
# What Happen on a Annual Hunt



28 th Annual

Karoo Boer War Hunt

7 – 14 September 2013



Slingsfontein

Colesberg

Deelsfontein

Norvalspont

Nouwpoort

Come Experience the Karoo with us.....!

Come Experience the Karoo with us.....!

# Experienced by Pierre Nortje

On the 5th day of the trip we got up at 5 in the morning for a 70 kilometre drive to Naauwpoort, a small town south of Colesburg where a huge British camp was situated during the Anglo Boer war.

When we left Norvalspont the temperature was quit accomodating, but when we stopped for pictures at the old British fort at Naauwpoort, it was freezing – and some of the guys only had T-shirts on!

From there we took an old gravel road to the old camp site that got narrower and narrower until we had to do some “bundu bashing” for the last kilometre or so ... I did not tell Mariana about it when I got home as I was driving her car!

According to old pictorial evidence, it was a huge camp, but when we reached the spot, it was strewn with rusted 110-year old Bully beef tins and other ferrous metals that made detecting almost impossible. Coupled with the freezing cold, we decided to leave the camp site for a warm cup of coffee at the old renovated Railway Restaurant in Naauwpoort.

From there on we went to farm that had some ploughed fields on which numerous Boer War artefacts were found in the past – including a gold Sovereign or three...

Compared to the previous days, this was easy digging and many nice finds were made – I had a nice regimental button - a 4th Dragoon Guards Button that won me the best find of the day. Most of the guys did well and at mid-day we had a nice barbeque under some trees near the field where Lukas shot the movie scene of Colin on the Bush Toilet!

Then it was back to the ploughed field again – a farm foreman told us that the British Offices used to have a Polo Field nearby that some of the guys also searched – but I am not sure what was found there.

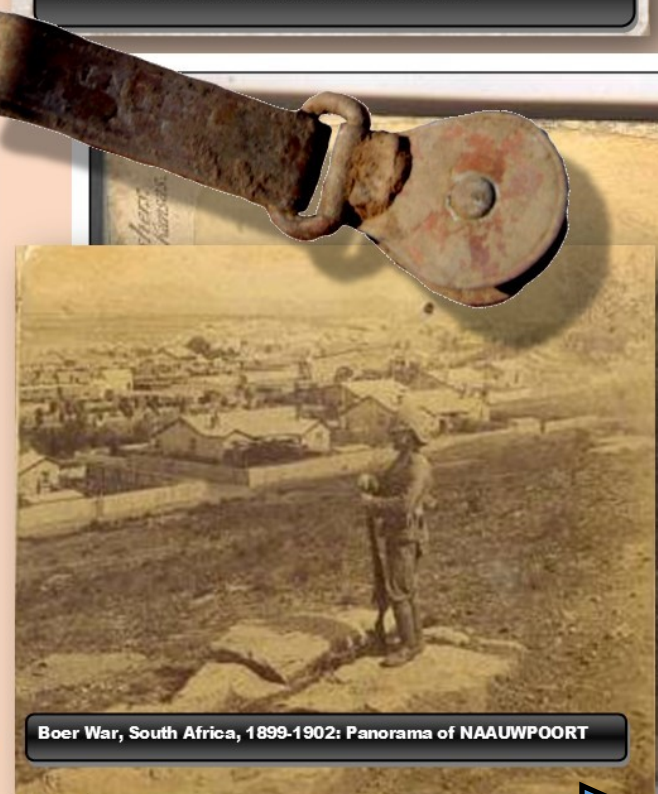
It was our last day staying at Norvalspont so we returned back to hotel earlier than usual for the daily prize giving and to pack and get everything ready for the second stage of the trip – the last two days at De Aar.



The Officers of the Queens Regiment Lunch at a table dug from the veldt



Soldiers of Colonel Porter with bayonets ready practicing to meet a Boer Cavalry charge, Naauwpoort 13 December 1900 . (Boer War 5th Dragoon Guards at Naauwpoort photograph)



Boer War, South Africa, 1899-1902: Panorama of NAAUWPOORT



**NAAUWPOORT JUNCTION :** On the 19th Nov 1899, Gen. Wauchope carried out an order to reoccupy Naauwpoort Junction. With him went half of 2nd Black Watch, half a Btn of Berkshires 70 NSW Lancers and two 9-pounder muzzleloaders. Fortunately the train carrying the 2nd Black Watch had just passed over a culvert when it was blown up by the Boers.



Whilst here the 2nd Black Watch built earthworks and made a reconnaissance towards Colesberg where the Boers were in force. On the 23rd November C Company, under Captain Cumming-Bruce, when acting as part of an escort to General French's reconstruction train, came under fire from some Boers near Arundel.

Half the Btn stayed at Naauwpoort whilst the other half arrived at Orange River station arriving around Nov 28th. Officer's claymores had been left along with all sporrans. To replace the sporrans an apron of khaki drill was worn and all ranks carried the rifle.





PIERRE NORTJE



MIKE CONRADIE



MIKE CONRADIE



STEFAN VAN DER MERWE

## Day 6 and 7

**Deelfontein is a railway siding in the Great Karoo, Northern Cape, region of South Africa on the route of the Cape Town to Pretoria railway line. It primarily developed to service the railway due to its good water supply for steam locomotives.**

**During the Anglo-Boer war (1899-1902) in South Africa, Lord Roberts, the commander of the British forces decided that a hospital should be established near the front line of the northward advance of the British army (February 1900).**

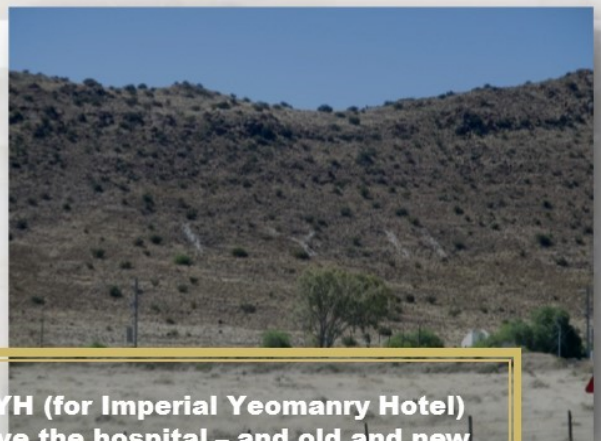
**A British military field hospital, the Imperial Yeomanry Hospital, was constructed and the location was chosen for its communications and dry climate, and its proximity to the town of De Aar, then the centre of hostilities. The hospital was unusual in pioneering the use of x-ray diagnosis.**

**The hospital, with a capacity for some 800 patients, largely comprised tents and prefabricated huts. Little remains of the complex except a cemetery with around 130 graves and the remains of the Yeomanry Hotel, built after the war to accommodate soldiers' relatives visiting the site.**

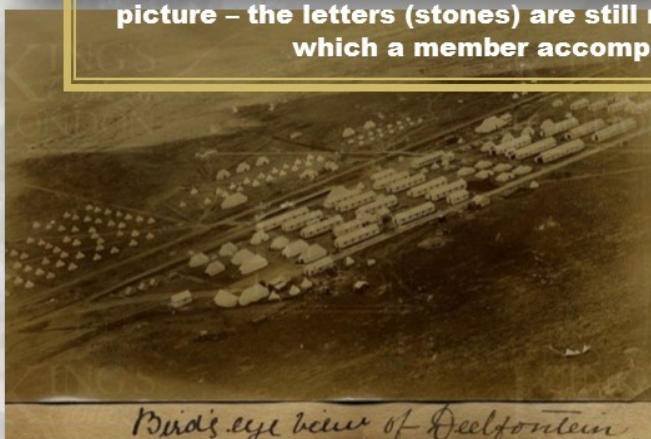
**Here is a link to more info on the history of the Hospital during the Anglo Boer War**

**<http://samilitaryhistory.org/vol074sa.html>**

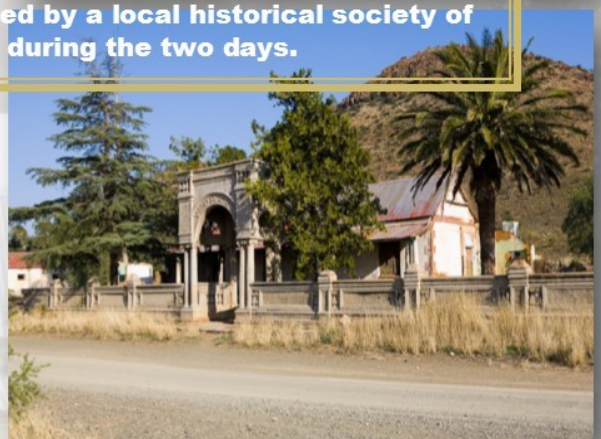
**The following two pictures show the Ruins of The Yeomanry Hotel at Deelfontein Siding.**



**The following two pictures show the letters IYH (for Imperial Yeomanry Hotel) spelled with white stones against the hill above the hospital – and old and new picture – the letters (stones) are still maintained by a local historical society of which a member accompanied us during the two days.**



*Bird's eye view of Deelfontein.*





Although we searched the areas around the old hotel and hospital area, ferrous contamination made it almost impossible to pinpoint targets – there were just too many old rusted tin cans and the such.

But this did not deter the “bottle digging platoon” as a huge ash pit // rubbish dump was lying on the south western side of the railway line. It has been dug before but because of its huge size, maybe 10% was covered before our arrival.

I have little experience of bottle digging, but this is the first old dump that I have seen that went upwards and not downwards into the ground – it actually forms a mount as the rubbish was probably dumped on the veldt and then covered by soil instead of digging a pit – maybe the soldiers and hospital staff were just too lazy going // getting down? Dig it?



The guy in the centre of the picture pointing towards the kopje is actually a South African Police Officer and member of the local Historical Society.

Kobus Nel—Nou al n ou grou vriend

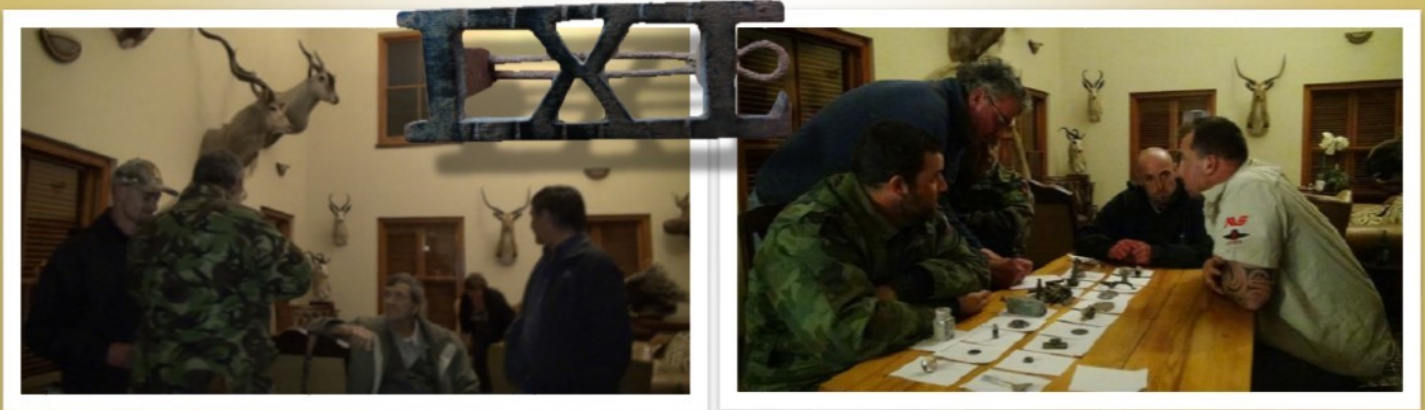




**We Stayed over at ' Jules of the Karoo '**

As Lukas had to return to his own farm on Friday morning, we had the final prize giving that night, although the rest of us returned to the fields the next morning and only said our good buys the following (Saturday) morning.

The voting for the best finds of the trip was hampered by the fact that not all the finds could be displayed as some were already packed away and given to Lukas for his museum. So we had to vote on memory of the finds that were made during the trip – it was somehow difficult not seeing the finds in front of you during the voting process.



But the winners were eventually decided upon and here they are ...



The first prize went to Simon Morris from Queenstown for his beautiful Sovereign holder but unfortunately, Simon did not accompany us from Norvalspont to Springfontein, so his first prize was given in absentia. Here is the man of the moment!



The second prize went to Jono for his ZAR Artillery Button



The 3rd prize went to Tinus for his 1862 Young Head Victorian Shilling



The fourth prize went to Gerry from the UK for his Worcester (shire?) badge





**Our Irish friend, Des (from Minelab) giving a short thank you speech.**

**Thank you Pierre Nortje  
For taking us the last  
3 Month's on a journey  
Through an  
Annual Hunt**

**Here are the entries we received for the best find of the trip...**

- 1) Simon's Sovereign Holder
- 2) Luigi's Army Service Corps Badge
- 3) Robert's South African Constabulary button
- 4) Pierre's 4th Dragoon Guards Button
- 5) Colin's Field Artillery Button
- 6) Jono's ZAR Artillery Button
- 7) Gerry's Worcester Badge
- 8) Mike's 5th Royal Irish Button
- 9) Tinus's 1862 Victorian Silver Shilling
- 10) Jono's 1899 Victorian Silver Three Pence (Tickey)
- 11) Tinus's 9th Lancers Badge
- 12) Tinus's Helmet Spike



**And talking of spot centre, I negotiated with the farm owner to take our UK guests on a Springbok Hunt and Colin was over the moon on bagging his first Springbuck – a prize sized ram weighing almost 50 kilograms.**



**This was the 28th annual hunt organized by Lukas and every year it just gets better and better. I am not sure how he is going to top this next year but we will just have to wait and see!**

**Thank you Lukas for all the hard work and organizing – here is the big man himself showing his joy .....!!!!**



*Thanks again to Lukas for all his hard work and the assistance of Luigi and Jono  
We salute you!*



# Treasure Talk SA

Historical Metal Detectives RSA

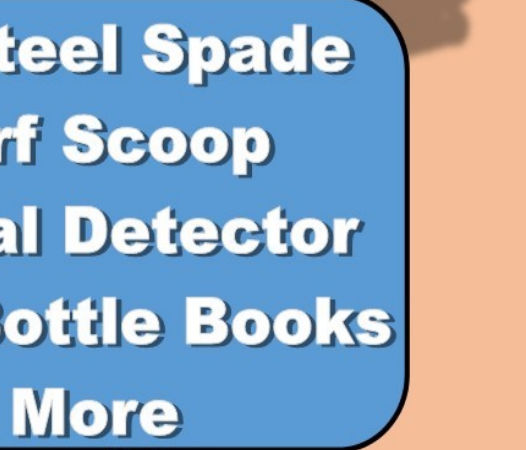
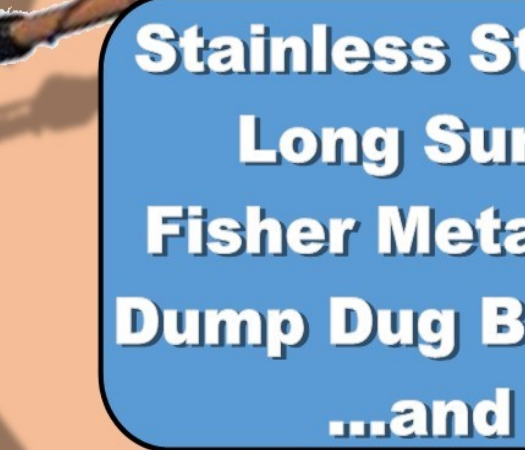
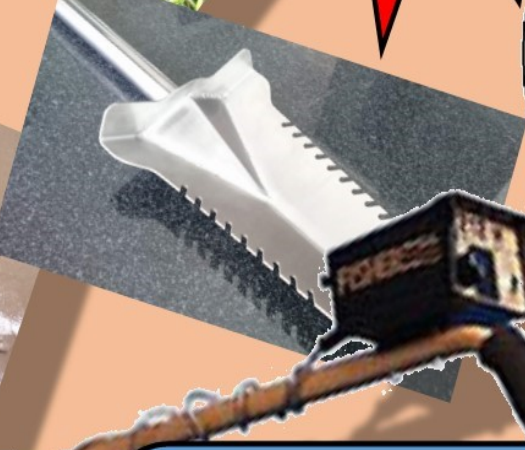
http://www.hmdrsa.com

083 47...

Prizes  
Best find 2015



**Stainless Steel Spade  
Long Surf Scoop  
Fisher Metal Detector  
Dump Dug Bottle Books  
...and More**



Postnet Suite # 70  
Private Bag X40106  
Walmer  
Port Elizabeth  
South Africa  
6065

Henry 083 366 9445 / Angelique 072 297 7833  
Email - info@treasurequesttreasures.co.za

**TREASURE QUEST TREASURES**

METAL DETECTING ACCESSORIES - NAUTICAL / MARITIME COLLECTIBLES

**Fisher Labs**  
Detecting & Underground Locating Equipment

**Emties**  
Mike and Tinus

# Couples and Metal Detecting

By Hennie van Niekerk



We were very excited , battery's fully charge to go and hunt on Blouberg strand. About hour into the hunt I got a nice hit. Took my scoop and begin to dig , i saw a bag in the hole , when I want to take the bag out a long knife pierced through the bag almost cutting my forearm. I thought it was diving equipment and call Leatitia to come and sit by the hole so that nobody can see when we opened the bag. When I opened the bag out pops a goat's head. Leatitia fell over on her back and I just started laughing. This is how our metal detecting started and we love it .



Metal Detectors 4 Africa (Detectors 4 Africa cc) is owned and run by Wolfgang Roux. Our business is metal detecting and anything related to this only. The market is so specialised that personal service is the most important aspect of the company.

*"I detect myself and know the market and the most active detector users in South Africa."* - Wolfgang Roux

**MINELAB METAL  
DETECTORS**

**TEKNETICS METAL  
DETECTORS**

**FISHER METAL  
DETECTORS**

**UNDERWATER METAL  
DETECTORS**

**UTILITY & SECURITY  
DETECTORS**

**GOLD SEARCHING  
DETECTORS**

**COILS FOR HOBBY  
DETECTORS**

**COILS FOR GOLD  
DETECTOR**

**METAL DETECTOR  
ACCESSORIES**

## NEW PRODUCTS





# Couples and Metal Detecting By Jacobe Fourie



As an avid angler nothing else seems to matter as fishing was a way of matter or life or death. Then one night during load shedding we sat and talked about metal detecting. The problem however was getting started with all the adverts out there. Finally found one on Gum tree .Guess who it was no one else than Lukas vd Merwe.So with that sorted the Fisher F2 was on its way. Every thing changed after that machine was turned on. The garden included. One machine was not fun so the Eurotek Pro followed. Then 2 x pulse induction machines for the beach. Now fishing is being neglected ,Even had a change to detect rhino poaching site. *Certainly the best hobby ever.*



**Leigh Griffiths**

**Photo taken -- Shropshire in England**



# Safety out in the field



**No amount of gold, silver or relics are worth your life !!**

It sounds dramatic but it is so true. I'd rather give it all up and start again than not carry on at all. I decided to write this article and share my personal experiences and views on the topic. Our world that we live in demands us to be vigilant and alert at all times while pursuing this wonderful hobby. Unfortunately it's not all flowers and bunny rabbits out there in the field, there are many nasties lurking around every corner trying to get ahead in life and may see you, the innocent detectorist, as there next prize or stepping stone.

I am sure most of us have had absolute strangers approach us and ask questions, it's quite common.

The key is to be able to read between the lines and try to evaluate the person / persons intentions. Do they have a genuine interest in what we are doing or a genuine interest in our equipment and finds but with sinister motives in mind? It's very difficult to draw the line and know when you are being pumped for information that could be to your detriment.

Every day I have strangers talk to me on the beaches and one of the main questions is HOW MUCH is that machine? I chose to tell the value pending on my gut feeling. Often a R45000 machine becomes a R2500 nasty Chinese fake!! The same goes for what's in my pocket.

I never ever tell or show strangers my valuable finds, especially gold. I have al-

ways said "gold changes people" and I don't wanna find out first hand! My valuable finds go into a separate hidden place, I never put them with my general finds. If I have to show them, all that gets displayed are crusty coins and pulltabs. It's amazing how boring that is to look at and may folk question why I do this for a handful of junk. That just the response I want.

I never express joy or surprise when a great find is made. It gets treated like a

and a tazer. The only time these items are left behind is when I get chest deep into the water; otherwise they are always on the equipment check list. A firearm gets added to this list when hunting known hot spots in remote areas. Many folks don't agree with the firearm accessory and I respect that, each one to his own.

Hunting with a partner can also be a form of safety in remote areas, but don't expect that to be your only form of safety



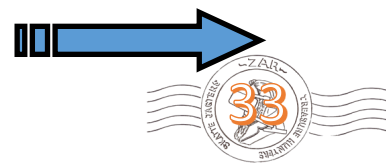
nasty coin or pulltab and disappears from sight in an instance. Don't inspect your finds in detail until you are safe or out of the public eye, you are attracting unnecessary attention.

Okay, so not all hunting spots are risky but getting into a habit of keeping yourself and your equipment safe is number one in my book. Attracting unnecessary attention to yourself will eventually get you into a situation that you would not want to be in. Prevention is better than cure.

This brings me to my next topic, safety equipment. I, at all times make sure that in the event of a confrontation I can defend myself to a certain degree. I always carry a jet stream (not mist) pepper spray

net. Robbers are brazen and desperate; they will take on a group of people if the need arises.

I was given a great tip about using a pepper spray in the wind by a nice old granny in a gun shop one afternoon. One always needs to be downwind when using this item. A mist spray will end up in your face, even in a slight breeze will affect its capabilities, thus the jet stream choice as mentioned above. She told me that if I cannot get downwind from my attacker just spray it into your hand and slap the guy !



I thought it was brilliant and I'll never forget that. I used to hunt an area outside of PE called the 'Wild Side'. It's a beautiful section of coastline with many old beaches that often give up gold, silver and old coins. This area is also the home of the Abalone poachers. There are up to 300 poachers in PE that work this area at various times. (Info supplied by Cape Nature Conservation) The beaches are littered with the Perlie shells and they have left their mark on the coastline, it is very sad.

I have had the unpleasant experience of tangling with these poachers on a few occasions. They like the secluded beaches and work the low tides, just like we do. This unfortunately puts us in a risky situation. My worst experience was when I got confronted by three of these guys. They came out of the distance and started approaching me at speed. I could see by the body language these guys were not happy and wanted me gone. I upped anchor and started back tracking over the rocks to a close by resort as they had cut my escape route off by that time. I was eventually running over the rocks with these guys in hot pursuit, detector and scoop in hand. The resort was closed to my disgust. I made my way back to the

main road through thick bush where I flagged a taxi down and begged for a ride back to my car about 2km away. Once at the car I got the heck out of the area and parked a safe distance away watching the road. It was not long before they came out of the bush where I was parked to check my vehicle. This could have gone so bad if I was not aware of my surroundings. I thank that taxi driver to this day! The incident was reported and I now have Cape Nature Conservation and SAPS anti poaching telephone numbers on speed dial.

Night hunting, now that's a great way to get yourself into deep trouble if you are not prepared. I do hunt at night in some instances. I try taking a partner with on most hunts but often this is not possible. There is nothing scarier than seeming three silhouettes in the distance on a dark beach and they are moving in your direction. I've been there on a few occasions. (Ask Angelique, who ran away like a rabbit back to the safety of the car!).

I have a system that works for me on beach night hunts. Firstly I always try taking a buddy. I try stay on lit beaches but this is not always possible. I black out. No lights or torches on (I always have one though) my clothes are black

and I wear dark headgear, not even a detector backlight. The idea is to be completely invisible. I only work the wet sandy areas. The water is my safety net. These guys don't like getting their feet wet. I keep one ear open and uncovered at all times, I like to hear the night sounds. My peak is kept low just blanking out the towns lights; this enables you to have better night vision. The less of a beacon you are the better your chances of being unnoticed and having a peaceful hunt.

I have found that the sea is a great defence mechanism, day and night. I have been chased on beaches by guys clearly wanting to do harm on more than one occasion. The sea has been my saving grace almost every time. Get into the water; you'll be surprised how well this trick works.

In conclusion, we need to protect ourselves and our gear. Be aware of your surroundings at all times. Rather move off and be safe to hunt another day than try to be a hero and loose more than that what you bargained for.

Henry Clapton

15 November 2015



#### Treasure Talk SA

#### Editor / Redakteur

- \* Lukas van der Merwe
- \* ZAR.skattejagters@gmail.com
- \* Cell - 0820727747
- \* Fax— 042296132
- \* PO Box 2476
- \* Noorsekloof
- \* 6331

#### In the field / In die Veld

- Every one uses a Metal Detector in the field are a Field Reporter on their own and we want your story to share to all
- Kom al julle Skattejagters in die veld , almal wil graag julle storie hoor



**The views expressed in Treasure Talk SA are not necessary those of the editor , staff or publisher**

# Research

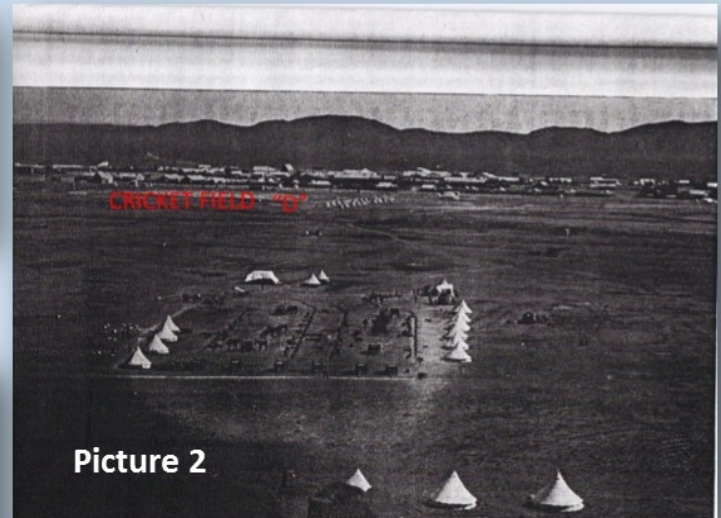


By Kobus Nel

Having a passion for the ABW, I started research on my town's involvement in the War. De Aar itself is not well known for any big battles or skirmishes although the surroundings like Houtkraal, Noupoort, Colesberg etc. had their share. My aim was and still is, to pin point exact locations where photos were taken plus minus 115 years back. Discovering one photo on the net where English soldier playing cricket and another one in a book on De Aar taken from far distance I was sure that I discovered the cricket field where the photo's had been taken. Although I was sure it was the place, I still needed physical proof (maybe due to the nature of my occupation) and yesterday after visiting the sight (which is currently a soccer field for the locals and passing through from CBD to townships) I found the proof where the slight remains of a small ash pit is still visible. I share this with you because this is not only part of the history of the ABW but part of my town's history as well.



Picture 1



Picture 2



Picture 3



Picture 4

- The 1 st Picture is the close up of the cricket field with three mountains in the back and the 2nd Picture was taken from the direction from mountain 3.
- Picture 3 was taken by myself and the same three mountains is visible as shown on Picture1.
- Picture 4 is the proof that I needed and the items will form part of a exhibition to educate our residents on the history of my town and preservation of it.



## Carton de Wiart - By Darren Epstein

Sir Adrian Carton de Wiart was a one-eyed, one-handed war hero who fought in three major conflicts across six decades, surviving plane crashes and PoW camps. His story is like something out of a Boy's Own comic.

For those who aren't aware as to how badass this man truly is, here's a sample of the first paragraph from his Wikipedia page.

*Sir Adrian Paul Ghislain Carton de Wiart (5 May 1880 – 5 June 1963), was a British Army officer of Belgian and Irish descent. He served in the Boer War, First World War, and Second World War; was shot in the face, head, stomach, ankle, leg, hip, and ear; survived a plane crash; tunnelled out of a POW camp; and bit off his own fingers when a doctor refused to amputate them. He later wrote that "Frankly I had enjoyed the war" when describing his service in the First World War.*

### He once said:

**Governments may think and say as they like, but force cannot be eliminated, and it is the only real and unanswerable power. We are told that the pen is mightier than the sword, but I know which of these weapons I would choose.**

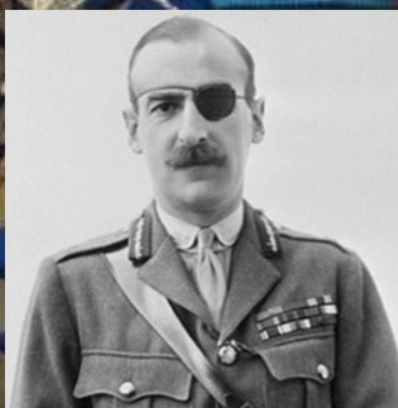
Excuse me for a minute. The man was shot in his face, head stomach, ankle, leg, hip, ear, survived a crash, escaped a POW camp, bit off his own fingers, and then said he enjoyed the war. I don't think there is a single man on the planet since the days of King Leonidas

who would have been bold enough to make that statement, none-the-less actually mean it.

Carton de Wiart started his service as a Trooper in the Middlesex Yeomanry during the Boer War. He was gazetted into the 4th Royal Irish Dragoon Guards in India in 1902 and was later seconded to the Somaliland Camel Corps with whom he won the DSO in 1916, losing his eye in the process. After returning to the 4th Dragoon Guards in Flanders, he was severely wounded and lost his left hand whilst in action near Ypres. On recovery, he returned to France, was given command of the 8th Battalion of the Gloucestershire Regiment and whilst commanding them during the fierce fighting at La Boisselle on the 2nd/3rd July 1916, he was awarded the VC. His citation reads:

"He displayed conspicuous bravery, coolness and determination in forcing home the attack, thereby averting a serious reverse. After the other Battalion Commanders had become casualties, he controlled their commands as well, frequently exposing himself to the intense barrage of enemy fire. His energy and courage was an inspiration to us all."

After recovering from further wounds he was given command of 12th Brigade. During the Second World War, Carton de Wiart served first as Head of the British Military Mission to Poland until its collapse, this was followed by command of the Central Norwegian Expeditionary Forces - in its hopeless attempt to hold Trondheim. A year later, he was sent to head the Military Mission in Yugoslavia but on the way, his plane crashed into the sea and after swimming ashore he was made a prisoner of the Italians. In August 1943, the Italians released him and sent him to Lisbon to negotiate their surrender terms. From October 1943 until retirement in 1946, he was the Government's Military Representative with General Chiang Kai-Shek in China.



# TREASURE TALK SA



**Final**



**THE WINNER IS...**

**Best Find  
2015**

Coins

**Gold Half Sovereign**

**Wade Thomas**



**Semi  
Finals**

## TREASURE TALK SA

**1** 2015 Best Beach Find

**2** 2015 Best Coin

**3** 2015 Best Dump Dug Find

**4** 2015 Relic Find





# Treasure Talk 2015 Entries



No 2

Beach Finds 

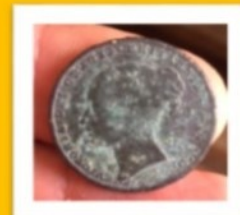
Hennie van Niekerk



No 4

Beach Finds 

Gert Swart



No 6

Beach Finds 

Hennie van Niekerk



No 7

Beach Finds 

18ct with white gold used around the stones set

Alan Wright



No 8

Beach Finds 

Spanish Real

Bernard Jacobs



No 9

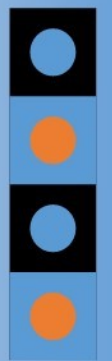
Beach Finds 

Eagle Dollar

Bernard Jacobs



# Beach Finds





# Treasure Talk 2015

## Entries

Entries



# Beach Finds

**No 11**

Beach Finds

18 ct white gold ring with 0.5 carat of diamonds in a pave setting

**Darren Epstein**

**No 14**

Beach Finds

Silver crucifix

**Donald**

**No 15**

Beach Finds

18ct gold ring with 2 diamonds and a tanzanite stone in the center

**Donald**

**No 16**

Beach Finds

18ct white gold ring with 3 diamonds

**Donald**

**No 25**

Beach Finds

Princes cut diamond ring

**Renier Strydom**

**No 27**

Beach Finds

9ct Mans ring

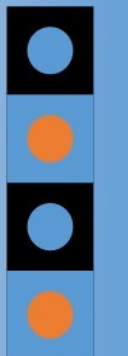
**Tonie**

**No 29**

Beach Finds

Ship Wreck deadeye

**[Name]**





**Entries**

# Treasure Talk 2015 Entries



# COINS



**No 13**

**Coins**

1897 ZAR 3 pence made into a pendant



**Darren Epstein**

**No 18**

**Coins**

1862 silver quarter Indian Rupee



**Donald**

**No 23**

**Coins**

1820 half crown



**Peter Soal**

**No 24**

**Coins**

3d about 1 m apart



**Peter Soal**

**No 30**

**Coins**

Gold Half sovereign



**Wade Thomas**



Entries

## Dump Dug

No 26


Dump Digging 

One big ash heap

Taks




No 28

Dump Digging Langford mineral water company Limited.  
Gemaak Eerste Fabrieken, 23, Hatherley

Tonie



No 31

Dump Digging Perks and Perks Boksburg Codd Hamilton Hybrid  
10oz second known example dug in Randfontein

William



Entries

# Treasure Talk 2015

## Entries

# Relics

No 1

War Relics 

Bed plate of F McGann

Lana Pienaar



No 3

War Relics 

7 th Dragoon Guards Button

Tracy Mace



No 5

War Relics 

5 coins in one hole

David Pienaar



No 12

War Relics 

Paul Kruger supporters brooch with gold gilding.

Darren Epstein



Entries

# Treasure Talk 2015

## Entries



# Relics

No 19

Relic

TDK badge

Danie en Jacobe



No 20

War Relics

brass British artillery helmet plate

Jayson



No 21

War Relics

KINGS ROYAL RIFLE CORPSE

Lana



No 22

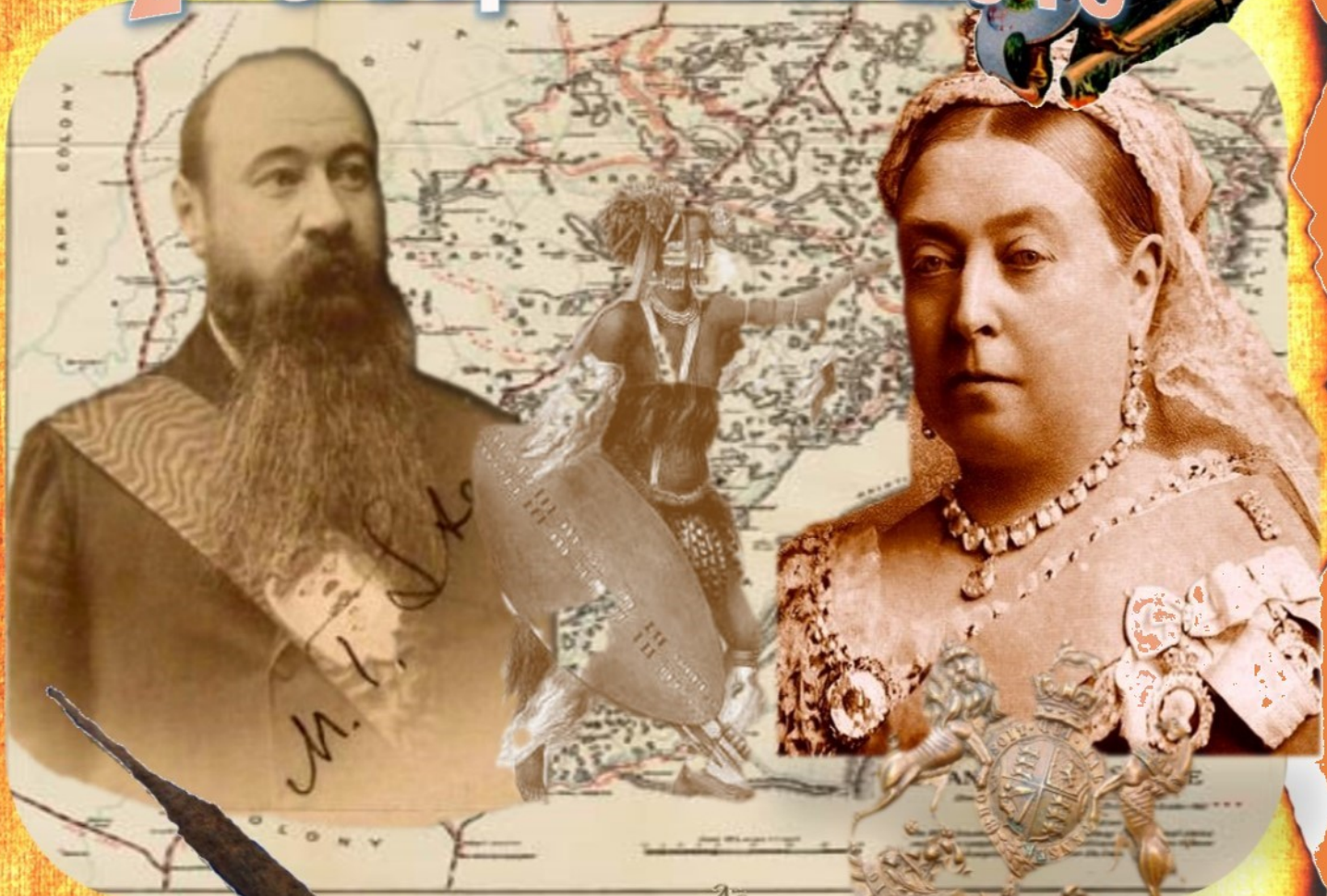
Relic

ROSE PLATINUM RING

Monikie



# 31st Annual Free State Treasure Hunt 2 - 8 September 2016



Come Experience the Friendly Free State



Contact :  
Lukas van der Merwe  
0820727747  
ZAR.skattejagters@gmail.com