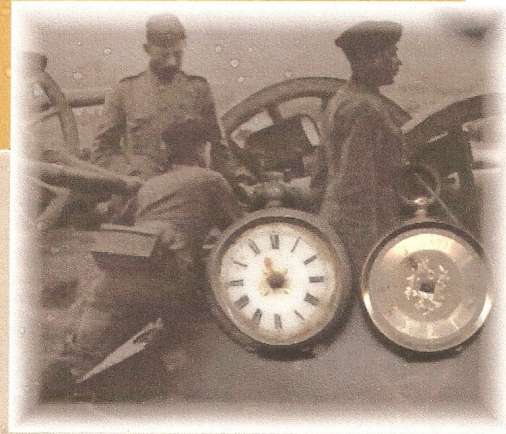




TREASURE TALK



COLESBERG

8 - 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 doodskus 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 balletjie, '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



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

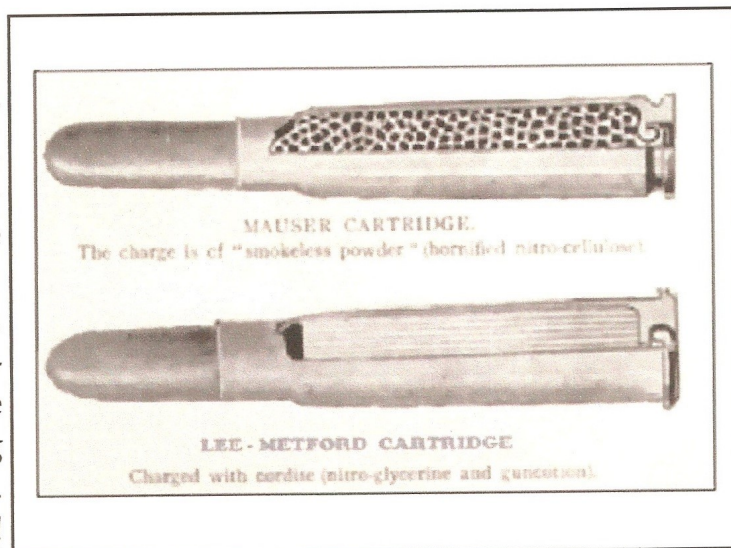
'n snuif blikkie.

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 interresant. Het iemand al hier gesoek of het hulle nie so baie goed verloor soos in die Transvaal nie?. Endie ander skattejagters is oppad! 'n Bietjie "Bobbejaan sop" en 'n vleisie braai maak weer op vir die dag, maar more...? Jy kan sommer hoor aan Kobus se snork, hoe hy die kamp in sy slaap soek

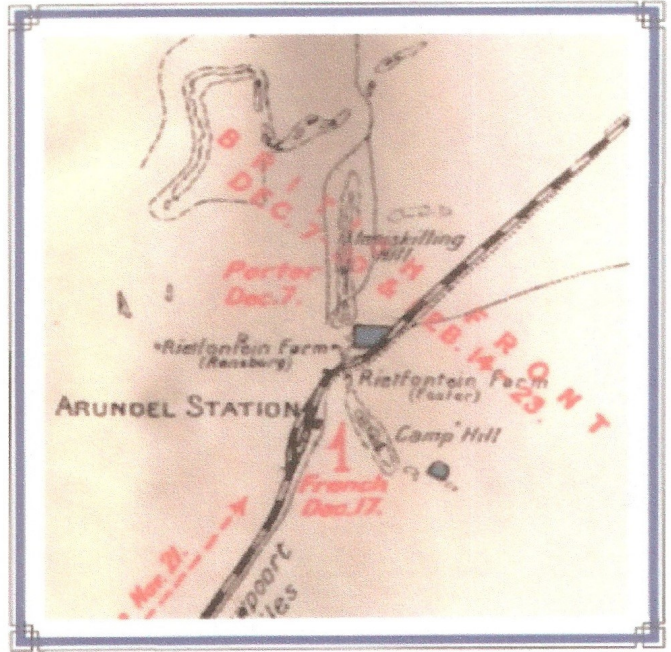
DAG DRIE: WOENSDAG

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 he, 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 bandjies 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 gele, 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-Station 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 Metfort patrone, 2 gas houertjies vir soda vir die Whisky. Kobus kry toe 'n Kaffer 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 more maar na Gariet 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 gese dat daar n plek onderkant sy plaas is waar daar baie blikkies en draad le. 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



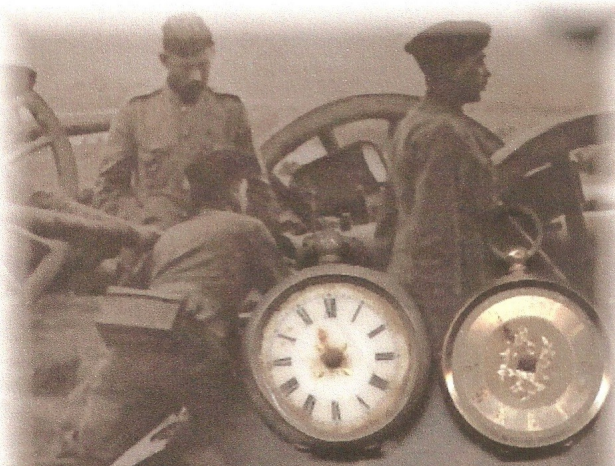
Veiligheids prop van lidiet bom

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 le ons eers besoek af by Manie se skoonma . Na n interresante 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 gelee is. By Arundel



SILVER EN GOUE SAK HORLOSIES

aangekom, het ons eers n draai gemaak by die ashoop , om dit meer antrekliker te maak.

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 eienaar 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 Henries , 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 glasier stukkend 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 potensiaal 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 moeie dag en n lekker afspoel in die skape se krip is ons oppad terug gastehuis toe . By die gastehuis word al die skatte uitepak en lekker gesels oor die dag.

Terwyl die vuurtjie kletter en die vleisie sis , beplan ons vir more 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 skrapnel 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 aangekom , 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 stokperdie .

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

Since that time, my capacity for finding Roman coins has grown. I've acquired a deeper-seeking Fisher CZ7, which is more suited to the relatively trash-free fields where I usually hunt. I've learned where the most promising areas are, and that a field shouldn't be given up on just because it's yielded nothing on the first attempt - next year's plowing can bring new material to the surface. Since finding that first Roman coin, I've gone on to find perhaps 40 of them, plus half a dozen equal-ended and fibula brooches and a small bronze statuette of a goose that must have once graced some Roman household altar. I've even found a Celtic bronze unit, although my next goal, a Celtic gold or silver stater, continues to elude me. My favorite finds, though, are the tiny hammered coins from the late middle ages. These coins are no bigger or thicker than a fingernail, and are not only quite rare, but difficult to detect, owing to their small size.

A couple of years ago, my mother and stepfather were again visiting us, as they do every summer, and, as we do every time they visit, we spent much of our time together detecting in the local fields. One of those that we visited was a small stubblefield only a few hundred yards from our house. I began at one end, Bill at the other. After quarter of an hour or so of detecting, I noticed Bill seemed to be ignoring the good advice he had given me years before when I first began, and was holding the coil a good 10 or 12 cm above the ground, so I began teasing him about this, telling him "I bet you missed something!", and started checking the very ground he'd just covered, just to give him a friendly harassing. Sure enough, less than a minute later, I got a very weak signal that acted like foil, but experience had shown that very small objects often register lower on the scale than their true composition. Sure enough, a tiny silvery disk emerged with an easily-recognizable mounted knight in chain mail on one side and a Maltese cross on the other. It was a 14th-century "sterling" minted in Brussels, and in excellent condition. The student had learned a thing or two to show the master!

Since originally joining "De Sempse" to learn more about local history, I've come to work closely with the other members, and as a result of my membership, have even gotten to work with "real" archaeologists, thus helping dispel some of the antagonism that often exists between members of the archaeological community and detectorists. Particularly my Roman finds have excited some measure of local interest, and I now have data that suggests that the colony had branched out to the left bank of the Zenna by the 4th century, since I've found a number of 4th century - but nothing earlier - Roman coins on that side of the river. Another minor discovery has been that there was apparently a "satellite" villa located a couple of km to the south of the main settlement. Several first- and second-century coins, a broken ring brooch, and pieces of pottery and building stones have turned up there, where the old Waversebaan crosses a small creek called the Baarbeek.

In addition to these more spectacular finds, there is, as I've indicated, the constant stream of German and Belgian buttons, shrapnel, bullets, cases, and shell fragments from WWI. I've kept a careful log of all these, as I do all my finds, and eventually got around to plotting their locations using CADD software. A clear pattern began to emerge, and, by color-coding German and Belgian finds (giving the opposite color to fired bullets, with the logic that they would be concentrated on the other side's lines), it was easy to see where the Belgian and German lines had been situated. One advantage that detection has over traditional dig-and-sift archaeology is that wide areas can be searched for statistical purposes. In this sense, a find need not be rare to be interesting.

Occasionally, however, large numbers good finds will begin turning up in places that have no known history of habitation or activity. Two small fields come to mind, both of which have produced 20 to 30 coins ranging in age from the 17th to the 19th centuries, plus an assortment of old shoe and hat buckles, tokens, watch keys, clothing hooks, and religious medallions from the same time period. Typically, such fields are often littered with scraps of contemporary pottery as well. The clue to the origin of this material comes from a picture book of old prints from our village that my wife's family has. It seems that one of the main industries of our village up until the turn of the century consisted of the collection of sewage from the septic tanks and chamber pots of Brussel, Antwerpen and Mechelen, in a large covered pit, called a "beerput" that had been located near the Antwerpen-Brussel railroad line. This "beer", as it was known, would be brought in by special tank cars, stored, and sold to the local farmers for fertilizer at 3 francs/hectoliter for "ordinary" beer and 6 francs / hectoliter for the "primo-grade" material. One shudders to wonder upon what criteria this grading system was based! Street sweepings from the cities, containing large quantities of horse dung, was also liberally applied to fields. These early sources of fertilizer almost certainly account for the occasional field with otherwise inexplicably high numbers of small metallic finds.

About six months ago, I acquired a detecting partner who lives in the Southern, French-speaking part of Belgium, Wallonia. Pascal was just beginning to detect at that time, and didn't yet have a detector, so I'd loan him the Eagle Spectrum, while he, in turn, had volunteered to research the largely French-language (which I don't speak) literature covering that region. Wallonia has turned out to be rather spectacular in terms of finds. Our very first expedition, to the Waterloo battlefield, turned up pocketfuls of French and British musketballs and a couple of military buttons. Since then, however, we've been concentrating on the numerous - far more so than in Flanders - small Roman villas which existed South of the linguistic border, where we've averaged about 1 Roman coin for every three hours of searching, compared to an average that is closer to 1 for every 10 hours searching in the Roman areas of Flanders. Some measure of discretion is involved here, since, although we always ask the landowner's permission, some of the larger sites are officially designated archaeological sites, and are legally off-limits. Unfortunately, the contents of this official list is also a tightly-kept secret, ostensibly to avoid disclosure to unscrupulous individuals, but at the same time, it's impossible to know whether you're breaking the law. As a result, we avoid the larger, more obvious sites, since these are more likely to be "archaeologische monumenten" as the law defines them, and concentrate on the small, scattered areas of fields littered with building stones and roof tiles where small individual dwellings stood.

Despite the richness of Wallonia, though, I really still prefer to hunt in our own village. A find from Wallonian Belgium is merely a nice find; whereas a find from here is also a piece of the history of the village where my wife's family has lived for at least 300 years. Indeed, their family name, Van Haesendonck, comes from a region about a km South of where we live, shown on the old 18th-century maps as "Den Haezendoncke". It's fascinating to me to pick up a coin from a field where the old tithe map shows that a Hendrick Van Haesendonck once lived in 1780 and to think that my son's many-times-great grandfather might have once owned that coin.

bickels

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IS JY OOK 'N VERSAMELAAR?

Wat is dit tog met ons metaalverklikker-entoesiaste dat die versamelaars-gogga ons so byt? Ek wag nog om 'n skattejagter te ontmoet wat nie een of ander tipe item (of items) versamel nie! In my skattejagters-vriendekring is daar versamelaars van patrone, munte, medaljes, seëls, model-motortjies en wie weet wat nog alles...

Ons het almal ons voorkeure, en myne is muntversameling. Vir so lank as wat ek kan onthou het ek muntstukke bymekaar gemaak - as kind bloot alle oorsese en ouer munte wat ek in hande kon kry, maar later, soos wat ek ouer geword het, meer gespesialiseerd. Vandag spits ek my daarop toe om 'n muntversameling op te bou wat 'n blik (kan) gee op ons Suid-Arikaanse muntgeskiedenis sedert die eerste munte hier in omloop gekom het.

Ek is dus nie soseer 'n datumversamelaar nie, maar eerder wat in engels 'n "type collector" genoem word. So het ek voorbeelde van munte wat tydens die VOC-bewind, die eerste en tweede Britse okkupasie, die Betaafse Republiek en later ook die Zuid-Afrikaanse Republiek in omloop was. Ten slotte poog ek om 'n voorbeeld te verkry van elke tipe munt wat deur die Unie en later Republiek van Suid-Afrika gemunt is. Dit is 'n mond vol, en is afhange van behoeftes, 'n sak vol, maar ek is geduldig en het bepaalde doelwitte gestel wat ek glo bereik sal word.

Die waarde van die versamelingstokperdjie kan nie onderskat word nie, en persoonlik het ek deur die jare slegs baat daarby gevind. Alhoewel my versameling met verloop van tyd heelwat in waarde toegeneem het, was en is die finansiële voordele daaraan verbonde nooit my hoofoorweging nie. Dit is net bloot lekker om te versamel - so ook het ek baie vriende gemaak, informasie uitgeruil, my kennis van ons geskiedenis verbreed en nog baie meer.

Vir dié van julle wat nog nie deur die versamelaars-gogga gebyt is nie wil ek net sê, "My innigste simpatie!"

Pierre Nortje

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ON THE SPOOR OF THE BOERS AND THE BRITISH

By Mike Bull

During the past few months it has been a real privilege for me to be able to Metal Detect around Heidelberg (Gauteng). Along with my good friend Eric van den Berg, we have spent many happy hours digging up the past.

For me as an "Engelsman" this has been a time of personal adventure, as 100 years ago my Great Uncle Harold from Lancashire was fighting the Boers in the old Transvaal. He was also wounded in the head by a Boer sniper. Fortunately he lived to tell about it, and died when 90 years old. He often talked about South Africa and would have returned if he could have afforded to.

Eric and I have been "getting out" as often as possible and exploring a few new sites. Along with the large amounts of military equipment, a number of personal items have come to light. One of my best finds being a 1783 copper token of George 111, originally worn around a British soldiers neck and somehow lost amongst the rocks. On the reverse side is written "in memory of the Good Old Days".

Other finds include a religious medallion, uniform badges, pocket watches and chains.

The quantity of brass uniform buttons found is astonishing. We could only assume that multitudes of British soldiers doing the "leopard crawl" across rocks and veld would have dislodged their tunic buttons, to the consternation of their sergeants.

Finally I would like to express my appreciation to Pierre for the opportunity of sharing "the best hobby in the world" with you and to encourage metal detecting in South Africa. Please enjoy the photos on the next few pages - the items were all find on our favourite sites near Heidelberg over the past few months.

Editors note: See also Eric van den Berg's article in our previous issue.

This newsletter is sponsored by :-
Hierdie nuusbrieff word geborg deur:-

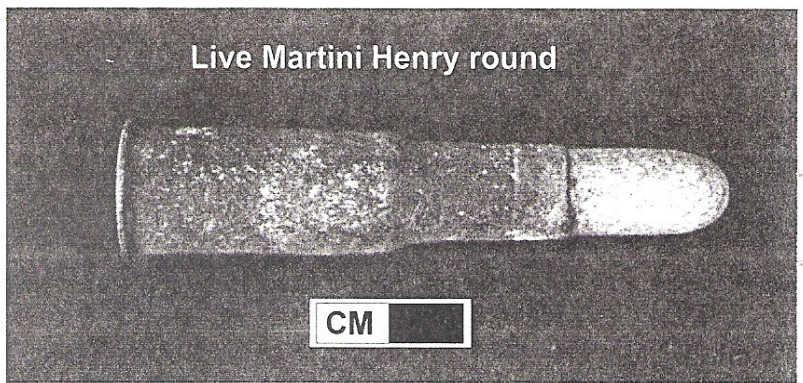


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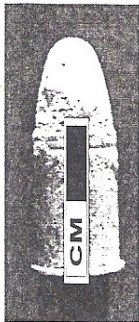


Here are some more of the finds from Heidelberg (Gauteng)
 We hope that you enjoy looking at the finds as much as we enjoyed recovering them.

A lot of reading and research has gone into finding productive sites as well as many hours in the veld.



Live Martini Henry round

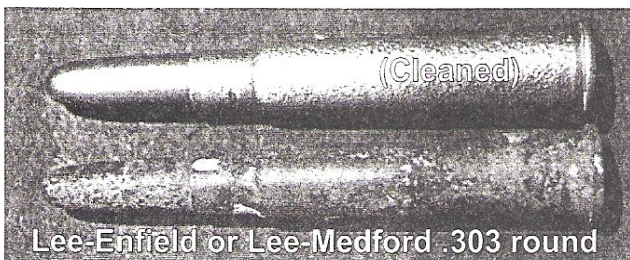
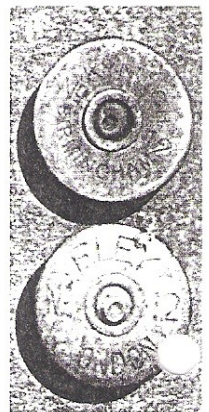


An unusually large caliber revolver round filled with black powder. (Left)

Right is the back of a 12 gauge shotgun case with a firing pin. NO 12, KYNOCH & BIRMINGHAM is on the back.



On the right are two more 12 gauge casings. The top one was made by KYNOCH in BIRMINGHAM and the bottom one was made by ELEY in LONDON. Both have detonation caps.

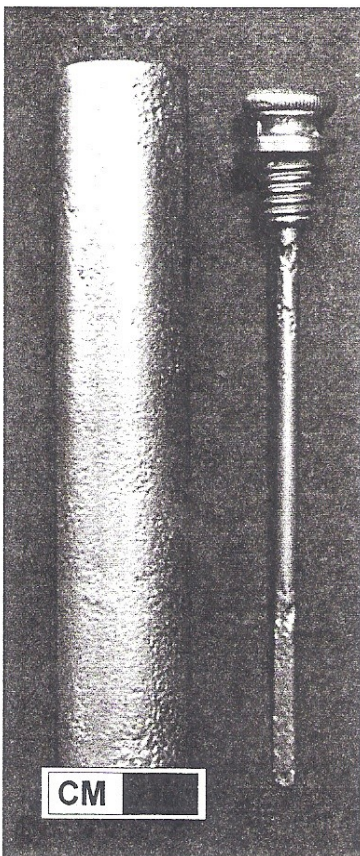


(Cleaned)

Lee-Enfield or Lee-Medford .303 round



Hollow-nose .303 round

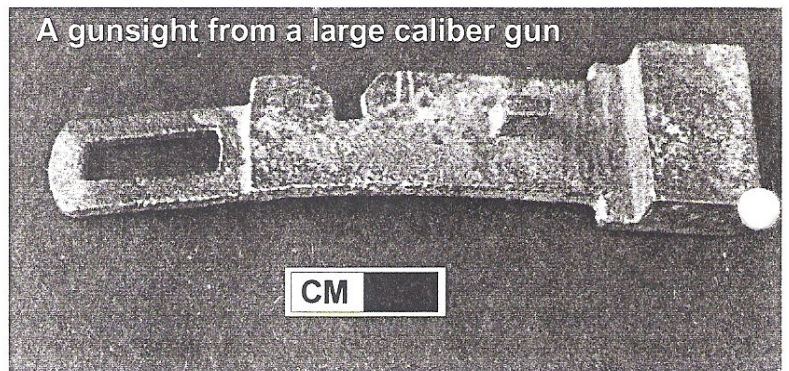


(Left) This is a container for oil which formed part of a cleaning kit.

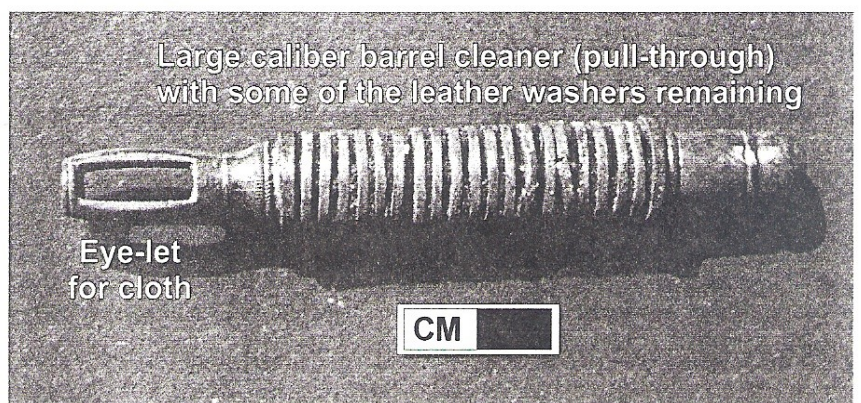
The leather washer is still in tact.

Part of the cap is a screwdriver.

Probably it was used for a revolver.



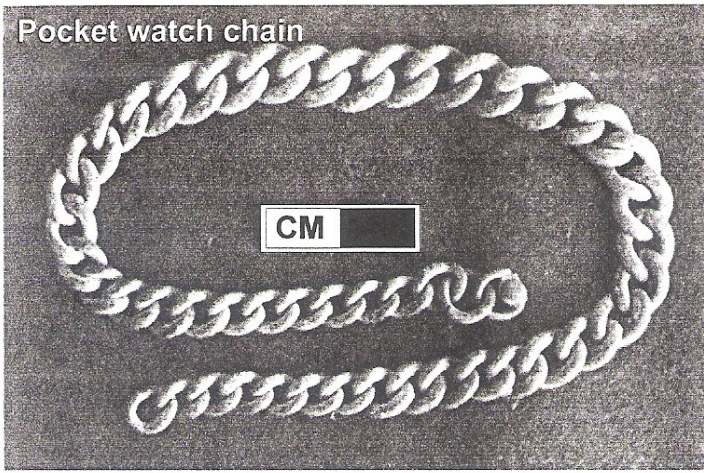
A gunsight from a large caliber gun



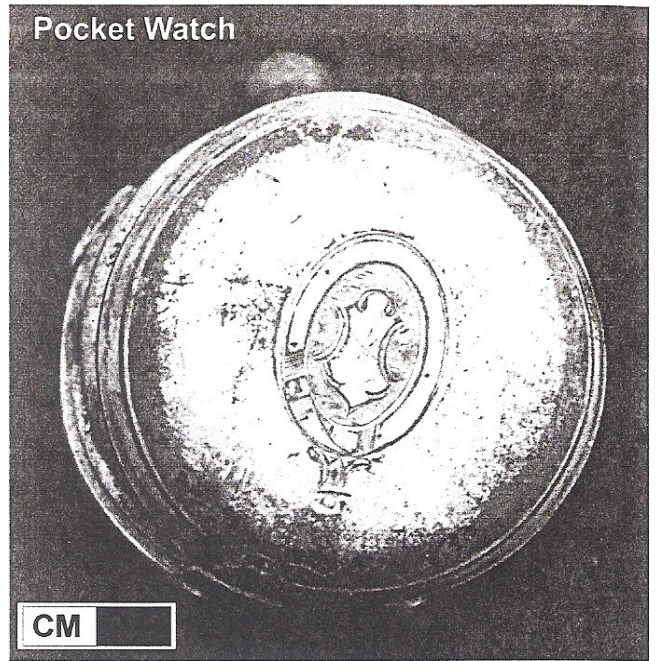
Large caliber barrel cleaner (pull-through) with some of the leather washers remaining

Eye-let for cloth

Pocket watch chain

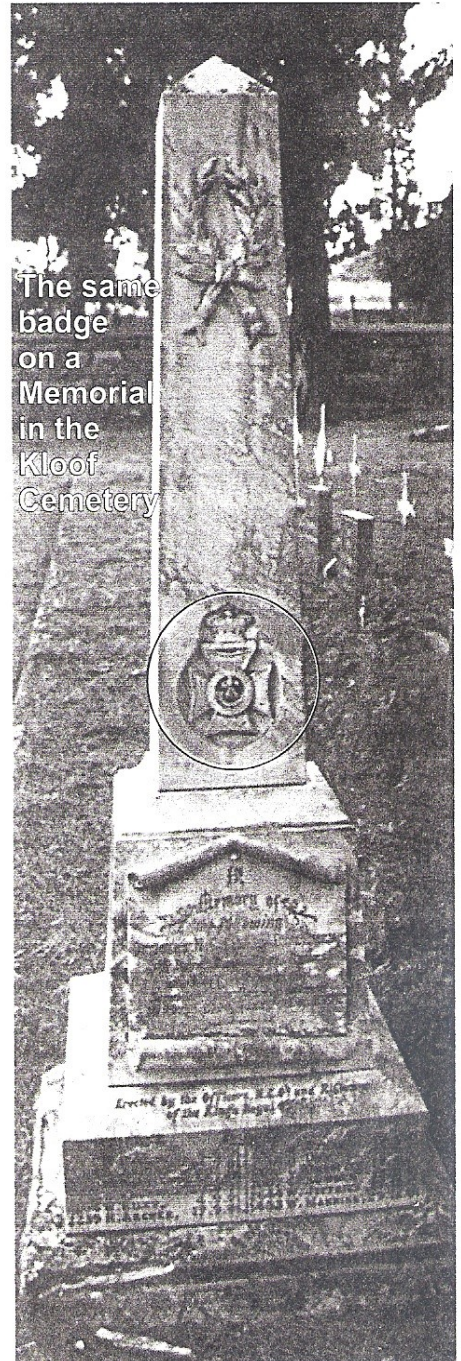


Pocket Watch



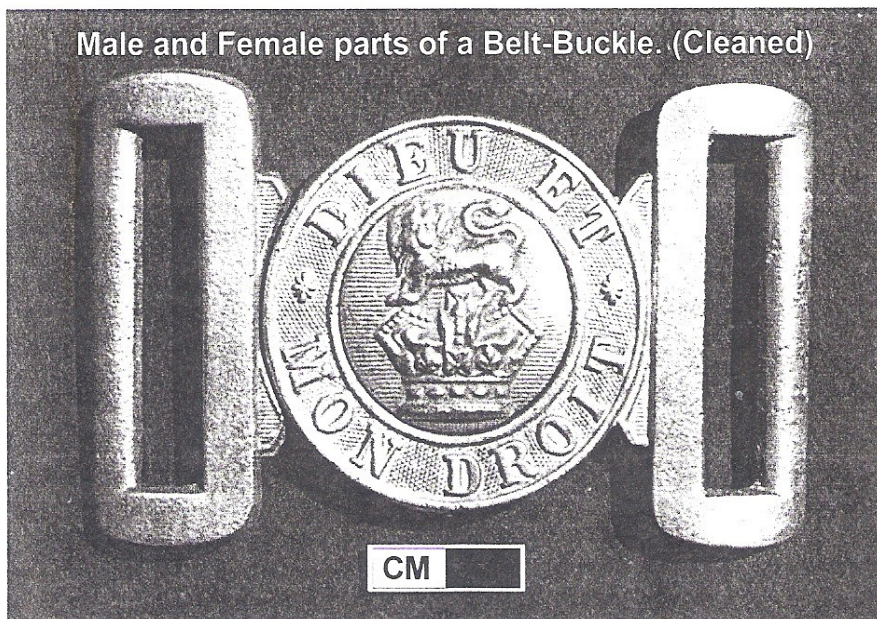
Below is a Kings Royal Rifle Corps cap badge and two trumpets which are identical to the centre piece of the badge. The two pieces of the belt buckles were found three weeks apart and in different locations. (Bottom)

Kings Royal Rifle Corps Cap Badge



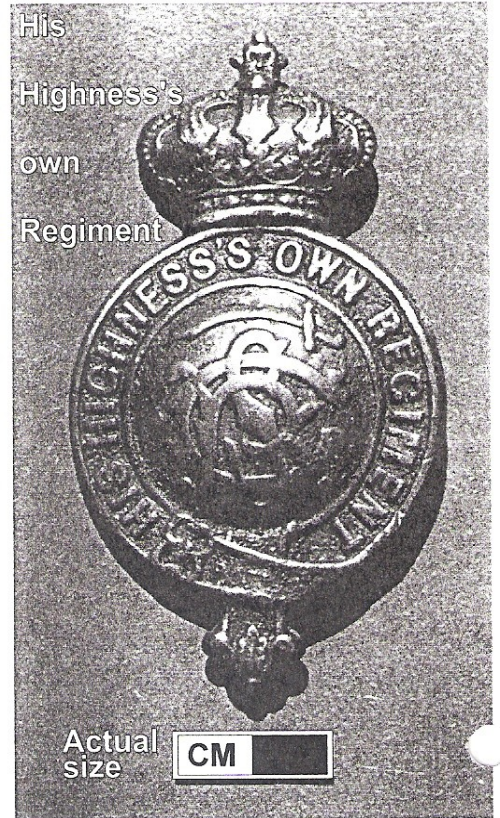
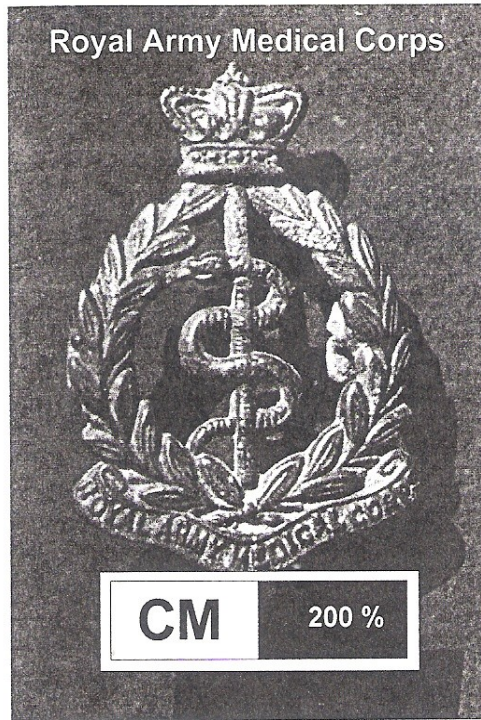
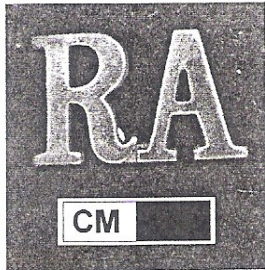
The same badge on a Memorial in the Kloof Cemetery

Male and Female parts of a Belt-Buckle. (Cleaned)

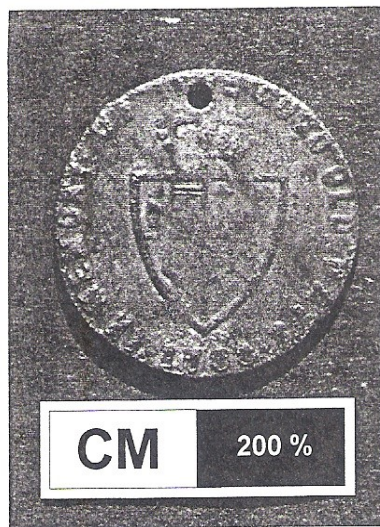




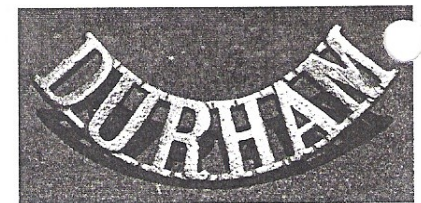
A Royal Artillery button (above) and Royal Artillery insignia. (below)



These two photos below are of a "Good Luck Charm" that must have been worn around a soldier's neck. "In memory of the good old days - 1783" & "George III" can be read on the front and back. This is a most unusual find taking the date into account.



SUSSEX and DURHAM insignia. (Actual size)



A small Crown Badge (below) of unknown regimental origin.



OU SKAT WAG VIR MOEDIGES

Deur Chris Koole

Daar is seker niemand wat nie graag 'n skat wil ontdek nie, maar die mense wat werklik iets daaromtrent doen, is dun gesaai. Die Kaapse kus bied waarskynlik van die wêreld se beste geleentheid vir skattejagters. Hier lê letterlik honderde skeepswrakke in vlak seegrante al om die Skiereiland. Baie van hulle het groot skatte na die Ooste vervoer, en met spesery-belaaiete rompe die lang seeroete terug na die Europese hawens gevaar.

Die Vereenigde Oost-Indische Compagnie (VOC), 'n Nederlandse maatskappy wat sy eie skepe gehad het, het 'n prominente rol gespeel in die internasionale skeepshandel en het flink sake gedoen met Asië. Die maatskappy se uitvoerende bestuur het bekend gestaan as die Here XV11, wat onder meer ook vir Jan van Riebeeck se aankoms in die Kaap verantwoordelik was.

Die 17 manne het ses sakekamers van verskillende belangrike handelsgebiede in Nederland verteenwoordig. Daar was agt verteenwoordigers van Amsterdam (die belangrikste sakekamer), vier verteenwoordigers van Zeeland en een elk van Delft, Hoorn, Enkhuizen en Rotterdam. Die sewentiende verteenwoordiger is gewoonlik deur Zeeland toegewys of deur een van die ander kleiner kamers. Elke kamer het sy eie skepe gehad.

Volgens stukke in die Nederlandse argief wat deur Kaapse skattejagters opgespoor is, moes die Here XV11 in 1746 'n bedrag van R2.6 miljoen na Batavië stuur. Die geld moes na Java gestuur word, waar die VOC se handelsvloot baie sake gedoen het.

Elkeen van die ses sakekamers moes sy deel bydrae. Zeeland het daardie jaar swaar gekry en kon nie sy volle bydrae van R650 000 bybring nie. Die Amsterdamse kamer het aangebied om met R150 000 te help. Hierdie geld is tussen twee van die kamer se skepe verdeel. Die een was die Reijgersdaal en die ander was bekend as 't Casteel van Tilburgh. Die res van die R2.6 miljoen is tussen die ander skepe van die verkillende kamers verdeel.

Die VOC se Lentevloot van 16 skepe was sò bekend vanweë die tyd van die jaar, en in Maart 1747 is die eerste skepe weg uit Amsterdam op pad na Java. Die Reijgersdaal het op 31 Mei 1747 op slegs sy derde vaart vertrek.

Die Kaapse skattejagters se besondere belangstelling in hierdie stukkies geskiedenis was juis toegespits op die Reijgersdaal, omdat hiedie skip met sy deel van die geld vier maande later, op 25 Oktober, vlak voor Silwerstroomstrand op die rotse gevaar en gesink het.

Die gewildste geldeenheid vir handel met Batam en Java was "mexicanen" (ook bekend as 8 Reaal of "Pieces of Eight" - Red). wat in daardie tyd in Mexiko geslaan is. Altesame 30 000 van hierdie munte was aan boord en is vandag tussen R400

en R1 600 elk werd en daar was 30 000 van hulle op die skip! 'n Ware skat wat geen skattejagter kan versmaai nie.

Byna presies 232 jaar later, in Maart 1979, is die wrak van die Reijgersdaal deur twee Kaapse skattejagters, Brian Clark en Tubby Gericke, naby Silwerstroomstrand ontdek. Die geskiedkundige waarde van hul vonds was net so groot soos die skat self wat vir hulle gewag het.

Maar alles verloop nie altyd vir almal reg nie. Die twee duikers het lank gespook en hard gewerk, maar die skat, wat volgens argiefstukke in Nederland in agt skatkiste vervoer is, elk met sowat 3 700 mexicanen daarin, het hulle ontwyk. Los munte is wel gevind en koper-skeepskanonne is geberg, maar die gesogde prys was weg.

Die nuus van die skip se ontdekking het gou uitgelek onder die duikers. Dit was toe dat Arthur Ridge en Jimmy Rawe, twee bekende duikers van Kaapstad, besluit het om self te gaan soek, en dit was hulle wat 'n groot deel van die skat gekry het. Tussen hulle het hulle sowat 10 000 van die silwermunte gevind. Ander duikers wat ook in die gebied geboer het, het na raming tussen hulle sowat nog 5000 munte gevind. Die res, 'n hele 15 000 silwer-mexicanen, wat vandag meer as R1 miljoen werd is, moet nog gevind word.

(Hierdie artikel het oorspronklik in Van alle Kante in die Burger (88/06/20) verskyn)

ADVICO TRONIX

vir:

C.SCOPE
Metaalverklikkers

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C.SCOPE
PROFESSIONAL METAL DETECTORS



Mexikaanse 8 Reaal
("Piece of Eight")

SOUTH AFRICAN WAR MEDALS

Much of the modern history of the older countries of the world is reflected in the war medals awarded to honour their men who fought in the many wars that took place during the 19th and 20th centuries. South Africa is no exception, and her history is rich in military episode as shown by the wealth of medals on display.

The 6th, 7th and 8th **Border Wars** were the first three campaigns to be recognised by the issue of a war medal. This was the South Africa 1853 Medal awarded for service in any of the wars of 1834–35, 1846–47, 1850–53.

It was largely British soldiers that received this medal but many men who were South Africans, were also honoured in this way. Some historical events covered by the medal include the invasion by the Xosas of the Cape Colony in 1834; the war of the Axe and the Wreck of the Birkenhead, on its way with troops from Simonstown to Algoa Bay.

The next war in South Africa to be recognised with a medal was the 9th **Border War** of 1877–8 and the Zulu War of 1879. The medal is almost identical with the earlier one save only that a Zulu Shield and Assegais replaces the date "1853" on the earlier medal, and that date bars were authorised for service during the period 1877–1879.

Among the stirring events of the time will be remembered the Defence of Rorke's Drift when no fewer than 11 Victoria Crosses were won by the very gallant defenders; the disaster at Isandlwana when the Zulus overran and put to the assegai a whole battalion of the South Wales Borderers and other supporting troops. The Zulus were finally defeated at Ulundi in July, 1879, and the simple bar "1879" was awarded to those that participated.

Many burger and other purely South African formations fought in these wars and it will be remembered that Piet Uys who commanded the burger force was killed during the fight on Inhlobani Mountain. It is as well to remember too, that Lt. Col. Buller, well known for the part he later played in the Boer War, won his Victoria Cross on the same mountain.

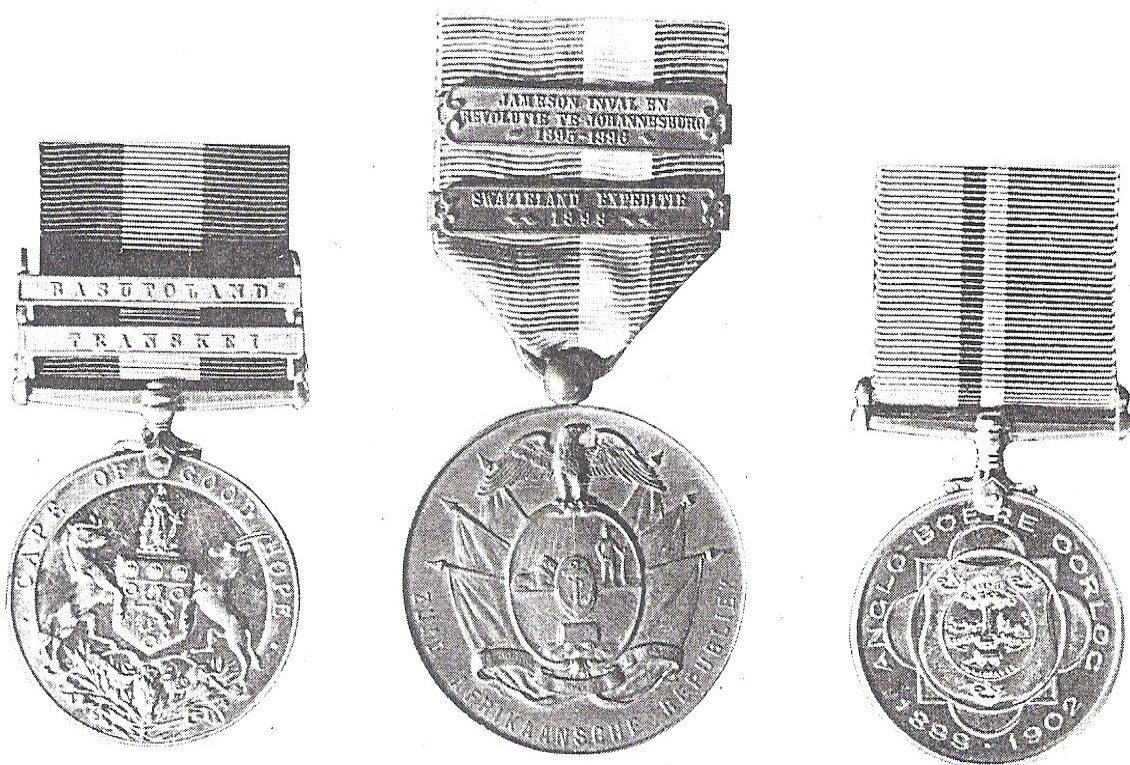
In 1880 unrest broke out initially among the Griqua tribes and this led to other small wars being fought during the next 17 years by the forces raised mainly in the Cape.

The Cape Government authorised a medal for service in the campaigns of the Transkei, Basutoland and Bechuanaland and a representative selection of the Cape of Good Hope General Service Medal is on display.

Not to be forgotten are the medals awarded by the British South Africa Company for the disturbances in Mashonaland, Matabeleland and Rhodesia from 1890 to 1897. Many exciting events took place but pride of place must be given to the fight on the Shangani River when a small patrol of 34 men commanded by Major Allen Wilson was overrun and wiped out by the Matabele. A medal to one of those who died that day at the Shangani River is included with the display.

Then came the Boer War with all its heartache; its triumphs and disasters; but now that these events can be viewed from the safe vantage point provided by time, military historians, medal collectors and other interested in military matters have come to place the South Africa war of 1899–1902 into its proper perspective.

To be continued ...

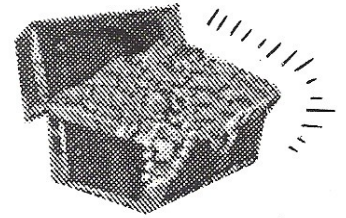


The Cape of Good Hope General Service Medal, 2 Bars
Transkei and Basutoland, 1880–1881.

The "Anglo-Boere Oorlog-Medalje" 1899–1902. (Side showing
arms of O.F.S.)

The "Johannesburg Vrijwilliger Korps" medal, with bar for
Jameson Raid, 1895–1896.

TREASURE TALK COMPETITION! / KOMPETISIE!



FIND OF THE YEAR / VONDS VAN DIE JAAR

Treasure Talk has decided to launch our first Find of the Year competition. The first prize will be a FISHER 1212X METAL DETECTOR, sponsored by Excalibur Mining, the sole importers and distributors of Fisher metal detectors in South Africa. Three consolation prizes will also be awarded.

Treasure Talk het besluit om ons eerste Vonds van die Jaar kompetisie te loods. Die wenprys is FISHER 1212X METAALVERKLIKKER geborg deur Excalibur Mining, die alleen-verspreiders van Fisher metaalverklikkers in Suid Afrika. Drie troospryse sal aan die naaswenners toegeken word.

RULES OF THE COMPETITION	REELS VAN DIE KOMPETISIE
1. The item must have had been found in the past 12 months within the borders of South Africa with a metal detector.	1. Die item moes oor die afgelope 12 maande binne die grense van Suid Afrika met 'n metaal-verklikker gevind gewees het.
2. The entry form - included with this letter - must be completed and sent to us before August 1999.	2. Die inskrywingsvorm - ingesluit by hierdie brief - moet volledig voltooi word en ons voor Augustus 1999 bereik.
3. A photo or photo copy of the find is not compulsory, but will be very highly appreciated!	3. 'n Foto of fotokopie van die vonds is nie verpligtend nie, maar sal baie waardeer word!
4. You can submit as many entries as you like.	4. Daar is geen beperkings op die getal inskrywings per persoon nie.
5. The winning entry and runners up will be decided by the editor and will be published in our newsletter later this year.	5. Die wen-inskrywing en troospryswenners sal deur die redakteur aangewys word en in ons nuusbrieff later hierdie jaar gepubliseer word.

ENTRIES TO / INSKRYWINGS AAN: TREASURE TALK, PO BOX 816 DURBANVILLE 7551