

TREASURE TALK

Oktober / October 1999



WE HAVE A WINNER! ONS HET 'N WENNER

Eric van den Berg (links), ontvang sy prys van die borg Lukas van der Merwe (regs) van Excalibur Mining. Die wenprys is 'n Fisher 1212x Metaalverklikker. Geluk Eric!



Eric's winning entry for our 1999 Treasure Talk Find of the Year Competition, a Victorian Gold Sovereign, dated 1887, found near Heidelberg (Gauteng). Well done!

LETTERS FROM OUR READERS / BRIEVE VAN ONS LESERS

Dear Mr Nortje

I much admire your Treasure Talk magazine - especially its presentation.

I have written a book on my metal detecting adventures and finds during a period of three years - six days a week, every week - searching in the Western Transvaal for Boer War relics. It was twice accepted - written contracts both times - yet never published. I'm now considering publishing it myself.

Sincerely yours

Dr OEB Timmermans
Hekpoort

(Whatever you decide - be sure of our total support - ED)

Dear Pierre

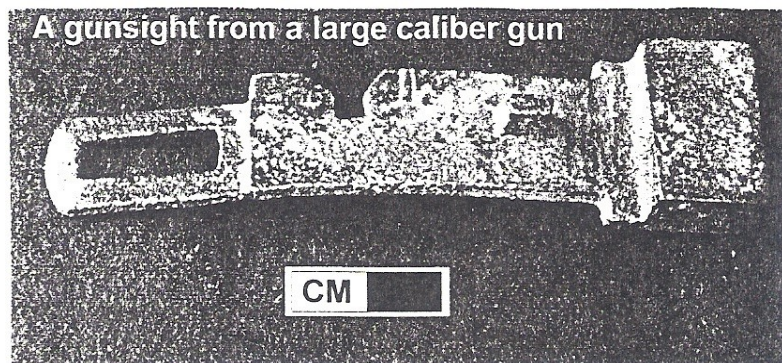
Thanks for your fine magazine.

My son Andrew found a beautiful gold ring on Monday night on a local beach, using his Impulse PI detector. The ring is of 15 carat gold, was made in Birmingham in 1862, and is hallmarked and beautifully engraved, and has the initials "SM" engraved into it. Was this Sammy Marks' ring? If so, its value would be astronomical, though it has actually been evaluated at R4500.00.

I have been detecting since 1969 and I shall send you some photographs and stories sometime. Incidentally, in your June issue, the "gunsight from a large calibre gun" is in fact the tang from a mortise lock. The slot on the left is the alignment slot: it fits over a pin, the "v" with the square cut is where the key goes in and is turned, and the raised piece is also an aligning item: it fits into a slot similar to the one at the other end, but in the casing.

Regards

Clarence Coetzer
East London



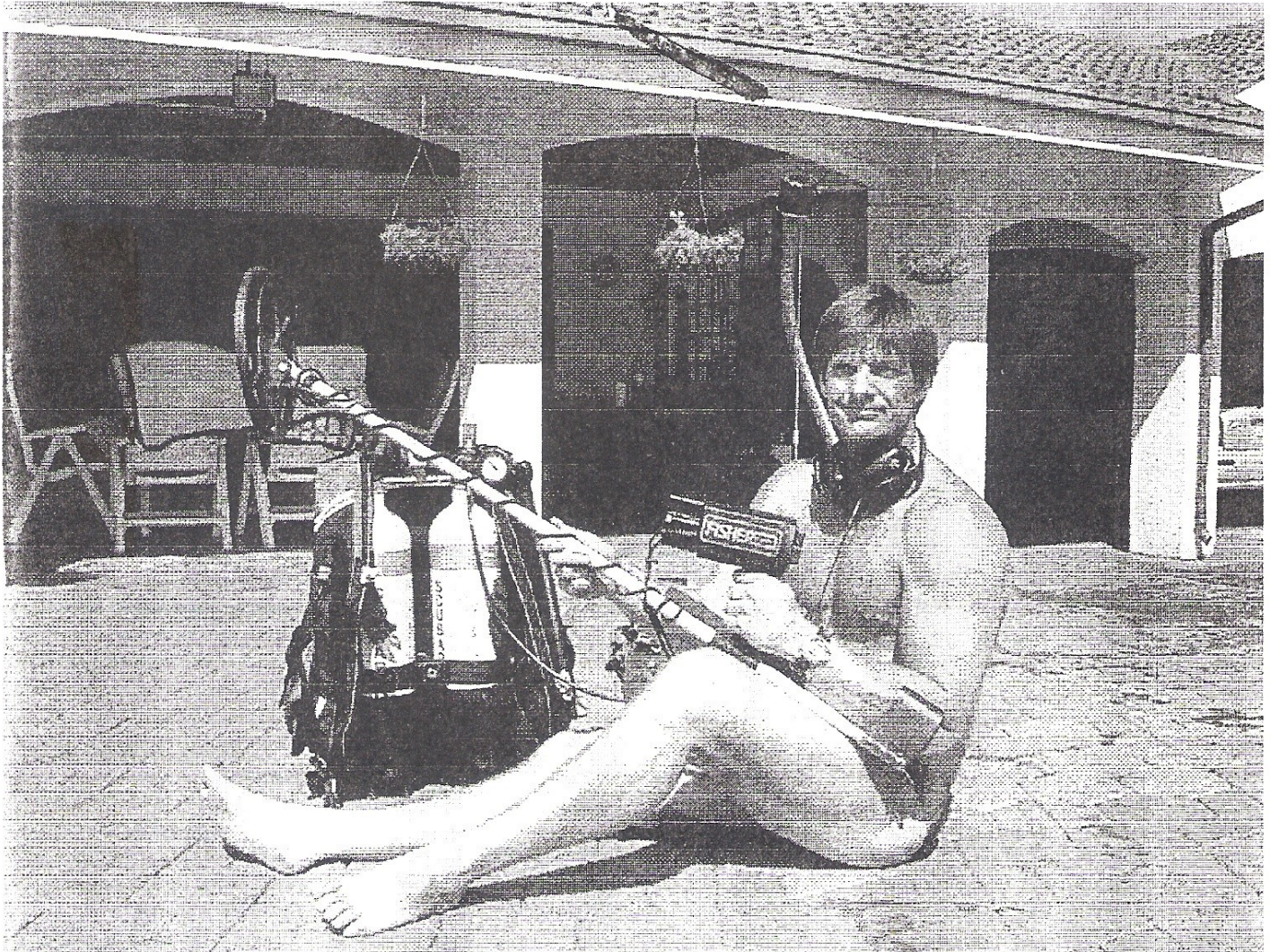
A LETTER FROM MICHAEL BERKEMER

Allow me to say, I am overwhelmed to learn about your TREASURE TALK news letter and would kindly like to thank you for all your great efforts. I look forward to receiving future prints, as thus far I have only borrowed a March 1999 copy from Marius Dreyer - and read it with great interest.

Firstly, I would like to ask if it would be possible for all the S.A. metal detecting enthusiasts who have e-mail addresses to kindly share them with us so that we can correspond more efficiently.

I suggest you publish a list of the peoples names, where they live, telephone numbers and e-mail addresses.

Here mine to start with: Michael Berkemer, Alberton - Gauteng, Tel. 082 854 4035, michi@acenet.co.za



I would also like to see some webpages concerning our interesting hobby, right here in South Africa, where the interesting history has not yet even been explored to a serious degree at all. Please let me know if you think that there would be an interest as I would be prepared to do the necessary ground work. We could have photos of interesting findings put out to show, technical news, etc., etc., and I am sure that you still have plenty ideas to add.

Personally, I have purchased the submersible Fisher CZ-20 Quicksilver detector, fitted with a 10 inch coil, some three years ago back in Germany and have not at all used it nearly as often as I would have liked to. Bearing in mind that we have over 1000 listed shipwrecks along the Southern African coastline, and being passionate about diving, I thought that it was a great investment. I have drafted a construction of an underwater sledge and also began with a metal magnetometer search project near Cape Vidal, but due to lack of support ended up financing just about everything on my own, so I sold my diving boat which was way too big for four strong men to handle on the beach, had extremely high running costs and ended up mostly just being mis-used only for casual diving trips. The support I had hoped for, to found a keen hobby team in order to do regular fun search expeditions was very disappointing. Thanks to your newsletter, I now have new hopes and possibilities to get a small group of true treasure searching enthusiast together - for both beyond and above the water surface.

The problem is that when you are a diver in a group, it gets boring for others who have different interests. As far as I know, there are only three underwater metal detecting enthusiasts in the country, Andi Naude, Marius Dreyer and myself, and it would be a great benefit for us to get together and do some interesting search diving or at least share our experiences and ideas. As I also do underwater filming on occasions, you can well imagine the kind of support I need to still be able to go metal detecting as well. Fortunately, I have a brother and two fast growing sons with similar interests who will be assigned to their chores when we go on treasure hunting expeditions in some years to come.

This is one hobby that truly makes sense to do in a group, and not alone. Many of my dives have also been alone and some rather frustrating, because often I needed a helping hand to handle a torch or with the digging etc., and ended up leaving a good lead of a possible valuable finding.

On many occasions I have taken my metal detector along to Mozambique, i.e. Inhaca, Inahmbane and several other dives sites. In Maputu I found so many old time pre-war Escudos that I could have filled a wheel-barrow with the stuff. The problem only a slight suspicion from the officials that you are removing something of value, and they will throw you in the slammer. Also, it's scary - and quite possible after the 18 year terror war - to stumble across an old undetonated planted land mine - so beware how you dig and where you stick your shovels in Moz!!! However, saving the loss of a persons legs or even life, is also a great achievement, so generally we should be appreciated by the public in Mozambique. In Pemba, almost right at the Northern tip of Moz, just about every second child you see is handicapped - in fact, I found it very difficult to hold back the tears at this sorrowful sight!

Besides obviously a lot of junk, other findings were old S.A. coins, lost diving equipment, a huge golden ear-ring (on the beach of Umhlanga), a mortar-shell, a pistol magazine and some old FN bullet shells.'

Now the hammer is that the detector has effectively only been in use for less than a few hours - this goes to show: 1) The site you choose is more important than the time you spend searching, and 2) The great potential of finding many rewarding artifacts is incredible.

That's it from me, I look forward to meeting you and also possibly to do some real serious search diving in Capetown sometime later this year, hopefully with Andy Naude and Marius Dreyer, and hope that we will be able to have a great story to tell afterwards.

Michael Berkemer

A LETTER FROM ALAN WRIGHT

First thank you for all the work that you are putting into Treasure Talk, it has been a lifesaver for me.

Next I got your reminder that I need to subscribe for next year. Please send me the form or the amount that I have to pay and where I can pay it.

With that out of the way your competition seems to have had some good results. I did not send in anything as I am on a one year contract up in the Low Velt and my love is beaches and well its very dry up here and your cut off date left me out of the picture. But now that it is over I would like to tell you about some of the things that I have found and the fun I have had detecting.

I have spent most of my life living next to the sea and from an early age started surfing. From about standard 6 I used to hitchhike down to the Strand from our home in Somerset West every day after school. Most days only stopping long enough to grab my surfboard and wetsuit at home then hit the road. After an afternoon in the water you get very hungry and this is when I learned to love the South-easter. It would blow open all those little things lost by the many people visiting the Strand. At the end of the day I would walk down the beach towards the nearest shop and by the time I got to the shop I would be able to buy myself something to eat. I also picked up many interesting things lost in the sand, I never found a ring but found lots of silver chains.

Then one day I remembered that when I was very young our family was out working along the beach in Gordons Bay when we met a man using a metal detector and I spent the day watching him finding coins in the rocks and sand. I reckoned that if I had a metal detector I would be able to find coins without the wind and spend more time surfing, as my birthday was coming up I asked my parents for a metal detector, I even found a picture the one I wanted. Well, I did not get the one that I had asked for but a small black metal detector, I can not remember what it was called. At the first chance I got I dug a little hole put a coin in it and never found it again. So much for that idea! I learned to rely on the wind and watching the weather for my food at the beach.

Thus from an early age I've loved looking for things on the beaches around the Cape. After school and spending a few years hitchhiking around Africa, I came back to studying. The agency I worked with in Mozambique gave me some money to study and I thought it wise to invest this, as my father worked at Maties and if spent wisely I would be able to get myself a good education with the money. Well what does a surfer do to spend money wisely and afford to surf all day as a student? You guessed it. Support my surfing from the beach. I started looking around for a good, cheap metal detector that I could afford and that was waterproof. It was about this time that I found a copy of the Searcher at the Kilo Shop and started tracking down the nearest Whites outlet. I remembered seeing some metal detectors at Cape Tronics and I finally go a Whites Surfmaster II. This was in about 1994/95 (I'm not good on dates). At the time every one thought I was out of my mind and I would never find anything of value. I had some major problems with water getting into my Surfmaster's coil and spent a very frustrating few months trying to convince the Whites Agent that supplies Cape Tronics that I had not done all the things that they said I had, to cut a long story short I imported a coil from the US and replaced it myself. Now my investment was looking like it would never pay for itself or my surfing.

I think that this was a blessing in disguise, as I never set out to pay off my Surfmaster but only to enjoy it. I would go out surfing and on the way back from up the coast I would stop off at some of the beaches and find a few rands to pay for my petrol. On those days when there was no surf I would just detect. As I am the sort of person that does not like crowds and enjoys being out in nature by myself or with a friend I soon learnt that if I wanted peace while detecting I would have to get up earlier and come back later. Well this left some time in the day to study. My first Xmas I made over R800 from one small beach on the way to Koel Bay and by this time I had more rings that my girlfriend and her daughter could wear. And I soon stopped counting. We had a simple agreement, I enjoyed finding things, Lillian (my girlfriend) liked the silver things and all the junk jewellery her daughter (Michelle) would get. Oh, I kept most of the gold to pay for my studies. You work it out, last year I finished my masters (well almost I just have to publish that illusive article that's why I'm up in the Low Velt doing some 'research'), got married to Lillian and we were able to build up a ring valued at over R6000 for her wedding ring, I have a very close relationship with Michelle built on weekends spent together on the beach. The two of us would go out long before the sun got up to find 'goodies' and a few coins for an ice-cream on the way home (for breakfast). I was able to give my cousin a nice little diamond (a couple pointer) on her 21st, spent every holiday, from my studies up the coast with Lillian and Michelle surfing and helped so many people find that lost ring that I can not remember how many, just for that smile and maybe a thank you. And I still have not had the heart to sell any of my good finds. Does metal detecting pay? Never! if you in it for the money, you missing all the fun!

Just before anyone thinks I have over exaggerated in the above I must put the record straight. If you spend more than four hours a day detecting on the beach you may have a lot of finds. But it's not the length of time spent detecting that gives good finds it is the knowledge that one gleans through these many hours on the sand and in the water. Let me give you two examples. One of my 'best' finds I took over a year to find, spent may hour in the water finding lots of other nice things – rings, money and even an old cannon ball and lots of junk. If I never found the ring I had heard of, I would have been just as content as I helped find quite a few things for people while looking for that big one. Over that length of time you learn patience, wait wait wait and the sand will move and when I did find the ring it was only a few mm under the sand. I often wonder what the people thought who saw me there so often, some asked me what I was looking for and said, "good luck, you will never find such a small thing". Then one day I stopped coming to that beach. I wonder if they think I gave up. Oh, I have not told you what it was I found, ever heard of fancy diamonds? If you hear a story from a local say fisherman or beach bum, of a long lost item that was never found and well each beach has its stories – don't give up. I have a small box I made out of a nice piece of wood, lined with leather, inside are two small stones (well not so small, 3ct) each with their own little hollow. I never found these fancy yellows because I got lucky, I knew that the sand was at its lowest and after about 20 min of finding heavy items that looked old I went to where I had found most of my old gold in that area and there it was waiting for me.

The second example was sponsored by Whites to some extent. My father started showing an interest in detecting and well, I was looking at getting a new IP detector so I went to Cape Tronics and they agreed to let me take one of their Surfmaster PI's out for a test. I knew one of the beaches that I go to often would be giving us some fun as there had been some good surf and the sand had shifted. I gave my father the option as to which detector he would like to try and he took my old one and decided to go onto the dry sand. I tried to persuade him to spend time in the water but he said that he would try his 'luck' on the dry sand. I reluctantly went to the waters edge and started detecting. I soon found my first small silver ring. This beach is a young peoples beach and does not give much gold. I had only been detecting for about 20 to 30 min and I was getting used to the IP when I pulled out a nice bracelet. As it was dark and I do not take a torch with me, I put it into my bag and carried on as I had often got nice silver bracelet in this area. Back at the car with all the family (it was a family outing) I looked at it again and cleaning of the sand saw it was gold and lots of it to. It was a nice hand made bracelet with 24 diamonds and 12 sapphires. And as it turned out the bumps that I at first thought was sand sticking to the metal were stones. A nice little find with a detector that was not even mine, but at least Whites had paid me back for all the trouble they gave me with my Surfmaster II. For those that do keep a record of how much is what, this bracelet was valued at around R14000 and the ring with the two fancies, well that's a bit more difficult to put a price on, I have been offered R24000 from Prince and Prince when I was looking at getting them authenticated. For those who don't know much about selling to dealers, they give you about 30 to 40 % of the retail price of the stones, and this was about 3 years ago. The interesting thing about these stones are that they are about 40 years old if you know much about the changes in angles that diamonds have undergone in the past few years (there is a lot of fun in identifying where and when a stone was cut and finding out its age).

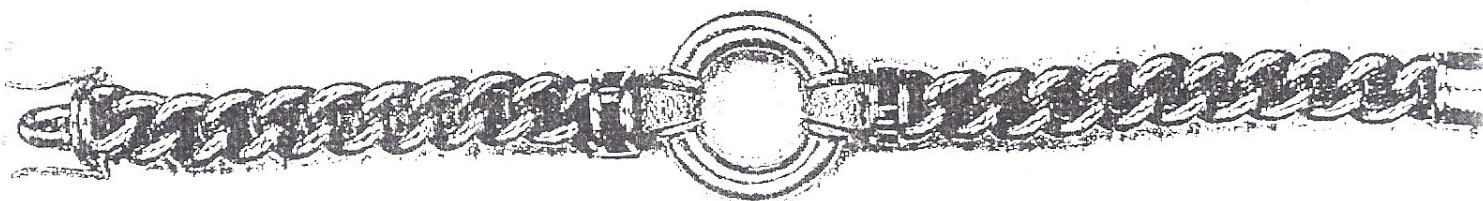
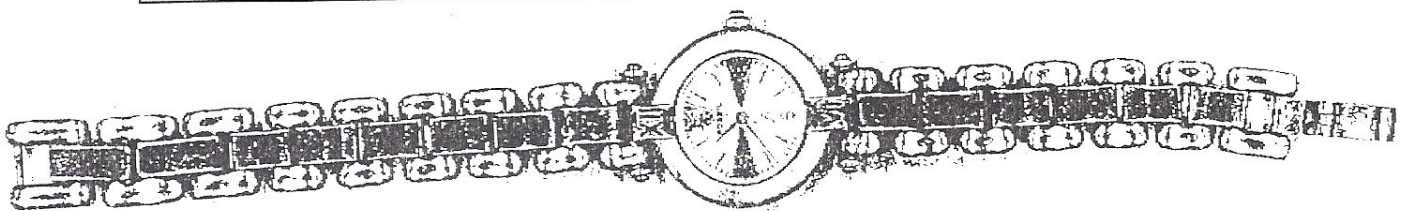
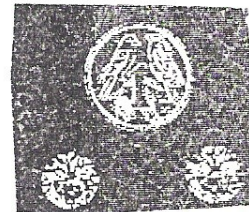
Well Pierre it is getting late up here in the Low Velt, and I must get on with other things, I will try and send you some things for your Mag as soon as I can. It will be interesting to start a section looking at some of the humor of detecting, over the years we all get asked those funny questions that make us smile, I have quite a few of my own, and would be interested in reading about other funny experiences. Oh, I am one of those people that can not spell anything and I rely on the computer to spell for me, but it can not think so if the wrong word is in the write place please read it correctly.

Hope to hear from you in connection with the subscription for next year.

Enjoy the sea.

Alan Wright

Some of Alan's finds. See the size of the diamonds compared to a one cent coin. Sorry for the quality of the pictures. (They were received by fax)



The following two articles were written by Andy Naude, one of our finalists in the 1999 find of the year competition.

SCUBA FOR TREASURE!

Most of the metal detecting in South Africa is done on dry land, much of this is done on battle sites which are far from water, some of the detecting is done on beaches where your chances of finding the odd gold ring are fairly good. Some of the detectorists use water proof machines and will wade into the water, but there is another way to do it. Using SCUBA gear you can go under the water and detect at your leisure.

Now if you are fortunate enough to have completed a SCUBA (Self Contained Under water Breathing Apparatus) course and have an under water metal detector why are you waiting. If it is only the detector that is lacking you could consider upgrading your current machine to an under water machine. I personally use a model Fisher 1280 -X which has given me excellent service. Fisher also make other machines that you could consider like the CZ 20 or their pulse model, but there are many other makes available on the market for you to choose from.

If you have not yet completed a diving course you will need to get in touch with a local dive school in your area. The entry level is an Open Water course where you will learn the basics of diving and be taught to dive to a depth of 18 m in sea water. This usually includes five open water or sea dives. These courses are in the region of R1400 - R1600. You will also need your own gear if you are going to be doing this on a regular basis. Depending on where the most of your diving will be done your gear may vary. If you are diving in the warm water of Natal you could possibly get by with a 3 mm wet suit. In the Western Cape a 5 mm may do, but I personally dive with a 7 mm suit. Most of the dives are done in shallow water so your bottom time may be in excess of two hours and if you are diving in the Cape waters where temperatures range from 7 deg C on a bad day to 13 deg C on a good day you will want as much insulation as possible. The rest of your gear will be fins, booties, gloves, mask, a weight belt to suit your wet suit and body and then of course the SCUBA gear itself. For this you will need a buoyancy compensator (looks like a life jacket), the demand valve through which you breath and a cylinder for the compressed air and some experience.

When I went on my first under water metal detecting dive I must admit that I was a bit nervous, or may be I was just concerned that my machine would drown! This was not my first dive, by this time I had over 500 logged dives, had done a solo 60m dive with 20 minutes bottom time and I am a qualified NAUI Dive Master. So don't think that it is a walk in the park, it does take some getting used to.

There are a few adjustments that you will need to make to your detector as well as to your diving equipment and methods of search and recovery. The Fisher 1280 - X has a telescopic wand which can be compressed to make the machine as compact as possible. The coil is then pressed flat to be parallel with the sand, unlike the 90 deg that you would use on dry land. This makes the Fisher extremely well suited for diving. The manufacturer also provides a brass sleeve to overcome the positive buoyancy of the machine (it will float), I find that using a one kilogram diving weight strapped below the handle with cable ties works just fine. Your machine will now be ready for use and can be used as per normal. I keep my discrimination on "zero" as there is not that much junk out there, my sensitivity on "8" and I turn my volume up - for me "10".

Because you will be diving in shallow water, that's where the people swim, you will have to find space for extra weights to compensate for your positive buoyancy at this depth. I use an extra 4 x 1 kg weights which I put in the BC (buoyancy compensators) pockets. I find that if I add them to my weight belt my back just can't take all this extra weight. Knee pads are a good idea to help save on the wet suit as you will be crawling around for most of the time. Even when the water is cold I try to dive with out gloves, I just have far better feeling with out them especially with poor visibility I can feel the difference between stones and coins, I can even take a good guess as to whether it is silver or gold, the gold being much smoother on the touch. As you will have your ear phones on your head it is better to remove your snorkel while metal detecting. I also dive with a goody bag on my waist for all the trash, this takes the form of the normal pull tabs, bottle crowns, sinkers and also for the broken glass which could just cut some poor kids feet. Then for the real goodies I use a cloth bank bag with a slip rope and this I attach to my BC with a brass clip and once your finds are inside they wont fall out.

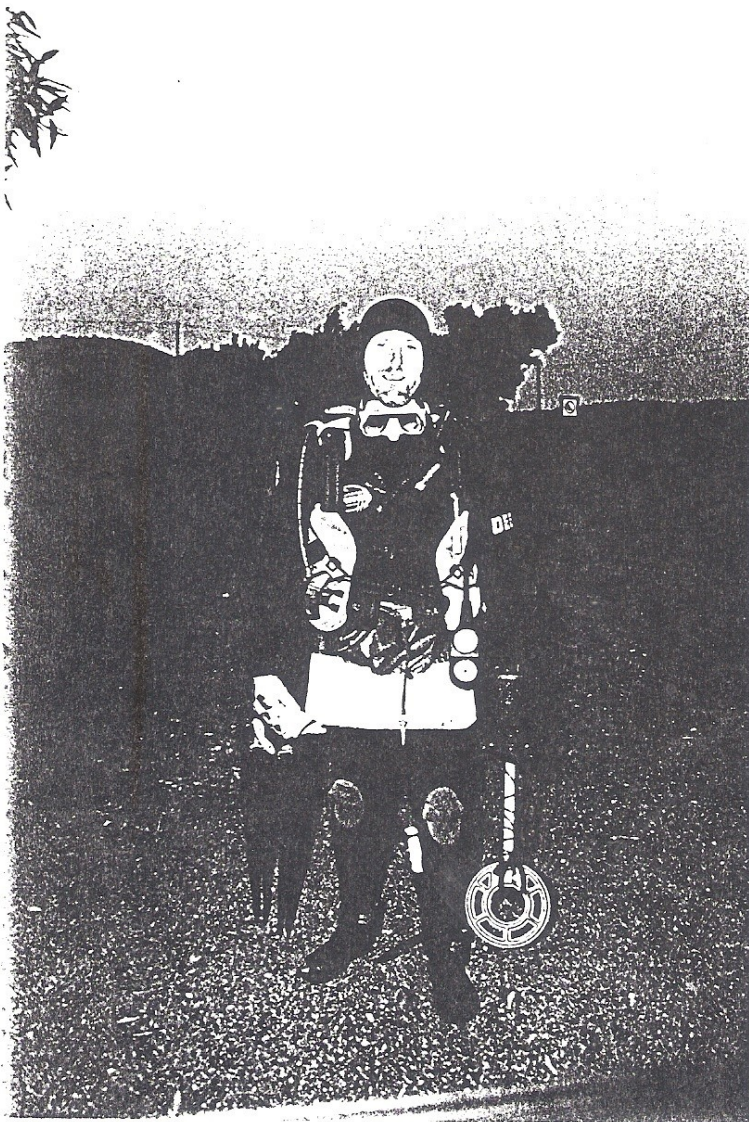
Then your method of recovery will change. On land we have spades and scoops, but down there it is simple. Use your hands. In the beginning I carried a small spade, but now I simply use my hands to wave the sand away, wait for the sand to settle and look what the cat brought in. Your search method will also need to be changed. On land we have bearings like the mountains, trees, sun and so on. Under the water you will not have these luxuries to help you so you will have to use alternative methods. When you first start under water metal detecting it will be quite OK to use a random search pattern, as there is so much out there that if you did swim over the same area ten times you could still find a gold ring on round number ten. Should you however want to be more disciplined in your search pattern you could use the "Jack - Stay" method. I use a rope approximately 30 m in length, not polly prop, but rather a type of rope that will not float, but rather lie on the bottom. On both ends I tie lead weights of approximately 5 - 10 kg each. I then swim the length of the rope and move the weight at the end by 1 to 1 1/2 m and swim back and do the same when I come to the other end this means that at the end I have covered each area roughly twice.

Find an area that you consider safe for your own diving capabilities. Don't forget that you are going to have to exit in a safe place too. You will not have all your hands free to use as you are going to be holding on to that metal detector which is going to make it trickier than usual. Don't be fooled by shallow water. The visibility is often poor, the current strong and the surge can be rather unpleasant at times. If your diving in what you consider as confined water or protected area be aware of those unexpected waves that may come crashing over you.

In my seven years of diving, metal detecting under water has changed my whole outlook on SCUBA, I now only use SCUBA diving to be able to stay under the water to metal detect. It is difficult to explain the feeling when you wave away the sand and the dust clears and you see that yellow metal glittering, but what a pleasure.

From down under.

Andy Naude



LISTEN TO THE LOCALS

This past Easter weekend I had planned to catch up on my detecting. I was up early Friday morning and took my family to Gordon's Bay. I spent about 2 1/2 hours scuba diving with my Fisher 1280 - X, but apart from the few coins I figured that there was not much else to be found.

Once I was out of my wet suit I realised that the day was still young so we took a drive through to Hermanus as I had heard that there was a tidal pool that I had not seen before. After making enquiries at the local police station I had a good idea of where it was. A few kilometres back I found the pool which looked just great, the tide was in and in any case I had no air left for a second dive so I planned to return the Sunday morning.

Sunday morning I was up early as usual and could not wait to get out there as this was a new one for me. I always get this excited feeling when there is a new dive site and this day was no different. Once I was in the pool I realised that it was not as friendly as I had anticipated. There was not much room for detecting, the water was not as deep as I had hoped for and colder than I would have liked, about 11 deg C. I managed to hang in there for just over two hours, but what a disappointing dive I only had found three coins and a heap of sinkers.

This was the second day out and I was starting to loose faith. Unbeknown to me my wife had been chatting up one of the locals, or rather it was the other way around. She was approached by a woman who asked her what I was doing. When she heard that I was doing under water metal detecting and was looking for any thing that people cared to loose she demanded that we go with her to where her son had lost the family ring. Maria took her details and a description of where the ring was lost and said that she would pass it on to me.

After the dive we went to the spot which she had described where we found a gully that was obviously used as a swimming hole by visitors and locals. I had no air left, but in any event I was cold and had no intention of going back into the water. My interest had been tickled by the description of the ring. The supposed ring had a lions head on the face with a crown above it. The insurance had paid out R3,000 so I figured that it was 18 ct of approximately 10 - 12 grams. It was her husbands ring which her son had lost and it was the emblem of some or other Royal family. All of which gave me good reason to go back the Monday.

Monday was a great day so we packed in a picnic basket and the still half wet diving gear and drove the 100 odd kilometres to Hermanus. Conditions looked great, the water was clear, the tide was low : everything looked just right. I almost ran down the hill to get into the water. As with the day before the grass looked a

bit greener than it really was. The depth was once again very shallow so I was limited to the area I could dive. It was spring tide so the water was exceptionally low. The bottom was covered with a fur like growth, but I had the thought of finding this Royal ring which was a consoling factor.

I found my self swimming in circles and there were not that many places that were hospitable enough for me to do some detecting. I did find quite a few coins which gave me more inspiration to continue. Two and a half hours later my air was down to 30 Bars (50 Bars being the time out pressure) with out any gold at all.

I had taken the decision that it was time to quit, I was not a happy chap. The whole of my Easter weekend had been devoted to metal detecting with out the reward of gold which I had hoped for, the water had been cold and I had travelled quite some distance to do the research and the dives. At least I had the thought that there was still a good ring to be found.

The tide had started to come in and the areas that were previously inaccessible were now in deeper water which made it easier to detect. I lifted my head out of the water to see where I was. I was 3 - 4 m from the shore where my son was waiting I signalled that I was coming out. Still swinging the detector I heard a signal and dug up a old R1 coin, I swung the detector to the right of the area I had just dug out the coin and heard another signal. I saw the gold colour lying on the sand between the rocks and thought that it was a chocolate wrapper. As is the detecting custom on land I remove all junk that I find be it glass bottles or pull tabs. Was I surprised when I felt the weight and realised that I was holding a rather heavy gold ring in my hand with a green stone. It was not the Royal ring I had come for, but was going to have to do until I could find more time to return.

Once I was out in the sun light again and had my glasses on so that I could take a good look, I realised that what I had found was most probably a far better find than the Royal ring I had come to look for. The ring is a ladies dress ring and the weight of the ring is 16 grams of 18 ct gold made to look like a nugget and set with a 6,5 ct Tourmaline of excellent quality. The ring has been valued at R14,500. One day I will go back for the Royal ring, but for now this one will do.

From down under. Andy Naude



Onder "Persbrokkies" verskyn 'n artikel Grot-kruipers wil Siekte Trotseer op soek na Skat. Die volgende twee artikels het op dieselfde skattejag betrekking en het in Rapport verskyn op 4 en 25 Oktober 1998. Dit is geskryf deur Marienchen Waldner.

Hulle jeuk om "Kruger - miljoene" te kry

DEUR MARIECHEN WALDNER

Pretoria

DIE ou myn "annerkant Middelburg" is vol grotkoors, gas, vuil water en muskiete. Honderd jaar gelede al het hulle dit "die plek waar dit baie jeuk" genoem.

Dis glo die plek waar Paul Kruger die "helfte van sy staatskas" laat versteek het toe hy tydens die Anglo-Boereoorlog vir die kakies gevlug het. Die legendariese Krugermiljoene wat al byna 'n eeu lank soek is.

Later in die maand vertrek vyf vername Pretorianers op 'n ekspedisie na die ou myn waar, so glo hulle, goud en glorie op hulle wag. Presies waar die plek is, wil hulle nie sê nie, "want dan sak die hele Suid-Afrika op die plek toe om te help grawe". Hulle is egter bereid om Rapport saam te vat, mits Rapport onderneem om nie hul geheime uit te blaker nie.

Hoe lank die soektog gaan duur weet hulle nie, want daar is dinamiet in die myn geplant nadat die sakke vol goud ingedra is. Hulle vat sowel duikpakke as grawe saam, want g'n siel weet of die goud onder die water of onder die grond is nie. In die geleedere van die span wat die Krugermiljoene so op die vooraand van die honderdste herdenking van die Anglo-Boereoorlog te voorskyn wil bring, is geleerde mense. Dr. Johan van der Lith was navorser by die gewese Onderwyserskollege van Suid-Afrika. Kol. Leon von Beneke, 'n soldaat wat sakeman geword het, het Paul Kruger nagevors terwyl hy jong student in die krygskunde was. Mnr. Flip Pretorius is 'n welgestelde makelaar. Mnr. Tobie Wiese, verbonde aan die Centurion-nooddien, is 'n bedrewe duiker en touredder. Mnr. Attie Snyman, 'n rolprentmaker, se voorsate was strydery in die Boeremagte. Sy belangstelling in die oorlog loop diep. Hy maak juis 'n rolprent oor die verdwene miljoene. En hy is van plan om rolprentkameras op die ekspedisie te neem. Volgens Snyman het Von Beneke in sy jong dae afgekom op die brief waarin die ou president destyds aan sy staatstoesourier opdrag gegee het om die inhoud van die Zuid-Afrikaanse Republiek se staatskas te versteek "by die plek waar dit baie jeuk". Dié brief, wat in die Staatsargief bewaar word, verwys glo na die plaas van 'n boesemvriend van Paul Kruger. Die twee mans wat die opdrag uitgevoer het, is glo kort daarna vermoor. Wie dit gedoen het, weet niemand nie. Maar die verhaal van hul dood "dwaal nou nog op Middelburg rond". Onderhoude met ou plaaswerkers in die kontrei het inligting opgelewer oor "die goed wat in die myn weggesteek is". Ook inligting oor die slang wat die spul nou al oor die dekades heen bewaak. Vrees vir die slang het mense tot dusver uit die myn gehou. Plaaswerkers het ook vertel van koekepanne wat volgens oorlewering in die myn gebruik is. Tot dusver het die span twee dwarsleers van koekepanspore in die myn gevind. Hulle het ook 'n ou ossewapad neffens die myn gekry. Hulle besef dit gaan nie maklik wees om hul hande op die sakke vol goud te lê nie. Volgens Snyman dryf die fungi wat grotkoors veroorsaak op die donker waters rond. En daar is tekens van gas in die atmosfeer. Dis nie gas wat mens met 'n kanarie in 'n hok probeer uitsnuffel nie. Jy het die regte toerusting nodig. Desnieteenstaande begin hulle dié maand, voor die reenseisoen begin, te grawe ...

DEEL 2: DIE SOEKTOG...

Paul Kruger (foto hier regs) was gedurende die Anglo-Boere-oorlog (1899 - 1902) die president van die Zuid-Afrikaanse Republiek. Gerugte wil dit hê dat hy gedurende die oorlog opdrag gegee het dat 'n groot hoeveelheid Krugerponde (Die sg. "Kruger-miljoene") versteek word om dit uit die hande van die Britse magte te hou.



Paul Kruger

Dié Kruger-soektog beslis nie vir sissies

DEUR MARIECHEN WALDNER



Pretoria

ONS het 'n gemummifiseerde haas, die beentjies van 'n ystervarkpoot, antieke kalbasse en 'n paar ander seldsame en eenaardige artefakte in die donker grot opgespoor. Maar van ou pres. Paul Kruger se befaamde miljoene was daar g'n teken nie. Nie 'n enkele ou blink muntstukkie in die stof nie. Ja, nie eens 'n leë sak of trommel wat lyk of dit uit die dae van die ou Zuid-Afrikaansche Republiek (ZAR) dateer nie. Ons was nie bang nie, want ons is die donker tunnel af saam met vier skatsoekers met spiere onder die moue. Ouens wat weet wat hulle doen. Een van hulle was gewapen met sy pa se antieke geologiese pik, 'n ding met 'n skerp punt wat lyk of dit grotgediertes kan afweer. Om ons almal se kiewe was dik maskers om grotkoorsgoggas uit die longe te hou. Benoude goed wat oor die neus vasklamp en agter die ore vastrek. Maar nie halfpad so benoud soos die donker gange en afgronde waaroor ons moes klouter nie. Maar ons was nie bang nie. Ons het lank voor ons by die grot uitgekom het, geleer dat Kruger-miljoene soek nie vir sissies is nie. Die kraters op die pad tussen Bronkhorstspruit en Groblersdal het ons diep beproef. So ook die grondpad na die plaas waar die grot geleë is. Die ding, vol dongas, minibusse en ander gevare, loop oos aan die voetstuk van Denilton Funeral Undertakers se verslete advertensiebord by die grootpad uit. Verby T.S. Mmako se Driving School, oor die Aaronsrivier tot by nog 'n afdraai noord wat weerskante met geroeste wrakke en bokke bevolk is. Deur 'n diep drif vol klippe en geroeste blikke, verby doringtakkampe waarin maer beeste stowwerige polle droë gras met die neus rondstoot. Reguit in die rigting van 'n reeks donker rantjies, waar die bobbejane klaarblyklik nie wei nie, want hulle hang almal in ongepoetste posisies aan die plaasdrade. Al langs 'n rowwe doringboomlaning met befoeterde takke wat 'n koerantvrou se maatskappy se kar nerfak krap. By drie plaashekke verby tot op 'n stuk plaaspad so rof dat die eenaar daarvan sy bakkie moes bring om die skatsoekers, hul toerusting en die pers verder te karwei. Die laaste kilometer het ons soos pakdonkies te voet, met toerusting op die rug, geloop en geklim. Mnr. Neels Pretorius, eenaar van die grond, is 'n 69-jarige voormalige vevglieënier wat 'n

Tiger Moth in sy motorhuis aanhou en wat, te oordeel na sy vliegstories, ook nie 'n sissie is nie. Maar hy het buite bly sit nadat hy by die bek van die grot instruksies gegee het aan die span skatsoekers wat hy laat kom het om vas te stel of Paul Kruger se skat nie dalk in sy grot lê nie. In die geleedere van die ekspedisie was twee lede van die span skatsoekers waaroor Rapport verlede maand berig het. Hulle beweer hulle is warm op die spoor van die Kruger-miljoene se laaste rusplek in 'n grot "anmerkant" Middelburg. Die grot het hulle op grond van deeglike navorsing as die begraafplaas van die Kruger-miljoene geïdentifiseer. Hulle het dit verlede week, voordat ons na Pretorius se plaas is, vir ons gewys. Maar waar dit is, mag ons nie sê nie. Ons is hand op die hart tot geheimhouding gesweer. Rapport het ná die verskyning van die berig heelwat oproepe gekry van mense wat die skatsoekers met inligting wil help. Die romantiek van die verlore skat leef, honderd jaar nadat dit verdwyn het, lustig voort. Hulle ondersoek Neels se grot, het die skatsoekers gesê, omdat hulle "alle leidrade" oor die Kruger-miljoene opvolg. Maar hulle glo steeds dat hulle dit waarskynlik in die grot "anmerkant" Middelburg sal vind. Die ekspedisie na Neels se grot het bestaan uit Attie Snyman, rolprentmaker van beroep, wat sy pa se geologiese pik in die belt dra, en sy vriend, Tobie Wiese, 'n toureddingspesialis, wat sê hy duik vir sy plesier in die donker, onbekende waters van grotte en ou myne. In die span was ook die rolprentmaker en vlieënier Frans Nel, vir wie die grot kinderspeletjies was ná al die avonture wat hy in die laaste jaar beleef het. Hy is pas terug van Zaïre, waar hy 'n lugdiens bedryf het, in een van sy vliegtuie op die ewenaar neergestort het en deur inwoners van die oerwoud na die beskawing teruggedra is.

Egbert Greeff, safari-operateur, was die vierde lid van die ekspedisie.

Ons was glad nie bang om saam met hulle in die benoude duisternis rond te delf nie, al het die kalbasse en ander houers vol melk en pap en stof, wat oral teen die klipwande gelê het, ons gewaarsku dat daar voorvadergeeste in die grot woon. Die voorvaders het ons nie gepla nie. Ook nie die vier lewendige vlermuise wat ons in die grot teëgekomp het nie. Attie het sy geologiese pik vir niks meer as die uitkap van stukkie klip uit die wande van die grot gebruik nie. Daaruit het hy wys geword dat die grot, waarskynlik 'n ou ystermyne, dalk uit die steentydperk dateer. Die beendere wat ons gevind het, was dié van afgestorwe diere. Daar was nie 'n enkele geraamte, goue munt of ZAR-artefak in die stof nie.

Die Kruger-miljoene is steeds soek.



Goue Kruger-munte

O JITTE, DIE RINGE DAREM!

VROU LAAT DUUR RING (BYNA) DEUR HAAR VINGER GLIP

GOLDEN GATE. 'n Plofstofkundige, 'n metaalverklikker en die bevelvoerder van die Polisie in Clarens en sy vrou was nodig om te keer dat die verlowing van 'n Kaapse paartjie in 'n ramp ontaard toe die verloofring van meer as R10 000 hier tussen berghange verlore geraak het.

Die peperduur diamantring was nog nie eens aan die vinger van mej. Madeleine Mans van Malmesbury nie toe sy en haar aanstaande, mnr John Olde-Olthof van Tulbagh, moes toekyk hoe dit eers teen die krans hop en daarna in die gras verdwyn het.

Madeleine het Maandag glad nie geweet wat op haar wag nie toe hulle tot bo-op 'n hoë rots gestap het en Olde-Olthof die vonkelwyn uitgehaal, die ring skelm in 'n glas gesit het en vir haar gegee het. Sy het die onversekerde ring in haar mond gehad om die taatheid af te kry, waarna sy dit wou aansit, maar deur haar vingers laat glip het.

Mev Lynette de Villiers, vrou van insp. Div de Villiers, bevelvoerder van die polisie op Clarens, het 'n metaalverklikker in Bethlehem gaan haal nadat die polisie se hulp ingeroep is. Omstreeks 17:30 was daar nog geen teken van die ring nie en Madeleine moes met 'n swaar hart en sonder haar ring gaan slaap.

Die soektog het Dinsdag voortgegaan totdat kapt. André van der Linde, plofstofkundige van Bethlehem, ook kom help het. Van der Linde het skaars die metaalverklikker in werking gehad toe die diamantring omstreeks 11:00 tussen die gras verskyn het en die weer gelukkige paartjie hul verlowing kon afrond.

Olde-Olthof is oortuig die storie se naam is goeie geluk. Dit wys daar is darem lig in die tunnel van die huwelik wat nou vir hom voorlê. Madeleine sê die ring sal nou altyd bly waar dit hoort aan haar vinger. Nadat sy van blydschap 'n traan gestort het, is die paartjie na Durban om die verlowing te vier. Uit Die Volksblad 27/08/1998

AL KRUIPEND KRY HY RING IN SAND

DURBANVILLE.- "Die bejaarde vrou het my skeef aangekyk en op hoogdrawende Engels gevra waarom ek nou al vir 'n uur voor haar in die sand rondkruip. Sy het waarskynlik gedink ek is van lotjie getik." So vertel mnr Terence Osborn, wat sy vrou se verloofring op 'n strand by Clifton opgespoor het nadat hy dit drie dae tevore daar verloor het. Hy het die ring na 'n soektog van sowat twee uur weer gekry.

"Dit was 'n kwessie van die ring kry of sonder my vrou klaarkom. Sy was briesend omdat ek haar ring verloor het," het mnr Osborne gesê. Hy en sy vrou, Beulah, is Dinsdag saam met twee vriende na Clifton se Vierde Strand. "My vrou wou nie met die ring in die son lê nie omdat dit 'n wit merk op haar vinger sou laat en het die ring op die strand vir my gegee. Dit moes uit my sak geval het. Eers heelwat later is vasgestel dat die ring weg is.

Omdat ek met vakansie is, het ek gister besluit om na die ring te gaan soek. Dit was eintlik 'n onbegonne taak, want ek kon nie presies onthou waar ons gelê het nie. Daar was honderde mense op die strand. Met al die rondkruipery moes dit baie komies gewees het om my dop te hou. Die bejaarde vrou wat met my gepraat het, kon dit nie glo toe ek die ring gekry het nie. Teen daardie tyd het ek omtrent al die hele strand rondgekruip. Noudat ek weer die ring gekry het is daar weer vrede in die huis," het mnr Osborne gesê. Uit Die Burger 89/01/09

PERSBROKKIES

GROT-KRUIPERS WIL SIEKTE TROTSEER OP SOEK NA SKAT

'n Ekspedisie om 'n goudskatkis in 'n doolhofgrot in die Thabazimbi omgewing te vind waar talle mense al aan die gevreesde "grotsiekte" dood is, word deur 'n groepie Suid Afrikaners beplan. "Talle legendes van voorvaders wat in die grot verdwaal het, word deur die swart bevolking vertel" sê mnr Attie Snyman, leier van die ekspedisie. "Die grot word jaarliks deur sangomas en toordokters besoek wat geld en briewe by die ingang plaas. Dit is glad nie onmoontlik dat daar iets waardevols in die grot is nie, want waarom sou twaalf Duitsers in 1933 die grot besoek het op soek na goud? Hul avontuur het egter tot hul dood gelei," sê mnr Snyman.

By die grotingang is 'n stokou bordjie van die Landdros van Warmbad wat teen grotsiekte waarsku. Nog vyf Duitsers het vyf jaar later die eerste groep Duitsers gaan soek. Hulle het lewend uit die grot gekom, maar is kort daarna weens grotsiekte dood. Hul grafte is in die omgewing te sien.

Volgens Snyman het 'n boer in die omgewing by geleentheid 'n stafie goud in die omgewing opgetel. Die omgewing is nie bekend vir goudneerslae nie. Iemand moes die goud daarheen gebring het. Dit laat 'n mens wonder oor dinge soos die legendariese Kruger-miljoene... Nog 'n moontlikheid is dat vluggende Zoeloes (onder die Tjaka aanslae) in die vroeë jare 1830 die goud daar weggesteek het. Uit Die Burger 97/05/17

SKAT VAN R30M LÊ GLO EN WAG OP TWEE ERFGENAME

'n Skat ter waarde van R30 miljoen lê na bewering nog in die verre noordwestelike uithoek van die Kalahari begrawe. Die man wat meen hy weet presies waar dit lê, en wat nou gereed maak om dit te gaan uithaal, is mnr Ockert Stoltz van Krugersdorp. Mnr Stoltz het aan Rapport gesê hy is 'n hoogleraar en dat hy sy kwalifikasies in die destydse Belgiese Kongo verwerf het. Volgens hom lê die skatte ongeskonde in die onherbargsame woestyn versteek.

Hy vertel dat 'n prokureurs maatskappy in Port Elizabeth hom laat weet het dat sy peetpa, mnr Kaspir Brits, in sy testament 'n kaart aan hom nagelaat het wat presies aandui waar die skat lê. Die testament bepaal ook dat mnr Stoltz in verbinding moet tree met die seun van ene Krisjan Gobosa, 'n ou Damara wat sy oupa in die jare sestig raakgeloop het toe hy met sy geologiese opnames besig was. Hulle moet dan saam na die skat gaan soek en as hulle dit vind, moet dit tussen hulle verdeel word.

Mnr Stoltz het vandeeweek daarin geslaag om die seun, Jerry, buite Pretoria op te spoor. Daar heers nou groot opgewondenheid om met die soektog na die skat te begin wat in die heuwels van Botswana begrawe lê. Die skat bestaan na bewering uit derduisende goue Krugerponde, ander muntstukke, ou wapens, juwele en geskifte van onskatbare waarde. Uit Beeld 94/07/25

METAL DETECTING IN HEIDELBERG (GAUTENG)

PART 2 : THE OTHER SIDE OF THE COIN

By Eric van den Berg

I am convinced that if my History or English teachers had to see me today, they would shake their heads in disbelief. To be quite honest about it, it is rather strange to find me sitting in a library reading history books.

On numerous occasions I have been asked why I enjoy detecting so much. The reasons are too numerous to mention all of them.

History, although being a living thing, has never been able to grab my attention for more than a few moments at a time. When I started out "Treasure Hunting" I never dreamed of the world that it would unfold for me. Armed with my brand new detector, I wandered off into the open spaces surrounding Heidelberg, not really having a clue what I was looking for or what I was going to find. Needless to say, I didn't find too much on the first few outings, but "being out" was great therapy for the depression I suffer from. "There must be something out here," I recall thinking. Due to the lack of finds, the local playgrounds became my favourite sites as I was finding quite a few coins per outing.

Knowing that Heidelberg has a rich history dating from even the Voortrekkers 's time, I did not know where to search! "Old photographs and maps would surely show worthwhile positions to search." From there onward, I was hooked on detecting! For once in a long while, here was something that was holding my attention – keeping it away from the gloom this illness can bring. Suddenly, I wanted to know more, see more and find more. Here was a goal to reach again!

While out in the veld one day, an elderly gentleman came up to me and asked all the usual questions. As it turned out he had picked up a few buttons not too far away from where we were. "Had I found any?" he wanted to know. "Niks nie oom" was my disappointed reply. He pointed in the general direction and of the three of us went. (His dog never left his side) It was not long after reaching the area he pointed out that my detector gave a good signal.

The "Oom" must have seen the excitement on my face when I un-earthed my first British coat button. "Ek het mos gesê hulle is hier" "Ja oom, dankie oom"

Why were they there? Then the metal detective work started. In my spare time I spent hours searching for any clue I could get hold of and meeting very interesting people along the way.

Soon I had some idea about that location as well as others. Here I was, on a journey through history and away from depression. My curiosity was stimulated and my interest held firm.

Quite a few years have passed since those early detecting days of mine. The daily dose of Prozac has been replaced by a dose of detecting whenever time allows.

It's time to get back to my History and English teachers. As I have said, they would have been astounded to see me today. What I hated most during my school days has now become a passion. The then forced visits to the library are quite voluntary today and the research projects would certainly achieve "A" grades.

Without regret I look back and see how a simple metal detector has changed so much in my life. It just has to be the best and most rewarding hobby by far. If you are still in doubt whether or not to take up this hobby, take the plunge and never look back! You will not regret it!

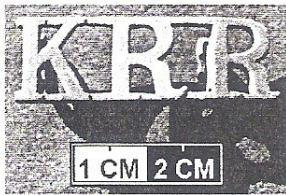
PS. Here are some more of the finds that Mike and I have made around Heidelberg (Gauteng) We hope that you enjoy looking at the photos!

Editors note:

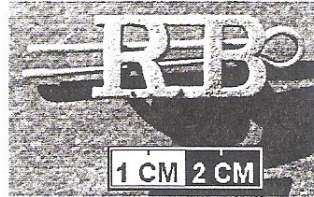
Eric van den Berg, as readers of Treasure Talk will know, is one of our regular contributors. He has been in the news lately for co-discovering an concentration camp graveyard for blacks who died during the Anglo-Boer War. Please see the article later on in this newsletter.

Here are some more of the finds Mike and I have made around Heidelberg (Gauteng)

These five photographs below show some more of the other shoulder titles we have found.



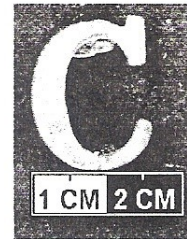
Kings Royal Rifles



Royal Brigade



Royal F...? Have not found out yet

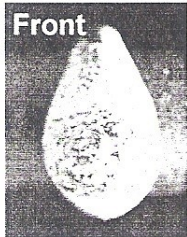


Cavalry

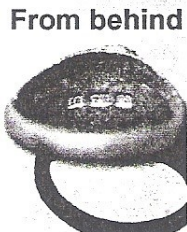


S...? Still researching

Rings are not common finds in the open veld, but we have each found one.



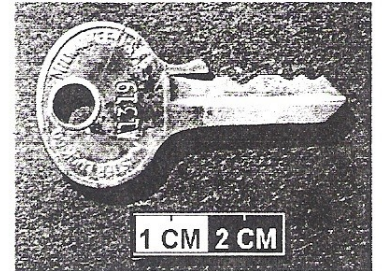
Gilded ring



The hallmark

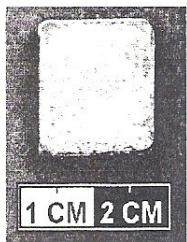


A Ring of Eastern origin we presume



Master Lock Co. Milwaukee, USA. Serial no: A1319
The Co. could not give any info. regarding the key or number.

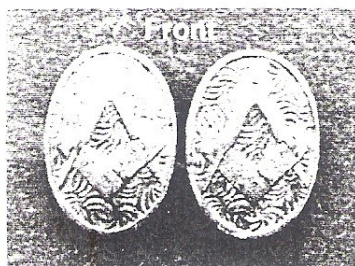
Mr Eastman's Kodak Company.



Mr. Eastman had already Patented his Kodak "Instant" camera By the time of the Boer War. I have not yet been able to determine when spools came in use.



New Zealand Badge



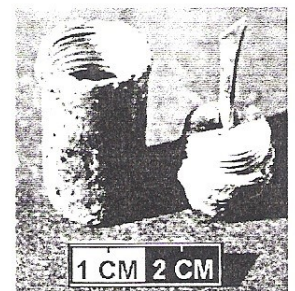
A Free-Mason cufflink

REG.196465



SIMPLEST

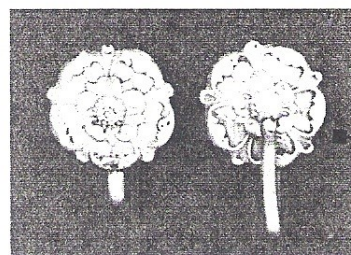
This little canister on the right has us puzzled as to its use. It is made of some alloy with the "pin" made of steel.



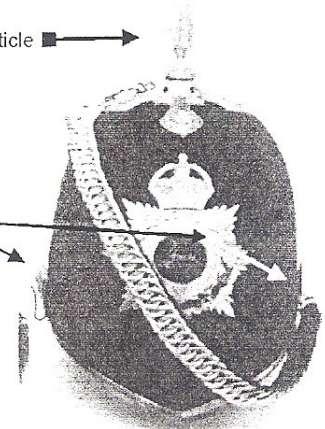
This "Spike" was shown in a previous article →



A gilded button belonging to the Loyal North Lancashire Regiment



These two items are the left and right sided chinstrap fasteners of a helmet.



GRAFTE UIT ANGLO-BOEREOORLOG BY HEIDELBERG GEVIND

Deur Jan Jan Joubert (Beeld 23/7/99)

Knap speurwerk deur die Heidelbergse Historiese vereniging het 'n versweë bladsy uit die geskiedenis opgediep toe 'n begraafplaas vir 'n swart konsentrasiekamp uit die Anglo-Boereoorlog by die dorp gevind is. Mnre Eric van den Berg en Johann Strauss, twee plaaslike inwoners met 'n belangstelling in geskiedenis, het gister gaan wys waar dié grafte, wat 'n beroering in historiese kringe gaan veroorsaak, vlak langs die N3-hoofweg lê. Die twee mans het sowat twee maande gelede, nadat sommige van die grafte van swart mense uit konsentrasiekampe by Greylingstad gevind is, begin navorsing doen oor 'n soortgelyke begraafplaas by Heidelberg.



Researchers Johann Strauss, Erik van den Berg and Maurice Evans at a grave believed to be of a black person who died in a concentration camp outside Heidelberg during the Anglo-Boer War. The headstone states the person died in 1901 and his or her surname was Kgosana.

PIC: PAT SEBOKO

Swart mense is in die oorlog ewe ontredderd gelaat deur die Britse "verskroeiende aarde"-beleid as die Boeregesinne op wie se plase hulle as arbeiders gewerk het. Hulle is in afsonderlike konsentrasiekampe geplaas. In die konsentrasiekampe was die rantsoene selfs meer karig as in die wit kampe. In Heidelberg se swart konsentrasiekamp was daar volgens 'n opgawe 2 476 inwoners, waarvan 672 vroue en 1 175 kinders was. Dis sowat twee keer so groot as die kamp by Greylingstad. Hoewel daar geraam word dat 20 000 swart mense tydens die Anglo-Boere oorlog dood is, is baie grafte nooit gevind nie.

Strauss het egter 'n kaart uit 1905 gehad wat die swart begraafplaas aangedui het. Hy en van den Berg het begin soek. Nadat van den Berg die ou gegewens op 'n hedendaagse kaart oorgeplaas het, het hulle Vrydag op die grafte afgeklim, vlak by die Jacobsstraat-afrit van die N3. Tot dusver het hulle reeds sowat dertig grafte geïdentifiseer, maar daar is net een verweerde graf waarop die letters <--> COSANA ---MB--- leesbaar is. Die twee ontdekkers meen van die grafte kan onder die uitgegraafde grond wees wat vir die bou van die hoofweg weggeskraap is. Boonop was daar blykbaar 'n padbouerskamp in die terrein en meen hulle van die grafte kan aan die oorkant van die hoofweg wees. Heidelberg se wit konsentrasiekamp-kerkhof, byna binne sig van die pas ontdekte terrein, is na baie jare in 1949 opgeknip en 'n momument is daar opgerig.

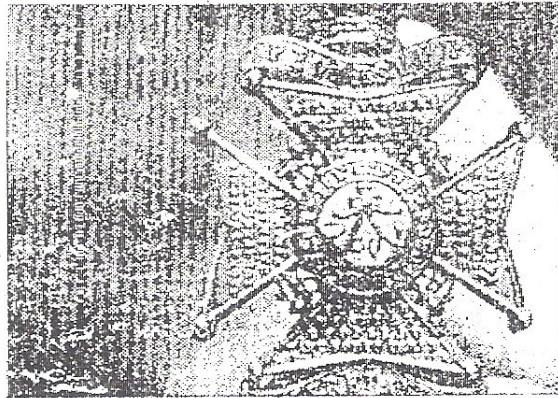
VERKLIKKER VIND "SKATTE" UIT BOEREOORLOG

(Deur Carien Fourie - Die Beeld - 16/08/99)

Danksy die geesdrif van twee lede van die Heidelbergse historiese vereniging met die opspoor van geskiedkundige "skatte" met 'n metaalverklikker, sal dié dorp suid van Johannesburg 'n interresante versameling van voorwerpe uit die Anglo-Boereoorlog (ABO) kan uitstal wanneer die herdenking van die oorlog begin.

Mnre Eric van den Berg en Mike Bull het al meer as 2000 geweerpatrone, talle knope van Britse tunieks, wapens, munte, tentpenne, geroeste stukke van mondfluitjies, stukke horlosies, gespes, koper lugventileerders wat deel was van Britse helms en selfs 'n Britse soldaat se waterbottel opgespoor.

Van den Berg was ook onlangs betrokke by die ontdekking van 'n swart konsentrasiekampterrein. Hy sê soektogte met metaalverklikkers word ingevolge 'n bepaalde gedragskode gedoen. Nie almal wat so soektogte doen, "steel" dit vir hulself nie. Hy en Bull teken 'n kontrak met die eienaar van die grond waarop hulle wil gaan soek waarvolgens die eienaar eerste kan besluit of hy 'n voorwerp wil hê of nie.



Mnr. Eric van den Berg wys 'n lapel- of petwapen wat met behulp van 'n metaalverklikker in die Heidelberg-omgewing gevind is. Die woorde Sherwood Forester en Derbyshire verskyn daarop en die wapen het die vorm van 'n koningin se kroon wat daarop dui dat dit van die Victoriaanse tydperk dateer.

Foto: REG CALDECOTT

Die meeste van die voorwerpe wat met die ABO verband hou, is op munisipale grond gevind en aan die stadsraad van Heidelberg gegee. Die digter en dokter A. G. Visser se huis in die dorp word gerestoureer om van waarskynlik aanstaande maand as inligtingskantoor te dien. Voorwerpe uit die ABO sal daar uitgestal word. Volgens van den Berg was daar tydens die ABO sowat 5000 Britse troepe in Heidelberg. Die dorp was tydens die Eerste Vryheidsoorlog die hoofstad van die Zuid-Afrikaanse Republiek (ZAR).

Onder die interresante munte wat Van den Berg gevind het, is 'n Britse goue Sovereign-munt van 1887 wat aan die een kant Victoria se gesig het en aan die ander kant 'n uitbeelding van die legende van St George en die draak. Die munt van 22 kar. goud is so groot soos 'n hedendaagse 50c-stuk en in goudwaarde sowat R350 werd.

Van den Berg sê hy en Bull wil nie hul vondse verkoop nie. Die plesier lê daarin om die voorwerpe te soek en dan op 'n speurtog deur dokumente en boeke te gaan om uit te vind presies wat dit is. Die metaalverklikker kan 'n voorwerp so groot soos 'n pennie op 'n diepte van 40cm opspoor. Om 'n interresante vonds te kry, vereis ure se geduldige soek. Alle belangrike items wat gevind word, word aangeteken en afgeneem.



SKOP DIE MUNTSTUKKE UIT !

DEUR LUKAS VAN DER MERWE

DIE GEDAGTES HARDLOOP SO DEUR MY KOP TERWYL DIE EEN MUNTSTUK NA DIE ANDER DEUR DIE ROOI GROND OPKOM OM DIE DAGLIG TE AANSKOU NA JARE SE WATER EN SLYK WAT HULLE OORWELDIG HET.

ROBINSON-MEER BESTAAN AL AMPER N EEU LANK.. DIT HET SY ONSTAAN GEHAD IN DIE BEGIN VAN DIE EEU TOE DIE GOUD-MYNE HULLE KRAG SELF OPGEWEK HET-DEUR GEBRUIK TE MAAK VAN STOOMTURBINES.

DIE KRAGSTASIE SE WARM WATER IS IN DIE MEER INGELAAT WAAR KOUE WATER WEER VANAF DIE MEER IN DIE STASIE INGEPOMP IS OM HOM KOEL TE HOU.

SO HET DIT GEKOM DAT DIE MYNE DIE MEER BESKIKBAAR GESTEL HET VIR DIE PUBLIEK IN DIE VROEE 1900'S VIR N VAKANSIEOORD. DIE WATER WAS DEUR DIE JAAR WARM.EN SO DEUR DUISENDE MENSE DAAGLIKS BESOEK.

N BEKENDE SANGERES GWENITH

VAN DIE MEER.SY HET OOK NABY DIE MEER IN N VLIEGTUIG DOOD VERONGELUK. .NAWEKE HET SY EN NOG ANDER GROEPE OPGETREE BY ROBINSON MEER.

NA DIE METAALVERKLIKKER GOGGA MY GEBYT HET, HET DIE MEER HEELWAT BESOEK. EK KON NOG ONDHOU IN DIE SESTIGJARE TOE EK NOG N TJOKKER WAS WAAR ONS IN DIE MEER GESWEM HET..MY PA HET NOU NOG N 8mm FILM WAT HY DESTYDS GENEEM HET. HY HET ALTYD AS ONS DIE FILMS GEWYS HET DIE MANNE OP DIE DUIK-PLANK AGTERUIT LAAT DUIK AS HY HOM TERUG LAAT LOOP HET,DAN HET ONS SO LEKKER GELAG.

DESTYDS TOE EK NOG IN DIE MYNBEDRYF WAS, HET DIE OU MANNE HULLE STAALTJIES MET ONS GEDEEL OOR ROBINSON-MEER. DIE PARTYJIES ,GEVRYERY EN OOK WAAR HULLE GEDUIK HET , EN MET HANDE VOL MUNTSTUKKE NA BOONTOE GESWEM HET.

DIE MYN HET DIE KRAGSTASIE IN DIE JARE VYFTIGS GESLUIT EN VAN EVKOM KRAG GEBRUIK GEMAAK. DIE BELANGSTELLING HET HEELWAT AFGENEEM DEURDAT DIE WATER DAAR NOGAL HEELWAT KOEL IS IN DIE WINTER EN SOMER.

DIE MEER IS IN DIE VROEE TAGTIGS HEELTEMAL VIR DIE PUBLIEK GESLUIT EN DIT IS TOE AS N VISVANGKLUB EN IN DESEMBER VIR MYN-KERSPARTYJIES AAN GEWEND.

DIE METAALVERKLIKKER HET MY WEER LAAT DINK AAN DIE MEER. .EK HET TOESTEMMING VAN DIE MYNSEKURITEIT GEKRY OM BINNE DIE GRONDE TE GRAWE. HEELWAT MUNTSTUKKE WAS GEVIND, TOT BUITE DIE GRONDE WAAR DIE MENSE PIEKNIEK GEHOU HET.

EENDAG HET DIE DUIKERS KLUB VAN DIE MYN MY GEVRA OM VIR HULLE EEN OF TWEE VERKLIKKERS TE LEEN OM IN DIE MEER TE GAAN DUIK. DIE SLYK WAS TE DIK EN NIKS IS GEVIND NIE .

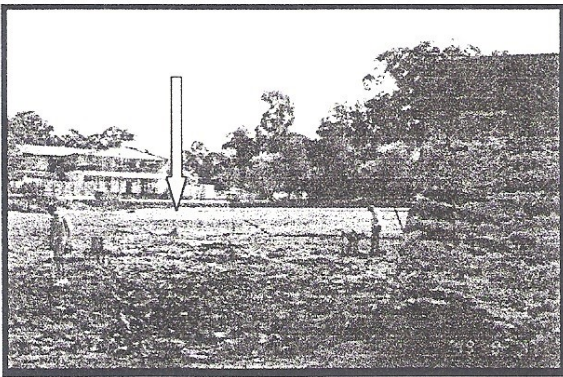


FOTO VANAF DIE DUIKPLANK

MAAR DIE KERSIE OP DIE KOEK WAS TOE EK SO IN MAART '99 VERBY DIE MEER RY EN SIEN DAT DIT LEEG WAS EK HET VINNIG OP MY SEL VIR OOM KOBUS GESKAKEL, EN DIT VIR HOM GENOEM.

ONS HET VINNING TOESTEMMING VAN DIE MYN SEKURITEIT GEKRY EN BEGIN OM TE GRAW.

MET MY DRUK PROGRAM KON EK VIR DIE EERSTE TWEE DAE DIT NIE MAAK NIE. MAAR OOM KOBUS KON NIE OPHOU BEL OM MY JALOERS TE MAAK MET DIE FONDSE NIE. DIE EERSTE DAG HET HY OMTRENT TAGTIG MUNTSTUKKE UITGEHAAL EN SEWE GOUE RINGE.

DAARNA HET DIE GOUE GANS NET DIE EIERS GELE. NA VYF KEER SE UITGAAN HET ONS OOR DIE SESHONDERD MUNTSTUKKE UITGEHAAL EN SO SES EN TWINTIG GOUE RINGE.

BY DIE DUIKPLANK HET EK DIE BOONSTE LAAG GEKRAAKTE AFSAKSEL VERWYDER EN DIE MUNTSTUKKE BESWAARLIK UITGESKOP (TE MOEG OM DIE FONDSE UIT TE GRAW)

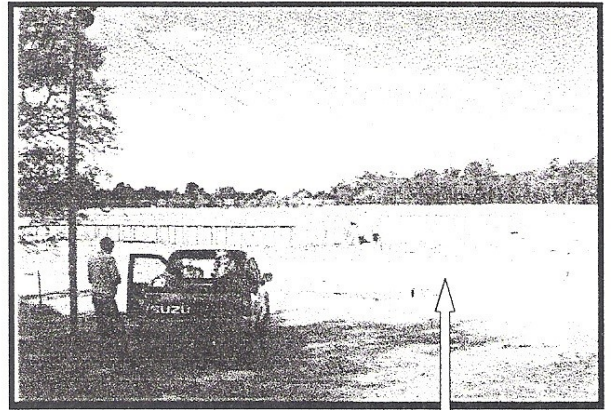


FOTO VANAF DIE WAL

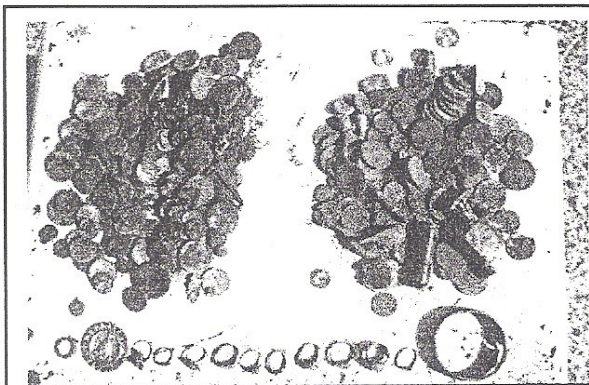
DIT IS WAAR EK BY DIE OPSKRIF UITGEKOM HET DIE LAASTE UITSTAPPIE HET EK HONDERD EN TAGTIG MUNTSTUKKE UITGEHAAL EN SES GOUE RINGE.

DIE BESTE VAN ALLES IS DIE BEURSIE WAT OOM KOBUS UITGEHAAL HET MET DRIE MUNTSTUKKE IN. ONS HET OOK ONDER ANDER KAMME, VALSTANDE, BOTTELS EN DUIKBRILLE UIT GEHAAL.

MAAR EEN DING IS SEKER DAAR IS NOG BAIE GOUE EIERS WAT DIE GANS GELE HET EN VIR ONS WAG OM TE VIND. WAT NATUURLIK SOMMER BAIE GOU OOK SAL WEES.

(NS. DIE MEER IS DEUR 'N PRIVAAT MYNGROEP LEEG LAAT LOOP VIR TOEKOMSTIGE AKTIVITEITE. GELUKKIG HET

DIE SLEGTE GOUDPRYS SY VOORDEEL VIR ONS IN GEHOU.)



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MUNTSTUKKE GEVIND BY ROBINSON LAKE RANDFONTEIN



1939
1942
1943 X 3
1945
1951



1920
1932
1940 X 2
1941
1942 X 5

1943 X 4
1944 X 2
1945
1949
1952



1961 X 5
1962
1963 X 2
1964

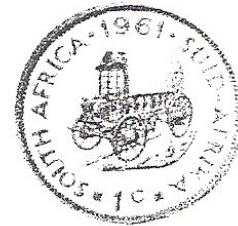


1890
1905
1908 X 2
1909
1912 X 3
1913 X 3
1915
1916 X 2
1917 X 2
1918 X 2
1919 X 3
1920 X 3
1921 X 4

1921 X 4
1927
1928
1930 X 2
1932
1933
1934 X 7
1935 X 4
1936 X 10
1937 X 2
1938 X 4
1939 X 5

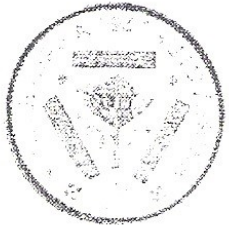
1940 X 10
1941 X 17
1942 X 28
1943 X 17
1944 X 8
1945 X 11
1946 X 4
1948 X 5
1949 X 4

1950 X 2
1951 X 4
1952 X 4
1953 X 2
1954 X 3
1955 X 2
1956
1957
1958
1959



1961 X 18
1962 X 2
1963 X 4
1964 X 4

1 X DATUM ON LEES BAAR



1927
1929
1933 X 3
1935
1937
1936
1938 X 2
1939

1940
1941 X 6
1942 X 4
1943 X 4
1949 X 3
1950 X 5
1951 X 2
1952 X 4

1953
1954
1955
1957



1896
1924
1925
1929
1932 X 4
1933 X 2
1934 X 2
1935
1937 X 2
1938 X 2

1940 X 2
1942 X 7
1943 X 7
1944
1945
1948 X 2
1950 X 6
1952 X 3
1955 X 2

7 X DATUM ON LEES BAAR



1929
1932 X 4
1934 X 2
1935 X 2
1936
1937 X 2
1938

1940
1942 X 6
1944
1951
1954 X 2
1955
1956 X 2
1958 X 2

11 X DATUM ON LEES BAAR



1962

TWEE SJIELLINGS



1923	1940
1924	1941
1925	1943 X 2
1927	1944
1935	1945
1936	1952 X 4
1937	1954 X 3
1938	1955
1956	
1957	
1958 X 4	

5 X DATUM ON LEES BAAR

HALF KROON



1922	1952
1923 X 2	1953 X 3
1924 X 2	1954 X 5
1932	1955 X 2
1934	1956
1935	1957
1939	
1940	
1942 X 2	
1943	
1944	
1951	

5 X DATUM ON LEES BAAR



1 X 1970



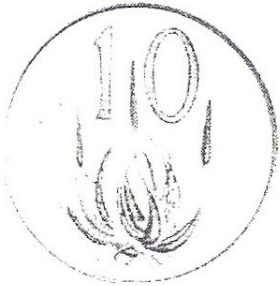
40 SENTE (1965 - 1989)
DATUMS ON LEES BAAR



46 TWEE SENTE (1965 - 1990)
DATUMS ON LEES BAAR



19 VYF SENTE (1965 - 1989)
DATUMS ON LEES BAAR



23 TIEN SENTE (1965 - 1990)
DATUMS ON LEES BAAR



39 TWINTIG SENTE (1965 - 1990)
DATUMS ON LEES BAAR

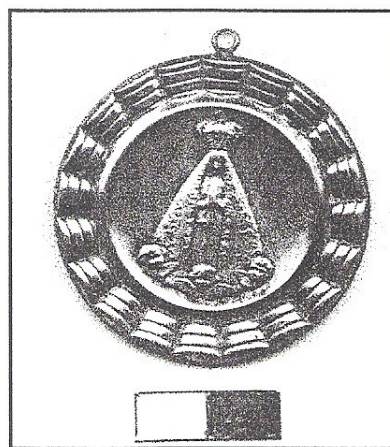


11 VYFTIG SENTE (1965 - 1990)
DATUMS ON LEES BAAR

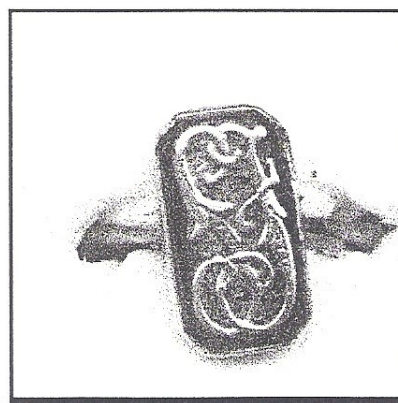
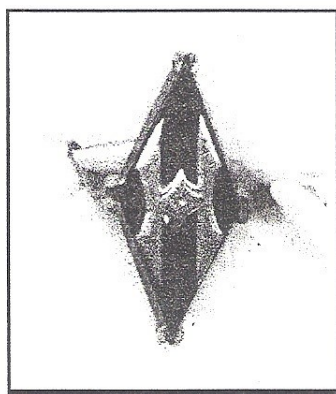
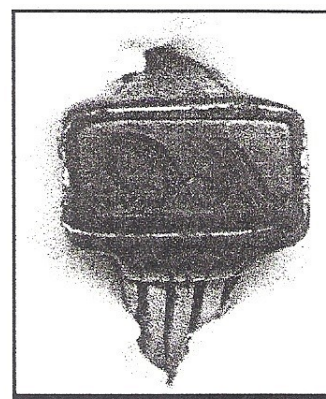
VOOR



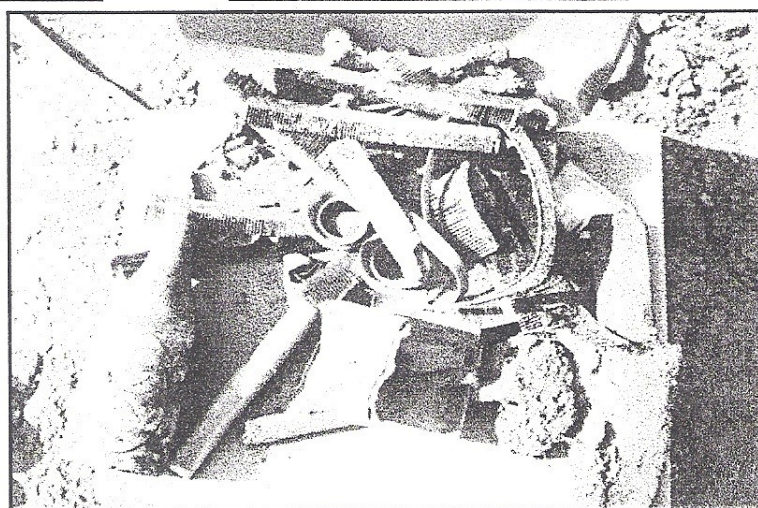
AGTER



2 CM

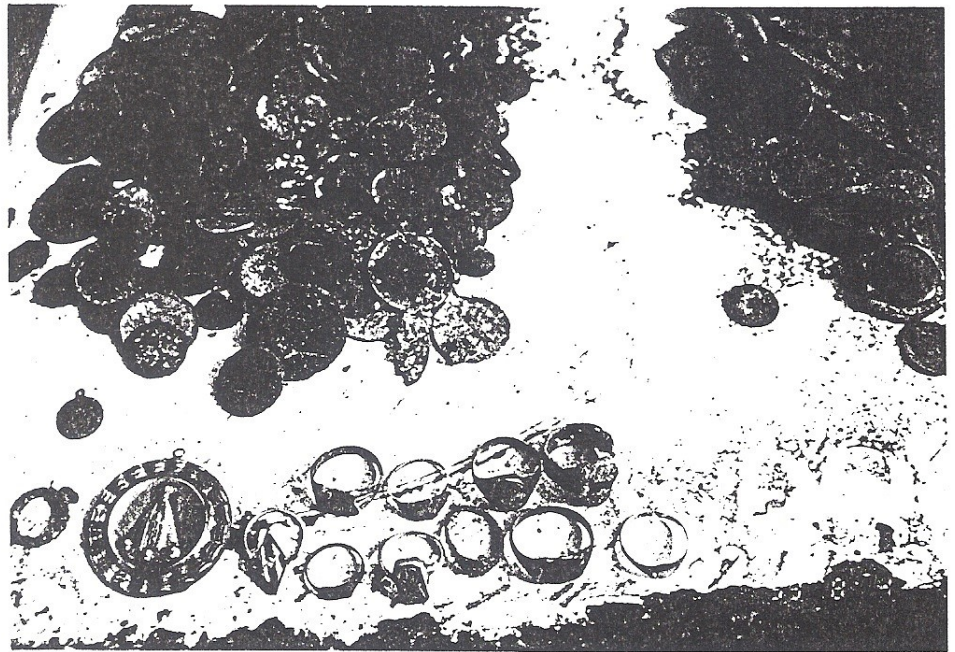


Van die goue ringe
en 'n goue hangertjie



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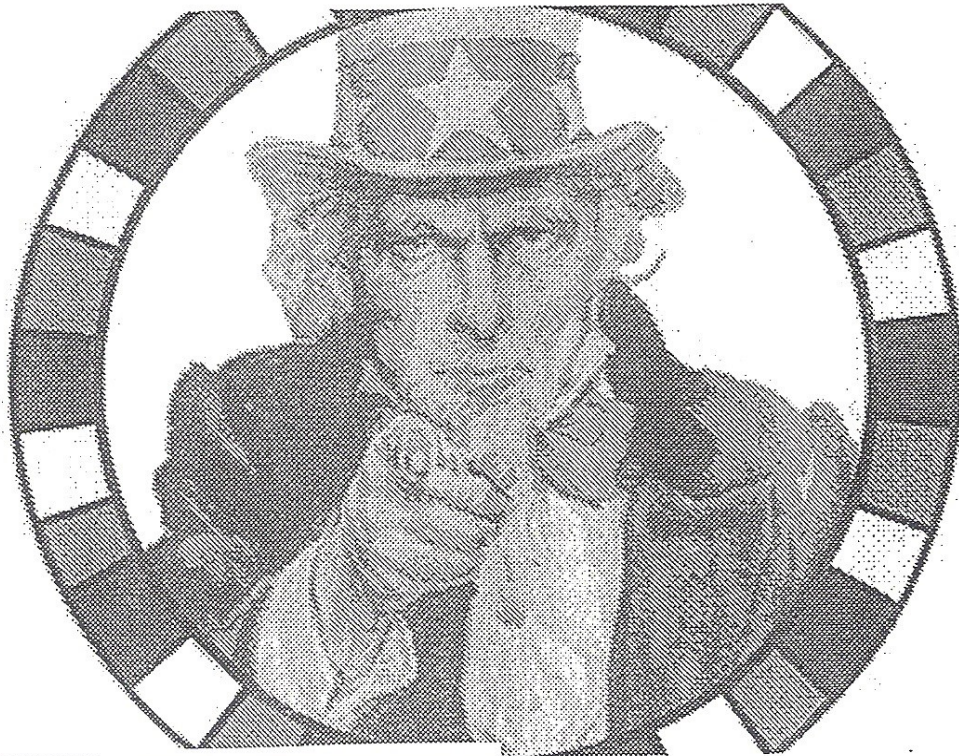
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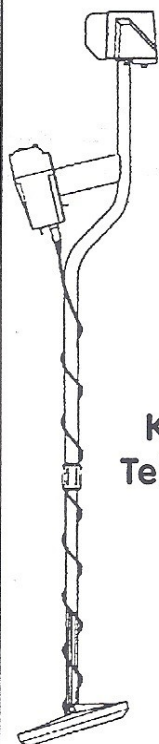
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Readers of our August newsletter will remember the nice photo received from Shaun Engler as a suggestion for a future front page. Well, Shaun has done it again - this time with an even nicer photo - at least from a male readers point of view!!

TREASURE TALK WISHES ALL OUR READERS A HAPPY CHRISTMAS AND A PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR. GOOD LUCK WITH YOUR FINDS AND MAY FATHER CHRISTMAS FILL THAT GOODY BAG!

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