



Finds Liaison in Buckinghamshire

August 09 to March 10

Treasure Finds

There have been seven potential treasure cases reported in the period covered by these notes and two more from Northamptonshire. The objects from counties other than Bucks were reported by finders who live in Bucks. The FLO is able to liaise with the Coroners of other counties where necessary.

Location	Metal	Object Type	Ref No
Edlesborough	Gold	Bronze Age loops [via Beds FLO]	2009/T513
Bow Brickhill MK	Silver	Post medieval eyelet [via Beds FLO]	2009/T551
Princes Risborough	Silver	Medieval ring	2009/T594
Dorton	Gold	Post medieval inscribed ring, NEVER TO CHANGE	2009/T629
Hambleton	Gold	Post medieval inscribed ring, HART BE TRUE	2009/T641
Oakley	Gold & silver	1564 -1613 1 gold & 4 silver coins	2009/T655
Chilton	Silver Gilt	16 th -17th inscribed ring, KEEPE ME IN MINDE	2009/T757
Potterspury, N'hants	Silver Gilt	Post med medieval dress hook.	2010/T050
Potterspury, N'hants	Silver Gilt	Medieval annular brooch.	2010/T051
Bishopstone	Silver	Post medieval bodkin/pin [via Surrey FLO]	2010/T056

Table 1. Potential Treasure objects reported to the FLO since the last meeting.

Portable Antiquities Scheme Database [www.finds.org.uk]

A large amount of finds have continued to be recorded, and the total entered on the database so far is now up to 7095. The national total is over 449,114. A forthcoming upgrade and in-house redesign of the web based database will make these records more user-friendly. This should have happened already but is promised some time in March! We have been testing it over the last couple of weeks and it really does look promising

Rallies, Club Digs & Meetings

Cooperation with the Scheme is voluntary and no one is forced to record what they find. To date those who organise metal detector rallies in Bucks all invite the FLO to record the finds. This is not the case in some of the adjacent counties.

The local detector clubs have been visited regularly and are offering their finds for recording on the database. In addition individual detectorists are being proactive in seeking out the FLO to record their finds. The snowy & icy weather has made it difficult to reach some of the meetings recently but the members have less active so no real problems have occurred

Publicity

The talk I was booked to do at the Old Gaol in Buckingham was cancelled due to the inclement weather recently but they may well rebook later in the year!

Finds Identification & Recording Sessions

The annual MK Archaeology Day was staged again by Nick Crank MK Council's Archaeologist. I had a recording and identifying table in the foyer of the Central Library. I was ably assisted by three, enthusiastic members of one of the local detector clubs & some of their finds from the area.

For general identifying I have continued to focus on three monthly Saturday afternoons at Wycombe Museum and every Wednesday in the Civic Offices in Central Milton Keynes. An increasing number of finders make appointments and come to one of these venues or to the Museum Resource Centre at Halton.

Detector Surveys in Co-operation with Professional Archaeology Units

I was asked by ASC Ltd to provide them with about five reliable detectorists to survey an area of the allotments next to the Cemetery off the Tring Road prior to the land becoming an extension to the burial ground. There was a possibility that the area could produce Saxon burials or occupation. I and my keen band of locals turned up on site with their detectors ready to go but as the day wore on it became clear that there was only allotment related modern rubbish nothing older than mid 20th century objects. The thick tussocky grass, plies of concrete shed debris and large bonfire piles made things difficult. Had the 'grass etc been removed we might have done better but not necessarily.

A similar project has been in the pipeline since autumn 09 to do controlled detecting at Fleet Marston but I await the call from the project manager [PreConstruct/CGMS] for the site as to when this will be. I look forward to a more interesting and productive survey this time.

Ros Tyrrell,
Finds Liaison Officer
Portable Antiquities Scheme