

Grim Sweepers®

*History in the
ground is there
to be found*



Metal Detecting C.I.C.

**Information for Novice
Detectorists**

Thank you, in advance, for taking the time to read this leaflet. Hopefully the following information will give you a better insight into us, our hobby and equipment and, most importantly, to address any worries or concerns you may have about our activities.



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Metal Detecting



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The Detectorists (Grim Sweepers Metal Detecting C.I.C. – GSMD C.I.C.)

GSMD C.I.C. is for enthusiastic detectorists in Cornwall, by invitation. The founder, Chris Horner, set up the group to help those new to the hobby get valuable insight into the how's, whys and wherefores associated with metal detecting. Chris has now developed the group into a community interest company (C.I.C.) in order to open the experience to those living with poor mental health, by way of respite from their daily struggles (see "GSMD C.I.C." for more).

Chris has been metal detecting for over 15 years, with most of his early experience gained in the North East, and East, of England – allowing him access to some of the country's most popular detecting sites ranging from Northumberland, through York to Lincolnshire.

Metal detectorists, as a whole, simply have a love for finding and collecting old things! Mistakenly referred to as "treasure hunters", GSMD C.I.C. members simply collect coins and artefacts from our past. Most finds have little, if any, financial value; however, finds are declared to the landowner and we are more than happy to present finds for independent valuation, should the landowner request more information on the item(s).

GSMD C.I.C. normally try to detect once a week, with five to ten attendees (work and weather permitting); we rely on the goodwill of landowners and farmers to grant permission to detect on their land, when fields are in a suitable condition. Detectorists prefer fields that are ploughed on a regular basis; however, any land that has been ploughed in the past 15-20 years can be productive (from a detecting viewpoint).

GSMD C.I.C. are willing to pay the landowner for a day's detecting – some farmers prefer that money goes directly to a charity of their choice; whilst others are happy to be compensated in other ways (such as a bottle of a favourite tippie, if appropriate). An agreement to split finds 50:50 is also standard practice.

All are members of the NCMD which has a code of conduct and liability insurance cover for up to £10 million pounds, as well as active participation in the Portable Antiquities Scheme.

GSMD C.I.C. Metal Detecting

Our mission is to bring the joy and tranquillity of metal detecting to people of all ages, who are experiencing mental health issues in their everyday life.

Through the guided metal detector activity, participants benefit from being out in nature, learning a new skill and most importantly building relationships with people from their community and the community of metal detectorists.

Metal detecting is an immersive experience, where the senses are focused on the metronomic sweep of the detector and the anticipation of discovery. This process brings about a release from low level mental health issues such as stress, anxiety and depression.



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We advocate an approach which is based in mindfulness techniques, bring people into the moment and away from the issues their mental health illness locks them into.

The service is open to people of all ages experiencing mental health issues and disadvantage as a result. We have worked closely with local support agencies to develop referral routes from Man Down CIC, CHICKS, Kernow Carers and the “Together for Families” initiative; as well as referrals from GP Social Prescription and Positive People (CHAOS Café).

Participants include people:

- who have been referred from GP Social Prescription;
- who experience poor mental health;
- who are young carers and would benefit from outdoor activities, by way of respite from their caring role;
- including families in vulnerable situations as a result of crime, poverty or health;
- who want to go outdoors/be active, but are restricted due to lack of access to transport.

Sessions are delivered as one-to-one or group sessions, based on the needs of the individual. We provide a minimum of six (and up to eight) sessions per individual, again dependant on needs and the positive response they have to the activities.

We asked fellow metal detectorists, via social media “How does metal detecting make you feel?” and received over 200 responses, who all said the same thing – whether they have PTSD, depression, anxiety – it’s their escape. They spend time outside, on their own but also making new friends and getting support from others. So if you’re reading this having joined us through one of the support agencies – you’re not alone, we hope you find it as helpful for yourself as we all do. 😊

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National Council for Metal Detecting (NCMD)

All members of GSMD C.I.C. and those who may, from time to time, detect with the group, are individual members of NCMD.

“The National Council for Metal Detecting is a representative body of elected volunteers formed in 1981 to provide a means whereby responsible metal detector users would have a democratic forum to discuss problems affecting the hobby and to provide an authoritative voice to counter ill-informed and frequently misleading criticism of the hobby.

It does not represent the trade or archaeological interests.

The NCMD has gained Government recognition as an organisation which represents metal detector users countrywide. It has played a major role in representing the views of metal detector users to Government Departments regarding legislation affecting the hobby.

The NCMD is a member of the Sport & Recreation Alliance (formerly the Central Council for Physical Recreation).”

NCMD requires each member to observe the Constitution, to adhere to the NCMD Code of Conduct and be free from conviction for any criminal offence relating to metal detecting activities.

As members of NCMD, GSMD C.I.C. are covered by a generic liability insurance policy, which is currently (correct at time of printing) underwritten by Hiscox.

For more information, please visit: www.ncmd.co.uk

www.sportandrecreation.org.uk

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The Portable Antiquities Scheme

We all fully support this scheme.

“The Portable Antiquities Scheme is a voluntary scheme to record archaeological objects found by members of the public in England and Wales. Every year many thousands of objects are discovered, many of these by metal-detector users, but also by people whilst out walking, gardening or going about their daily work. Such discoveries offer an important source for understanding our past.”

All finders of gold and silver objects, and groups of coins from the same spot, that are over 300 years old, have a legal obligation to report such items under the Treasure Act 1996.

This does not mean the exact location of the finds, the landowner or farm name have to be declared.

Please also visit: www.finds.org.uk

Reporting Finds

GSMD C.I.C. regularly report our find to the local finds liaison officer; should any of our members ever be so lucky enough to make a find that comes under the category of “treasure”, the system works like this...

The finds liaison officer is the detectorists point of contact who will notify the local coroner, who will, in turn, open an inquest. The result of the inquest will normally depend on the report which is written by the British Museum, who will guide the coroner to his decision. If the find is of value/interest to the British Museum, or even a local museum, it will normally be declared a “treasure trove”; when that happens, the Treasure Valuations Committee will assess the find. Upon valuation, the finder will be awarded that amount, and in turn (where there is an agreement in place with the landowner) the finder will split the monies in accordance with that agreement.

GSMD C.I.C. is aware of a detectorist from a group based in the North East of England, who found a 13th Century ring – the valuation was expected to reach five figures!

Please note that these are once in a lifetime finds – don’t hold your breath!!



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Treasure Valuations Committee

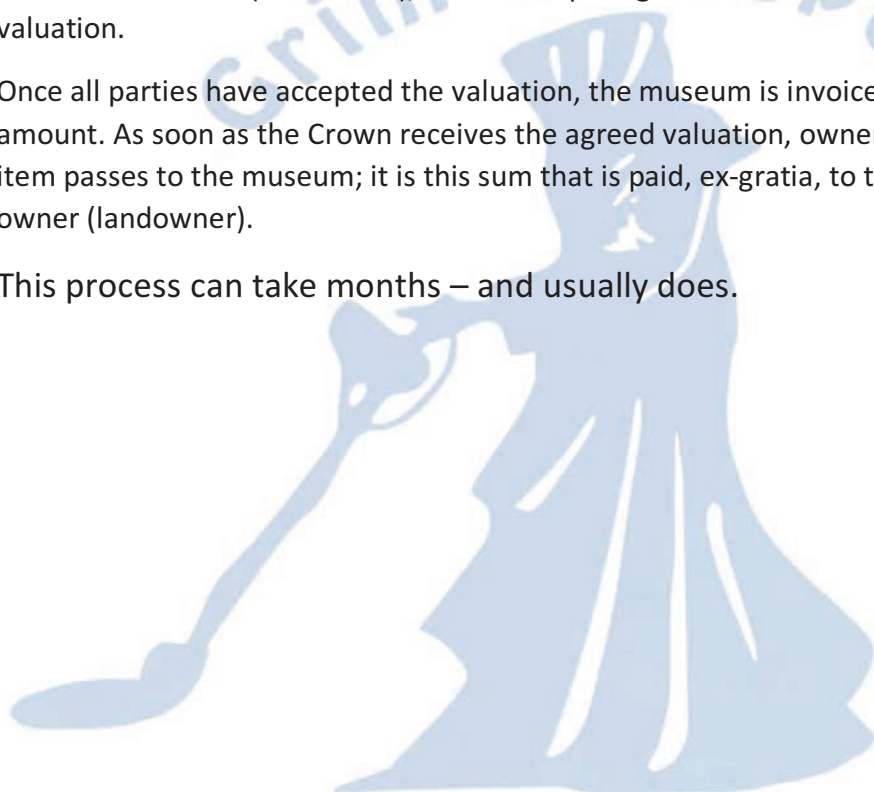
To encourage responsible behaviour by detectorists, the likely market value of each Treasure Find is established by the independent Treasure Valuation Committee.

The Committee is made up of experts in various types of antiquity likely to be inspected, an official from the leading metal detectorist body, and an expert on museums and their collections.

The Committee values each Treasure Find on the basis of 'willing buyer / willing seller' and expects Treasure Finds to have only had a light cleaning to help its identification. The finder, the find site owner (landowner), and the acquiring museum are all informed of the valuation.

Once all parties have accepted the valuation, the museum is invoiced for the agreed amount. As soon as the Crown receives the agreed valuation, ownership of the Treasure item passes to the museum; it is this sum that is paid, ex-gratia, to the finder and find site owner (landowner).

This process can take months – and usually does.



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Our Equipment

The technology for metal detectors, as for almost all electrical equipment, has advanced at an incredible rate over the past few years. Programmes can even be sent via email from one machine to another now. The complex programmes can be adapted to suit given soil conditions, weather and above ground field types (stubble, ploughed, grass, etc.). All of the machines used by GSMD C.I.C. reject iron objects, as they are of no interest to a metal detectorist.

The digital displays also help to determine the size, depth and metal type of an individual target, which we can then pin point using another device, to retrieve it from a relatively small area; the equipment can work at various depths and we usually work up to 12 inches deep. These smart machines can be programmed to reject any false targets a particular field may have, such as iron; but even ring pulls from drinks cans, if your focus is copper. This doesn't work all the time, but that's where it gets interesting and you start learning much more about the equipment and your skills develop.

Our machines do not interfere with any other electrical equipment, cause no damage to crops and because we work with headphones, they cause no disturbance to livestock and neighbours.

XP Deus



MINELAB EQUINOX 800



Metal Detecting



Pro Pointer



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Coins of Britain

Many hundreds of coin types have been in circulation throughout Britain since the first coins appeared in our country in about 150 BC. The first coins were made in the northern Gaul (Belgica) and imported mainly to the south east areas of England; these are known as Gallo-Belgic staters and are derived from coins on the Macedonian gold staters of Phillip II (359-356 BC).

Coin production began in Britain at the very end of the second century BC, made from both gold and silver, their exact use at the time is unknown.

The different tribes that ruled Britain soon had their own identifiable coins, which were in circulation when the Roman conquest of Britain began in 43 AD. The initial military contact between the two cultures had taken place almost a century before, and commercial integration developed quickly, as is evident from the Romanisation of the British Celtic coinage in the final decades of their production. Roman coinage was imported originally, but it didn't take long for mints to open across Britain. Coins in silver and bronze are quite common, with occasional gold coins, being found from this period.

With the withdrawal of the Romans early in the fifth century, and the gradual decline in the administration, there was rapid deterioration of the money supply. In the mid-600's, gold tremisses started to appear and later silver coins were introduced.

Most of the Anglo-Saxon Kings from 780 onwards, produced their own coinage and we can identify the individuals, the mints and towns they were produced in.

Even when William I arrived in Britain in 1066, he kept the Anglo-Saxon mint system. William I coins are rare but do turn up in different locations around the UK. It was not until the 12th century that a gradual transition from regional to centralised minting took place, at this time there were approximately 70 mints operating in Britain. These hammered coins were made of silver and gold and this system of hammering the coins remained until the reign of Charles II, although some "milled" coins were produced during the reign of Queen Elizabeth I. Thereafter, all coins were mass produced milled coins, and the introduction of copper and bronze coins became very common place.

In 1947, to repay the bullion lent by the USA during the 1939-1945 war, the last of our silver coins were replaced with cupro-nickel coins of the same type and weight.



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Rulers of England Through the Ages 1066-1685



William I

William II

Henry I

Stephen

Henry II

Richard I

John



Henry III

Edward I

Edward II

Edward III

Richard II

Henry IV

Henry V



Henry VI

Edward IV

Edward V

Richard III

Henry VII

Henry VIII

Edward VI



Mary with Phillip

Elizabeth I

James I

Charles I

Cromwell

Charles II



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Hammered Coins of England



William I Silver Penny



William II Silver Penny



Edward IV Sixpence



Henry VIII Groat (Four Pence)



James I Ryal

The Rose Ryal was a large gold coin struck during James I reign (1604-1619). It was worth 30 shillings (33 after 1612) and twice the value of the Spur Ryal. Similar in design to the Tudor sovereign, it has a rose on the reverse with the King enthroned on the obverse, instead of the usual head.



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20 BENEFITS OF METAL DETECTING

01 REDUCES
STRESS LEVELS

02 INCREASES
ENERGY LEVELS

03 GETS THE
BLOOD PUMPING

04 IMPROVES
YOUR SOCIAL LIFE

20 INCREASES
FUNCTIONING OF THE
LUNGS

05 HELPS TO
MAINTAIN YOUR
WEIGHT

19 CAN IMPROVE
QUALITY OF SLEEP

06 CAN REDUCE
THE CHANCE OF
DIABETES

18 STRENGTHENS
BONES AND MUSCLES

07 HELPS PREVENT
OBESITY

17 HELPS TO BOOST
YOUR MOOD

08 INCREASES THE
BODY'S EXPOSURE TO
VITAMIN D

16 CAN IMPROVE
BLOOD PRESSURE

09 CAN HELP
REDUCE THE RISK OF
HEART DISEASE

15 WALKING CAN
SPARK CREATIVITY

10 CAN HELP
REDUCE ANXIETY

14 IMPROVES
QUALITY OF LIFE

11 GIVES YOU TIME TO
PRACTICE SELF-CARE

13 CAN HELP BOOST
YOUR IMMUNE SYSTEM

12 IMPROVES
COORDINATION AND
BALANCE



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