



Rally Roundup

Daniel Spencer



Let's Go Digging

The Let's Go Digging team and it's members were back at Slimbridge for the fourth time in as many months and on new undetected pasture.

The five large fields were expected to produce Roman finds predominantly after the previous trips to the area provided many finds of interest for the Portable Antiquities Scheme to record. Prior to the event and on the day it was made clear, all Roman finds MUST be recorded regardless of condition.

Chris briefed the masses as to where we could and couldn't go and we headed off. The majority went straight towards the areas expected to produce most of the finds and it was quite early on that this proved a good decision.

Roman bronze coins were popping up left right and centre, with some detectorists finding five or six in the first few hours. This was no mean feat either as this pasture was boggy and holes deeper than 10-12" were prone to filling with water!

One person who didn't let this bother him too much was Michael 'Badger' Butler! His Minelab CTX had picked up a deep target which sounded like iron.

This target was on the edge of the 'Roman coin' field so the chances of it being something good was better than normal. The problem was, at 3' deep there was more water and mud than anything else so he had to use a bucket as a pail to clear the area. Eventually he admitted defeat but not before feeling that the item was in fact iron but an unusual shape hence the odd original signal.

A lovely condition Victoria half sovereign popped up during the day and was the first gold coin. A Henry VIII hammered and part of a medieval silver with gold gilt dress pin was also found alongside the numerous Roman coins and brooches.

The raffle for a new XP Deus was won by Eamonn Quilty and supplied by LP Metal Detecting and various envelopes with cash/free dig entries were also drawn.

A big thanks to the farmer and his wife who on the day cooked up homemade sausages and served, tea, coffee and mulled wine.

Thanks to Paul, Chris and Morley at LGD for inviting Sid and I along for the day. To join LGD please visit www.letsgodigging.com

