

# Past Times

January 2024

Chippenham & District Metal Detecting Club (CDMDC) Newsletter



## CHIPPENHAM MUSEUM DISPLAY

Finds found by club members Kate Mennell and Matt Fenn are now on display to the public at the museum in Chippenham.

Matt's find is a fragment of a possible Early Medieval (Viking) gold 'finger shaped' ingot, dating to c. AD 870-950. It is a short, heavily marked, slightly bent, solid cylindrical length of gold, which appears to have been hammered. It weighs 6.88g and acquired through the treasure act.

Kate's find a cast copper alloy figurine, probably from a processional cross like the one shown in fig 1 dates to AD 1400 - 1530. The figurine depicts a draped, standing male figure holding a book in the left hand. Kate's find was donated by the land owner.

WILT-23546D



DATE: late 8th century CE, Viking

FOUND: Langley Burrell

This small ingot of 'hack gold' dates to the Early Medieval (Viking) period. The use of cut fragments of silver as bullion in Viking England was relatively common in the period, but the use of gold is more unusual. Gold and silver items which had been taken in raids were cut up into pieces, which were valued by weight and then distributed. If you look closely you can see a possible test mark close to the break. The 'hack gold' is likely associated with the Viking attack on King Alfred's base in Chippenham in 878CE.

Found by Matt Fenn

WILT-799CC0

British Museum



Fig:1

OBJECT: Figure

DATE: 15th Century, late Medieval

FOUND: Bremhill

This small figure is holding a copy of the Bible, identifying it as John the Evangelist. It would have originally been part of a cross like the example shown nearby from the British Museum. It is made from copper alloy that has been gilded. Such crosses would have multi-uses and could be placed on the altar or on a staff during processions. They would have been a common site in churches before the Reformation that separated the Church of England from Rome, after which many devotional objects were destroyed.

Found by Kate Mennell and donated by Helen Stuckey

## FINDS FROM THE FIELDS OF LUCKINGTON



Left: 13thC Harness Pendant- Mimzy

Above: Roman key-Matt

Right: clod shot Roman brooch-Jon



## LUCKINGTON RALLY JANUARY 14 2024

A big thank you from all the club members to land owners Mr & Mrs Godwin for allowing the short notice rally held on Luckington fields. Due to old age an infirmity a few members could not attend but 14 or more did attend.

£106.50 was raised and will eventually make it's way to our main charity the Wiltshire Air Ambulance Reg. Charity No. 1144097.

### Mission Control



Call outs in 30 days

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Contact for the club - [cdmdc@btinternet.com](mailto:cdmdc@btinternet.com)