



GETTING PERMISSIONS & KEEPING THEM

With the rise of the prominent 'pay to play' groups offering substantial cash incentives to landowners and the negative perception caused by 'nighthawking', obtaining permission to detect on land is becoming increasingly difficult. As a detectorist, a hesitant approach when seeking new fields will not suffice.

Like discovering a valuable coin or artefact, luck plays a significant role in securing permissions. Survey the area you are interested in and walk the paths. If luck is on your side, you might encounter a walker who knows the farmer or the farmer himself.

One club member did this just last month and was fortunate on three occasions. He met a farmer whose wife had lost her wedding ring, a walker who had a small paddock (future projects), and then another farmer who granted permission to search a small field.

This field yielded some finds, including the cow horn protector shown mounted above. This personalised gift was made (courtesy of R Bennett) and presented to the farmer this month. The farmer has now granted permission for more of his fields to be searched when available.

Writing letters to farmers is acceptable, but the likelihood of receiving a positive response is very low. Knocking on the farm door at the right time and knowing the farmer's name will improve your chances threefold. Keeping up to date with permissions you already have should be a priority. There is nothing worse than discovering that the field you are searching on has been sold, rented out, or that the farmer has passed away, resulting in an irate individual with a shotgun confronting you. It is always prudent to inform everyone you converse with that you have liability insurance.



2023 ARMD Find of the Year Competition

The entries for this event were as follows:-



Coin 1

- Coin 1 - Celtic Unit
- Coin 2 - Gold Stater
- Coin 3 - Saxon Sceatt
- Coin 4 - Edward V Groat
- Coin 5 - Silver Celtic Unit

- Artefact 1 - Gold Posey Ring
- Artefact 2 - Bronze Age Spear head
- Artefact 3 - Silver saxon Hand pin

- Hoard 1 - 9 Socketed Axe Heads
- Hoard 2 - Bronze Age Founders Hoard



The winning coin went to Keith Browning of the Cardiff Scan Club.



Artefact 3

CONGRATULATIONS

A big congratulations goes out to Matthew Fenn for winning the 2023 ARMD Finds of the Year Competition in the Artefacts category

WHEN IS A TOKEN NOT A TOKEN

The term "love tokens" could mean many different things to many different people, but numismatically speaking, Love tokens are legal tender coins that were rubbed or sanded smooth on both sides, then engraved after the minting process was complete. Generally, someone removed the words and images from the reverse, or sometimes from both the obverse and the reverse of a coin. They then, ranging in skills from a high-quality craftsman to a DIYer, then engraved or punched pictures, initials, and messages on the cleared area.

It is believed that the love token originated in Great Britain as early as the 13th century with the practice of bending coins. When dealing with your favourite saint, in return for a favour, a coin was bent and a pledge was made. The bent coin, "a token of your pledge," became a physical reminder of your obligation



Love tokens found by club members



Queen Anne

The latest club love token found by Andrew



Sixpence
Love token or just bent that way?



Lead Token
Found by Michelle
Just lovely

