

The Portable Antiquities Scheme...

... is a national scheme to encourage the reporting of archaeological objects found by members of the public.

The Scheme has established a network of Finds Liaison Officers (FLOs) across the country. They can provide advice and record your finds within a national database for everyone to enjoy (finds.org.uk/database).

Which finds should be reported?

Your FLO is interested in all archaeological objects that you have found (dating up to approx. AD 1700). This includes not just metal but also pottery, flint, stone and anything else you may find.

Under **The Treasure Act 1996** you have a legal requirement to report any treasure finds within 14 days. Your FLO can help identify what is treasure and report the find to the coroner on your behalf.



What information will be recorded?

- An identification and description of the object
- A digital image
- Where and how it was found (*We ask for precise findspot information in the form of an Ordnance Survey national grid reference. Precise information on findspots and on finders is not visible online.*)

This information is entered into the database at finds.org.uk which already holds details of over 700,000 objects from across England and Wales. Help us to learn more about our heritage by reporting your finds!

Please note the information given to us is subject to the Freedom of information Act (2000) and the General Data Protection Regulation 2018

How long will this take?

Where possible, your FLO prefers to borrow your finds for a while, so they can be researched, photographed and recorded properly. They will be returned to you. You will be issued with a receipt whilst they are in the FLO's care.



What your FLO can do for you:

- Identify and record your objects, and provide you with a short report
- Advise on archaeological remains & features
- Provide advice & guidance on the Treasure Act & Metal Detecting Code of Practice



Roman tile fragments

- Advise about conservation and how to clean and store your finds.
- Put you in touch with your local heritage services such as the HER (Historic Environment Record) to find out more about your local area.
- Provide guidance for identifying findspots using Ordnance Survey grid references and online resources such as magic.defra.gov.uk



Finds Surgeries

West Berkshire Museum, Newbury

- 1st Saturday of the Month
- 3rd Wednesday of the Month

Maidenhead Heritage Centre

- 2nd Thursday of the Month

Berkshire Record Office

- 4th Thursday of the Month

Please contact the FLO in advance to arrange a suitable appointment and to confirm the surgery you wish to attend is going ahead.



Coin of Eadberht, 8th Century



Contact your FLO

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West & East Berkshire

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Newbury
West Berkshire
RG14 5AS

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Coley Avenue
Reading
RG1 6AF

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Portable Antiquities Scheme Website:
finds.org.uk
Information on what is Treasure and
the Treasure process:
finds.org.uk/treasure

THE
BRITISH
MUSEUM
A Partnership UK project



WestBerkshire
COUNCIL



Token, 17th Century

Archaeological Finds Recording & Identification in Berkshire



Roman nail-cleaner strap-end AD 350-400



Portable
Antiquities
Scheme
www.finds.org.uk