FOSSICKIN' ROUND

THE VICTORIAN SEEKERS CLUB BI-MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

Vol. 37 issue 5

September/October 2016

145oz nugget just found in Victoria

MINELAB GP 14

Goldsborough Camp Report
Kingower Camp Report
Tibborburra Special Trip Report
Recent Gold Finds
Care For Your Coils

Alex's 40g nugget found in W.A.



The Victorian Seekers Club Inc. (A0001477T)

Is a family oriented organization, the objectives of which are to promote friendship, cooperation and exchange of ideas among people interested in prospecting and metal detecting. To realize these aims, we have meetings, lectures, discussions and practical demonstrations to help members acquire the skills required to make prospecting and metal detecting an enjoyable and rewarding pastime. We arrange outings to the goldfields and other prospecting sites, beaches, camps, ghost towns etc, to search for gold, coins, relics, gemstones and other natural and man made objects of value and / or of interest. In addition, we also have functions to foster social contacts among members. Our conduct is governed by a strict code of ethics including avoiding trespassing on private property or damaging the natural environment, hence our motto:

"Seek, But Do Not Destroy"

Membership is open to adult persons and their minor children without regard to race, creed or political persuasion, who are interested in these pursuits and prepared to abide by our Constitution and Rules of Conduct. VSC has general meetings on the first Wednesday of each month (except January) at the Mulgrave Senior Citizens and Community Centre, 355 Wellington Road Mulgrave, and at a field trip each month and, in addition, we also have some occasional day outing.

Annual Membership Fees
Family Membership: \$65.00
Single Membership: \$40.00

One-off joining fee: \$10.00 single, \$20.00 family.

Subscriptions are due and payable from the 1st of July each year.

Members whose current subscription are in arrears on the first day of September shall automatically cease to be members and can only be readmitted upon payment of both the annual subscription and a joining fee.

Website: http://seekers.metapath.org/email: eric.grummett@bigpond.com PO Box 15, Mt Waverley BC, VIC 3149

Committee of Management

PRESIDENT: Lindsay TRICKER,

Club management/ representation, Chairperson.

VICE PRESIDENT: Eric GRUMMETT
President's deputy, arranging speakers.

SECRETARY: John CLOSE

Correspondence, meetings, admin. TREASURER: Warren IBBOTTSON

Budget, finance matters (other than subscriptions)

NEWSLETTER EDITOR: Ian SEMMENS

Compiling & setting out Newsletter, & distribution

MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY: Robyn IBBOTTSON

Subscriptions, membership records

RESEARCH OFFICER: Rob SHANNON Information about outings, field activity.

CATERING SUPERVISOR: Jim & Maureen LAUNDY

SOCIAL SECRETARIES: Val LIPPINGWELL
Tina WHELAN

Organizing social functions, raffles, theatre bookings, etc.

ALMONER: Louise McGOUGH

Contact on matters of personal nature, weddings, bereavement, etc.

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY:

Nola PAPPAS

Corin Seneviratne

CLOTHING OFFICER: Nuvolari Mario SENEVIRANT

LIBRARY: Peter MAFFEY

 $\textbf{FIELD OFFICERS:} \ \ \mathsf{Bob} \ \ \mathsf{LAKE}, \ \mathsf{Mick SCHOTT}, \ \mathsf{Brian McGOUGH},$

Graham MEE & Alistair McKNIGHT

Events Calendar

September

Wed. 7th: General Meeting & AGM Thurs. 14th - Tues. 19th: Camp Chute

October

Wed. 5th: General Meeting.

Thurs. 6th - Tues.11th: Camp Tarnagulla
NOTE: change of date for the above camp
Fri. 7th - 9th Laanecorrie Gold Bash Laanecorrie

Sat. 22nd: PMAV AGM Rawson

Thurs. 27th - Nov. 1st Camp Moliagul, Melbourne Cup

Weekend

November

Wed. 2nd: General Meeting

Thurs. 17th - 22nd: Camp Talbot (Norburys Road)

December

Wed. 7th: General Meeting.

Sun. 11th: Xmas Break up Party Wicks Reserve Sun. 25th Dec. - Tues. 3rd Jan. Xmas Camp

Moonambel

January

No General Meeting. Camp **TBA**

- Battery Repair
 Including the Minelab
 GPX Li-ion battery
 10% discount for VSC members
- Replacement Batteries For a wide range of devices.



- ers
- Solar Panel Kits
- Batteries
 - Accessories



Hye Trading Power P/L
Unit 5, 35 Lacey Street
Croydon Vic., 3136
T (03) 9725 1822
M 0407 021 966 (John)
email:sales@hye.com.au
www.hye.com.au

President's Report

by Lindsay Tricker

This newsletter marks the beginning of our club's 37th year. Our membership numbers are holding at around the 200 mark with losses in natural attrition being replaced by keen new members.

The A.G.M will see a few changes within the committee. Our Secretary, John Close is stepping down after 3 years. We extend our heart-felt gratitude to John for his efforts during this time. Much has changed during this period in the functions of the secretary. John has undertaken to assist the incoming secretary in any way possible. Many thanks John. Peter Maffey is also stepping down as Librarian now he has become an octogenarian! But knowing Peter he will no doubt continue to take an active role in club activities. Thanks Peter, we appreciate your wise counsel and leadership qualities.

During the year one of the troubling issues the club faced was the indecisiveness of Parks Victoria's Permit issuing section. Their procrastination in dealing with our request for information concerning their policy in respect to the issue of permits for camping and whether they would attract a fee was some six months in arriving. When it did arrive, the letter basically said that there were only two places in the list we supplied in which we were permitted to detect, the bulk of the places detecting being banned! This was patently incorrect as detecting is permitted in these areas. Representations were made on our behalf and at the time of writing the matter appears to be heading to a resolution whereby clubs like ours may no longer have to obtain a permit or pay a fee for the right to camp on public lands controlled by Parks Victoria. Clubs will merely be required to notify Parks Victoria when and where we intend to camp. This will certainly ease the burden on committee members planning future camps.

While gold continues to be elusive, some large nuggets have been found by members during the last year. I was recently shown 157 gram nugget found in Victoria by a lucky new member. The shift in venue of our Fryerstown Easter camp to the old cricket ground received much favourable comment from members who appreciated the large level area. This camp has of recent years attracted

Vic Seekers
Vic Seekers

U
H
F

almost 100 members. The Christmas/New year camp at Moonambel likewise received good review from members attending due to its safety from the threat of bushfires and the availability of power, showers, toilets, and air-conditioned meeting room.

I wish to take the opportunity to thank all members of the committee for their individual efforts and time they have devoted to the successful running of the club during the last year. I have already mentioned Peter and John who both work outside their designated roles; Peter often running the raffles at general meetings and camp, while John brings and collects fire-wood (with welcome assistance) at camps. Tina Whelan works quietly in the background, but you will note that the raffle prizes are always present along with the prepared raffle tickets, not to mention her home for the committee meetings along with a batch of hot scones! Val is busy arranging club theatre nights often preceded by a dinner, or tours of interesting places. Ian Semmens continues to produce the best club newsletter in Australia and this year was instrumental in setting up the new re-vamped web-site. Two new positions were also created on committee as a result with Nola Pappas and Corin Seneviratne being trained to input the information on the club web-site. Warren has continued to manage the club's finances and also the club membership which he does in a very professional manner. Our almoners, research officers, club clothing officer, catering officer and field officers all perform vital functions which is the oil which makes the club run smoothly. Without these committee members the duties of vice-president Eric (with his invaluable years of experience), and that of president which requires organization and planning skills, would be a fruitless exercise. Finally, I wish to thank all members for their support. The club is only as good as its membership. Working together as a cohesive group is what arguably makes us the biggest and best club in Aus-



3

General Meetings

By Eric Grummett

At our July meeting we were given a rather eloquent description by Alex Eram of his trip to WA with a tour group, and his great find of a lovely 40gm nugget. He certainly let us know how exciting the experience was, which was also received by the group he was with by all the dancin' and prancin' he performed at the time. Needless to say we forced the Find of the Month award onto him.

Ian Semmens followed Alex's act with an in depth talk on the history and display of cricket belt buckles, which many of us regularly found in the 80's in the goldfield, but are rarely found these days. It was customary to be worn by cricketers during the period 1860-1880's as a decoration which was attached to a colorful canvas belt. It is thought that they were introduced by the visiting English cricket teams that toured Aust. in that period, led by the famous player W.G. Grace, who is actually featured on some. There are 100's of different designs, many of which Ian has been able to photograph. These buckles are very collectable, and some fetch high prices on E Bay. For more information, read Doug Stone's new book 'Coin & Relics' P162.

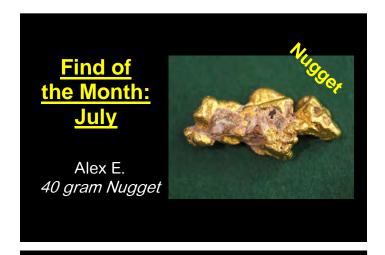
Talk about the great man, we had the pleasure of having Doug Stone at the August meeting to release his new book 'Coin & Relic Detecting in Australia', which is a very in depth study of all those items we have been finding over the many years in the gold fields, parks, beaches and other historic areas. The book also gives advice on where to hunt and how to retrieve the targets with minimal impact. He also describes the advantages of many new detectors available and their capabilities to read the targets, which will save a lot of digging, and thus less disturbance to the environment. The book has hundreds of photos of the many and varied items we have found over the years, (some belonging to our club members) which gives the coin and relic hunter a definitive reference to their finds. Many club members bought copies of the book on the night for which Doug donated \$10 back to our club.

Find of month went to Paul Hart for his Tibooburra 3gm nugget.

Next month is AGM night so no speaker, as we will need to have the night to sort out all the nominations for committee positions (hopefully).



Doug Stone addressing a packed room for the August meeting









Great looking rocks found by members on the Tibborburra trip on display at July's meeting.



A great birthday cake for some lucky prospector.





VICTORIAN SEEKERS CLUB INC.

NOMINATION FORM FOR OFFICE BEARER For the year 2016-2017

......

To be handed over to the Club's Secretary no less than 7 days prior to the AGM on 7th September 2016

Vacant positions:

President
Vice president
Secretary
Treasurer
Membership secretary
Social secretary
Research officer
Newsletter editor

Information Technology Officer Catering supervisor Almoner, Librarian, Catering supervisor Field officers



•NUGGET STORIES
•MEMBER'S FINDS (GOLD AND RELIC)
•NEWS ARTICLES
•VIDEOS
•AND MUCH MORE!

For those members who have not yet paid their annual subscription

This will be the last Newsletter that you will receive.

July Camp Report

Goldsborough

By Ken Whittaker

Who said it was going to be too wet & cold? Both Thursday & Friday it was 9 deg. at 7PM. Most days overcast with occasional sunny break, Sunday morning was misty but looked forward to a sunny 15 deg. Beautiful!

A good camp site as usual. There were 22 people with approximately 14 camps. For the keen football fan mobile phone reception provided for the footy scores.

For a while the ladies ruled with some little bits of gold until Peter M topped us all with an enormous, nice, shiny 1.3 grammer. Overall only smaller bits this time.

We had visitors from the PMAV, Jim & Pat, who declared their enjoyment of the camp overall and in particular the Saturday night camp fire and raffle which proved to be a winner again. Our camp Captain Peter M, was jokingly stressed with the very tightly screwed up raffle tickets which required sharp fingernails to undo. Nevertheless he was very appreciative of his "helpers" - thank you people.

Ron H provided some amusement at happy hour as usual, particularly with his new drinking utensil, a cup shaped top half for the "before 5PM time and a wine goblet bottom half for the after 5 PM time. He slipped up on Friday though at 4.37PM.

Evidently just up the road there was one of those "faults" or "indicators" that we were told about on the Andrew Bales DVD. I couldn't find it.

A funny incident at Monday happy hour. Peter M copied my trick and dropped a small nugget at the camp fire. He and Ron got it back after a comical search in the dust. Looking forward to Kingower.





Early Saturday night camp fire scene.

Peter & Ron looking for the lost nugget around the campfire..



Saturday night camp fire scene.



August Camp Report

Kingower

By Paul Hart

The Kingower camp started off a little slowly but things seemed to get better as the camp went on. On Sunday I counted about 12 tents and camper vans and about 17 caravans. One very new van in particular attracted a lot of envious glances and was a topic of many discussions around the camp fire. Someone cheekily put a "for sale" sign on this van but I don't believe any suitable offers were made.

The first few days were a little damp and cold but did not seem to stop anyone getting out and having a look for the ever elusive yellow metal. A lot of members were reporting difficult detecting conditions with wet ground and atmospherics upsetting our detectors. However some gold was found and in the spirit of the Olympics I have awarded bronze, silver and gold awards as follows. Bronze to a very pleased Ron H who found a 1 gram piece not too far from the camp site. Silver went to a seasoned professional Barry S, who found a very nice almond shaped and sized nugget. Last but far from least, the gold medal went to a visitor who was kind enough to come to the camp on Saturday morning and show us a recent find. It was 357 g (about 11.5 oz) and was by coincidence, roughly the color, size and shape of an Olympic gold medal.

On the weekend there were quite a few non club people who were detecting in the same area as us. Lesley came across a gentleman from NSW who was using a "divining rod" to look for gold. He claimed that oscillations in the rod would indicate the size of the target and how much the rod bent would indicate the depth. He had dug a 1 m hole in the ground and Lesley reported that he eventually gave up with nothing to show for his efforts.

On Saturday night we had a huge fire thanks largely to John and others who supplied a lot of wood. Lindsay gave an update for the benefit of those who can't attend out Melbourne meetings and we had the usual raffle which collected \$160. Shirley and Kaye celebrated their birthdays and about 35 of us were able to enjoy some birthday cake.

Sunday morning saw the start of some very nice weather and the token hunt was set up by Lars. There were only a couple of us in attendance. Bill found the first \$10 token and I was fortunate to find the other one. I then gave my detector to new member Jim who proceeded to find the \$20 token (which was cunningly hidden under some old steel cans).

Over all, gold was very hard to find and quite a few of us did not find any but we all had a good time anyway.

7

Kingower Camp Photos



Mick digging up what could be his next nugget?



The two Geoff's and Barry having a yarn about the days prospects.

Peter G. putting another log on the fire.

Thanks to Rob S. & Craig W. for the photos



Wild orchid in full bloom.







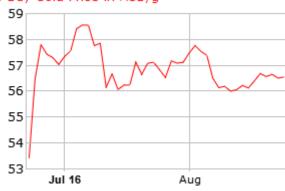
Round the campfire at Kingower.

Gold Price Report

by Ian Semmens.



60 Day Gold Price in AUD/g



Special Event

Moliagul Camp Melbourne Cup W/E Hot Chicken Dinner



Free Hot Chicken Dinner.
Saturday 1st Nov. Evening Dinner.
Bring yourself, salad and/or desert.
Plus:

- Special Cup W/E Raffle
- Cup Sweepstakes
- "Fashions on the Field"

Dress up for judging of this fun event. We have had some great appearances in the past events.

Members WA trip

We have currently about 8 members who are travelling around Western Australia mainly prospecting with a bit of sight seeing thrown in.



5 o'clock drinks, Leinster



Alistairs nugget



Lasseters
Cave.
Anja &
Alistair
checked it
out but
there was
no gold
lying
around.

News



Massive 145-Ounce Gold Nugget found with GPZ 7000 in Victoria

From Minelab's Website

The 'Friday's Joy' gold nugget is expected to bring more than \$250,000 AUD. It was discovered in a worked-over area at the far southern edge of Central Victoria's Golden Triangle on a recent Friday morning by a seasoned prospector wishing to remain anonymous. After discovering a 9-ounce tennis ball-shaped gold nugget more than two feet deep with his Minelab GPZ 7000 the previous day, he went back for more.

"I thought it was rubbish at first, maybe an old horseshoe," said the prospector. "About 12 inches below the ground, I could just barely make out the top of something. As I began to scrape away the clay and dig deeper, I really couldn't believe my eyes - this wasn't an old piece of steel in front of

me. I had just unearthed a colossal gold nugget - a once in a lifetime find! I was in total disbelief as I didn't think nuggets of this size were still around.

Prospecting on weekends for over ten years in search of coins, relics and gold, the keen detectorist had made a pact with a couple of his closest mates, also avid hobbyists, pledging an oath to split the proceeds on any large gold finds found when the group went prospecting together. After alerting his cohorts and having a few celebratory beers, the next order of business was to decide what to do with the nugget. "It's like catching a big fish and not knowing what to do with it! Where do we put it? I washed it in water, covered it in aluminium foil and kept it in my oven on the first night."



Doug Stone

Gold Maps

Australia's leading books on gold prospecting and goldfields maps.

Doug's latest book has just been released - "Coin & Relic Detecting in Australia" which is the companion to Doug's popular "Metal Detecting for Gold in Australia".

www.dougstonegoldmaps.com.au

A bit life changing, but it doesn't mean he's going to quit his job and retire. Rather, he plans to purchase a van and travel Australia when time allows, mixing travel and sightseeing with his love of detecting and prospecting. As for the nugget, which is now sitting in a bank vault, a replica is currently being constructed and auction plans are in the works.

"We're thrilled that a Minelab customer has made such an amazing and important discovery. This is a historic find on par with a nugget like 'Cindy's Pride' and eclipsing Mick Brown's recent 'Fair Dinkum' nugget," said Fraser Kendall, Minelab's regional sales and marketing director. "He was prospecting in an area that others had clearly worked over and this just goes to show that there's plenty of gold still coming out of Victoria."



The huge gold nugget tipping the scales

News



There is a new Aussie gold prospecting TV series called Aussie Gold Hunters by Quest TV that is now available for viewing now on Foxtel's Discovery Channel.

Join the hard-core gold prospectors of Outback Australia as they battle to strike it rich in gruelling conditions, extreme weather, and competitive pressure ...

You can watch Aussie Gold Hunters here http://www.questtv.co.uk/aussie-gold-hunters/ and on Quest Mondays at 9pm. #gold#goldrush#aussiegoldhunters

AGM in September

The next club's AGM will be at the General Meeting on Wednesday 7th September. Members are encouraged to take on a position to contribute to the club and to give the existing hardworking committee members a break. If you enjoy the club's activities then it is time to put something back into the club.

We especially need a Secretary, without which the club cannot function, so, if you have the talents and interest please let the committee know or use the nomination form in this newsletter.

Looking to sell your Gold ???

We will buy your panned gold, small and large nuggets and even jewelry.
We pay up to 3% **over** the Gold Spot Price.
Gold needs to be clean and will be tested.
You will be paid in **CASH** immediately.





<u>Laanecoorie Gold Bash</u> October 7-9

The Laanecoorie Bash was started in 2011 by a bunch of prospectors getting together at the Laanecoorie Caravan Park to talk prospecting and raise money for charity. Since then it has grown in size and numbers to now becoming the most popular annual prospecting expo event in Victoria. It is the place to go and see many of our prospecting equipment suppliers and obtain information about our hobby.

A large number of sponsors have donated huge amounts of their products for an Auction and a raffle to raise funds for the Peter McCallum Cancer Foundation, which made \$17000 last year.

Many events have been organized to entertain us: Friday night a get together at a fish dinner and a band playing 60-80s music, followed by a gold trivia around a huge pit fire.

Saturday will be a big day, as well as many of the suppliers represented and their products, there will be a gold buyer offering top dollar, and for \$10 you can have your gold (up to 2 oz) smelted into an ingot. There will be others offering gold, camping and 4wd displays and tours, detector settings and tuition, a gold panning competition, a 'stake you claim' event, lectures from Andrew Bales on 'how to find patches of gold' and the Police Search and Rescue advising us on dangers we may face in the bush. Parks Victoria will also be there to answer questions on parks. A large roast dinner for \$15 is offered on Saturday night followed by the raffle.

On Sunday much of the above will continue with the auction of donated goods taking place in the afternoon. For the history buffs, John Tully will be leading an historic tour of Tarnagulla in the morning. Breakfasts and lunches will be available, provided by a local volunteer group.

So, there is plenty of action happening to entertain us, and as we are camping just up the road at Tarnagulla, please support this very worthwhile event. Those that have been before have commented on what a great event it is, and get together with like- minded prospectors.

The bash is held at the Laanecoorie Caravan park in Brownbills Road, Laanecoorie

Recent Gold Finds



Photo of Rob S. holding the nugget at the Kingower camp. In his own words "Found two weeks ago by a good friend of mine, is this beautiful 372 gram (12 ounces) nugget, but more like 10 ounces once it gets cleaned up. It was 2 feet deep found on virgin ground somewhere in the golden triangle."







Gold find of 16oz found in Wedderburn



Another recent find in the Golden Triangle is this 6 oz nugget. Source: GPZ 7000 users group, Facebook

World's best Minelab detector upgrades and modifications.

We now provide the latest upgrades to all Minelab Pulse-Induction detectors. Lightweight battery systems, high quality boosters, and clip-on speakers are now available for all models.

New upgraded headphone inserts can be installed in your old headphones, the sound difference increases the response from both small and deep gold.



E detectormods@gmail.com





Yet another big nugget!



40oz and the largest piece is 2 oz's found with the 15" evolution coil.



1,200 grams of small gold.



This 60 ounce nugget was recently found in WA. Source: The Natural Gold Nugget & Jewellery Shop, Kalgoorlie



- Servicing Caravans, Campers and Motor Homes
- Insurance work including hail/storm damage quotes & repairs
- Air Conditioning & dedicated heating installations
- Sway control & ESC installations
- Refurbishments for older Caravans & Motor Homes

Phone 9761 4189

Rear 120 Canterbury Road, Bayswater www.thervrepaircentre.com.au sales@thervrepaircentre.com.au



Nugget Finder

Advantage Coils offer improved stability and sensitivity.

- Fully potted winding
- Epoxy reinforced polyurethane shaft mount
- Superior Litz wire
- Fully bonded construction
- 2 year warranty

July Special Camp Report

Tibooburra

By Lindsay Tricker

Eighteen members travelled to Tibooburra to attend the club's special excursion in July, meeting up at the local caravan park. Fortunately the weather was dry so road conditions on the approximately 60 kilometres of unsealed road north of Broken Hill were better than expected. The unsealed gravel sections had been recently graded so it was possible to travel at 80 km/h. Several road gangs were working at preparing kilometre long sections of roadway for asphalting with detours adjacent to the work area. Since last year a 1.5 kilometre section of roadway north of Packsaddle has been made into a landing strip for the Royal Flying Doctor. The roadway has been fitted with large gates at either end to close the roadway during an emergency.

When I arrived at Tibooburra the caravan park was almost full and Seeker members were spread out within the park. Powered sites were still available however and by the end of the week it was mainly club members left. To my knowledge all members found gold. I got 49 pieces for 9.4 grams over the week. I was working with a GPX 5000 matched with the new Nugget Finder 12" Evolution coil in fine gold setting. Francine working with a SDC 2300 finally caught gold fever and together with Francois did quite well during their stay.

The trip was not without incident however. One member who hadn't used his caravan for some five years found that the tyres had deteriorated and after experiencing two blow-outs, (luckily he was a 4 wheeler), he was obliged to replace four tyres. Another member, also a four-wheel caravan, had a wheel break its studs and come off. Two members had to cut their trip short and return home for family reasons.

The weather remained dry but quite cold. The majority of the time detecting was done in the 'common' where it is free while on two occasions we paid our \$10 per day per detector and went to Gumvale Station for the day. Most of the larger gold was found here. Francine spent a day assisting the mailman as chief gate opener and closer as they drove out past Cameron Corner and in so doing visited three States - N.S.W. S.A and Queensland. We learned some disconcerting news while there. Apparently the locals had a meeting in which they passed a resolution to charge visitors to Tibooburra a fee to detect in the 'common'. This is not the view of all business people however and the decision was being contested. I pointed out that such a move would be counter-productive and would cause visiting detector operators to seriously question the viability of Tibooburra as a holiday destination in future. This would impact seriously on the local economy. Hopefully common sense will prevail.

All in all, we had a very enjoyable tine and for those who missed out this year we will more than likely do it again in July next year.



Francios detecting at Tibooburra



Alex E. at Tibooburra



Detector Tips

TAKING CARE OF YOUR COILS

By Trevor Ferraresso from Coiltek



There have been several advancements in detector technology over the past 5 years which has reenergised the detecting industry and of course helped drive new innovations but the coils were keeping a low profile with no new winding technique being applied and the main focus was how can we make the detector better?

Many have overlooked the fact that one of the most important parts of the detector needed a revamp and change for the better. In late 2014 we introduced the flat winding to the market and the ELITE coils have adopted this new innovative technique and the improvement in performance has been outstanding when compared to older models. However, there still is a great need to ensure we look after our equipment before, during and after a detecting trip.

When I look at the detector set up I see the control box as the brains, the battery as the heart and the coil as the eyes and ears of the system. In some ways not unlike the human body, these systems rely on each other and need to work together to provide the operator with the best performance to achieve great things! The coil, being the eyes and ears, is looking and listening at the ground thousands of times per second and deals with a lot of information whilst in use. If you place a hand over one eye or block one ear you only get part of the information available, so if the coil is slightly compromised then the information heading to the detector is reduced as it can only work on the information provided.

So it is very important to look after the 'eyes and ears' of the detector to ensure the information coming back to the detector is not reduced. A regular check on your equipment is essential. This can include cable, plug and plastics inspections as well as other checks. Look for early signs of wear and tear and possible points of damage like cuts or cracks. Remember the coil takes the brunt of all the hard work you do and has been known to push rocks and branches out of the way, move some soil away from a dig area and also occasionally hit the ball for the dog as you swing in the park looking for the lost coins! All of this can contribute to coils developing extra noise and touch sensitivity.

The coils from most manufacturers are built to be quite robust and able to handle a lot of work but over use and excessive work for clearing debris can be at a detriment to the coils ability to detect in a smooth method and therefore reduce performance and result in a possible early trip back for repair or review to the manufacturer which can be frustrating and loss of detecting time with your new favourite coil!

My best suggestion when swinging the coil is to avoid, where possible, using the coil as a tool to clear debris out of the way and work the coil over the terrain smoothly and carefully. Don't swing too fast which will also help you keep good control of the whole detector and therefore tune in to the detectors audio better and minimise noisy, erratic behaviour. If you do like hunting with the coil right on the soil as they say, understand that not all ground conditions will provide smooth operation for this method as more mineralised soil types will be too 'hot' for the coils and sometimes they are best run just off the ground for maximum performance gain. There can also be rocky situations and if you are running on the ground then these rocks can also start to wear the coil performance down and bring in noise through minute vibrations induced in the windings, shielding and cable.

There are many variables and situations in a detecting field, whether it be in treasure hunting area or gold bearing area and the coils tend to be the part of the equipment which needs to deal with these variables with these variables first so making sure you treat your eyes and ears with respect and care will ensure you enjoy yourequipment for many years and it will reward you time and time again.

