

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 (www.findsdatabase.org.uk).

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 www.findsdatabase.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 www.magic.gov.uk



Finds Surgeries

- West Berkshire Museum on the second Wednesday of the month between 12.30-3.30pm by appointment.
- Berkshire Record Office every Thursday 12-4pm by appointment
- Drop-in surgery at Wokingham Library on the last Thursday of the month between 10-12pm

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

Helena Costas
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West & East Berkshire

West Berkshire Museum
The Wharf
Newbury
West Berkshire
RG14 5AS

Berkshire Record Office
Coley Avenue
Reading
RG1 6AF

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E-Mail:
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PAS Website:
www.finds.org.uk
Information on what is Treasure and the Treasure process:
www.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