

analysis conducted at the British Museum indicated an approximate silver content of 96 per cent. The stone was identified as a garnet by Raman spectroscopy.

Weight: 3.26g.

Disposition: Braintree District Museum, Essex.

J P ROBINSON



(Fig.91) Brenzett

91 Brenzett, Kent: Medieval gold finger-ring set with a garnet (?) (M&ME 248) (Fig. 91)

Date: 13th century

Finder: Mr M Longman

Date of discovery: (unrecorded – submitted to Dover Museum 14 July 2000)

Circumstances of discovery: While searching with a metal-detector.

Description: A medieval gold ring, set with a deep, red, oval stone likely to be a garnet or a ruby or possibly an amethyst. The hoop is of slender proportions and slightly bent out of shape.

Dimensions: Diameter: 22mm; stone measures 10mm x 6mm.

Disposition: Disclaimed; returned to finder.

J P ROBINSON

92 Bossingham, Kent: Medieval gold finger-ring (M&ME 297)

Date: 13th century

Finder: Mr Alan John Punyer

Date of discovery: 14 September 2000

Circumstances of discovery: While searching with a metal-detector.

Description: A medieval, gold ring; the original setting is lost and has been replaced by a modern stone.

Disposition: Disclaimed; returned to finder.

J P ROBINSON

93 Grantham area, Lincolnshire: Medieval gold finger-ring (M&ME 399)

Date: 13th century

Finder: Mr Alan Crofts

Date of discovery: Unrecorded

Circumstances of discovery: While searching with a metal-detector.

Description: A medieval, gold ring set with a green stone or glass (possibly an emerald). The hoop is very slender and the bezel of triangular shape.

Dimensions: Diameter: 18mm.

Disposition: Disclaimed. The ring was lost at the Brewhouse Museum, Nottingham and the finder was paid compensation for the loss.

J P ROBINSON

94 Ashwellthorpe, Norfolk (1): Medieval silver finger-ring (M&ME 378)

Date: 13th century

Finder: Mr A Womack

Date of discovery: September 2000

Circumstances of discovery: While searching with a metal-detector.

Description: A medieval, silver, stirrup shaped ring. Rings of this type are commonly set with sapphires, rubies or emeralds (see nos. 98, Norton, North Yorkshire, and 99, Worlingworth, Suffolk and O M Dalton, *Catalogue of Finger-rings in the British Museum*, (London 1912), cat. nos. 1782–1825).

Dimensions: Diameter: 19mm; length: 21.5mm.

Disposition: Disclaimed; returned to finder.

J P ROBINSON AND A ROGERSON



(Fig.95) Wetheringsett

95 Wetheringsett, Suffolk: Medieval gold finger-ring (M&ME 251)
(Fig. 95)

Date: 13th century

Finder: Mr Keith John Lewis

Date of discovery: 16 April 2000

Circumstances of discovery: While searching with a metal-detector.

Description: This medieval gold ring has a hoop which is triangular in section and engraved on the two outer faces with the legend IASPAR : MELCHIOR : BALTAZAR, the names of the three wise men (Magi). The name 'Iaspar' is preceded by an engraved design of four diamond shapes intersected by four 'petals' giving the impression of a floral motif. In medieval times the names of the Magi were believed to have curative power over the falling sickness (probably epilepsy) and were used as part of a longer charm to prevent fever. The hoop is slightly chipped at the point corresponding to the first 'A' of 'Baltazar'. This chip is also visible inside the hoop, where, the letter 'R' is engraved, probably denoting the first initial of the name of the owner (possibly Richard, Robert or Rosamund). The size of the ring suggests that it is likely to have belonged to a man. For similar rings of later date see O M Dalton, *Catalogue of Finger-rings in the British Museum*,

(London 1912), cat. nos. 885, 886, 887, 888.

Dimensions: The diameter measures 21mm.

Disposition: Ipswich Museum were unable to acquire and so the find was returned to finder.

J P ROBINSON

96 Weybourne, Norfolk (2): Medieval gold finger-ring

Date: 13th century

Finder: Mr J Morrison

Date of discovery: 10 October 1999

Circumstances of discovery: While searching with a metal-detector.

Description: A gold finger-ring, complete but bent. The slender hoop (2mm wide) is triangular in section, and each of the upper faces is engraved with lettering between four square bosses: the least worn of these has engraved decoration of a quatrefoil with a central circle. It is possible that the lettering should be read along one face to the boss, then back along the other face, and so there are five words or phrases. Only those on the shoulder are clear enough to read; one seems to say AV [boss] MIE and the other + AM [boss] IA. The bezel has a deep gold collar around a polished, slightly irregular oval stone, cracked across the centre, which is probably a pale garnet.

Note: See *Treasure Annual Report 1998–1999*, no. 142.

Disposition: Disclaimed; returned to finder.

HELEN GEAKE

97 Wiveton, Norfolk (2): Medieval gold finger-ring set with a sapphire (M&ME 417)

Date: 13th century

Finder: Mr J Love

Date of discovery: 2 September 2000

Circumstances of discovery: While searching with a metal-detector.

Description: A medieval, gold ring with a slender hoop and set with a sapphire in an oval bezel.

Dimensions: Diameter: 18mm; length: 23mm; weight: 1.63g.

Disposition: Disclaimed; returned to finder.

J P ROBINSON



(Fig.98) Norton

98 Norton, North Yorkshire: Medieval gold finger-ring set with a sapphire (M&ME 356) (Fig. 98)

Date: 13th century

Finder: Mr J Halliday

Date of discovery: 20 December 2000

Circumstances of discovery: While searching with a metal-detector.

Description: A medieval gold ring, of the type commonly known as a stirrup ring, set with a sapphire which is badly damaged. Examples of the same type of rings have emerged from unidentified bishops' tombs at Chichester and many others from the British Museum collection are catalogued in O M Dalton, *Catalogue of Finger-rings in the British Museum*, (London 1912), cat. nos 1782–1825. (See nos. 94, Ashwellthorpe, Norfolk and 99, Worlingworth, Suffolk.)

Dimensions and metal content: X-ray fluorescence analysis conducted at the British Museum indicated an approximate gold content of 76 per cent. Diameter: 20mm; length: 25mm; weight: 3.3g.

Disposition: Acquired by the Malton Museum (with funds from the Resource/V&A Purchase Grant Fund).

J P ROBINSON

99 Worlingworth, Suffolk: Medieval silver finger-ring (M&ME 401)

Date: 13th century

Finder: Mr M Seager

Date of discovery: 24 September 2000

Circumstances of discovery: While searching with a metal-detector.

Description: A medieval silver ring of the type known as stirrup rings (see above nos. 94, Ashwellthorpe, Norfolk and 98, Norton, North Yorkshire and O M Dalton, *Catalogue of Finger-rings in the British Museum*, (London 1912), cat. nos. 1782–1825).

Dimensions: Diameter: 24mm; length: 28mm.

Disposition: Disclaimed; returned to finder.

J P ROBINSON



(Fig.100) Woodbury

100 Woodbury, Devon: Medieval gold finger-ring set with an emerald (M&ME 254) (Fig. 100)

Date: Late 13th or early 14th century

Finder: Mr Nigel Tucker

Date of discovery: 23 April 2000

Circumstances of discovery: While searching with a metal-detector.

Description: A medieval gold ring consisting of a slender, flat hoop and a triangular bezel set with an emerald.

Dimensions and metal content: X-ray fluorescence analysis conducted at the British Museum indicated an

approximate gold content of 76 per cent. The stone was identified as an emerald by Raman spectroscopy. Diameter: 20mm; weight: 1.45g.

Disposition: Acquired by the Royal Albert Memorial Museum, Exeter (with funds from the Resource/V&A Purchase Grant Fund and the Reynolds-Chard Fund).

J P ROBINSON

101 Fawkham, Kent: Medieval gold finger-ring (M&ME 282)

Date: 13th or 14th century

Finder: Fawkham and Ash Archaeological Group

Date of discovery: 2 July 2000

Circumstances of discovery: Found with a metal-detector during a controlled archaeological investigation at Fawkham Manor House.

Description: A medieval gold ring which has suffered some damage. The bezel would originally have contained a stone, which is now lost. In addition, the hoop has become separated from the bezel on one side. A splinter of gold remains protruding from beneath the bezel and this may constitute a repair from before the ring was lost.

Disposition: Disclaimed; returned to finder.

J P ROBINSON

102 Lyminge, Kent: Medieval gold finger-ring (M&ME 355)

Date: 13th or 14th century

Finder: Mr P J Castle

Date of discovery: 24 December 2000

Circumstances of discovery: While searching with a metal-detector.

Description: A medieval gold finger-ring, possibly of hollow construction, decorated with a triangular motif.

Dimensions: Diameter: 18mm.

Disposition: Disclaimed; returned to finder.

J P ROBINSON

103 Bristol: Medieval gold finger-ring (M&ME 352)

Date: 14th century

Finder: Mr John Turner (for Bristol and Region Archaeological Service)

Date of discovery: 19 October 2000

Circumstances of discovery: Found during archaeological excavations.

Description: A medieval, gold ring with a faceted bezel resembling a flower. Originally it would have contained a centrally placed stone, now lost.

Dimensions: Diameter: 21mm; diameter of bezel: 14mm.

Disposition: Presented with the site archive to the Bristol Museum by Royal and Sun Alliance Property Investments Ltd.

J P ROBINSON

104 Gedney, Lincolnshire: Medieval gold finger-ring (M&ME 322) (Fig. 104)



(Fig.104) Gedney

Date: 15th century

Finder: Mrs Joanna Birdseye

Date of discovery: 15 October 2000

Circumstances of discovery: While searching with a metal-detector.

Description: An elaborate, gold finger-ring, the hoop fashioned into two gloved hands which terminate in a lovers' knot. The gloves are decorated with buttons on the upper and underside and are differentiated by the motifs of a star on one hand and a circle on the other. The undulating hoop contains a scroll at the back which carries an amatory inscription. The inscription is worn and difficult to decipher but begins A M O - - - - -

Dimensions: Diameter: 21mm.

Disposition: British Museum.

J P ROBINSON



(Fig.105) East Somerton

105 East Somerton, Norfolk: Medieval gold finger-ring set with sapphire (M&ME 311) (Fig. 105)

Date: 15th century

Finder: Mr E Bagguley

Date of discovery: 29 September 2000

Circumstances of discovery: While searching with a metal-detector.

Description: A medieval gold ring set with a sapphire. The bezel is very protuberant and the hoop carries a black-letter inscription which reads: *cect don deami*

meaning 'the gift of a friend' and belongs to the category of love jewellery which became fashionable in the fourteenth and fifteenth centuries.

Dimensions: Diameter: 21mm; length: 28mm.

Disposition: Disclaimed; returned to finder.

J P ROBINSON

106 Reepham, Norfolk (1): Medieval gold finger-ring (M&ME 416)

Date: 15th century

Finder: Mr M Cornwell

Date of discovery: 17 August 2000

Circumstances of discovery: While searching with a metal-detector.

Description: An ornate, medieval gold ring with a twisted hoop and prominent bezel. The stone, which is missing, would have been held in place by two claws. At each side on the shoulders of the ring are two moulded oak leaves.

Dimensions: Diameter: 24mm; length: 26mm; weight: 7.94g.

Disposition: Disclaimed; returned to finder.

K HINDS AND J P ROBINSON

107 Hackleton area, Northamptonshire (1): Medieval silver-gilt finger-ring (M&ME 232) (Fig. 107)



(Fig.107) Hackleton area

Date: 15th century

Finder: Mr Steve Marchant

Date of discovery: April 2000

Circumstances of discovery: While searching with a metal-detector.

Description: A silver-gilt ring, with a faceted hoop and hexagonal bezel. This is a type of ring known as 'iconographic' because it carries the image of a saint. In this instance the saint crudely engraved on the bezel may be Saint Barbara, identified by her symbol of a tower (the place of her incarceration). Saint Barbara, along with Saint Katharine, enjoyed great popularity in the fifteenth century. The figures of these two saints were often combined on such rings which were produced in relatively large numbers in both gold and silver.

Dimensions: Diameter: 21mm.

Disposition: Disclaimed; returned to finder.

J P ROBINSON

108 Ipswich area, Suffolk: Medieval gold finger-ring (M&ME 207)

Date: 15th century

Finders: Messrs Mark and James Armes

Date of discovery: 25 January 2000

Circumstances of discovery: While searching with a metal-detector.

Description: A medieval, gold ring, iconographic in type with a crudely engraved depiction of the Virgin and Child on the bezel, which has suffered some damage. The hoop is inscribed with letters which are heavily abraded and difficult to decipher. They may read: N I(?) A(?) L(?) A/D(?) R T(?) U The letters are separated at intervals by sprigs of foliage. Some white enamel survives in the foliate decoration.

Disposition: Disclaimed; returned to finder.

J P ROBINSON



(Fig.109) Pencaemawr, near Usk

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109 Pencaemawr, near Usk, Monmouthshire: Medieval gold finger-ring (NMGW 00.9) (Fig. 109)

Date: 15th century

Finder: Mr K Evans

Date of discovery: 7 July 2000

Circumstances of discovery: While searching with a metal-detector.

Description: Gold ring of iconographic type, with a flat, oblong bezel, engraved with representation of the Virgin Mary holding the Christ-Child on her right arm. The Virgin Mary wears a mantle and gown, and holds a staff in her left hand. The Christ-Child is semi-naked, his lower half covered by a loin-cloth.

Both figures have haloes. The design shows some wear. The hoop is shaped as a twist and engraved with the legend *en boen an* in Black Letter script, between interspersed foliate ornament.

Dimensions: Internal hoop diameter: 16 x 17mm; weight: 4.38g.

Note: For a discussion, see M Redknap, 'A late medieval gold ring from Pencaemawr, near Usk, Monmouthshire', *Archaeology in Wales* 40 (2000), pp. 50–51.

Disposition: National Museums & Galleries of Wales.

M REDKNAP



(Fig.110) Monkton
 © NMGW

**110 Monkton, Pembrokeshire: Medieval gold finger-
 ring (NMGW 00.6)
 (Fig. 110)**

Date: 15th century

Finder: Mr B Williams

Date of discovery: May 2000

Circumstances of discovery: While searching with a metal-detector.

Description: A gold ring of iconographic type, with a two-faceted bezel engraved with representations of saints. That shown in the panel on the left holds in her right hand what appears to be a tower (Saint Barbara); that on the right is probably John the Baptist. Both saints have haloes. The quality of the figurative engraving is rudimentary, and the bezel is

very worn. The hoop is shaped as a twist; the shoulders are decorated with sprigs and pentafoils, and each shoulder bears a single word to form the legend *nul awt* ('None other') in Black Letter script, between sprigs.

Dimensions: Internal diameter of hoop: 18mm; weight: 6.75g.

Disposition: National Museums & Galleries of Wales.

M REDKNAP



(Fig.111) Radley
 © NMGW

**111 Radley, Oxfordshire: Medieval silver-gilt finger-
 ring (M&ME 231)
 (Fig. 111)**

Date: Late 15th century

Finder: Mr Keith Liddiard

Date of discovery: February 2000

Circumstances of discovery: While searching with a metal-detector.

Description: A decorative, silver-gilt ring with a ridged bezel, engraved with two mullets and simplified sprigs. For comparable forms of ring (usually with devotional scenes), see T Murdoch, *Treasures and Trinkets; Jewellery in London from pre-Roman times to the 1930s* (Museum of London, 1931), nos. 73–74.

Dimensions: Internal diameter: 20x19mm; weight: 4.541g.

Disposition: Awaiting inquest; Oxfordshire Museums

& Archives hope to acquire.

M REDKNAP AND J P ROBINSON

112 Newton Abbot, Devon: Fragment of a medieval silver-gilt finger-ring (M&ME 320)

Date: 15th or early 16th century

Finder: Mr R Sedgwick

Date of discovery: 8 October 2000

Circumstances of discovery: While searching with a metal-detector.

Description: A fragment of a medieval, silver-gilt finger-ring with a faceted bezel. It is of a type which relates to iconographic rings, produced in relatively large numbers throughout the fifteenth and the early part of the sixteenth century. This example lacks any iconographic engraving but is decorated with floral motifs.

Dimensions: Length: 15mm; width: 8mm.

Disposition: Disclaimed; returned to finder.

J P ROBINSON

113 Ely, Cambridgeshire: Medieval gold finger-ring (M&ME 258)

Date: Late 15th or early 16th century

Finder: Cambridge Archaeological Unit

Date of discovery: (unrecorded, but submitted 8 May 2000)

Circumstances of discovery: Found in backfilled spoil during an archaeological evaluation.

Description: A plain, gold ring without distinguishing marks, but with some faint scratches on the inside of the hoop.

Dimensions: Diameter: 20mm

Disposition: Disclaimed; returned to finder.

J P ROBINSON

114 Sidbury, Devon: Medieval gold finger-ring (M&ME 262)

Date: Late 15th or early 16th century

Finder: Mr C D Roberts

Date of discovery: 30 June 2000

Circumstances of discovery: While gardening.

Description: A plain, gold ring with partial inscription on the inside of the hoop. The ring is heavily damaged and is distorted into a triangular shape.

Disposition: Disclaimed; returned to finder.

J ALLAN AND J P ROBINSON

115 Bourne, Lincolnshire: Medieval silver finger-ring (M&ME 204)

Date: Late 15th or early 16th century

Finder: Mr Anthony Burton

Date of discovery: 9 January 2000

Circumstances of discovery: While searching with a metal-detector.

Description: A silver ring with a plain, triple-faceted hoop (broken) and an octagonal shaped bezel inscribed with a merchant's mark. Merchants' marks proliferate in the late fifteenth century and consist (as here) in simple elaborations around the basic form of a cross. Into the sixteenth century monograms are initially integrated into the design before gradually appearing separate. Examples occur in copper-alloy, silver and gold and were used in the absence of an entitlement to bear arms. For comparable examples see O M Dalton, *Catalogue of Finger-rings in the British Museum*, (London 1912) cat. 338, 340–342, (copper-alloy) and with inscriptions cat. 518, 559; cat. 355–6 (gold); cat. 403 (silver).

Dimensions: Diameter: 26mm; height: 19mm.

Disposition: Disclaimed; returned to finder.

J P ROBINSON



(Fig.116) Wendling

(ii) Brooches (chronological order)**116 Wendling, Norfolk: Medieval silver-gilt coin brooch (M&ME 259) (Fig. 116)****Date:** About 1270–1290**Finder:** Mr V Hudson**Date of discovery:** 19 December 1999**Circumstances of discovery:** While searching with a metal-detector.

Description: A medieval silver-gilt coin brooch made from a gros tournois of Philip III of France. The coin was in circulation between 1270–1285. This is one of a small group of French coin brooches found in East Anglia. Jewellery crafted from coins seems to be an English fashion. It is generally considered that coins are converted into jewellery close to their date of circulation. This brooch is unlikely to date later than 1300. The fitting, soldered on to the reverse, is complete and consists of a loop and a hook. For other finds of coin jewellery see nos. 39 (Winchester, Hampshire), 117 (Little Ryburgh, Norfolk), 132 (Holme, Norfolk) and 151 (New Romney, Kent).

Dimensions: Diameter: 26mm**Disposition:** Awaiting inquest; Norfolk Museums Service hopes to acquire.

B J COOK, A POPESCU AND J P ROBINSON

117 Little Ryburgh, Norfolk: Medieval silver-gilt coin brooch (M&ME 313)**Date:** About 1280**Finder:** Mr P McAllister**Date of discovery:** 13 October 2000**Circumstances of discovery:** While searching with a metal-detector.

Description: The brooch is made from a long-cross penny from the reign of Edward I, minted in London and dating from January–May 1280. The practice of converting coins to items of jewellery such as brooches or pendants was quite common and is usually considered to be done close to the period of coin production. (See nos. 39 (Winchester, Hampshire), 116 (Wendling, Norfolk), 132 (Holme, Norfolk) and 138 (New Romney, Kent)). Most of the gilding on this example has been lost but traces remain, particularly around the inscription. The gilding is applied to the reverse of the coin which forms the front of the brooch. On the other side, which is not gilded, there is a stitching loop and a hook for attachment to a garment.

Dimensions: Diameter: 20mm.**Disposition:** Awaiting inquest; Norfolk Museums Service hopes to acquire.

A POPESCU AND J P ROBINSON

118 Wolverton, Warwickshire: Medieval silver-gilt brooch (M&ME 298) (Fig. 118)**Date:** About 1280–1300**Finder:** Mr J Bridgewater**Date of discovery:** 24 September 2000**Circumstances of discovery:** While searching with a metal-detector.

Description: A medieval, silver-gilt, annular brooch which has suffered some damage so that the shape is distorted. The ring of the brooch is decorated at three



(Fig.118) Wolverton

equidistant points with punched and grooved ornament, each arranged as three smaller tapering bands. The loop attaching the pin to the frame of the brooch is decorated with ridges around its collar. For a similar example see J D A Thompson, *Inventory of British Coin Hoards* (London, 1956), no. 103, pl. X.

Dimensions: Length: 21mm; width: 17mm.

Disposition: Disclaimed; returned to finder.

J P ROBINSON

119 Middleton and Smerrill, Derbyshire: Medieval silver-gilt brooch (M&ME 405)

Date: 13th century

Finder: Mr W T Stevenson

Date of discovery: October 2000

Circumstances of discovery: While searching with a metal-detector.

Description: A miniature silver-gilt brooch of twisted wire, decorated with granulations between each twist. Finds of similar brooches have been made at Roundway Wiltshire (no. 134), North Tuddenham, Norfolk (no. 135) and near Woodbridge, Suffolk (no. 136).

Dimensions: Diameter: 15mm.

Disposition: Disclaimed; returned to finder.

J P ROBINSON

120 Morley, Norfolk: Medieval silver annular brooch

Date: 13th century

Finder: Mr W Brooker

Date of discovery: February 1999

Circumstances of discovery: While searching with a metal-detector.

Description: A silver annular brooch, complete except for the tip of the pin. The frame is circular and is made of square-section silver, twisted to give a cable effect. Each face of the square is decorated with two rows of lozengiform punch marks. The silver pin survives on a pin construction; it has a moulding near the loop, decorated with circular punch marks. The tip is tilted to sit nicely on the frame.

Note: See *Treasure Annual Report 1998–1999*, no. 160.

Disposition: Disclaimed; returned to finder.

HELEN GEAKE

121 Stanfield, Norfolk: Medieval silver brooch pin (M&ME 386)

Date: 13th century

Finder: Mr K Dickerson

Date of discovery: 23 December 2000

Circumstances of discovery: While searching with a metal-detector.

Description: A silver brooch pin, probably from an annular brooch of a tapering form with a rounded, punched boss at the junction with the loop which would have connected it to the frame of the brooch.

Dimensions: Length: 56mm.

Disposition: Disclaimed; returned to finder.

A ROGERSON AND J P ROBINSON

122 Shipdham, Norfolk: Medieval silver brooch (M&ME 387)

Date: 13th century

Finder: Mr Bill Dodgson

Date of discovery: 11 September 2000

Circumstances of discovery: While searching with a metal-detector.



(Fig.126) Aldingbourne

Description: Oval shaped, annular brooch with bent and flattened pin.

Dimensions: Length: 20mm; width: 16.5mm.

Disposition: Disclaimed; returned to finder.

S J ASHLEY AND J P ROBINSON

123 Terrington St Clement, Norfolk: Medieval silver brooch (M&ME 388)

Date: 13th century

Finder: Mr Gordon Hunter

Date of discovery: 5 December 2000

Circumstances of discovery: While searching with a metal-detector.

Description: A medieval, silver, annular brooch, its frame decorated with zig-zag grooves between triangular fields of granulations. The pin, which is loose and worn in the area of the pin rest, is decorated with incised and punched ornament.

Dimensions: Diameter: 19mm.

Disposition: Disclaimed; returned to finder.

J P ROBINSON

124 Sicklinghall, North Yorkshire: Medieval silver brooch fragment (M&ME 300)

Date: 13th century

Finder: Mr S Trainer

Date of discovery: May 2000

Circumstances of discovery: While searching with a metal-detector.

Description: A fragment from a medieval, silver-gilt, annular brooch consisting of a lozenge shaped shield bearing a punched cross. It has suffered considerable damage and is severely distorted. For a more substantial survival see *Treasure Annual Report 1998–1999*, no. 151, Astwick, Bedfordshire. For comparisons see J D.A Thompson, *Inventory of British Coin Hoards* (London, 1956), no. 70, pl. IX; no. 229, pl. XVI.

Dimensions: Maximum length: 40mm.

Disposition: Disclaimed; returned to finder.

J P ROBINSON

125 Polesworth, Warwickshire: Medieval silver pin from a brooch (M&ME 410)

Date: 13th century

Finder: Mr A Baker

Date of discovery: 29 October 2000

Circumstances of discovery: While searching with a metal-detector.

Description: A silver pin from a medieval brooch.

Disposition: Disclaimed; returned to finder.

J P ROBINSON

**126 Aldingbourne, West Sussex: Medieval gold brooch (M&ME 321)
(Fig. 126)**

Date: 13th century

Finder: Mr R T Frost

Date of discovery: Unrecorded

Circumstances of discovery: While searching with a metal-detector.

Description: A circular, gold brooch of diminutive proportions formed of three wires fused together. The

top wire is corded and decorated with small clusters of individually soldered granulations which give a very rich, ornamental affect and may be intended to create the impression of foliage. This example lacks any inscription, but similar, small brooches of the period often carry phrases of devotional or amatory intent.

Dimensions and metal content: X-ray fluorescence analysis conducted at the British Museum indicated an approximate gold content of 57 per cent. Diameter: 16mm; weight: 2.1g.

Disposition: Chichester Museum (with funds from Chichester Museum Society).

J P ROBINSON

127 **Billingsford, Norfolk: Medieval silver-gilt brooch fragment (?) (M&ME 314)**

Date: Second half of the 13th century

Finder: Mr Malcolm Parker

Date of discovery: 26 August 2000

Circumstances of discovery: While searching with a metal-detector.

Description: This silver-gilt fragment may be from a brooch and possibly from a pilgrim souvenir. What survives may represent the bottom half of the Virgin Mary at prayer before a lectern or with her attribute of a lily in a vase. However, no examples of pilgrim souvenirs following such a design survive. The two parts of the fragment which lend themselves to this interpretation rest on a foliage loosely fashioned into the shape of a flattened letter 'M'.

Dimensions: Length: 18mm; width: 11mm.

Disposition: Disclaimed; returned to finder.

J P ROBINSON

128 **Brockdish, Norfolk: Medieval silver-gilt brooch (M&ME 265)**

Date: 13th or 14th century

Finder: Mr K Whitelock

Date of discovery: December 1999

Circumstances of discovery: While searching with a metal-detector.

Description: A medieval silver-gilt annular brooch frame which is triangular with a D-shaped section. It has two bosses evenly spaced along each side, the pin being placed between two of them.

Note: See *Treasure Annual Report 1998–1999*, no. 159.

Disposition: Disclaimed; returned to finder.

H GEAKE AND J P ROBINSON

129 **Whitland, Carmarthenshire: Medieval silver brooch (NMGW 00.7)**

Date: 13th or 14th century

Finder: Mr J Naylor

Date of discovery: March 1998

Circumstances of discovery: While searching with a metal-detector.

Description: Small silver annular brooch. The plain silver frame, which is slightly misshapen, is of rectangular cross-section, with a restriction to hold the pin head. The pin shaft is of diamond cross-section, and has a flattened, expanded head with transverse and vertical punched lines. The pin shaft is incised with zig-zag lines on both front facets.

Dimensions: External frame diameter: 19–20mm; pin length: 20.5mm.

Disposition: Awaiting inquest and valuation.

Carmarthenshire County Museum hopes to acquire this find.

M REDKNAP

130 **Swansea Bay, Swansea: Medieval silver annular brooch (NMGW 00.5) (Fig. 130)**

Date: 13th or 14th century

Finder: Mr S Thomas

Date of discovery: April 2000

Circumstances of discovery: While searching with a



(Fig.130) Swansea Bay

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metal-detector.

Description: Small, cast silver annular brooch. The silver frame, which is slightly distorted, is of diamond cross-section, with a restriction to hold the pin head (missing). It is decorated with four equally spaced cross-hatched spherical knobs.

Dimensions: External frame diameter: 22–23mm; weight: 3.34g.

Note: The object was reported to have been found lying beneath the surface silt in clay, which was hard, and greyish-blue in colour, at a depth of about 35cm.

Disposition: Swansea Museum.

M REDKNAP

131 Orford, Suffolk: Medieval silver brooch (M&ME 402)

Date: 13th to 15th centuries

Finder: Mr A G Calver

Date of discovery: 21 September 2000

Circumstances of discovery: While searching with a metal-detector.

Description: A silver, annular brooch, the frame circular in plan and section and without decoration or pin rest. In one place it has split. The pin has been made in two halves and hammered together with a space for the loop attachment. Mid-way down on one face of the pin are stamped five transverse grooves.

Dimensions: Diameter: 10mm.

Disposition: Disclaimed; returned to finder.

H GEAKE AND J P ROBINSON

132 Holme, Norfolk: Medieval silver-gilt coin brooch (M&ME 328)

Date: About 1300

Finder: Mr K C Boldero

Date of discovery: May 2000

Circumstances of discovery: While searching with a metal-detector.

Description: A medieval, silver-gilt, coin brooch made from a gros tournois of Philip IV of France. The coin was in circulation between 1285–1290. This brooch is unlikely to date much later than 1300. The fitting, soldered on to the reverse consists of a loop and a hook.

Note: For other finds of coin jewellery see nos. 39 (Winchester, Hampshire), 116 (Wendling, Norfolk), 117 (Little Ryburgh, Norfolk) and 151 (New Romney, Kent).

Disposition: Norfolk Museums Service.

A POPESCU AND J P ROBINSON

133 Braintree, Essex (2): Medieval silver brooch (M&ME 249)

Date: Late 13th or early 14th century

Finder: Mr D Crisp

Date of discovery: 1 April 2000

Circumstances of discovery: While searching with a metal-detector.

Description: A silver, annular brooch decorated with four symmetrically placed globular projections. Each

of these projections has cross-hatched, spiralled and punched ornament. The pin is missing.

Note: For a comparable example see J D A Thompson, *Inventory of British Coin Hoards* (London, 1956), no. 56, pl. VII.

Dimensions: Diameter: 30mm.

Disposition: Braintree District Museum, Essex

J P ROBINSON



(Fig.134) Roundway

134 Roundway, Wiltshire: Medieval silver brooch (M&ME 267)
(Fig. 134)

Date: Late 13th or early 14th century

Finder: Mr M P O'Donovan

Date of discovery: December 1999

Circumstances of discovery: While searching with a metal-detector.

Description: A medieval silver annular brooch of twisted wire decorated with granulations within each twist. The pin has similar granulations which cluster at the juncture where the pin meets the hoop of the brooch. Comparable finds have been made recently at Middleton and Smerrill, Derbyshire (no. 119), North Tuddenham, Norfolk (no. 135) and near Woodbridge, Suffolk (no. 136).

Dimensions: Diameter: 28mm

Disposition: Acquired by the Wiltshire Heritage

Museum, Devizes (with funds from the Resource/V&A Purchase Grant Fund and the Primrose Trust).

J P ROBINSON

135 North Tuddenham, Norfolk: Medieval silver-gilt brooch (M&ME 263)

Date: Late 13th or 14th century

Finder: Dr A Carter

Date of discovery: 21 May 2000

Circumstances of discovery: While searching with a metal-detector.

Description: A medieval silver-gilt annular brooch of twisted wire with granulations applied as ornament along each twist. The pin is complete. Granulations also cluster at the juncture of the pin with the hoop of the brooch. This brooch is identical to several recent finds (see Middleton and Smerrill, Derbyshire (no. 119), Roundway, Wiltshire (no. 134) and Woodbridge area, Suffolk, (no. 136)).

Disposition: Disclaimed; returned to finder.

J P ROBINSON



(Fig.136) Woodbridge area

136 Woodbridge area, Suffolk (1): Medieval silver-gilt brooch (M&ME 206)
(Fig. 136)

Date: Late 13th or 14th century

Finder: Mr R Damant

Date of discovery: 16 January 2000

Circumstances of discovery: While searching with a metal-detector.

Description: A silver-gilt annular brooch, made of twisted wire and decorated with small granulations. The pin has clusters of the same granulations at the juncture where it meets the hoop of the brooch. Similar examples exist in a variety of sizes. Recent finds have been made at Middleton and Smerrill, Derbyshire (no. 119), Roundway, Wiltshire (no. 134) and North Tuddenham, Norfolk (no. 135). This is the smallest within that range and raises the question of usage of such miniature brooches. (See *Treasure Annual Report 1998–1999*, no.155).

Dimensions: Diameter: 13mm.

Disposition: British Museum.

J P ROBINSON



(Fig.137) Hackleton area

**137 Hackleton area, Northamptonshire (2):
Medieval silver brooch (M&ME 233)
(Fig. 137)**

Date: Early 14th century

Finder: Mr Steve Marchant

Date of discovery: April 2000

Circumstances of discovery: While searching with a

metal-detector.

Description: A silver annular brooch terminating in two clasped hands. The front of the brooch is punched with six, simple four-petalled flowers. More de-luxe versions of this type of brooch may have held a pearl within the clasped hands. For examples in the Victoria and Albert Museum see R W Lightbown, *Medieval European Jewellery* (London, 1978), cat. nos. 13 and 14. For another, silver-gilt example see *Treasure Annual Report 1998–1999*, no. 155.

Dimensions: Diameter: 20mm; maximum length: 28mm.

Disposition: Disclaimed; returned to finder.

J P ROBINSON

**138 New Romney, Kent (1): Medieval silver brooch
(M&ME 301)
(Fig. 138)**

Date: First half of the 14th century

Finder: Mr Ian Lee

Date of discovery: July/August 2000

Circumstances of discovery: While searching with a metal-detector.

Description: A medieval silver brooch in the form of a trefoil. The trefoil is grooved to give greater dimensionality. Placed between each foil is a large acorn knob. The third of these is adapted to accommodate the attachment of a pin.



(Fig.138) New Romney



(Fig.139) Beachamwell

Dimensions and metal

content: X-ray fluorescence analysis conducted at the British Museum indicated an approximate silver content of 95 per cent.

Disposition: British Museum.

J P ROBINSON

139 Beachamwell, Norfolk (2): Medieval silver-gilt brooch (M&ME 319) (Fig. 139)

Date: 14th century

Finder: Mr K Matthews

Date of discovery: March 1998

Circumstances of discovery: While searching with a metal-detector.

Description: A silver-gilt, hollow cast brooch formed of four conjoined crescents mounted with four raised collets set with coloured glass. Two of the settings are blue, the third is red and the fourth (likely to have been red) is now missing. This very fashionable colour combination was often achieved by the use of sapphires and rubies which the glass was undoubtedly intended to simulate.

Dimensions and metal content: X-ray fluorescence analysis conducted at the British Museum indicated an approximate silver content of 90 per cent. Length: 21mm; width: 21mm; weight: 1.66g.

Note: See *Treasure Annual Report 1998–1999*, no. 158.



(Fig.140) Weeting-with-Broomhill

Disposition: To be disclaimed and returned to finder.

J P ROBINSON

140 Weeting-with-Broomhill, Norfolk: Medieval silver brooch (M&ME 406) (Fig. 140)

Date: 14th century

Finder: Mr Graham Rickard

Date of discovery: 15 April 2000

Circumstances of discovery: While searching with a metal-detector.

Description: A silver brooch fashioned into the shape of an asymmetric heart. Very likely to have been a lovers' token, it belongs to a category of jewellery which often carries amatory inscriptions, as in the fifteenth century examples (MME 1967,12–8,8 and AF 2701) but the British Museum also holds a richly decorated, enamelled, asymmetric heart-brooch of fourteenth century date without an inscription (AF 2701). See J Evans, *A History of Jewellery 1100–1870* (London, 1951) pl. 16.

Dimensions and metal content: X-ray fluorescence analysis conducted at the British Museum indicated an approximate silver content of 99 per cent.

Disposition: The British Museum hopes to acquire.

J P ROBINSON

141 Radlett, Hertfordshire: Medieval silver brooch (M&ME 271) (Fig. 141)

Date: 14th or 15th century

Finder: Mr E D Rendle

Date of discovery: 27 March 2000

Circumstances of discovery: While searching with a metal-detector.

Description: A medieval, silver, annular brooch of solid construction and proportions. The brooch is very simple without inscription or decoration on either side. A similar brooch in the Victoria & Albert



(Fig.141) Radlett

Museum is published in R W Lightbown, *Medieval European Jewellery* (London, 1978), cat. no. 21.

Dimensions: Diameter: 26mm; thickness: 3mm.

Disposition: Acquired by the Verulamium Museum, St Albans (with funds from the Hertfordshire Heritage Fund).

J P ROBINSON



(Fig.142) Hackleton area

142 Hackleton area, Northamptonshire (3):
 Medieval gold brooch (M&ME 236)
 (Fig. 142)

Date: 15th century

Finder: Mr Steve Marchant

Date of discovery: April 2000

Circumstances of discovery: While searching with a metal-detector.

Description: This gold brooch is of hollow construction and takes the form of a six-petalled rose with an open, circular centre. The petals carry a rare inscription in black letter which reads *En Bone Temps* ('in good time'). This inscription is punctuated by elaborate, foliate scrolls and the whole would originally have been enamelled. No traces of enamel remain. The reverse of the brooch, significantly, is also beautifully worked with a smaller, six-petalled flower aligned differently and defined by areas of cross-hatching. The pin of the brooch survives, but is broken. It is integrated into the design by being cross-hatched or left plain as appropriate and is articulated by a swivelling motion which is likely to be achieved by an internal pin. The high quality of its workmanship and the sophistication of its design suggest that it was an object of high status.

Although several finds of medieval silver brooches have been recorded through the Treasure Act, this is the only example, thus far, to have emerged in gold. Brooches of similar construction exist in the British Museum collection, the closest, with its pin integrated into the design of its elaborately decorated reverse side, is inscribed with the legend *In Boen Espoer* ('in good hope'), (AF 2696).

Dimensions and metal content: X-ray fluorescence analysis conducted at the British Museum indicated an approximate gold content of 64 per cent with 23 per cent for silver. Weight: 8g ; internal diameter: 15mm; length: 30mm; depth: 4mm.

Disposition: British Museum.

J P ROBINSON

(iii) Seal matrices (chronological order)

143 Alcester, Warwickshire: Medieval silver seal-matrix (M&ME 396)
 (Fig. 143)

Date: Late 13th or early 14th century



(Fig.143) Alcester

Finder: Mr Thomas Askew

Date of discovery: September 2000

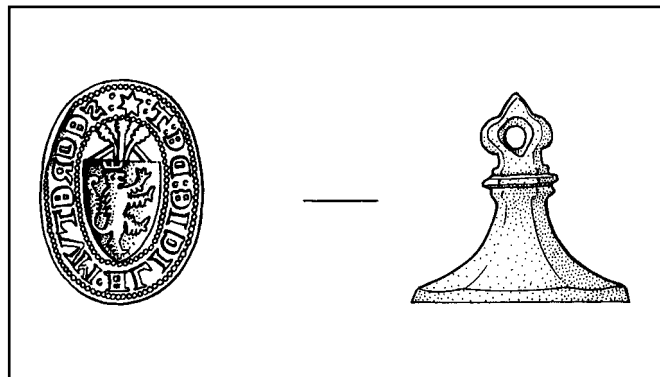
Circumstances of discovery: While searching with a metal-detector.

Description: A medieval, silver, circular seal-matrix with a central, shield-shape motif and the legend: + S IhVS SVINOIS which may signify 'the seal of John' [Johannes abbreviated], followed by a surname. The final S of both parts of the name are reversed. The back is decorated with an attractive six-petalled flower which would have terminated in a hexagonal, conical handle serving as a means of suspension and use. This handle has broken off and is lost. In addition the heraldic device which would have occupied the shield, is also missing, revealing a key-shaped aperture. This would seem to suggest that it relates to a category of seal matrix which has a screw-out central motif, of which the British Museum holds three (A B Tonnochy, *Catalogue of British Seal-Dies in the British Museum* (London, 1952), cat. nos. 341, 624, 655). This construction allowed an impression to be made without the legend appearing, therefore creating a secret seal when desired.

Dimensions: Diameter: 18mm; height: 5mm.

Disposition: Awaiting inquest; the British Museum hopes to acquire.

J P ROBINSON



(Fig.144) Offley, © NHDC Museums

144 Offley, Hertfordshire: Personal silver seal-matrix (M&ME 421) (Fig. 144)

Date: Late 13th or 14th century

Finder: Mr Andrew Phillips

Date of discovery: August 2000

Circumstances of discovery: While searching with a metal-detector.

Description: Silver oval seal-matrix with hexagonal handle terminating in a trefoil suspension loop. The seal is engraved with a shield bearing a crowned lion rampant facing dexter. The shield supports a crest of three torches or clubs. The armorial device is framed by a legend which reads: SECRETVM ALICIE DE T ('the secret or personal [seal] of Alice of T'). The reverse is punched with a maker's mark in the form of a quatrefoil. The seal-matrix weighs 11.02g.

Dimensions: 22mm height; 16.5mm diameter.

Disposition: Letchworth Museum hopes to acquire this find.

G BURLEIGH AND D R M GAIMSTER

145 Winchester, Hampshire (2): Medieval silver seal-matrix (M&ME 205) (Fig. 145)

Date: 14th century



(Fig. 145) Winchester

Finder: Mr Terence Hinde

Date of discovery: May 1999

Circumstances of discovery: While searching with a metal-detector.

Description: An oval, silver, seal-matrix depicting a male profile amid foliate decoration set within an elaborate eightfoil with a beaded surround. The inscription consists of single letters placed within each quarter and separated by flowers and reads: S' R O B to signify *Sigillum Roberti* (seal of Robert). The hexagonal, conical handle has lost its end, which is likely to have been a pierced trefoil.

Dimensions: Length: 23mm; width: 17mm; height: 15mm.

Disposition: Winchester Museums Service had hoped to acquire this find but subsequently withdrew. It was then disclaimed and returned to finder.

J P ROBINSON

(iv) Pendant crosses (chronological order)

**146 Nettlestead, Suffolk (1): Medieval silver-gilt crucifix fragment set with a sapphire (M&ME 339)
 (Fig. 146)**

Date: 14th century

Finder: Mr J Armes

Date of discovery: 10 November 2000



(Fig. 146) Nettlestead

Circumstances of discovery: While searching with a metal-detector.

Description: A medieval silver-gilt cross, probably worn as pendant from a rosary or a chain. Any suspension loop which may have existed has now been lost. The figure of Christ on the front of the cross is missing its right arm and feet. The cross itself is plain, the surviving arm terminating in a quatrefoil set with a sapphire. On the reverse are inscribed the letters I and V which are possibly part of a fuller inscription spelling I E S V S (Jesus). The veneration of Christ and the Cross was a very important feature of fourteenth and fifteenth century devotional activity. The figure of Christ is crudely but expressively modelled with an emaciated anatomy designed to emphasize Christ's suffering. (See also the crucifix from Spurstow, Cheshire, no. 147.)

Dimensions and metal content: X-ray fluorescence analysis conducted at the British Museum indicated an approximate silver content of 92 per cent. Length: 23mm; width: 17mm; weight: 2.4g.

Disposition: Awaiting inquest; Ipswich Museum Service hopes to acquire.

J P ROBINSON

**147 Spurstow, Cheshire: Medieval silver-gilt pendant crucifix (M&ME 316)
 (Fig. 147)**

Date: Late 14th or early 15th century



(Fig.147) Spurstow

Finder: Mr Andrew Harper

Date of discovery: August 2000

Circumstances of discovery: While searching with a metal-detector.

Description: A medieval silver-gilt cross, likely to have been suspended from a rosary or a chain. The suspension loop at the top is still intact. The figure of Christ on the front of the cross is much worn and the back of the cross is entirely plain. The cross itself is floriate, each arm terminating in a stylised trefoil containing leaves engraved within lozenges. The veneration of Christ and the Cross was an extremely prevalent feature of fourteenth and fifteenth century mysticism which led to a demand for smaller, more personal items of devotional art. (See also fragment of a crucifix from Nettlestead, Suffolk, no. 146).

Dimensions: Length: 29mm; width: 18.5mm; weight: 2.41g

Disposition: Cheshire Museums Service.

J P ROBINSON

148 Balderton, Nottinghamshire: Medieval gold cross fragment (M&ME 430)

Date: Late 14th or early 15th century

Finder: Mr E Booth

Date of discovery: 24 October 2000

Circumstances of discovery: While searching with a metal-detector.

Description: A fragment of a gold cross decorated with delicately pounced foliate motifs and inscribed with letters on each of its surviving arms and at its centre. Originally pearls may have been attached to projections at each terminal but, if they existed, they have been lost in the ground. It was clearly once an object of high status.

The letters appear to be R I E N S (French for 'nothing') which is very unusual for a piece of medieval, religious jewellery and would be more likely to occur on a piece of secular, love jewellery of the period as part of a longer inscription. The letter at the centre of the cross is an 'O' which appears to be sprouting foliage and the significance of this, in conjunction with the other letters, is by no means clear.

Disposition: Disclaimed; returned to finder.

J P ROBINSON

149 Ilmer, Buckinghamshire: Medieval silver cross-terminal (M&ME 270)

Date: 13th to 16th centuries

Finder: Mr Rodger Paul

Date of discovery: June 2000

Circumstances of discovery: While searching with a metal-detector.

Description: Part of a medieval silver, pendant cross, comprising the terminal of one arm. The terminal is 12-sided and flattened. The fragmentary nature of the find means that it has not been possible to date it very precisely.