

THE BITTERLEY HOARD – AN INTRODUCTION

[June 29, 2012](#) [Peter Reavill](#) [Community Archaeology](#), [Conservation](#), [Day of Archaeology](#), [Day of Archaeology 2012](#), [Excavation](#), [Finds](#), [Museum Archaeology](#), [Periods](#), [Post Medieval Antiquities](#), [Archaeology](#), [Artefacts](#), [Artifact](#), [Bitterley](#), [British Museum](#), [Finds Liaison Officer](#), [Hoard](#), [John Ellery](#), [Metal detector](#), [metal detector user](#), [Museology](#), [musuem archaeologist](#), [Peter Reavill](#), [Portable Antiquities Scheme](#), [Treasure](#), [Treasure Act](#), [Treasure trove](#)



Portable
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www.finds.org.uk

Part of working for the Portable Antiquities Scheme (PAS) means that I have handled more important artefacts than the average field or museum archaeologist. I am going to try (technology permitting) to give a flavour of this today by using a relatively recent find to highlight the work we do

and how one find can shed light on a much bigger picture.



The Bitterley hoard

The hoard of coins was originally found in February 2011 (a long time before this day of archaeology) by a metal detector user. The hoard dates from the civil war and they have been slowly working their way through the treasure system. The find reached a crucial stage yesterday – when Mr John Ellery, HM Coroner for Shropshire, found that they constituted a case of treasure. This official opinion is based upon hours (and weeks) of careful research by the staff of the British Museum, me and other colleagues at the PAS.

Over the next few posts today I hope to show you the different facets of the PAS and Treasure. I'm hoping to do this throughout the day in small bite size chunks. I hope you enjoy the journey and this day of archaeology for 2012.

Peter Reavill

Finds Liaison Officer for Shropshire and Herefordshire
Portable Antiquities Scheme.

ps: this is me – getting my hands dirty

