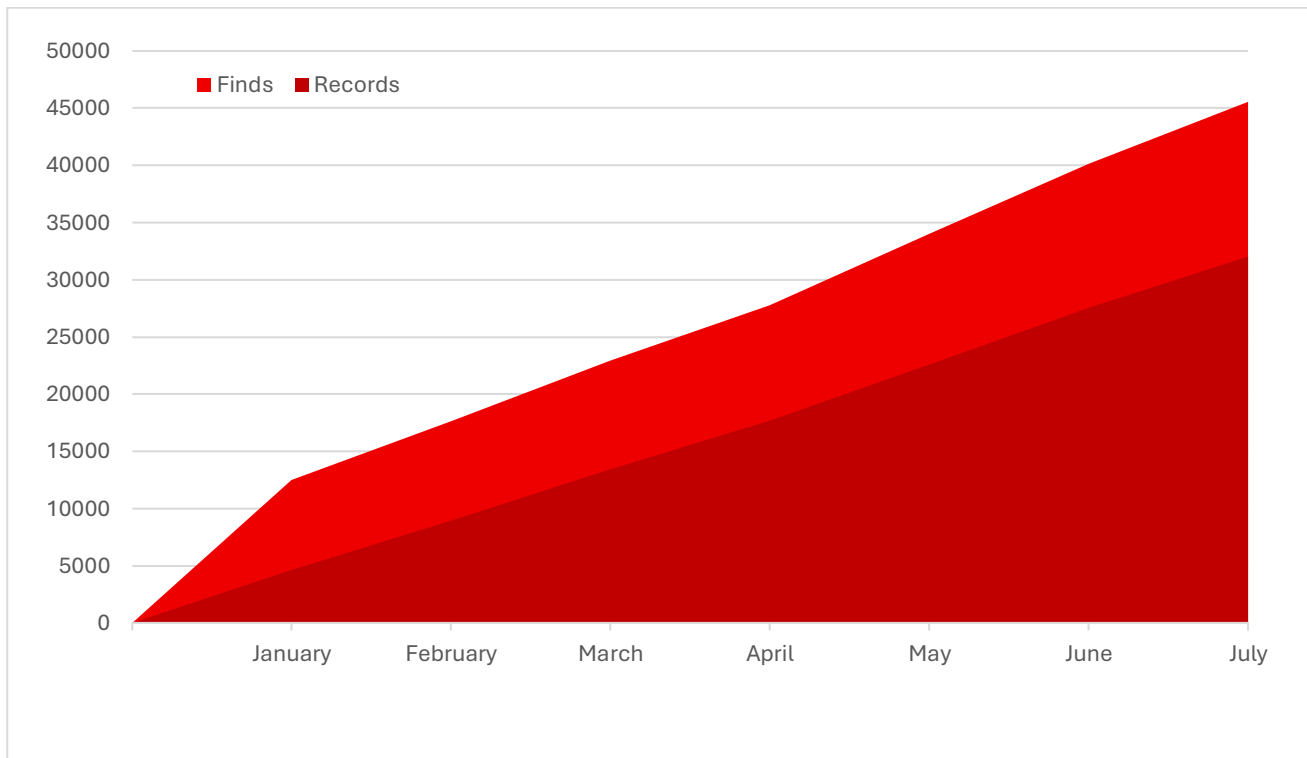


Portable Antiquities Scheme update July 2025

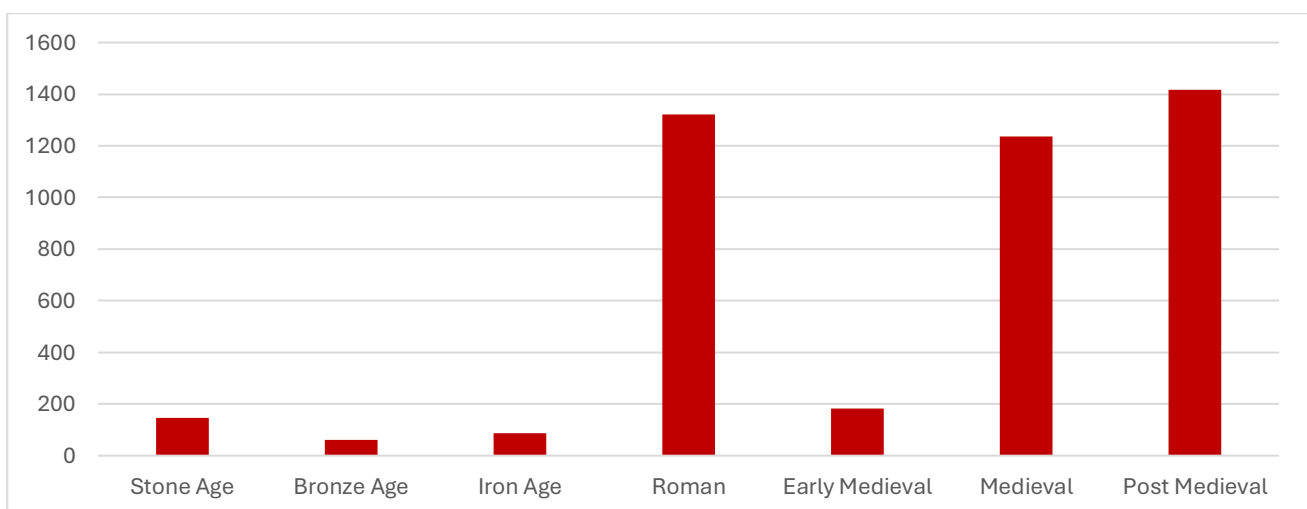
Many important and interesting finds have been recorded by the PAS this month, so thank you to everyone who has offered finds for recording. As usual, this update gives (mostly) a Central Unit perspective on PAS activity over the last month. Lots has been happening locally...

Finds recording

FLOs, FLAs, interns and volunteers, including detectorist self-recorders, added **5,445 finds** (within 4560 records) to the [PAS Database](#) in **July 2025**. This brings the total to 45,555 finds (with 32,026 records) so far this year, and the total on the database to 1,825,244 finds (within 1,182,882 records) **128 Treasure cases** were also reported this month, bringing the total for the year to 948.



Graph: Number of finds and finds records added (so far) to the PAS Database in 2025.



Graph: Number of finds by period – July 2025.

It's all happening in Liverpool!

PAS Conference in Liverpool - Metal Detector Finds: Collaboration, Research, Display

Tickets for our conference on **7 October** at the **Museum of Liverpool** are now available for booking! The conference is free, but you must book a ticket to attend. Details can be found [here](#).

Join us for a day filled with presentations and discussions centred around metal detector finds. We have a broad range of speakers including Kurt Adams (PAS) & Glenn Manning (metal detectorist), Dave Edwards (NCMD), Alexandria Mapp (PAS), Vanessa Oakden (Museum of Liverpool), Caroline Pudney (University of Chester) & Susie White (PAS Cymru), John Naylor (Ashmolean Museum & PAS), Carl Savage (Treasure Trove Unit, National Museum Scotland), Ben Westwood (PAS) and Caroline Smith (PAS), and Emily Williams (Durham University)

Treasure: History Unearthed

The conference coincides with the Museum of Liverpool's exciting new temporary exhibition *Treasure: History Unearthed*. The exhibition will feature the largest collection of archaeological treasures ever shown in the region, with finds from the North West and Wales. It runs from 13 September 2025 to 29 March 2026. Some of the star objects include the Mold Cape (on loan from the British Museum), and large Viking hoards, including the Silverdale Hoard (on loan from Lancashire County Museums Service). The exhibition explores the theme of what Treasure is and how our attitudes toward Treasure have changed, as well as diving into what we have learned about these objects, and the contribution metal detecting has made to the understanding of our shared past. [Find out more and book tickets](#).



Linked with the exhibition, the Museum of Liverpool team are running two community days in Mold on the theme of 'treasuring our past'. All are welcome to come to Mold Museum and Library on 8-9 August for a number of activities and talks, details can be found [here](#).

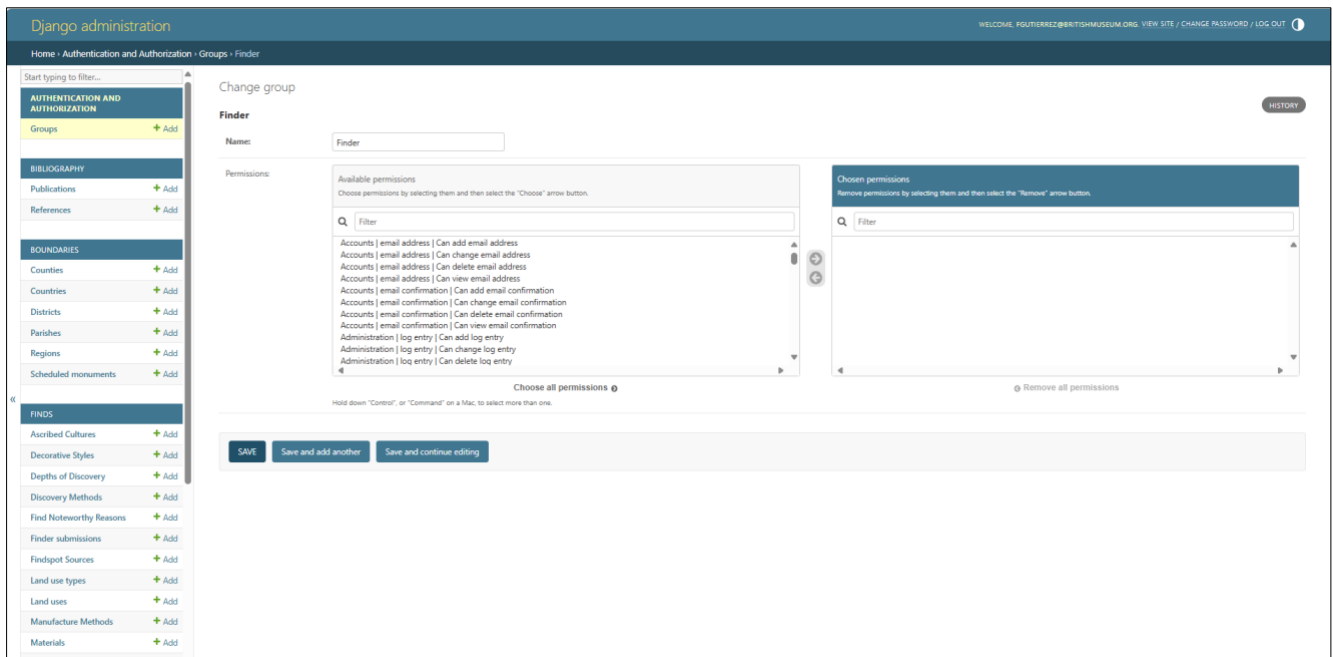
APPAG - evidence sessions

The All-Party Parliamentary Archaeology Group (APPAG) inquiry on 'Archaeology and Metal-detecting' continued into July, with another session in the House of Lords on 3 July 2025. The first oral session (on 26 June) interviewed metal-detecting organisations, archaeological contractors, and PAS Finds Liaison Officers. The second session (3 July) interviewed the police, landowner groups and archaeological curators, archaeological and museum organisations, and funders of archaeological finds. Videos of all the oral evidence can be viewed on the [APPAG website](#). APPAG will produce a report on the results of the inquiry in autumn 2025.

PAS Database

Development of the new PAS website and database continues at pace, led by Numiko (the developers) and the project team at the British Museum. Most of the work undertaken has been on the backend and the admin portal (provisionally called 'Django Administration' and soon to be renamed). There is still a lot of work needed to get it to a stage where we can demonstrate it to end users. However, as a preview, below is a screenshot of the Django Administration Portal where admin users (Finds Advisers, the Treasure Team and Admin users) will be able to control terminology (e.g.

options in recording dropdowns), manage user groups, review recorded finds/finder submissions, manage Treasure cases or anything related to database management.



PAS Intern

For 4 months (until the end of July), lawyer and PhD student **Jakub Artemiuk** (University of Warsaw) has been on a volunteer internship with the PAS. Whilst his PhD is examining scientific, legal and practical aspects of protecting archaeological heritage in Poland since 1989 (the end of the communist period), an important aspect is considering heritage protection in other countries, including the UK. During his stay in London, Jakub not only met with archaeologists and detectorists in England, but undertook field-trips to Belfast, Cardiff, Dublin and Edinburgh, to learn more about the law (and its implementation) in other parts of the UK and Ireland. We hope Jakub had a valuable experience with us at the British Museum and wish him all the best with writing up his PhD.



Landscapes of Sanctity

Michael Lewis, with Robert Webley and Eljas Oksanen (as part of the *Medieval Ritual Landscape* project), presented on 'Medieval Religious Objects in the Archaeological Landscape', as part of a conference at University College London on *Landscapes of Sanctity in the Medieval World*. This conference, organised by Johanna Dale (University College London) and Sarah Bowden (King's College London), was part of the AHRC-funded project *Liturgical and Literary Landscapes*, and therefore provided an opportunity to highlight PAS data to a wider variety of academic colleagues, including historians and others. The MeRit team focused on talking about the distribution of pilgrim signs (including badges and ampullae) and the modification of papal bullae.

Find of the Month

I am sure the significance of a Roman coin like this one, found by Scott and Karen Downie at Snowhill, Gloucestershire ([WAW-7A78A7](#)), and recorded by Susheela Burford (Warwickshire & Worcestershire FLO), could be easily passed by: thanks to Matt Ball (PAS Finds Adviser for Iron Age & Roman coins) for the identification and further details. It is a copper-alloy as of Philip II (r. 247-9), dating to c. AD 248, and minted in Rome. The reverse shows a column inscribed COS II, which commemorates 'the Secular Games' - a long-standing sporting event held in Rome of which this represents the last. Sestertii, dupondii and asses of c. AD 193-250 are uncommon finds from across Britain and much of Europe beyond the Alps owing to the takeover of silver coins and a corresponding decline in the striking of copper-alloy denominations, so it is an interesting find. Moreover, the coin, for some unknown reason, has been deliberately altered in antiquity by having a section removed.



Contacting the PAS

Please use the details below to contact me to discuss any aspect of the PAS's work. Please note that the PAS is a partnership project with Finds Liaison Officers (FLOs) and other staff (in England) employed locally. So, in most cases, it is best to [contact the local FLO](#) or their manager.

Michael Lewis

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