

DETECTORISTS - SERIES 2

EPISODE TWO

Written by

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SHOOTING SCRIPT

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1 EXT. NEW PERMISSION, FIELD - DAY

1

Lance and Andy are detecting a few metres apart.

LANCE

You hear about old Bob Cromer?

ANDY

What about him?

LANCE

Exhumed mate.

ANDY

What?!

LANCE

Grave robbed.

ANDY

By who?

LANCE

Nobody knows. Nighthawks.

Rumour has it he was buried with
some of his best finds: James I
guinea, medieval posy ring, Viking
torc.

They came in the night and dug him
up.

ANDY

Unbelievable.

LANCE

The things people will do for gold.

(beat)

Then again, how long do you have to
wait before *robbing* a grave becomes
excavating a grave?

*

*

*

ANDY

At least until the flowers have
wilted.

*

Pause.

LANCE

Bet old bob never thought he'd be
on *that* end of a detector

SUPER:

*

detectorists

2 EXT. NEW PERMISSION, FIELD - DAY

2 *

Lance and Andy are detecting a few metres apart.

LANCE

...No, the idea of what is considered beautiful changes over time:
 Like, back in Tudor times you might have been thought of as really attractive.

Andy just looks at him.

LANCE (CONT'D)

I mean, you know, the scrawny... the beard and the hair, that might have been... stick a ruff round your neck you might have been one of Lizzie the first's favourites.

ANDY

How far back in time would you have to go before you were considered attractive?

LANCE

No, I think my time is just around the corner.
 Within the next couple of years.

Lance gets a signal, cross checks and starts to did a plug.

ANDY

I'm going to call it a day and head into town. Said I'd drop by the library. Sophie's meeting Peter to research that plane crash.

*
*
*

LANCE

I can't get into it. It's not old enough. If it hasn't yet been forgotten, I'm not interested.
 I'm on a different quest.

*
*
*

ANDY

What's that then?

LANCE

I don't know. "My heart has followed all my days something I cannot name".

ANDY

Blimey.

LANCE

I won't be able to rest until I've danced the gold dance.

ANDY

You not coming then?

LANCE

No. Got plans.

ANDY

What you doing?

LANCE

Just... going to... ScrewFix.

He retrieves the target, a corroded lump of iron.

ANDY

What you got?

LANCE

Boat.

ANDY

A boat?

LANCE

B-O-A-T, 'Bit Off A Tractor'.

Andy looks sceptical.

LANCE (CONT'D)

You not heard that one?

ANDY

Course I haven't, you just made it up.

LANCE

No, that's an old one. Like POACH.

ANDY

Go on.

LANCE

Part Of A Combine Harvester.

ANDY

Bullshit.

2A EXT. STREET - DAY

2A *

Sophie is sitting on a wall waiting. She smiles as she sees
Peter approaching.

*
*

SOPHIE

*
*

Hello.

PETER

*
*

Hey.

SOPHIE

*
*

How are you?

PETER

*
*

Good. Listen, thanks for helping
out with this.

*
*

SOPHIE

*
*

S'alright, I'm a sucker for a bit
of research.

*
*

PETER

*
*

You're a what?

SOPHIE

*
*

Doesn't matter.

PETER

*
*

Are any of the others coming down?

*
*

SOPHIE

*
*

I don't think so.

PETER

*
*

That's good.

SOPHIE

*
*

Yeah?

PETER

*
*

They were all so enthusiastic,
especially the main guy.

*
*

SOPHIE

*
*

Terry.

PETER

*
*

I'm worried they'll be
disappointed.

*
*

SOPHIE

*
*

How do you mean?

PETER

*
*

Well even if we find the crash site
a doubt there will be much left of
the plane.

*
*

SOPHIE

Oh we're used to not finding much
at the DMDC. It's what we do best.

*
*
*

3 INT. LANCE'S FLAT, FRONT ROOM - DAY

3

Lance, wearing an obviously new shirt, is tidying things away and cleaning his flat.
He goes through to the bathroom.

4 INT. LANCE'S FLAT, BATHROOM - DAY

4

Lance looks in the mirror and flattens his hair with water.
He is muttering imagined conversations under his breath.

LANCE

Oh me? I'm in fruit and veg.
I'm in fruit and vegetables.
Did you know 90% of onions are
consumed in their country of
origin? Yes, there's *hardly any*
international trade in onions.
(indicating the shirt)
Oh what *this* old thing? Thank you.
No I've had it years...
Do I drive? Yes, you might have
seen my car in the car park, the
yellow... that's right the TR7. You
know about them do you? Yes well
I've done a lot of work on her. Re-
sprayed her *Aztec Yellow* where she
would have originally been...
that's right, *Mimosa Yellow*.
How about you? Do you have a
car?...
Really? Like in *Back to the Future*?

Lance notices his fingernails are filthy. He starts hurriedly brushing them.

5 EXT. STREET - DAY

5

Sophie and Peter are walking through the town chatting.

PETER

...I've given myself a year off. I
was fed up with my job so I jacked
it in and I'm travelling for a
year. I wrote a list of things to
achieve in the year, and one of
those things is to find my
grandfather's resting place and lay
a wreath.

SOPHIE

That's lovely.

PETER

I've been wanting to for a long time but this year is the year for getting things done.

SOPHIE

What else is on the list?
Don't say bungee jumping.

PETER

Catch a big fish.

SOPHIE

K.

They walk up the steps to the town library.

PETER

Fall in love.

SOPHIE

Isn't that on everyone's list all the time?

PETER

Is it? I don't know. It hasn't been on mine for a long time. But I'm ready now. I'm going to make a concerted effort.

SOPHIE

Yeah because that's usually how it happens.

PETER

Yeah?

SOPHIE

Yeah sure. You decide you want to fall in love, you try really hard, and then you fall in love.

PETER

Oh, you're being sarcastic.

SOPHIE

Yep.

PETER

Oh well done. Very clever.

SOPHIE

Thanks.

(beat)

What qualities are you looking for in your new love?

PETER

Sarcasm.

6 INT. SCHOOL, STAFF ROOM - DAY

6

Becky is in the staff room at a boring staff meeting. The HEAD TEACHER is talking in a monotone about trivial stuff.

HEAD TEACHER

As decided the Summer Fare is going to be Dickens themed and I'd like all the attending staff in Victorian dress if you would.

She holds up a flyer.

HEAD TEACHER (CONT'D)

This costume hire place has a nice range. Expensive but worth it. As I'm sure you are aware, last year Oakfield Lane Primary School raised £25,000 at their summer fete and I'm determined we can beat that.

Becky looks unimpressed.

She surreptitiously leans forward and takes from a coffee table a brochure with the words

*
*

VSO. VOLUNTARY SERVICE OVERSEAS.

on the front.

She opens it up on a photo of a class of African children being taught in the shade of a tree. A prefab school with bright red chairs in the African bush.

The Head drones on.

HEAD TEACHER (CONT'D)

Can I ask that none of you double park in front of the school. Mr. Daley needed to get to Asda yesterday lunchtime and couldn't get out.

TEACHER

Where are we supposed to go then? I'm having to park further and further away and walk the rest.

HEAD TEACHER

But you only live a mile away Fergus.

TEACHER

Exactly, it's hardly worth me
driving in at all. We *need* to sort
out more parking spaces.

Becky can't quite believe what she's hearing.

7 INT. LIBRARY - DAY

7

Andy walks through a basement room at the library. There are numerous alcoves and booths. Eventually he finds a row of microfilm booths and, in the very end one he sees Peter studying the screen, an empty chair beside him. As Andy approaches Peter turns.

PETER

Lance!

ANDY

It's Andy.

PETER

Sorry! Andy! Lance is the other
guy. The funny little guy.

ANDY

Funny little guy?

PETER

Yeah, you know.

ANDY

Mmm. How's it going?

PETER

Good! Good. We've found a newspaper
article. Sophie's gone to get
coffee.

ANDY

Can I see?

Andy sits next to Peter.

PETER

This is from the morning after the
crash. There's no photo and they
only say it was near Henburystone,
nothing more specific. But it does
say that the plane came straight
down, nose first, and pretty much
buried itself in the ground.

ANDY

Anything about the crew?

Peter looks again at the article.

PETER

Um, no, I don't think so.

Andy takes a sheet of paper from his pocket.

ANDY

Right.

Well I managed to find a list of their names. It doesn't say what happened to them but it does say that they were 'all accounted for'. I don't really know what that means.

PETER

Where did you find that?

ANDY

I found a link on the British Aviation Archaeological Council website.

Which one was your grandfather?

PETER

Let me see?

Peter takes the sheet of paper.

PETER (CONT'D)

Yes, here, Rheinfred Schneider. The forward gunner.

He keeps the list.

ANDY

Right.

PETER

Here's Sophie.

Sophie arrives with two coffees.

ANDY

Hi.

SOPHIE

Oh Andy! I thought you said you might not be able to make it.

ANDY

Yep. But... I managed to.

SOPHIE

Great.

She gestures to his chair.

SOPHIE (CONT'D)
Can I...?

Andy gets up.

ANDY
Oh yeah, sorry. Peter showed me the article.

SOPHIE
Yes. We're hoping other papers will have photographs of the crash site. So we should carry on looking.

ANDY
Yes.

SOPHIE
It's a lot of stuff to look through actually.

ANDY
Right.

SOPHIE
Shall we crack on with that then? Or did you want to...?

Andy gets it, takes the hint.

ANDY
No, I'll let you get on with that. I've got some shopping to do. I'll see you later at the club?

SOPHIE
Yes. See you there.

ANDY
Cheers.

PETER
Cheers Lance.

ANDY
Andy.

PETER
Andy.

The Head is still going on about parking. Becky looks at a photo in the brochure of happy children gathering around a pump to collect water in a bucket. She is wondering why she's here.

HEAD TEACHER

... the residents of Whitehall Lodge have been complaining that parents are parking their cars in the residents only parking bays, so we have to make sure all parents know that they are not allowed to park there. Similarly some parents are parking on the yellow zig-zag lines in front of the school. We've got to make sure they know they can't do that, even if they're just dropping off.
Is there any other business?

*
*

A stuffy old teacher raises his hand.

HEAD TEACHER (CONT'D)

Gordon?

TEACHER 1

Are we allowed to park in Meadowview Road? Because it doesn't say it's residents only anywhere but they're claiming the same parking restrictions stretch around from Church Road even though there aren't any signs.

TEACHER 2

If there aren't any signs then it means there aren't any parking restrictions.

TEACHER 1

So I can park there?

Becky, exasperated, lets out a strangled yelp.

HEADTEACHER

Becky?

Becky gathers her stuff and gets up to leave.

BECKY

Sorry, I have to go.

The rest of the staff look mildly shocked as she leaves the staff room.

9 EXT. HIGH STREET - DAY

9

Andy is walking down the pavement with two bags of groceries. His phone vibrates in his pocket and he wrestles both bags into one hand to answer it. (We only hear Andy's side of this conversation.)

ANDY

Hey.

(BECKY)

I've just walked out of a staff meeting.

ANDY

Really? Why?

(BECKY)

Because they're all a bunch of small minded idiots who can only talk about how bloody difficult it is to park their fucking cars.

ANDY

Alright, calm down, I'm coming home now.

(BECKY)

Oh can you stop off at the shops?

ANDY

I've just been. What do you need?

Just then Andy spots something. Across the road in a cafe, Lance is sitting at a table with a YOUNG WOMAN (we will later find out this is KATE) whose back is towards us. Though we can't see her face clearly she looks considerably younger than Lance. He is speaking with a silly grin on his face and staring intently at her.

ANDY (CONT'D)

Hold on a second...

Andy, ridiculously, dives behind a phone box. He transfers the mobile to his other hand.

ANDY (CONT'D)

Hello... Sorry... I just...

And then peaks round to confirm what he just saw.

Sure enough, he can see her better now, she looks about 22 and, as Andy watches, she reaches out and touches Lance's hand briefly.

ANDY (CONT'D)
Sorry, sorry, I got distracted.
Okay... yeah I'll get some. I'll
see you at home.

He hangs up, peaks around at the cafe again and then phones Lance's number.

10 INT. CAFE - DAY

10

Lance is still sitting opposite the woman, we only see her back. There is quite loud Spanish music playing over the stereo. He looks at his phone, tuts.

LANCE
(to the woman)
I better just get this.

He turns away.

LANCE (CONT'D)
Yeah, hello?...
I told you I'm at ScrewFix...
Yeah, they're having a Mexican
afternoon...

CUT TO:

11 EXT. HIGH STREET - DAY

11

ANDY
Oh right, yeah, I just forgot to
ask if you were going up the club
Tuesday?...
Okay right... yeah...
Can you get me some masonry nails?
Galvanized...

CUT TO:

12 INT. CAFE - DAY

12

LANCE
...yep, okay... got to go, they're
bringing out the pinata.

CUT TO:

13 EXT. HIGH STREET - DAY

13

ANDY
All right, see ya.

Andy smiles to himself and hangs up. He dodges out from behind the phone box and continues his 'trying-not-to-be-seen' walk away from the cafe.

14 INT. ANDY AND BECKY'S HOUSE - DAY

14

Andy lets himself in. A jar next to the front door is full of broken pieces of clay pipe. As he passes, Andy takes some more pieces from his pocket and drops them in the jar. He goes through to the kitchen.

ANDY
Hello?

Becky enters with the baby. Andy takes him from her. Becky has the VSO brochure.

ANDY (CONT'D)
All right Sweary?

BECKY
Was I swearing a lot?

ANDY
Yes. An unnecessary amount I'd say.

BECKY
Well god.
I was just about to break.
I'd had all that I could take
of their petty parking problems
and their fete, for goodness sake.

ANDY
Are you rapping?

BECKY
No, I think it was just a fluke.

ANDY
Say something else.

BECKY
I want a change. I want to get out
of that school and try something
else. Go somewhere else. Do some
good.

*

ANDY
Hmm. None of that really rhymed.

BECKY

I wasn't trying to rhyme!

ANDY

Oh sorry. What were you saying?

Andy sits down with Stan on his lap and opens a metal detecting magazine, The Treasure Searcher.

BECKY

Doesn't matter.

ANDY

They can't fire you can they? For storming out of a staff meeting.

BECKY

I didn't storm I just left.

ANDY

We'd really be up shit creek if you lost your job.

Something about this comment makes Becky stop dead. She tries to offer the brochure.

BECKY

I wanted to show you...

But he speaks over her.

ANDY

Don't hand in your notice just yet.

And she decides against it.

ANDY (CONT'D)

Hey you'll never guess what I saw. Looks like Lance has taken our advice to try internet dating. I saw him holding hands with a girl when he told me he was going to the DIY store.

Becky is gutted, close to tears but Andy, the idiot, hasn't noticed. She manages to just carry on and hold it together.

BECKY

Yeah? Nobody we know?

ANDY

No, really young, much younger than him.

BECKY

How young?

ANDY

Dunno. Twenties?
They were in a cafe. Didn't see me.

BECKY

And they were holding hands?

ANDY

Well yeah, touching hands,
flirting.
He was adamant he wasn't going to
try it but I don't know how else he
could have met her so fast.

BECKY

Why don't you just ask him?

ANDY

He'll tell me when he's ready.

Baby Stan points to a coin in the magazine.

ANDY (CONT'D)

What's that?
That a denarius.
Say "silver denarius of Marcus
Aurelius"

End on a worried Becky.

*

15

INT. SCOUT HALL - EVENING

15

Sophie has some enlargements of an old black and white photograph of the crash site laid out on a table.
The photo shows four or five men, one of them with a motorcycle, standing around a large, smoking crater in a field.
In the distance, above a line of trees, can be seen the top of a round church tower.

*

SOPHIE

Here it is. And it seems the plane
came down so straight and so fast
that the hole kind of filled itself
in afterwards.

RUSSELL

Always fill in your holes.

TERRY

Bad taste Russell.

SOPHIE

It was so deep they just left it.
Looks like it's never been
disturbed.

*

Peter points to the photo.

PETER

And look. This tower.

LANCE

Well yes, that's St. Giles.

PETER

I can see this tower from where
I've parked my camper.

*
*
*

SOPHIE

Well that's where we should start.

*
*
*

PETER

Can you tell where this photo was
taken from?

*

Lance and Andy lean in to look at the photo.

ANDY

Hard to tell.

LANCE

You can only see the top of the
tower.

*

SOPHIE

(to Peter)

We need to get out there and have a
look.

*
*
*

PETER

Listen Terry. If we find the site,
we'll need to apply for a license
from the Ministry of Defence to dig
it. I was wondering if the DMDC
could do that on my behalf? It
might look better coming from a
club.

TERRY

No problem at all mate and here's
an idea:

What if, when we find the location
of the wreckage, we hold the club
rally on the site?

We get everyone down, more the
merrier, barbecue, and we make a
day of it.

HUGH

Would I be able to keep some bits
of wreckage?

TERRY

I don't know about that Hugh.

HUGH

I'll bring a wheelbarrow.

PETER

Hang on a second guys. This isn't
what I had in mind.
I only wanted to find the site, pay
my respects. I didn't necessarily
want lots of people down there.

TERRY

We'll cordon it off.

Just then the door of the scout hall squeaks loudly open and everyone turns to see a man in his early 60s enter and then step quickly back out again.

TERRY (CONT'D)
Hello? Mr. Mayor?

The door squeaks again and the MAYOR gingerly re-enters, all eyes on him.

MAYOR
Could I have a word Terry?

TERRY
Certainly Mr. Mayor.

Terry heads over to the Mayor.

TERRY (CONT'D)
This is an honour sir. How can I be
of service?

MAYOR
After a bit of a favour actually,
from you metal detectors.

TERRY
Detectorists.

MAYOR
I beg your pardon?

TERRY
Doesn't matter.

The Mayor speaks in hushed tones.

MAYOR
Damndest thing. I've mislaid my
ceremonial Chain of Office and I
thought you could find it for me.

TERRY
(delighted)
Absolutely no problem at all, I'll
get a team onto it immediately.
(he calls out)
RUSSELL!

MAYOR
NO! No no, silly to involve too
many people.

But it's too late, Russell comes over.

TERRY

Russell is in charge of our new
jewelry retrieval service.
The Mayor here has lost his Chain
of Office.

RUSSELL

His what?

MAYOR

It's the ceremonial chain, you
know.
It shouldn't be too difficult to
find, big chunky thing.

RUSSELL

I'll get Hugh.

MAYOR

No! We don't need to...

RUSSELL

HUGH!

THE MAYOR'S LOST HIS NECKLACE!

Hugh heads over.

TERRY

Hugh runs the jewelry retrieval
service with Russell.
They've had a lot of success, got a
few pieces in the local paper, you
might have seen them.

HUGH

I've got a scrapbook if you want to
see.

MAYOR

No. Thank you.
I don't want a big fuss.
Silly to involve too many people.

Russell smells a rat.

RUSSELL

Where did you say you lost it?

MAYOR

Oh somewhere in the long grass or
bushes by the carpark up in
Farningham woods.

TERRY

The carpark in Farningham...

MAYOR

Yes, you know the one, up there.

RUSSELL

The place where all the cars park up after dark and they all...

MAYOR

I've no idea what happens there after dark, I was walking my dog and it caught on a branch and pinged off into the undergrowth.

RUSSELL

Right. Well we'll get up there then.

MAYOR

In the bushes, on the left hand side of the car park.

RUSSELL

OK.

MAYOR

Soon as you can.

He goes to leave.

HUGH

Um, if we do manage to find it.

MAYOR

Yes?

HUGH

Alright to get the local paper down to take a picture? *

RUSSELL

For the scrapbook.

MAYOR

No, you see, that wouldn't do at all because... I was going to give an anonymous donation to the club if you found it, and I don't like to boast about my charity work so any publicity might prevent me from making such a donation...
Do you see?

TERRY

Yes, I think so.

MAYOR

Fantastic. There we are.

16 EXT. FIELD, GROUND ZERO- DAY

16

Lance's car is parked next to the buried standing stone and he and Andy are taking their stuff from the back.

ANDY

Have you ever thought about what kind of dance you'd do if you found gold?

LANCE

No. It's bad luck to practise beforehand. It has to be spontaneous. I've no idea what will come out on the day. But I imagine it'll be exuberant.

ANDY

Not too exuberant though. Remember what happened to Derek Hoof?

LANCE

Yep. Dislocated a hip.

ANDY

And it wasn't even gold in the end was it?

LANCE

Milk bottle top.

ANDY

Embarrassing.

Lance jabs his spade in the ground and leans his detector on it.

Peter's VW camper van pulls up and parks next to Lance's car. Peter and Sophie get out and they gather around Lance's detector, admiring it like a car.

PETER

So this is it? The famous metal detector.

LANCE

This is the CTX yeah, one of the first in the country.
I've souped her up a bit. Fitted a larger coil.
I'll give her another coat of wax midway through the season...

Suddenly, before Lance can stop him, Peter steps forward and grabs the detector.

Lance is horrified, nobody touches his detector. Sophie and Andy also look stunned.

PETER

How does it work? Which is the on button?

Lance nervously dances about as Peter clumsily manhandles the precious machine.

LANCE

I don't usually like to turn it on so close to the car or overhead power cables. It could overload the...

Too late, Peter has turned on the CTX and is starting to detect on a grass verge.

PETER

Hey look at me! I'm going to find some treasure!

Andy and Lance are not amused. Sophie looks a bit embarrassed.

LANCE

You won't find anything there. And you haven't got it set to the right...

The detector bleeps.

PETER

Hey! Wow! It made a noise guys! I've found something!

LANCE

No, look, you've got it on the wrong setting, it's just a drinks can so close to a road.

ANDY

It's just going to be modern litter.

PETER

Give me a spade guys! This is great!

LANCE

You don't want to dig that up come on...

PETER

Give me a spade! Come on! Lance! Pass me your spade.

Lance reluctantly does so.

LANCE

Well look, dig it if you want to
but it's just going to be... what's
the reading?

He looks at the detector's LCD display.

PETER

Seventy five. Is that good?

Lance looks across at Andy.

ANDY

What is it?

LANCE

Seventy five but it's iffy, it
doesn't mean anything.

ANDY

Seventy five?

Andy steps in, interested.

Lance tries to get his detector back.

LANCE

Maybe we should just...

PETER

No way man! This is my treasure!

Peter is digging haphazardly.

LANCE

We don't have permission to dig
here...

Peter passes the detector over the hole. It beeps a steady, high pitched tone. We can tell from Andy and Lance's expressions that it's a bloody good signal. Lance looks especially worried. Sophie steps forward and takes out her phone, readying it to take a photo.
They lean in as Peter pokes around in the hole.
The suspense is unbearable.
He eventually reaches in and pulls out...

PETER

Coke can.

Sophie takes a photo.

Andy and Lance's relief is palpable, they are all smiles.

LANCE

There! Told you didn't I!

ANDY

Yeah it was only ever going to be
junk.

LANC

I said it would be a can!

ANDY

You'd never find anything so close
to a road.

LANC

Ha!

Sophie sees what's going on and smiles.
Lance takes back his CTX and subtly checks it over.
They all start walking up the track.

PETER

So this is true what Sophie's told
me? That Terry was blown up by a
bomb last year?

ANDY

'fraid so.

LANC

Blew him about forty foot he
reckons.

PETER

I wouldn't have believed the world
of metal detecting was so full of
danger and peril.

SOPHIE

Believe it baby.

LANC

It's an extreme sport.

ANDY

Fast and furious.

LANC

Speaking of which, hold on to your
hats folks,
(he points)
*There's the Saxon round towered
church!*

They look across to where the church is visible above the
trees.

Sophie takes the photo from her bag and holds it up.

*

SOPHIE

Not much to go on.

*

*

PETER

We can just walk in a big circle
around it and look out for
features.

SOPHIE

Alright,
(to Andy)
I'll phone if we find anything.

ANDY

Oh, okay. Well this is our
permission so,
(to Lance)
you want to do a couple of hours?

LANCE

Go on then.

SOPHIE

See you in a bit.

Sophie and Peter head off down the lane, we stay with the
guys as they climb over a stile and head into a field.

17 EXT. NEW PERMISSION, FIELD - DAY

17 *

LANCE

I knew it would be a can.

ANDY

I thought you were going to pass
out when he grabbed your detector.

LANCE

Well. Would you have a strum on Bob
Dylan's guitar without asking him?

ANDY

No.

LANCE

No. A man's detector is like his...

ANDY

His what?

LANCE

Woman.

ANDY

'Woman'?

LANCE

You know what I mean. You don't
touch another man's detector.

ANDY
Or his woman.

LANCE
Exactly.

They fire up their detectors.

CUT TO:

18 EXT. COUNTRY LANE - DAY

18

Sophie and Peter are wandering along the lane. Peter is laughing.

PETER

Did you see his face? I thought he
was going to cry.

Sophie is a bit annoyed, wants to stick up for her friend.

SOPHIE

You shouldn't have taken his
detector.

PETER

I couldn't help it.

SOPHIE

You don't mess with Lance's metal
detectors.

PETER

He's got more than one?

SOPHIE

Legend has it he has false bookcase
that pulls back to reveal a secret
cabinet full of them.

PETER

Yeah?

SOPHIE

That's what they say.

PETER

They're all so weird.
Why do you hang out with them?

SOPHIE

They're not weird!

PETER

They are, they're freaks.
You're relatively normal compared
to them.

SOPHIE

I like them. They're my friends.

Beat.

PETER

I'm not keen on Terry's idea of holding the rally on the site. It was supposed to be a poignant moment.

SOPHIE

He means well but once he's got an idea in his head...

PETER

Could you have a word with him? Try and dissuade him?

SOPHIE

I can try.

PETER

Thanks

(beat)

I didn't mean to insult your friends.

SOPHIE

You're forgiven. They are weird. That's why I like them.

Sophie spots something far off and looks through binoculars.

SOPHIE (CONT'D)

Oh no.

She passes the binoculars to Peter.

PETER

Who are they?

They look like...

CUT TO:

19

EXT. NEW PERMISSION, FIELD - DAY

19 *

Andy and Lance are detecting some metres apart shouting to each other.

ANDY

Opal Fruits.

LANCE

Yep.

(beat)

Toffos.

ANDY

Toffos, good one.

(pause)

Spangles.

LANCE

Lazy.

ANDY

Sorry.

Pause.

ANDY (CONT'D)

So Becky said she saw you in town
with someone.

LANCE

Yeah? Who?

ANDY

Don't know. A woman.

LANCE

When?

ANDY

Uh, Saturday I think. Lunchtime.

LANCE

Mmm. Don't remember. Might have
been the old lady from downstairs.

ANDY

No. I think it was somebody
younger.

LANCE

Mrs. Morris looks young for her
age.

ANDY

How old is she?

LANCE

Ninety three.

ANDY

No this was definitely someone
younger.

LANCE

Mmm...

*

Andy's phone beeps. He takes it out and looks at the screen.

ANDY

Text from Sophie:

'S & G alert. Heading your way.'
What's an 'S & G alert'?

Lance has spotted two people coming climbing over the stile.

LANCE
Simon and Garfunkel.

PAUL and ART approach.

ART
Hello there!

LANCE
Old friends.

ART
Yes indeed, it's been a long time
hasn't it?

LANCE
It has.

ART
Lot of water under the bridge.

ANDY
Troubled water?

ART
Pardon?

ANDY
Troubled water? That the bridge is
over?

ART
We've just bumped into Sophie and
her boyfriend.

ANDY
I don't think they're a couple.

ART
Oh, did I touch a nerve?

ANDY
No.

ART
Told us all about the plane crash.

LANCE
They told you?

ART
He did, yes. Plane crash,
grandfather, very moving story.

*

PAUL
Emotional.

LANCE
What are you getting at?

ART
Well is that *really* the reason? Or
is there something else? Something
you think you may find?

*

LANCE
The first one.

ART
Really?

LANCE
Really.

ART
You don't need metal detectors to
lay a wreath.

ANDY
Wise words.

ART
We wanted to see you actually, to
thank you.
We've recently formed a brand new
club.

LANCE
That so?

ART
Yes. You did us a favour when you
absorbed our less committed
members. Allowed us to streamline.
We are now a highly efficient unit
comprising a dozen top level
detectorists.

LANCE
What are you called?

PAUL
The Dirt Sharks.

LANCE
Ewe. Really?

ANDY
Yuk.

ART
What's wrong with 'Dirt Sharks'?

ANDY

Just sounds a bit, you know...

LANCE

Aggressive.

ANDY

Invasive.

ART

I don't agree.

LANCE

Predatory.

ART

Predatory perhaps. Sharks are efficient hunters.

ANDY

And you, with your metal detectors, are a bit like sharks swimming, not through water but through dirt, and hunting for metal instead of food?

ART

Yes. Exactly.

ANDY

Oh yeah, that's good that is.

LANCE

Yeah, it works. It's good.

ANDY

Well done.

LANCE

So, what? Are you asking to share our permissions? Because you've got two hopes of that: 'Bob' and 'No'.

ART

It's amazing. Why do I understand so little of what you say?

LANCE

Because you're as thick as two short plonks.

ART

Planks.

LANCE

You're welcome.

Andy and Lance bump fists.
Art is furious.

They leave.

LANCE (CONT'D)
What a mallet.

ANDY
Why are they here? What do they
think they know?

LANCE
Phone Sophie, make sure Peter knows
not to say anything else.
Tell him to keep schtum.

ANDY
Sound of silence.

Fist bump.

END CREDITS.