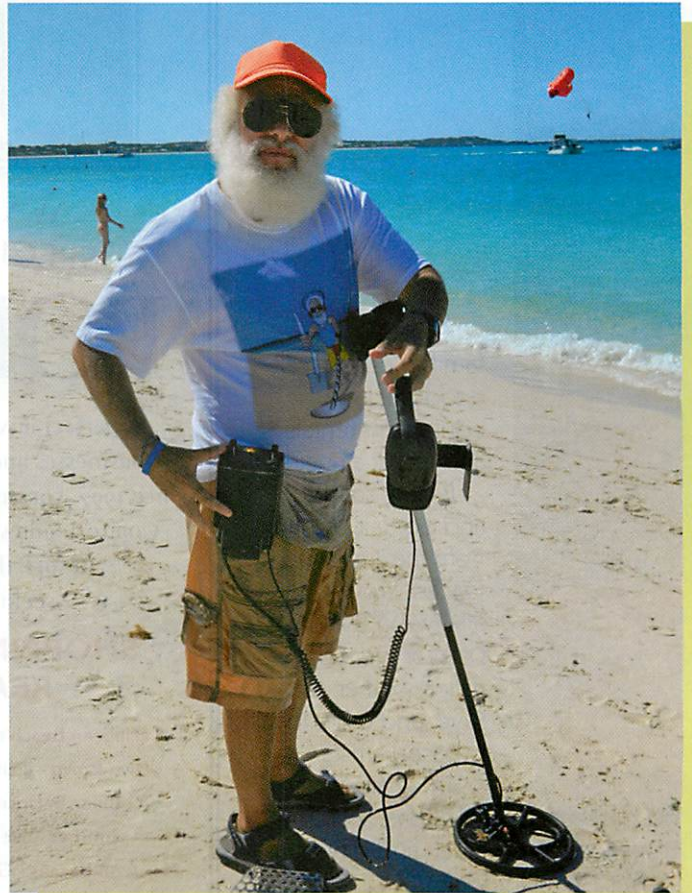


Found in Paradise



RANDY LANCTOT WAS FILLED WITH despair on a fateful January afternoon. He had just returned to his on-island home-away-from-home after spending the day at beautiful Grace Bay Beach, but his mood was anything but sunny.

Earlier that day, Randy had removed a family heirloom ring from his finger before entering the sea. For safekeeping, he had put the ring deep into the toe of one of his shoes, rather than risk it slipping off and being lost forever in the sea. Unfortunately, as is often the case with the best-laid plans of men, things were destined to go awry. Randy was distracted as he collected his things from the beach that afternoon and by the time he realised the ring had fallen out of his shoe, he had covered a significant section of beach.

Hoping to take his mind off the loss, back at home, Randy picked up the Janu-

ary/February issue of *Where When How* and began to absentmindedly thumb through the pages of the familiar magazine. On page 31, however, he was thrilled to read about David Stone, sometime Providenciales resident and creator of www.LostMyJewelry.com! David very generously donates his time and resources to Providenciales beachgoers who find themselves short a piece of jewellery at the end of a day of sun and sand.

Randy contacted David via the website and got a reply within moments; David graciously agreed to meet him on the beach the next day to search for the lost ring.

And search they did! They covered the area from where Randy had taken the ring off, all the way to where he realised the ring had slipped out of his shoe. Fearing the ring was lost forever, Randy was

about to call off the search when David decided to wade a little bit out into the ocean to give it one last try, "We're not quitting!" he said. And then after just a few minutes added, "I think you're one lucky boy," and sifting through the sand in his scoop he confirmed that suspicion - David had found Randy's ring!

"I was sick when I lost it," Randy told me of the ring he had worn for over 40 years. "It belonged to my father, my Grandfather and I don't know, maybe even my Great Grandfather." How did Randy feel about this miraculous rediscovery? "I couldn't believe it, I just couldn't believe it. It was incredible."

We are happy to have played a small role in reuniting Randy with his treasured ring, and as always we would like to thank David for his selfless donation of time to islanders and visitors in need! ■

~ STORY BY KATHRYN FOX ~