## Mike Powell Bio

For 38 years I was a history teacher and later Head of Sixth Form. I am not a professional antiques expert but more of a self-taught and enthusiastic collector and browser with a small antiques business. Most of my so-called finds have no significant value but it is their historical context which make them so fascinating - they tell us something about our heritage and shared experiences. But my talk is not a history lecture as I also look at how sentiment, the search for a bargain and an appreciation of craftsmanship has influenced my hoarding instincts.