



Norwich Castle Museum & Art Gallery

Finding
our past

Buried treasure

A BRITISH MUSEUM EXHIBITION
23 July 2005 – 15 January 2006

SCHOOLS' PROGRAMME OF EVENTS

sponsored by

Tarmac



THE
BRITISH
MUSEUM

A Partnership UK Project

The exhibition

Some of Britain's most important archaeological treasures from the British Museum and other museums across Britain are brought together for the first time in this exhibition with a difference. Almost all of the precious finds were discovered by chance – by farmers, beachcombers and metal detector users.

Education Programme

Events are available for all Key Stages and focus on a range of subject areas - history, archaeology and art.

Teachers' Previews

A chance to view the exhibition and collect a **teachers' pack**. Refreshments available. Bookings essential.

- *Tues 13 or Wed 14 September, 4.30 – 6.30pm*
- *or Friday 29 July, 1pm*
– a **preview with a difference!**

Your family can look round the Castle while you attend the preview. Then they can join you to view the exhibition and stay on for a special performance by youngsters.

All for free.

Teachers' Resource Pack

Some materials can be downloaded from our website. Visit www.museums.norfolk.gov.uk then go to 'Learning Department'.

'A' level study day

Treasure: how archaeology tells us about our past

Friday 4 November (10am – 3pm)

A chance for 'A' level archaeology students to spend a day with the experts focusing on what archaeology tells us about the past. Talks about treasures from the Bronze Age to Anglo-Saxon and Viking times. There will also be a chance to view the exhibition.

*Cost: £1.50 per pupil +
£2 admission*





Dustbin archaeology: object handling session

Work with a museum educator to explore artefacts in a dustbin and find out what archaeology can tell us! Choose your own focus from the following:

- General archaeology
- General archaeology with focus on the Romans
- General archaeology with focus on the Anglo-Saxon/Vikings

This 45 min session is suitable for all Key Stages. Dates available on request.

***Cost: £1.50 per pupil +
£2 admission***

Boudica talks!

A chance to meet Boudica, Queen of the Iceni, dressed in costume and wearing a torc round her neck – to adorn herself and also to show her status. Discover how

torcs were made and then handle real objects to find out about everyday life during the period. This 45 min session is suitable for Key Stages 1 & 2. Dates available on request.

***Cost: £1.50 per pupil +
£2 admission***

Terrific torcs: making old necklaces

***18 & 19 October
10.15am – 12.15pm &
12.30 – 2.30 pm***

Boudica is known to have worn a torc round her neck to adorn herself. Handle a replica Norfolk torc, find out how it was made, then work with an artist to create your own torc using wire, soft metals and mixed artist materials. This 2-hr workshop is suitable for Key Stages 1 & 2.

Cost: £2 per pupil + £2 admission





Personal Adornment: 3-D jewellery

A chance to look at some body adornment and jewellery in the exhibition, followed by an artist-led workshop making a piece of 3-D jewellery to your own design. This 2-hr workshop is suitable for Key Stages 1 & 2. Dates available on request.

Cost: £2 per pupil + £2 admission

Gallery Trail

Children can follow the treasure trail to find out more about the exhibition. The trail will also include the Castle's Boudica and Anglo-Saxon and Viking galleries. Children can pick up gallery trails inside the exhibition gallery. No extra charge.

Artefact handling table

To help groups look even more closely, the exhibition includes an artefact handling table filled with

real objects. Museum staff will help children explore the artefacts. No extra charge.

Independent Gallery Visit

As part of an independent visit to the exhibition your groups are able to do the gallery trail and explore the objects on the artefact handling table.

Cost: £2 (admission only, no extra charges)



Booking and General Information

All events and previews need to be booked. Phone our booking line on 01603 493636.

Teachers are welcome to make a preliminary visit free of charge in order to plan their visit. Non NCC schools need to add VAT to prices.

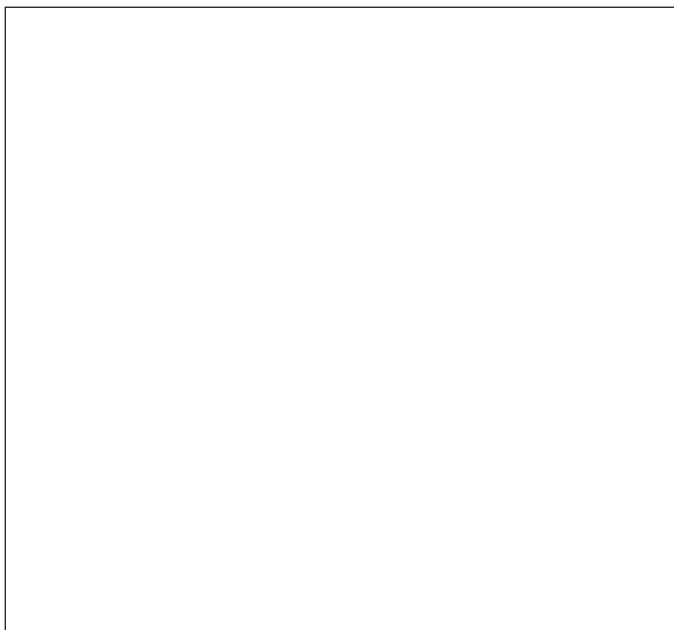
- Now carry on through the gallery, up the stairs and into the **Anglo-Saxon and Viking Gallery.**

Find the display on 'Horses and Riding' and look at the stirrups.

The top part of the stirrup is called the mount. This piece can easily break off.

Which is your favourite design of mount?

Create your own design and draw it.



Before you leave the gallery listen to the story of Edmund, the last king of East Anglia. *(You can find it on the screen nearby.)*

Explore the rest of the Castle and find your own treasures.



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Treasure Trail

Did you know . . . ?

- More treasures have been found by metal detector users than by archaeologists.
- Treasures aren't always made of gold or silver.
- Treasures are worth lots of money but that's not what makes them important. They are important because they tell us stories about our past.

To find out more, look for these numbered stickers and follow the trail. You can follow it in any order you like. Just make sure that the numbers match.



This hand axe is very important because it's the oldest object of its kind ever to be found in Britain.

What's it made of?

How old is it? *Place it on the timeline on your right.*

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The Ringlemere Cup was discovered by Clive Bradshaw, a metal detector user. Why is it crushed? *Tick the right answer.*

- ☐ Clive Bradshaw accidentally stepped on it after he pulled it out of the ground.
- ☐ Farm machinery damaged it as the fields were being ploughed.
- ☐ When it was first buried, it was crushed to bring good luck to the owner.

How old is it? *Place it on the timeline on your right.*



These were once the 'crown jewels' of Norfolk. Rich people wore torcs like these to adorn themselves and to show what important people they were.

Draw your favourite and make sure to place it in the correct position on the drawing.

How old is it? *Place it on the timeline on your right.*



The Mildenhall treasure was dug up by a farmer. He kept it in his home for many years before reporting it to the police.

Put a circle round the objects which form part of this treasure.

large dish spoons forks knives small bowls goblets

How old is it? *Place it on the timeline on your right.*



Look at this stirrup. It was used to help keep the horse rider firmly in the saddle. In early Anglo-Saxon times horses were only owned by a few people. But later, by the time of the Vikings, horses became more common.

What is it made of? *Circle the answer.*

wood flint metal plastic

How old is it? *Place it on the timeline on your right.*

Norfolk Connections

Norwich Castle has its own treasures.

- Find the **Boudica Gallery**.

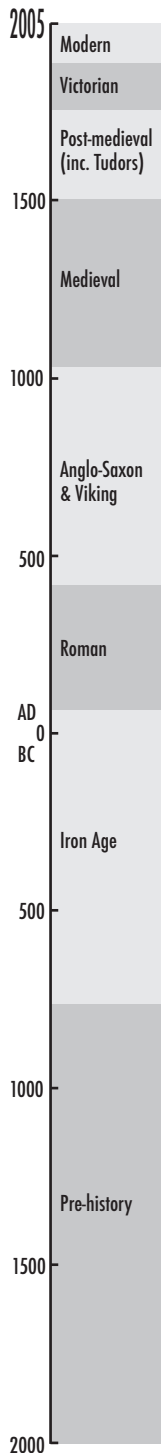
(You will need to go out of this exhibition and back into the rotunda.)

Look for more torcs like the ones you've seen already in the exhibition. Many of them end in loops.

How many different designs of loop ends can you see?

Draw your favourite.

Have a ride on the chariot before you leave this gallery.



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About the Exhibition

Introduction

Over the centuries, farmers, labourers, beachcombers and, more recently, metal detectorists have unearthed - often by accident - many of the most precious pieces of our past.

The word 'treasure' brings to mind images of buried chests full of precious gold and jewels. But in a wider sense, 'treasure' means much more. Treasures are any discoveries that have changed the understanding of our history. Some of the most spectacular finds from England and Wales, drawn from both national and local museum collections, can be seen in this exhibition.

This exhibition provides a wealth of material, which will help students understand better how our past has been discovered and researched in recent years.

Treasures tell stories

All treasures are historically worthless unless they can tell a story.

There are a number of different treasures in this part of the exhibition, worth anything from a few thousand to millions of pounds. However, far more important than their monetary value, are the stories they can tell us about our past.

How do treasures tell stories? A crucial element is knowing where the treasure was discovered. Detailed study can reveal how old a treasure is and how it was made. Answering these 'where' and 'how' questions can help us to discover who might have owned it, and why it was lost or buried.

Small things forgotten

Metal detector users and other members of the public find thousands of small objects - like brooches, buttons and flint tools - every year. They are not usually made of gold or silver, and they might appear to be insignificant, but this section of the exhibition shows how these 'small things forgotten' can tell us as much about our past as more spectacular treasures.

Sometimes the stories behind these small objects are even more fascinating and important. Examples include finds of children's toys (from the fourteenth to the eighteenth centuries) from the fore shore of the River Thames, a variety of cosmetic items which shows that the Romans wore make-up, and the discovery of one of the most important ancient objects in Britain, made by a man walking his dog.

Heroes and Villains

The vast majority of finds in this exhibition have been uncovered by chance by non-archaeologists. Most finders reported their discoveries properly and this has given us the opportunity to enjoy them. They can also be studied at first hand, and the sites from which they have come – all of which is crucial to our understanding of the past. Finders who report their discoveries might be considered heroes, for they have put the past before their personal gain.

There are instances, however, when finds are discovered and not reported. Some archaeological sites have been deliberately looted by unscrupulous treasure hunters. Others have been stumbled upon by accident, sometimes when metal detecting takes place on farm land, without the owner's permission. In all cases, finders have not reported their discoveries, but sold them for financial gain, usually to antiquities dealers. These are the villains of our story.

Summary of Exhibition Themes

There are several themes that can be traced through the exhibition. These can provide teachers with a framework for planning activities in the space.

- Discovery of the past, mainly by the general public
- How responsible citizens should report their discoveries
- How 'treasure' is more than just gold and jewels
- How treasures tell stories
- How new finds can change our understanding of the past
- How we can learn about everyday life in the past from a study of mundane objects
- How we can learn about continuity over time: what changes, what stays the same
- Why scientific research and conservation are essential for a study of the past

Summary of Chronology

Below is a summary of the exhibition contents by chronological period.

Stone Age	East Norfolk hand-axe Welsh flint finds
Bronze Age	Bronze Age metal hoard Ringlemere gold cup Amesbury archer burial Body ornament in the Bronze Age
Iron Age	Chertsey Shield Winchester hoard Hunting for Boudica Snettisham hoards Wanborough Temple Salisbury Hoard Battersea Shield
Iron Age and Roman	East Leicestershire treasure Keeping up Appearances in Iron & Roman Britain
Roman	Hoxne Hoard Mildenhall Hoard Didcot gold coin hoard Curridge coin hoard
Viking	Llandbedrgoch Finding the Vikings
Mediaeval	Small but perfectly formed- Chiddingly Boar Badge Fishpool Hoard Badges of Faith
Post Mediaeval/ Tudor	Toys were us Forgotten fashions of the Tudors
Stuart	Civil War – Tregwynt hoard and other objects
Multi-period	Rings through the Ages

Key to Gallery Layout

This sheet accompanies the 'Gallery Layout' sheet and outlines the contents of the exhibition. The different elements include: **display cases** filled with artefacts, **interactive panels** for hands-on opportunities, and a **handling table** at which children can touch real objects and find out about them.

Section 1: What is treasure?

The first part of the exhibition introduces the concept of treasure, explaining that it is more than just precious metals and gems – students will be challenged to decide what they think treasure is. There will also be an introduction to the new Treasure Act, the Portable Antiquities Scheme and metal detecting.

Contents of section 1 (numbers correspond with 'Gallery Layout' sheet):

1. The Portable Antiquities Scheme
2. Waterden Hoard
3. The Hoxne Treasure
4. The Hoxne Treasure
5. Which of these do you think is Treasure?
6. Chertsey Shield

Section 2: Treasure tells Stories

Because much extra information has been gained about many of the treasures on display, we are able to tell 'stories' about them. This section covers most periods of British History, focusing on several famous treasures and some very recent ones.

In this section, there are also hands-on interactives (a – f), which are appropriate for schools.

Contents of section 2 (numbers correspond with 'Gallery Layout' sheet):

7. The Ringlemere Gold Cup
8. Medieval Finds
9. The Mildenhall Treasure
10. Winchester Hoard
11. Llanbedrgoch: the Vikings in Anglesey
12. English Civil War Hoards & The Tregwynt Hoard
- &
15. East Leicestershire Hoards

Section 3: Beneath our feet

This section includes the recently discovered Bronze Age burial from near Amesbury and the largest gold coin hoard from Britain. The lenticular panels provide another perspective on buried treasures. There is also a hands-on interactive panel (f).

Contents of section 3 (numbers correspond with 'Gallery Layout' sheet):

13. The Amesbury Archer
14. Fishpool Hoard

Section 4: Small things forgotten

This part of the exhibition concentrates on smaller objects, many of which have been found by metal detector users. These finds have often helped us to gain a much more detailed knowledge of our ancestors. There is also a hands-on interactive panel (g).

Contents of section 4 (numbers correspond with 'Gallery Layout' sheet):

16. Forgotten Fashions of the Tudors & Badges of Faith
17. Rings through the Ages
18. East Norfolk Hand axe
19. Local Flints
20. Local Finds by Local People
21. Hunting for Queen Boudica & Body Adornment in the Bronze Age
22. Where did the Vikings live?
23. Keeping up Appearances in Iron Age and Roman Britain & Toys were us

Section 5: Heroes and villains

This section highlights examples of good and bad practice on behalf of finders of the past. It shows how diligent work has saved treasures for the nation, and how irresponsible activities have lost other treasures, probably forever. This section could generate discussion about citizenship.

Contents of section 5 (numbers correspond with 'Gallery Layout' sheet):

24. A Hero of the Welsh Forests
25. Snettisham: the one that got away
26. Villains of the Wanborough Roman Temple
27. Salisbury: the one that almost got away

Handling table area

Ever wondered what old objects feel like – and what they can tell us about the past? Your students can get to handle some authentic objects from the collections of the British Museum and Norwich Castle. Touch these objects and find out more about them. Museum staff will be there to help your groups. There are also hands-on interactive panels (h - j).

Hands-on, Interactive boards

These provide students with a hands-on opportunity.

(Letters correspond with 'Gallery Layout' sheet.)

- a: Ringlemere gold cup
- b: Where did gold come from?
- c: Hidden messages
- d: Who's who?
- e: Replica dish
- f: What is it?
- g: Viking helmets – right or wrong?
- h: How much?
- i: Hand made or machine made?
- j: Puzzle it out