# **TORC**

**Unique ID:** NMS-5E3BC2

Object type certainty: Certain Workflow status: Published

**Description:** Complete gold Middle Bronze Age four-flange twisted-bar torc. The main bar has been cut longitudinally to create an X-shaped cross-section and has been twisted relatively evenly. The hoop has been slightly distorted and a number of the crests of the twist have been bent or otherwise damaged. At either end of the twisted section is a trumpet-shaped terminal. These appear to be integrally cast and have a circular cross-section. At each terminal the bar tapers just before the twisted flange ends. Each terminal then doubles back and gradually expands along its length. Both of the flat ends have a lozenge-shaped dimple caused as a by-product of manufacture. One dimple is more pronounced than the other.

**Dimensions**: Maximum extant dimension, c. 155mm long. Length of terminal returns, 41.4mm and 40.8mm; maximum diameter of terminals, 4.4mm and 4.4mm; minimum diameter of terminals 3.0mm and 2.6mm; maximum diameter of twisted band 6.2mm. Weight 56g.

**Discussion**: Flange-twisted torcs in both gold and copper alloy can be dated typologically to the later part of the Taunton (c.1400-1250 BC) and more probably the Penard (c. 1300-1150 BC), metalwork phases of the Middle Bronze Age (Roberts 2007). Gold flange-twisted torc finds are concentrated in East Anglia, south-west and south-east England (Roberts, 2007). A complete example is currently held by Norwich Castle Museum (accession no. NWHCM: 1947.5.1). Another, found at Ashill, Norfolk, is held by the British Museum (accession no. 1866,1201.1).

**Date:** c. 1300 - 1100 BC.

#### **Notes:**

Found whilst digging trenches through a paddock for gas pipes. No further objects were recovered at the time of discovery, but the finder states that in recent years the owners have had substantial amounts of topsoil added to level the site.

The object contains a minimum of 10% precious metal and is over 300 years old. Consequently, in terms of both age and precious metal content, it qualifies as Treasure under the stipulations of the Treasure Act 1996.

### **Subsequent actions**

Current location of find: Norwich Castle Museum Subsequent action after recording: Acquired by museum after being declared Treasure

#### Treasure details

Treasure case tracking number: 2017T463

# Chronology

Broad period: BRONZE AGE Subperiod from: Middle Period from: BRONZE AGE

Subperiod to: Middle Period to: BRONZE AGE Date from: Circa 1300 BC Date to: Circa 1100 BC

# **Dimensions and weight**

Quantity: 1

Thickness: 6.2 mm

Weight: 56 g

# **Discovery dates**

Date(s) of discovery: Monday 1st May 2017 - Monday 1st May 2017

#### Personal details

This information is restricted for your access level.

### Other reference numbers

SMR reference number: 62134 Other reference: IND12052017DW Treasure case number: 2017T463 Museum accession number: 2019.130

### **Materials and construction**

Primary material: Gold Completeness: Complete

# Spatial metadata

Region: Eastern (European Region)

County or Unitary authority: Norfolk (County)

District: <u>Breckland</u> (District)
To be known as: Great Dunham

# **Spatial coordinates**

Grid reference source: From finder

Unmasked grid reference accurate to a 0.01 metre square.

# **Discovery metadata**

Method of discovery: Building work

Current location: Norwich Castle Museum