# **TOKEN**

**Unique ID: WILT-AB3EC1** 

Object type certainty: Certain

Workflow status: Awaiting validation

A complete lead medieval token of the Boy Bishop type, dating to the period AD 1400-1500. The obverse shows a mitre, surrounded by a crude legend. There is a solid long cross on the reverse with three pellets in each quarter, surrounded by a crude legend. It probably imitates a long cross penny, and similar to those listed in Fletcher's Leaden Tokens and Tallies, p31.

During medieval winter solistices it became a Christian tradition for each town to elect a Boy Bishop whom was paraded around on processions. In the processions, lead tokens were handed out to the crowd to celebrate the event. This is based on the Roman celebration 'Feast of Saturnalia' which was where society was turned upside down. The Christian community evolved the event so instead of the King of Slaves elected, the Boy Bishop was.

#### **Subsequent actions**

Subsequent action after recording: Returned to finder

### Chronology

Broad period: MEDIEVAL Period from: MEDIEVAL Period to: MEDIEVAL Date from: Circa AD 1400 Date to: Circa AD 1500

### **Dimensions and weight**

Quantity: 1 Weight: 1.75 g Diameter: 16.14 mm

#### **Personal details**

This information is restricted for your access level.

#### Other reference numbers

Other reference: SSWM 5214

### Materials and construction

Primary material: Lead Completeness: Complete

# Spatial metadata

Region: <u>Eastern</u> (European Region)

County or Unitary authority: Suffolk (County)

District: <a href="Babergh">Babergh</a> (District)

Parish or ward: Little Waldingfield (Civil Parish)

# **Spatial coordinates**

4 Figure: TL9245

Four figure Latitude: 52.07007739 Four figure longitude: 0.79992508

1:25K map: TL9245 1:10K map: TL94NW

Unmasked grid reference accurate to a 1000 metre square.