**Bronze bowl c.800- 600 BC**

The Bronze bowl was discovered in the Holywell area in 1960.

It is unlike the rest of the hoard it was found with.

It is very rare to find vessels with similar rivet decoration and the presence of solder, used to fuse two pieces of metal together.

It is also a small size compared to British finds from the Late Bronze Age.

 It was suspected that the bowl may not have been part of the Bronze Age hoard originally but perhaps something Victorian like a lampshade mixed in by accident.

In 2014, the bowl was sent to Mainz, Germany - one of Watford’s twin towns – for analysis and a replica was made by Römisch-Germanisches Zentralmuseum (RGZM).

 It was discovered that the bowl was in fact of Phoenician origin (modern day Syria)

This gives us rare evidence that there was at least indirect contact between Phoenicia and Prehistoric Britain.

How the bowl came to be in Watford is a mystery, but it is believed to have been collected, along with the rest of the hoard, as scrap metal to be reused.

