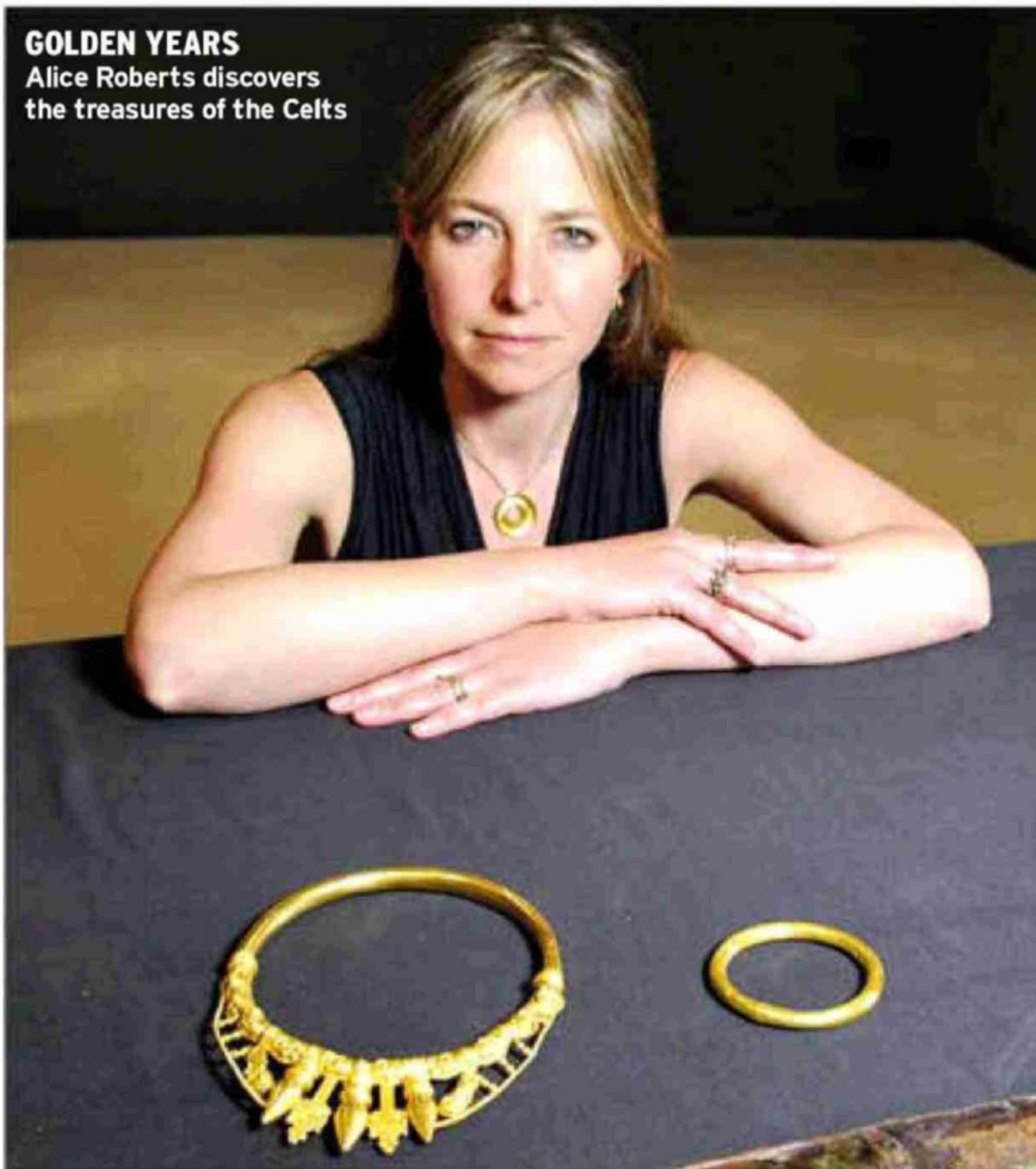


GOLDEN YEARS

Alice Roberts discovers
the treasures of the Celts



The Celts: Blood, Iron and Sacrifice

9.00pm **BBC2**

HISTORY New series Programmes about the Romans, Anglo-Saxons and Vikings have never been thin on the ground. But the Celts get rather lost in TV history. Notwithstanding a 1987 series with music by Enya, these Iron Age peoples have been largely shunted aside. Alice Roberts and Neil Oliver try to put that right with this engaging three-parter.

A sculpture from the third century BC shows that the Romans viewed their Celtic opponents as savages. But we see many examples of how structured and sophisticated their society was: intricate fibulae from a burial site in France, rocksalt mines in the Austrian Alps, and so on.

Roberts and Oliver's narrative baton-passing works surprisingly well in a programme packed with amazing archaeological finds (it's as easy as brushing away a carpet of leaves in one case) and unjarring reconstructions. **MARK BRAXTON**