

# DRINKING VESSEL

**Unique ID:** IOW-A79646

Object type certainty: Certain

Workflow status: Awaiting validation

A complete cast copper-alloy two-part handle from a drinking vessel (probably a tankard) of probable post-Medieval date (c. 1550 - c. 1650).

The handle is complete and the mechanism for lifting the lid survives but the lid itself is missing. The handle is irregular in plan and profile. In plan the handle is curved in a swan-neck style. It tapers from the top, terminating at the base in a narrow sub rectangular flange. At the top it is 11.3mm in width and the width at the base is 5.3mm. The flange would have been attached (perhaps soldered) to the side of the vessel. The handle is 'D'-shaped in cross-section, convex on the inner face and flat on the outer face. At the top of the handle are two raised perforated sub-oval lugs. Through these lugs the mechanism for lifting the lid is attached by a single cast circular cross-section copper alloy pin/bar which is burred over at each end. The mechanism consists of a tapering projection, rectangular in cross-section. This would have been attached to a wooden or leather lid. A second projection extends at an angle of 90° to that of the first, terminating in two rounded knops, one either side of the projection and both pointing outwards. The thumb of the user could be rested on the knops in order to raise and lower the lid. Both elements are cast and each is sturdy, indicating perhaps that the tankard would have been for practical use rather than being decorative.

The handle and the mechanism for raising and lowering the lid are in good condition and are mainly covered in a dark green patina, corroded in places.

108.0 x 13.3mm. Weight: 55.52g.

Similar drinking vessel handles, although made of lead alloy and pewter, can be seen in the Museum of London Exhibition Catalogue: Hornsby, R G et al. 1990: 'Pewter: a celebration of the craft 1200-1700'. 63-67; 88-89 and 99. All these examples date to the late sixteenth and seventeenth centuries.

Other similar vessel handles, probably for tankards, are recorded on the Portable Antiquities Scheme database. For example, see finds: IOW-FB00C5, HESH-C82053 and HESH-C86207.

## Find of note status

This is a find of note and has been designated: County / local importance

**Class:** Handle **Sub class:** Tankard

## Subsequent actions

Current location of find: Finder

Subsequent action after recording: Returned to finder

## Chronology

Broad period: POST MEDIEVAL

Subperiod from: Early  
Period from: POST MEDIEVAL  
Subperiod to: Early  
Period to: POST MEDIEVAL  
Date from: Circa AD 1550  
Date to: Circa AD 1650

### **Dimensions and weight**

Quantity: 1  
Length: 108 mm  
Width: 13.3 mm  
Weight: 55.52 g

### **Discovery dates**

Date(s) of discovery: Wednesday 21st April 2010

### **Personal details**

Found by: This information is restricted for your login.  
Recorded by: Mr Frank Basford  
Identified by: Mr Frank Basford

### **Other reference numbers**

Other reference: IOW2010-1-247

### **Materials and construction**

Primary material: Copper alloy  
Completeness: Incomplete

### **Spatial metadata**

Region: [South East](#) (European Region)  
County or Unitary authority: [Isle of Wight](#) (Unitary Authority)  
District: [Isle of Wight](#) (Unitary Authority)  
To be known as: Isle of Wight

### **Spatial coordinates**

Grid reference source: GPS (from the finder)  
Unmasked grid reference accurate to a 1 metre square.

### **Discovery metadata**

Method of discovery: Metal detector  
Discovery circumstances: Club rally  
Current location: Finder  
General landuse: Cultivated land

Specific landuse: Operations to a depth greater than 0.25m

Hornsby, R.G., et al., 1990 [Pewter. A celebration of the Craft 1200-1700](#) H M S O 63-67; 88-89 and 99

finds.org.uk