

BROOCH

Unique ID: LVPL-51A341

Object type certainty: Certain

Workflow status: Awaiting validation

Cast copper alloy dolphin brooch dating from 43-65AD. The object is almost complete and in very good condition. The bow rises from the top of the wings sweeping in an arc towards the foot. It is gently curved in profile. The wings are tubular with a raised stop-ridge at either end.

The object is decorated with a central rib running the length of the bow. The top half of this rib is smooth and undecorated while running from the centre of the bow to the foot it is decorated with small inverted V-shaped grooves. Either side of this rib is a groove followed by another rib which are also decorated with the inverted V-shaped groove resulting in rows of small triangular decoration. Either side of these ribs is a panel containing concentric 'ring-and-boss' decoration. This also runs the length of the bow. The remains of silvering can be seen on the front of the bow.

The foot of the brooch is decorated with two horizontal ribs which are notched. Below these is a large circular horizontal ridge with a central groove. On the bottom of the foot is a small circular boss.

The catchplate is large and almost complete. On one face of the catchplate a grooved border runs from the top down along the curve and terminates at the right-angle. Within this groove are V-shaped grooves. The edge of the vertical section of the catchplate is decorated with a raised ridge which is in turn decorated with small horizontal grooves. The catchplate and reverse of the brooch is silvered.

The iron spring remains attached within the wings and is secured by an iron access bar. The spring is corroded. The pin is missing. The object has a dark green patina and is in very good condition.

Find of note status

This is a find of note and has been designated: Potential for inclusion in Britannia

Class: Dolphin

Subsequent actions

Subsequent action after recording: Returned to finder

Chronology

Broad period: ROMAN

Date from: Circa AD 43

Date to: Circa AD 65

Dimensions and weight

Quantity: 1

Length: 73.34 mm

Width: 30.86 mm
Thickness: 22.6 mm
Weight: 39.7 g

Discovery dates

Date(s) of discovery: Thursday 1st September 2011

Personal details

Found by: This information is restricted for your login.
Recorded by: Ms Vanessa Oakden
Identified by: Ms Vanessa Oakden

Materials and construction

Primary material: Copper alloy
Manufacture method: Cast
Completeness: Complete

Spatial metadata

Region: [North West](#) (European Region)
County or Unitary authority: [Cheshire East](#) (Unitary Authority)
District: [Cheshire East](#) (Unitary Authority)
To be known as: Sandbach

Spatial coordinates

Grid reference source: From finder
Unmasked grid reference accurate to a 100 metre square.

Discovery metadata

Method of discovery: Metal detector
Discovery circumstances: Found while metal detecting
General landuse: Cultivated land
Specific landuse: Character undetermined