

# FINGER RING

**Unique ID:** NMGW-1995D1

Object type certainty: Certain

Workflow status: Published

Late medieval gilded silver finger-ring with external inscription on a plain central band, separated by a deep groove from a 'beaded' border made up of parallel grooves. The bezel takes the form of a solid casting, raised and narrower than the band width of the ring. The inscription reads: jasper : melchior : baltazar : in a mixture of upper and lower case crude black letter script. Triple dots separate words, and the last name is separated from the bezel by an engraved meander with dots. The inside of the hoop is plain.

Internal hoop diameter 17.9mm; external hoop diameter 22.5mm; band width 6.5mm; band thickness 2mm; weight 6.62g. The ring has not undergone any cleaning or conservation.

The form of the ring is similar to that of some fourteenth/fifteenth-century gold decorative rings. The legend invokes the names of the magi, or Three Kings, supposed to be especially effective against falling sickness and fever. Fifteenth-century variations include Jasper.melchior.baltasar, in god is ar (Dalton 1912, no. 885), IaspparBalta\*/sar Melchior (ibid, no. 888). Another example was exhibited at the Society of Antiquaries in March 1864 (Proc Soc Ant 1864, 362).

The letter 'h', 'l' and 'e' forms are used commonly between the 1350s-1480s, the capital A with angled left stroke in the fourteenth century.

**Inscription:** jasper : melchior : baltazar

## Subsequent actions

Current location of find: Tenby Museum

Subsequent action after recording: Acquired by museum after being declared Treasure

## Treasure details

Treasure case tracking number: 2015TW08

## Chronology

Broad period: MEDIEVAL

Subperiod from: Late

Period from: MEDIEVAL

Subperiod to: Late

Period to: MEDIEVAL

Date from: Exactly AD 1350

Date to: Circa AD 1500

## Dimensions and weight

Quantity: 1

Width: 6.5 mm  
Thickness: 2 mm  
Weight: 6.62 g  
Diameter: 22.5 mm

### **Discovery dates**

Date(s) of discovery: Saturday 12th October 2013 - Saturday 12th October 2013

### **Personal details**

This information is restricted for your access level.

### **Other reference numbers**

Other reference: STTS 2016.43  
Treasure case number: 2015TW08

### **Materials and construction**

Primary material: Silver  
Completeness: Complete  
Surface Treatment: Gilded

### **Spatial metadata**

Region: [Wales](#) (European Region)  
County or Unitary authority: [Pembrokeshire](#) (Unitary Authority)  
District: [Pembrokeshire](#) (Unitary Authority)  
Parish or ward: [Lamphey](#) (Community)

### **Spatial coordinates**

4 Figure: SN0001  
Four figure Latitude: 51.67207597  
Four figure longitude: -4.8938168  
1:25K map: SN0001  
1:10K map: SN00SW  
Grid reference source: From finder  
Unmasked grid reference accurate to a 1000 metre square.

### **Discovery metadata**

Method of discovery: Metal detector  
Current location: Tenby Museum  
General landuse: Cultivated land

Oman, C., 1993 [Victoria and Albert Museum Catalogue of Rings 1930](#) Ipswich: Anglia Publishing