



Chairman welcomes pewter testing success

ABPC Chairman, Richard Abdy, has welcomed the results of the latest round of testing of pewter by the Sheffield Assay Office. As he has previously reported, the Council has been arranging extensive, independent, tests aimed at demonstrating that pewter products can meet the requirements of the new European Directorate for the Quality of Medicines & Healthcare (EDQM) - Metals and alloys used in food contact materials and articles Regulations.

The last series of tests, by the Sheffield Assay Office, finally established the correct testing methods and measurements and demonstrated that the pewter products tested were, for the most part, fine and did not cause any problems in terms of the new limits.

The exception to these results were pewter flasks which showed results of slightly over the permitted 100mg/kg for tin released into the liquid during storage. Testing of an ABPC member's products had taken place using the testing procedures outlined in the EDQM over a 10 day period, at a temperature of 40° Celsius, using an acidic food simulant.

However it has long been the policy of ABPC members to issue guidelines for use with flasks that recommend a limit of 24 hours for storage of spirits. Therefore subsequent tests were carried out in line with the advice issued on the sale of a flask (see box, to right).

Tests carried out after 24 hours following these recommendations were positive and the release limit for tin was comfortably within the required limit. A further test after 72 hours also passed within the required level. Indeed they passed the tests after 72 hours with a result of 3.2mg per litre against the 100mg per litre limit.

The ABPC's interim recommendation to members arising from these test results, therefore, is that pewter items intended to hold liquid sealed inside for any length of time should be sold with guidelines similar to those above.

THIS is a genuine British Pewter spirit flask made by craftsmen by traditional methods using traditional materials. Simple preparation and care of your flask will enhance your lasting enjoyment.

1. As you would any vessel intended to hold food or drink, wash your flask in hot soapy water and rinse thoroughly before filling with spirits, and again before each refilling. After washing, polish the outside surfaces of the flask with a soft cloth to maintain the high polish.

2. Avoid storing spirits in your flask for periods in excess of 24 hours.

3. Do not fill your flask with effervescent 'mixer' drinks, either alone or mixed with spirits.

Following these procedures will ensure that your favourite 'tippie' remains in good condition and that your flask gives you many years of reliable service.

Copies of the test results are shown. Copies of the certificates appear on page 2. If any member has any queries, please contact [Cathy Steele](#).



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A Division of Sheffield Assay Office

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Report No. 05024/01 Issued: 09/10/2015 Page 01

DATE-S/N	REFERENCE	ELEMENT	RESULT	METHOD
23/09/2015 0005	4754FOB/24H	Copper	<1ppm ppm ppm	mean low high ICP-OES
23/09/2015 0005	4754FOB/24H	Lead	<1ppm ppm ppm	mean low high ICP-OES
23/09/2015 0005	4754FOB/24H	Antimony	<1ppm ppm ppm	mean low high ICP-OES
23/09/2015 0005	4754FOB/24H	Tin	1.4ppm ppm ppm	mean low high ICP-OES
23/09/2015 0006	4754FOB/3D	Copper	<1ppm ppm ppm	mean low high ICP-OES
23/09/2015 0006	4754FOB/3D	Lead	<1ppm ppm ppm	mean low high ICP-OES
23/09/2015 0006	4754FOB/3D	Antimony	<1ppm ppm ppm	mean low high ICP-OES

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Standard conditions and tolerances apply.

Report Complete

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DATE-S/N	REFERENCE	ELEMENT	RESULT	METHOD
23/09/2015 0006	4754FOB/3D	Tin	3.2ppm ppm ppm	mean low high ICP-OES

Citric Acid Metal Release

Signature: A.S. Team Leader - M Wood

Snippets

From The Ricardian Bulletin, March 2015

"New sales items in March 2015"

A Richard III Funerary Badge (illustrated) ... being manufactured by Colin Torode of Lionheart Productions (sic), who also made the pewter boar badge for us."

Colin Torode's [Lionheart Replicas](#) is a member of the ABPC. We ran an article about the business in Volume x number y of this Newsletter.

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Email: enquiries@lionheartreplicas.co.uk

Sales: colin@lionheartreplicas.co.uk

Coming next

Index of articles

We intend to publish, in the next issue of this Newsletter, an Index of the Articles that have appeared in the past, for cross-reference purposes.

Where are they now?

A look at what past winners of *Pewter Live* are doing now.

The ABPC Commercial Prize, 2016

About the Commercial Prize, 2016

Visit the ABPC website at: <http://www.britishpewter.co.uk/>

[The Pewterer](#)

[Antique Metalware Society](#)

[The Association of British Pewter Craftsmen](#)

[The Worshipful Company of Pewterers](#)

[Pewter Bank](#)

The Pewterer

[Pewter Live, 2015](#)

Have you read *The Pewterer*? This is an e-zine devoted to pewter, and published in support of pewter and the pewter trade.
www.thepewterer.org.uk

[The Pewter Society](#)

[ITRI](#)

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