Finds from HMS Pomone - Life on board

The finds below provide a glimpse of what daily life was like on board ship in 1811.

Captain's tipple

The base of a Georgian wine glass. Wine or rum?

IWCMS:20001.2.44





The King

Fragment from a glass bottle with the letters GR for George III (r. 1760-1820).

IWCMS:20001.2.82 & 2.86

Ready for dinner

These bone strips known as scales were attached to the tang of the knife with rivets to make the handle.



IWCMS:20001.6.97



One lump or two?

A pair of plain style silver sugar tongs.

Sugar tongs of this style were popular from 1780 to the early 1800s.

IWCMS:20001.6.83

Viewed before and after conservation.

Fork handles

These Pewter handles would have been part of a fork or a spoon.

IWCMS:20001.6.67 & 6.203

Lighting the cabin

Part of a silver candlestick.

IWCMS:20001.8.1

Bowls of smoke

The crew could not smoke their clay pipes below deck, in case of fire.

IWCMS:20001.6.110



Drink up

Sailors would drink from pewter tankards. This lid would prevent spillage and stop things falling into the beer.

IWCMS:20001.6.178

Play us a tune

These three brass keys were part of a musical instrument, probably a clarinet. Sailors would often sing about their bravery, the hard life at sea and what they missed from home.



IWCMS:20001.6.223







As heavy as lead

The purser would use these lead weights to measure out the ship's rations.

IWCMS:20001.5.347

Drinks on tap

This tap would have been fitted into a barrel to serve water or ale. The men's daily ration included 6 half pints of beer.



IWCMS:20001.5.93



Spend a penny

A George III Penny, 1807. The reverse shows Britannia seated with a shield and holding an olive branch and trident.

IWCMS:20001.7.6

By hook

This is a bronze barrel lifting hook. Sailors would use the hook for hauling casks in and out of the ship's hold.



Uniform



Officer's Badge

This oval shaped badge has an anchor and rope motif. It would have been worn by a Warrant Officer.

IWCMS:20001.6.1

Face of a lion

This is one half of a Royal Navy Officer's brass sword-belt fitting. A similar buckle would have been located at the other side of an S shaped clasp.



IWCMS:20001.6.33



Stamped 81

A uniform button from the British Army 81st Regiment of Foot (Loyal Lincoln Volunteers). The 81st Regiment were stationed in Sicily.

IWCMS:20001.6.66

Struck with a windmill

This silver medallion has the image of a windmill on one side. It is not known what it commemorates and may have been a personal item. IWCMS:20001.6.32





Buckle up

This brass buckle may have been part of a shoe. IWCMS:20001.6.153

Women on board

Perfume bottle & Glass stopper

This small glass bottle may have contained perfume or medicine.

A small stopper from a glass vessel.

IWCMS:20001.2.7 & 2.41





A stitch in time

The remains of a brass thimble used for needlework. The head of the thimble has an ornate pattern.

IWCMS:20001.6.207

Good as gold

Five links from a gold chain possibly from a necklace. IWCMS:20001.6.36



Getting a little warm in here



This is the wooden frame of a lady's folding fan. Other 18th century fans were made from horn, tortoiseshell, ivory and mother-of-pearl.

IWCMS:20001.6.176

The Doctor

A bit of an itch

This bone comb was found in four pieces. It was used to remove nits and lice from the sailors' hair.



IWCMS:20001.6.151

Cleaning the wounds

The surgeon might have used these syringes for flushing out wounds or inserting "mercury", as a misguided treatment for syphilis.



IWCMS:20001.9.2 & 9.3

Isle of Wight Council Heritage Service

