

SA405442

19th.c. Seaman's Chest with Original Painted Decoration & Provenance.

Price

Sold**Item Reference: SA405442****Date of manufacture: 1910**

Dimensions

Height = 41 cm (16.1")

Width = 92 cm (36.2")

Depth = 51 cm (20.1")

Description

Delighted to present what is by far the best seaman's chest we have had for many many years. An exceptional untouched example with the sloping sides traditional of the form and retaining the original green exterior paint, iron handles and lock. Lift the lid however, and you reveal the real star feature; a precious original hand painted panel to the inside. Featuring the Union Jack and Stars and Stripes flags as well as the white and red ensigns of the Merchant and Royal Navy surrounding a central crest with a crucifix, heart, signal flag (for the letter L) and an anchor with snake (commonly held to signify a love of the sea or life in service on the ocean). Flanked on each side with a coiling geometric pattern in contrasting colours, it is a wonderful piece of folk art preserved in excellent condition. Sold together with a letter of provenance stating it belonged to seaman John Ingram from the small port town of Blyth in Northumberland. John ran away to sea at just 12 years old and, despite surviving being shipwrecked, spent the majority of his working life at sea. The chest was used to store his personal belongings and rope splicing kit. Having retired back home to Blyth...

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