

SA856543

Late Victorian RNLI Officer of The Watch Telescope by Ross of London

Price

Sold

Item Reference: SA856543

Date of manufacture: 1900

Dimensions

Height = 62.5 cm (24.6")

Width = 4 cm (1.6")

Depth = 4 cm (1.6")

Description

For sale a Late Victorian Single Draw Officer of The Watch RNLI Telescope by Ross of London. This nickel plated telescope has its original leather sleeve to the barrel, pull out objective sun shade and dust slide to the eyetube. It measures 62.5cms fully extended, 43cms closed and has an inch and a quarter diameter objective lens. The single draw is marked to "Ross London" with a serial no: 54803 below and is engraved to the "Royal National Life-Boat Institution" to the opposing side. An interesting example showing that alongside Negretti & Zambra and Dollond who both supplied barometers to the RNLI, Ross was also commissioned to provide optical devices for the service. Given Ross's fine reputation for optical instruments, it is perhaps unsurprising that the company would be chosen for this important contribution to the RNLI. The Officer of the Watch remains an important position on board ship, not only keeping watch at the bridge, the officer is fully responsible for the safe and smooth navigation of the vessel. It was therefore important given the difficult tasks of the RNLI that the equipment employed should be of the highest quality. The maker, Andrew Ross was born...

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