

# NEWSLETTER

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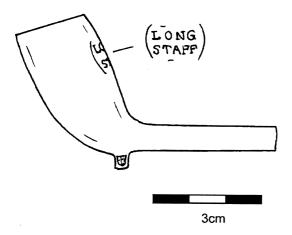


Autumn/Winter 2006

appear to have left wills and no gravestones apparently survive — unless any readers know different?

#### References

Hammond, P., (2004), 'Tobacco pipemakers extracted from the Inland Revenue apprenticeship books 1763-1810', *Society for Clay Pipe Research Newsletter*, **65**, 22-30.



**Figure 1:** Pipe made by Thomas Staveley Longstaff stamped LONGSTAFF on the bowl facing the smoker. Pipe bowl at 1:1, stamp detail slightly enlarged. (Drawn by the author).

## A Manx Pipe from Douglas

by Peter Davey

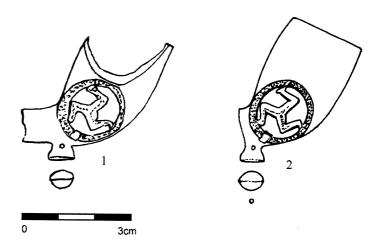
In January 2006, Mrs Diane Cliffe of Devonshire Road, Douglas, Isle of Man, brought into the Manx Museum for identification a clay pipe that she had recently found in her garden. The pipe (Figure 1) is a nineteenth-century bowl with the three legs of Man moulded within a circular frame on either side. There is a neatly moulded heel, oval at its base, with a small dot on either side. The upper part of the bowl is missing. A short portion of the stem survives, with a bore of 5/64". From internal residues it appears that the pipe had been smoked.

Until the mid-1990s it was assumed that the wide range of clay pipes recovered from

the Isle of Man containing some form of the three legs symbol had been made offisland, in major production centres such as Manchester or Glasgow. The demand for such pipes would have been increasing from the mid-nineteenth century due to the rapidly growing tourist industry. Makers' lists and catalogues include a number of Isle of Man cutties. For example, Pollock's of Manchester produced a Manx Pipe as their catalogue number 182 (Jung 2003, 72-73, Figure 47, Nos. 23 and 293) and there is an Isle of Man pipe on White's 1900 price list (Gallagher 1987, 153, No. 602). This view changed dramatically with the discovery in 1995 of pipe production waste in Drumgold Street in Douglas on the site of a new Marks and Spencer store. Here, a range of wasters, kiln furniture and kiln linings were recovered, dating from 1843 to 1861 and representing the manufactory of James Fell and Arthur and William Culum. Many of the pipes contained the three legs symbol and had been made in good quality moulds (Higgins 1999).

The Devonshire Road pipe closely matches one of the bowls from the kiln site (Figure 2). The two bowls have been compared in the hand and are undoubtedly from the same mould. The detail on the surface of the legs and in the surround on the kiln site example is rather less crisp, possibly implying that the new find was produced somewhat earlier than the end of the production period.

The pipe is important in a Manx context in that it is the first example of any of the kiln group to have been recovered from a domestic context. It shows that, for a period at least, the Drumgold Street factory did succeed in getting its products onto the domestic market.



Figures 1 & 2: 1. Pipe bowl from Devonshire Road, Douglas (Drawn by the author). 2. Pipe bowl from Drumgold Street, Douglas (Higgins 1999, 308, No. 7 - drawn by David Higgins).

#### References

Gallagher, D. B., (1987) 'The 1900 list of the Pipemakers' Society', in P. Davey (ed.) *The Archaeology of the Clay Tobacco Pipe X, Scotland*, British Archaeological Reports, (British Series 178), Oxford, 142-163.

Higgins, D. A., (1999) 'A mid-nineteenth-century clay tobacco pipe works in Drumgold Street, Douglas, Isle of Man' in P. J. Davey (ed.), *Recent Archaeological Research on the Isle of Man*, British Archaeological Reports, (British Series 278), Oxford, 377pp.

Jung, S. P., (2003) *Pollock's of Manchester: Three Generations of Clay Pipemakers*, D. A. Higgins (ed.), The Archaeology of the Clay Tobacco Pipe, British Archaeological Reports, (British Series 352), Oxford, 390pp.

# Who is this?

Does anyone recognise this intrepid excavator, who is sporting the very latest in excavation clothing? Answer on page 35.



by Felix van Tienhoven

To the best of my knowledge at least 15 short-stemmed pewter pipes, with a maximum stem length of 16 cm/6 inches, have been preserved in collections in the Netherlands. Sceptics wonder whether these were for blowing bubbles, model pipes for display in tobacco shops or, indeed, rather luxurious smoking pipes for Sunday after church. Although alternative applications cannot be ruled out, I subscribe to the view that they were actually for smoking. Pewter was too expensive for toys and model pipes were, depending on the purpose of display, in general either solid or exact copies of original clay models.

In SCPR Newsletter 66, David Higgins introduced 'An Unusual Pewter Pipe' (2004, 43-44). On the basis of three examples from of my own collection I would like to elaborate on David's note.

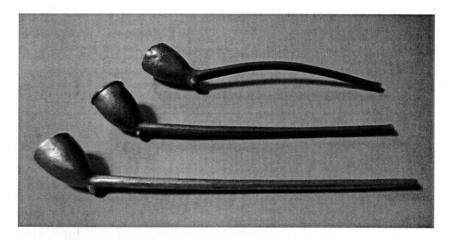


Figure 1: Three pewter pipes from the author's personal collection. (Photograph by the author).

None of these pewter pipes from my collection have a maker's mark. Determining the age of metal relics through radiocarbon or the measurement of chemical decay has proven to be either an unsuitable dating method, or impractical. Therefore the only way in which to establish the probable age of metal pipes has to be by analogy with other objects, i.e., clay pipes. However, one has to take into account that the processing of clay and metal is quite distinct and consequently there are differences in the thickness of the bowl wall and the placement of the stem etc. Moreover, we have to consider that a number of clay pipe patterns had a long currency and, last but

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ISSN: 1359-7116