

ROYAL. An exceptional George III Tankard made in London in 1788
by John Schofield.

Sold



Description

As you will see from the images, the main body displays a tapering circular form. The design simulates the form of a barrel with wide horizontal reeded bands intended to be the iron hoops holding the wooden staves together. The plain cover comes to a point at the front and displays a pierced "Chair Back" thumb piece.

The Tankard has a plain scroll handle and the interior of the main body, and cover, is gilded, which is always a sign of quality. The Tankard is in quite excellent condition and is fully marked on the underside of the cover and on the base. Considering its size and weight, the tankard has a height of 7 inches and the diameter of the base is 4.6 inches. With reference to its weight, the tankard weighs 31oz. The front of the main body is engraved with the Royal Arms, as used by King George III, flanked by supporters, with the Sovereign's Crown above. The cover is engraved with the Crest of England, surrounded by a Garter engraved with the Motto of the Order of the Garter, all surmounted by the Crown of the Sovereign. The Cover is also engraved with the Crest as used by John Bridge, of Rundell, Bridge and Rundell. The base is engraved with the inscription: "A LEGACY FROM George Bridge TO John Bridge 1821." This Tankard was presumably among items sold to Rundell, Bridge and Rundell in 1816-17, totalling 4,286 oz, as part payment for a service of plate for Princess Charlotte of Wales (1796-1817) (PRO LC9/351, f.91). Our heraldic advisor has researched this and it would appear that this was purchased by George Bridge of Milton Abbas, Dorset, who was born circa 1758 and who was buried on 29th June, 1821. He left a widow whose first name was Anne and he was House Steward to the Hon. Lady Caroline Damer at Milton Abbas (who had inherited the estates of her father, the 1st Earl of Dorchester). His Will includes a reference to a cousin who lived in Piddletrenthide (where John Bridge came from) and he also left £ 300 to each of his seven first cousins, including John Bridge. This is an exceptional Royal Tankard, made for George III, which was sold to Rundell, Bridge and Rundell, when it was purchased by a member of the Bridge family, George Bridge, and bequeathed to John Bridge himself, after the death of his first cousin.