



STORIES FROM THE SEA

SHIPWRECK OBJECTS



SAILOR'S CHARM

Date made

1862

Object ref.

GRYEH : 1981.52.1
GRYEH : 1981.52.2

Credit

Great Yarmouth
Museums

Artist/maker

Royal Mint (coin)

Description

Sailors are very superstitious. Lots of sailors used to carry charms with them, which they thought would protect them from drowning or being shipwrecked!

This charm belonged to a sailor called Ronald Edward Dunn. It is made from a silver three-pence coin and a baby's caul. Sometimes babies are born with caul - a piece of skin covering the face, which was considered lucky.

Ronald went to sea in the 1870s and was a fisherman for over 50 years. In all that time his boat never sank, and he was not drowned!

Questions

1. What sort of thing would you make a lucky charm out of?
2. Sailors believed in ghosts, mermaids and magic. Can you tell a ghost story about a sailor or a ship?



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