

JOHN WARNE of London and family

From 1793 to about 1910

This is a family line of London Pewterers first found in the records in 1793 and working through until about 1910 as pewterers and metal workers in London. This is a good example of a family looking after its own, as one generation succeeds another.

Different to the Aldersons for example, in that nothing very special is ever recorded as happening. No high Office, and no special or fantastic occasion that needed their input is recorded, no crime, no passion, no incredible skill is recorded. Guess they must have been regular working folk who kept themselves to themselves.

It could be said then that why should we bother much about them? Why indeed? Apart from that they were good skilled craftsmen if mostly late in the day of their particular skill.

So this article will start with some examples of their pewter and marks.

In the writer's early collecting days it did seem that there was a lot of their pewter to be found and that although mostly likely of a late date, it was generally a good product, marked and interesting.

Having started with examples of their work the article moves on to a briefly summarised history of who was working and when and includes mention of other marks - which this writer does not have the agreement of any of the copyright holders to show herein.

The Warne family trading and pewter making activities were likely mostly bought out/taken over by Gaskell & Chambers in about 1900. Indeed the writer had a brass rimmed pewter standard measure marked Gaskell & Chambers London but said to be made with the moulds of John Warne (II) - (or those of the Warne line)

Usual preamble –

(The purpose of such articles as this, is not to give a conclusive account, but to put together snippets of known information so that those interested might pursue their own knowledge of the named pewterers more easily. Whilst every care is taken to publish only what is understood by the contributors or from sources believed to be good, it would still be valid to keep an open mind about all the information given. This website welcomes any updated information and would hope to make any necessary corrections at the following website review, usually occurring in spring or autumn.)

Scarce Antique Pewter Lidded Ale Jug of good quality.

Engraved to the front for the owner 'Arthur E Fassridge' with a pot touch of the maker John Warne (OPM4968) of London a pewterer from 1796. Attractive lidded ale jug with inside sieve before the spout, strong thumbpiece nice handle and heavy base. This stands over 5" tall with a footrim diameter of 2 7/8" widest point from tip of spout to back of handle of about 6" and weighs 1lb 6 ozs.



A pint Pewter mug by John Warne of Blackfriars Road London OP4968 with fine engraved monogram to the front and showing in the base his mark of two hands clasped within an inner circle with his details in the outer circle, established in 1796 there are no verification marks which might imply pre-imperial and it is especially nice for its very elaborate monogram to the front. The word Pint is to the left of the handle. A nice footed bucket shape with plain body weighing over 1 lb 1 oz and standing nearly 5 “ with a footrim nearly 3 ½”.





A spouted Pewter pint by John Warne of Blackfriars Road London OP4968

- showing his mark in oval form in the base on the underside of which are the words – Hope Pole Mansion House St – engraved. Stamped to the left of the handle is an early Surry verification mark letters SAYE to the corners of a square containing a crown and the word pint. And owners initials engraved to the front in the style of the mid 1800's. Weighs 1 lb 2 ozs stands almost 5" with a footrim almost 3 ½".





Pewter Pint Measure with Brass Rim.

Held by the publican to prove his measures, engraved clearly to the front *Imperial Measure* and to the left of the handle with a PINT stamp and the verification VcrownR over 66 over LCC thus verified clearly for Surrey or London County at the end of the 1800s. To the base a clear pot touch of John Warne of Blackfriars Road who with his sons and Grandsons continuing the firm were pewterers in that area from 1793m until after 1900 and this will belong to the later part of their work (*though that engraving looks earlier*). Clearly for Surrey or London County at the end of the 1800s. This truncated cone with strong low to middle fillets stands over 4 ¼” tall with a footrim just under 4” and weighs 1 lb 8 ozs.





Other marks recorded for this family line include

- 1) THOs WARNE (abbreviation for Thomas replacing the John) (1817-1854)
- 2) THOM & JAs (replacing the John Warne) – with WARNE across the centre and 109 London Rd - on the foot of the same oval shape (1823-1865)
- 3) The mark as shown of John Warne is in use again 1856 – 1900 (by John Warne II).

Of the pieces shown the lidded spouted measure is likely the earliest though the mark doesn't look it.

- 4) Around the same oval with the clenched hands or handshake to the centre: the words at the top WARNE & - at the base FORSTER (1869-1901)
- 5) What looks like a serrated edged oval with (perhaps) H & T WARNE at the top, 90 in the centre and ST GEORGES RD at the foot
- 6) The marks as shown or similar of JOHN WARNE is in use again by John Warne & Co in 1893-1900

The next section attempts to simplify the working dates and available known information (known of or used at the time of writing by this writer).

Name of pewterer or business	Working dates	Working address	Related to	Worked with or as
John Warne I	1793 - 1822	1793-1822 at 25 Great Surrey Street off Blackfriars Road	Parent to - James and Thomas Warne	John Warne

		around 1809 18 Phoenix Row, Blackfriars Road	Grandparent to John Warne II	
Thomas Warne	1817 - 1854	113 Blackfriars Road	See above	Thomas & James Warne
James Warne	1823 - 1840	1833-1840 – 107 Union Street, Southwark 1833-1840 – Stangate Street Lambeth 1840 – 14 Park Street	See above	Thomas & James Warne
Thomas & James Warne Company/partnership	1823 - 1865	Also at 109 London Road 1855 to 1867 Note – 1823-1832 then partners appear to split up running separate businesses until c1855 when it appears again until 1865	See above	From 1855- 1865 it is unknown if the partners were the same or others unrecorded
Samuel Warne	1833 - 1852	1833-1835 at 3 Great Surrey Street 1835-1840 at 153 Great Surrey Street 1840-1852 at 122 Blackfriars Road 1852 and perhaps onwards at 9 St Georges Terrace Borough Road.	Not known to be of the same family as John Warne – nothing really known about him	
James Warne This might be the same James as above	1853 - 1858	1853-1858 at 11 St George's Circus Blackfriars In 1858 at 3 Weymouth Place New Kent Road	Unknown but likely James as above	Thomas & James Warne
John Warne II	1856 - 1900	1856 – 1892 113 Blackfriars Road And also 1866-1892 at	Grandchild of John Warne I but we don't	Warne & Foster 1869-1891

		114 Blackfriars Road	know who the father was.	John Warne & Co 1893-1900
Thomas Warne Another Thomas as the first one died in 1854	1859-1867	1859-1867 109 London Road	?	?
Warne & Foster	1869-1891	1869 – 1891 113 and 114 Blackfriars Road And also 1879-1891 at 115 Blackfriars Road And 72 Weber Street 1883-1891	See John Warne II above	Proprietor John Warne II - so who was Foster?
Henry Thomas Warne	1869-1905	1869-1905 20a Temple Street and 90 or 96 St George's Road Southwark	Relationship to above unknown - but father of Frederick Warne	Proprietor of Henry & Frederick Warne and working partner of Frederick Warne
James Warne	1890 – on ?	31 Oakley Street Lambeth	unknown	unknown
Frederick Warne	1892 - 1910	96 St George's Road Southwark Business of Henry & Frederick Warne	See Henry Thomas Warne above	See Henry Thomas Warne above
John Warne &Co.	1893-1900	See John Warne II above But note this business was succeeded by Gaskell & Chambers around 1900	See John Warne II above	See John Warne II above

Having trawled through all this information you might wonder why you bothered to read it. It does go to show just how difficult relationships and businesses are to trace going back not much over 100 years.

However should the interested novice collector come across a mark as shown or described in a nice piece of pewter they will have a point of reference for the people who in the 19th century, made a very decent product for the pubs and inns of the day.

References read and used for written information in this article -

The Pewter Society – Database & Journals – an invaluable resource for anyone interested in the subject – more information than in any published books. So this is a very strong plug suggesting that anyone the least interested should join the Pewter Society (see Associate membership if you are unlikely to go to meetings). The costs of joining will be less than buying the books you might need and the access to information such membership gives is far better. The Pewter Society have not asked for this recommendation.

Ricketts: Pewterers of London 1600 – 1900 (self published – see www.pewtersellers.com).