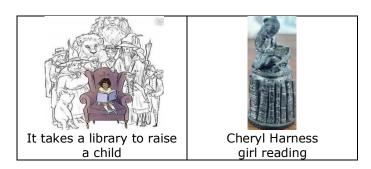
# Children's books characters on thimbles

# including nursery rhymes - fairy tales and fables

If you are ever thinking of a starter thimble collection for a child – maybe this thematic topic may be the perfect start for a collection? As most of the thimbles are made of china, they would be a reasonable theme to collect? The thimble may show the cover of a favourite book or an actual character.

Maybe these thimbles will send you to revisit to your favourite childhood read? Check whether your favourite thimble maker has created a thimble?



It seems that the earlier the book was published, the more prolific the thimbles associated with the characters are. For these bigger sections, the book characters are depicted separately.

Some of the thimbles show only the book title - these still encapsulate the books character.

We are familiar with so many characters on television and in films that didn't originate in book form (for example Jim Henson's The Muppets). They are outside the scope of this topic.

Disney movies have played a huge role in bringing book characters to the screen. Thimble makers have been influenced by these movie versions, especially in the fairy tales section. Without the original author, many of the films or TV versions would not exist. Many of these versions are shown on many of the

Children grew up listening to nursery rhymes and fairy tales – these are included at the end of the topic.

There are no lullabies like Twinkle twinkle little star ...

thimbles below.

Pewter is an ideal medium for thimble makers to show the finest details of nursery rhymes.

Most of the china thimbles have decals that are often repeated.

Its lovely to find the odd handpainted thimbles – and there are several sterling silver thimbles depicting the book characters.

The following was not written for children: The little prince - Antoine de Saint-Exupery

I have arranged the topic alphabetically by the title of the book depicted. Within each book, thimbles with a known maker are listed first.

last update: 16 November 2025

#### Children's books characters

# THE ADVENTURES OF TOM SAWYER 1876 – THE ADVENTURES OF HUCKLEBERRY FINN 1884 Mark Twain (US)



<u>Birchcroft</u> Huckleberry Finn book



<u>Francesca</u> Huckleberry Finn



Heirloom Editions USA Huckleberry Finn handpainted by Tasia



Chris Harmer 1976 Tom Sawyer enamelled sterling silver



<u>Francesca</u> Tom Sawyer



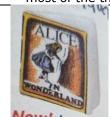
Sutherland 1984 Tom Sawyer

#### ALICE IN WONDERLAND Lewis Carroll 1865 (UK)

it is interesting how differently each thimble maker interprets this storys characters

#### **Alice**

most of the thimbles feature Alice and are included here, no matter which character accompanies her



<u>Birchcroft</u> Alice in Wonderland book



Birchcroft Drink me



<u>Birchcroft</u> Alice in Wonderland poster



Brad Elfrink USA Alice and the Caterpillar



Brad Elfrink USA Alice and the Dodo



Brad Elfrink USA Alice and the Cheshire Cat



Brad Elfrink USA Alice and the White Rabbit



Brad Elfrink USA Alice and the Mad Hatter



Hallmark Cards USA 1995 Alice in Wonderland



<u>Harmer</u>



Heirloom Editions USA handpainted by CC Alice and the Knave of Hearts



<u>Iles & Gomms</u> Alice and the Dodo



Iles & Gomms Alice and the Mad Hatters tea party



Iles & Gomms Alice and the Cheshire Cat Alice in Wonderland



Alice in Wonderlanad and the Mad Hatter



Lucerne Wulf USA sterling silver



Alice and the Mad Hatter



McMillan & Wife Alice and the Lion and the Unicorn



R.J.K. USA Alice and the White Rabbit handpainted silver





Royal Grafton Advice from the Caterpillar



**Royal Grafton** Alice and croquet match



**Royal Grafton** Curiouser and curiouser



**Royal Grafton** Dodo before the caucus



**Royal Grafton** Dodo we beg your pardon



**Royal Grafton** Drink me



**Royal Grafton** Alice and Humpty Dumpty



**Royal Grafton** If it had grown up it would have made a dreadfully ugly child



**Royal Grafton** Alice and the Mad Hatters tea party



**Royal Grafton** Alice and the Queen of Hearts Off with her head



**Royal Grafton** Alice and the Queen of Hearts Speak roughly to your little boy and beat him when he sneezes



**Royal Grafton** Alice and the deer



Royal Grafton Alice and the golden crown



Royal Grafton Alice and the Lion and the Unicorn



Royal Grafton Alice and the White Knight



**Royal Grafton** Wont you join the dance



Stephen Frost Warwick Models 1988 (L) Drink me



Sterling Classic 1998



Stephen Frost Warwick

Models

Alice and the Cheshire Cat



Sterling Classic 1998 Alice and the Cheshire Cat



The Thimble Guild
Alice and the Dodo
commemorating 100<sup>th</sup>
anniversary the authors
death 1998



Walt Disney USA 1988



Alice and the Caterpillar commemorating 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary 2012



Alice and the Cheshire Cat commemorating 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary 2012



Drink me commemorating 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary 2012



movie with Mia Wasilkoski as Alice



Alice in Wonderland by Lewis Carroll first published in 1865 150 years ago



movie with Mia Wasilkoski as Alice amd White Rabbit



Alice and the Mad Hatters tea party commemorating 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary



Alice and the Queen of Hearts commemorating 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary



Alice and the Mad Hatters tea party





Alice and Dodo We beg ypur acceptance of this elegant thimble



<u>Harmer</u> Carpenter



<u>Harmer</u> **Caterpillar** 

#### **Cheshire Cat**



Comstock Creations USA



Hallmark Cards USA 1998 Alice in Wonderland



<u>Harmer</u>



Royal Grafton It vanished quite lowly, beginning with the far end of its tail and ending with the grin





#### **Dormouse**



Carol Ann Miniatures



Daniel Riccio US 1998 bronze



<u>Harmer</u>



Stephen Frost Warwick Models 1988





**Duchess** 



Birchcroft Herald



Moorland Miniatures **Old Father William** 



Royal Grafton Herald



**Royal Grafton Old Father William** 



**Royal Grafton Jabberwocky** 



<u>Harmer</u> Hand of cards



Harmer King of Hearts

#### **Mad Hatter**



**Birchcroft** 



Hallmark Cards USA 1996 Alice in Wonderland



Harmer



Healacraft China
'Twinkle twinkle little bat
how I wonder what you're
at
Up above the the world
you fly, like a teatray in
the sky
Woodsetton Peepr of
speech by Mad Hatter



**Royal Grafton** 



Stephen Frost Warwick Models 1988



Sterling Classic 1998





1993







<u>Harmer</u>



Stephen Frost Warwick Models 1998



Sterling Classic





Harmer



Stephen Frost Warwick Models 1998



Sterling Classic 1998

#### **Tweedledum and Tweedledee**



Comstock Creations USA



**Royal Grafton** 

# **Walrus and the Carpenter**



<u>Harmer</u>



McMillan & Wife



**Royal Grafton** 

#### **White Rabbit**



Carol Ann Miniatures 2016



<u>Hallmark Cards</u> USA 1997 *Alice in Wonderland* 



Harmer



Royal Grafton



Stephen Frost Warwick Models 1998



Sterling Classic 2001



commemorating 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary 2012



others



Royal Grafton quote Twas brillig and the slithy toves

# ANNE OF GREEN GABLES Lucy Maude Montgomery 1908 (Canada)



#### THE BOOK OF FLOWER FAIRIES Cecily Mary Barker 1927 (UK)



#### BRAMBLEY HEDGE Jill Barklem 1980 (UK)





# THE CAT IN THE HAT etc Dr Seuss 1957 (US)



bronze statue of the author and his character



Yertle the turtle

# CHARLIE AND THE CHOCOLATE FACTORY etc Roald Dahl 1964 (UK)



We is in dream country the BFG said, this is where all dreams happen



Charlie and the chocolate factory 2013



Fantastic Mr Fox 2013



James and the giant peach 2013



Matilda 2013



The Twits 2013



The witches 2013

# **GUMNUT BABIES** 1916 – **SNUGGLEPOT AND CUDDLEPIE** 1918 May Gibbs (Australia)



Royal Grafton 1994 Gumnut Babies



firehydrant





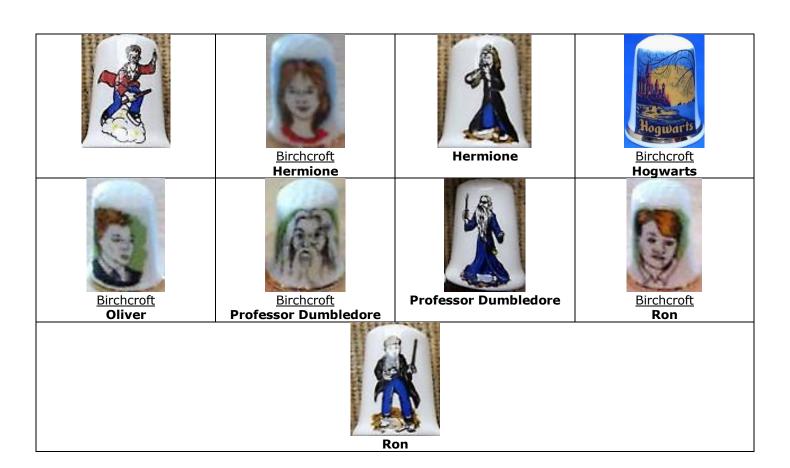
<u>Jan Milton</u> handpainted Snugglepot Cuddlepie

#### HARRY POTTER J K Rowling 1997 (UK)



J K Rowling 'When you dream you can do what you like'





# THE JUNGLE BOOK Rudyard Kipling 1894 (UK)





Birchcroft
The Apes



Birchcroft
The Colonel



Birchcroft Vultures



<u>Birchcroft</u> Yogi Bear and Booboo

# MARY POPPINS P L Travers 1933 (UK)



Birchcroft
Mary Poppins the musical poster



Sterling Classic



Mary Poppins 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary 1964-2014 2014



Mary Poppins 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary 1964-2014 2014

# MR MEN Roger Hargreaves 1971 (UK)



Mr Men 2016 celebrating 65<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Little Miss



Mr Greedy 2014



Mr Happy 2014



Mr Nosey 2014



Mr Tickle 2014

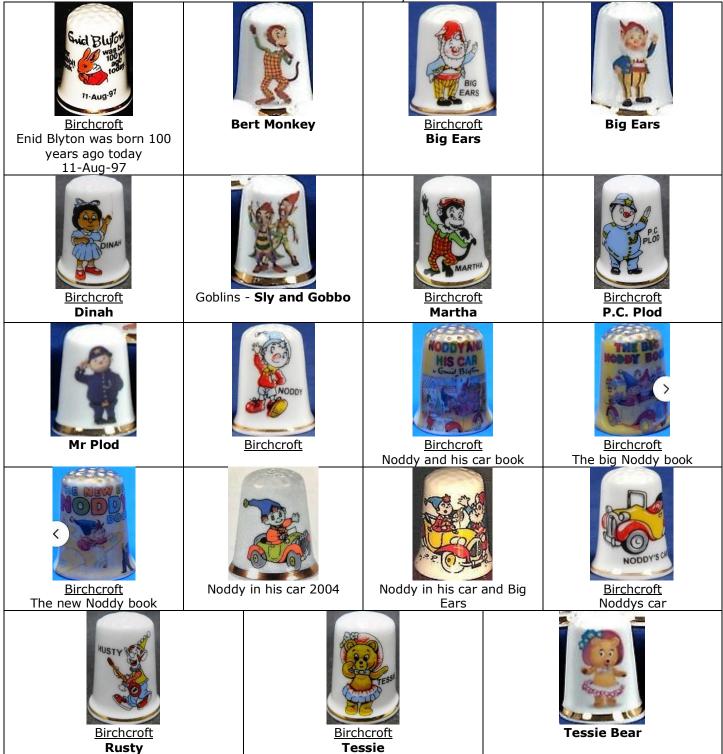


Mr Men 2016 A white Christmas

# NODDY Enid Blyton 1949 (UK)



Great British authors Enid Blyton 1897-1968



#### PADDINGTON BEAR Michael Bond 1958 (UK)

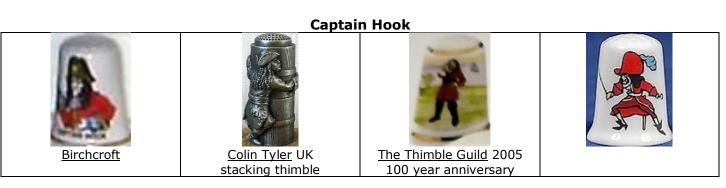




PETER PAN J M Barrie 1904 (UK)

#### **Peter**





# Crocodile



**Birchcroft** 



Colin Tyler UK stacking thimble



The Thimble Guild 2005 100 year anniversary



**Birchcroft** John



The Thimble Guild 2005 John 100 year anniversary



John



Birchcroft Jolly Roger



**Birchcroft** Michael



**Michael** 



**Birchcroft** Nana



Colin Tyler UK Smee stacking thimble



**Birchcroft Tiger Lily** 

#### **Tinkerbell**



**Birchcroft** 



Colin Tyler UK stacking thimble



Sterling Classic



The Thimble Guild 2005 100 year anniversary



Walt Disney 1988







Secret wings

Wendy



**Birchcroft** 



The Thimble Guild 2005 100 year anniversary



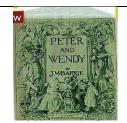
Woodsetton UK 1989 peep



**Others** 



Peter Pan and Never Land book



<u>Birchcroft</u> Peter and Wendy by J.M. Barrie book



**Birchcroft** 



**Birchcroft** 



The Thimble Guild 2005 Celebrating 100 years of Peter Pan Charity No 235825



The Thimble Guild J.M. Barries Peter Pan 100 years

# PINOCCHIO Carlo Collodi 1883 (Italy)

#### **Pinocchio**



Ann Sullivan UK handpainted



**Birchcroft** 



McMillan & Wife



Q2 USA handpainted wood



Italy resin







**Jiminy Cricket** 









RAGGEDY ANN - ANDY Johnny Gruelle 1915 (US)









Janet Pitts USA Andy

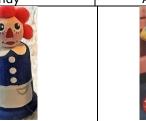
<u>Radnor</u> Andy

**Birchcroft** Ann and Andy











<u>Calico Cuties</u> USA handpainted

**Comstock Creations** USA Ann

<u>Janet Pitts</u> USA Ann

**Moorland Miniatures** 1996 Ann





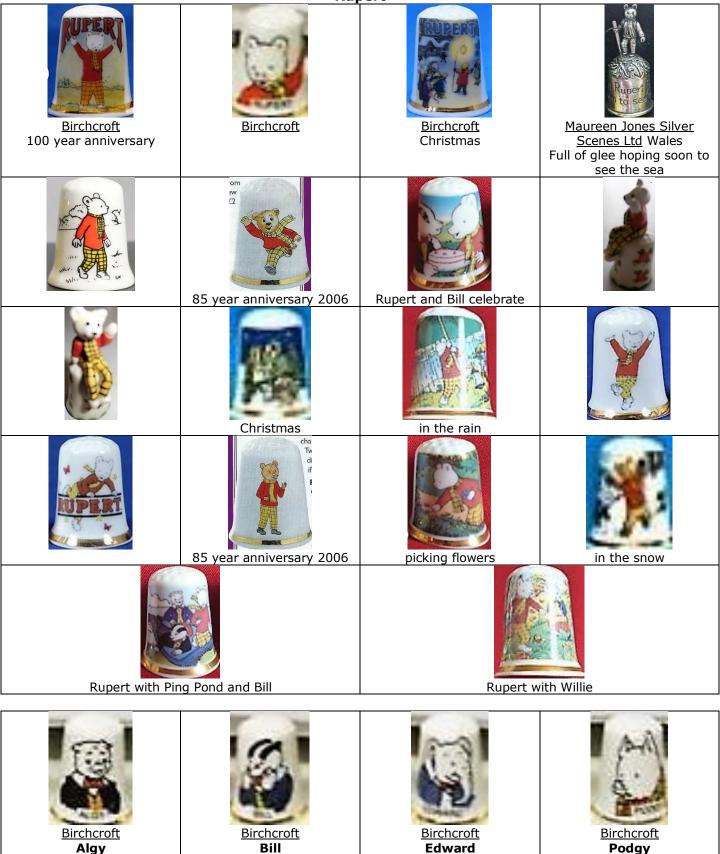


Radnor UK Ann

Ann 1990 handpainted

# RUPERT BEAR Herbert Tourtel 1920 (UK)

**Rupert** 











**Birchcroft Tiger Lily** 

**Wise Old Goat** 

#### THE SNOWMAN Raymond Briggs 1978 (UK)



Border Fine Arts Studio UK 2003 enamelled



**Royal Doulton** pyjamas



Royal Doulton snowman



**Royal Doulton** skier



**Royal Doulton** sheriff



Royal Doulton Highland dancer



**Royal Doulton** braces

# THE TALE OF PETER RABBIT etc Beatrix Potter 1902 (UK)





Frederick Warne & Co were the publisher of all her books. Their initials often appear inside many of these thimbles. Most of the characters portrayed were those drawn by Beatrix Potter in her 23 books.

Peter Rabbit - The tale of Peter Rabbit



**Birchcroft** Peter and family



Birchcroft 2022 The tale of Peter Rabbit



**Birchcroft** The tale of Peter Rabbit book



**Birchcroft** Peter in the garden



Lenox USA 1996



Reutter Germany 2002 100 years



Reutter Germany L: 2001 Peter and family



Reutter Germany Peter and family





**Amiable Guinea Pig** Applely Dapplys nursery rhymes



Sutherland **Anna Maria** The tale of Samuel Whiskers



Sutherland Applely Dapply Applely Dapplys nursery rhymes

**Benjamin Bunny** – The tale of Benjamin Bunny



Birchcroft



Lenox USA 1996



Reutter Germany L: 2001



**Sutherland** 



The Thimble Guild 2013 70 years of Potters death



Wedgwood 1983







**Cecily Parsley** 



Sutherland Cecily Parsley



Lenox USA 1996 **Dig Diggory Delvet** 

**Duchess** - The tale of the pie and the patty pan



**Birchcroft** 



Lenox USA 1996



Sutherland



Sutherland The fierce bad rabbit The story of a fierce bad rabbit



Sutherland **Flopsy** The tale of Flopsy bunnies



Wedgwood 1983 **Flopsy** 



The Thimble Guild 2015 Flopsy Mopsy and Cottontail



Sutherland Foxy Whiskered **Gentleman** The tale of Jemima Puddleduck



Sutherland **Gardening Guinea Pig** Cecily Parsleys nursery rhymes



Sutherland **Gentle Rabbit** The story of a fierce bad rabbit



Sutherland Ginger The tale of Ginger and Pickles



Birchcroft **Goody and Mrs Hackee** 



**Goody Tiptoes** The tale of Tommy Tiptoes



Birchcroft Guinea pigs

#### Hunca Munca - The tale of two bad mice



Lenox USA 1996



Lenox USA 1996



Sutherland



The Thimble Guild 2014 70 years of Potters death 2014



1994



silver-plated pewter 2003



1994

#### Jemima Puddleduck – The tale of Jemima Puddleduck



**Birchcroft** Book cover



Crummles UK 1989 enamelled



Jacqui Walker UK 1997 crocheted



Lenox USA 1996





Reutter Germany L: 2001



Sutherland



The Thimble Guild 2013 70 years of Potters death



Wedgwood 1983



gold painted apex

#### no photo

silver-plated pewter 2003



silver-plated Korea 1993



thimble holder

Johnny Town Mouse – The tale of Johnny Town Mouse



Sutherland



The Thimble Guild



The Thimble Guild 2015



gold painted apex



**Birchcroft** Kep The tale of Mr Jeremy Fisher



The Thimble Guild Kitty in Boots book cover

Ref: T128571 £7.95



Lenox USA 1996 Lady Mouse



<u>Sutherland</u> Lucie The tale of Mrs Tiggy Winkle



Lucinda The tale of two bad mice

**Little Pig Robinson** - The Tale of Little Pig Robinson



Sutherland



The Thimble Guild 2014

no photo

silver-plated pewter 2003

**Miss Moppet** – The story of Miss Moppet



Birchcroft



Birchcroft Miss Moppet and Mittens



Lenox USA 1996



**Sutherland** 



Sutherland Mouse The story of Miss Moppet



Sutherland The Mouse Tailor The tailor of Gloucester



The Thimble Guild 2014 The Mouse who had too many children lived in a shoe



Lenox USA 1996 Mr Alderman Ptolem



Lenox USA 1996 Mr Fox



Mr Fox 70 years of Potters death 2013



Sutherland Mr Jackson The tale of Mrs Tittlemouse

Mr Jeremy Fisher - The tale of Mr Jeremy Fisher



Crummles UK 1989 enamelled



Lenox USA 1996



Sutherland



The Thimble Guild 2014 70 years of Potters death



1994



silver-plated pewter 2003



gold painted apex



Mr Pricklepin 2014 Applely Dapplys nursery rhymes



Sutherland



**Birchcroft Mrs Rabbit** 



Mrs Rabbit 2015



**Birchcroft Mrs Tabitha Twitchit** 



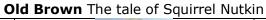
**Sutherland Mrs Tabitha Twitchit** The tale of Tom Kitten

Mrs Tiggy Winkle The tale of Mrs Tiggle Winkle



Mrs Tittlemouse - The tale of Mrs Tittlemouse









# Old Mrs Rabbit The tale of Peter Rabbit







Pigling Bland The tale of Pigling Bland



<u>Birchcroft</u> Pigling Bland and Alexander



Lenox USA 1996





The Thimble Guild 2014



silver-plated pewter 2003



Sutherland **Pig Wig** The tale of Pigling Bland



Birchcroft **Ripley** 

**Ribby** - The tale of the pie and the patty pan



**Birchcroft** Cousin Tibby



Lenox USA 1996



**Sutherland** 

no photo

silver-plated pewter 2003 Cousin Tibby

# Samuel Whiskers - The tale of Two Bad Mice









The Thimble Guild 2014

silver-plated pewter 2003



Birchcroft
Simpkin the cat



Simpkin the cat
The Tailor of Gloucester



Sir Isaac Newton
The tale of Mr Jeremy Fisher

**Squirrel Nutkin** – The tale of Squirrel Nutkin



<u>Birchcroft</u> book cover



Lenox USA 1996



Sutherland



The Thimble Guild 2014 70 years of Potters death



1994



gold painted apex



gold-plated pewter 2003



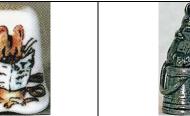
Susan
The tale of Little Pig Robinson

# The Tailor of Gloucester - The Tailor of Gloucester





Lindner Germany 2001





Stephen Frost Warwick **Models** 



Wedgwood 1983



gold-plated Korea 1993 limited to 200



gold painted apex



gold-plated pewter 2003



Peter Rabbit and friends 100 years 1994



beads over wood



Timmy Tiptoes - The tale of Timmy Tiptoes



**Birchcroft** 



Sutherland



The Thimble Guild 2015

Timmy Willie – The tale of Johnny Town Mouse







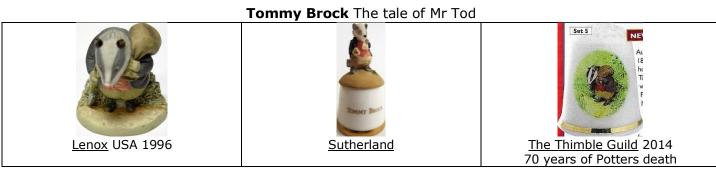
The Thimble Guild 2015

#### Tom Kitten - The tale of Tom Kitten



#### Tom Thumb - The tale of Two Bad Mice





Two Bad Mice - The tale of Two Bad Mice



# THOMAS THE TANK ENGINE Wilbur Awdry 1946 (UK)



**Birchcroft** 



The Thimble Guild 2014 Thomas the tank engine 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary



The Thimble Guild 2015 Thomas the tank engine 70 years



The Thimble Guild 2015 Thomas the tank engine 70 years Three railway engines

TREASURE ISLAND Robert Louis Stevenson 1883 (UK)





Birchcroft book



<u>Fort</u> USA Pirate Las Vegas



Fort USA Pirate



Sutherland 1983 Hispaniola



Sutherland 1983 pieces of eight



<u>Sutherland</u>



Treasure Island Fort Las Vegas est. 1993





# THE WIND IN THE WILLOWS Kenneth Grahame 1908 (UK)

the illustrations by Ernest Shepard are those used on the thimbles below

**Badger** 





Ratty



Berkshire picnic



Caverswall 1983 limited to **250** 



McMillan & Wife



Royal Albert 1987



The Thimble Garden UK 100th anniversary



Thimbles n Things UK



There is absolutely nothing half so much worth doing as simply messing about in boats 1999



Very well sang boy, cried the rat heartily. And now come along in and warm yourself 1999

#### **Toad**



**Berkshire** 



**Berkshire** 



<u>Berkshire</u>



**Berkshire** 



<u>Berkshire</u> gypsy caravan



Berkshire Toads escape



<u>Berkshire</u> Toad speaks



Caverswall 1983 limited to 250





McMillan & Wife



Royal Albert 1987



The Thimble Garden UK 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary



Toad with a quaking heart, but as firm a footstep as he could command, Toad set fort cautiously 1999



I wonder, Toad said to himself presently, I wonder if this sort of car starts easily 1999



Oh sir, said Toad crying afresh, I am a poor washerwoman and I've lost all my money 1999



Prisoner. Pull yourself together. It's going to be twenty years for you this time 1999



Shout hooray For its a Toads great day. He sang very load with great unction 1999



The boat had run aground and the barge-woman was gesticulating wildly and shouting, Stop, stop, stop 1999



Theres real life for you, bedded in that little cart. The open road, the dusty highway 1999



To the panic stricken weasels the hall seemed full of monstrous animals 1999

#### Weasel



Heirloom USA



McMillan & Wife



Others



Berkshire
Barge woman



McMillan & Wife Field mice carolling



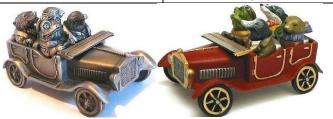
Berkshire
Over the bank they went



Berkshire
Take those things off



Berkshire mice singing carols



The Thimble Garden UK car **thimble holder** 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary



Birchcroft book



The Thimble Guild set of 12

## WINNIE THE POOH A A Milne 1926 (UK)

### Pooh





**Christopher Robin** 



**Birchcroft** Eeyore



**Birchcroft** playing Poohsticks with Pooh



**Birchcroft** 



McMillan & Wife



The Thimble Guild Happy Easter 2017



Timothy Burton Burtwell UK 1997 Christopher and Pooh sterling silver





**Eeyore** 



Blacktop China



Sterling Classic





Kanga



Birchcroft



Sterling Classic

### Owl



Birchcroft 2020



**Birchcroft** 

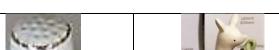


Blacktop China



Lenox USA 1996







Blacktop China



Lenox USA 1996



Sterling Classic



Rabbit

**Piglet** 



Blacktop China



Sterling Classic



Tigger



Blacktop China





Lenox USA 1996



Lenox USA 1996 pumpkin



Sterling Classic



Sterling Classic



THE WOMBLES OF WIMBLEDON Elizabeth Beresford 1968 (UK)



**Birchcroft** 



The Thimble Guild 2013 40 years since the Wombles first appeared on TV

## THE WONDERFUL WIZARD OF OZ Frank Baum 1900 (UK)

### **Dorothy**



Birchcroft 2014
Dorothy and Lion 75 years



Dorothy and Toto movie



Birchcroft
Dorothy and the Wicked
Witch



Birchcroft
Dorothy and the Wicked
Witch



<u>Birchcroft</u> Dorothy and the Wicked Witch



**Birchcroft** 



Birchcroft Ruby slippers



Comstock Creations USA 2000 60 years



Comstock Creations USA 2000 Ruby slippers 60 years



Ruby slippers



Ruby slippers 1990 Taiwan

### Glinda



**Birchcroft** 



Birchcroft
The good fairy



Comstock Creations USA 2000 60 years

### **Others**



### **OTHER BOOKS CHARACTERS**



**101 dalmations**Dodie Smith 1956 (UK)



The Adventures of Blinky Bill Dorothy Wells 1939 (Australia) handpainted Jan Milton



Billy Bunter
Charles Hamilton 1908
(UK)
Billy Bunter of Greyfriars
School
65th anniversary 2017



**The Famous Five**Enid Blyton 1942 (UK)
Birchcroft



**Flambards** K. M. Peyton 1967 (UK)



Ginger Meggs
Jim Bancks 1921
(Australia)
handpainted Jan Milton



Heidi
Johanna Spyri 1880
(Switzerland)
Reutter 1998
Peter and Heidi



Little house on the prairie Laura Ingalls Wilder 1935 (US) 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of her birth 2017



**Swallows and amazons**Arthur Ransome 1930 (UK) 2017
book



The tiger who came to tea Judith Kerr 1923 (Germany) 2013

### **NURSERY RHYMES**

English, mainly from 18<sup>th</sup> century – tho one dates back over 500 years.

I have seen proverbs on thimbles as described nursery rhymes, which they arent.

About 50% of nursery rhymes are not featured on thimbles – these seem the most popular, listed here.

As I was going to St Ives I met a man with seven wives (1730)



Baa baa black sheep have you any wool (1744)



**Birchcroft** 



James Swann & Son 1992 enamelled sterling silver



McMillan & Wife 1984



**Moorland Miniatures** 



Stephen Frost Warwick Models



Sterling Classic



maple wood 2003



2007



1989

Baby baby Bunting daddys gone a hunting (1784)





Francesca 1984

Ding dong bell pussys in the well (1580)



Minnie Maria Co 1998



Moorland Miniatures 1990



Stephen Frost Warwick Models 1996

**Doctor Foster went to Gloucester** (1844)



James Swann & Son 1992 enamelled sterling silver



McMillan & Wife 1984



Moorland Miniatures 1990



Stephen Frost Warwick **Models** 



maple wood 2003



1989



2001

**Georgie Porgie pudding and pie** (1741)



**Moorland Miniatures** 

Goosey goosey gander whither shall I wander (1784)



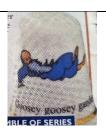
James Swann & Son 1992 enamelled sterling silver



McMillan & Wife 1986



maple wood 2003



Hey diddle diddle the cat and the fiddle (1765)



**Boulder Bay** USA



Brad Elfrink USA



Gail Boekel USA handpainted



Ketcham & McDougall USA terling silver



Mark Models





Mark Models 2004 2007



McMillan & Wife 1984 (L)





Minnie Maria Co 1990



Nicholas Gish USA 1983



Pugwash Canada 1994



Ray Nimmo UK 2020 sterling silver engraving Keith Raes



Simons USA sterling silver













Sterling Classic v diddle-diddle.



Hey diddle diddle the cat and the fiddle 2010



The cow jumped over the moon 2010



The little dog laughed to see such fun 2010



And the dish ran away with the spoon 2010

**Hickety Pickety my black hen** 



McMillan & Wife 1985

Hickory dickory dock the mouse ran up the clock (1744)



Caverswall



Garrard & Co 1998 sterling silver



Jacqui and David Parker (Olivia) UK



McMillan & Wife 1984



Moorland Miniatures 1994



Moorland Miniatures 1991



Vale Wales



Tick tock 2007

**Humpty Dumpty sat on a wall** (1797)



Academy Collection 1995



**Birchcroft** 1994



Cavalier Collectables 2007



James Swann & Son 1992 enamelled sterling silver



<u>John</u> handpainted Mr and Mrs



Mark Models 1987



McMillan & Wife



McMillan & Wife 1984



Minnie Maria Co 1996



**Moorland Miniatures** ... and the Kings men



Nicholas Gish USA



Robert Earwicker Cottage China



Ray Nimmo UK 2020 sterling silver engraving Keith Raes



Rowena Souvenirs 2005



Stephen Frost Warwick Models L: 1996



Sterling Classic



Jack and Jill went up the hill (1765)



Jack be nimble Jack be quick (1815)



Enesco resin



pewter

**Jack Sprat could eat no fat (1639)** 



<u>James Swann & Son</u> 1992 enamelled sterling silver



Moorland Miniatures 1990



1989

Ladybird ladybird fly away home (1744)



Mark Models 1997



Moorland Miniatures 2001

Little Bo-Peep has lost her sheep (1805)



Birchcroft



Gwahaniaeth Crafts Wales 2002



Minnie Maria Co 1998



Moorland Miniatures 1995



**Moorland Miniatures** 



2007



2010

Little boy blue come blow your horn (1744)



**Brad Elfrink USA** 



<u>Enesco</u> resin



**Gwahaniaeth Crafts** Wales 2002



McMillan & Wife 1984



Moorland Miniatures 1991



Stephen Frost Warwick Models



Vale Wales



Little Jack Horner sat in the corner (1765)



Mark Models 1987



McMillan & Wife 1984



Moorland Miniatures 1990



Stephen Frost Warwick <u>Models</u>



Vale Wales





### Mary had a little lamb



Nicholas Gish USA



Pugwash Canada 1994



Royal Coach UK





Japan 2010



maple wood

# Mary, Mary, quite contrary how does your garden grow (1744)









<u>James Swann & Son</u> 1992 enamelled sterling silver



McMillan & wife 1984







**Moorland Miniatures** 



Moorland Miniatures





Pugwash Canada 1994



Stephen Frost Warwick Models



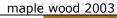
The Thimble Guild gold-painted apex 2006



Vale Wales















1988

gold-painted apex

Old King Cole was a merry old soul and a merry old soul was he (1709)







Stephen Frost Warwick Models

Old Mother Hubbard went to the cupboard (1805)



Caverswall 1992



Finsbury 1998



<u>James Swann & Son</u> 1992 enamelled sterling silver



McMillan & Wife



Minnie Maria Co 1996



**Moorland Miniatures** 1991



Thimble Craft Shirley Hewitt



<u>VY</u> handpainted



gold-painted apex

Pat a cake, pat a cake bakers man (1698)





Moorland Miniatures 1994

Peter, Peter, pumpkin eater had a wife and couldn't keep her (1825)



2012

Polly put the kettle on (1803)



McMillan & Wife 1985

Pussy cat, pussy cat where have you been (1805)



maple wood 2002



2001

The queen of hearts she baked some tarts (1782)



Ride a cock horse to Banbury Cross (1784)



James Swann & Son 1992 enamelled sterling silver



Minnie Maria Co



gold-painted apex



1998

Ring a ring o roses a pocket full of posies (1840s)





Moorland Miniatures 1994



2001



maple wood 2003



2007



2014

## Rock a bye baby in the tree top (1765)



Comstock Creations USA



**Moorland Miniatures** 



Sterling Classic



Hush a bye baby ... 2014

### Rub a dub dub three men in a tub (1798)



Brad Elfrink USA



James Swann & Son 1992 enamelled sterling silver



McMillan & Wife 1984



Moorland Miniatures



**Moorland Miniatures** 



Stephen Frost Warwick **Models** 



<u>VY</u> handpainted



gold-painted apex





See saw Margery Daw (1765)



Carol Ann Miniatures 2016



**Moorland Miniatures** 



Stephen Frost Warwick Models



2014



### Simple Simon met a pieman (1764)



resin



Ray Nimmo UK 2020 sterling silver engraving Keith Raes



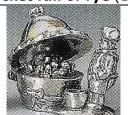
Sing a song of sixpence a pocket full of rye (1744)



McMillan & Wife 1984 ... four and twenty blackbirds baked in a pie



Moorland Miniatures



Pugwash Canada 1994



Seagull Pewter Canada 1994



Stephen Frost Warwick **Models** 



Sterling Classic



1989



2007

### There was a crooked man and he went a crooked mile (1842)



mcMillan & Wife 1984



Minnie Maria Co 1998



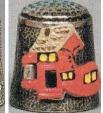
**Moorland Miniatures** 



Stephen Frost Warwick Models

### There was an old woman who lived in a shoe (1784)





McMillan & Wife





Minnie Maria Co











**Moorland Miniatures** 



Pugwash Canada 1994



Robert Earwicker Cottage <u>China</u> 1993



S.H.D. USA 1985



Sterling Classic 1994





This little piggy went to market (1760)



Stephen Frost Warwick Models



Vale Wales 1989

### Three blind mice, three blind mice see how they run (1609)





Halcyon Days UK



McMillan & Wife



Minnie Maria Co



**Moorland Miniatures** 1997



Ray Nimmo UK 2020 sterling silver engraving Keith Raes





Stephen Frost Warwick Models

hree blind mi

maple wood 2002





1609-2009 400 year anniversary



2012

## Three little kittens who lost their mittens (1841)



Tom, Tom, the pipers son stole a pig and away did run (1795)



George Jones & Co UK



James Swann & Son 1992 enamelled sterling silver



Sterling Classic



Thimble Craft Shirley Hewitt 1996



McMillan & Wife 1984



gold-painted apex





1988



Wee Willie Winky runs through the town (1841)



McMillan & Wife 1984



Stephen Frost Warwick Models



### **FABLES AND FAIRY TALES**

The Owl and the pussycat by Edward Lear was not written for children

Studio Steinböck's set of fairy tales contains 12 thimbles – Franklin Mints contain 25 thimbles. Both have
the fairy tale portrayed all around the thimble – space here only allows for one view





Which two fairy tales are depicted on these two Franklin Mint 1982 thimbles?

### Aladdin and the wonderful lamp

Middle East



Birchcroft movie poster



Stephen Frost Warwick

Models 2002

I am your genie



Lenox USA



2006



movie

## Beauty and the beast

French





James Swann & Son



<u>Lenox</u> USA Beast



Lenox USA



Lenox USA



1990



Belle



movie



movie poster



## The boy and the heron

Brothers Grimm also known as The heron and the iris



Roger Lenain France 1970 sterling silver

# The boy who cried wolf

Aesop

also known as The wolf and the shepherd



Alfred Féau France 1895 sterling silver



2006

### **Brer Rabbit**

African-American



Wedgwood 1989

### Cinderella

Perrault



<u>Angela Mamontova</u> Russia handpainted



Birchcroft movie posters



Franklin Mint USA 1982



Lenox USA



Lenox USA

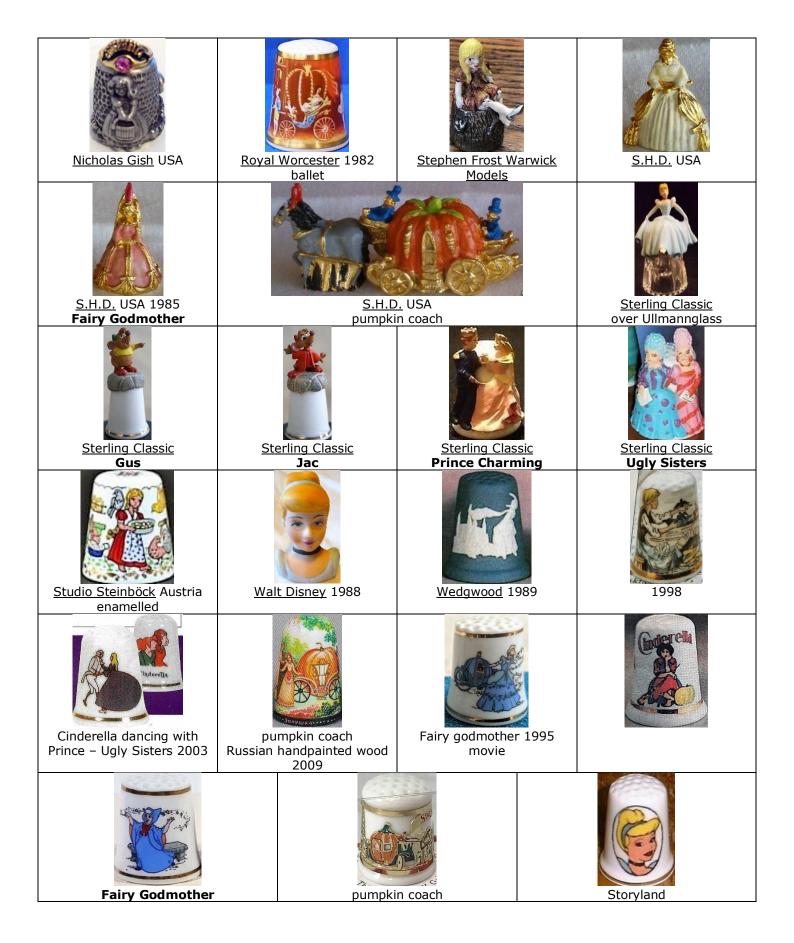


Lenox USA

Jac and Gus



Lindner Germany 1987



## Dick Whittington and his cat

English



Meg and John Unwin Scotland wood



Minne Maria Miniatures



Sterling Classic

# The dog and its reflection

Aesop



2006

### The dog and the sparrow

**Brothers Grimm** 



Franklin Mint USA 1982

## **Donkey skin**

Perrault



Studio Steinböck Austria 1987 enamelled



### **Doves**

Italian

also known as The two pigeons



Roger Lenain France 1910 sterling silver

## The eagle and the fox

Aesop



Roger Lenain France 1910 1970 sterling silver

### The elves and the shoemaker

**Brothers Grimm** 



Franklin Mint USA 1982



Ladybird book cover 2013

## The fisherman and his wife

**Brothers Grimm** 



Franklin Mint USA 1982

### The Fitchers bird

Brothers Grimm



Franklin Mint USA 1982

# The fox and the crow

Aesop

also known as The crow and the pitcher



Roger Lenain France 1970 sterling silver



2005

### The fox and the stork

Aesop also known as The fox and the crane



Roger Lenain France 1900 sterling silver

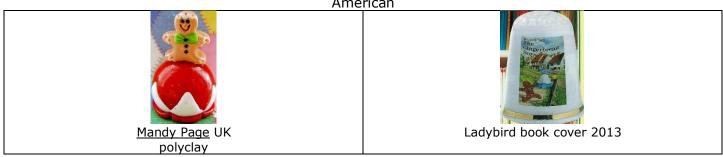
# The frog prince

**Brothers Grimm** 



# The gingerbread man

American



### Goldilocks and the three bears

English



Ann Sullivan UK handpainted



Brad Elfrink USA



Danbury Mint USA



<u>Enesco</u> Papa Bear – Mama Bear – Baby <u>Bear - Lucylocks</u>



James Swann & Son 1990 sterling silver



Whimbles by Wade UK



Wedgwood 1989





**The goose girl** Brothers Grimm



Franklin Mint USA



McMillan & Wife 1984

## The goose that laid the golden eggs

Aesop



Franklin Mint USA 1982



McMillan & Wife 1983 three leaf clover on apex



Nicholas Gish USA



Stephen Frost Warwick <u>Models</u> 2001



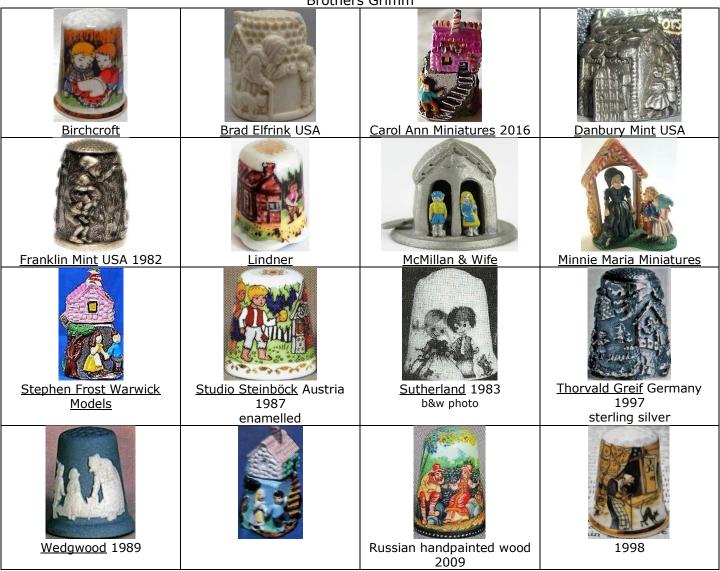
2005

# **Hans in luck**Brothers Grimm



Franklin Mint USA 1982

# **Hansel and Gretel**Brothers Grimm



### Jack and the beanstalk Aesop



Sterling Classic

# King Thrushbeard

**Brothers Grimm** 



Franklin Mint USA 1982

### The lion and the mouse

Aesop



2005

### **Little Briar Rose**

**Brothers Grimm** 



Franklin Mint USA 1982

### The little mermaid

Hans Christian Andersen

the statue of the same name in Copenhagen thimbles, are included













**Birchcroft** Ariel and book

Birchcroft **Eric** and book

Birchcroft Flounder

Birchcroft Scuttle



Sebastian











**Birchcroft** Ursula





Hurley USA handpainted

Moorland Pewter 1997

Royal Copenhagen Den lille harfrue



# Little Red Riding Hood





# The milkmaid and her pail Aesop



Roger Lenain France 1970 sterling silver

# The monkey and the cat

Fontaine



Rene Lorillon France 1913 sterling silver

## The monkey and the magic lantern

Florian



<u>Justin Lenain</u> France 1970 restrike sterling silver

### **Mother Holle**

Brothers Grimm also known as Mother Hulde



Franklin Mint USA 1982



Studio Steinböck Austria 1987 enamelled

### The peasants wise daughter

**Brothers Grimm** 



Franklin Mint USA 1982

## The Pied Piper of Hamelin

Brothers Grimm



ST. ALAM



McMillan & Wife



Wedgwood 1989

## The princess and the pea

Hans Christian Andersen



**Heirloom Editions** USA



McMillan & Wife 1987



Stephen Frost Warwick Models



# **Puss in Boots**

Fou plet



A E Williams UK 2004



Carol Ann Miniatures 2016



Danbury Mint USA



<u>Freiberger</u> Germany



<u>James Swann & Sons</u> 1992 sterling silver



Lenox USA



Lindner Germany 1997



Minnie Maria Miniatures



Roger Lenain France 1970 sterling silver



Stephen Frost Warwick Models



Studio Steinböck Austria 1987 enamelled



Whimbles by Wade UK



Movie 2011



Russian bronze



Russian handpainted wood 2004



Russian handpainted wood 2009

**The queen bee** Brothers Grimm



Franklin Mint USA 1982

# Rapunzel



# Rumpelstiltskin



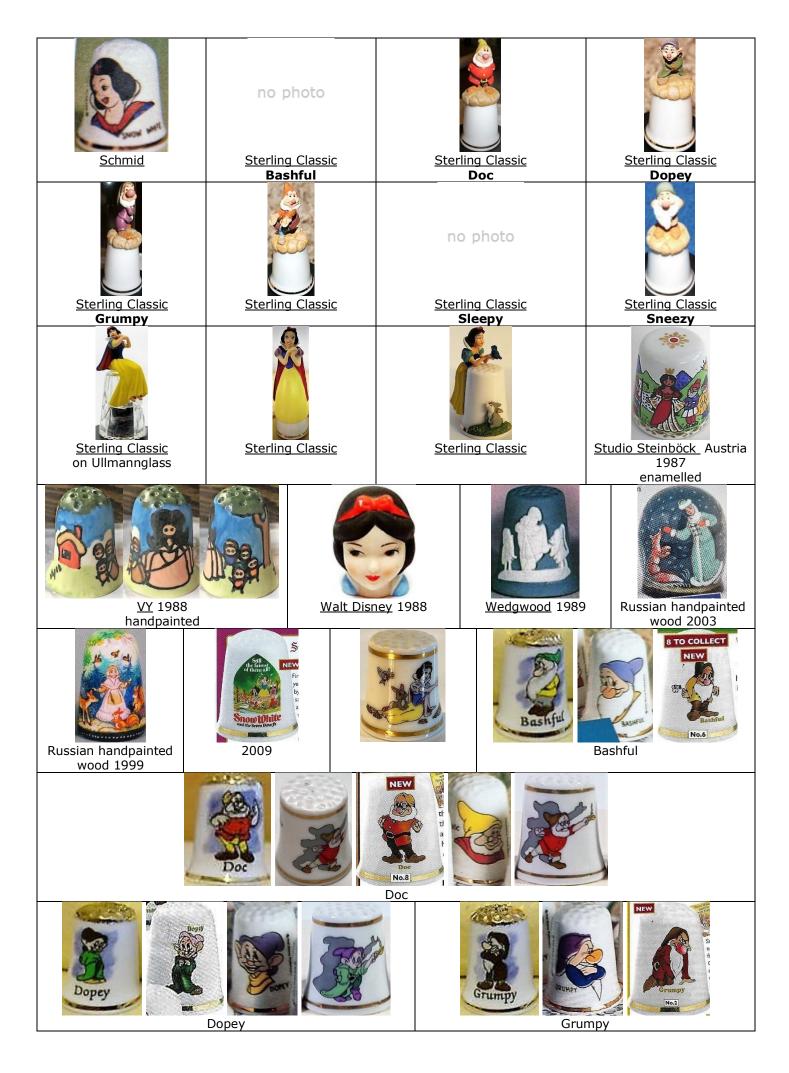
# Sleeping Beauty





### Snow White and the seven dwarfs







# Star money



# The three little pigs



### **Thumbelina**

### Hans Christian Andersen





Nicholas Gish USA gilt apex set

2005

### **Tom Thumb**

English



Roger Lenain France 1970 sterling silver

### The tortoise and the hare

Aesop



Nenthorn UK 2006 b&w photo



Roger Lenain France 1970 sterling silver



2005

### **Town musicians of Bremen**

**Brothers Grimm** 



Franklin Mint USA 1982



Studio Steinböck Austria 1987 enamelled



Thorvald Grief Germany 1988 sterling silver limited to **500** 

### **Trusty John**

**Brothers Grimm** 



Franklin Mint USA 1982

### The ugly duckling

Hans Christian Andersen



### The wolf and seven kids

**Brothers Grimm** 



Franklin Mint USA 1982

### The wolf and the lamb

Aesop



Réne Lorillon France 1910

### References

Magdalena and William Isbister Late 19th and early 20th century French silver pictorial thimbles: a visual guide. 2014

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This listing of Children's books characters on thimbles does not purport to be complete or accurate in all aspects.

Rather it invites comment and contribution to add to our knowledge. My thanks to the contributors.

EMAIL thimbleselect@bigpond.com TO SHARE YOUR KNOWLEDGE

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