

Woodsetton thimbles 1983-2015

Have you watched the face of someone as they first look thru the peep of a thimble? It's fun to watch. It seems automatic for the uninitiated to look into the open end of the thimble. Your eye is guided to a small black disc in the apex with a pinhead opening. Looking towards good light, look into the centre of the apex ie thru the top of the thimble and you will see a micro black and white picture.



C: what the peep mechanism looks like from the open end – R: the peep has come loose in a pewter thimble

The peep needs to be set into a flat apex and a hole cut into the apex to accommodate the patented perspex lens.

Who is behind the creation of these thimbles?

Gillian and David Bates.

Woodsetton are one of the largest thimble producers of the modern thimble collectables era. Based in the village of the same name, in Dudley in the West Midlands, this places Woodsetton within the greater Birmingham area, being just fourteen miles apart. It will become apparent why being in the heart of industrial Britain has so many advantages for the Bates family-owned company.

Woodsetton have used many different names over the years: Woodsetton ... Peeps, Projects Ltd (this is the name used by Bates' in his 1992 article), Design Works, Peepshow Curiosities and Secret Picture Curios.

Woodsetton thimbles were initially made of pewter and brass. Thimbles were created of these two materials in 1984-1985. From 1985 Woodsetton experimented with different mediums into which to set their peeps: china (March 1985-), synthetic material (November 1986), horn (February 1986), wood (April 1987) and sterling silver. Horn and synthetic material use were one-off creations. In March 1986, lacquer over the brass or copper was added and this continued until Woodsetton created their last thimbles in 2015.



The Woodsetton team would have been focussed on marketing, handpainting thimbles and their hand-engraving (David's group). Designing the peeps fell, it seems, to Gill and her team, where each peep had to be cut out for placement on the lens. She also co-ordinated the lacquered colours required for handpainting all thimbles.

See below for limited editions produced.

Who was creating these thimbles for the Bates into which they could inset their peeps?

Thimble machinery is extremely expensive and with Birmingham on their doorstep, it makes sense that Woodsetton sourced thimble blanks from existing thimble businesses, ordering their own thimble stock for uniformity.

Iles and Gomms Birmingham (Thomas Johnson who took over Iles in 1990) – brass, copper, silverplated, gold-plated

James Swann and Son and Swann Thimbles (Birmingham) - sterling silver. These are hallmarked with the makers' marks. Some were also enamelled.

Abbey Horn (Kendal) - horn

Healacraft China

Tho one of the Woodsetton leaflets mentions wooden peep items, no thimbles of this material have been found.



Healacraft China

That just leaves their pewter thimbles. I believe that these were created by Woodsetton themselves (tho they may have been made by Warwick Models). On reading about Lorraine Bates, the Bates' daughter, who joined the family business, it mentions that she 'set up her own business alongside her family of **pewterers** in Woodsetton'.

There are a few pewter shapes in the Woodsetton thimble range: they have touch- or maker's marks.

Some of the catalogue entries described them as being 'hallmarked in Yorkshire'. There are four touchmarks. A crowned rose, an anchor flanked by W P, castle, Tudor rose.

I always presumed that the W P was for Woodsetton Peeps, but maybe it stands for Woodsetton Pewter? Were Woodsetton trying to replicate the hallmarks on sterling silver thimbles?



Another thimble shape is that of a Windsor Castle turret (eleven thimbles), which has the detail of a small white painted door. They were largely used for royal commemorative peeps. They have no touchmarks.



castle-shaped

What prompted the Bates to create peep thimbles?

We have to look back to over 100 years to the British patent (No. 118) of 1880 where microphotographic images were placed onto a glass rod lens and set into thimbles. According to Edwin Holmes, this patent was taken out by William Pursall in 1880. Charles Stanhope, 3rd Earl of Stanhope (1753-1816), is reputed to have discovered this early micrographic process. He was a scientific inventor.

They became known as Stanhope Peeps.

The most striking difference between antique and modern peeps is that the antique image is viewed from the open end of the thimble. The Stanhope version used taller, plain brass thimbles than their modern counterpart, as the glass mechanism was bigger than the plastic equivalent of 1980s.

This excellent image, taken from Jean Scott's definitive work on Stanhopes, illustrates the differences between the two products. Both versions use black and white micro images.



Jean Scott's comparisons

This is an example of a Stanhope peep in situ in a vegetable ivory thimble holder. The peep is typical of the time: showing four or more images. In this case, the scenes are 'Memory of Mt St Bernard's Abbey'. They always featured scenes of holiday destinations as a memento or souvenir for travellers of late 19th century. They were no longer produced after 1939 ending an era of around 70 years.



vegetable ivory peep

The rarity of the Victorian thimble peeps has made them prohibitive for the average collector. According to Scott around forty Stanhope thimbles exist in private collections today.

By creating their modern cheaper version of the Stanhope, the Bates were in business. They took out a patent for their peeps. The miniature optical built-in lens used the same idea having the image magnified a hundred times. The Woodsetton images are far less detailed than their predecessors.

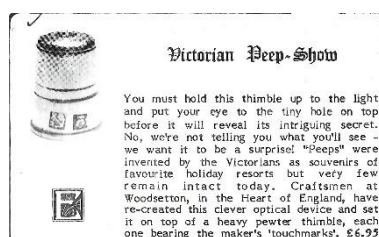
When I visited the UK in the 1990s my thimble friend Vilma Buck planned to take me to visit the Woodsetton family business, Gill Bates had to cancel the booking as during that period there was a scarcity of the special Kodak black and white film used by the Bates business. It took around a year before the film was again available.

It would have made compiling this topic a whole lot easier if I had been able to visit Woodsetton.

This lack of film didn't deter this inventive pair. They simply created their popular range of lacquered brass and copper thimbles, without peeps. You will notice that these thimbles have lovely domed apices, instead of the flat apex required to take a peep.

Until they ceased production in 2015, peep thimbles and thimbles with no peep or just those with lettering, were produced to whatever specification the client required.

I have used the dates of operation for Woodsetton thimbles as 1983-2015. In his article Bates used 1983 as their start date: I can only find a Woodsetton peep thimble in the TTG catalogue in May 1984.



TTG May 1984
thimble is made of pewter

What were the subjects depicted on the Woodsetton thimbles being ordered for sale by thimble catalogues?

Being a British firm around 90% were of British commemorative or anniversary events or British traditions. One could use the output of Woodsetton thimbles to trace every major British event between 1983-2015, giving a snapshot of the immediacy of the event viz the release of Terry Waite in 1991.

Happily, the range would have been wide enough to appeal to all thimble collectors.

Unlike their Victorian counterparts, town peeps were almost non-existent by Woodsetton (around five thimbles). There were five peeps produced as advertising material.

Woodsetton weren't known for their thimble sets (only two sets were issued for purchase as a set). I have listed them at the end of the relevant section.

There were private commissions, and these were not available thru any catalogue. Treasure the special private issues: their numbers are small.

I have noticed recurring themes – like Wimbledon or the Queen Mother. She is represented on nine occasions, each with a different peep. It seems that Woodsetton reused peeps for the same topic. Some required more than one type of lacquer colour, lettering etc.

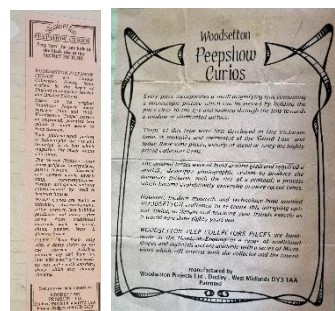
The peeps were usually numbered but I have not followed up on this feature in this topic, as they are often very difficult to read. It is difficult to photograph the peeps – happily Woodsetton provided the enlarged image for about half of the thimble produced, which were replicated in their catalogues.

For me, the biggest joy of tracing the hand-lacquered Woodsetton thimbles are the colours chosen for each: i.e. khaki for the Dad's Army peep – and the Queen Mother's love of all colours mauve and purple are used. Where the appropriate colours have been chosen, I have added this information. A very common feature of the lacquered finishes are the bands of complementary or contrasting colours, banding the thimbles – like the Plimsoll line on the WR EN commemorative thimbles.

In what quantity were Woodsetton thimbles made? TTG includes any in a limited number – the biggest amount was **2500** for Princess Anne when she was made Princess Royal. I have noted limited numbers available as between 250 and 1988: they were usually made for British Royal commemoratives. In Bates' 1992 article he nominates 100 to 1000 for each thimble. This may account for the scarcity of Woodsetton thimbles on the second-hand market.

Never immerse a peep in water.

Most of Woodsetton’s thimble output was marketed thru The Thimble Guild. Woodsetton marketing was a huge feature of their success. There were accompanying leaflets with the description of the history of peeps, placed in their Woodsetton cardboard thimble boxes.



Woodsetton leaflets

In the thimble section below you will notice several examples that don’t look like Woodsetton thimbles. These are Iles and Gomms brass thimbles from 1990 when they closed. The company was bought by Thomas Johnson who continued to make brass thimbles in the Iles tradition. Bates purchased these thimbles and lacquered a narrow band and etching a slogan etc.

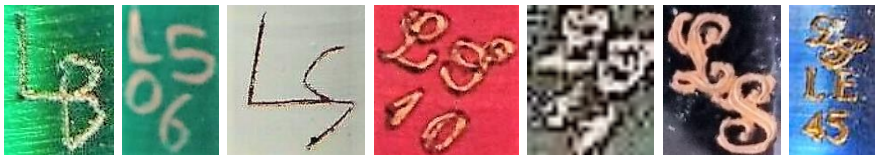
**STANHOPE
'PEEPSHOW' RECREATION**
made from the last Iles and Gomms production run.
Victorian Stanhope peepshows, you see one in the background, are very rare and very, very collectible. So David Bates decided to combine two pieces of thimble history for you. By using one of the thimbles from the very last production run of Iles and Gomms thimbles. Only 956 can ever be made as this is all that remain of this last batch from the great firm who supplied thimbles for 150 years, but are now sadly no more.
The peepshow depicts 'The Seamstress' and is viewed from the inside - just like the original Stanhopes. A fascinating piece of thimble history that will become very rare. £9.45.

TTG September 1990

While I was compiling the British modern handpainted thimbles topic, I came across an example by **Lorraine Bates** (born 1984). She has produced several finely illustrated brass or copper thimbles for Woodsetton. They are different in that each has a signature **LB** or **LS** (first and last initials) etched on the plain lacquered verso. Most times they are accompanied by a two digit date. Ten examples currently exist and they range in date from 1999 to 2013.



Lorraine Bates



LB or LS signatures

I have included any Woodsetton items that are thimble-shaped, and included their thimbles that are bell-shaped and two in the shape of a pewter beer mug. They produced thimbles with items atop the thimble and miniature character figurine thimbles – none of these are included in this topic.

During the 1990s, artistic thimbles were identified as created by **Gill Bates**. This includes a very pleasing set of applied hotfoil transfers in jewel colours. Search them out towards the end of this topic. They are not signed like Lorraine’s were, so we are dependent on the mail order catalogues for this type of detail.

I have noticed that the earliest brass peeps have tarnished over the last forty years. Sometimes the peep may not be totally centred in the apex.



I have divided this Woodsetton thimbles into four sections. Each will have its own introduction.

Peep thimbles with outer lettering (225)
Peep thimbles with no outer lettering (61)
Thimbles with no peep (113)
Thimbles with no peep and no lettering (69)
totalling **448** thimbles

I have included as many catalogue references as I can find and used the following abbreviations:

Fm – Feldmann Die Vingerhoed Post (Germany)
HE – Heirloom Editions (USA)
KS – Kay Sullivan (Holland)
PJW – P J Walter (Germany)
TO – Thimbles Only (Jean Shoup)
TSL – Thimble Society of London
TTG – The Thimble Collectors Guild and The Thimble Guild (Scotland)
VN – Vingerhoed nieuws (Netherlands)

For other brass thimble topics see

Brass advertising thimbles
Felix Morel thimbles (Bath) 1984-2002
Jacqui and David Parker of Olivia (Birmingham) 1992-2001

Peep thimbles with outer lettering

These are arranged alphabetically by the lettering on the outside
 thimble material is included if it is not made of brass or copper
 where the painter is other than Gill or David Bates, the name is included with each thimble
 I have included the peep view where available – where the lettering is known, with no photo, the
 approximate peep text is included
 there is often an accompanying etching on the outside – this is included for clarity
 I have followed the upper case or italics lettering as etched by Woodsetton (David Bates)
 the catalogue reference will give an idea of the date created



I II III IV V VI VII VIII IX X
 etched tablets
 view: The Ten Commandments
 TTG November 2005



3RD SEPTEMBER 1939
 etched radiogram
 view: Neville Chamberlain Prime Minister 'I have to tell
 you ...'
 limited to **950**
 TTG September 1989



-5-
 view: The Thimble Guild five years
 TTG January 1988



-5-
 view: The Thimble Guild five years
 TTG January 1988



08RAF90
 etched target
 RAF's 90th anniversary Battle of Britain
 Airforce blue colour lacquered brass
 TTG May 2008



10 YEARS MARGARET THATCHER
 etched No.10 front door
 view: Margaret Thatcher
 TTG May 1989



13th DTS CONFERENCE BOURNEMOUTH 31 MAY - 2
 JUNE 2013
 etched knitting wool and knitting needles on verso
 The Seamstress
Lorraine Bates (LS L.E. 45)



40 GLORIOUS YEARS
 etched crown
 view: 40 years Elizabeth II
 limited to **1500**
 TTG February 1992



60 YEARS
crown wedding bells
view: Queen Elizabeth and Prince Philip wedding
anniversary 2007
silverplated
commissioned by TSL



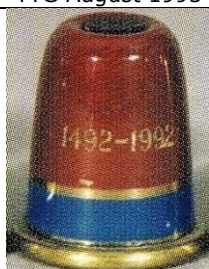
90 ROYAL BRITISH LEGION
etched poppy
Laurence Binyon's For the Fallen
Lorraine Bates (LS 11)
TTG October 2011



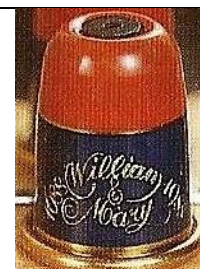
100th Ladies Champion Steffi Graff 1993
Wimbledon colours lacquered brass
limited to **400**
TTG August 1993



1492-1992
view: Christopher Columbus 500 years
TTG September 1992



1492-1992
view: Christopher Columbus 500 years
VN May 2002



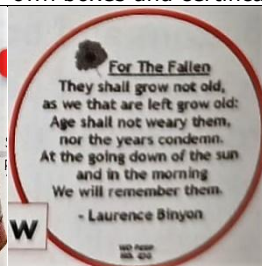
1688 1988 William Mary
view: painting of them from 300 years ago
TTG October 1988



1886 - 1986
view: Statue of Liberty bicentenary
TO winter 1985
HE - they had their own boxes and certificates



1914-1918
etched parachute
peep: The Great War



1914-2014 We Will Remember Them
etched barbed wire
World War I 100 years
view: Laurence Binyon's For the Fallen
TTG July 2014



1926
etched crown
view: The Duchess of York with Princess Elizabeth April
1926
Life of our Queen
limited to **750**
TTG January 1990



1933
etched crown
view: Birth of Princess Margaret
Life of our Queen
limited to **750**
TTG February 1990



1937
etched crown
view: Coronation of their majesties King George VI and
Queen Elizabeth
Life of our Queen
limited to **750**
TTG March 1990



1940
etched RAF wings
view: 50th anniversary 'Never in the field of human
conflict...' Churchill speech
limited to **990**
TTG September 1990



1944
etched crown
view: Elizabeth Windsor A.T.S. on war duties
Life of our Queen
limited to **750**
TTG April 1990



1947
etched crown
view: Marriage of Princess Elizabeth to Philip
Mountbatten
Life of our Queen
limited to **750**
TTG May 1990



1947
view: Marriage of Princess Elizabeth to Philip
Mountbatten



1948
etched crown
view: Birth of Prince Charles
Life of our Queen
limited to **750**
TTG June 1990



1950
etched crown
view: Birth of Princess Anne with Prince Charles holding
her
Life of our Queen
limited to **750**
TTG July 1990



1953
etched crown
view: Coronation of Queen Elizabeth II
Life of our Queen
limited to **750**
TTG August 1990



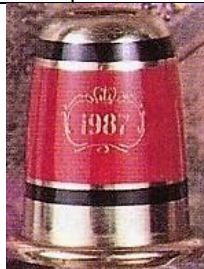
1953-1993
view: 40th anniversary of Coronation
pewter castle-shaped
TTG May 1993



1964
etched crown
view: Birth of Prince Andrew and Prince Edward
Life of our Queen
limited to **750**
TTG September 1990



1977
etched crown
view: Silver Jubilee thanksgiving service
Life of our Queen
limited to **750**
TTG October 1990



1987
etched crown
view: Ruby wedding
Life of our Queen
limited to **750**
TTG November 1990



1990
etched crown
view: Royal Visit to Unified Germany for the first time
Life of our Queen
limited to **750**
TTG December 1990

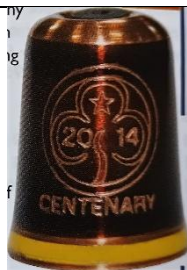


2002
etched snowman with child
Christmas Eve
TTG December 2002



2012
DIAMOND JUBILEE
etched crown with English rose
Queen Elizabeth
silverplated bell-shaped
TTG March 2012





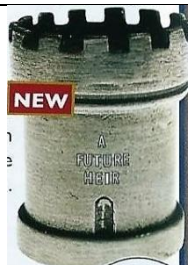
2014 CENTENARY
etched trefoil
view: Brownie guide law
Brownies' brown and yellow colours lacquered brass
TTG June 2014



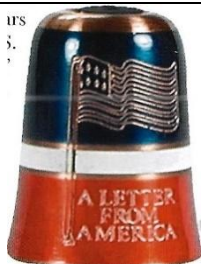
A CELEBRATION OF H.R.H. THE QUEEN MOTHER 100th
YEAR AUGUST 4th 2000
her favourite colours lacquered brass
TTG August 2000



A GIANT STEP
20th anniversary of moon landing
view: Neil Armstrong one small step
TTG July 1989



A FUTURE HEIR
birth of Prince George
pewter castle-shaped
TTG September 2003



A LETTER FROM AMERICA
etched American flag
his death
view: Alistair Cooke
TTG May 2004

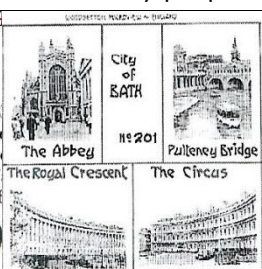
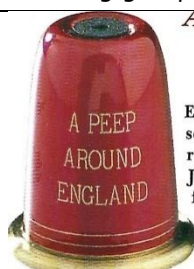


A MAKER OF DREAMS
view: Robbie Burns

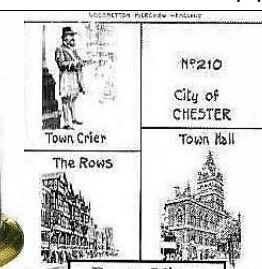


A Man's a Man For A' That
view: Robbie Burns
TTG January 1986
b&w photo

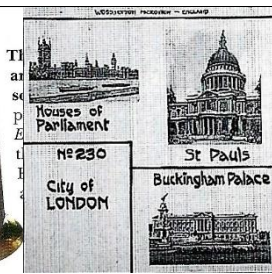
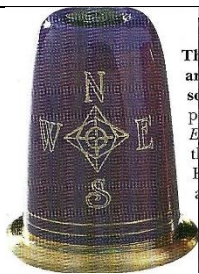
The following group has the only peep that has the multi-scene pictures similar to the 19th century peeps



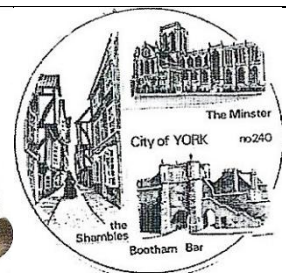
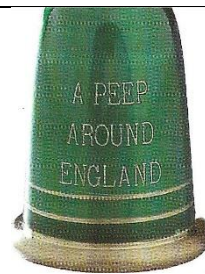
A PEEP AROUND ENGLAND
etched compass on verso
City of Bath
TTG March 2002



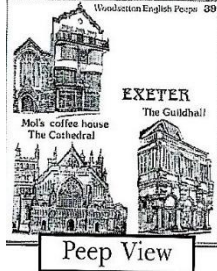
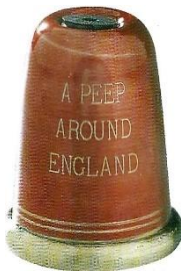
A PEEP AROUND ENGLAND
etched compass on verso
City of Chester
TTG August 2002



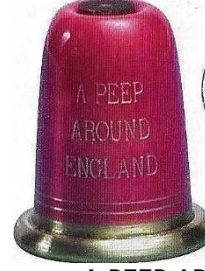
A PEEP AROUND ENGLAND
City of London
TTG February 2002



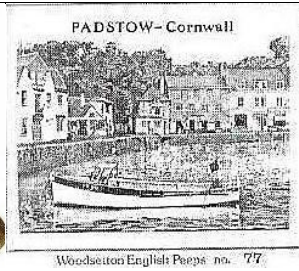
A PEEP AROUND ENGLAND
etched compass on verso
City of York
TTG May 2002
see also: City of York



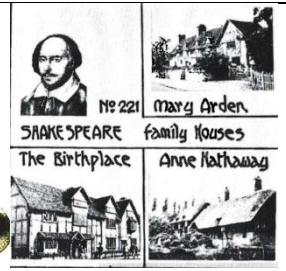
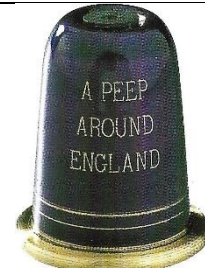
A PEEP AROUND ENGLAND
etched compass on verso
Exeter
TTG March 2002



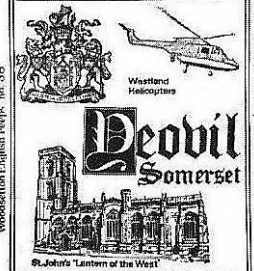
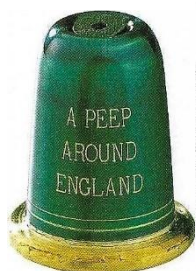
A PEEP AROUND ENGLAND
etched compass on verso
Lavenham Suffolk
TTG October 2002



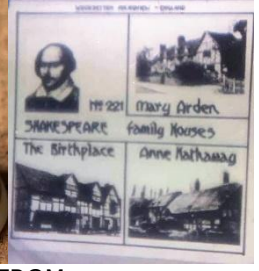
A PEEP AROUND ENGLAND
etched compass on verso
Padstow Cornwall
TTG September 2002



A PEEP AROUND ENGLAND
etched compass on verso
Shakespeare's Stratford
TTG April 2002



A PEEP AROUND ENGLAND
etched compass on verso
Yeoville Somerset
TTG July 2002



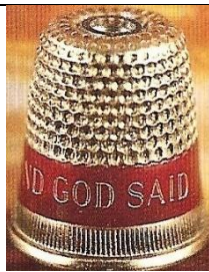
A PRESENT FROM
Shakespeare
china



AN ISLAND NO LONGER
view: Channel Tunnel 1994



AN ISLAND NO LONGER
view: Channel Tunnel 1994



AND GOD SAID
view: The Ten Commandments
this peep is viewed from the inside
limited to **2500**
TTG June 1991



APRIL 1912
etched leaves
sinking of Titanic



August 4th 2001 Our Queen Mother 101 years young
her favourite colours lacquered brass
limited to **300**
TTG August 2002



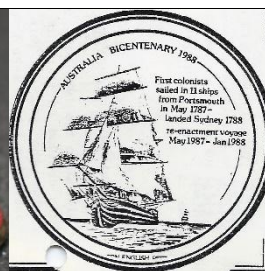
August 4th 2001 Our Queen Mother 101 years young
VN September 2001



Australia 1788 - 1988
The Bounty
TTG January 1988

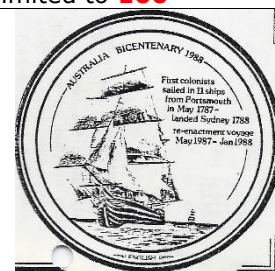


AUSTRALIA
Bicentenary 1988
TSL winter 1987
commissioned by Pan Arts, Sydney
blue limited to **100**



AUSTRALIA
Bicentenary 1988
TSL winter 1987
commissioned by Pan Arts, Sydney
red limited to **100**

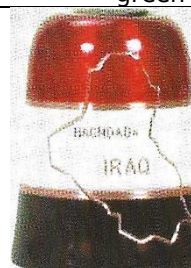
no photo



AUSTRALIA
Bicentenary 1988
TSL winter 1987
commissioned by Pan Arts, Sydney
green limited to **100**



BACHELOR BOY
etched musical notes
Cliff Richard
TTG November 2001



BAGHDAD IRAQ
etched map
using Iraqi flag colours
TTG June 2003



BAPTISMAL PRAYER
TTG June 1988



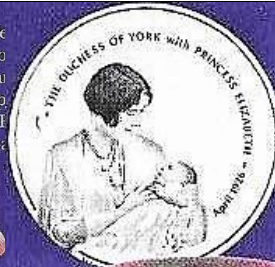
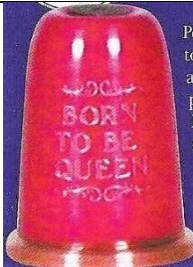
BEATRIX-CLAUS
25 JANUARI 1991
25th anniversary
VN May 1991
b&w photo



Bezoek Nederland 1985
John Paul II
KS June 1985



BOB GELDORF
'Live Aid' 1st anniversary
view: Geldorf
TTG July 1986



BORN TO BE QUEEN
Princess Elizabeth with her mother
TTG January 2003



BOSTON



C C
etched Prince of Wales feathers
marriage of Prince Charles and Camilla
TTG April 2005



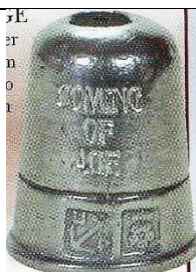
CHARLES DIANA
etched Prince of Wales feathers
view: 10th wedding anniversary 1991



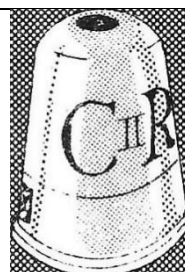
Christmas 1990
commissioned by TSL
TSL winter 1990



CIVIL WAR 1642
350 years since it began
pewter castle-shaped
limited to **350**
TTG June 1995



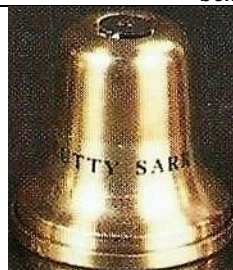
COMING OF AGE
Prince William 21
pewter
TTG June 2003



CRII
view: 300th anniversary of his death
portait by Sir Peter Lesley
pewter
TTG February 1985
b&w photo



CROWNING GLORY
50 year coronation anniversary
pewter castle-shaped
TTG June 2003



CUTTY SARK
bell-shaped
TTG April 1988



DAD'S ARMY
view: Home Guard 1940 soldier
50th anniversary
khaki lacquered brass
TTG August 1990



DEUTSCHLAND WIEDERVEREIGUNG 3.10.90
German flag colours lacquered brass



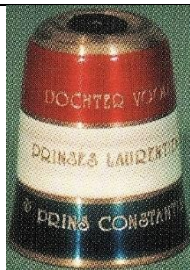
DIEU ET MON DROIT
etched royal coat-of-arms
Prince Harry bestman to Prince William and Katherine
TTG November 2004



DIEU ET MON DROIT
etched royal coat-of-arms
60 years on the throne
TTG June 2011



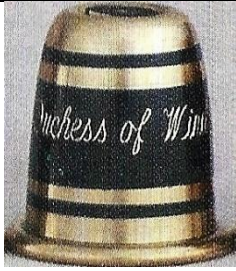
DIEU ET MON DROIT
etched royal coat-of-arms
marriage of Zara Phillips to Mike Tindall
TTG July 2011



DOCHTER VOOR PRINSES LAURENTIEN PRINS
CONSTANTIJN
view: birth of Princess Eloise with her parents
Lorraine Bates
VN August 2002



Duchess of Windsor
view: her jewellery
sterling silver
limited to **500**
commissioned by TSL winter 1987



Duchess of Windsor
view: her jewellery
limited to **500**
commissioned by TSL winter 1987



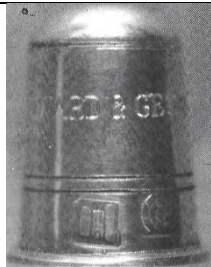
DUSSELDORF
tourism
Fm 5-1988
b&w photo



EAST MEETS WEST
lettered diagonally
Gorbachov meets the Queen
TTG December 1988



Eddie the Eagle
white lacquered brass indicates ski slope snow line
TTG March 1988



EDWARD & GEORGE
view: brothers Edward VIII and George VI
pewter
TTG June 1987
b&w photo



ELECTION 1987
Conservative majority 101
Margaret Thatcher elected for third term
TTG November 1987



Elizabeth R 1992
limited to **200**
commissioned by TSL



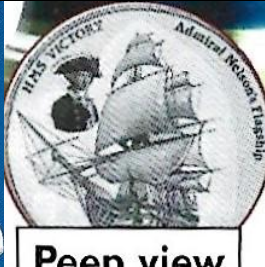
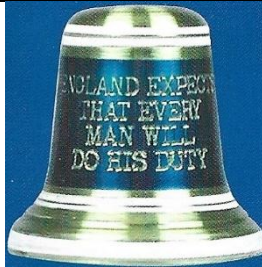
Elizabeth R 1992
view: Annigoni portrait
sterling silver & enamel
commissioned by TSL



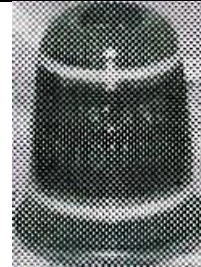
ELIZABETH II REGINA
view: Australia visit Expo 1988



ENGAGEMENT
Prince Andrew and Sarah Ferguson 1986
also: silverplated, sterling silver
limited to 10 in sterling silver
TTG April 1986



Peep view
ENGLAND EXPECTS THAT EVERY MAN WILL DO HIS DUTY
Admiral Nelson and H.M.S. Victory
bell-shaped
TTG October 2005



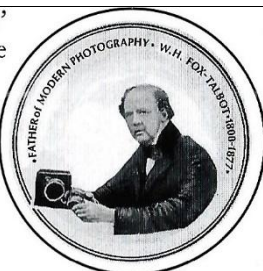
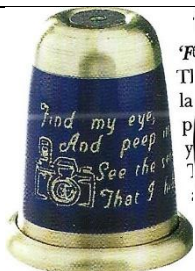
EUROTUNNEL
VN March 1994
b&w photo



FAREWELL TO MAGGIE End of an Era
1990



Find my Eye and Peep inside See the Secret which I hide
view: Twinkle twinkle little bat how I wonder what you're at
Healacraft China
TTG March 1985



Find my eye, And peep inside and See the secret That I hide
etched camera
WH Fox Talbot photographer
TTG September 2001



Find my Eye and Peep inside See the Secret which I hide
Fashions of yesteryear
Healacraft China
TTG October 1985



Find my Eye and Peep inside See the Secret which I hide
view: Fashions for 1926
violets
other flowers: anemones
Healacraft China



FIND THE SECRET PICTURE
view: Angel & Mother of God

 <i>For Mum</i> etched hand with quill pen TTG February 2002	 G.W.R. view: Great Western Railway
 G.W.R. 1835-1985 view: Great Western Railway TTG July 1985	
 GEORGE WASHINGTON 1789 using American flag colours limited to 500 TTG April 1989	 GIRLGUIDING CENTENARY etched Guides trefoil TTG October 2009
 GOD SAVE OUR QUEEN etched crown view: 65th birthday 1991 sterling silver	 GOD SAVE OUR QUEEN etched crown view: 65th birthday 1991
 GOLDEN JUBILEE 1887 Victoria four generations	 GOLDEN JUBILEE HM QUEEN ELIZABETH 2002 gold-plated TTG April 2002



GOLDEN WEDDING HM Queen Elizabeth and HRH Prince Philip
pewter



GOLDEN WEDDING 1997 HM Queen Elizabeth and HRH Prince Philip
TTG November 1997



GOOD COMPANIONS
Princesses Elizabeth and Margaret Rose
TTG February 2003



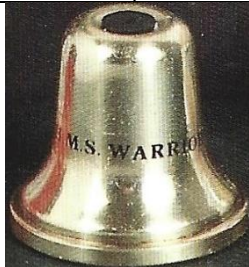
H.M.S. REVENGE
view: 1860 The world's first iron hull
bell-shaped



H.M.S. REVENGE
The Spanish Armada 1588
bell-shaped
TTG July 1988



H.M.S. VICTORY
bell-shaped
TTG August 1988



H.M.S. WARRIOR
bell-shaped
TTG August 1988



HAPPY BIRTHDAY MA'AM 21st April 1926-1986



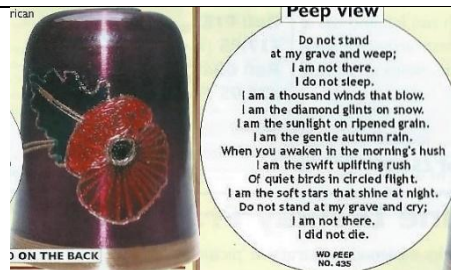
HAPPY BIRTHDAY MA'AM 21st April 1926-2001
limited to **500**
TTG December 2001



Happy Birthday
view: Princess Diana's 30th birthday



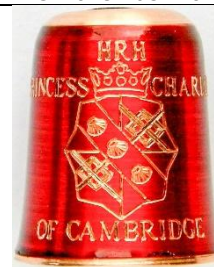
HELP FOR HEROES
etched poppies
view: Clare Harnet poem
Lorraine Bates (LS 10)



HELP FOR HEROES
etched poppies on aubergine lacquered brass
Mary Elizabeth Frye poem
Lorraine Bates
TTG November 2010



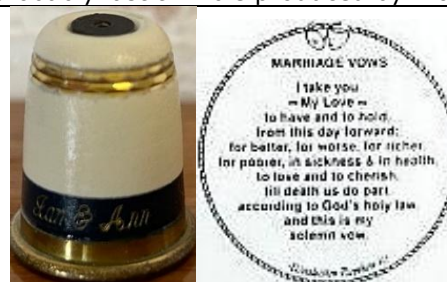
HERE'S TAE US - WHA'S LIKE US
view: Hogmanay
TTG December 1985
b&w photo



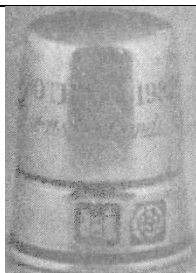
HRH PRINCESS CHARLOTTE OF CAMBRIDGE
etched coat-of-arms
her birth 2015
this is probably last thimble produced by Woodsetton



I (heart) MINI
view: 30 years 1959-1989
TTG August 1989



Ian & Ann
view: wedding vows
Princess Anne and Tim Laurence



IAN BOTHAM 1985
John O'Groats - Land's End
his walk
pewter
TTG November 1985



Imagine
John Lennon 50 years
TTG November 1990



J.S. BACH
his tercentenary
TTG May 1985

no photo

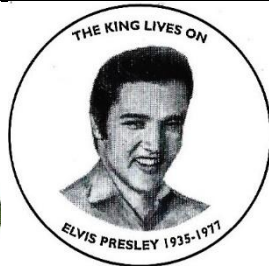
LEEDS CASTLE Kent



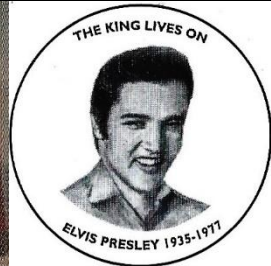
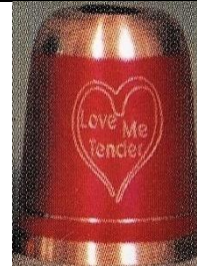
LIBERATION OF KUWAIT FEB 1991
etched map
Gulf War
TTG April 1992



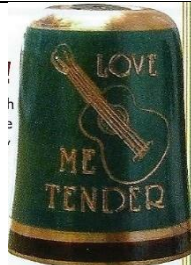
Look deep within the thimble's crown t'tis a secret will be found
Secret fairy
TTG June 2008



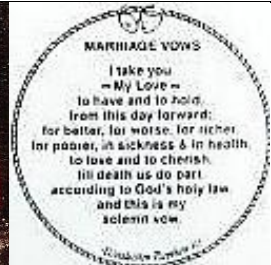
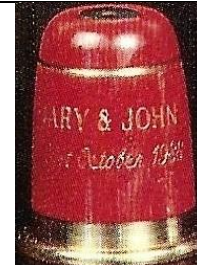
Love Me Tender
etched within heart
Elvis 24 years since his death
TTG August 2001



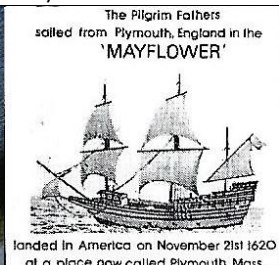
Love Me Tender
etched within heart
Elvis 24 years since his death
VN 88 1999



LOVE ME TENDER
etched guitar
Elvis 75 years of his birth
TTG January 2010



MARY & JOHN (personalised)
October 1988
marriage vows
TTG October 1989



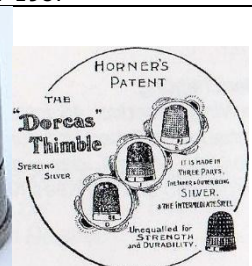
MAYFLOWER
bell-shaped
TTG March 1988



MONTY
view: 100th anniversary of birth of Viscount Montgomery of Alamein
desert colours lacquered brass
TTG November 1987



MONTY
view: 100th anniversary of birth of Viscount Montgomery of Alamein
different desert colours lacquered brass
TTG November 1987



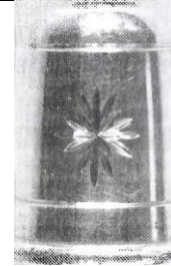
Nederlandse Vingerhoedclub 1998
Dorcas thimbles
pewter
VN February 1998



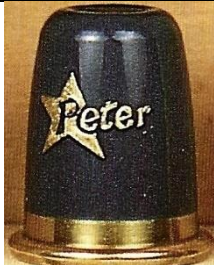
NEVILLE CHAMBERLAIN
etched bust



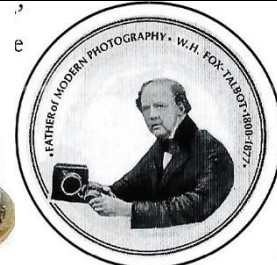
OUTBREAK OF WAR 1939
50th anniversary 1989
view: Neville Chamberlain's speech ...



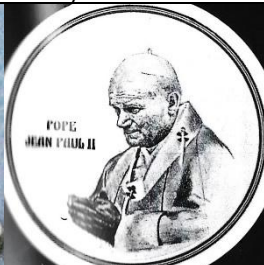
Peter
etched star
silverplated
see also: Wendy



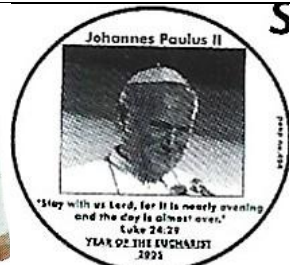
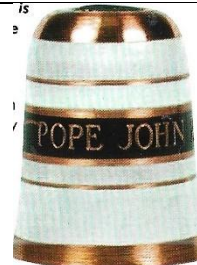
Peter
etched star
TTG January 1989



PHOTOGRAPHY 1839-1889
William Fox Talbot
TTG June 1989



POPE JEAN PAUL II
PJW June 1985



POPE JOHN PAUL II
Prayer for the Pope in Year of the Eucharist
TTG May 2005



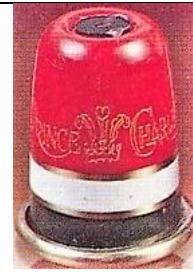
PRESIDENT REAGAN AND PRESIDENT BUSH
Reagan leaving- Bush incoming President
using American flag colours
TTG January 1989



PRIME MINISTER
view: Margaret Thatcher 1986
TTG September 1986



PRINCE CHARLES
etched Prince of Wales feathers
view: 40th birthday
TTG November 1988



PRINCE CHARLES
etched Prince of Wales feathers
view: 1990 visit to Hungary
using Hungary's flag colours
limited to **750**
TTG November 1990



PRINCE OF WALES
view: Charles and Diana's bicentennial visit to Australia
1988



PRINCE PHILIP
view: 70th birthday 1991
sterling silver



PRINCE PHILIP
etched crown
view: 70th birthday 1991
TTG July 1991



PRINCE PHILIP
etched crown
view: 70th birthday 1991



Princess Beatrice 8.8.1988



PRINCESS ROYAL 1987
etched crown
Princess Anne
TTG July 1987



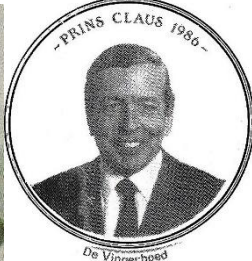
PRINCESS ROYAL 1990
etched crown
view: Anne's 40th birthday
limited to **2500**
TTG August 1990



PRINCESS ROYAL
view: Anne's 40th birthday
limited to **2500**
TTG August 1990



Princess Royal's visit to Russia
Anne
1990



PRINS CLAUS
60 jaar 6 September 1986
Dutch royal family
KS September 1986



QUEEN MOTHER
George Duke of York & Lady Elizabeth Bowes-Lyon
pewter castle-shaped
limited to **1000**
TTG July 1985



QUEEN MOTHER 90
her favourite colours lacquered brass
limited to **1900**
TTG July 1990



QUEEN MOTHER 1900-2002
her death
pewter castle-shaped
TTG May 2005



QUEEN VICTORIA
22ND JANUARY 1901
etched scroll
black lacquered brass for her death
TTG February 2001



Rijksmuseum te Amsterdam



R.M.S TITANIC 1912
1986 recovery of sunken ship
VN May 2002



ROYAL BABY 1988
view: birth of Princess Beatrice
pewter
limited to **1988**
TTG August 1988



ROYAL BABY 1988
view: birth of Princess Beatrice of York
limited to **950**
TTG August 1988



ROYAL BABY 1990
view: birth of Princess Eugenie
prototype in case baby a boy
TTG April 1990



ROYAL BABY 1990
view: birth of Princess Eugenie
prototype in case baby a girl
TTG April 1990



Royal Princes
with Princess Diana
pewter castle-shaped
TTG December 1985
b&w photo



ROYAL WEDDING 12.12.92
view: wedding of Princess Anne and Tim Laurence
sterling silver & enamel



ROYAL WEDDING 12.12.92
view: wedding of Princess Anne and Tim Laurence



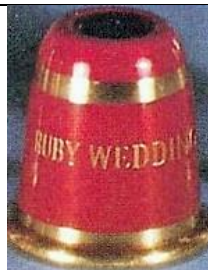
Royal Wedding 1986
view: marriage of Prince Andrew and Sarah Ferguson
pewter
TTG August 1988
(it had arrived too late to be sold in 1986)



ROYAL WEDDING 1997
HM Queen Elizabeth and Prince Philip



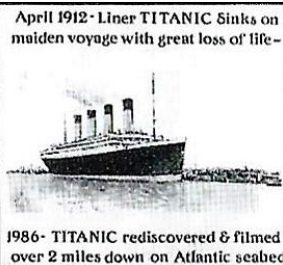
ROYAL WEDDING 2011
DIEU ET MON DROIT
etched royal coat-of-arms
wedding of Prince William and Kate Middleton
bell-shaped
TTG April 2011



RUBY WEDDING 1987
view: 40th anniversary of Queen Elizabeth and Prince Philip
TTG October 1987



RUBY WEDDING 1987
view: 40th anniversary of Queen Elizabeth and Prince Philip
commissioned by TSL winter 1987



S.S.TITANIC
1986 recovery of sunken ship bell-shaped



Season's Greetings For The Millennium Year
etched holly tree stocking etc
A Merry Christmas
TTG December 2000



SEASONS GREETINGS 2001
etched red crystal holly
A Merry Christmas Dressing the Tree
TTG December 2001



SEOUL 1988
etched Olympic rings
view: Olympics British gold medal winners



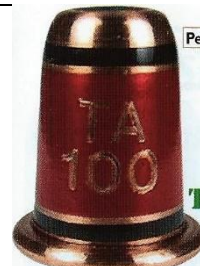
Silko Cotton reel
three etched scenes
The Seamstress
see also: Busy fingers
TTG December 1992



Sir Larry
view: Sir Laurence Olivier's death
silvered pewter
limited to **950**
TTG August 1989



SUPERSONIC
lettered diagonally
last flight of the Concorde
TTG October 2003



TA 100
Territorial Army 100 years
TTG April 2008



THE ASHES
1988 Winners
W C Grace then; Ian Botham now
pewter lidded beer mug-shaped
TTG August 1988



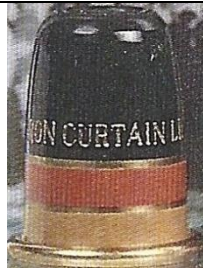
The Crossing Sweeper
view: boy sweeping road Trafalgar Square
red lacquered brass
TTG March 1986
b&w photo



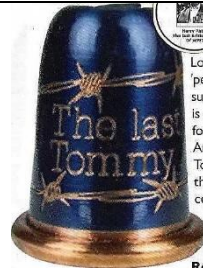
THE CURTAIN LIFTS
view: The Berlin Wall comes down 1989
using German flag colours



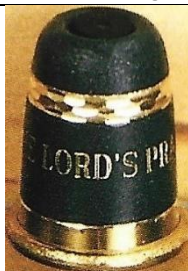
The Flower Girl
pewter
TTG September 1985



THE IRON CURTAIN FALLS
view: Brandenburg Gate
using German flag colours
limited to **1500**
TTG December 1989



The last Tommy
etched barbed wire
Harry Patch last British born of WW1
TTG November 2008



THE LORD'S PRAYER
TTG May 1988



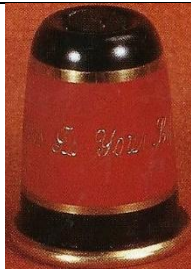
The Martina touch
view: Navratilova Wimbledon Women's champion 1990



The Royal Wedding
view: marriage of Prince Andrew and Sarah Ferguson



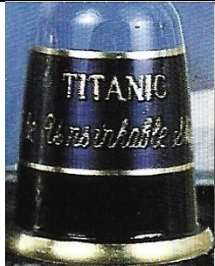
THE ROYAL WEDDING
view: marriage of Prince Andrew and Sarah Ferguson



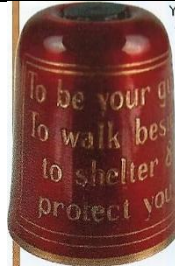
This is Your Life
view: Eamonn Andrews with his book
commemorating his death
TTG December 1987



TITANIC
funnel colours' lacquered brass
TTG September 1986



TITANIC
The Unsinkable Ship
80 years since her sinking
1986 recovery of sunken ship
TTG April 1992



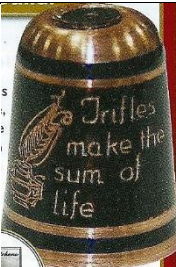
To be your guide To walk beside to shelter & protect you
Guardian Angel
TTG July 2008



Towards World Peace 1987
view: Reagan Mikhail Gorbachev signing peace treaty
TTG December 1987



TRAGEDY ON THE LAST TEA CLIPPER
Cutty Sark
pewter
TTG July 2007



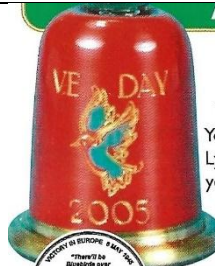
Trifles make the sum of life
etched quill and ink
bicentenary of Charles Dickens
quote from David Copperfield
TTG February 2012



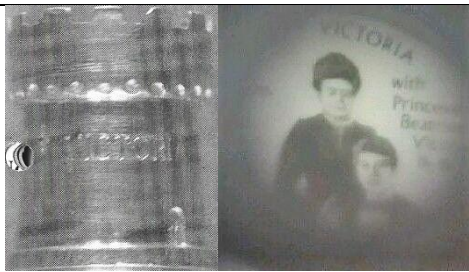
TRIPLE TRIUMPH
etched Scottish cross
view: Scotland's sporting success
limited to **1080**
TTG July 1990



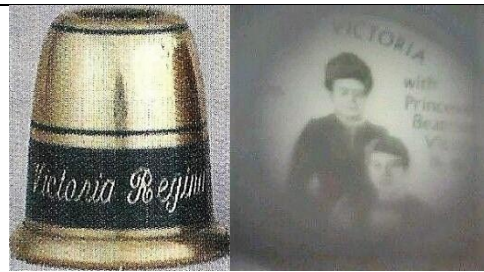
V.E. DAY
8 May 1945-95
Victory in Europe 40 years
limited to **1500**
TTG April 1995



V.E. DAY 2005
etched dove of peace
Victory in Europe 60 years
TTG July 2005



VICTORIA REGINA
golden jubilee
four generations
pewter castle-shaped
TTG May 1987



VICTORIA REGINA
golden jubilee
four generations
TSL winter 1987



Virgin Atlantic Flyer
limited to **750**
TTG July 1987



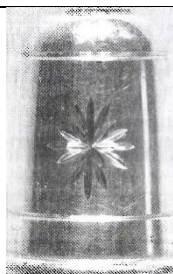
VIVAT REGINA
Queen Elizabeth II's 80th birthday 2006
TTG March 2006



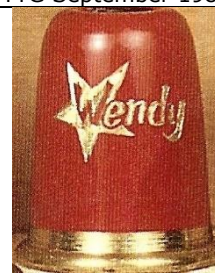
W H FOX TAYLOR LACOCK



WEDDING OF 1986
view: Coronation Street
Bet and Eric Gilroy
TTG September 1987



Wendy
etched star
silverplated
TTG February 1987
see also: Peter



Wendy
etched star
TTG January 1989
see also: Peter



WEST INDIES TEST 1986
view: Viv Richards



Wimbledon 1985
Anyone for tennis – Victorian fashions
silverplated
TTG June 1985



WIMBLEDON STEFFI GRAF
Anyone for tennis – Victorian fashions
using German flag colours



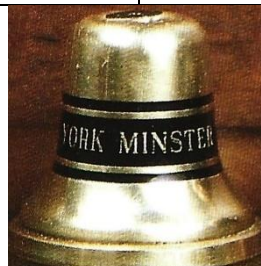
WIMBLEDON 2010
etched crossed racquets
Anyone for tennis – Victorian fashions
TTG July 2010



Winter in Holland
Dutch winter landscape
VN February 2002

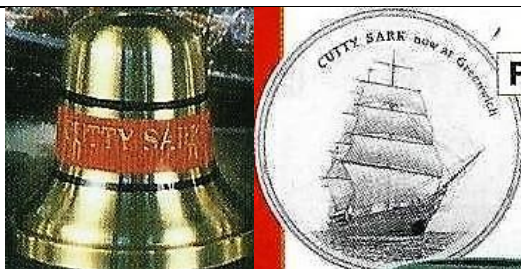


WOODSETTON PEEPS ENGLAND
advertising
Healacraft China



YORK MINSTER
view: Rose window restored
bell-shaped
TTG December 1988

set of six bell-shaped thimbles with names of ships
TTG October 1991



CUTTY SARK



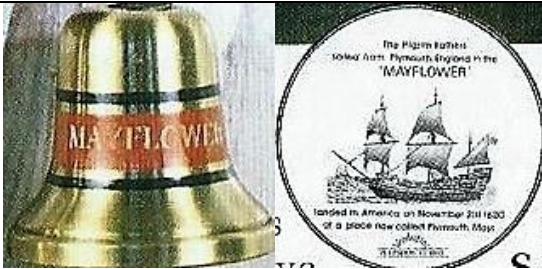
H.M.S. VICTORY



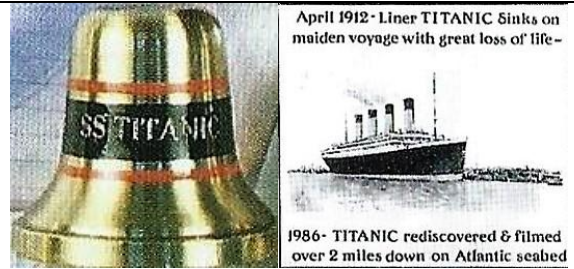
HMS REVENGE



HMS WARRIOR



MAYFLOWER

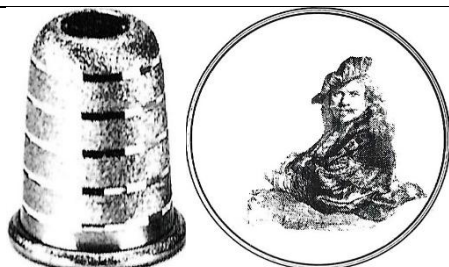


SS TITANIC

Peep thimbles with no outer lettering

This is a more difficult section to arrange alphabetically. None of these thimbles have any external lettering. Some do have an etching on the outer surface. I have been guided by the peep's lettering or as listed in the mail-order thimble catalogues.

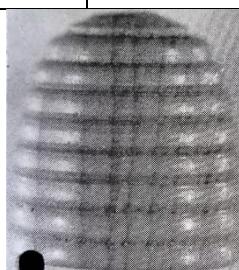
With no lettering the peep topic will be more of a surprise than those that were lettered. Some of the lettering is too faint to read – they will be moved if later lettering be deciphered.



1485-1985
100 jaar Rijksmuseum
view: Rembrandt
KS 9-1985
b&w photo



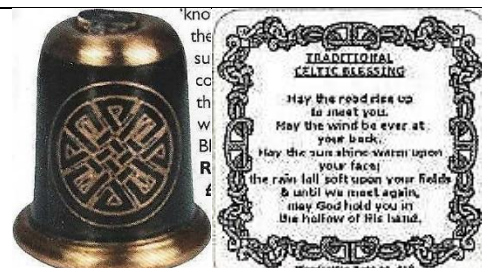
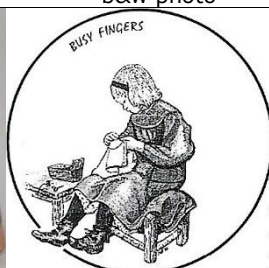
Anyone for tennis? Victorian fashion
pewter



Bee
wood
TTG April 1987
b&w photo



Busy fingers
etched knitting – sewing tools – thread and needle
TTG March 2001



Celtic blessing
etched Celtic knotwork
TTG August 2008



Charles Prince of Wales
Royal Family portrait 1984
pewter castle-shaped
TTG September 1984



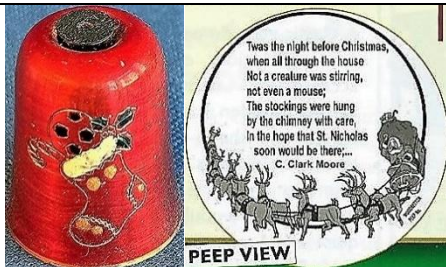
Christmas 1986
etched leaves
TTG November 1986



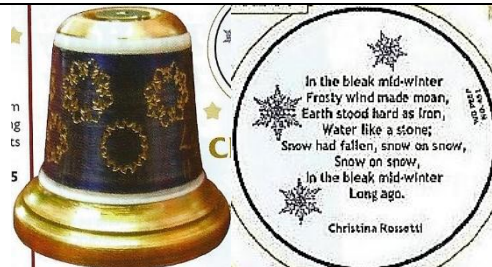
Christmas
TSL winter 1992



Christmas
TSL winter 1992



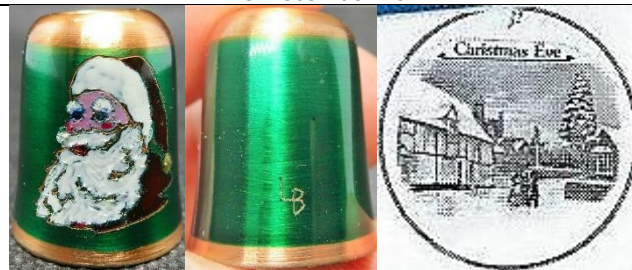
Christmas 2010
etched Christmas stocking with toys
Twas the night before Christmas ...
TTG December 2010



Christmas 2011
etched snowflakes
In the bleak midwinter ...
bell-shaped
TTG December 2011



Christmas Eve 1984
view: Victorian Christmas
limited to **750**
TTG December 1984



Christmas Eve 2002
etched santa
Lorraine Bates (LB)
TTG December 2002



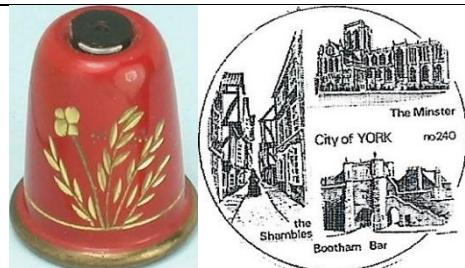
Christmas secrets
bell-shaped
silverplated copper
TTG November 1989



Cicero – If you have a garden ...
etched art deco
TTG February 2010



Cinderella pantomime
etched bow on two sides on lacquered brass
TTG January 1987



City of YORK
etched leaves and flower
see also A Peep around England...York



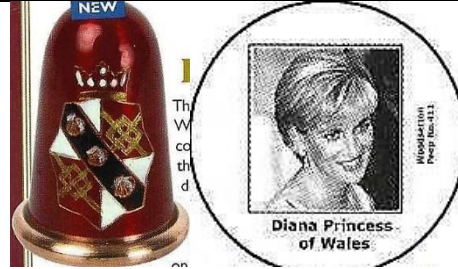
Claudette
view: Anyone for tennis - Victorian fashions
pewter
figure repeated on verso
TTG December 1987



Claudette
pewter
figure repeated on verso
KS 12-1987



Crunchy salad recipe
view: French onion soup
TTG March 1988/



Diana Princess of Wales
etched Spencer coat-of-arms
10 years since her death
TTG September 2007



Dudley
Healacraft China



Easter
etched silver cross
The Lord's Prayer
TTG April 2004



Fashion and the corset
pewter
TO winter 1985



Fashion and the corset
pewter castle-shaped
VN May 2002



Finch
view: courting couple



Flowers
TTG December 1993



Glass kiln
David Bates
handpainted
peep: glassman working furnace
TTG March 1989



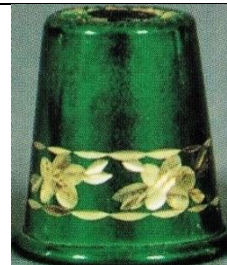
Golf
etched diagonal leaves
fashion for sportswomen
TTG September 2007
b&w photo



Golf
fashion for sportswomen
Healacraft China



Hats for 1910
etched leaves



Hats for 1910
etched flowers
VH autumn 1994



Hawkeye Thimbles 2003
Busy fingers peep



Irish views
pewter beer mug



Jean & Ken Scott
www.stanhopes a closer view
advertising
coincides with publication of her book 2002



Lady Slipper Thimblers of Minnesota 1986-2014
orchid colours lacquered brass
limited to **25**



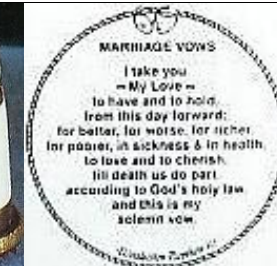
Lindau in Bodensee
Lake Constance
pewter
tourism
limited to **500**
PJW June 1985



London Olympic Games 2012
etched Union Jack
TTG April 2012



Lorenzo Lotto's Nativity
etched heraldic angel
TTG December 2007



Marriage vows
could be personalised
TTG April 2008



Marriage vows
etched cupid and heart
silverplated brass
TTG January 2003



May morning
stripes indicating ribbons of maypole



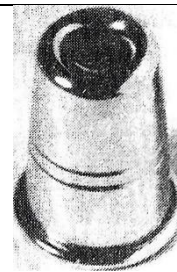
Michael Jackson
etched hand holding microphone
his death
TTG December 2009



Moon landing
etched moon capsule
40 year anniversary
TTG July 2009



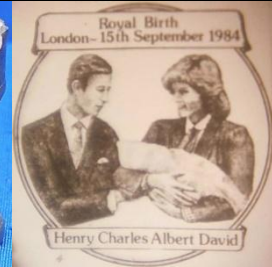
Moon landing
etched astronaut



New Lanark the first 200 years
TTG February 1985
b&w photo



Prince Andrew and Sarah Ferguson marriage 1986
sterling silver
CJ



Prince Harry's birth
pewter castle-shaped
limited to **1000**
TTG September 1984



Prince Philip's 70th birthday June 1991
silver colour lacquered brass



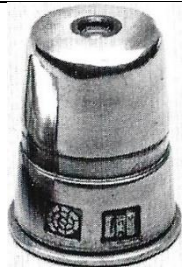
Princess Charlotte of Wales birth 2015
Is this the last Woodsetton produced?



Queen Elizabeth's visit to China
synthetic material
TTG November 1986



Queen Victoria and Prince Albert
pewter



Rijksmuseum 50 years
pewter
limited to **50**
KS March 1985



Rijksmuseum te Amsterdam
pewter
KS May 2002



Robert Burns The maker of rhymes 1859-1896
pewter beer mug



S.S. Great Britain
pewter beer mug
TTG March 1985



S.T.S.
etched thimble
Seattle Thimble Society



Scottish Highlands
deer
antler horn (which we now know is bone)
TTG February 1986



Secret Picture Curios
etched flower and leaves
advertising Woodsetton Peeps
silverplated



Secret Picture Curios following the tradition of
the Victorian originals



Shakespeare's family house
pewter
TO spring 1985



Sir Robert Peel MP Bart
silverplated



Statue of Liberty
centenary
pewter



The Lords Prayer
etched cross
TTG December 2009



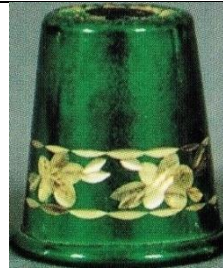
The Lords Prayer
etched kingfisher
white lustre lacquered brass



The Seamstress
pewter
TTG March 2010



The Seamstress
taller thimble: original Stanhope peep for comparison
L: recreated thimble viewed from inside
last thimbles from Iles & Gomms
limited to **956**
TTG September 1990



The Seamstress
VN autumn 1994



The Thimblemakers Nuremberg
TTG October 1989



White Christmas
view: 10th anniversary of Bing Crosby's death
TTG November 1987



Wolverhampton Grammar School
pewter beer mug



WR NS
etched Women's Royal Naval Service symbol
view: WREN 50th anniversary
white lacquered brass represents Plimsoll Line
TTG February 1989



Your pub needs you
view: a poster

Thimbles with no peep

None of these thimbles have a peep – created in the era when film was difficult to procure. They are arranged alphabetically by the lettering.

Often there is an indent in the apex as if intended to take a peep – filled with crystals, beads or ribboning etc



99
4th August 1999 Birthday of Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother
etched book
deep burgundy lacquered brass
Lorraine Bates
TTG August 1999



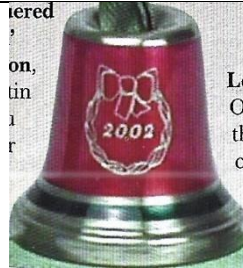
1688-1988 William & Mary
TSL winter 1988



1840 CHARLES ILES 1990
turquoise crystal in apex
last batch made by **Iles & Gomms**
TTG October 2006



2009
etched needle and threads
olive green glass bead in apex
TTG January 2009



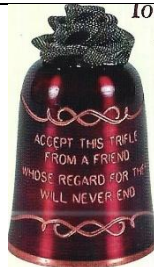
2002
etched bow and wreath
bell-shaped
green ribboning thru apex



A Major return 1992
etched torch
British PM John Major
TTG May 1992



A STITCH IN TIME
Thomas Johnson
TTG April 2001



ACCEPT THIS TRIFLE FROM A FRIEND
WHOSE REGARD FOR THE
WILL NEVER END
mesh rose on apex
TTG April 2004



ADELAIDE
crystal in apex
tourism



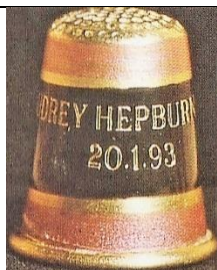
Always friends
Thomas Johnson
TTG December 1990



AQUARIUS
January 21st – February 19th
etched water carrier zodiac sign &
zodiac symbol
TTG February 2002



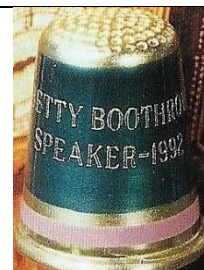
ARIES
March 21st – April 19th
etched ram zodiac sign & zodiac
symbol
TTG April 2002



AUDREY HEPBURN
20.1.93
TTG February 1993



Best Wishes 2005
etched snowflakes



BETTY BOOTHROYD SPEAKER-1992
TTG June 1992



CANCER
June 23rd - July 23rd
etched crab zodiac sign & zodiac
symbol
TTG July 2001



CAPITAL AREA THIMBLERS CATS
1984-2014
red white and blue
celebrating 30 years 2014
R: b&w photo



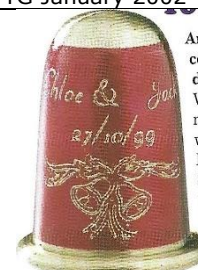
CAPRICORN
December 22nd - January 20th
etched goat zodiac sign & zodiac
symbol
TTG January 2002



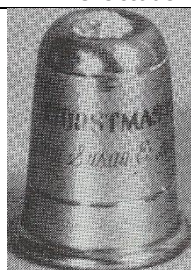
Caroline Mair
personalised
sterling silver & enamel
TTG October 1989



CHANNEL TUNNEL
Opens 6.5.94
TTG June 1994



Chloe & Jack
27/10/99
etched wedding bells
personalised marriage



Christmas 1985
Susan & ...
personalised
crystal in apex
TTG October 1985
b&w photo



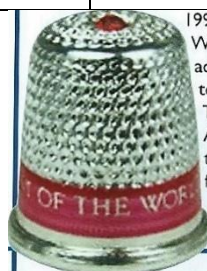
CYCLE RUN 1986
Land's End John O'Groats



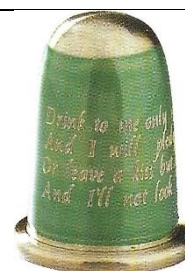
D DAY +65
etched barbed wire and booted leg
TTG June 1990



DEATH OF POLL TAX MARCH 1991



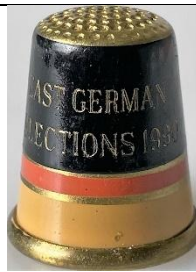
DIGITABULISTS OF THE WORLD
UNITE
silverplated Iles
ruby crystal in apex
Thomas Johnson
TTG June 2008



Drink to me only with thine eyes and
pledge you mine. Or leave a kiss but
in a cup And I'll not look for wine
Ben Johnson
TTG July 2000



DORSET THIMBLE SOCIETY 30TH
ANNIVERSARY 14TH INTERNATIONAL
CONFERENCE 2015
Lorraine Bates (LS)



EAST GERMAN ELECTIONS 1992
using German flag colours



EASTER GREETINGS 2003
etched Easter egg
TTG March 2003



Easter Greetings 2006
etched Easter lily and the crosses



EDINBURGH SUMMIT 1992
8 members' colours lacquered brass
TTG December 2002



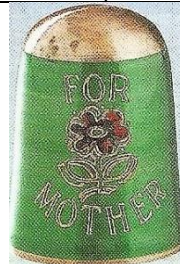
Election Results
Labour Victory 1st May 1997
PM Tony Blair
TTG June 1997



ELIZABETH ANGELA MARGUERITE BOWES-LYON 1900-2002
her death
TTG May 2002



For Age is Opportunity
etched stars
limited to **194**
TTG December 1999



FOR MOTHER
etched rose
TTG March 2007



*For age is opportunity no less than
youth itself tho youth itself, though
in another dress and as evening
twilight fades away Longfellow*
etched stars



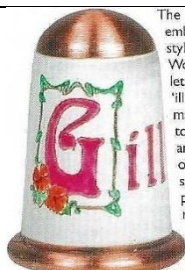
FOREVER YOURS
Thomas Johnson
TTG December 1990



FREE AT LAST
John McCarthy 8.8.91



GEMINI
May 22nd - June 22nd
etched twins zodiac sign & zodiac
symbol
TTG May 2001



Gill
etched coloured lacquered initial
personalised
TTG May 2006



GOD IS LOVE
Thomas Johnson
TTG December 1990



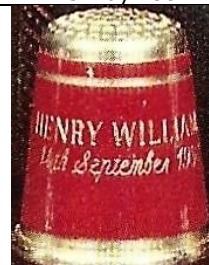
Greetings
Joan 10.1.47
personalised
TTG May 1997



Greetings 2009
white glass bead in apex



Happy Thimbling 1986
TO winter 1980
b&w photo



HENRY WILLIAMS
4th September 1989
personalised baptism
TTG October 1989



HELEN SHARMAN
18.5.91
first British astronaut



HISTORIC BERRIMA 1834
Australian colours lacquered brass
tourism



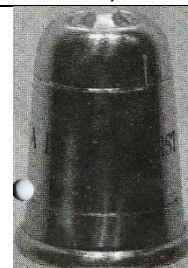
HOME RULE
For Biggar Thimbles
TTG May 1992



HONG KONG
Returning to China 1st July 1997
China's colours lacquer
TTG August 1997



I (heart) THIMBING
TTG September 1992



I'm a Digitabulist
crystal in apex
TTG October 1986
b&w photo



I'm a Digitabulist
TO winter 1985
b&w photo



I'M A DIGITABULIST
Thomas Johnson
green crystal in apex



JACKIE MANN 24.2.91
Magnificent to be Free
limited to **950**
TTG October 1991



JE Y PESNE
lettering spread over three thimbles
bands of flowers



JEAN SHOUP-LA FLESCH
LAS VEGAS 2012
WINTER WALTZ LE50
etched iris
Lorraine Bates (LS)



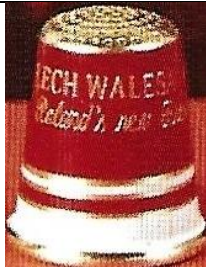
JOHN 12 VERSE 12
PALM SUNDAY
etched open Bible
TTG December 2003



KEEP SAKE
Thomas Johnson
TTG December 1991



Kind words can be short & easy to speak but their echoes are truly endless
etched heart
Mother Teresa
TTG March 2000



LECH WALESA
Poland's new President
using Polish flag colours
TTG December 1990



LEO
July 24th-August 20th
etched lion zodiac sign & zodiac symbol
TTG August 2001



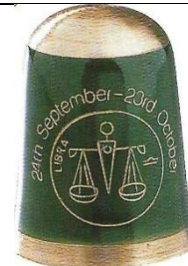
Let Peace Encircle the World
etched silver dove on silver line
limited to **750**
TTG January 1991



LIBERATION OF KUWAIT
FEB 13 1991
using Kuwaiti flag colours
TTG April 1992



LIBERTE EGALITE FRATERNITE
1789-1989
using French flag colours
TTG March 1989



LIBRA
24th September-23rd October
etched scales zodiac sign & zodiac symbol
TTG October 2001



LONG MELFORD
tourism



Marian Audrey
personalised
TTG May 1985



MARLENE DIEDRICH
Goodby Lilli Marlene
marbled
TTG June 1992



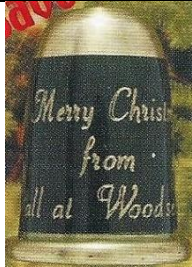
MARY & JOHN
29th October 1989
personalised marriage
sterling silver
TTG October 1989



May beauty and youth keep you in
youth, Green tea and sage, preserve
our old age J S Ogilvie
etched 1884 bible and cup of tea
TTG February 2000



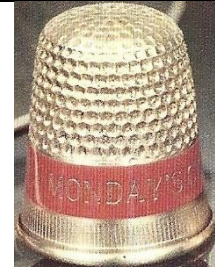
Merry Christmas 1988
TTG November 1988



Merry Christmas from
all at Woodsetton
TTG November 1999



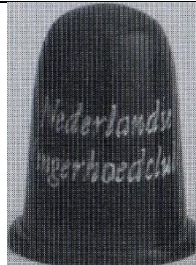
Merry Christmas Lorna
personalised



MONDAY'S CHILD FAIR
TTG April 1989



Mothering Sunday 2003
etched bunch of flowers
gold mesh rose atop
TTG March 2003



Nederlandse Vingerhoedclub 1997
VN March 1997



NELSON MANDELA
President 10.5.94
using new South African flag colours
TTG June 1994



NELSON MANDELA FREE
11TH FEB 1990
limited to **950**
TTG March 1990



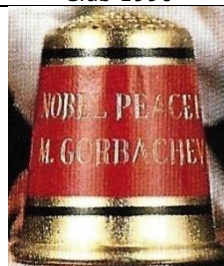
NELSON MANDELA NELSON
MANDELA FREE
11TH FEB 1990
commissioned by South African Thimble
Club 1990



NIGEL MANSELL
1992 World Champion



NIGEL MANSELL
1993 Indycar Champ



NOBEL PEACE PRIZE
M. GORBACHOV 1990
TTG November 1990



ORDINATION OF WOMEN 1992
marbled



PISCES
February 20th-March 20th
etched fishes zodiac sign & zodiac
symbol
TTG April 2002



PRINCESS BEATRIX
Born 8th Aug 88
TTG August 1988



QUEEN MOTHER
85th Birthday 1985
crystal in apex



QUEEN MOTHER
95th Birthday 4th Aug 95
her favourite colours lacquered brass
limited to **950**
R: TTG March 1995



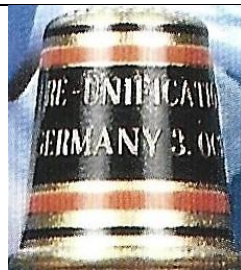
QUEEN'S 85TH BIRTHDAY 2011
etched royal coat-of-arms



R.O.C. 1941-1991
Forewarned is Forearmed



RAJIV GANDHI
End of a Dynasty 21.5.91
using India flag colours



RE-UNIFICATION OF GERMANY
3.OCT.90
limited to **1900**
TTG October 1991



RE-UNIFIED GERMANY
Visit by H.M. Queen Nov 1990



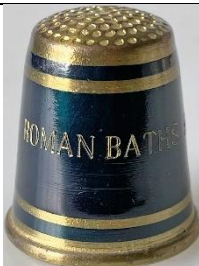
REBECCA STEPHENS
17 MAY 93
etched outline of Everest Himalayas



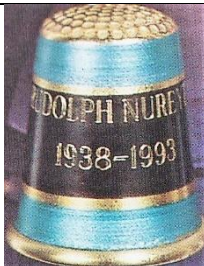
REMEMBER PEARL HARBOUR



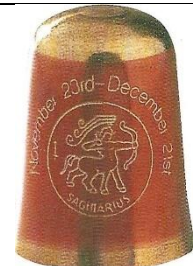
Riet '37-'87
personalised



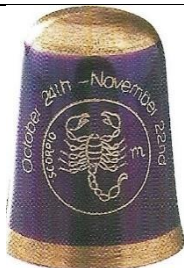
ROMAN BATHS BATH
tourism



RUDOLPH NUREYEV
1938-1993
TTG February 1993



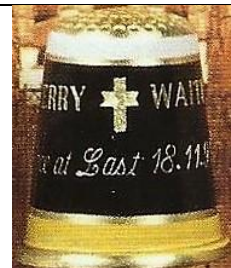
SAGITTARIUS
November 23rd-December 21st
etched archer zodiac sign & zodiac
symbol
TTG December 2001



SCORPIO
October 24th-November 22nd
etched scorpion zodiac sign & zodiac
symbol
TTG November 2001



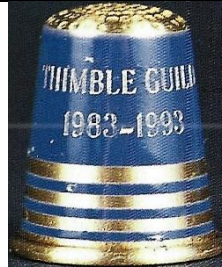
TAURUS
April 21st-May 21st
etched bull zodiac sign & zodiac
symbol
TTG April 2002



TERRY WAITE
Free at Last 18.11.91
etched cross
TTG December 1991



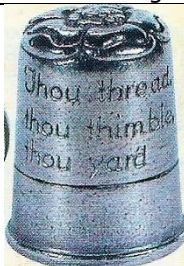
THANK YOU
Thimbles Only CA 1985
crystal in apex
advertising



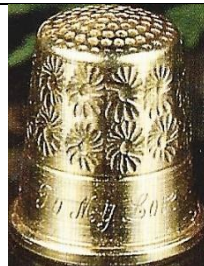
THIMBLE GUILD
1983-1993
Here's to the next decade
TTG January 1993



Thimbles Only Regards Jean Shoup
1985-
advertising



Thou threads thou thimble thou yard
Taming of the shrew
applied flower on apex
pewter
TTG April 2004



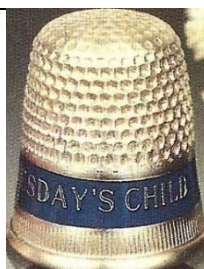
To My Love
gold-plated
last Iles thimbles
TTG December 1990



TOKENS OF LOVE FORGET ME NOT
Thomas Johnson
TTG December 1990



**TONY BLAIR LEADS LABOUR INTO
SECOND TERM SEVENTH JUNE 2001**
etched roses



TUESDAY'S CHILD GRACEFUL
TTG April 1989



VIRGO
August 24th-September 22nd
etched woman zodiac sign & zodiac
symbol
TTG September 2001



VOOR MOEDER
etched hearts
VN July 1993



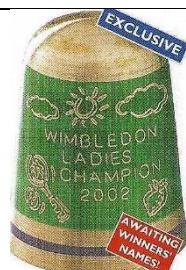
VOOR MOEDER
etched hearts
VN February 1998



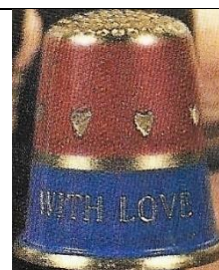
Wimbledon 1986
white glass bead in apex
representing tennis ball
TTG July 1986



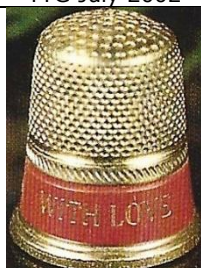
WIMBLEDON MEN'S
CHAMPION 2002
LLEYTON HEWITT
etched tennis racquet
Wimbledon colours lacquered copper
TTG July 2002



WIMBLEDON CHAMPION LADIES
2002
etched tennis racquet
Wimbledon colours lacquered copper
TTG July 2002



WITH LOVE
etched hearts
TTG February 1992



WITH LOVE
last Iles thimbles
TTG December 1990



WORCESTER
tourism



YELTSIN THE HERO
using Russian flag colours

set of eight earth with planets thimbles
etched moon and stars
different coloured glass beads in apex
limited to **750**
TTG November 1991



EARTH



JUPITER



MARS



MERCURY



NEPTUNE



PLUTO



SATURN



URANUS



VENUS

Thimbles with no peep and no lettering

None of these thimbles have any further decoration other than how the artist depicted them.
I will organise this group by similar items.

this group have colourful lacquered brass finishes, some with painted etching



four seasons

spring with lily – summer with sun – Autumn with leaves – winter with snowflakes

L: signed LB for **Lorraine Bates** (LB 06)

TTG June 2006



birth of a baby - birthday

L: VN 1993 – C: TTG September 2002 – R: TTG September 1999 – VN 2000



glass bead in apex

fairy – unicorn – witch – wizard

L: December 2002



birds

finch – kingfisher – owl – peacock – penguin – swift
on a lustre white lacquered brass

VN 2007 – TTG May 1995



Neferiti and Tutankhamen

L: different apex shape

limited to **20**

Lorraine Bates (LS)

TTG January 2007



fairy – rose with matching red apex trim

L: Fm 5 1991

this group is made of various metals with etched designs



L: nickel-plated copper and silverplated with diamond cut designs

limited to **500** sets

TTG June 1989



brass

TTG March 1985

b&w photo



brass

TTG March 1986



Claudette
lacquered pewter



Helen of Troy
pewter or on lacquered pewter
TTG November 1993 – TTG July 1987

This group has etched designs on lacquered brass



birds amongst foliage – etched diamond shapes – witch on her broom
top R: Bluebird of happiness **Jane Hudson** - limited to **500** TTG October 2010
lower L: seated woman **Jane Hudson** (listed as Pauline ...) - limited to **450** TTG December 1989
lower R: red crystal in apex – Ruby Garden TTG

The flowing are all attributed to **Gill Bates**



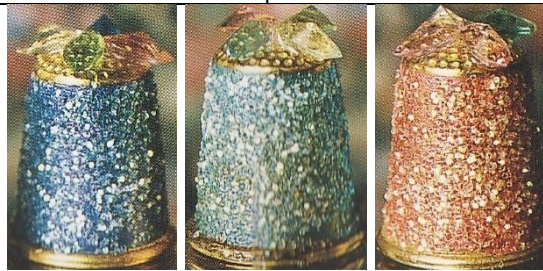
jewelled pewter

L: REGARD spelled in crystals - rose quartz – emerald – garnet – amethyst - ruby – rose quartz – diamond R: pink and blue glass –

TTG November 1991 - TTG September 1991



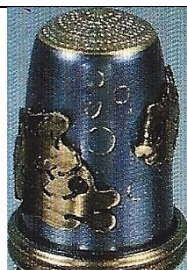
Splatter (oil and water don't mix)
TTG April 1993



"Stardust"
thousands of minute crushed crystals adhere to the lacquered brass
each has an additional treasure on the apex which incorporates a crystal star
limited to **500**
TTG March 1993



Hotfoil
six designs where hotfoil transfer applied by hand – centre of each flowers design are diamond cut by hand to highlight them
top: Bright and bold – Flowers – unknown
lower: fruit – Geometric – Masks with eyes diamond cut
TTG May-August 1996



two fish and bubbles
TTG March 1991

Others



marbled set of twelve
supplied with wooden plinth
TTG November 1990

References

David Bates *De peep-vingerhoed Vingerhoed nieuws*. September 1992

Susan Jean Gowan *Thimbles of Australia*. 1998

Edwin F Holmes *A history of thimbles*. 1985

Jean Scott Stanhopes: *a closer view. A history & handbook for collectors of micrographic novelties*. 2002

Contributors

Joanna Blackie-Sew Many Bits | Jenny Bockel | Pawel Brzyski | Marlous Craane | Micky Garvey
Elsa Haydee Giampaoli | Andrea Griffiths | Linda Heggs | Jenny Janssen-Freens | Caroline Meacham-Elegant Arts
Bev McDonald | Ray Nimmo | Maurice O'Reilly | Sue Roberts | Jean Rose-Miss Mouse | Jean Taylor
Wolf-Dieter Scholz | Krystyna Zagajewska

This listing of Woodsetton 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

© **Sue Gowan**
April 2024