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.

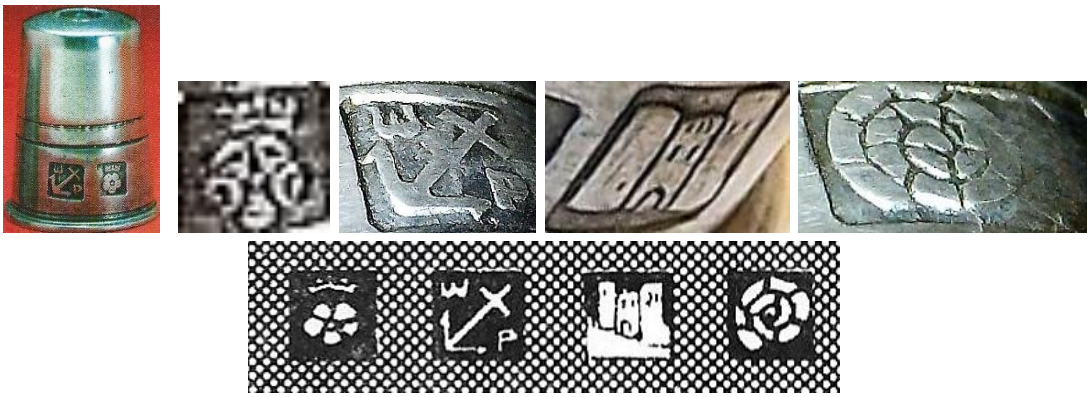
Iles and Gomms Birmingham (Thomas Johnson who took over Iles in 1990) – brass, copper, silverplated, gold-plated
James Swann and Son and Swann Thimbles (Birmingham) - sterling silver. These are hallmarked with the makers' marks. Some were also enamelled.
Abbey Horn (Kendal) - horn

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 imagine 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 apexes, 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.

Victorian Peep-Show

You must hold this thimble up to the light and put your eye to the tiny hole on top before it will reveal its intriguing secret. No, we're not telling you what you'll see – we want it to be a surprise! "Peeps" were invented by the Victorians as souvenirs of favourite holiday resorts but very few remain intact today. Craftsmen at Woodsetton, in the Heart of England, have re-created this clever optical device and set it on top of a heavy pewter thimble, each one bearing the maker's 'touchmarks'. £6.95

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.

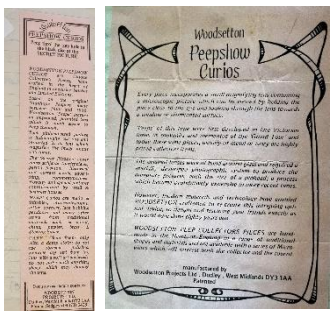
The peeps were usually numbered but I have not followed up on this feature in this topic, as they are often very difficult to read. It is difficult to photograph the peeps – happily Woodsetton provided the enlarged image for about half of the thimble produced, which were replicated in their catalogues.

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.

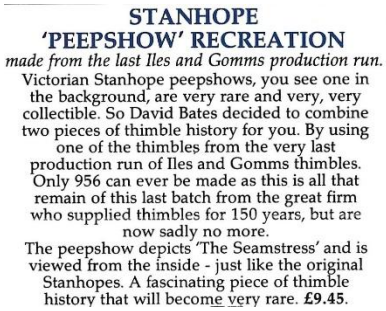
Never immerse a peep in water.

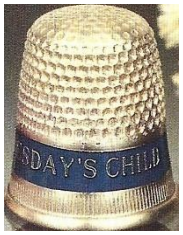
Most of Woodsetton's thimble output was marketed thru The Thimble Guild. Woodsetton marketing was a huge feature of their success. There were accompanying leaflets with the description of the history of peeps, placed in their Woodsetton cardboard thimble boxes.



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) eched 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 Elizbeth II limited to **1500** TTG February 1992

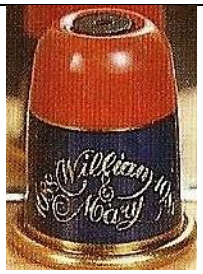
60 YEARS
crown wedding bells
view: Queen Elizabeth and Prince Philip wedding anniversary 2007
silverplated
commissioned by TSL

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

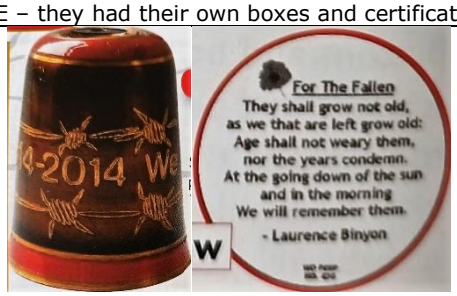
1492-1992
view: Christopher Columbus 500 years
VN May 2002



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

1914-1988
etched parachute
peep: The Great War

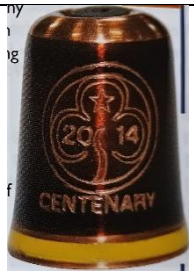


1914-2014 We Will Remember Them
etched barbed wire
World War I 100 years
view: Laurence Binyon's For the Fallen
TTG July 2014

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 conflect...' 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

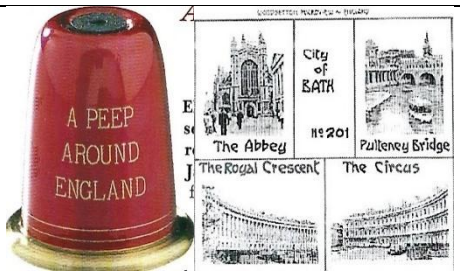
A FUTURE HEIR
birth of Prince George
pewter castle-shaped
TTG September 2003

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

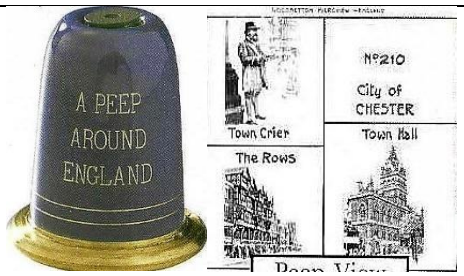
A MAKER OF DREAMS
view: Robbie Burns

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

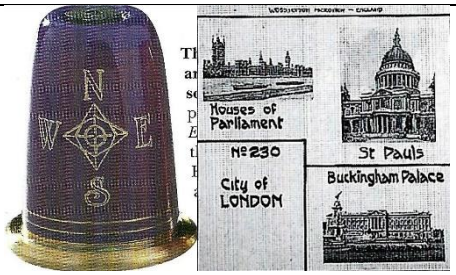
The following group has the only peep that has the multi-scene pictures similar to the 19th century peeps



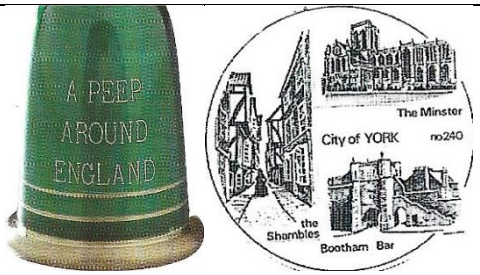
A PEEP AROUND ENGLAND
etched compass on verso
City of Bath
TTG March 2002



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

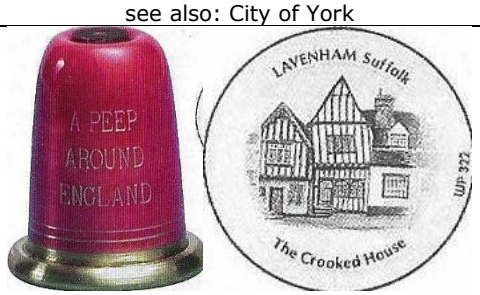


A PEEP AROUND ENGLAND
City of London
TTG February 2002

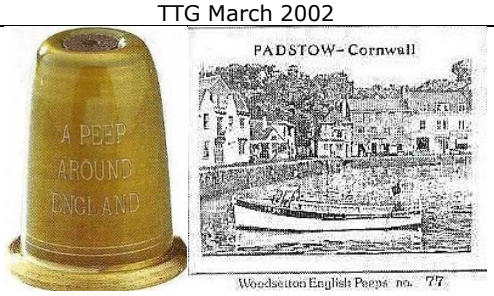


A PEEP AROUND ENGLAND
etched compass on verso
City of York
TTG May 2002
see also: City of York

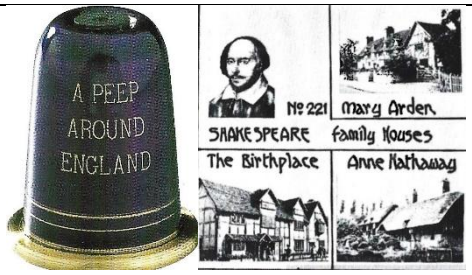
A PEEP AROUND ENGLAND
etched compass on verso
Exeter
TTG March 2002



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



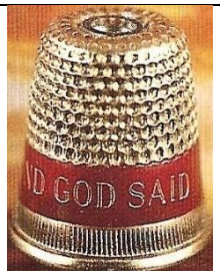
A PEEP AROUND ENGLAND
etched compass on verso
Shakespeare's Stratford
TTG April 2002

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

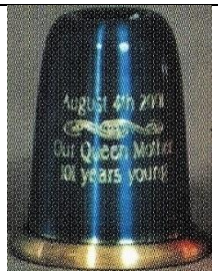
AN ISLAND NO LONGER
view: Channel Tunnel 1994



AND GOD SAID
view: The Ten Commandments
this peep is viewed from the <u>inside</u>
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



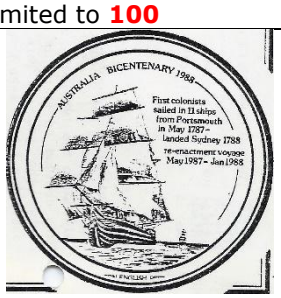
August 4th 2001 Our Queen Mother 101 years young
VN September 2001

Australia 1788 – 1988
The Bounty
TTG January 1988

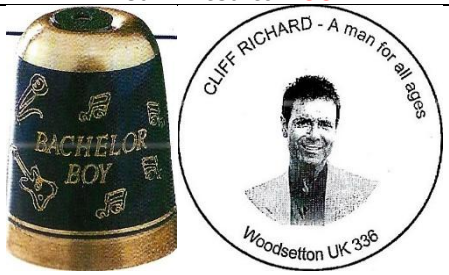
AUSTRALIA
Bicentenary 1988
TSL winter 1987
commissioned by Pan Arts, Sydney
blue limited to **100**

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

no photo

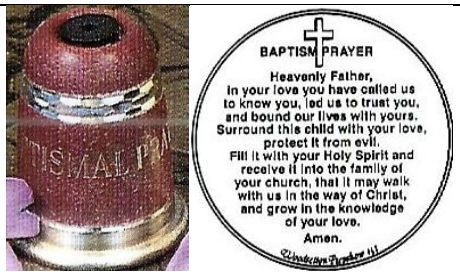


AUSTRALIA
Bicentenary 1988
TSL winter 1987
commissioned by Pan Arts, Sydney
green limited to **100**



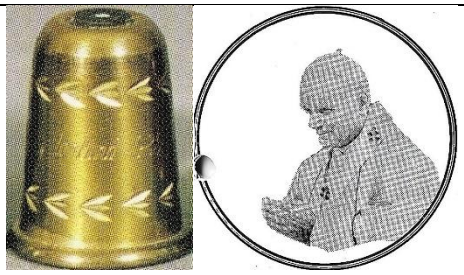
BACHELOR BOY
etched musical notes
Cliff Richard
TTG November 2001

BAGDHAD IRAQ
etched map
using Iraqi flag colours
TTG June 2003

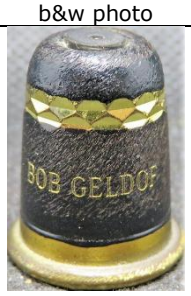


BAPTISMAL PRAYER
TTG June 1988

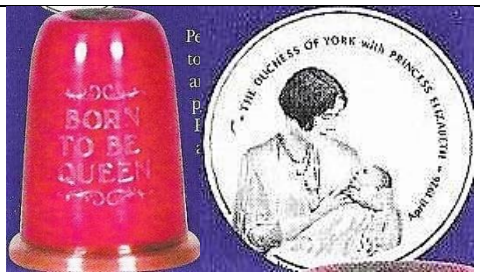
BEATRIX-CLAUS
25 JANUARI 1991
25th anniversary
VN May 1991
b&w photo



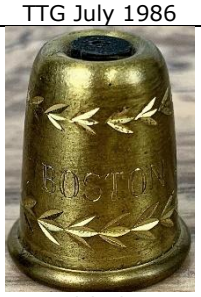
Bezoek Nederland 1985
John Paul II
KS June 1985



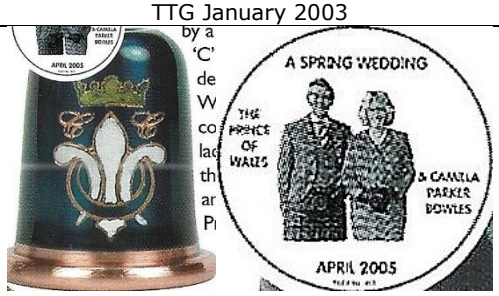
BOB GELDORF
'Live Aid' ist anniversary
view: Geldorf
TTG July 1986



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



BOSTON



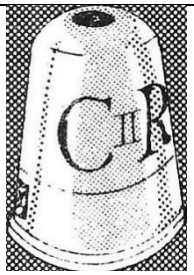
C C
etched Prince of Wales feathers
marriage of Prince Charles and Camilla
TTG April 2005

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

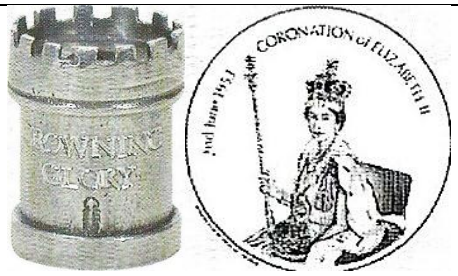
Christmas 1990
commissioned by TSL
TSL winter 1990

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

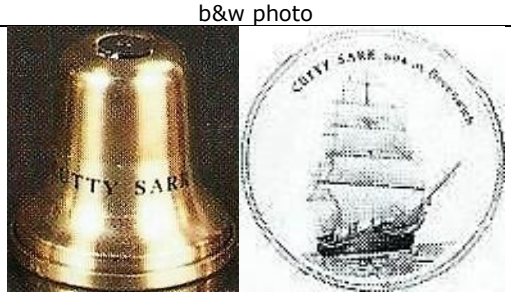
COMING OF AGE
Prince William 21
pewter
TTG June 2003



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

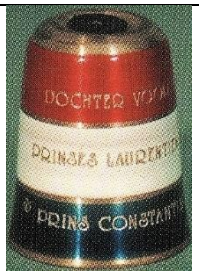
DAD'S ARMY
view: Home Guard 1940 soldier
50th anniversary
khaki lacquered brass
TTG August 1990

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

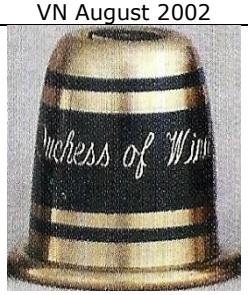
DIEU ET MON DROIT
etched royal coat-of-arms
60 years on the throne
TTG June 2011

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

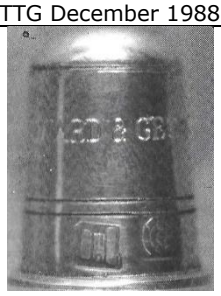


Duchess of Windsor
view: her jewellery
limited to **500**
commissioned by TSL winter 1987

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

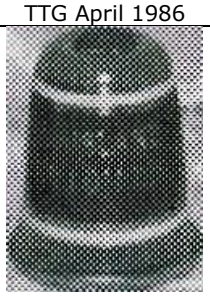
Elizabeth R 1992
limited to 200
commissioned by TSL

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

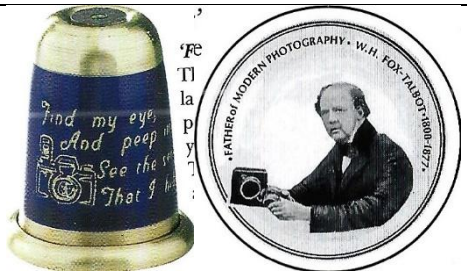
ENGLAND EXPECTS THAT EVERY MAN WILL DO HIS DUTY
Admiral Nelson and H.M.S. Victory
bell-shaped
TTG October 2005



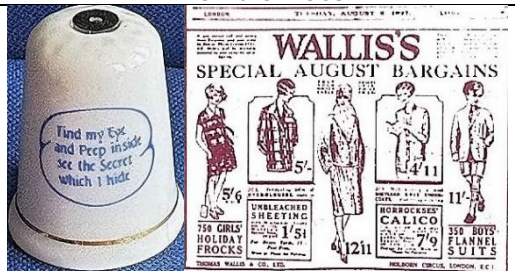
EUROTUNNEL
VN March 1994
b&w photo

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

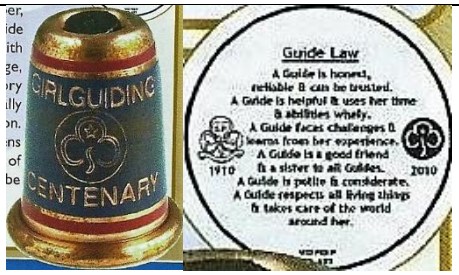
FIND THE SECRET PICTURE
view: Angel & Mother of God

For Mum
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

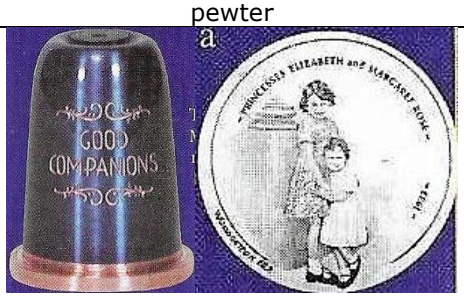
GOD SAVE OUR QUEEN
etched crown
view: 65th birthday 1991

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

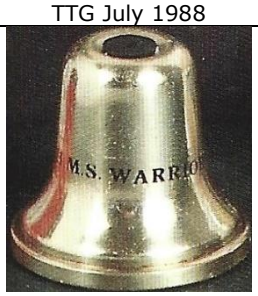


GOOD COMPANIONS
Princesses Elizabeth and Margaret Rose
TTG February 2003

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

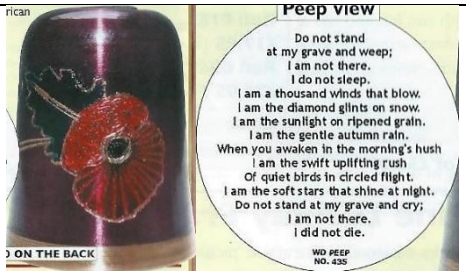
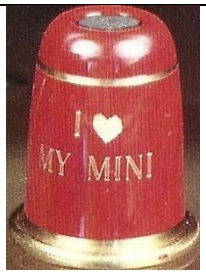
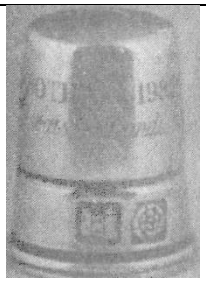


H.M.S. WARRIOR
bell-shaped
TTG August 1988

HAPPY BIRTHDAY MA'AM 21st April 1926-1986

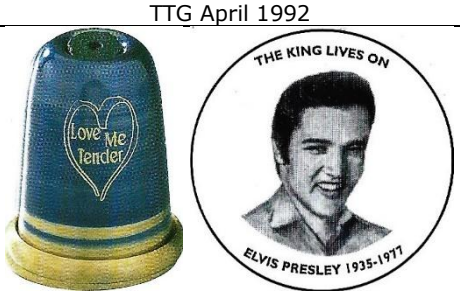
HAPPY BIRTHDAY MA'AM 21st April 1926-2001
limited to **500**
TTG December 2001

Happy Birthday
view: Princess Diana's 30th birthday

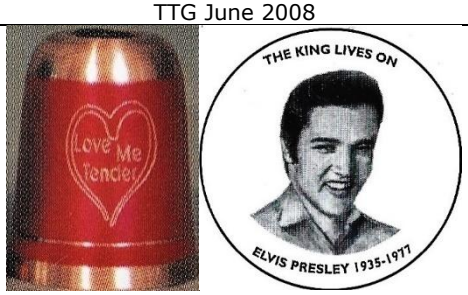
 HELP FOR HEROES etched poppies view: Clare Harnet poem **Lorraine Bates** (LS 10)	 HELP FOR HEROES etched poppies on aubergine lacquered brass Mary Elizabeth Frye poem **Lorraine Bates** TTG November 2010
 HERE'S TAE US – WHA'S LIKE US view: Hogmanay TTG December 1985 b&w photo	 HRH PRINCESS CHARLOTTE 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

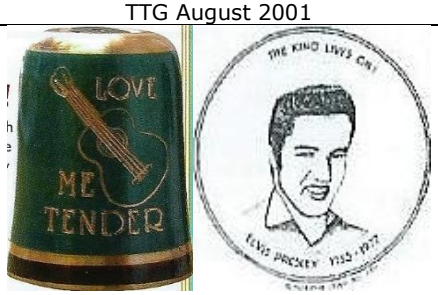
Look deep within the thimble's crown t'tis a secret will be found
Secret fairy
TTG June 2008



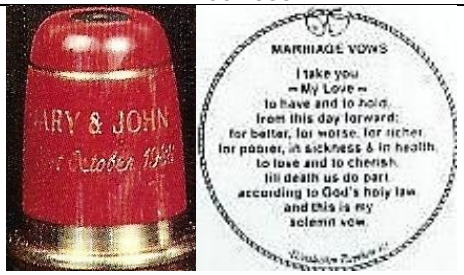
Love Me Tender
etched within heart
Elvis 24 years since his death
TTG August 2001



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

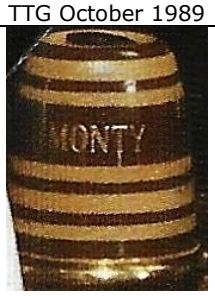


LOVE ME TENDER
etched guitar
Elvis 75 years of his birth
TTG January 2010



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

MAYFLOWER
bell-shaped
TTG March 1988



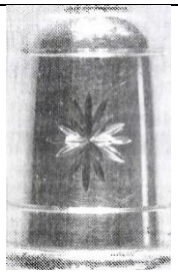
MONTY
view: 100th anniversary of birth of Viscount Montgomery of Alamein
desert colours lacquered brass
TTG November 1987

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

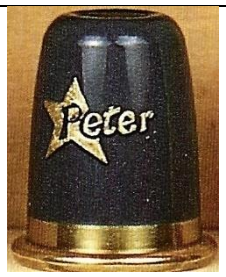
Nederlandse Vingerhoedclub 1998
Dorcas thimbles
pewter
VN February 1998

NEVILLE CHAMBERLAIN
etched bust

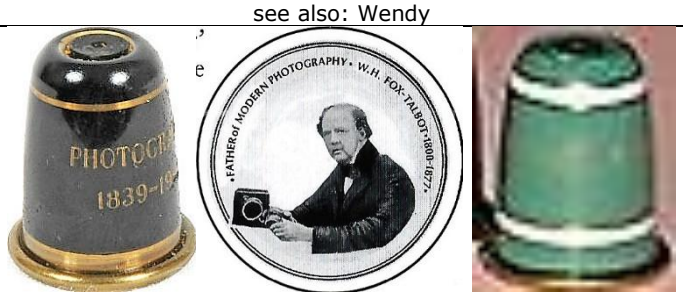
OUTBREAK OF WAR 1939
50th anniversary 1989
view: Neville Chamberlain's speech …



Peter
etched star
silverplated
see also: Wendy

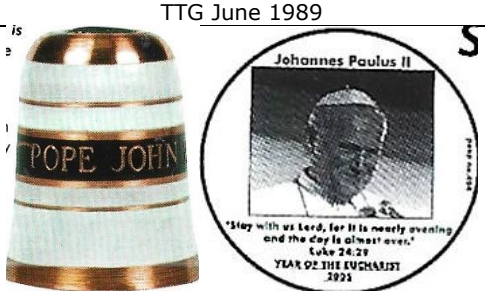


Peter
etched star
TTG January 1989



PHOTOGRAPHY 1839-1989
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

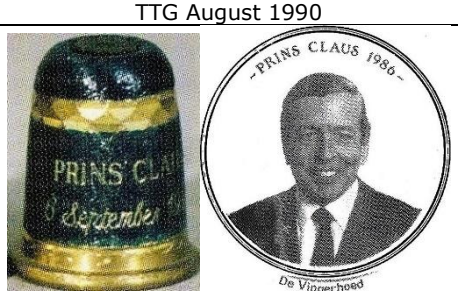
PRESIDENT REAGAN AND PRESIDENT BUSH
Reagan leaving- Bush incoming President
using American flag colours
TTG January 1989

PRIME MINISTER
view: Margaret Thatcher 1986
TTG September 1986

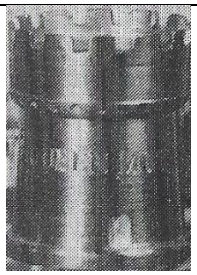
 PRINCE CHARLES etched Prince of Wales feathers view: 40th birthday TTG November 1988	 PRINCE CHARLES etched Prince of Wales feathers view: 1990 visit to Hungary using Hungary's flag colours limited to **750** TTG November 1990
 PRINCE OF WALES view: Charles and Diana's bicentennial visit to Australia 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

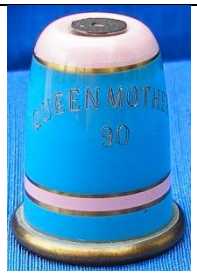
Princess Royal's visit to Russia
Anne
1990



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

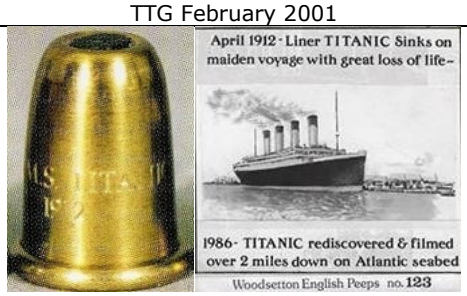


QUEEN MOTHER 90
her favourite colours lacquered brass
limited to **1900**
TTG July 1990

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

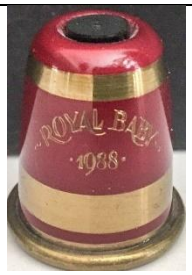
QUEEN VICTORIA
22ND JANUARY 1901
etched scroll
black lacquered brass for her death
TTG February 2001

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

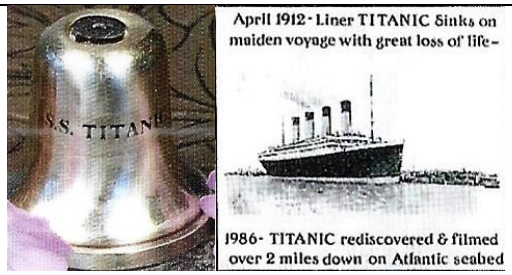
ROYAL WEDDING 12.12.92
view: wedding of Princess Anne and Tim Laurence

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 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 annivdersary of Queen Elizabeth and Prince Philip
commissioned by TSL winter 1987



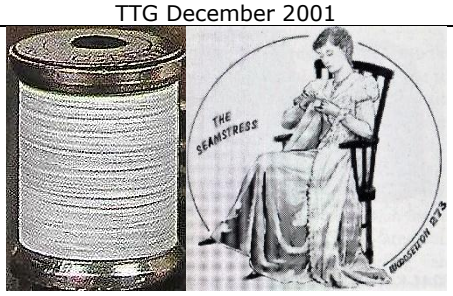
S.S.TITANIC
1986 recovery of sunken ship
bell-shaped

S.S.T.S.
Silver State Thimble Society Est. 2011
Welcome to Las Vegas
b&w photo

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

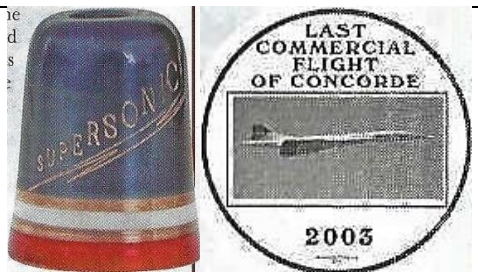
SEASONS GREETINGS 2001
etched red crystal holly
A Merry Christmas Dressing the Tree
TTG December 2001

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

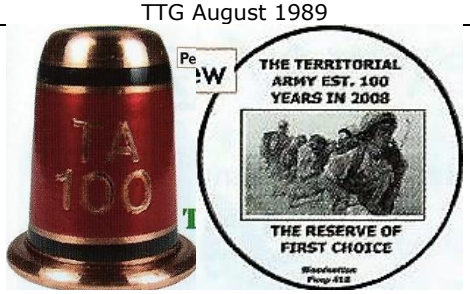


Silko Cotton reel
three etched scenes
The Seamstress
see also: Busy fingers
TTG December 1992

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



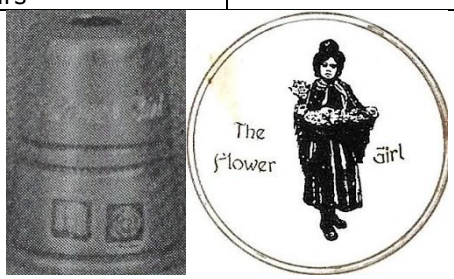
TA 100
Territorial Army 100 years
TTG April 2008

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

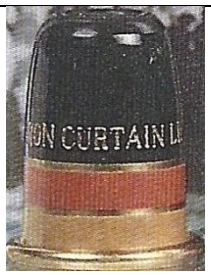
The Crossing Sweeper
view: boy sweeping road Trafalgar Square
red lacquered brass
TTG March 1986
b&w photo

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

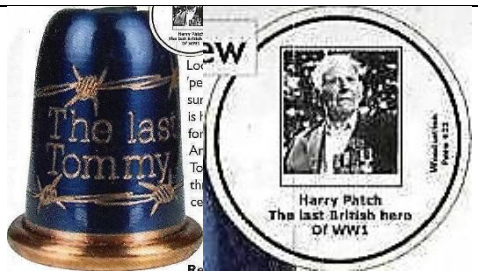
THE END OF THE GLORIOUS REIGN OF QUEEN VICTORIA ONE HUNDRED YEARS 1901-2001



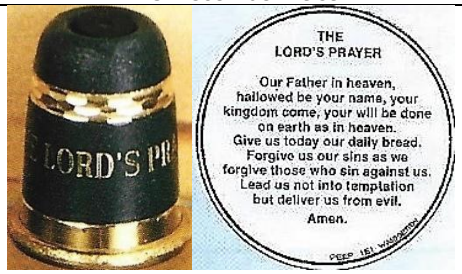
The Flower Girl
pewter
TTG September 1985



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



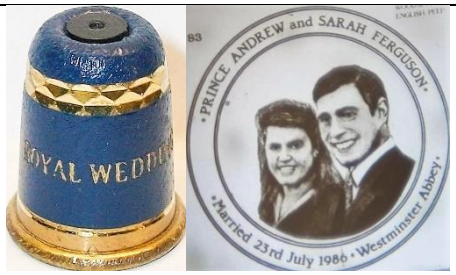
The last Tommy
etched barbed wire
Harry Patch last British born of WW1
TTG November 2008



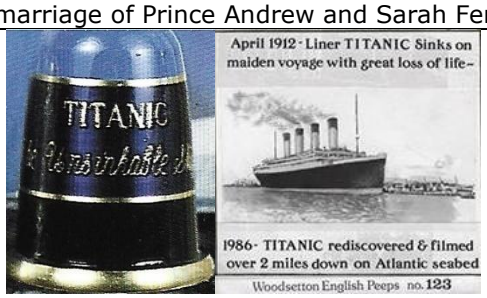
THE LORD'S PRAYER
TTG May 1988

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

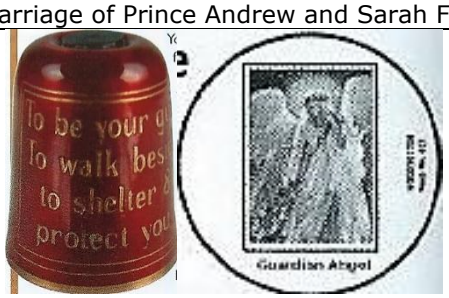
The Royal Wedding
view: marriage of Prince Andrew and Sarah Ferguson



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



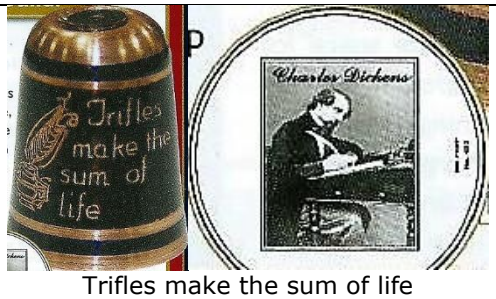
TITANIC
The Unsinkable Ship
80 years since her sinking
1986 recovery of sunken ship
TTG April 1992



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

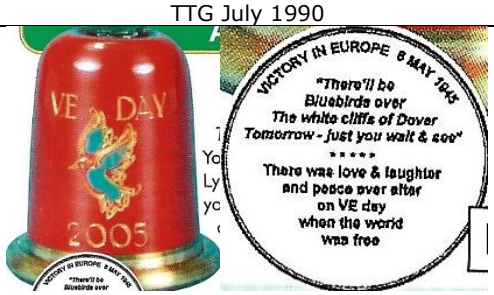
TRAGEDY ON THE LAST TEA CLIPPER
Cutty Sark
pewter
TTG July 2007



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

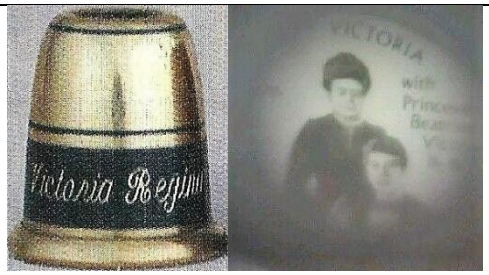
TRIPLE TRIUMPH
etched Scottish cross
view: Scotland's sporting success
limited to **1080**
TTG July 1990

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



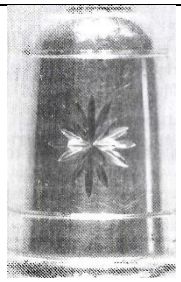
VICTORIA REGINA
golden jubilee
four generations
TSL winter 1987

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

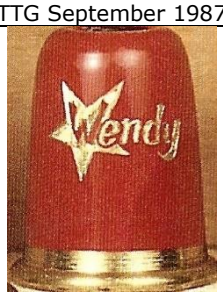
VIVAT REGINA
Queen Elizabeth II's 80th birthday 2006
TTG March 2006

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



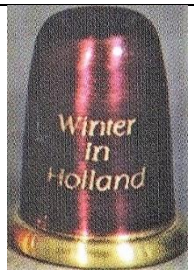
Wendy
etched star
TTG January 1989
see also: Peter

WEST INDIES TEST 1986
view: Viv Richards

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

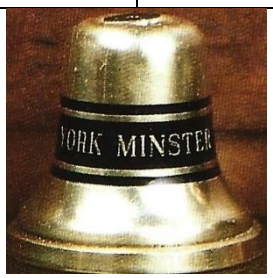
WIMBLEDON STEFFI GRAF
Anyone for tennis – Victorian fashions
using German flag colours

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

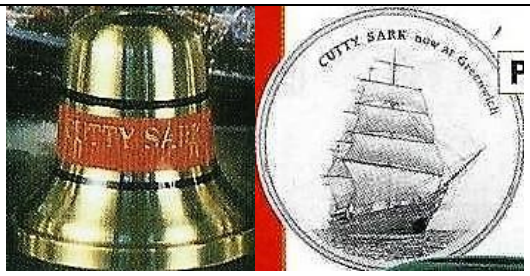
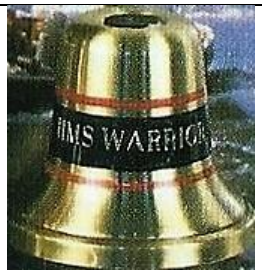
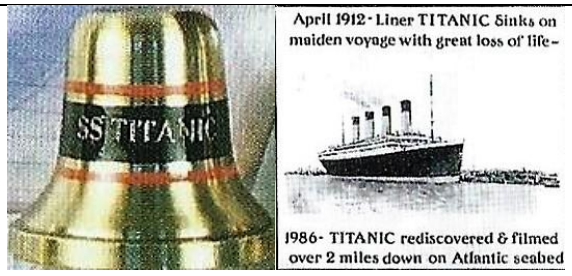


Winter in Holland
Dutch winter landscape
VN February 2002

WOODSETTON PEEPS ENGLAND
advertising
Healacraft China

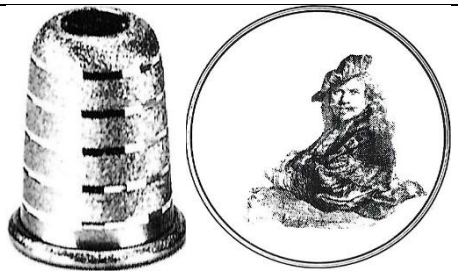


YORK MINSTER
view: Rose window restored
bell-shaped
TTG December 1988

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

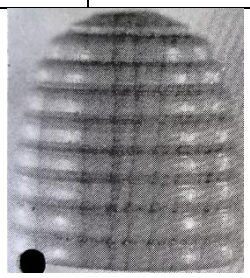
Peep thimbles with no outer lettering

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.



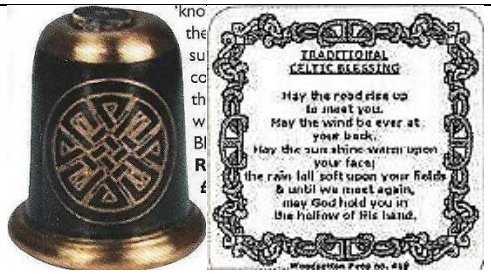
1485-1985
100 jaar Rijksmuseum
view: Rembrandt
KS 9-1985
b&w photo

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



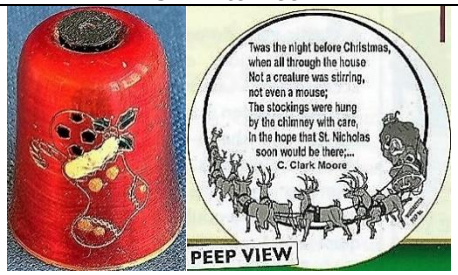
Celtic blessing
etched Celtic knotwork
TTG August 2008

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

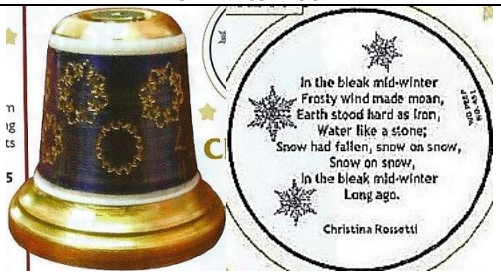
Christmas 1986
etched leaves
TTG November 1986

Christmas
TSL winter 1992

Christmas
TSL winter 1992

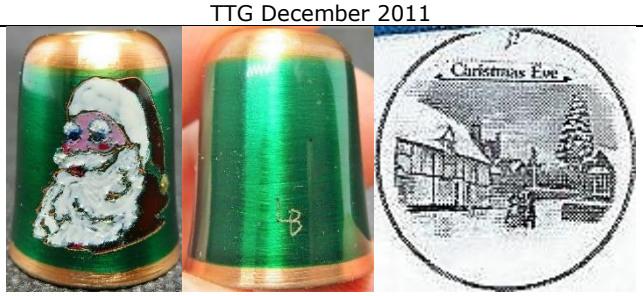


Christmas 2010
etched Christmas stocking with toys
Twas the night before Christmas …
TTG December 2010



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

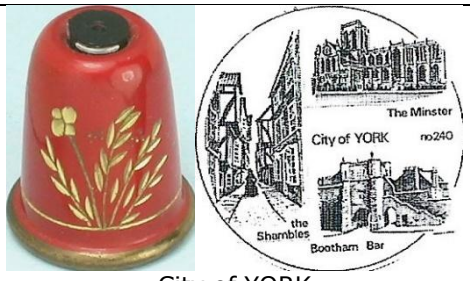


Christmas Eve 2002
etched santa
Lorraine Bates (LB)
TTG December 2002

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

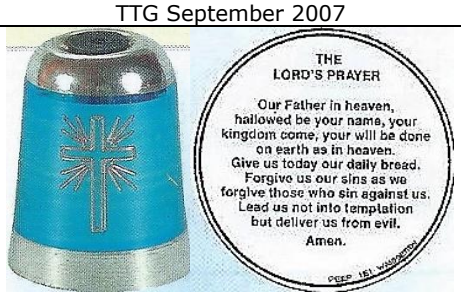
Claudette
view: Anyone for tennis - Victorian fashions
pewter
figure repeated on verso
TTG December 1987

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

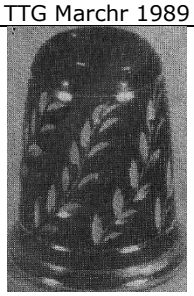
Fashion and the corset
pewter castle-shaped
VN May 2002

Finch
view: courting couple

Flowers
TTG December 1993

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

Golf
fashion for sportswomen
Healacraft China

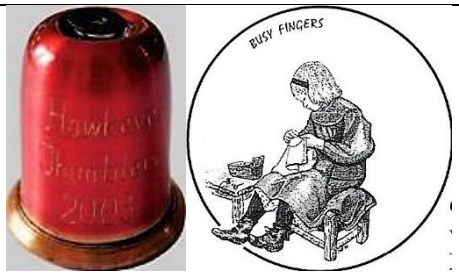


Golf
etched diagonal leaves
fashion for sportswomen
TTG September 2007
b&w photo

Harrods
CJ 1985

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

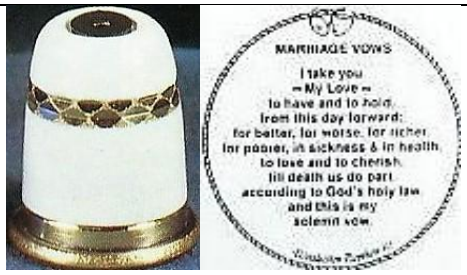
Lady Slipper Thimblers of Minnesota 1986-2014
orchid colours lacquered brass
limited to **25**

Last thimbles made by Iles & Gomms 1993
TTG September 1993

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

London Olympic Games 2012
etched Union Jack
TTG April 2012

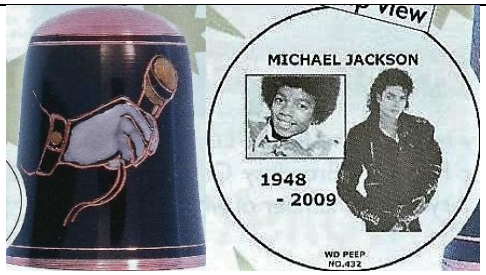
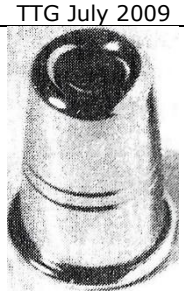
Lorenzo Lotto's Nativity
etched heraldic angel
TTG December 2007

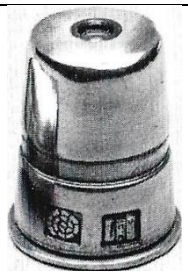
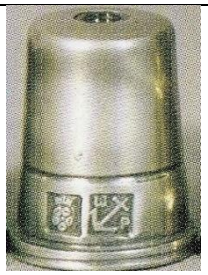


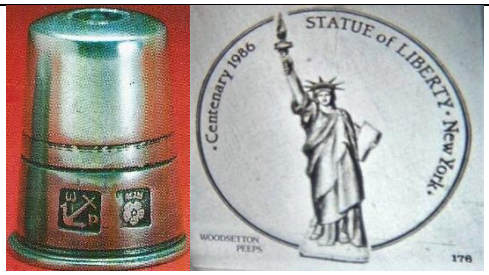
Marriage vows
could be personalised
TTG April 2008

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

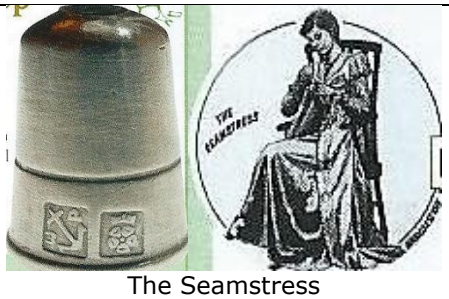
 Rijksmuseum 50 years pewter limited to **50** KS March 1985	 Rijksmuseum te Amsterdam pewter KS May 2002
 Robert Burns The maker of rhymes 1859-1896 pewter beer mug	 S.S. Great Britain pewter beer mug TTG March 1985
 S.T.S. etched thimble Seattle Thimble Society	 Scottish Highlands deer antler horn (which we now know is bone) TTG February 1986
 Secret Picture Curios etched flower and leaves advertising Woodsetton Peeps silverplated	 Secret Picture Curios following 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 <u>inside</u>
last thimbles from Iles & Gomms
limited to **956**
TTG September 1990

The Seamstress
VN autumn 1994

The Thimblemakers Nuremburg
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

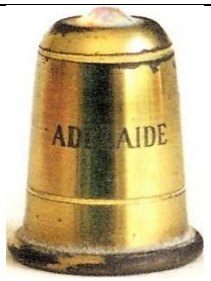
2009
etched needle and threads
olive green glass bead in apex
TTG January 2009

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 WILL NEVER END
mesh rose on apex
TTG April 2004

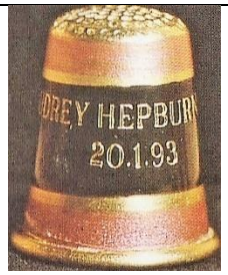


ADELAIDE
crystal in apex
tourism

Always friends
Thomas Johnson
TTG December 1990

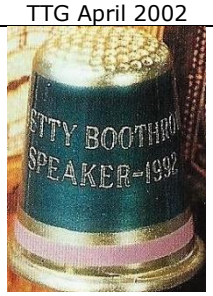
AQUARIUS
January 21st – February 19th
etched water carrier zodiac sign & zodiac symbol
TTG February 2002

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

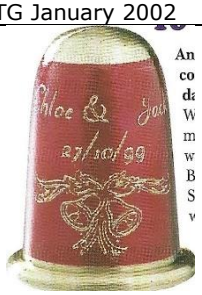
CANCER
June 23rd – July 23rd
etched crab zodiac sign & zodiac symbol
TTG July 2001

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

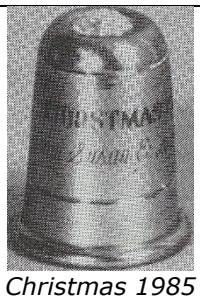
CAPRICORN
December 22nd – January 20th
etched goat zodiac sign & zodiac symbol
TTG January 2002

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

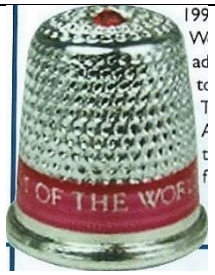


Christmas 1985
Susan & …
personalised
crystal in apex
TTG October 1985
b&w photo

CYCLE RUN 1986
Land's End John O'Groats

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

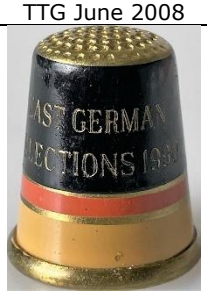
DEATH OF POLL TAX MARCH 1991



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

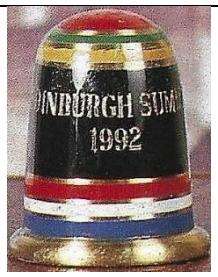
DORSET THIMBLE SOCIETY 30TH ANNIVERSARY 14TH INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE 2015
Lorraine Bates (LS)



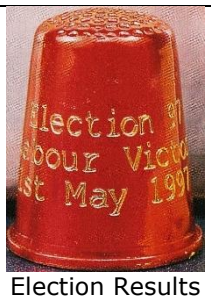
EAST GERMAN ELECTIONS 1992
using German flag colours

EASTER GREETINGS 2003
etched Easter egg
TTG March 2003

Easter Greetings 2006
etched Easter lily and the crosses



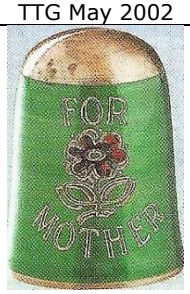
EDINBURGH SUMMIT 1992
8 members' colours lacquered brass
TTG December 2002



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

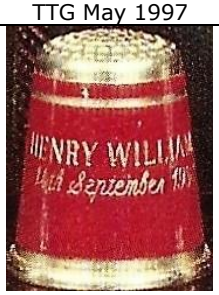
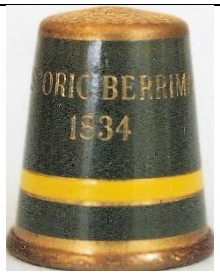
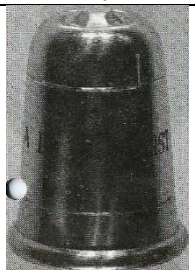
ELIZABETH ANGELA MRGUERITE BOWES-LYON 1900-2002
her death
TTG May 2002

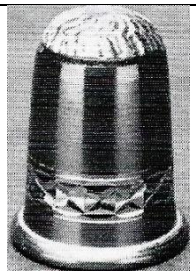
For Age is Opportuniy
etched stars
limited to **194**
TTG December 1999



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 Jean 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

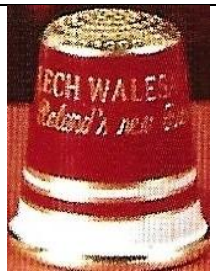
JE Y PESNE
lettering spread over three thimbles
bands of flowers

JEAN SHOUP-LA FLESCH
LAS VEGAS 2012
WINTER WALTZ LE50
etched iris
Lorraine Bates (LS)
limited to **30**

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



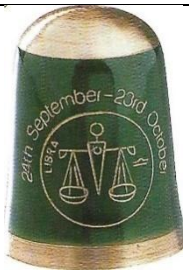
LECH WALESA
Poland's new President
using Polish flag colours
TTG December 1990

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

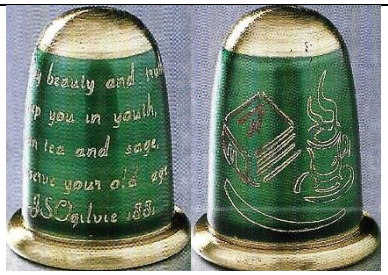
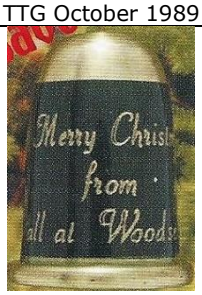
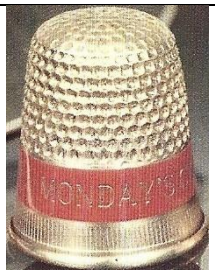
Let Peace Encircle the World
etched silver dove on silver line
limited to **750**
TTG January 1991

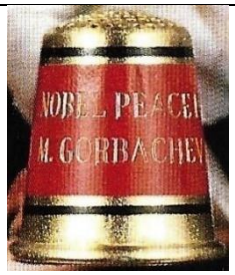
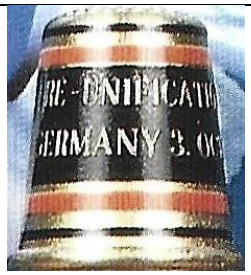
LIBERATION OF KUWAIT
FEB 13 1991
using Kuwaiti flag colours
TTG April 1992

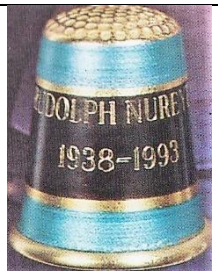
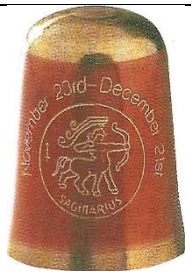
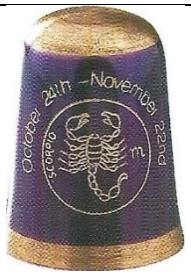
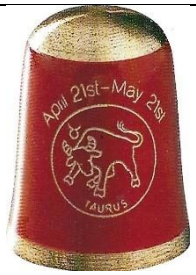
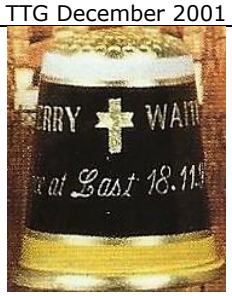
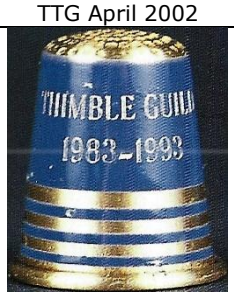
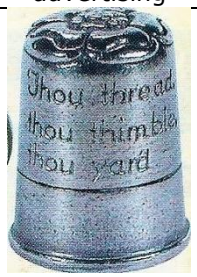
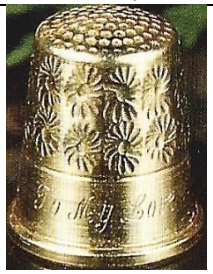
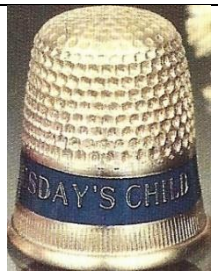
LIBERTE EGALITE FRATERNITE
1789-1989
using French flag colours
TTG March 1989

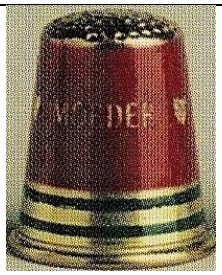
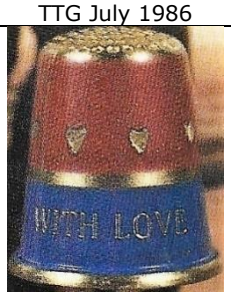
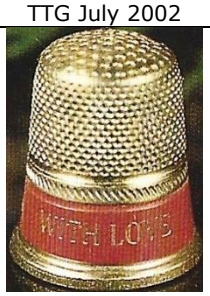


LIBRA
24th September-23rd October
etched scales zodiac sign & zodiac symbol

		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 1999* 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

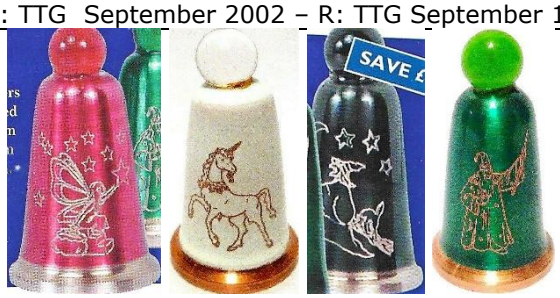
Thimbles with no peep and no lettering

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 wityh 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

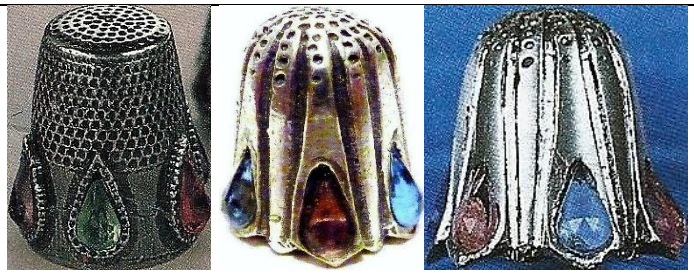
Claudette
lacquered pewter

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 following 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 comments and contributions to add to our knowledge. My thanks to the contributors.

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