

# Thimble Collectors Club Thimbles

Elg & Elg Porcelain <--> Exclusivitas Cemarpa

## Thimble Collectors Club

### The Butterfly ELG & ELG, Sweden

Summer wouldn't be summer without the sight of butterflies fluttering from flower to flower, the beauty and delicacy of their wings always a miracle to behold. It seems incredible that so much colour and pattern can be sustained by something so fragile – and so ephemeral, for it is one of nature's wonders that all this glory is produced for just a few short weeks of life. We have acknowledged their special magic by giving them the evocative names they deserve, for Comberwell Beauty, Purple Emperor, Red Admiral, Duke of Burgundy, Fritillary and Peacock are surely splendid names for creatures as light as this! edown.

Elg & Elg was founded in 1965 as a family business which would produce private luxury dinner services. Soon, however, its products were so much in demand that it began to offer a full range of giftware, which is much sought after throughout Scandinavia. Elg & Elg is situated in a converted farm in a beautiful valley in Småland, the Swedish county of gentler climate and bountiful produce. No doubt the charming decoration of this thimble commanded special attention, as the Swedes are rightly very proud of their flora and fauna.

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## Thimble Collectors Club

"Butterfly" Thimble



ELG & ELG PORSLIN AG - Sweden

A bright yellow butterfly rests upon the lovely pink blossoms of a lily – a scene which perfectly fits the expert craftsmanship of this thimble from Elg & Elg AG of Sweden.

Headquartered in a converted farm in a picturesque valley of the southeastern Swedish province of Småland, this outstanding porcelain house is known for its high quality wares, meticulously fashioned by artisans trained in handcrafting techniques. Torsten and Stephan Elg founded the firm in 1965 and began by producing a line of luxurious dinnerware. In the years since, this father and son team has expanded the business to include a wide range of fine porcelain wares, including many distinctive gift items.

The pristine white porcelain of this "Butterfly" thimble makes a perfect backdrop for the colorful artwork. Elg & Elg Porcelain is proud to once again offer their wares to members of the Thimble Collectors Club.

### Golden Fantasy ELG & ELG, Sweden

Luxuriant scrolls of foliage and flowers in a dramatic, symmetrical, elaborate design speak to us clearly of the Baroque. Majestic music, great works of art, splendour, pomp and ceremony were the keynotes of the age. In any of the great seventeenth-century boudoirs of Paris or Vienna, Rome or London, this thimble would have been welcomed as a charmingly fashionable gift. The overlaid gold-on-gold decoration lends a subtle variation to the texture, and the pure white background sets off the extravagant floral motif to perfection.

The father-and-son team of Torsten and Stephen Elg founded their company in 1965, with the intention of confining their production to high-quality dinner services for the luxury market. Their wares were so eagerly sought after, however, that they took the decision to expand their business to include a full range of decorated porcelain items. They have become well known throughout Scandinavia for the excellence of their hand-crafted wares, and they have achieved a leading position in their field. Elg & Elg have their headquarters in a converted farm in a picturesque valley in Småland, in south-east Sweden.

# Thimble Collectors Club

## Swedish Summer ELG & ELG, Sweden

Sweden is a land of extremes. The winter months are long and bitter, when short days and freezing nights send people scurrying to the warmth of their homes. In summer, though, the country is transformed with astonishing speed. Almost overnight, it seems, the trees burst into leaf, the flowers pop up out of the ground and the whole countryside flourishes, verdant and gracious. And how proud the Swedes are of their beautiful land in its summer dress! Come July, the cities empty as the folk take to the rural life of which they are so fond. Midsummer day sees rejoicing countrywide, with maypoles, garlands, traditional dress and feasting and dancing far into the night – for on the longest day of the year, when darkness never comes at all, who would want an early bed?

Elg & Elg is housed in a converted farm in a pretty valley in Småland, southern Sweden. Its original product was luxury dinner services, but as the company has grown it has expanded its range to encompass a wide variety of lovely giftware. Our delightful thimble is a typical example of the high quality craftsmanship that collectors have come to associate with the name Elg & Elg.

# Thimble Collectors Club

## Chamomile ELYSIAN FINE CHINA, England

One of our best-known herbs, the daisy-like chamomile has many properties. It forms a dense, green, springy carpet, which releases its sweet and heady fragrance to those who walk on it. Another type of chamomile is more often used medicinally. It gives us a deliciously aromatic oil, which warms and heals – rub it on to aching limbs, or add it to your bath. The dried flowers can be made into an infusion, which is antiseptic and cleansing when used on the skin, and imparts a golden blonde sheen when used as a rinse on fair hair. It is also a wonderfully soothing drink. What did Peter Rabbit's mother give him after his alarming adventures in Mr McGregor's garden? A thimble-sized china mug of steaming chamomile tea, to calm his nerves and promote sweet dreams!

This charming thimble has been made for the Thimble Collectors Club by Elysian Fine China, a small family concern. Based in Staffordshire, right at the heart of England's porcelain trade, Elysian draws on a long tradition of ceramic production, combining this experience with modern methods to make some of the most attractive wares available.

## Der Fingerhut-Sammler- Club

### Mitternachtfelder ELYSIAN, England

Dieser exquisite fingerhut wurde vom fingerhut-sammler-club im Stil von Elysian geschaffen. Die traditionsreiche englische Manufaktur Elysian hat diesen reizenden Fingerhut geschaffen.

Eine Kombination von brillanten Blumen auf meerblauem Hintergrund. Mit 22 karätigen Goldrändern, verleiht diesem Fingerhut eine außergewöhnliche Schönheit. Von Generation zu Generation wurde das kunsthandwerkliche Können weitergegeben. Qualität und Perfektion wurden stets über alles gestellt. Das Porzellanhaus Elysian ist basiert in Staffordshire am Herzen des Porzellanshandels von Englands.

Die Manufaktur Elysian ist besonders für ihr Porzellan mit goldverzierten Rändern und handbemalten Blumen. Er stellt für den Sammler ein Schmuckstück dar das Elysian internationalem Ansehen gerecht wird.

## Thimble Collectors Club

### Waterlily ELYSIAN, England

Waterlilies are amongst the most exotic of the plants we see growing wild in Britain. In a secret bay of a lake, where the water lies dark and still, you can discern their growing stems in the depths – but try to wade to them and the mud swirls up and hides them from view. Yet one day you'll find the water bejewelled with bright flowers floating languidly on the surface – a scene so unexpected that for one moment it is hard to believe you are not in some tropical clime. Needless to say, a flower of such beauty soon made its way into our gardens and parks, adding a touch of romance to the most prosaic of ponds.

Elysian is a small company based in Staffordshire, home of Britain's greatest porcelain houses – and so, although it is a new name to collectors, it has more than a century of experience to draw upon. The golden rule at Elysian is to combine the best elements of traditional porcelain-making with the most up-to-date production methods, and the family team is dedicated to creating porcelain that will become the heirlooms of the future. This lovely thimble is a typical example of Elysian's successful pursuit of excellence.

## Thimble Collectors Club #127

### Waterlily Thimble

**ELYSIAN - Staffordshire, England**

# Thimble Collectors Club

## Cobalt Musicians EMINENCE LUDWIG, Germany

You can almost hear the sweet music they make! Mozart springs to mind as we watch the four graceful eighteenth-century musicians – a violinist, a cellist, a flautist and a harpist – who have assembled to play a light chamber piece for our delight on this charming thimble. Depicted in lustrous golden detail, the ensemble is set off perfectly by their background of deep, rich, cobalt blue – always a favourite colour of royalty, for whom the famous house of Eminence Ludwig has made many pieces of fine porcelain ware.

Eminence Ludwig was founded over sixty years ago, and is situated in a small community in the north-eastern corner of that most beautiful part of Germany, Bavaria. The company has specialised in wares hand-painted over a distinctive underglaze blue. Justly proud of its royal connections, it was in fact named after the highly revered and beloved nineteenth-century King Ludwig II of Bavaria, friend and benefactor of Richard Wagner. A devoted patron of the arts, King Ludwig would no doubt have delighted in this evocative thimble, produced by a porcelain house bearing his own name!

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# Thimble Collectors Club Royal Musicians Thimble



## EMINENCE LUDWIG - Bavaria, West Germany

A band of 18th-century court musicians – deftly rendered in gleaming gold on a rich cobalt blue background – encircles this fascinating porcelain thimble from Eminence Ludwig Porzellan.

Established in 1932 in northeastern Bavaria, this outstanding German porcelain house specializes in the ornate decorative style of lavish gold and deep cobalt underglaze – a combination for which porcelain-makers of this region have been renowned for over a century. Appropriately named for the revered and beloved Bavarian regent, King Ludwig, Eminence Ludwig has produced its superbly hand-decorated wares for European royalty and aristocracy.

The "Royal Musicians Thimble," available exclusively from The Thimble Collectors Club, exemplifies this firm's extraordinary richness of design and detail. Collectors will delight in the thimble's unusual shape and brilliant finishing glaze, as well as the raised relief flower blossom on the top and scroll-work around the base.

# Thimble Collectors Club

## Emerald Cascade EMINENCE LUDWIG, West Germany

This delicate little celadon thimble bears a weight of history, for the typical green celadon glaze has been known since at least the ninth century, and examples are found in museums all over the globe. It is believed to have originated in China, and also appears in bottle green, brown, bronze and even maroon. Some say the name 'celadon' is taken from that of the hero of a popular seventeenth-century novel, who invariably wore clothes of sea-green hue; others hold that it is a corruption of Saladin, the great Muslim warrior, who is known to have made a present of forty pieces of this ware in the year 1171. Celadon is found extensively in the Middle East, where it is called 'martabani', and is popular for vases, jardinières, and particularly bowls, since it was thought to render poison harmless.

This historically fascinating thimble is from Eminence Ludwig, which was founded in north-east Bavaria over fifty years ago. The factory has produced many items for royalty, as befits a company which took its name from Ludwig, nineteenth-century King of Bavaria. Eminence Ludwig are proud to have produced this rare type of thimble, which will be eagerly sought after by knowledgeable collectors everywhere.

## Auriculas EMPRESS PORCELAIN, Czech Republic

This auricula is a beautiful species of Primula that grows profusely on the Alpine slopes of Europe. It forms clusters of silvery green leaves and, in the wild, bears masses of yellow or purple flowers in the late spring and early summer. By now, varieties in many colours have been cultivated for us to enjoy in our gardens. On this lovely thimble we show two of these varieties - a striking blue and a pure white, bedecked with attractive foliage.

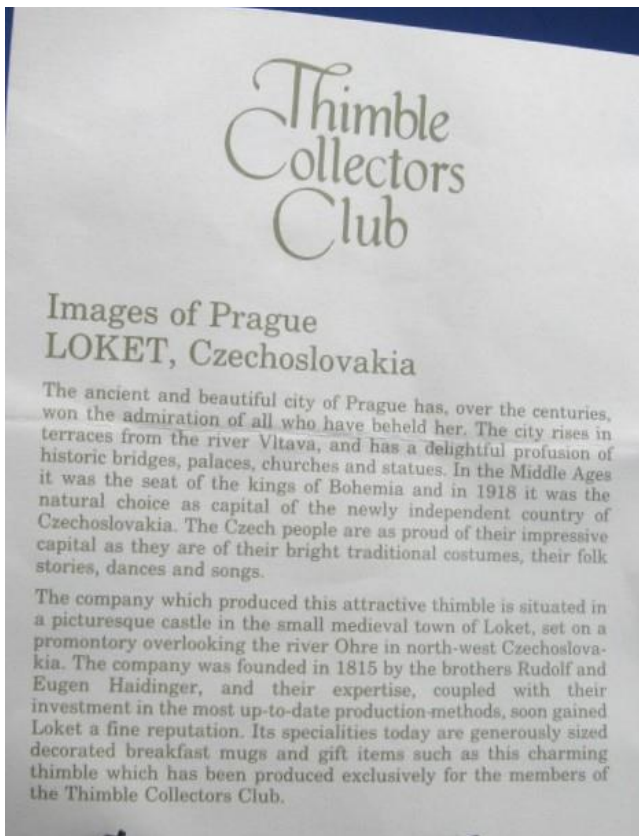
Empress Porcelain, founded in Prague, was considered by many to be a leader in the field of porcelain manufacturers of small 'toys', or trinkets, and giftware. From the mid-eighteenth century, the business remained in the hands of the same family, with all the skills and techniques of production and decoration being passed safely and surely down from one generation to the next. Flower subjects have always been a tradition in porcelain decoration, and are particularly well suited to small-scale work. In this, its newest thimble, Empress Porcelain is proud to carry on the floral theme.

## Thimble Collectors Club

### Garland of Roses EPIAG, Czechoslovakia

Roses are still the world's favourite and most romantic flowers, with their distinctive beauty, heady fragrance, vast range of colours and immense versatility. With this unique combination of qualities now increased by the modern nurseries far beyond the dreams of their original Chinese gardeners, roses still have that same natural grace and appeal which have made them the most desirable blooms in gardens all over the world for hundreds of years. Our charming thimble is adorned with two perfect pink roses, and embellished with a rich golden band.

The little medieval town of Loket, with its narrow streets and ancient houses, nestles comfortably below its fairytale castle, a few kilometres from Karlovy Vary - the old spa town of Carlsberg - in north-west Czechoslovakia. The porcelain house of Epiag, which produced this attractive thimble for our Club, was founded in 1815 by the brothers Rudolf and Eugen Haidinger, and is situated in the outer bailey of the castle, in its wonderfully picturesque setting on a promontory overlooking the river Ohre. Steeped in history, this respected porcelain company produces a range of richly decorated, high quality wares.



These thimbles made by Epiag of Locket

