

# Nenthorn Studios thimbles (Scotland) 1985-1986

Nenthorn Studios were situated in the hamlet of Nenthorn, near Kelso, in the Scottish Borders. Their thimble production only lasted for a year. They were promoted by The Thimble Guild (TTG).  
First issued in April 1985, finishing in April 1986.

The only additional information available is that the hand-thrown, glazed earthenware pottery thimbles were made by a pair of potters: the Kerrs – sometimes identified as a husband and wife team but only Nick Kerr is named. He probably was the pewterer, as I have seen his name associated with another Scottish thimble maker, John Urwin, who turned wooden thimbles. The toppers come in a variety of finishes – clever and playful creations.

It is rare to find pottery turned in miniature like some of the toppers.

The thimbles are of a sturdy pottery and unless indicated, they were made of a cobalt blue pottery with gilt lettering. There are no maker's marks on the thimbles. Nowhere in the catalogues are the toppers identified as made of pewter – rather just silver, copper or gold plated. They are mainly made of pewter. Some are of handpainted pewter. The bases or plinths that the object is placed on vary. Sometimes matching the theme.

On occasion the lettering is on both English and Gaelic – or just in Gaelic. Nick created several Scottish topics – probably only available from the specific site.

I have never featured thimbles with toppers before – it's my passion for Scottish-made thimbles that has led me to include this small output of thimbles.

For other Scottish thimble topics see:

Carol Edwards of Coll Pottery and Horizon China thimbles  
Highland China thimbles 1977-1985  
Innes Mitchell's pyrographed wooden thimbles (Scotland)  
Scottish wooden thimbles



bagpiper  
'Edinburgh'



Bagpiper  
cobble plinth  
'Scottish Borders'



Bagpiper  
'Isle of Skye' 'Eilean a Cheo'



Book  
book is edged in gold  
'1535 The Coverdale Bible 1985'  
celebrating 450 years since its  
creation  
mahogany wooden plinth for book by  
Nick Kerr  
TTG October 1985



Cat  
handpainted  
Hallowe'en witch on gold inset disc  
limited to **500**  
TTG October 1985  
b&w photo



Celtic Cross  
raised mound plinth  
'Isle of Iona'



Coin  
genuine copper coin  
'Fartning withdrawn Dec. 1960'  
limited to **450**  
TTG December 1985



Coin  
genuine silver 3d coin  
'George V 1865-1936 Acc. 1910'  
commemorating 50 years since his  
death  
TTG January 1986



Croft  
'Isle of Harris'



Dolphin  
splash plinth  
'Eilean na Hearadh'  
(name of a guesthouse)



Eagle  
no lettering



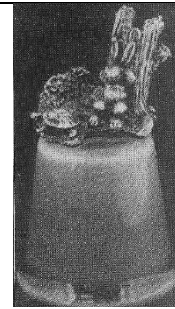
Fish  
speckled plinth of salmon  
'Falls of Shin'



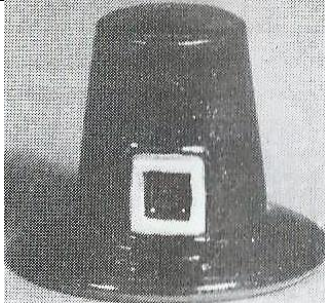
Gondola  
mountain plinth  
'Aonach Mor 4006'



Halley's Comet  
gold-plated comet  
'Halley's Comet 1985-86'  
lettered in elliptical shape of comet's  
path  
TTG November 1985



Hare and tortoise  
Nick Kerr  
base is **green**  
no lettering  
TTG February 1986  
b&w photo



Hat  
Puritan **Black** hat  
no lettering  
limited to **300**  
TTG April 1985  
b&w photo



Kettle  
enamelled copper  
base is **black** representing a stove  
no lettering  
TTG May 1985  
b&w photo



Lifeboat  
gold-plated medallion  
'Lifeboat Bi-centenary 1986'  
TTG April 1986



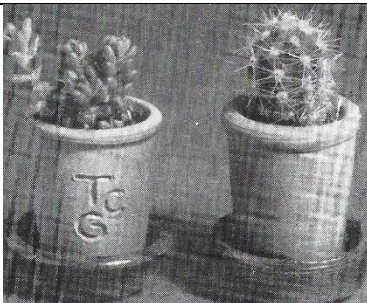
Merlin  
brass finish  
no lettering  
also available in silver **5**  
gold **1**  
TTG December 1985



Milk jug  
**cream** jug  
handpainted jug  
no lettering  
TTG July 1985 (shown in background)  
b&w photo



Pillar box  
red painted  
1635-1985  
350 years of Post Office  
limited to **500**  
TTG July 1985  
b&w photo



Pots  
**red** plant pots  
'TCG'  
pots even have drainage holes  
TTG April 1985  
b&w photo



Rocket  
rubble depicting Earth plinth  
'Y. Gagarin 4.12.61 Vostok 1'



Ship  
waves plinth  
Viking longboat  
no lettering



Stag  
'Elmsdale'



Thistle  
'Edinburgh'



vase  
handpainted pottery vase is 2cm  
base is **ochre**  
TTG July 1985



Young Arthur  
with Escalibur  
no lettering  
TTG March 1986



no lettering  
TTG July 1985 (shown in background)  
b&w photo

## Contributors

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This listing of Nenthorn Studios thimbles does not purport to be complete or accurate in all aspects. Rather it invites comment and contribution to add to our knowledge. My thanks to the contributors.

EMAIL [thimbleselect@bigpond.com](mailto:thimbleselect@bigpond.com) TO SHARE YOUR KNOWLEDGE

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