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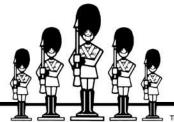




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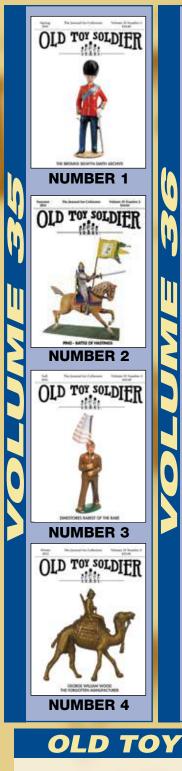
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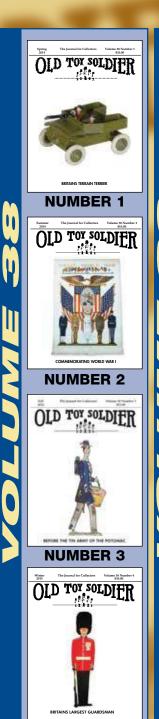
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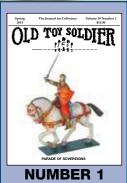


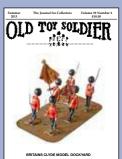
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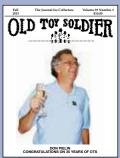


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HOBBY NEWS

Col. E. Joe Shimek 1935-2015

Lt. Col. E. Joe Shimek (Ret.) Potsdamer Zinnsoldaten (PZ) fame has passed away. A Texan proud of his heritage was born there on 16 January, 1935 and passed away there on 1 October, 2015. A man of great wit, sharp humor and intelligence this bagpipe playing man was a proud 1957 graduate of West Point Military Academy. His fascination with casting began with an A.C. Gilbert Casting set at age 8 having previously began playing with and collecting military figures as a younger boy.



During his military service in the Cold War one of his assignments was that of U.S. Army/Soviet Forces liaison in Potsdam (hence the future name of his firm). While in Germany he developed his encyclopedic knowledge of many manufacturers in all formats of flats, semi-rounds and rounds. Some of the manufacturers included Heyde, Spenkuch, Krause, Bischoff, Haffner and more. He later taught Russian at the U.S. Defense Language Institute. His service in Viet Nam came with multiple decorations including that of the Bronze Star.

PZ was founded on the base of Heyde's catalog offerings of Size 2. But its production in a labeled box began with PZ-1 Askaris in 54 mm which looked on Britains for inspiration. PZ was obviously not limited to Heyde's Size 2. He drew on multiple manufacturer's including their various parts as well as those of his own creation. At times Joe was assisted by his late dear friend Neal Crowley along with PZ's out of house painting staff if he did not paint it himself.

With playful abandon he as a master of mold making and the soldering iron along with other tools he copied, modified and repaired besides creating new figures and the various military panoply of equipment and such that accompanies any campaign real or imagined. Some of the fictional figures included an Ostrich mounted "Hottenttot Carbineers" using a Heyde African Warrior, "Unicycle Ulans" and a sword or pistol wielding (depending what he had on his soldering table like Heyde et al), peg legged Pirate replete with an eye patch, tricorn hat along with the mandatory shoulder mounted parrot. Figures like this I doubt that even the folks at Heyde or the like ever even dreamed of. Joe and PZ left a delightful legacy that makes collecting a joy. So Herr Oberst mein Freund our corner of the world is diminished by your absence. Danke viemals, Hochachtungsvoll, Servus und Prost!

Ihr Freund und Kamerade, Michael Henry

Shannon Reuss 1970-2015

Shannon Reuss, 45, of Eyota, passed away on Sunday, Oct. 18, 2015, in her home after an 11½-year journey with ovarian cancer.

Shannon Marie (Helfritz) Reuss was born on April 18, 1970, in Columbus,



Ohio, to William and Janice (Greiner) Helfritz. She graduated from Watertown High School in Minnesota and attended St. Olaf College, receiving a bachelor's degree in nursing in 1992. On July 10, 1993, she married Peter Reuss in Watertown.

Shannon worked as a psychiatric nurse in the VA hospital system from 1992 through 1997 before staying home to raise their son, Benjamin. In her spare time, she started a business, Treefrog Treasures, building one of the premier retailers of military miniatures in the world. She prided herself on building relationships within the industry, and will be greatly missed. Her work took her around the world, with cherished trips to Buenos Aires, Hong Kong, Shanghai and London.

Singing always played an important role in Shannon's life. Every church she was a member of benefited from her lovely voice. Shannon had a passion for genealogy, meticulously researching her family tree. She loved nature, taking walks in the woods, spending time at the lake, and taking photos to savor it all.

Shannon is survived by her husband, Peter; her son, Benjamin; her parents of Wells; her brother, William (Tara) Helfritz II of Rosemount; her sister, Laura (Rondedrick) Sinville of Otsego; as well as numerous other family members.

She was preceded in death by her grandparents.

HOBBY NEWS (Cont.)



Del Prado line acquired by Richard Walker's History Works

Dubuque, Iowa – Long time toy soldier collector and maker Richard Walker acquired the Del Prado line of figures and will eventually be marketing it under his History Works product line. Del Prado is known for producing a prolific amount of value priced figures, vehicles, and aircraft in a wide variety of time periods and scales. There are over 1,000 sculpts in the line covering just about every major war from ancient times to the present day.

Initially, Walker will focus his efforts on the toy soldier lines, re-releasing popular figures and adding new, nicely sculpted and well-painted miniatures to the existing collections. "What attracted me about Del Prado was twofold: its breadth, and its appeal as an entry price point metal toy soldier. Obvious ranges slated for growth are World Wars I and II as well as American Civil War and a surprise or two to keep things interesting," noted Walker

The modern toy soldier world has grown considerably since Walker initially entered the hobby in 1972 and then founded the first of many tov soldier ventures in 1978 -Ricky's Toy Soldiers, becoming Prescott's Military Miniatures and then Forward March. "The second great growth of toy soldiers (the first being the inter-war years) occurred in the 1990's with the advent of matte finish figures that were priced at about \$15.00 each. I think the key to their success was how realistic they looked, but also the attractive price," Walker commented. Having worked for



Frontline Figures, W. Britain, Corgi and even some master painting and retailing for King & Country in the "old days", he has had the pleasure of witnessing many of the changes in the hobby from a front row seat.

Treefrog Treasures, the existing fulfillment house for Del Prado, will remain on board, packing and shipping orders for the new ownership. Pete Reuss of Treefrog is enthusiastic about the opportunities ahead stating, "We have enjoyed our relationship with Luca and Del Prado, filling orders



for both retailers and collectors, and look forward to helping old friend and colleague Richard Walker grow his business."

History Works/Del Prado will be exhibiting at the upcoming OTSN Chicago Toy Soldier show as well as the East Coast Toy Soldier show in Hackensack, New Jersey and also at Jim Hillestad's The Toy Soldier open house the day before the East Coast Show. Look for more show and product updates on the History Works website and at the sites of our major retailers: History-works. com or History-works.co.uk





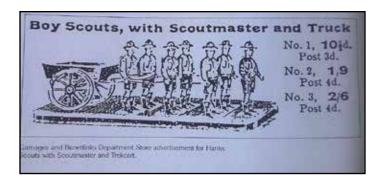


EBAY FIND RARE HANKS BROS. BOY SCOUTS WITH TREK CART

By Rob Wilson

The recently published "Hollow Cast Civilian Toy Figures" by Norman Joplin & Philip Dean provides a number of illustrations of items from catalogues and other advertising materials.

This includes A contemporary advertisement for a "Boy Scouts, with Scoutmaster and Truck" set, as used by Gamages and Benetfinks Department Store, (page 22), reproduced here as Picture 1.



The advert presents a line illustration of the set, which comprises:

- Scout Master with Baton
- 3 Scouts to pull Trek Cart left-handed
- 3 Scouts to pull Trek Cart right handed
- Trek Cart (Truck)

While the individual figures appear from time to time and I have acquired a few examples over the years, I have never seen a complete set. I was therefore delighted to pick one up on eBay recently.

The set comprises the full complement of six 54mm scale hollow-cast lead Boy Scouts, Scout Master and Trek Cart.

The pieces are all complete with some minor playwear and paint loss. The string pulls used as "rope" also appear to be original.

All the Scouts and the Scout Master are based on the same body casting. This is around 50mm in height appropriate for teenage boys in 54mm scale. Each has two moveable arms. The arms have holes cast into either the left or right hand so that three can be positioned on either side of the cart to pull it along using the ropes. The right handed scouts have red scarves, the left handed ones green ones. The Scout Master holds a short swagger stick or baton in one hand.

Although difficult to read the Scouts and Scout Master are marked underneath H. HANKS COPYRIGHT 21.9.1911. This refers to Horace Hanks, one of the brothers, and dates the introduction of the set to the year 1911. The trek cart is marked underneath REG. No. 594516, a design which was also registered in 1911.











DISCOVERING BRITAINS LIMITED PATENTS

By Norman Joplin



Britains Golfers Set #1337

During the period 1932 - 1941 The Britains factory workshop records, otherwise known as the Smallwood notebooks documented work carried out in the factory under the following headings.

New Moulds. Repairs and Alterations to Old Moulds. Factory Maintenance. Hours spent on each project. Date. Remarks. Name of worker. The document is in longhand and very lengthy and as it has been photocopied a number of times, and is quite faint to read.

The complete Smallwood notebooks will be published and included in my forthcoming book, Behind the Scenes at the Britains Toy Soldier Factory.

I recently discovered some patents on line for Britains non military models made between 1932 and 1938,a period when it was possible to consult the Smallwood notebooks for additional information. This period of Britains production during the depression covered many non military items and items made for other companies, including the Cadbury Cococubs, Pitchford Pencil sharpeners, Black and White Whiskey dogs etc.

The 4 patents dealt with in this article are, **Britains Golfers** Set #s 1337 and #1338, **Britains Archer - Archery Game** Set #s 1330 and 1334, **Johnnie Walker** Whiskey Trade Mark and the previously undocumented **Britains Clockwork Trolley Bus and Saloon car**.

Britains Golfers.

Patent application # GB 419473(A) Submitted on August 25th 1933, # 23688 (Class 132 ii) by Herbert Hadden and Company Chartered Patents agents

and applied for on behalf of Britains Limited and F Britain, Lampton Road, Hornsey Rise London was officially patented on 11th November 1934. Under the heading Table Games the application describes A moving - figure model in imitation of a golfer, croquet player etc. It is further described as a Toy Figure simulating a golfer, or croquet player for projecting a ball in playing games.

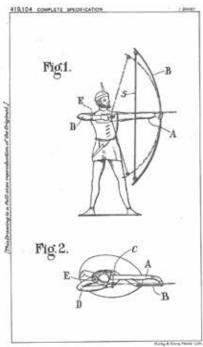
Picture below shows Mosaics or sketches and picture #3 the Golfers and bunkers as they appeared in the larger Set #1337. The Smallwood note books confirm that production of the figures was listed in the New Moulds column and commenced on October 24th 1933.



Sketches submitted with patent application

DISCOVERING BRITAINS LIMITED PATENTS (Cont.)





Picture 1

PATENT SPECIFICATION



Application Date: July 27, 1933. No. 21,143 | 33. Complete Left: July 26, 1934.

Complete Accepted: Nov. 6, 1934. PROVISIONAL SPECIFICATION.

Improvements in Toy Archers.

We, Berrauss Limited, a Company general under the laws of Great ritish, and Fernester Berraux, a ritish Subject, both of 28, Landston and, Horney Ries, London, N. 19, do-creby declars the nature of this inven-on to be as follows:— The invention relates to tay archem, at its to say toys of the kind in which a gure supresenting an archer holds a bow one hand and is provided with means engaging the bow string in the drawn critish and effecting releases thereof, hem setumted by the player, so that

ragaging the low string in the drawn that and effecting release thereof, a nectuated by the player, so that an w is discharged, coording to our invention we provide figure with a lateral projection, at a thoulder hoght, for sugging the wm bow string, and we arrange that string hand of the figure (generally course the right hand) can be swung wards from a position close to this way to be string and we have the string that the string that has been as the string wards from a position close to this

or course the right hand) can be aware outwards from a position close to it projection, thereby pushing the strit-from behind the same, and releasing it. The projection referred to may we advantage be forked, the hand, or part it, entering the fork when swang it words, before the string in anguards had. entering the fork when swung in-rds, before the string is engaged behind

the fork. We find it convenient to hinge the string arm at the shoulder, so that release of the string can be effected by pressing the crooked elbow. Alternatively the upper arm may be rigidly fixed, with the lower arm or the hand hinged to swing outwards. We may hinge the bow arm for rotation in a vertical plane, enabling the elevation of the bew to be altered for alming, the friction at the joint being sufficient to retain the arm in the selected position. The arrow may be laid in noth in the hand holding the bow. The figure may be made whelly or in part of motal, or of any other convenient material or materials. The bow may, for example, be made of piane wire. The arrow may be made of wood, with a pointed metal tip enabling it to pierce a target.

419.104

Dated this 27th day of July, 1933.
For the Applicants,
HERBERT HADDAN & Co.,
Chartered Patent Agents,
31 and 32, Bedford Street, Strans
London, W.O. 3.

Britains Archer.

Patent application # GB 419104 Submitted on July 26th 1933, # 23688 by Herbert Hadden and Company Chartered Patents agents and applied for on behalf of Britains Limited and Frederick Britain, Lampton Road, Hornsey Rise London 19 was officially patented on 6th November 1934. Under the heading Improvements to Toy Archers. The application describes a figure representing an Archer holding a bow. It is not, as is the Golfer registered under the clasification number relating to a table game.

Picture #2 shows part of the original application. Picture #1 the mosaic or sketches and picture. A larger set containing two Archers was numbered 1340. Both sets were listed as Games by Britains although the Patent application does not include that information. The Smallwood note books confirm that production of the figure was listed in the New Moulds column and commenced on 24th November 1933.

Johnnie Walker Trade Mark figure.

Johnnie Walker Whiskey originally named Walkers Kilmarnock Whiskey and named after the inventor John "Johnnie" Walker became popular in 1897 when promoted by his family after his death.

The slogan "Born 1820-Still going Strong!" was created, along with the logo of Johnnie Walker, the strutting, monocled character, was created by Tom Browne, renowned comic artist of the day in 1908, a figure used in their advertisements to this day, created by illustrator Tom Browne in honour of the founder, and given the same name.

DISCOVERING BRITAINS LIMITED PATENTS (Cont.)



Johnnie Walker whiskey logos



Johnnie Walker - Britains variations

Inventor(s):

Applicant(s): CHARLES FREDERICK GAUNT ± (CHARLES FREDERICK

GAUNT)

Classification: - international: - cooperative:

A63H9/00 A63H9/00

Application

GB19360001147 19360114

Priority number(s): GB19360001147 19360114

Abstract of GB467679 (A)

467,679. Making toys. GAUNT, C. F. Jan. 14, 1936, No. 1147. [Classes 83 (ii) and 83 (iv)] [Also in Group XV] Jolning sheet metal.-A method of manufacturing toy figures, such as toy soldiers, animals, and like figures, comprises shaping and embossing a flat blank of sheet metal to



represent two identical sides 10, 11, Fig. 1, of the figure which are left connected at adjacent edges, as by portions 14, so that the blanks can be folded, the halves of the figure being secured together by bending over one or more tabs 15, 17 at one or both free edges of the blank, the tabs when folded over simulating a part of the figure. The coloured representations are printed on the flat blank, or applied by a transfer before or after the blank is cut to shape. The tabs may enter recesses in the opposite half so that a flush surface is obtained, or form parts of the figure, such as the boot laces 15, Fig. 4, or the cuff of the arm 18. Integral base members 19 engage the channel edges 22 of a blank 21 of tin, lead, or other sheet metal. A cord may be passed through an eye formed between slits 23. The figure may be reinforced by a member of lead, cardboard, or plaster of Paris modelled in dies to fit the interior of the figure. The reinforcement may, alternatively, be formed in the same manner as the outer part of the figure.

According to the Smallwood notebooks Britains first produced a mould for their one and a quarter inch high Johnnie Walker figure on August 8th 1935 and listed it as job # 39, with a comment that the workshop was making slides, etc. for the figure. (See above). Job # 40 of 17th August 1935 was a retooling of the mould, which probably meant that the original mould was subject to wear. The mould was also retooled in September 1935 Job #51, December 31st 1935, Job # 69 and January 5th 1936, Job #1. On April 3rd 1936 the notebooks indicate a rubber stamp was being made for the figure (Presumably a stamped decal as mentioned in the application). December 18th 1936 it was noted that the mould was being altered. No further entries appear in the notebooks after this date.

It is to be assumed that the alteration was replacing the tin clip at the back of the figure and adding a lop on the top of the hat of the figure. Two distinctly different versions of the figure were made by Britains (See pictures) The first with a tin folded strip on the rear to facilitate a string and the second a loop on the figure's top hat, again presumably for the same purpose, both versions would have "hung" on the top of a whiskey bottle or been used to secure the cork or bottle top.

The patent application number GB 19360001147 19360114 shown here is dated 13th January 1937, and was approved on June 22nd 1937, which was after the last Smallwood Notebook entry. The patent was not applied for by Britains, but by Charles Frederick Gaunt of Warstone Parade Works Birmingham 18 in Warwickshire. Gaunt was the son of James Richard Gaunt of Birmingham who was a button manufacturer. The firm, during the tenure of Charles Frederick became a prolific manufacturer of Military accoutrements and buttons via metal stamping machines.

The images on the patent application show the "slides" to hold the figure in a vertical position which were mentioned by Britain's entry in the Smallwood notebooks on August 8th 1935.

Picture 1 shows the application and sketches of the figure. Picture 2 shows versions of the finished product with both versions, tin back and loop on top of the head. As the sketches do not show the figure with the hat loop it must be assumed that this is version number 2 and was altered on December 18th 1936.

DISCOVERING BRITAINS LIMITED PATENTS (Cont.)

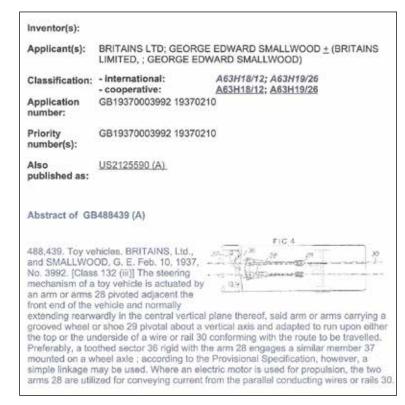
Britains Clockwork Trolley Bus and Saloon Car

This as far as can be researched is the first time any record of a Trolley Bus and or Saloon Car has been found.

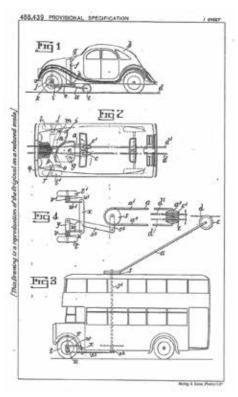
The patent GB 19370003992 19370210 was applied for on September 28th 1937 by Herbert Haden and company on behalf of Britains Limited and **Smallwood G.E** and approved on July 7th 1938.

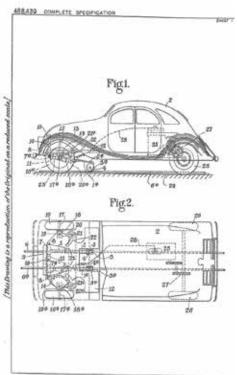
Only four entries were noted in the Smallwood notebooks regarding the Trolley Bus and none referring to the Saloon Car. February 10th 1937 simply Trolley Bus in the new models column, April 7th 1937 mentions a part being produced for the Trolley Bus and March 3rd 1938 Clockwork is mentioned in relation to the Trolley Bus. A fourth entry indicates that the workshop was working on wire bending in accordance with the invention which was to provide a means for automatically steering and electrically or mechanically driving a toy road vehicle.

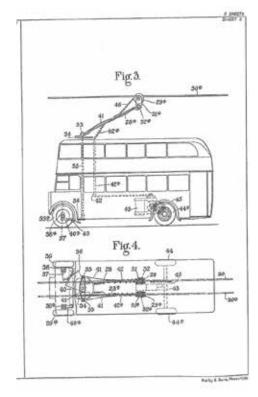
Picture below shows the sketches of the Trolley Bus and Saloon car, note the difference in the two Trolley Bus sketches.



Above the original application showing the rail which was to guide the clockwork vehicle. Further information in Vol. 39 #4.

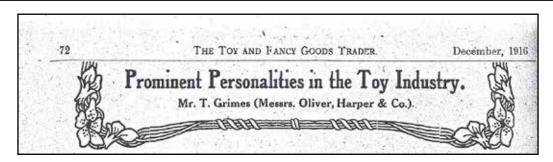






OLIVER HARPER AND COMPANY O. H. UNITY SERIES

By Norman Joplin and Dudley Chignall



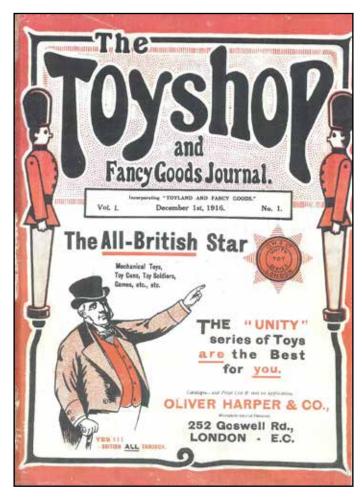
At the outset of World War One in 1914 Mr. T. Grimes, a partner in the Oliver Harper Company decided to enter into the toy business, being in possession of the fact that a ban on German toys entering the UK was to be imposed. He employed the services Mr. Burbery, an accomplished engineer to design for him a model of a gun which was being much talked



about as being the most effective weapon used to stop the advance of German troops in Paris. The French 75mm gun (issued in 1915) made primarily of tin, sounded like the perfect answer in launching the Unity Series of Toys. Unlike World War two there was only a partial ban on lead etc during World War One and enough material in the early years of the war was available to toy makers.

Issue number 1-December 1st 1916 of the newly published toy trade magazine The Toy Shop and Fancy Goods Journal carried a front page advertisement for The "Unity" Series of toys, proclaiming Mechanical Toys, Toy Guns, Toy Soldiers and Games etc, together with a biography of Mr. Grimes and images of the French 75mm Gun,12 pounder Naval Gun and the Anti Aircraft Gun. (See image right.)

The company name "Unity" presumably comes from the combination of the joint owners names Oliver and Harper.? Mr. B Oliver is mentioned in the article published in the December 1916 article, but no mention of Mr. Harper appears anywhere in the literature that I have gathered.





OLIVER HARPER AND COMPANY O. H. UNITY SERIES (Cont.)

Operating at first from premises in Clerkenwell Road London, the firm moved to 252 Goswell Road London EC, this location was already one of the hubs of toy manufacturing in the UK. In 1916 a further announcement indicated that the Goswell Road premises were not large enough for the volume of work and that another move to a new factory at Church Lane Beddington Surrey. It was predicted that a workforce of 1800 people could be housed at these premises.

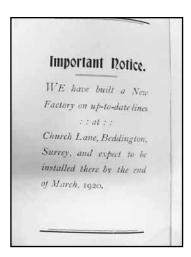
August 1916 also saw the introduction of The Adjustable Trench Bomb Thrower, advertised in Games and Toys magazine. May 1917 advertisements in the Toy and Fancy Goods Trader illustrated a Toy Mine, a model of a Warship as used in Naval Warfare and The Battleships in Action game comprising 2 French 75mm Guns,2 Battleships with removable parts and 4 Torpedo Destroyers. Oliver Harper and Company also exhibited at the British Industries Fair in March 1916 and March 1917.

No further advertisements were issued after 1917, however with thanks to my good friend Dudley Chignall pictures from a catalogue dated between 1918 and 1921 are available (see pictures below).

Post Office Directories post 1921 show no mention of the company's address.

The British Library recently announced that a collection of trade catalogues was housed in the British Library at St Pancras in London, as these were not available on line, Dudley kindly offered to make the trek to London to view and have copied the following pages from the catalogue.

The partnership between Oliver Harper was dissolved in 1922, but not before they made a significant contribution to the early toy industry in the UK and had no doubt faced tough times after the carnage and end of World war One, when Military toys fell from favour with the British buying public.





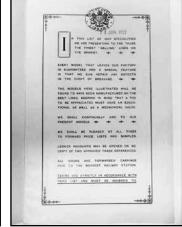






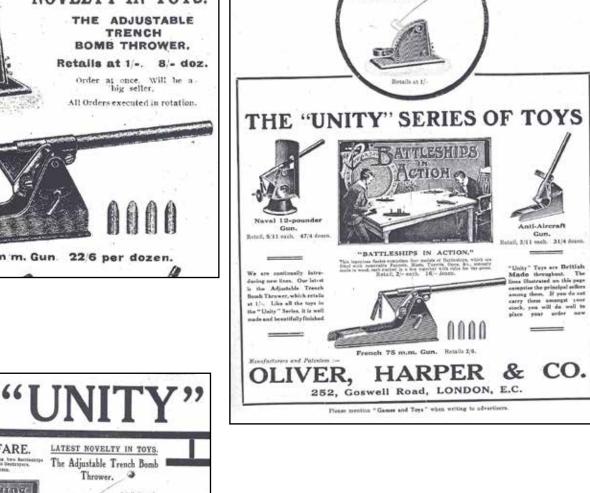






OLIVER HARPER AND COMPANY O. H. UNITY SERIES (Cont.)







To Colonial Buyers

SOMETHING NEW ! The Adjustable

WE shall be pleased to submit you a sample collection of our goods on receipt of a remittance for 22/6 (postage paid). A comparison of the "UNITY" series of Toys will prove them to be the best value on the market.

Buyers in South Africa, Amiralia, and New Zealand can impect samples at the Agents:

W. F. BRITTAIN, St. George's Street, Cape Town, and Joshert Street, Johannesburg, Soo(b Africa

J. DERBYSHIRE & CO.
Hulsebrook's Building, Wakefield Steet, Wellington, New
Zealand : and Lawson House, Ularente Street, Sydney.

Autesia.

Overseas Buyers are requested 'to order immediately owing to the probable shortage in supplies of material and labour difficulties.

OUR RIG SUCCESSES.

French 75 mm.

Gun. Naval 12 nounder

Anti-Aircraft Gun Trench Bomb

Thrower, and Toy Soldiers.

OLIVER HARPER AND COMPANY O. H. UNITY SERIES (Cont.)

The "Unity" Series.

The "Unity" series of toys will be displayed on Stand F. 42A. The manufacturers and patentees of this well-known line are Messrs. Oliver, Harper & Co., of 252, Goswell Road, London, E.C. These toys comprise the famous French 75 m.m. gun which

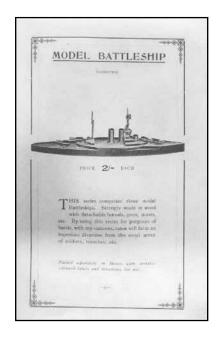


retails at 2s. 6d., and which was such a big success in 1915. Also included are the naval 12-pounder gun which retails at 5s. 11d., and the anti-aircraft gun which retails at 3s. 11d.

One of the latest lines which was brought out in this series is "Battleships in Action." This comprises four models of battleships which are fitted with removable funnels, masts, turrets, guns, etc. They are strongly made in wood, and each is packed separate in a box together with rules for the game. The inside of each box is handsomely lithographed in colours, and forms a splendid background for the battleships, so that if these were displayed in a window they would make no mean attraction. All these lines will be on show at Messrs. Oliver, Harper's stall.









Toy Soldiers were first included in the advertisement for the firm in 1916, giving a list of Regiments available under the title "Unity" Metal Soldiers. These soldiers may have not actually have been made by Oliver Harper as other research indicates that The Wellington Toy Company was responsible for making these items and that Wholesalers C.E Turnbull and Company also boxed similar items under their "Charterhouse" brand.

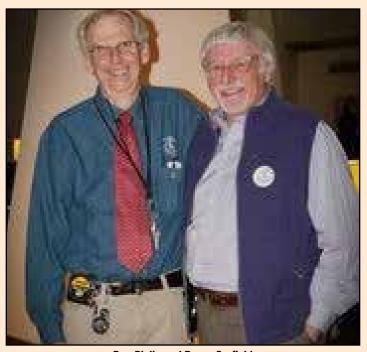
SHOW REPORT

By Norman Joplin

OTSN's CHICAGO TOY SOLDIER SHOW CHANGES MANAGEMENT AFTER 35 YEARS

Don Pielin, after 35 years as OTSN Show Chairman is handing over to former OTSN partner, Roger Garfield.

There are not enough accolades that can be bestowed about the wonderful organizational qualities that Don has used over 35 years. Little do most people realize who and what it takes to run an event of this size, an event that has grown into the largest show of it's kind worldwide. The Chicago Show as it is often referred to, combines all of the qualities that collectors and dealers expect from a well organized event. Don's personal attention to detail, his friendliness and a love of toy soldiers cannot be bettered. Congratulations, enjoy retirement.



Don Pielin and Roger Garfield

PRESS RELEASE 's merely a changing of the and JoEllen Sommers, Joe Walli

"It's merely a changing of the guard, but still staying in the family," said Don Pielin at this past September's Chicago Show.

The Chicago Toy Soldier Show will be bought and managed by Roger Garfield, a former OTSN partner, and wife Janice Garfield.

Don and Roger assured Show participants at the 26 Sep. Saturday pre-show party that the Garfields are totally committed to sustaining the Chicago Toy Soldier Show as it is known today. Don Pielin and the patrons have created the culture and traditions of the Show, and those are not to be tampered with.

"I have been around for the past 40+ years," Garfield shared. "The OTSN partners—Don Pielin, Steve

and JoEllen Sommers, Joe Wallis, and I, started the Old Toy Soldier Newsletter almost 40 years ago. Shortly after that, we began the Chicago Toy Soldier Show, with Don taking on Show management.

Early in the 2000s, Roger asked these partners to buy him out in preparation for his retirement and the Garfields' move to Virginia. A few years later, the OTSN partners sold the magazine to Ray Haradin, who continues to publish Old Toy Soldier.

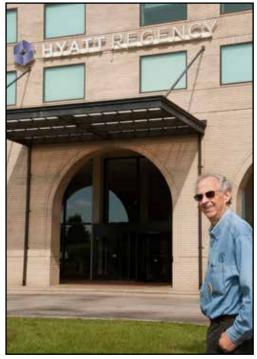
Garfield and his wife and family have continued to stay in close contact with their OTSN friends and former partners.

"When our friends shared that they were thinking of stepping down after the 35th Show, we expressed an interest in carrying on the tradition," Roger shared.

"Like I said, I have always been there, but more closely associated with the magazine. I have only missed one of the 35 Shows," Garfield said at the Saturday event. "I do have a lot of specific details to learn; fortunately, Don has had me shadow him during the 2015 Show and will shadow me during my first year as Show manager in 2016," Garfield added.

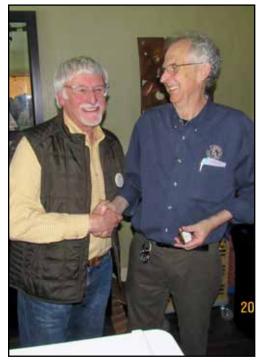
The 36th Chicago Toy Soldier Show will be held on 25 Sept. 2016, from 10 am until 3:30 pm. The Show will once again be held at the Hyatt Regency Woodfield/Schaumburg, located at 1800 E. Golf Road in Schaumburg, Illinois.

SHOW REPORT



Don outside the famous hotel

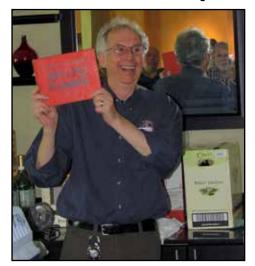
There is an old saying that behind every good man there is a good woman, certainly true. However, good family and friends have also assisted Don and Roger helped make Chicago the Old Toy Soldier Show not only an international success but the biggest best toy soldier show worldwide.



Don and Roger at the hospitality 9-26-2015



Roger, Judy, Jan and Graham





Steve Sommers makes a presentation to Don for 35 years



Back Row L to R: Graham Garfield, Judy Mitchell, Jan Garfield, Roger Garfield, Don Pielin, Linda Pielin, Grandson Even, Karen, Katy, Marty, Ian and Rudy Front Row L to R: Don's Granddaughter, Elaine, Farrell, Eowyn and Lillian

SHOW REPORT (Cont.)







Steve and Josie Sommers

Joe Saine

Mogens HVID







Nifty Circus



Kayla Solonika with a gift from Treefrog Treasures



Britains newest release



Taylor, Paula, Keith and Matt Maladra



Christian Keller



Ron Cadieux's Tommy Toy Nursery Rhyme Collection



Mignot Circus

SHOW REPORT (Cont.)

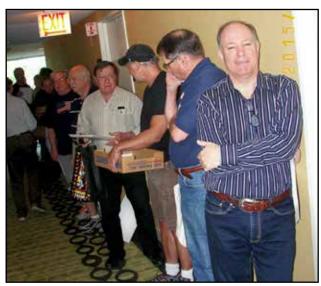
Annual OTS Auction Bargain Room Saturday, September 26th, 2015



Mad scramble after door opens - 10am



UK Friends relaxing after a hectic day. L to R: Garreth Morgan, Pete Cowan, Adrian Little, Norman Joplin, Stephen Dance



Waiting for the Bargain Room to open, huge line.



Inside hundreds of Britains empty boxes. Bre, Kent, Norman and Ray



Searching for a bargain

CTSS' 36th Chicago

TOY SOLDIER SHOW

Sunday, September 25, 2016

The Chicago show is like a museum, but even better, because you can buy items you have heard of but never seen before.

10 am to 3:30 pm

Joe Wallis, Britains Ltd. book author

The Chicago show is unique because it attracts a spectrum of international collectors, vendors bring out their rarest items for sale, and collectors from all over the world renew friendships.

\$8 Admission

Scott Morlan, collector and dealer



Soldiers, Farm, Circus and Zoo, Old and New Figures Hyatt Regency Woodfield 1800 East Golf Road, Schaumburg, Illinois

Show Information: Roger Garfield

1716 Rivermont Ave., Lynchburg, VA 24503 847-567-5355 email:roger@chicagotoysoldiershow.com

Dealer Information and more: www.chicagotoysoldiershow.com (after Jan. 1, 2016)

On Facebook visit: Chicago Toy Soldier Show

SHOW REPORT

Birmingham Toy Soldier Show, Edgebaston Stadium, Edgebaston Road, Birmingham

By Rob Wilson

The Birmingham Toy Soldier show is the biggest event in the UK outside London. Originally focused primarily on plastics, it now offers a much broader range of figures from old to new, metal as well as plastic. Patrick Adams, who took over the event last year, has been supported by William Britains (via their Collectors Club). King and Country and MKL are also keen supporters selling new figures alongside Patrick's own extensive range of modern metal. They are backed by a myriad of dealers in vintage plastic and lead.

The new venue at Edgebaston Stadium is spacious with plenty of free parking which makes access for both dealers and customers very easy.

This is the easiest of all the shows for me to get to, so I have always attended and I was not disappointed this time. A set of Dunham White Grenadier Guards in their original box was one of the first items I spotted.

This rare series comprised just two sets. The Guards and a similar set of Cameron Highlanders, both containing a mounted officer, flag bearer and other ranks. The figures are lithographed tin in 54 mm scale.

Another unusual find was a group of figures by Rose depicting Romans and Ancient Britons or Gauls. For some reason that is a mystery to me, the Rose range developed by Russell Gamage does not attract such a strong following as Staddens of similar vintage. The Rose figures are beautifully sculpted and although by an amateur hand rather than studio painted they still seemed a snip at around £3 each!

An already successful outlying was rounded off in fine style by finding an almost complete set of the Ben Bros Robin Hood series in good condition for a very reasonable price. I will certainly be coming back next year!



Rose Romans



Benbros Robin Hood series - as well as some of his "merry men" Robin (centre) is accompanied by the Sheriff of Nottingham and the Bishop of Hereford

SHOW REPORT

Kulmbach 25th Internationale Zinnfigurenbörse August 7th-9th, 2015

By Rob Wilson



Picture 1: Plassenburg Castle, Kulmbach

Plassenburg Castle, perched on a rocky outcrop high above Kulmbach, was first documented in 1135, and has had an an eventful history. Most fateful for the city and castle was the Bundesständische War (1552-1554). On November 26, 1553 following a siege and pitched battle the town of Kulmbach was almost completely destroyed. This date is known as "Konraditag" in the history of Kulmbach. Plassenburg was still standing, but seven months later, the resistance of the famished garrison was broken and they finally surrendered. The castle was razed to the ground in large parts in October 1554.

The castle and town were rebuilt and subsequently served as a Renaissance Palace before becoming a prison and prisoner of war camp during the Napoleonic wars. In the 20th Century the castle took on the role of museum. Currently within its walls, the castle now houses four museums. These include the Army Museum, focussing on Frederick the Great (which contains the largest collection of old Prussian Militaria 1700-1806). More importantly, as far as the readership of this article is concerned, is the Zinnfiguren museum. This contains the largest collection of tin figures in the world. Founded in 1929, the Museum has over 300,000 individual figures today. Around 150 boxed dioramas allow history to come alive in miniature.

The visitor can admire various civilian and military scenes both historical and fantasy. Viewers can meet Greeks, Romans, Teutons, knights and mercenaries, ranging though the wars of Frederick the Great and Napoleon, and covering continents across the world.

The largest diorama features in the Guinness Book of Records. It is the biggest in the world, with more than 19,000 painted tin flats, as well as detailed modelling of scenic features, including the castle and the town. It shows the tragic events of Konraditag. While this diorama is undoubtedly impressive, in many respects it is some of the much smaller ones which capture the eye and imagination. The pictures illustrate just a few of the many that caught the author's eye on this visit.



Picture 2: Just a small part of a huge 3 by 4 metre African savannah diorama, this bit focusing on elephants at a watering hole.



Picture 3: One of the smaller dioramas, this one featuring Hannibal's famous campaign crossing the Alps

SHOW REPORT (Cont.)



Picture 4: Another military diorama, Montcalm's camp at Fort William Henry, 1757: At the time of the Seven Years's War in Europe, England and France were fighting bloody battles on many other continents. This diorama focuses on the battle for Canada. Many Indian tribes fought on both sides. Here we see the scene as the French General Montcalm watches as English prisoners are brought in and the Iroquois dance in triumph. This dramatic diorama is attributed to the Nvala painter Robert Schmidt-Hamburg.

This summer there was a special Heinrichsen exhibition in the museum documenting the history of this famous company. Heinrichsen was based in nearby Nuremburg, and is perhaps best known for its "flats", although as catalogues show they did produce round figures too in later years. Established in the first half of the 19th century, Heinrichsen was responsible for producing millions of tin soldiers and related items, covering every conceivable aspect of human activity both military and civilian. The special exhibition illustrated the full range of their output.



Picture 5: Heinrichsen Boat – one of the many star items in the special exhibition

Since 1965 Kulmbach has been host to the biennial *Internationale Zinnfigurenbörse* which brings together collectors and dealers from all over the world. On 7th-9th August 2015 the *börse* celebrated its 25th event. The "Zinnlaubes" take over a huge beer tent set up for the beer festival which takes place the preceding week.



Picture 6: Birdseye view of the Tent from Plassenburg Castle



Picture 7: Interior of the crowded tent



Picture 8: Gisbert Freber rearranges some items on his stand before the public opening

Kulmbach has therefore become a Mecca for lovers and collectors of toy soldiers of all kinds, but with a special focus on the Zinnfiguren "flats" that Heinrichsen and similar makers have been producing in this part of the world for approaching two hundred years. Although the fair now caters for round as well as flat figures, the emphasis is still very much on the latter.

SHOW REPORT (Cont.)

As well the hundreds of dealers selling flat figures and related materials, there were well known commercial companies such as Britains and King and Country, as well as a number of collector/dealers specialising in round figures (Mogens Hvid from Denmark; Gisbert Freber and Walter Badusche from Germany).

This is a very popular event. Hotels in the town centre become fully booked well in advance of the event, so if you want to attend the next one in 2017 make sure you book well in advance! Dates for the next show are from the 11th to the 13th of August 2017.



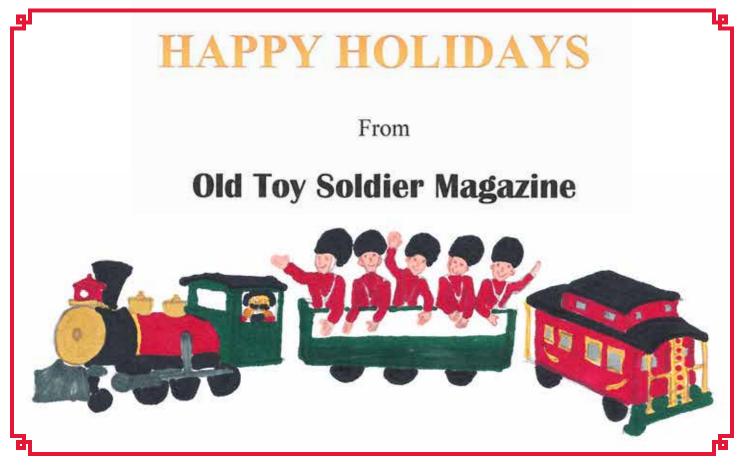
Picture 9: A few of the ancient flat figures on offer, here some larger scale figures depicting Prussian infantry from around 1840



Picture 10: Heyde British Camel Corps - Kulmbach is not just flats, here we have some large scale fully rounded figures (solids mounted on hollowcast camels)



Picture 11: More large scale round figures by Heyde and others



SHOW REPORT

London Vintage Toy Soldier Show, Holiday Inn Russell Square, London

By Rob Wilson

Adrian Little of Mercator Trading continues to run the London Old Toy Soldier and Figure toy soldier show initiated by Norman Joplin as a dateline event which focuses on older toys.

This year's event took place on the 20th of August and attracted a number of foreign dealers and punters, as well as the usual suspects from the British Isles.

Held at a convenient central London location, the Holiday Inn is only 2 minutes' walk north of Russell Square Underground station and 1 minute east of the Royal National Hotel where the first London shows were started back in the 1990s.

This show is still the best place in the UK to find vintage figures, from Britain as well as its continental neighbours.

Britains hollowcast remain the most popular figures amongst collectors, and many of the stands were heavily laden with the full range of that company's outputs from "Ancient Britains" produced in the first decade or so of its operations through to items such as the Algerian Spahis that were one the last sets produced in the early 1960s.



Kaiser Willhelm II - large scale figure by Noris with rare original box

I spotted a number of attractive figures from other manufacturers, including a splendid example of a personality figure by Heinrichs / Noris. This was a larger scale piece depicting Kaiser Willhelm II in its very rarely seen original box.

Another nice boxed set on display was by Haffner. This depicted the opening phase of WW I with British and German infantry as at the battle of Mons.

Another rarity was a large boxed set of 54mm scale Prussian Hussars, again in the original box by Conrad Koch of Furth. Similar to some of the early figures by Heinrichs / Noris these are fully rounded figures which plug into solid semi-ronde horses.

Adrian has just announced the dates for next year, I will certainly putting the date for this event in my diary (20th August 2016).



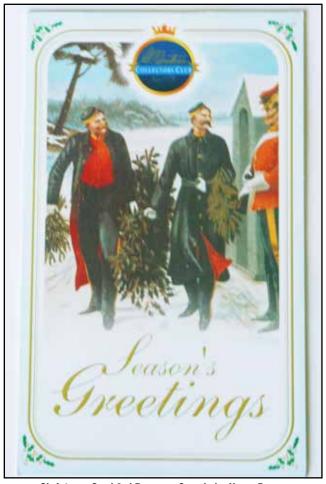
Haffner half round set depicting the early engagements between English and Prussian troops in 1914 at the start of the Great war

BRITAINS CHRISTMAS LIMITED EDITIONS PART 1

By Norman Joplin



1885 Christmas card sent to William Britain Collectors Club.
Members influenced by artist Harry Payne.



Christmas Card 3rd Dragoon Guards by Harry Payne

William Britains Collectors Club members have over the years been fortunate to acquire many exquisite toy soldiers and figures via Britains limited edition issues.

Not available on general release these items have proved to be excellent sculptures and sound investments because of the limited number produced.

During the period 2002 to 2007 a line of Christmas related groupings were available to club members each with their own unique bases and accessories.

2002 set # 40173 Bringing Home the Holly, Limited Edition of 300 sets. based on a picture by Harry Payne 1895 of the 3rd Dragoon Guards.



2004 - 11th Hussars Gathering Mistletoe Set #41130



Bringing Home the Holly influenced by the above Christmas card Set #40173 - 2002

BRITAINS CHRISTMAS LIMITED EDITIONS PART 1 (Cont.)

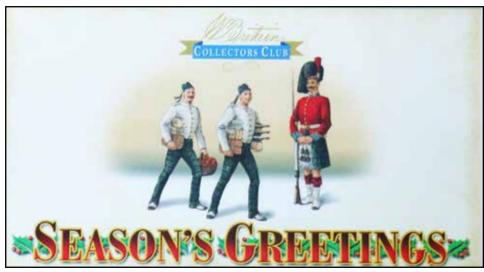
2003 Set # 41129 A Highland Regiment, preparation for New Year, Limited Edition of 250 sets,based on a painting by Richard Simkin 1892.

2004 Set # 4130 11th Hussars gathering Mistletoe, Limited Edition of 250 sets, based on a picture by Harry Payne 1885.

The 3 sets and Christmas cards illustrated along with a special display board for all 3, produced by John Gittins of JG Miniatures in the UK and distributed only by MKL models. This item was not an official Britains product and could only be obtained from either JG Miniatures or MKL Models in the UK.

Part two of this article will appear in February 2016 issue of Old Toy Soldier Magazine.

All of the sets above plus other Britains Christmas specials can be viewed in *Britains New Toy Soldiers 1973 to the Present* by Norman Joplin. Published by Schiffer Publishing



The Highland Regiment Preparations for New Year 1892 by Richard Simkin



Britains Set #41129 - 2003 A Highland Regiment Preparation for New Year Based on the above Christmas card by Richard Simkin



Base Board designed by John Gittens of JG MIniatures to take all 3 sets - Not available from Britians

Britains Toy Soldier & Figure Advertising 1895 - 1995







Norman Joplin & Philip Dean

Incorporating Zang & Herald

NEW BOOK AVAILABLE EARLY 2016

BRITAINS TOY SOLDIER ADVERTISING- 1895-1995

by Norman Joplin and Philip Dean

Showing many advertisements for Britains, Herald and Zang never previously published. A hard bound and soft bound version will be available. For further information on content prices and availability contact Norman Joplin info@normanjoplin.com.

More information will also be available in the February 2016 issue of OTS magazine.

Word Search- On the Battlefield # 5

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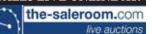
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TEX AUSTIN WHITE CITY RODEO SOUVENIR - A NEW FIND IN THE DON RAY WESTERN SERIES

By Rob Wilson

The main focus of my collecting has always been military figures, but I am always interested on other unusual items that may turn up from time to time. My interest was piqued when I saw that a local auction house in Leamington Spa was holding a sale with a few vintage toys. My trip to take a look proved worthwhile when I spotted what looked like a rarity. The catalogue included a single dismounted cowboy accompanied by a grazing horse. The box label proclaimed that this was a souvenir of Tex Austin's Worlds Championship rodeo at White City, London 1934. There was no information about the maker on the box other than "Made in England". The cowboy inside the box was a Britain's Figure walking with a rifle at the trail from set #183. The horse was the standard Britain's F543 farm horse grazing.

As soon as I saw the box and figure, it jogged a memory of a similar item in a recent OTS Auction. This was identified as part of the Don Ray Western Series, depicting Tom Mix and Tony his horse.

Tom Mix (1880-1940) was a world famous cowboy before Ronald Reagan or John Wayne were in diapers! He starred in many movies, mostly silent and in black and white. His name lingers on with many cultural references and various toys and other ephemera traded by collectors who were not born while he was alive let alone making movies. Tom

Mix was featured with many other 20th century celebrities on the cover of Sergeant Pepper's Lonely Hearts Club Band, the iconic flower power album by the Beatles. He even got a reference in a episode of Dr Who!

John Van "Tex" Austin (1886-1938) was an American rodeo promoter, known as the "King of the Rodeo". He was an entrepreneur focused on popularising the rodeo to a much broader public, including countries outside the U.S. He claimed a colourful history including being a captain under Francisco Villa in Madero's revolutionary forces against Diaz. He produced the first indoor rodeo and gradually developed grander schemes including putting together a rodeo show in Chicago Stadium, New York's Madison Square Garden and in Hollywood in the 1920s.

Following in Buffalo Bill's footsteps he even took his rodeo to England, including the newly opened Wembley Stadium in London in the early 1920s. Although popular in England the rodeo was challenged by animal rights activists on the grounds of animal cruelty. Despite these problems Tex Austin returned to London in 1934 and they performed before King George V and Queen Mary at the White City venue.

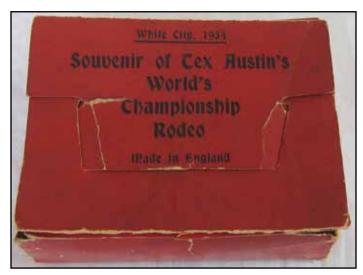


Picture 1: Tom Mix and Tony OTS auctions 2011, 21st May estimate \$250-350, hammer \$750! Britain's figures modified with wire reins, "fur" chaps fashioned from down, leather saddle, wire reins and heavy duty wire lasso. The folded cardboard box is exactly the same style as the Tex Austin, Souvenir box. In this case the cowboy with pistol from set #183 has been given a lasso and a mount based on the farm horse grazing (#F543).



Picture 2: Tom Mix, cowboy and Film Star in his heyday, riding his horse Tony (Boston Public Library)

TEX AUSTIN WHITE CITY RODEO SOUVENIR - A NEW FIND IN THE DON RAY WESTERN SERIES (Cont.)



Picture 3: White City 1934, Souvenir of Tex Austin's World's Championship Rodeo, folded card box.



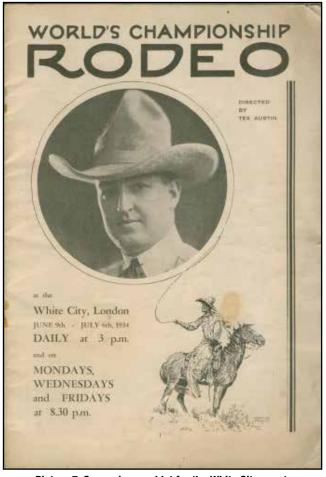
Picture 4: The folded card box opened up to reveal the two figures.



Picture 5: Rear view of the Cowboy with rifle, the modified farm horse grazing behind.



Picture 6: Front view, showing the added white "leather" chaps, saddle, heavy wire lasso tied to the saddle and thinner wire reins.



Picture 7: Souvenir pamphlet for the White City event, with Tex Austin featured on the cover.

TEX AUSTIN WHITE CITY RODEO SOUVENIR - A NEW FIND IN THE DON RAY WESTERN SERIES (Cont.)

Not a great deal is known about the operations of Don and Honey Ray.

It seems clear that they saw a niche in taking standard figures and adding "play value" before repackaging them and adding a premium to the price. The addition of wire and cloth and other fabric embellishments was similar to Honey's work later in Australia.

Honey Ray died 2006 in Australia. She was born into a wonderful world of entertainment people in London, England June 22, 1915. Predeceased over twenty years ago by her beloved husband and partner, Don Ray.

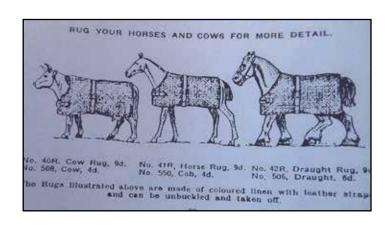
Honey, with husband Don and son Donald, performed around the world in variety theatre, vaudeville, cabarets, circus and rodeo, with trick and fancy roping and knife throwing. Honey and Don also worked together as military model makers, as artists carving and painting birds and historical dioramas, and as the original artists for "Miniature World" in Victoria B.C.

Don and Honey began converting Britains models with Barbola, they were commissioned by Charles Lockwood, one of the founding members of the British Model Soldier Society to make similar models for him. Their models were also sold in Hamleys toy store. Honey painted many flat figures for Otto Gottstein some of which were used in the Royal United Services Museum in Whitehall London. They were them commissioned by Lord Greenway, another British Model Soldier Society member to make ten models of each Indian Army Regiment and were working on the project when World War Two broke out. Their studio in Conduit Street London was completely demolished by enemy bombs during the London Blitz.

Settling in Calgary Canada they made 54mm Infantry of both World Wars on commission. Their collection of Britains and other Hollow Casts (Inherited from Don's father) formed the nucleus of a display entitled "Fields of Glory" Housed in the Empress Hotel, Victoria British Columbia.



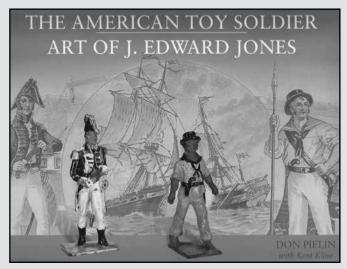
The late Honey Ray



Honey eventually moved to Australia and probably continued with her early conversion work in supplying small leather blankets to fit onto Britains Farm Horses and Cows. A Walther and Stevenson department store catalogue shows examples of these (above).

Do other readers have or know any other examples of this range of figures. If so please contact the author (r.a.wilson@warwick.ac.uk, +441926496062).

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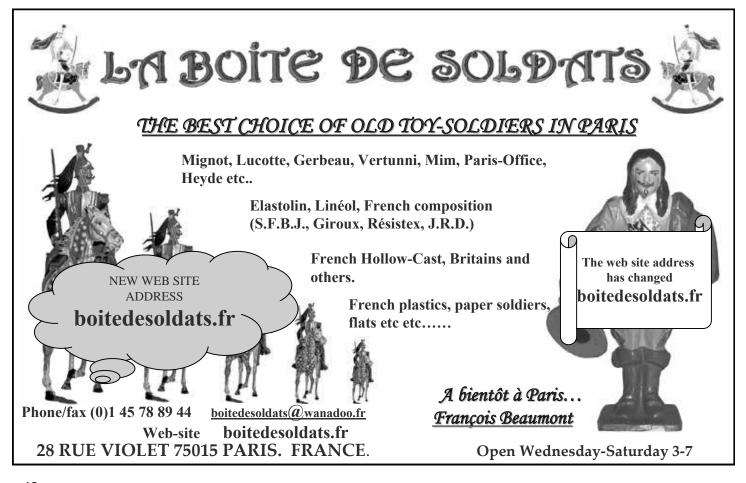
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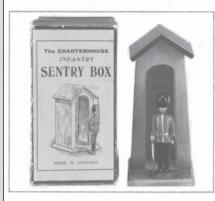


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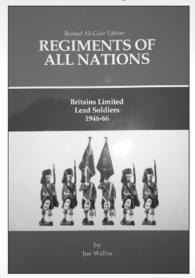
While Britains are included to a certain extent the main focus is on the other makers of the period. Volume 2 which will be available in 2012 will concentrate solely on Britains advertisements of the same period and beyond.

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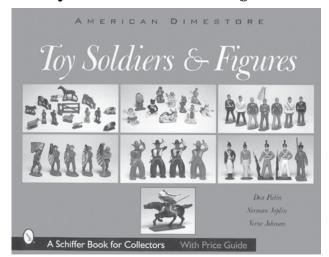


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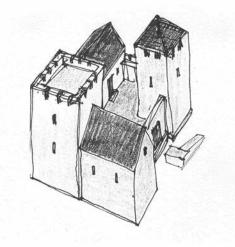
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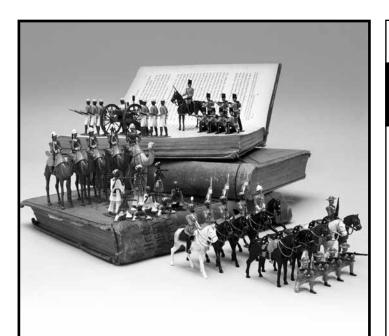


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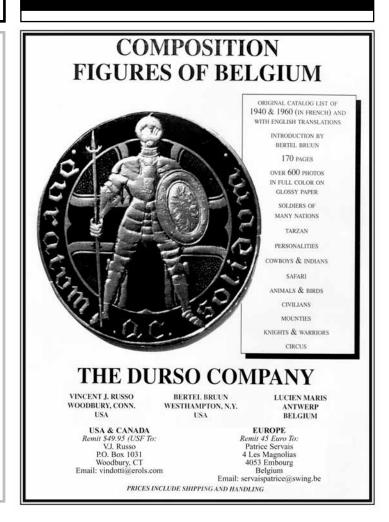
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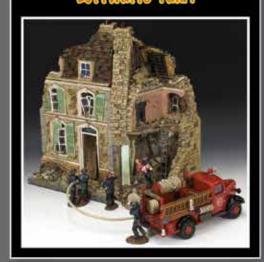


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November 20th - 21st - 22nd Friday, Saturday, Sunday Old Toy Soldier Auctions USA. Contact Ray Haradin 1-800-349-8009 412-343-8733 raytoys@aol.com

November 8th - Sunday Cantigny Toy Soldier Show. Cantigny Park, Wheaton Illinois 9am-4pm Contact Nick Albanese (920) 261-1323 E-Mail camprandall@charter.net Visit cantigny.org Very Informative Site

November 20th, 21st and 22nd - Friday, Saturday, Sunday Old Toy Soldier Auctions USA. Contact Raytoys@aol.com Tel 1-800-349-8009

December 5th - Saturday 46th Show Annandale VFD Community Center at 7128 Columbia Pike, Annandale, Virginia 22003. Contact Eddie Greis at 201-257-2687.

2016

January 31st - Sunday 2016 Florida Toy Soldier Show Scottish Rites Masonic Hall, 2000 North D St., Lake Worth, Florida Contact 954-699-6040

March 6th - Sunday The West Coast Toy Soldier Trade and Collector's Show - 'The West Coaster' 9:00am to 3:00pm - 18000 Von Karman Ave, Irvine, CA 92612 Contact Phone: 760-758-5481 Email: oldtoysoldierhome@att.net

March 11th, 12th, 13th - Friday, Saturday and Sunday Old Toy Soldier Auctions USA Spring Sale. Contact Ray Haradin 1-800-349-8009 412-343-8733 raytoys@aol.co

May 20th, 21st - Friday and Saturday MFCA 75th Annual Show and APG Fundraiser. Valley Forge Casino Resort, 1160 First Avenue, King of Prussia, PA 19406 Contact: 610-337-2000 www.MFCAShow.com Radison Show Room Rate \$124

August 20th - Saturday Norman Joplins Old Toy Soldier and Figure Show. Holiday Inn, Bloomsbury, London Contact 44 1635 30535 Or Mercator Trading see ad in this issue.

September 25 - Sunday CTSS/OTSN Contact Roger Garfield Roger@chicagotoysoldiershow.com www.chicagotoysoldiershow.com

Dates and times are correct at the time of printing; however, it is strongly advised that before traveling, contact is made with show organizers to confirm date(s).

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Travelling in his camouflaged Citroen staff car he drove to the headquarters of a local Waffen SS armoured infantry battalion for an up-to-date After receiving the latest briefing. information he left, along with his staff officer and driver to return to Arnhem itself. Alas for them all... they ran into advancing British paratroopers!

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> math of successful ambush.

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A number were used in

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General and his driver

"Ambushed

with the

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