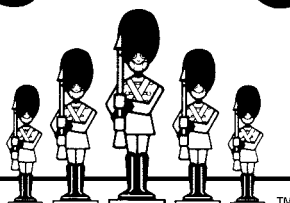


Winter
2015

The Journal for Collectors

Volume 38 Number 4
\$10.00

OLD TOY SOLDIER



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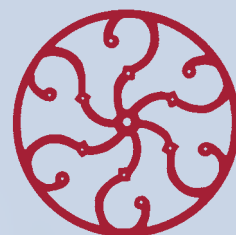


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Periodical Postage paid at Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to:
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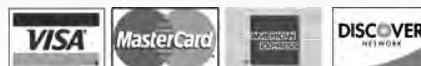
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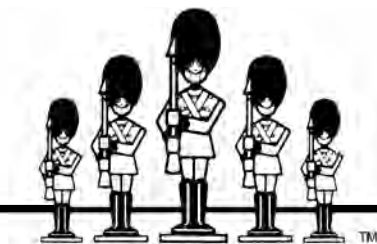


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Old Toy Soldier is published quarterly.

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Old Toy Soldier is printed by
Banksville Express Printing
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, USA

Specialist Contributors

Rob Wilson and Joe Wallis, Britains Military

Louis S. Steinberg, and Stan Alekna, Dimestore Figures

Correspondence, including Manuscripts, Trade and
Toy Soldier Marketplace Advertisements and all
general inquires, should be forwarded to:

Old Toy Soldier

P. O. Box 13324

Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15243-0324

Telephone (412) 343-8733

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ISSN1064-4164

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Britains Largest Guardsman

Photograph courtesy of Norman Joplin

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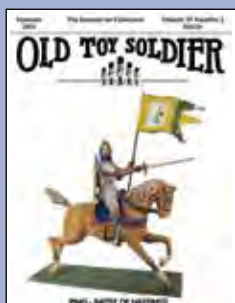


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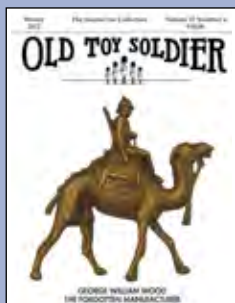
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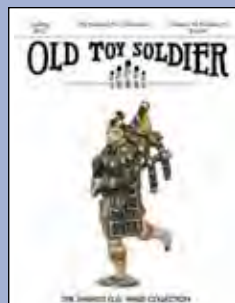


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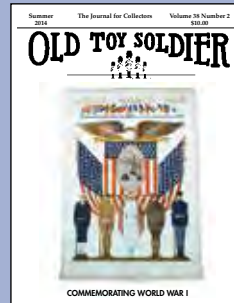


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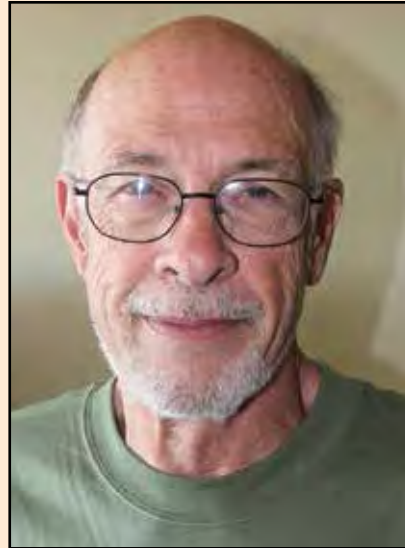
Stewart Saxe RIP

Died peacefully on November 23, moments after the much anticipated birth of his second grandson. Beloved husband of Dianne Saxe, cherished father of Rebecca, David and Shoshanna, big brother to Robert. Retired labour and employment law partner of Baker McKenzie. Toronto Canada

Dedicated toy soldier collector organizer of the Toronto Toy Soldier Show, regular attendee at the Old Toy Soldier Show Chicago.

Mr. Saxe was a noted labour and employment lawyer, partner of Baker McKenzie, and fellow of the Human Relation Professionals Association. He retired after a major stroke in 2010. He died peacefully, in Dianne's arms.

OBITUARY DALE PAUWELS



Dave Pauwels died December 2014. Dale was a 34 year attendee at Chicago's Old Toy Soldier Show. A quiet gentleman and collector of American Army toy soldiers and equipment. Dale could always be seen trawling the hotel rooms and manning his table on Sunday's show day with his friend Gary Linden.

OBITUARY JOSEPH KUNZELMANN 1931-2014



My good friend Joe Kunzelmann was a devoted Britains collector specializing in farm, zoo and circus. His collection was the highest quality and Joe accumulated one full range of all he collected. For me, a sad personal loss.
~Norman Joplin

HOBBY NEWS (Cont.)

JONATHAN WINTERS

By Ralph Saltus

I had the great fortune to meet Jonathan Winters and Ralph Saltus in late 1990 at the PMA show in Bay Meadows Fair grounds in California. Mr. Saltus was Mr. Winter's hunting backup on their toy searches. It was always a treat to see them at the shows. I feel honored to be the one to sell Mr. Winters collection after 20 years of friendship. It will be offered at the West Coaster Show, March 8th, 2015.

Here are Mr. Ralph Saltus's own words on their fun of the search.

-Craig McClain.



Jonathan and I met at a dinner in Montecito. He noticed that I was wearing old British army brass buttons on my jacket and asked me about them. That got us into Regiments and histories from around the world, and everything else. It was a conversation that lasted 25 years.

Jonathan is one of those people who had an endless sense of curiosity. Everything fascinated him. We enjoyed finding and sending to each other every manner of "oddball" treasure: A prison coin from sing-sing, a Buck Rogers badge, regiment insignia, a piece of trench art, and suchlike. When he was visiting me once in Halfmoon Bay he noticed that I had dinner plates inscribed with "Maine Insane Hospital," in green letters. He immediately wanted one. "Now I can say I was there!" He exclaimed. We often joked about not being too "normal". He once told me, "I love my craziness, I enjoy it every day." He clearly understood that "craziness" was a virtue and insanity was to be avoided. And to help relive our



"misspent youth," I always sent Jonathan a boxed set of Britains soldiers at Christmas. He had a fondness for American and British marines. It wouldn't be Christmas without a box of Britains under the tree. They were all alive to him.

In WWII Jonathan joined the marines and was trained as an M.P. He was in the hospital with phlebitis when his group was sent out to serve on aircraft carriers. He said every one of them died.. He was sent to the Bon Homme Richard, the only carrier he said that was never hit by kamikazes. In his home, among many hundreds of framed pictures, was one in which Jonathan is holding forth in one of his comedy routines on a raised elevator deck. He had discovered his innate gifts early on, and used his priceless sense of humor to help them all get through the horrors of the war.

His toys were living memories of his life, and in his book Winter's Tales, He explains how important it is to always keep them with

HOBBY NEWS (Cont.)

JONATHAN WINTERS (Cont.)



you for the rest of your life. When he finally came home to Ohio after the war, he found that his mother had given all his toys away. “Why?” He asked. “How did I know you would be coming home?” She replied. So when I saw his old baseball mitt nailed hard over his bedroom door, I understood why. It would never again go anywhere until, like the Pharaohs, he could “take it with him.”

His countless, wonderful, old childhood books, his soldiers, iron toys, and helmets, and everything else that “spoke” to him were arrayed on bookcases, walls, and display areas. Any given treasure was an opportunity to make it come alive.

His impromptu stand-up routine about the characters and events he imagined from these things made him famous. He made us see and feel the inner being like we all had but could never express so vividly

ourselves. He firmly believed that we’re “never too old to have a happy childhood”. This was always done with a twinkle in his eye. He never had much use for “shrinks.” “Not one of them helped.” One of his favorite jokes was: “My psychiatrist says I’m strange. I told him I had a happy childhood.” He never took life literally. For Jonathan that missed the point. There’s always vastly more there than meets the eye. Once in an antique shop in the Bay area he ran into a life-size cutout of Roy Rogers (pictured here). With guns drawn, they shot it out to the last man. Jonathan won. He always did, and left us all with a zest for life that will last forever. Now he’s marching on with his beloved toy soldiers. Forever.

Submitted by Craig (Bubba) McClain.

HOBBY NEWS (Cont.)

STEWARDSHIP

By Bill O'Brien • Yardley, PA

Participate in a toy soldier show and you will quickly notice two things about the crowd: the presence of older folks and the absence of younger faces. I maintain that as stewards of the hobby, we have done a poor job of introducing and welcoming new enthusiasts to our ranks.

This generational gap doesn't appear to be the norm at car, train, baseball card or coin shows. As rationale for this lack of new energy and blood, some individuals cite the introduction of plastic toy soldiers in the 1960's, others identify the introduction of the military miniature in the 1970's which did not lend themselves to backyard fortifications and hard play. Still others will blame the speculative, economic and commercial aspects associated with collecting.

While all categories of collecting are impacted by the march of time, generational differences and the disposable income that enables individuals to purchase things they enjoyed as kids, the collecting of toy soldiers seemed to be especially hard hit. This had an effect on inflating the price of toy figures especially during the golden age of the '70 - '90's.

As a small step in remedying this trend, the "Tony" was introduced at Bill Lango's 31st Annual East Coast Toy Soldier Show at Hackensack in November. The Tony, was named after the pizza shop who provided the unique packaging. The pizza box was actually chosen to symbolize the difference between the enjoyment of the contents over the box. *Mint in the box" may be the gold standard for affluent collectors but boxes mean little to those who want to play with toy soldiers. Starter Set #1 consisted of 15 old toy soldiers. One example was chosen from each of a variety of manufacturers: From the United States - Barclay, Feix, Grey Iron, Jones; from England - Wm Britains, John Hill, Crescent, Cherilea, Timpo; from France - Mignot; from Germany - Heyde. An Authenticast figure and a sample of a home cast figure were also included, (photo of Starter Set #1)

The purpose of the set was inscribed on the cover as shown:

Toy soldier starter set #1. Presented to an individual under 12 years of age, who demonstrates an interest in and passion for collecting toy soldiers.

2014 Recipients): Colin and Adam Hook, brothers from Hillsboro, NJ (Photo of recipients) Hackensack, NJ, November 2, 2014

Based upon their genuine interest, appreciation and politeness, Colin and Adam Hook were selected to receive the 2014 East Coast Toy Soldier Show's "Tony". When asked what figures they liked the best, they both replied "all of them" 'They were accompanied by their father, Keith, who was instructed that the figures were to be played with. The presentation was recorded by Noel Schlageter, a long time collector, toy soldier enthusiast and supporter of the hobby.

It is hoped that this simple idea and gesture can be replicated - in varying formats -at other shows to demonstrate a commitment to sustain and grow the toy soldier hobby.



REMEMBERING SHAMUS WADE PART 2

By Norman Joplin

In the last issue of *OTS* Volume 38 # 3, I recounted that I was about to approach Shamus to see if, after his retirement, he would be willing to sell me his client list.

I was rather nervous as Shamus was at the time THE toy soldier dealer with a worldwide reputation for selling toy soldiers. His lists were legend. I got up the courage to telephone him and my fears turned out to be justified. Shamus told me quite forcefully and in a rather brief conversation that the client list was not for sale. Obviously disappointed, I put the experience and the rebuff behind me. When returning home that evening my wife told me that she had received a call from Shamus and that I was to call him back, I did and his response was, "Well I told you that the client list was **not for sale**, but I am prepared **to give it to you** if you promise to carry on with lists in the same way". I of course accepted, but there was a proviso attached to the generous offer in that Shamus told me that when I travelled to London to pick up the lists, he would be giving me a two hour seminar on how to be a toy soldier dealer, I accepted the offer, albeit that it meant a 600 mile round trip train ride to his home, but an added bonus was that I would obviously be allowed into that veritable fortress of 37 Davis Road Acton in London, a place that few toy soldier collectors had ever been invited to.

Shamus was a genial host and we spent many hours discussing the hobby in his living room and in front of the cabinets that contained his eclectic collection. The client lists were in fact in the form of record cards filed in a cardex system and split into countries. The UK card formed the largest section of the cardex, followed by USA and Canada and then the many European clients names and addresses. There were at least 1000 contacts in all with many carrying cryptic comments on the back regarding bad experiences that Shamus had endured with clients over their orders. It would not be professional for me to repeat verbatim some of the comments; however in general, Shamus had recorded notes on what he called "time wasters" those who ordered and did not pay, those who complained about his prices but still ordered anyway and those who telephoned at "ungodly hours" from the USA and Europe not taking into consideration the time difference.



I issued lists for a number of years with a covering letter explaining that lists were being sent with the approval of Shamus and after a while changed the ordering system to include fax and telephone orders to speed up the process of snail mail ordering. I will forever be indebted to Shamus for allowing me to get my foot on the ladder as a toy soldier dealer.

Shamus loved John Hill and Company (Johillco) products, which he said were for the "blue collar workers" whilst Britains were for the wealthy. John Hill and Company (Johillco) were formed in 1898 according to an article in *Games and Toys Magazine*. In 1932 Britains had held a grand dinner to celebrate their 100 years of business at the prestigious Guards Museum adjacent to Buckingham Palace. So Shamus decide to organize a John Hill and Company (Johillco) 100 year anniversary dinner on a more down to earth scale.

Held in an Indian Restaurant in west London. Attendees were Flavia Wade, Stewart Saxe from Canada, Peter Flatau an old friend and myself and my wife. An extremely enjoyable evening ensued as can be seen from the image here.

WM. HOCKER TOY SOLDIER MAKER EXTRAORDINAIRE

By Rob Wilson

Now Celebrating over 30 years of designing, manufacturing and marketing toy soldiers in the traditional style, Bill Hocker is still producing delightful additions to the lexicon of Toy Soldiers.

There have been a number of previous articles written outlining the history of the development of the company. "Wm. Hocker Toy Soldiers", by Jo and Steve Sommers appeared in this magazine in 1993, (August-September issue). This was timed to coincide with Britain's 100th anniversary, and Hocker Toy Soldiers tenth! Now over 20 years later, Britains has gone through various transformations but Wm.Hocker Toy Soldiers carries on more or less unchanged, albeit with a few changes in personnel. Bill remains the driving force behind the company, being responsible for ideas, designs and overall management and coordination. He is supported by a small staff (see picture), as well as his family.

The current staff pictured left-to-right above is Maung Saeliow, Kae Chiam Saechao, Bill Hocker, Sou Chio Saelee, Liew Orn Saechao.



Originally inspired to add to his own collection of Britains figures, filling the gaps left by William Britains, the Wm. Hocker range now encompasses a much broader historical and geographical canvas.

Initially focused on the British Empire and related Colonial types Bill has gradually expanded his range to cover types of the U.S. Army and the armed forces of other nations. Most recently he has now broadened his scope to cover the 20th Century, including the heavy machinery of war, in a range designed to commemorate the Great War.

Bill's Latest 2015 catalogue includes:

British Empire/ Colonial types:

- Crimean War
- Indian Mutiny
- Abyssinian & Ashanti Wars
- North-West Frontier
- Zulu War
- Nile Campaigns
- Boer War
- Indian Army
- Imperial Durbar
- Diamond Jubilee
- Victorian Army at Ease

US army and related types:

- American Revolution
- Barbary Coast Wars
- War of 1812
- Mexican-American Wars
- American Civil War
- American West
- Buffalo Bill's Wild West
- Spanish-American Wars
- Pancho Villa Expedition

International conflicts:

- Boxer Rebellion
- The Great War

In addition there is a small range of speciality sets.

Together they present a magnificent body of work, offering a great deal more originality than William Britain, but maintaining a consistent style.

WM. HOCKER TOY SOLDIER MAKER EXTRAORDINAIRE (Cont.)

The Wm Hocker range is advertised very much in the style of William Britain's original catalogues of over 120 years ago:

"Our Models are finished in the distinctive style of Mr. William Britain, Junr. of London, England. Although formed of solid-cast tin rather than the hollow-cast metal for which Mr. Britain is justly renowned, it may be said that in both general & detailed appearance our Toy Soldiers most faithfully recollect the character of those they seek to emulate. We call our customer's particular attention to the correctness of proportion & pose, the trueness of colouring & application of paintwork, the exactness of jointure & assemblage, the authenticity of grouping, presentation & boxing. While no longer recommended for small children, it should also be noted that, like those of our predecessor, our Goods are to be enjoyed as toys: our artillery pieces fire, our limbers roll, our arms move, etc"

While maintaining the best traditions of Britains Bill has also always striven for an original angle, and in particular to retain the toy-like characteristics. One of the most unusual items in Wm. Hocker's American Revolutionary War series, Bushnell's Turtle was a very early attempt at sub-marine warfare. It is a classic example of Bill's desire to combine historical accuracy with toy-like playability and fun (note the octopus which serves to make a stand to hold the whole thing upright).



Unlike some other manufacturers Bill has never created limited editions. In principle, all items are still available to order (although a few sets are described as out of production for various reasons, including difficulties in obtaining boxes). Full details of the ranges available can be found on the company website at: <http://wmhocker.com>

The Dispatches part of that website invites customers to make further suggestions for extensions to these existing ranges, as well as possible new ones.

The latest range, introduced in 2014, commemorates the 100th anniversary of the start of the Great War. Set number 492, the most recent addition, depicts a Parisian taxi and French Infanterie de Ligne, attired in blue coats and scarlet trousers, ready to be transported to the Marne to halt the German advance towards Paris. A long-time fan of Bill's work, I was very impressed when I saw all his new items when I met up with him at the most recent OTS show in Chicago in September 2014. I was especially blown away (if readers will pardon the pun) by Set number 491 the "Big Bertha" heavy artillery piece.

I have always had a penchant for artillery pieces and related equipment, and I was keen to add this to my personal collection. However, this particular set was far too big and heavy to squeeze into my hand luggage for the flight back home. Fortunately, I managed to arrange to pick up a set during a subsequent autumn trip to California to celebrate a family wedding. Bill was also kind enough to agree to invite me to visit his "factory" to see the manufacture and other operations in action. This article describes that visit (and related matters).

Bill is a perfectionist and likes to get his toys working. I discovered during my visit that this meant that he was already working on "Big Bertha Mk II" because the original Mk I version did not operate to his satisfaction. I am doubtful that this means my Mk I version will ever become a sought after rare variation, but one can live in hope! Despite the fact that Bill has resisted the "limited" edition syndrome, his figures seem to hold their values well in the second hand market, (eBay and Auctions).



WM. HOCKER TOY SOLDIER MAKER EXTRAORDINAIRE (Cont.)

This picture illustrates beautifully Set number 492 “Big Bertha”. This image is of the set out of the box, as pictured on Bill’s website. Compare this with the photo of the real thing below. Although undoubtedly a toy, following the best traditions of William Britain, it is also a very accurate model.



The original howitzer was designed and manufactured by the German armaments company by Krupp. Strictly speaking, the name Big Bertha, is only applicable to the 42-cm M-Geräte howitzer (or mortar),^{1,2} although the name “Big Bertha” was often used generically to apply to any large German gun, including many railway-mounted battleship guns. The latter have been depicted in model toy form by CBG, and of course Britain’s produced its famous “18 howitzer” (probably more accurately described as 8” howitzer), but up until now nobody had attempted the German equivalent.

Just two operational M-Geräte were available at the beginning of World War I, but with the support of other smaller calibre weapons they were employed to devastating effect against Belgian forts at Liège, Namur, and Antwerp, and the French fort at Maubeuge, as well as other forts in northern France. Bertha proved very effective against constructions that were effectively obsolete against such cutting edge military hardware. The most spectacular success was against the nearby Fort Loncin, which exploded after taking a direct hit to its ammunition dump.

The next picture shows my own “Big Bertha” as tied into the original box by Bill himself (see the following picture) - will it ever be untied?



Picture of the Author’s set tied into its original box.



The master tying the author’s set into its original box.

WM. HOCKER TOY SOLDIER MAKER EXTRAORDINAIRE (Cont.)



The author's long-suffering, and ever patient, spouse in reflective mood in the "factory".

Where will Hocker Toy Soldiers go next? Bill is always open to new ideas and collectors are invited to make their own suggestions on the Dispatches part of his website. So, what happens next in 2015? Obviously this presents new anniversaries for World War I, although Bill admitted during my visit to being a little daunted by the thought of having to produce aircraft and then Tanks! Maybe he will venture into Napoleonics with the 200th anniversary of the battle of Waterloo? I for one cannot wait to see what will come next.

Notes:


1. Willy Ley, "German Siege Guns of the Two World Wars", *Journal of Coastal Artillery*, Feb, 1943, pp. 13-20
2. Herbert Jäger: *German Artillery of World War One*," The Crowood Press, ISBN 1-86126-403-8

Rob Wilson, January 2015

Contact details: r.a.wilson@warwick.ac.uk
+44 1926496962

A black and white photograph showing a collection of metal toy soldiers. Some are standing on a large, open book, while others are arranged in a line in front of it. The soldiers are detailed, showing uniforms and weapons.

The Metal Toy Soldiers of Wm. Hocker, Proprietor

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AUCTION PREVIEW (Cont.)



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AUCTION PREVIEW (Cont.)



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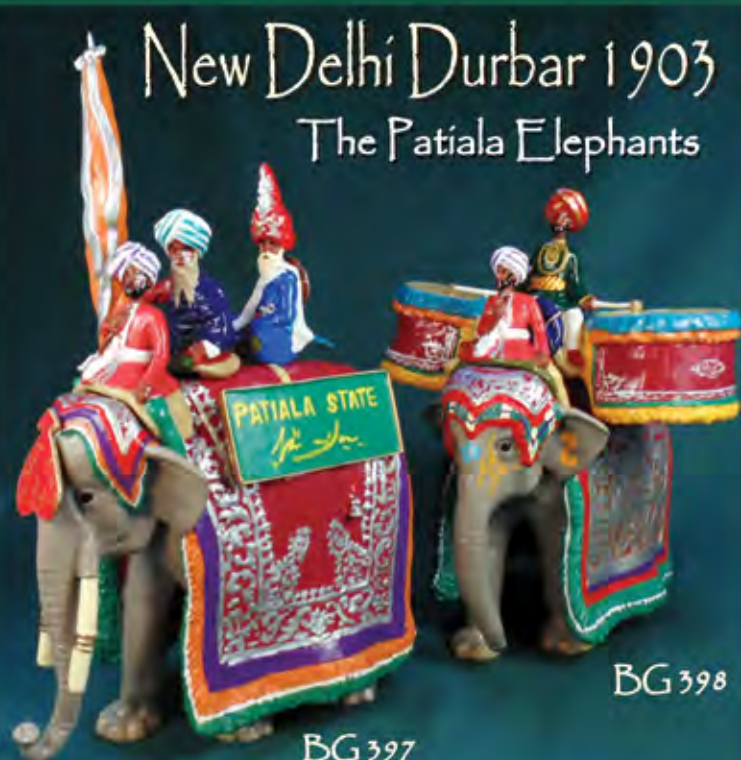


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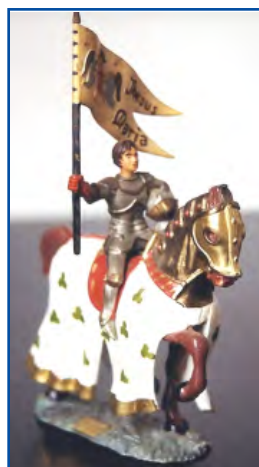
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MY MYSTERY MEDIEVAL SOLDIERS

By Robert Boder

The story begins with a Christmas present of a 1920s FAO Schwarz German Castle made by Moritz Gottschalk - #5200 Series and a group of foot soldiers. The following information came from the selling dealer.

At auction is featured a fantastic Estate Sale purchase from the Willamette Valley in Oregon. Listed is this lovely highly collectible Moritz Gottschalk Play Set featuring a wonderful Toy Fort with a storage box in the base for the Towers, Turrets and Walls when the set is not being played with. Set shows evidence of being lightly played with but no evidence of repairs or "restoration attempts." I absolutely love Estates that feature toys from adult collectors. Estate Owner confirmed this set was purchased new in New York in the early 1920s at Schwarz Toy Bazaar (later FAO Schwarz) and that the composition soldiers were purchased there as well, because, "soldiers weren't included with the fort." Soldiers are in near mint condition, (have obviously had a Finnish Flag added) are Composition Marching Toy Soldiers made by APC and marketed for export, made and Marked in Germany (They appear to be made from something similar to Lineol.) This is an extremely scarce and unusual set, and these toy soldiers remain in excellent pre-used condition.



The soldiers are marked on the bottom and that is the source of the mystery. There are three marks. Two soldiers have AP. Two have Anton and the rest have APC. There is no country of origin on the soldiers. I looked for these in my Norm Joplin book and could not find the maker. During my web searches I did find some additional information. There are Elastolin soldiers on EBay of exactly the same design and I believe the same size. These are from the same period as mine are assumed to be. Mine are and the Elastolin ones appear to be the 2 ½ inch standard size. When comparing the painting on both, the Elastolin

ones have slightly more detailed painting (red stripe at neck) but same colors in the same places and carry different pikes. The finish on the Elastolin ones in one group is rougher and shows wear. Both sets look (assuming they are the same size) like they came from the same molds. The composition of mine does not match that of any of the Elastolin WWI soldiers that I have. It has a feel somewhat like cement but this is close to the finish on a WWI non Elastolin bugler (without makers mark) I have. I have no expertise in this or any other area of toy collecting so these should be considered observations. All

MY MYSTERY MEDIEVAL SOLDIERS (Cont.)



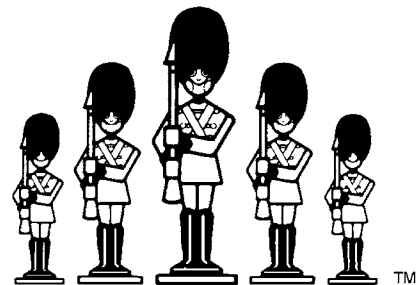
my Elastolin soldiers are marked Elastolin and Germany on the bottom. I thought that imported items of the 1920s and 30s had to be marked with country of origin. Another concern is why would FAO Schwarz even carry a product from an unknown company? Of course the original story of the castle and soldiers being purchased at the same time could be incorrect.

With no great interest in football, I continued my search on the internet for two days. I tried to find images, articles and examples of catalogs that could have solved the mystery. I have come up with one possible lead and a couple of theories. My first lead is a toy soldier maker named Anton Röder. He was active in the 1920s and 30s. Later he had a toy company, Lisanto, in East Germany. I found a company in Slovenia, Grandpas Market, with a group of naval marine sailor soldiers by him from the 1920s or 30s. There was no picture of the bottoms but the bottom shape had more in common with my soldiers than the Elastolin ones. The finish also seemed to have more in common with my soldiers.

These soldiers by PRATAS have pike tops like mine. Their painting like mine is missing the red stripe on the front collar. This picture came from a web page article on non Elastolin composition soldiers by the Michigan Toy Soldier Company. It did not have a picture of the bottoms. Google also has some old EBay listing references for PRATAS made soldiers from the 1930s. I cannot find any other reference to or the actual EBay listings for the company.

My conclusions are as follows:

- I question the story that the soldiers came from FAO Schwarz. They seemed to carry brand named merchandise unless this was a “house” brand. I do not have the original box.
- The soldiers came from Europe. If US made they would have consistent branding or were homemade. If homemade, the three marks make no sense. The US makers seemed to focus on American subjects and used different materials. PRATAS might be the answer.
- They are well made and I will enjoy them and the time spent trying to find their source was well spent.
- The castle gives me an opportunity to collect and display some “vintage” examples of knights and soldiers of the same period. I bought a Heyde mounted knight from the 30s or 1940 as my first addition.



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THE TOWER OF EMPIRE

By John Cupman

The Tower of Empire was the centrepiece of the Empire Exhibition, Scotland 1938. The exposition was held at Bellahouston Park, Glasgow. The Tower, also known officially as the Tait Tower after Thomas S Tait, the exhibition's leading architect. It was 300 feet high and built on a hill and was reported as being seen from 100 miles away.

The art deco tower was constructed in prefabricated form and completed in only 9 weeks in 1938. During construction, one man died after a steel girder fell to the ground and struck him.

The Tower had two lifts which transported 1,312,392 paying visitors to the 3 observation decks. Up to 600 people could enjoy the view at any one time.

Leading signaller Johnny Brennan RN semaphored from the top of the tower to signal the start of the parade for King George VI and Queen Mary who were to open the exhibition on the 3rd May 1938.

The Tower became the icon of the exhibition, appearing on much of the merchandise, such as china, spoons, badges, postcards and the like. Many

models appeared, and apart from the Britains version, it appeared in wax, resin, gilt metal and famously as the Empire Exhibition Football Tournament trophy in silver.

The Britains hollowcast version was 5 ¼ inch high and never received a model number. The mold was made on 4th June 1938 and it was sold in its own box.

The real Tower was lit in different colours at night and could explain why the Britains souvenir appears in different shades.

John Hill are known to have produced the tower. Their version was issued in a green box (see photo).



The Britains Tower was issued in a tartan or plaid covered box, while one of the bakelite or resin models by an unknown manufacturer came with the blue and orange box illustrated on the next page.



The tower under construction



Completed Tower



Britains Towers in various shades and tartan box

THE TOWER OF EMPIRE *(Cont.)*



Various examples of towers



Bakelite or resin tower and illustrated box



Commonwealth Pin

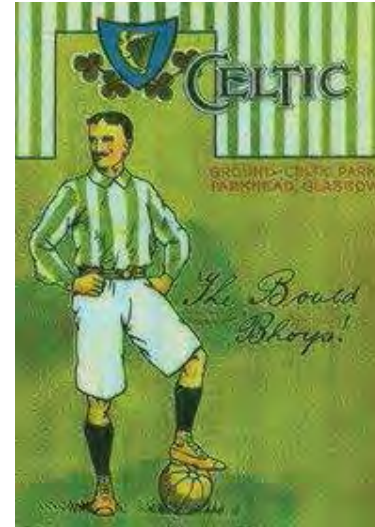
The only remains of the Tower onsite are the foundations. The commemorative stone is still there, on top of the hill, where it was unveiled by the King and Queen and the only surviving building onsite is the Palace of Art, where it is part of the Glasgow Club Bellahouston, a leisure centre. The Palace of Engineering was dismantled and re-erected at Prestwick and is still in use by the aviation industry. The South African Pavillion was also dismantled and re-erected, this time at Ardeer where it was used at one time as the staff canteen at ICI.

The exhibition closed on 29th, October 1938. The Tower, which was originally meant to be a permanent structure, was demolished in 1939 amidst fears it would be used as a landmark for German enemy bombers in the imminent Second World War.

THE TOWER OF EMPIRE (Cont.)

The football trophy was competed for by 8 football teams, 4 from Scotland and 4 from England and was won by Celtic by beating Everton 1-0 in the final at Ibrox Park on 10th June 1938. The trophy is on display at Celtic Park along with 6 inch silver replica,

made by Edward & Sons of Buchanan Street, one of which each player received along with their manager. Every player who played in the competition received a silver plated version.



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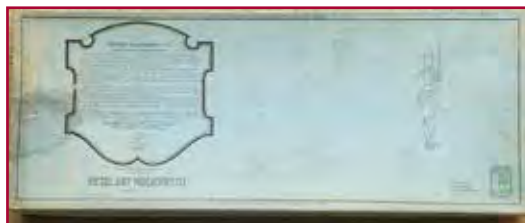
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Britains Large Zoo Display



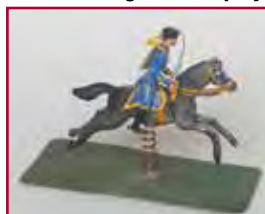
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Stadden



Stadden



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THE CORONATION OF EDWARD VII – A DAZZLING PROCESSION OF PAPER SOLDIERS

By Rob Wilson

Edward Ryan (“Paper Soldiers” Golden Age Edition 1995: London) defines paper soldiers as any printed figure made to be cut out and pasted (if necessary) onto card or wood supporting backing and provided with a base of some kind to enable the figures to stand independently. Ryan debates whether or not “scraps” are paper toy soldiers (op.cit. p 330). Undoubtedly the figures in the set described in this article were intended as playthings – “toy soldiers” and related items for display in a scenic setting. They probably fall under the heading of “scraps” (they appear to have been pre-cut and are embossed to give a 3d effect). They are provided with metal clip stands to enable them to be arranged to form a diorama of almost infinite possibilities.

The set is briefly mentioned in Ryan’s *magnum opus* (p.335) and attributed to Tuck. Tuck originally came from Germany to England in 1865 and set up a printing business, becoming the most important producer/publisher of “scraps” in England. Tuck’s figures were often designed in England but printed in Germany. Many were designed/ painted by great military artists such as Harry Payne.

This particular set commemorates the Coronation of Edward VII on August 9th 1902 after he succeeded to the throne following the death of Queen Victoria. The event had been postponed from the original planned date of the 26th of June as a result of the indisposition of His Royal Highness because of his need for urgent surgery for an abdominal condition. The stamp on the inside of the original box lid set confirms that the set was produced for Hamley’s as part of their “European Toy Warehouse” (giving the address as 64 Regent Street). This suggests that this is of foreign origin (possibly printed and made in Germany).

Ryan’s book only illustrates the State Coach, containing (as he describes) the “merry monarch” Edward VII. However the full set contains a huge range of different figures, which I hope will be of interest to readership of this magazine, and which are illustrated in the accompanying pictures in this article.

As well as a large cast of different characters, the originally boxed set also contains various scenic accessories, including large depictions of key buildings such as Westminster Abbey; the Houses of Parliament and St. James Palace.

As well as Edward and his coach there are other horse drawn vehicles, as well as military and civilian personalities. Some of these are illustrated on the lid of the box, but the coach depicted there is shown (incorrectly) as being drawn by only four horses.

The coach is escorted by pages and grooms, as well as Yeoman of the Guard (Beefeaters – the very first Royal Guards), Aides de Camps and Equerries.

Bewigged Justices, Peers of the Realm, a Gentleman carrying the Sceptre and his sword bearing companion, as well as Mace bearers, are all depicted (enabling the lucky owner to play out a range of scenarios related to the coronation). The figures on foot are all approximately 65mm scale. The mounted figures and horse drawn vehicles are slightly smaller at around 50mm scale. The buildings are smaller scale still.

Originally the plan for the Coronation included provision for military contingents from Germany, Austria-Hungary, Denmark, Russia and Poland (all of which had Royal families with strong ties to Edward’s family). Due to the postponement at the actual event the military escort was provided by British and Colonial types. This is reflected in the set, the military escort comprising:

- Royal Horse Artillery
- Life Guards (including a band and trumpeters (some on Brown horses!))
- Foot Guards, including another band
- Royal Fusiliers
- Highlanders
- Infantry of the Line
- Dragoons
- Field Marshals and other eminent officers (probably intended as Kitchener, Roberts and Wolsely)
- Naval Officers
- Types of the Colonial armies

The accompanying pictures show each of these, plus:

- The box lid with a small selection of the contents displayed;
- The full contents – a jumble of figures and scenic accessories;
- The complete ensemble – any help in ordering this into a more historically accurate manner will be gratefully accepted!;

THE CORONATION OF EDWARD VII – A DAZZLING PROCESSION OF PAPER SOLDIERS *(Cont.)*

- The buildings and other scenic effects
- The 3d effect achieved by embossing the card.
- Details of selected figures;

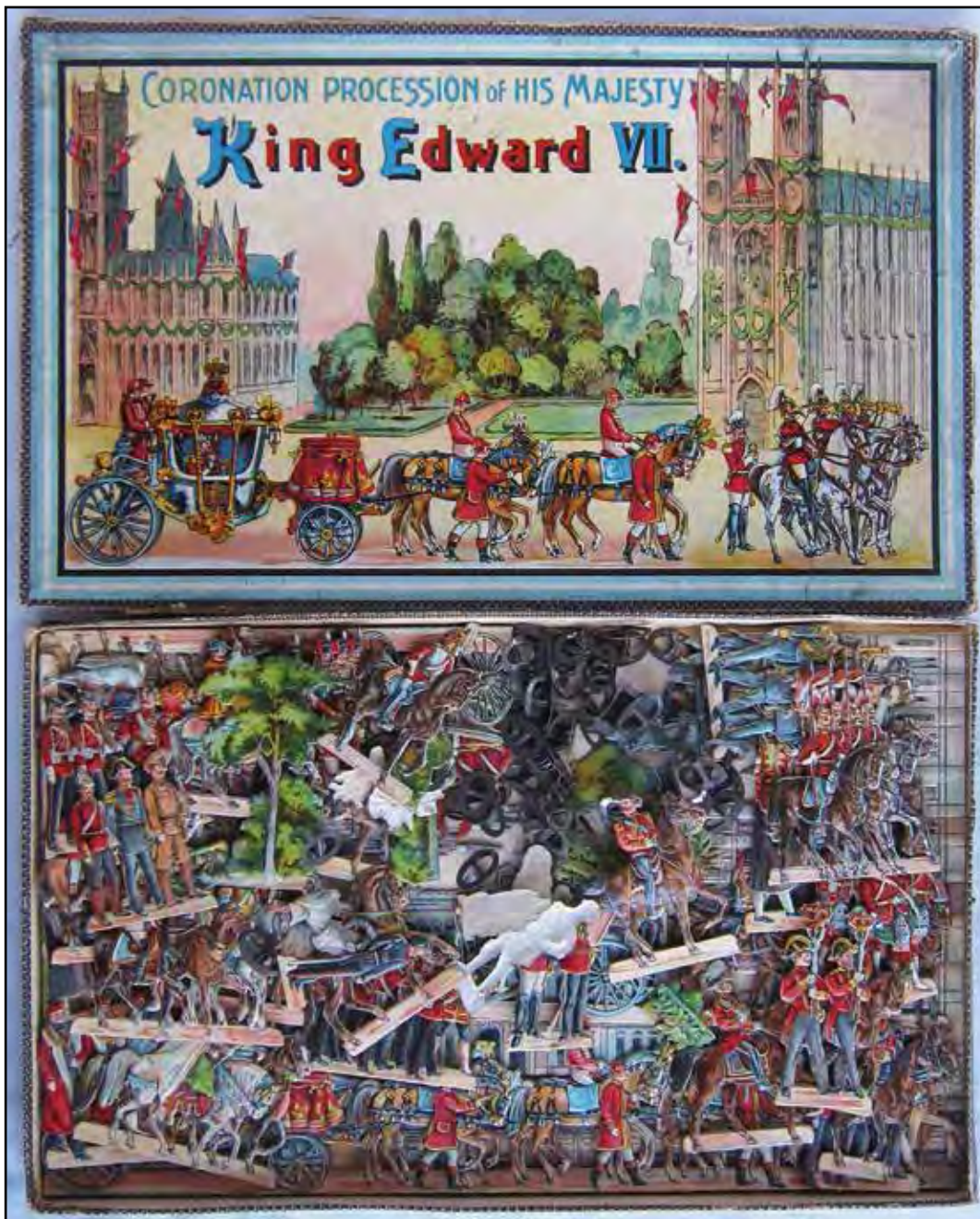
The various guests invited to the Coronation include models of the new king's cousins, the Tsar Nicholas II and the Kaiser Wilhelm, both represented on horseback along with a Turkish Potentate and other foreign dignitaries. This includes an Arabian chieftain waving a scimitar in a rather unruly fashion! In practice, because of the postponement, most foreign (non-colonial) countries were represented by their

ambassadors at the postponed event rather than the heads of state.

Tuck also printed other “cut out books” to commemorate the Coronation of Elizabeth II, as well as “The Trooping of the Colour”, the covers of which are illustrated in Ryan’s book.

Rob Wilson, January 2015

Contact details: r.a.wilson@warwick.ac.uk
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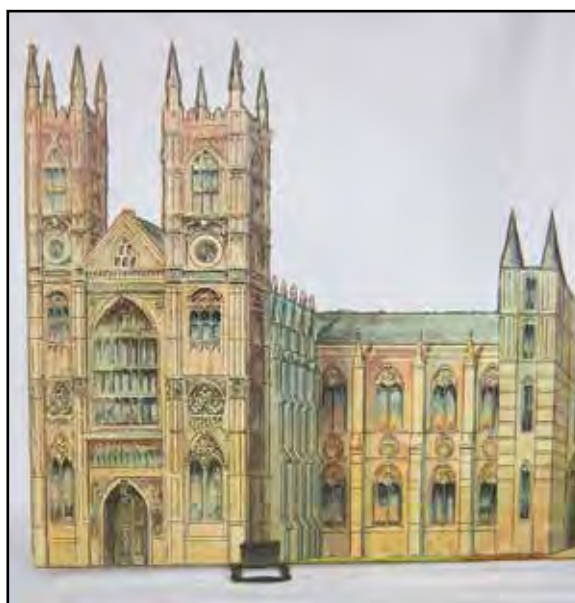


The colourful box lid and the “jumbled” contents.

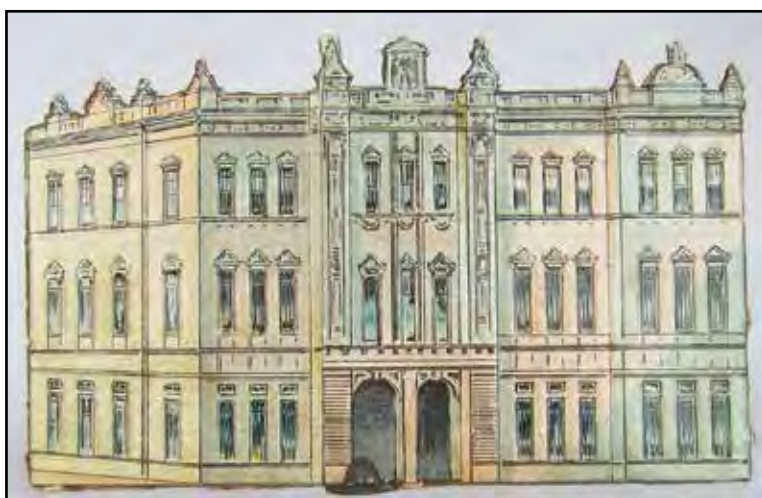
THE CORONATION OF EDWARD VII – A DAZZLING PROCESSION OF PAPER SOLDIERS *(Cont.)*



The contents assembled and displayed



The three main buildings, together with Hamley's stamp on the inside of the box lid and an illustration of the "3d" embossing from the back of the chief Yeoman figure.



THE CORONATION OF EDWARD VII – A DAZZLING PROCESSION OF PAPER SOLDIERS *(Cont.)*



Horse drawn vehicles including the State Coach and Royal Horse Artillery



THE CORONATION OF EDWARD VII – A DAZZLING PROCESSION OF PAPER SOLDIERS *(Cont.)*



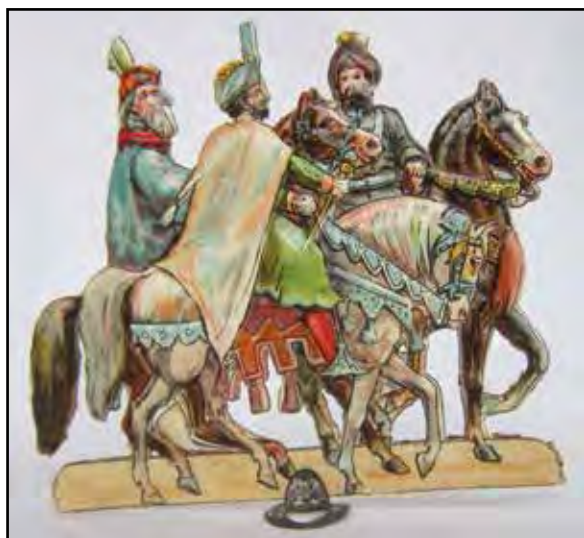
Yeomen, Equerries and other dignitaries



THE CORONATION OF EDWARD VII – A DAZZLING PROCESSION OF PAPER SOLDIERS *(Cont.)*



Sceptre bearer, foreign dignitaries, Fusiliers and Guards band



THE CORONATION OF EDWARD VII – A DAZZLING PROCESSION OF PAPER SOLDIERS *(Cont.)*



Life Guards and various other military types





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ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Allen Hickling started his professional career as an architect. Then after fifteen years, he went back to university and became an urban designer, after which he did action research into the processes involved. With this as a background he started collecting toy forts and castles, an occupation which kept him interested for the next thirty years. He had assembled one of the largest collections in the world, part of which he has now sold to be in a museum in Cyprus. He is well known as an author, having contributed numerous articles to toy soldier magazines, and is considered to be the authority on the subject.


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BRITAINS LARGEST GUARDSMAN

By Norman Joplin



In 1992 Britains relocated from London to Nottingham in England.

As the London Factory gradually wound down a number of items were disposed of, some went to auction, some of the original hollow cast moulds were sent to China and other items were simply designated as scrap.

I was approached by a Britains employee who was one of those handed the task of moving, relocating or scraping items. He showed me the wooden box pictured here, with the official "pass out" sticker and the word "Scrap" from the London factory.

Inside the box and in two halves was the Guardsman, made of plywood and beautifully dressed in an authentic plush Scots Guards uniform. Rather than scrap this rare item it was offered to me as a display item, as at the time I was organizing the British Toy Soldier and Figure Show in London, the Guardsman was obviously something that would attract attention, being displayed each year at the show.

The Guardsman stands 6 foot 3 inches high from feet to top of busby, he has a rifle and is at attention, the jacket contains a special golden sticker and logo from the Britains Factory. The size equates to approximately 34 times higher than a standard Britains lead figure.

When I retired from running the show in London, Jack and Thelma Duke of Ducal offered to take the Guardsman as a display piece to stand outside of their toy soldier factory. I knew the Guardsman was going to a good home

with the Dukes and was pleased to hear that they would keep it and preserve it.

In 2014 I received a toy soldier catalogue from (S.A.S.) SPECIAL AUCTION SERVICES in Newbury Berkshire England. The same Guardsman was being offered in the sale as Jack and Thelma Duke had decided to retire. I bid and won the Guardsman and he now resides back with me here in Wisconsin. What goes around comes around as the saying goes.



Similar guardsman shown in the Britains showroom, London.



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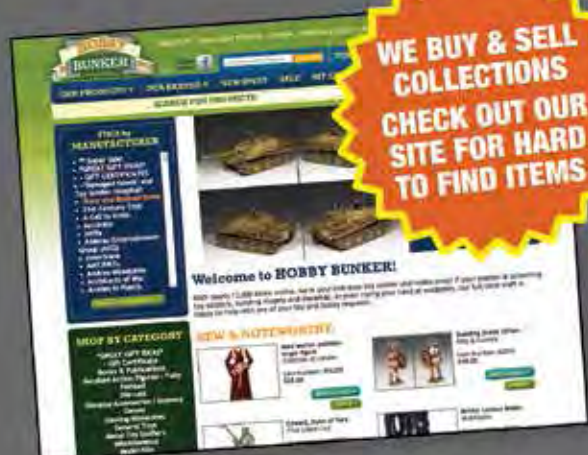
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1967 PRICE LIST FROM OLD FORT HENRY

By Joe Wallis



Rummaging through my files, I recently came across an order form/price list from the Sales Department of Old Fort Henry near Kingston, Ontario. The fort was constructed on Point Henry, which is a strategic location where the Cataraqui River joins the St. Lawrence River at the east end of Lake Ontario.

The order form is from 1967 and was compiled for the purpose of placing mail orders in the ancient days predating the internet. The prices are in Canadian dollars—with maximum shipping and handling fees of \$2 as long as parcels were being shipped by ground transportation. The Canadian dollar had a fixed exchange rate during the 1960s and was worth \$0.93 in American dollars in 1967. This was the year after the demise of Britains hollowcast toy soldier line, but the Fort Henry gift shop had a stockpile to sell. (I ordered items through the mail from Old Fort Henry as late as 1974, but as I recall the price had gone up to \$10 a set by then.)

The price list offered nine single toy soldiers and four sets, all directly related to the history of Fort Henry and all lead soldiers made by Britains Limited. In addition there were nine booklets about military history at prices ranging from 65 cents to \$1.50 included on the order form. With the possible exception of Sets 9155 and 9160, the items on the Fort Henry Price List were also available at other shops (but prior to 1967, including one in Niagara Falls).

The Britains pieces comprised the following: a single #2160 Fort Henry Guardsman (also found in Set #2148), the goat from Set #2148, a single fifer from

Set #2177 (#9154), a single drummer from Set #2177 (#9154), a #2159 (#9460) Fort Henry Sentry and Sentry Box, a complete 7-piece Fort Henry Guards Set #2148 (#9158), a complete 5-piece Fort Henry Guards Band Set #2177 (#9154), a single #2182 Fort Henry Guards Pioneer, a single #2180 Fort Henry Guards drum major from Set #2177 (#9154), as well as 6-piece Set #9155 49th Regiment with green facings standing at ease (War of 1812), a single 49th Regiment from Set #9155, a 6-piece Set #9160 89th Regiment of Foot standing at ease with black facings (War of 1812), and a single 89th Regiment from Set #9160. (The 89th adopted dark blue facings in 1881, which is when it became the 2nd battalion of the Royal Irish Fusiliers.) The price list did not feature #2183, the Fort Henry Cannon (which was the same as the #2189 18th Century Cannon, other than its box).

The single pieces were expensive in proportion to what it cost per piece if you bought an entire set. It is noteworthy that the Sales Department, which was the mail order venture of the gift shop at Old Fort Henry, did not carry any of the Mounties (R.C.M.P.), Princess Pat's Canadian Light Infantry, or the Governor-General's Horse or Foot Guards. It focused on Fort Henry related items. My theory is that the gift shop asked for the production of Sets #9155 and #9160 as well as end labels on the see-thru boxes that read "Fort Henry Guards, 1812 War, 49th Foot or 89th Foot". These two British Army regiments had served in Kingston and at the battle of Chrysler's (properly spelled Crysler's) Farm, but technically there was no such thing as "Fort Henry Guards" until the fort became an historic site in the 20th Century. A volunteer unit

1967 PRICE LIST FROM OLD FORT HENRY (Cont.)

consisting mostly of college students was then created that performed during the summer as tour guides and as a crack drill team dressed in 1867 era uniforms.

Readers may wish to refer to my longer article about the history of the Fort Henry Guards in Volume XXIV, issue #2, pages 6-9 in the Summer 2000 issue of *Old Toy Soldier* magazine.



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_____	Individual Goat	.45 ea	_____
_____	Individual Fifer	.40 ea	_____
_____	Individual Drummer	.85 ea	_____
_____	Sentry and Sentry Box	.85 ea	_____
_____	Fort Henry Guard Set (5 guardsmen, 1 officer, 1 goat)	\$2.95 set	_____
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BRITAINS FORT HENRY GUARD FIGURES 2001

By Norman Joplin

In 2001 Britains issued a series of Hollow cast figures advertised as from Original moulds. Included in the line were several Fort Henry Guard figures which perhaps were not exactly as Britains had advertised, as some had not been produced in the original hollow cast line.

-Set # 40192 Fort Henry Guards Marching at the Slope- 8 Piece Set No officer

-Set # 40193 Fort Henry Goat Mascot and Handler. The Goat casting used was from the original hollow cast set # 74 issued pre and post war & post war only set # 9144 Royal Welch Fusiliers.

Neither of these sets were the same as had originally been issued in the Post War Britains catalogue line ending in 1966.

-Set # 40194 1815 British Infantry 44th Foot. 8 Piece set, no officer. This casting came from the original hollow cast Waterloo Infantry figure Set #1518 and the Fort Henry Guard 1812 figure # 9155.

In addition, Britains issued an individually boxed Fort Henry Pioneer, in 1993 as part of their Centenary line Set # 8823. The Pioneer although not Hollow Cast was an exact replica of the original Hollow cast version, Set # 2182 issued between 1959 and 1966 in a Picture Pack box.

It is known that in order to issue these “new” hollow cast figures, Britains would have to make do and mend as it were, as only a limited number of the old original head moulds, body moulds and arm moulds had survived and been shipped to China to produce the series.

When looking closely at the construction of the “New” Fort Henry figures, there is a marked difference in the head size indicating perhaps some adjustments to the old original moulds?

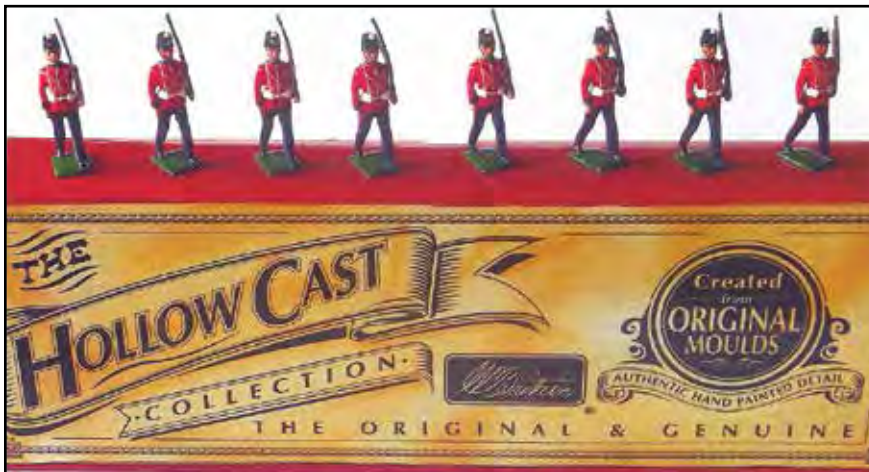
A future article in OTS will elaborate on this story.



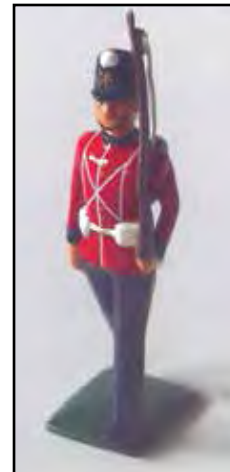
Fort Henry Mascot and Handler and Goat Set #40193



Set #8823 and Hollow Cast Set #2182



Fort Henry Guards Set #40192



Single figure from Set #40192



Single figure from Set #40194

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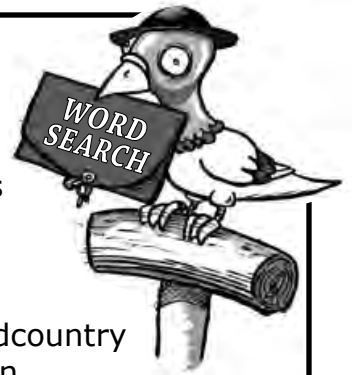


Britains Blondin Cyclist \$6500



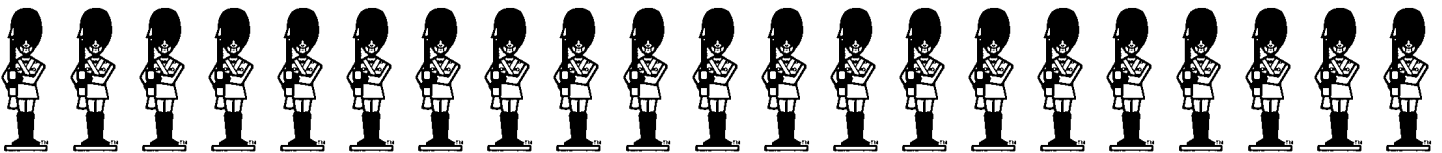
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Word Search - On the Battlefield # 2



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 i l y f h t p g m o y s d j g o i u t a
 w n g r a c b i r t a u o e j y t p r k
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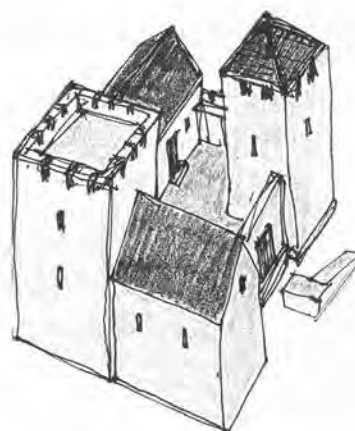
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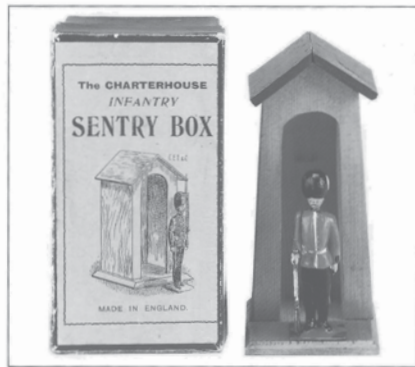
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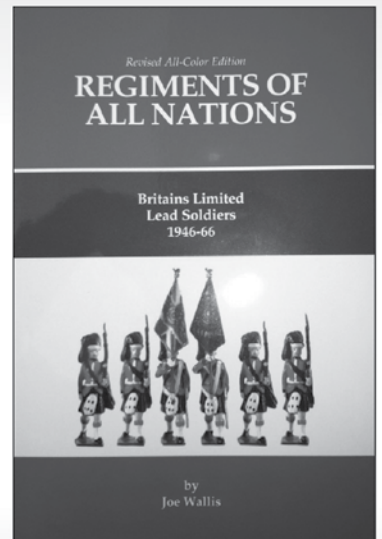
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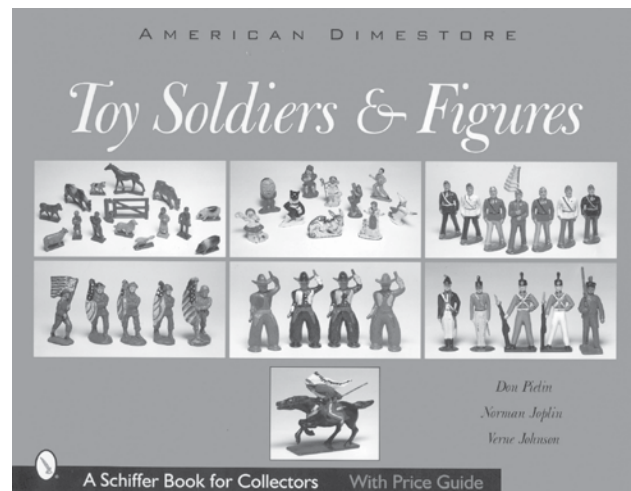
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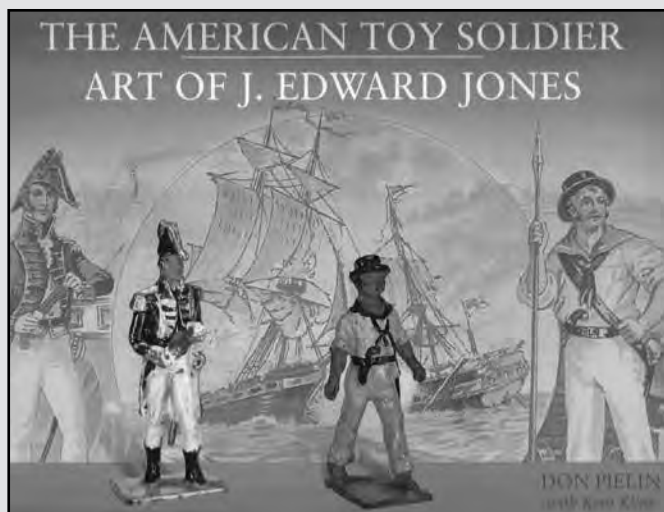
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TRW068



TRW069 (P)

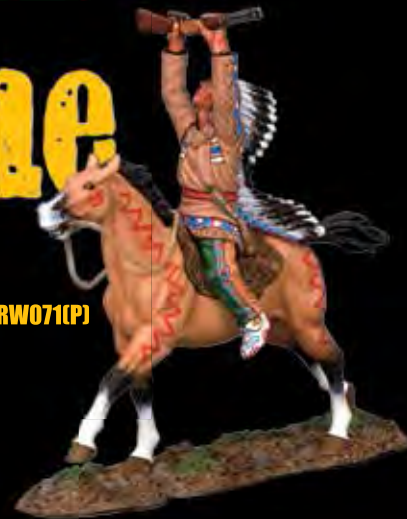
In addition, are two Indian "tepees", typical of the tent-style dwellings of the *Sioux* and *Cheyenne*. All of these new pieces provide even more excitement and action for one of K&C's most exciting series!

TRW083

TRW066



TRW071 (P)



TRW063 (P)



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TRW064

TRW065



TRW063 (P)

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The Indian Mutiny of 1857 Toy Set Painted 54mm

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Production will still be in England, mail order will be from the Stockholm office.*

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