

# Woodsetton thimbles 1983-2015

Have you watched the face of someone as they first look thru the peep of a thimble? It's fun to watch. It seems automatic for the uninitiated to look into the open end of the thimble. Your eye is guided to a small black disc in the apex with a pinhead opening. Looking towards good light, look into the centre of the apex ie thru the top of the thimble and you will see a micro black and white picture.



C: what the peep mechanism looks like from the open end – R: the peep has come loose in a pewter thimble

The peep needs to be set into a flat apex and a hole cut into the apex to accommodate the patented perspex lens.

Who is behind the creation of these thimbles?

**Gillian and David Bates.**

Woodsetton are one of the largest thimble producers of the modern thimble collectables era. Based in the village of the same name, in Dudley in the West Midlands, this places Woodsetton within the greater Birmingham area, being just fourteen miles apart. It will become apparent why being in the heart of industrial Britain has so many advantages for the Bates family-owned company.

Woodsetton have used many different names over the years: Woodsetton ... Peeps, Projects Ltd (this is the name used by Bates' in his 1992 article), Design Works, Peepshow Curiosities and Secret Picture Curios.

Woodsetton thimbles were initially made of pewter and brass. Thimbles were created of these two materials in 1984-1985. From 1985 Woodsetton experimented with different mediums into which to set their peeps: china (March 1985-), synthetic material (November 1986), horn (February 1986) and sterling silver. Horn and synthetic material use were one-off creations.

In March 1986, lacquer over the brass or copper was added and this continued until Woodsetton created their last thimbles in 2015.

The Woodsetton team would have been focussed on marketing, handpainting thimbles and their hand-engraving (David's group). Designing the peeps fell, it seems, to Gill and her team, where each peep had to be cut out for placement on the lens. She also co-ordinated the lacquered colours required for handpainting all thimbles.

See below for limited editions produced.

Who was creating these thimbles for the Bates into which they could inset their peeps?

Thimble machinery is extremely expensive and with Birmingham on their doorstep, it makes sense that Woodsetton sourced thimble blanks from existing thimble businesses, ordering their own thimble stock for uniformity.

Iles and Gomms Birmingham (Thomas Johnson who took over Iles in 1990) – brass, copper, silverplated, gold-plated

James Swann and Son and Swann Thimbles (Birmingham) - sterling silver. These are hallmarked with the makers' marks. Some were also enamelled.

Abbey Horn (Kendal) - horn

Healacraft China

Tho one of the Woodsetton leaflets mentions wooden peep items, no thimbles of this material have been found.



Healacraft China

That just leaves their pewter thimbles. I believe that these were created by Woodsetton themselves (tho they may have been made by Warwick Models). On reading about Lorraine Bates, the Bates' daughter, who joined the family business, it mentions that she 'set up her own business alongside her family of **pewterers** in Woodsetton'.

There are a few pewter shapes in the Woodsetton thimble range: they have touch- or maker's marks.

Some of the catalogue entries described them as being 'hallmarked in Yorkshire'. There are four touchmarks. A crowned rose, an anchor flanked by W P, castle, Tudor rose.

I always presumed that the W P was for Woodsetton Peeps, but maybe it stands for Woodsetton Pewter? Were Woodsetton trying to replicate the hallmarks on sterling silver thimbles?



Another thimble shape is that of a Windsor Castle turret (eleven thimbles), which has the detail of a small white painted door. They were largely used for royal commemorative peeps. They have no touchmarks.



castle-shaped

What prompted the Bates to create peep thimbles?

We have to look back to over 100 years to the British patent (No. 118) of 1880 where microphotographic images were placed onto a glass rod lens and set into thimbles. According to Edwin Holmes, this patent was taken out by William Pursall in 1880. Charles Stanhope, 3rd Earl of Stanhope (1753-1816), is reputed to have discovered this early micrographic process. He was a scientific inventor.

They became known as Stanhope Peeps.

The most striking difference between antique and modern peeps is that the antique imagine is viewed from the open end of the thimble. The Stanhope version used taller, plain brass thimbles than their modern counterpart, as the glass mechanism was bigger than the plastic equivalent of 1980s.

This excellent image, taken from Jean Scott's definitive work on Stanhopes, illustrates the differences between the two products. Both versions use black and white micro images.



Jean Scott's comparisons

This is an example of a Stanhope peep in situ in a vegetable ivory thimble holder. The peep is typical of the time: showing four or more images. In this case, the scenes are 'Memory of Mt St Bernard's Abbey'. They always featured scenes of holiday destinations as a memento or souvenir for travellers of late 19<sup>th</sup> century. They were no longer produced after 1939 ending an era of around 70 years.



vegetable ivory peep

The rarity of the Victorian thimble peeps has made them prohibitive for the average collector. According to Scott around forty Stanhope thimbles exist in private collections today.

By creating their modern cheaper version of the Stanhope, the Bates were in business. They took out a patent for their peeps. The miniature optical built-in lens used the same idea having the image magnified a hundred times. The Woodsetton images are far less detailed than their predecessors.

When I visited the UK in the 1990s my thimble friend Vilma Buck planned to take me to visit the Woodsetton family business, Gill Bates had to cancel the booking as during that period there was a scarcity of the special Kodak black and white film used by the Bates business. It took around a year before the film was again available.

It would have made compiling this topic a whole lot easier if I had been able to visit Woodsetton.

This lack of film didn't deter this inventive pair. They simply created their popular range of lacquered brass and copper thimbles, without peeps. You will notice that these thimbles have lovely domed apexes, instead of the flat apex required to take a peep.

Until they ceased production in 2015, peep thimbles and thimbles with no peep or just those with lettering, were produced to whatever specification the client required.

I have used the dates of operation for Woodsetton thimbles as 1983-2015. In his article Bates used 1983 as their start date: I can only find a Woodsetton peep thimble in the TTG catalogue in May 1984.



TTG May 1984  
thimble is made of pewter

What were the subjects depicted on the Woodsetton thimbles being ordered for sale by thimble catalogues?

Being a British firm around 90% were of British commemorative or anniversary events or British traditions. One could use the output of Woodsetton thimbles to trace every major British event between 1983-2015, giving a snapshot of the immediacy of the event viz the release of Terry Waite in 1991.

Happily the range would have been wide enough to appeal to all thimble collectors.

Unlike their Victorian counterparts, town peeps were almost non-existent by Woodsetton (around five thimbles). There were a five peeps produced as advertising material.

Woodsetton weren't known for their thimble sets (only two sets were issued for purchase as a set). I have listed them at the end of the relevant section.

There were private commissions and these were not available thru any catalogue. Treasure the special private issues: their numbers are small.

I have noticed recurring themes – like Wimbledon or the Queen Mother. She is represented on nine occasions, each with a different peep. It seems that Woodsetton reused peeps for the same topic. Some required more than one type of lacquer colour, lettering etc.

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

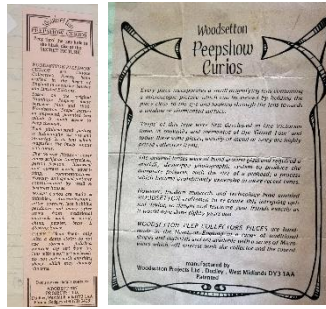
For me, the biggest joy of tracing the hand-lacquered Woodsetton thimbles are the colours chosen for each: i.e. khaki for the Dad's Army peep – and the Queen Mother's love of all colours mauve and purple are used. Where the appropriate colours have been chosen, I have added this information. A very common feature of the lacquered finishes are the bands of complementary or contrasting colours, banding the thimbles – like the Plimsoll line on the WRENS' commemorative thimbles.

In what quantity were Woodsetton thimbles made? TTG includes any in a limited number – the biggest amount

was **2500** for Princess Anne when she was made Princess Royal. I have noted limited numbers available as between 250 and 1988: they were usually made for British Royal commemoratives. In Bates' 1992 article he nominates 100 to 1000 for each thimble. This may account for the scarcity of Woodsetton thimbles on the second-hand market.

Never immerse a peep in water.

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



Woodsetton leaflets



Woodsetton boxes

In the thimble section below you will notice several examples that don't look like Woodsetton thimbles. These are Iles and Gomms brass thimbles from 1990 when they closed. The company was bought by Thomas Johnson who continued to make brass thimbles in the Iles tradition. Bates purchased these thimbles and lacquered a narrow band and etching a slogan etc.

**STANHOPE**  
**'PEEPSHOW' RECREATION**  
*made from the last Iles and Gomms production run.*  
 Victorian Stanhope peepshows, you see one in the background, are very rare and very, very collectible. So David Bates decided to combine two pieces of thimble history for you. By using one of the thimbles from the very last production run of Iles and Gomms thimbles. Only 956 can ever be made as this is all that remain of this last batch from the great firm who supplied thimbles for 150 years, but are now sadly no more.  
 The peepshow depicts 'The Seamstress' and is viewed from the inside - just like the original Stanhopes. A fascinating piece of thimble history that will become very rare. £9.45.



TTG September 1990

While I was compiling the British modern handpainted thimbles topic, I came across an example by **Lorraine Bates** (born 1984). She has produced several finely illustrated brass or copper thimbles for Woodsetton. They are different in that each has a signature **LB** or **LS** (first and last initials) etched on the plain lacquered verso. Most times they are accompanied by a two digit date. Ten examples currently exist and they range in date from 1999 to 2013.



Lorraine Bates



LB or LS signatures

I have included any Woodsetton items that are thimble-shaped, and included their thimbles that are bell-shaped and two in the shape of a pewter beer mug.

They produced thimbles with items atop the thimble and miniature character figurine thimbles – none of these are included in this topic.

During the 1990s, artistic thimbles were identified as created by **Gill Bates**. This includes a very pleasing set of applied hotfoil transfers in jewel colours. Search them out towards the end of this topic. They are not signed like Lorraine's were, so we are dependent on the mail order catalogues for this type of detail.

I have noticed that the earliest brass peeps have tarnished over the last forty years. Sometimes the peep may not be totally centred in the apex.



I have divided this Woodsetton thimbles into four sections. Each will have its own introduction.

Peep thimbles with outer lettering (212)  
Peep thimbles with no outer lettering (60)  
Thimbles with no peep (113)  
Thimbles with no peep and no lettering (69)  
totalling **454** thimbles

I have included as many catalogue references as I can find and used the following abbreviations:

Fm – Feldmann Die Vingerhoed Post (Germany)  
HE – Heirloom Editions (USA)  
KS – Kay Sullivan (Holland)  
PJW – P J Walter (Germany)  
TO – Thimbles Only (Jean Shoup)  
TSL – Thimble Society of London  
TTG – The Thimble Collectors Guild and The Thimble Guild (Scotland)  
VN – Vingerhoed nieuws (Netherlands)

For other brass thimble topics see

Brass advertising thimbles  
Felix Morel thimbles (Bath) 1984-2002  
Jacqui and David Parker of Olivia (Birmingham) 1992-2001

## Peep thimbles with outer lettering

These are arranged alphabetically by the lettering on the outside  
 thimble material is included if it is not made of brass or copper  
 where the painter is other than Gill or David Bates, the name is included with each thimble  
 I have included the peep view where available – where the lettering is known, with no photo, the  
 approximate peep text is included  
 there is often an accompanying etching on the outside – this is included for clarity  
 I have followed the upper case or italics lettering as etched by Woodsetton (David Bates)  
 the catalogue reference will give an idea of the date created



I II III IV V VI VII VIII IX X  
 etched tablets  
 view: The Ten Commandments  
 TTG November 2005



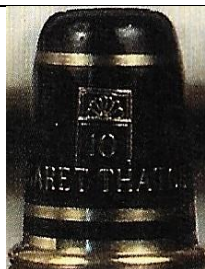
3<sup>RD</sup> SEPTEMBER 1939  
 etched radiogram  
 view: Neville Chamberlain Prime Minister 'I have to tell  
 you ...'  
 limited to **950**  
 TTG September 1989



-5-  
 view: The Thimble Guild five years  
 TTG January 1988



08RAF90  
 etched target  
 RAF's 90<sup>th</sup> anniversary Battle of Britain  
 Airforce blue colour lacquered brass  
 TTG May 2008



10 YEARS MARGARET THATCHER  
 etched No.10 front door  
 view: Margaret Thatcher  
 TTG May 1989



13th DTS CONFERENCE BOURNEMOUTH 31 MAY - 2  
 JUNE 2013  
 etched knitting wool and knitting needles on verso  
 The Seamstress  
**Lorraine Bates (LS L.E. 45)**



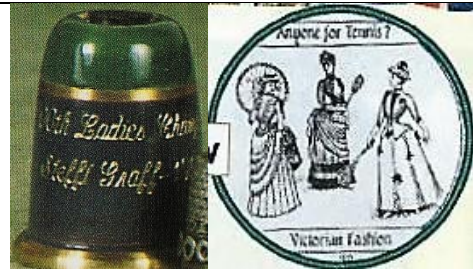
40 GLORIOUS YEARS  
 etched crown  
 view: 40 years Elizabeth II  
 limited to **1500**  
 TTG February 1992



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



90 ROYAL BRITISH LEGION  
etched poppy  
Laurence Binyon's For the Fallen  
**Lorraine Bates** (LS 11)  
TTG October 2011



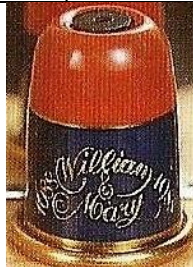
100th Ladies Champion Steffi Graff 1993  
Wimbledon colours lacquered brass  
limited to **400**  
TTG August 1993



1492-1992  
view: Christopher Columbus 500 years  
TTG September 1992



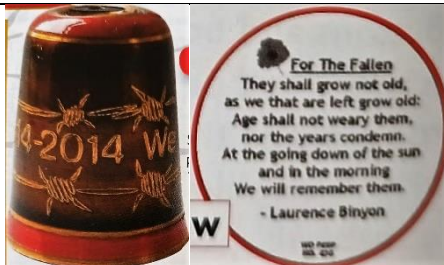
1492-1992  
view: Christopher Columbus 500 years  
VN May 2002



1688 1988 William Mary  
view: painting of them from 300 years ago  
TTG October 1988



1886 - 1986  
view: Statue of Liberty bicentenary  
TO winter 1985  
HE - they had their own boxes and certificates



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



1926  
etched crown  
view: The Duchess of York with Princess Elizabeth April 1926  
Life of our Queen  
limited to **750**  
TTG January 1990





1933  
etched crown  
view: Birth of Princess Margaret  
Life of our Queen  
limited to **750**  
TTG February 1990



1937  
etched crown  
view: Coronation of their majesties King George VI and  
Queen Elizabeth  
Life of our Queen  
limited to **750**  
TTG March 1990



1940  
etched RAF wings  
view: 50th anniversary 'Never in the field of human  
conflect...' Churchill speech  
limited to **990**  
TTG September 1990



1944  
etched crown  
view: Elizabeth Windsor A.T.S. on war duties  
Life of our Queen  
limited to **750**  
TTG April 1990



1947  
etched crown  
view: Marriage of Princess Elizabeth to Philip  
Mountbatten  
Life of our Queen  
limited to **750**  
TTG May 1990



1947  
view: Marriage of Princess Elizabeth to Philip  
Mountbatten



1948  
etched crown  
view: Birth of Prince Charles  
Life of our Queen  
limited to **750**  
TTG June 1990



1950  
etched crown  
view: Birth of Princess Anne with Prince Charles holding  
her  
Life of our Queen  
limited to **750**  
TTG July 1990



1953  
 etched crown  
 view: Coronation of Queen Elizabeth II  
 Life of our Queen  
 limited to **750**  
 TTG August 1990



1953-1993  
 view: 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Coronation  
 pewter castle-shaped  
 TTG May 1993



1964  
 etched crown  
 view: Birth of Prince Andrew and Prince Edward  
 Life of our Queen  
 limited to **750**  
 TTG September 1990



1977  
 etched crown  
 view: Silver Jubilee thanksgiving service  
 Life of our Queen  
 limited to **750**  
 TTG October 1990



1987  
 etched crown  
 view: Ruby wedding  
 Life of our Queen  
 limited to **750**  
 TTG November 1990



1990  
 etched crown  
 view: Royal Visit to Unified Germany for the first  
 time  
 Life of our Queen  
 limited to **750**  
 TTG December 1990

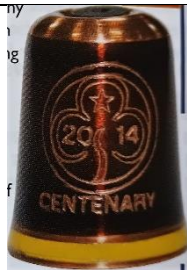


2002  
 etched snowman with child  
 Christmas Eve  
 TTG December 2002



2012  
 DIAMOND JUBILEE  
 etched crown with English rose  
 Queen Elizabeth  
 silverplated bell-shaped  
 TTG March 2012





2014 CENTENARY  
etched trefoil  
view: Brownie guide law  
Brownies' brown and yellow colours lacquered brass  
TTG June 2014



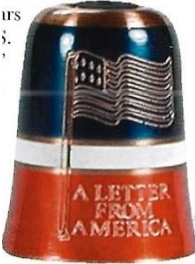
A CELEBRATION OF H.R.H. THE QUEEN MOTHER 100th  
YEAR AUGUST 4th 2000  
her favourite colours lacquered brass  
TTG August 2000



A GIANT STEP  
20th anniversary of moon landing  
view: Neil Armstrong one small step  
TTG July 1989



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

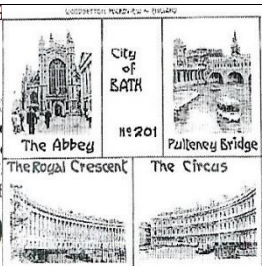
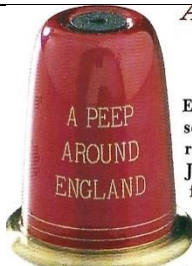


A LETTER FROM AMERICA  
etched American flag  
his death  
view: Alistair Cooke  
TTG May 2004

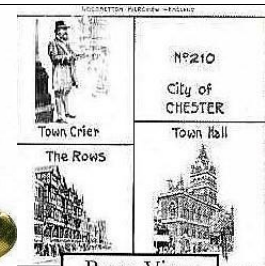


A Man's a Man For A' That  
view: Robbie Burns  
TTG January 1986  
b&w photo

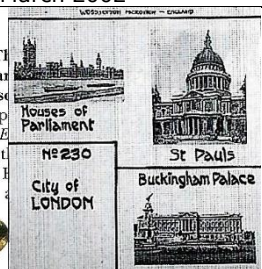
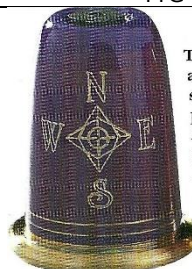
The following group has the only peep that has the multi-scene pictures similar to the 19<sup>th</sup> century peeps



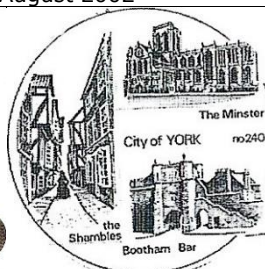
A PEEP AROUND ENGLAND  
etched compass on verso  
City of Bath  
TTG March 2002



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



A PEEP AROUND ENGLAND  
City of London  
TTG February 2002



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

Woodsetton English Peeps 89

EXETER  
The Guildhall!  
Mol's coffee house  
The Cathedral

Peep View

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

LAVENHAM Suffolk  
The Crooked House

A PEEP AROUND ENGLAND  
etched compass on verso  
Lavenham Suffolk  
TTG October 2002

PADSTOW-Cornwall

Woodsetton English Peeps no. 77

A PEEP AROUND ENGLAND  
etched compass on verso  
Padstow Cornwall  
TTG September 2002

No 221 Mary Arden  
SHAKESPEARE family houses  
The Birthplace Anne Hathaway

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

Westland Helicopters  
Yeovil Somerset  
St John's 'Lantern of the West'

Woodsetton English Peeps no. 38

A PEEP AROUND ENGLAND  
etched compass on verso  
Yeovil Somerset  
TTG July 2002

AN ISLAND NO LONGER  
view: Channel tunnel 1994

AND GOD SAID

view: The Ten Commandments  
this peep is viewed from the inside  
limited to **2500**  
TTG June 1991

APRIL 1912  
etched leaves  
sinking of Titanic

August 4th 2001  
Our Queen Mother  
101 years young

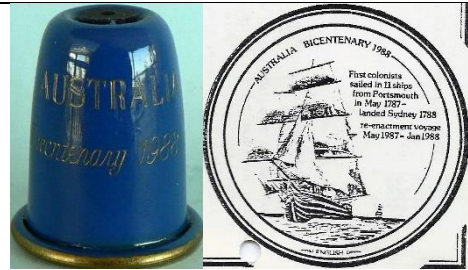
QUEEN MOTHER 2001  
Into the next Century and Millennium

August 4th 2001 Our Queen Mother 101 years young  
her favourite colours lacquered brass  
limited to **300**  
TTG August 2002

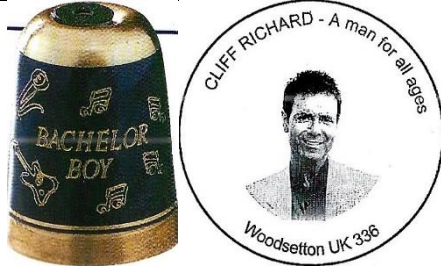
August 4th 2001 Our Queen Mother 101 years young  
VN September 2001



Australia 1788 - 1988  
The Bounty  
TTG January 1988



AUSTRALIA  
Bicentenary 1988  
available in three colours red, green and blue  
TSL winter 1987  
commissioned by Pan Arts, Sydney  
limited to **100** each



BACHELOR BOY  
etched musical notes  
Cliff Richard  
TTG November 2001



BAGHDAD IRAQ  
etched map  
using Iraqi flag colours  
TTG June 2003



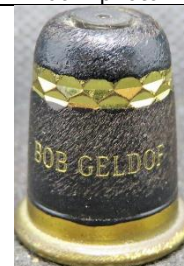
BAPTISMAL PRAYER  
TTG June 1988



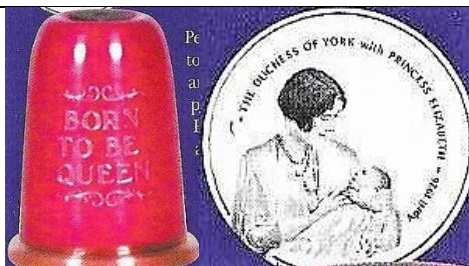
BEATRIX-CLAUS  
25 JANUARI 1991  
25<sup>th</sup> anniversary  
VN May 1991  
b&w photo



Bezoek Nederland 1985  
John Paul II  
KS June 1985



BOB GELDORF  
'Live Aid' 1st anniversary  
view: Geldorf  
TTG July 1986



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



BOSTON



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



CHARLES DIANA  
 etched Prince of Wales feathers  
 view: 10<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary 1991



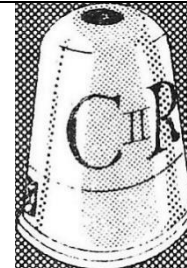
Christmas 1990  
 commissioned by TSL  
 TSL winter 1990



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



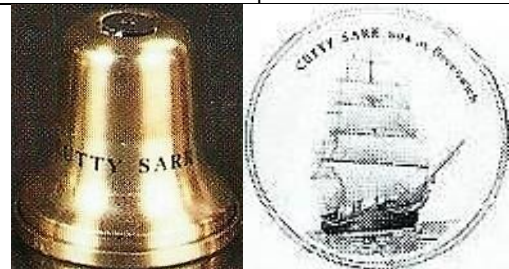
COMING OF AGE  
 Prince William 21  
 pewter  
 TTG June 2003



CRII  
 view: 300<sup>th</sup> anniversary of his death  
 portait by Sir Peter Lesley  
 pewter  
 TTG February 1985  
 b&w photo



CROWNING GLORY  
 50 year coronation anniversary  
 pewter castle-shaped  
 TTG June 2003



CUTTY SARK  
 bell-shaped  
 TTG April 1988



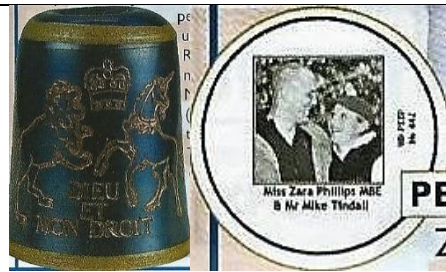
DAD'S ARMY  
 view: Home Guard 1940 soldier  
 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary  
 khaki lacquered brass  
 TTG August 1990



DIEU ET MON DROIT  
 etched royal coat-of-arms  
 Prince Harry bestman to Prince William and Katherine  
 TTG November 2004



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



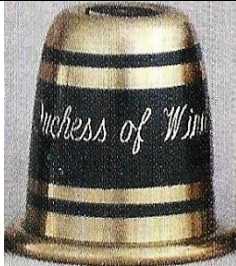
DIEU ET MON DROIT  
etched royal coat-of-arms  
marriage of Zara Phillips to Mike Tindall  
TTG July 2011



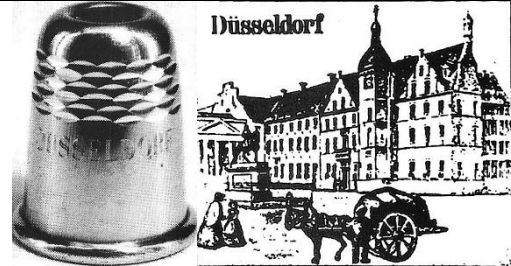
DOCHTER VOOR PRINSES LAURENTIEN PRINS  
CONSTANTIJN  
view: birth of Princess Eloise with her parents  
**Lorraine Bates**  
VN August 2002



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



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



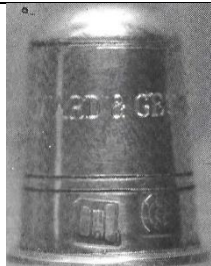
DUSSELDORF  
tourism  
Fm 5-1988  
b&w photo



EAST MEETS WEST  
lettered diagonally  
Gorbachov meets the Queen  
TTG December 1988



Eddie the Eagle  
white lacquered brass indicates ski slope snow line  
TTG March 1988



EDWARD & GEORGE  
view: brothers Edward VIII and George VI  
pewter  
TTG June 1987  
b&w photo



ELECTION 1987  
Conservative majority 101  
Margaret Thatcher elected for third term  
TTG November 1987



Elizabeth R 1992  
limited to 200  
commissioned by TSL



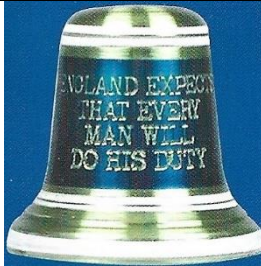
Elizabeth R 1992  
view: Annigoni portrait  
sterling silver & enamel  
commissioned by TSL



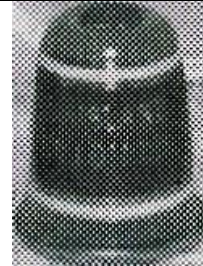
ELIZABETH REGINA  
view: Australia visit Expo 1988



ENGAGEMENT  
Prince Andrew and Sarah Ferguson 1986  
also: silverplated, sterling silver  
limited to 10 in sterling silver  
TTG April 1986



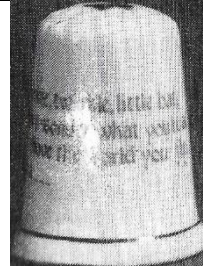
**Peep view**  
ENGLAND EXPECTS THAT EVERY MAN WILL DO HIS DUTY  
Admiral Nelson and H.M.S. Victory  
bell-shaped  
TTG October 2005



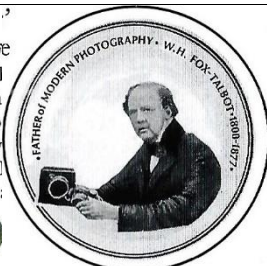
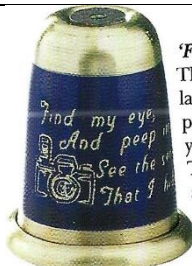
EUROTUNNEL  
VN March 1994  
b&w photo



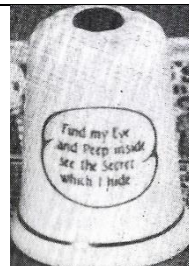
FAREWELL TO MAGGIE End of an Era  
1990



Find my Eye and Peep inside See the Secret which I hide  
view: Twinkle twinkle little bat how I wonder what  
you're at  
Healacraft China  
TTG March 1985



Find my eye, And peep in and See the secret That I hide  
etched camera  
WH Fox Talbot photographer  
TTG September 2001



Find my Eye and Peep inside See the Secret which I hide  
Fashions of yesteryear  
Healacraft China  
TTG October 1985





Find my Eye and Peep inside See the Secret which I hide  
 view: Fashions for 1926  
 violets  
 other flowers: anemones  
 Healacraft China



FIND THE SECRET PICTURE  
 view: Angel & Mother of God



For Mum  
 etched hand with quill pen  
 TTG February 2002



For  
 Re



G.W.R. 1835-1985  
 view: Great Western Railway  
 TTG July 1985



GEORGE WASHINGTON 1789  
 using American flag colours  
 limited to **500**  
 TTG April 1989



GIRLGUIDING CENTENARY  
 etched Guides trefoil  
 TTG October 2009



GOD SAVE OUR QUEEN  
 etched crown  
 view: 65<sup>th</sup> birthday 1991  
 sterling silver



GOD SAVE OUR QUEEN  
 etched crown  
 view: 65<sup>th</sup> birthday 1991



GOLDEN JUBILEE 1887  
 Victoria four generations



GOLDEN JUBILEE HM QUEEN ELIZABETH 2002  
 gold-plated  
 TTG April 2002



GOLDEN WEDDING HM QUEEN ELIZABETH HRH PRINCE PHILIP  
pewter



GOLDEN WEDDING HM Queen Elizabeth and HRH Prince Philip  
TTG November 1997



GOOD COMPANIONS  
Princesses Elizabeth and Margaret Rose  
TTG February 2003



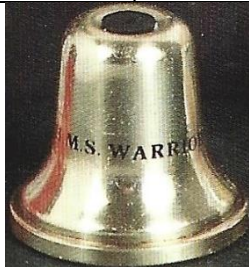
H.M.S. REVENGE  
view: 1860 The world's first iron hull  
bell-shaped



H.M.S. REVENGE  
The Spanish Armada 1588  
bell-shaped  
TTG July 1988



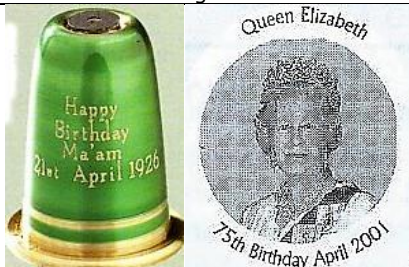
H.M.S. VICTORY  
bell-shaped  
TTG August 1988



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



HAPPY BIRTHDAY MA'AM 21<sup>st</sup> April 1926-1986



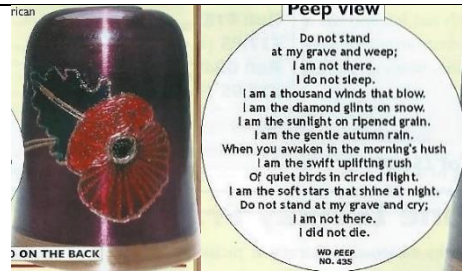
HAPPY BIRTHDAY MA'AM 21<sup>st</sup> April 1926-2001  
limited to **500**  
TTG December 2001



Happy Birthday  
view: Princess Diana's 30<sup>th</sup> birthday



HELP FOR HEROES  
etched poppies  
view: Clare Harnet poem  
**Lorraine Bates** (LS 10)



HELP FOR HEROES  
etched poppies on aubergine lacquered brass  
Mary Elizabeth Frye poem  
**Lorraine Bates**  
TTG November 2010



HERE'S TAE US - WHA'S LIKE US  
view: Hogmanay  
TTG December 1985  
b&w photo



HRH PRINCESS CHARLOTTE OF CAMBRIDGE  
etched coat-of-arms  
her birth 2015  
this is probably last thimble produced by Woodsetton



I (heart) MINI  
view: 30 years 1959-1989  
TTG August 1989



IAN BOTHAM 1985  
*John O'Groats - Land's End*  
his walk  
pewter  
TTG November 1985



*Imagine*  
John Lennon 50 years  
TTG November 1990



J.S. BACH  
his tercentenary  
TTG May 1985  
b&w photo

no photo

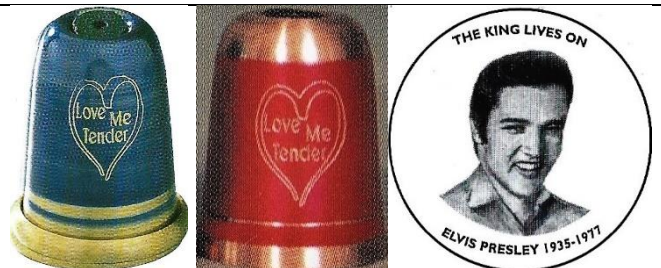
LEEDS CASTLE Kent



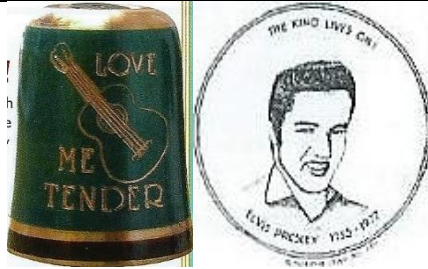
LIBERATION OF KUWAIT FEB 1991  
etched map  
Gulf War  
TTG April 1992



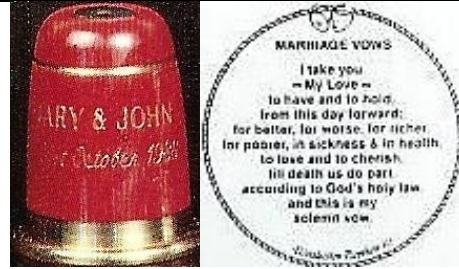
Look deep within the thimble's crown t'tis a secret will be found  
Secret fairy  
TTG June 2008



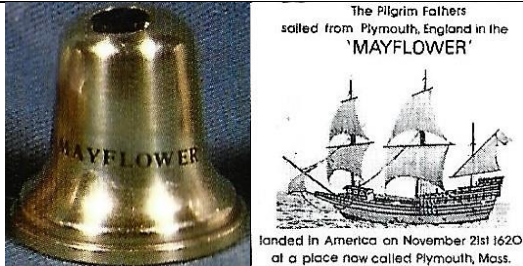
Love Me Tender  
etched within heart  
Elvis 24 years since his death  
L: limited to 50  
blue: TTG August 2001 - red: VN 88 1999



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



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



MAYFLOWER  
bell-shaped  
TTG March 1988



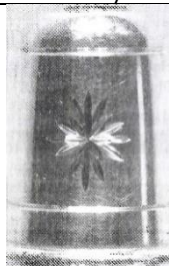
MONTY  
view: 100th anniversary of birth of Viscount  
Montgomery of Alamein  
desert colours lacquered brass  
TTG November 1987



Nederlandsche Vingerhoedclub 1998  
Dorcas thimbles  
pewter  
VN February 1998



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



Peter  
etched star  
silverplated  
see also: Wendy



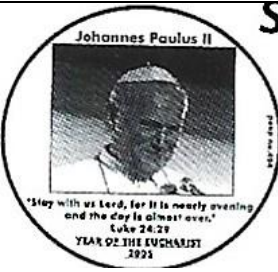
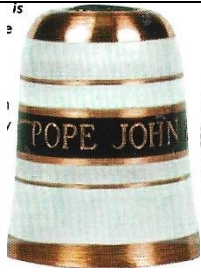
Peter  
etched star  
TTG January 1989



PHOTOGRAPHY 1839-1989  
William Fox Talbot  
TTG June 1989



POPE JEAN PAUL II  
PJW June 1985



POPE JOHN PAUL II  
Prayer for the Pope in Year of the Eucharist  
TTG May 2005



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



PRIME MINISTER  
view: Margaret Thatcher 1986  
TTG September 1986



PRINCE CHARLES  
etched Prince of Wales feathers  
view: 40<sup>th</sup> birthday  
TTG November 1988



PRINCE CHARLES  
etched Prince of Wales feathers  
view: 1990 visit to Hungary  
using Hungary's flag colours  
limited to **750**  
TTG November 1990



PRINCE OF WALES  
view: Charles and Diana's bicentennial visit to Australia  
1988



PRINCE PHILIP  
view: 70<sup>th</sup> birthday 1991  
sterling silver



PRINCE PHILIP  
etched crown  
view: 70<sup>th</sup> birthday 1991  
L: TTG July 1991



PRINCESS ROYAL 1987  
etched crown  
Princess Anne  
TTG July 1987



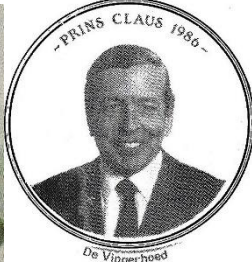
PRINCESS ROYAL 1990  
etched crown  
view: Anne's 40<sup>th</sup> birthday  
limited to **2500**  
TTG August 1990



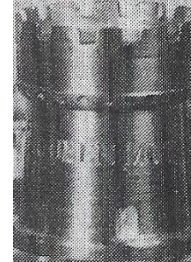
PRINCESS ROYAL  
view: Anne's 40<sup>th</sup> birthday  
limited to **2500**  
TTG August 1990



Princess Royal's visit to Russia  
Anne  
1990



PRINS CLAUS  
60 jaar 6 September 1986  
Dutch royal family  
KS September 1986



QUEEN MOTHER  
George Duke of York & Lady Elizabeth Bowes-Lyon  
pewter castle-shaped  
limited to **1000**  
TTG July 1985



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



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



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



Rijksmuseum te Amsterdam



R.M.S TITANIC 1912  
1986 recovery of sunken ship  
VN May 2002



ROYAL BABY 1988  
view: birth of Princess Beatrice  
 pewter  
limited to **1988**  
TTG August 1988



ROYAL BABY 1988  
view: birth of Princess Beatrice  
limited to **950**  
TTG August 1988



ROYAL BABY 1990  
view: birth of Princess Eugenie  
prototype in case baby a boy  
TTG April 1990



Royal Princes  
with Princess Diana  
pewter castle-shaped  
TTG December 1985  
b&w photo



ROYAL WEDDING 12.12.92  
view: wedding of Princess Anne and Tim Laurence  
sterling silver & enamel



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



Royal Wedding 1986  
view: marriage of Prince Andrew and Sarah Ferguson  
pewter  
TTG August 1988  
(it had arrived too late to be sold in 1986)



ROYAL WEDDING 1997  
HM Queen Elizabeth and Prince Philip



ROYAL WEDDING 2011  
DIEU ET MON DROIT  
etched royal coat-of-arms  
wedding of Prince William and Kate Middleton  
bell-shaped  
TTG April 2011





RUBY WEDDING 1987

view: 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Queen Elizabeth and Prince Philip

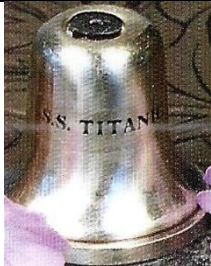
TTG October 1987



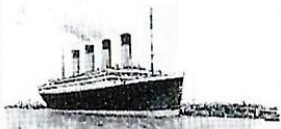
RUBY WEDDING 1987

view: 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Queen Elizabeth and Prince Philip

commissioned by TSL winter 1987



April 1912 - Liner TITANIC sinks on maiden voyage with great loss of life-



1986- TITANIC rediscovered & filmed over 2 miles down on Atlantic seabed

S.S.TITANIC

1986 recovery of sunken ship bell-shaped



Season's Greetings For The Millennium Year etched holly tree stocking etc

A Merry Christmas  
TTG December 2000



SEASONS GREETINGS 2001

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



SEOUL 1988

view: Olympics British gold medal winners



Silko Cotton reel  
three etched scenes  
The Seamstress

see also: Busy fingers  
TTG December 1992



Sir Larry

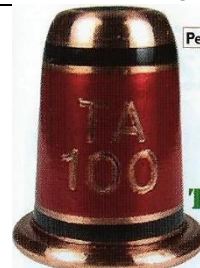
view: Sir Laurence Olivier's death  
silvered pewter

limited to **950**  
TTG August 1989



SUPERSONIC

lettered diagonally  
last flight of the Concorde  
TTG October 2003



TA 100

Territorial Army 100 years  
TTG April 2008





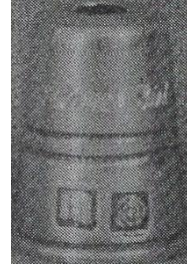
**THE ASHES**  
 1988 Winners  
 W C Grace then; Ian Botham now  
 pewter lidded beer mug-shaped  
 TTG August 1988



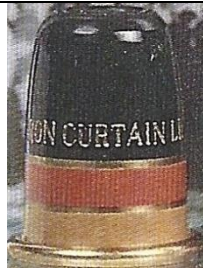
*The Crossing Sweeper*  
 view: boy sweeping road Trafalgar Square  
 red lacquered brass  
 TTG March 1986  
 b&w photo



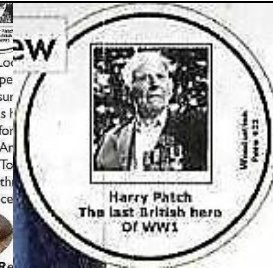
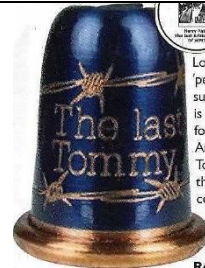
**THE CURTAIN LIFTS**  
 view: The Berlin Wall comes down 1989  
 using German flag colours



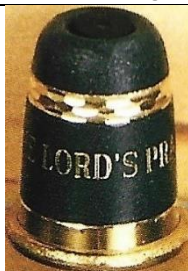
*The Flower Girl*  
 pewter  
 TTG September 1985



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



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



**THE LORD'S PRAYER**  
 TTG May 1988



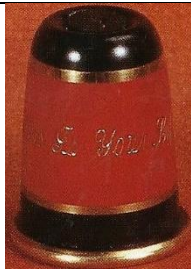
*The Martina touch*  
 view: Navratilova Wimbledon Women's champion 1990



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



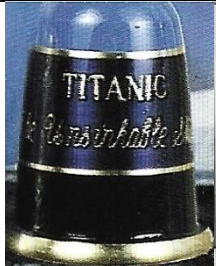
**THE ROYAL WEDDING**  
 view: marriage of Prince Andrew and Sarah Ferguson



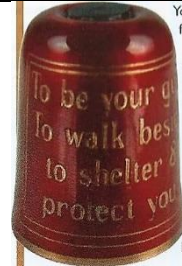
*This is Your Life*  
view: Eamonn Andrews with his book  
commemorating his death  
TTG December 1987



**TITANIC**  
funnel colours' lacquered brass  
TTG September 1986



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



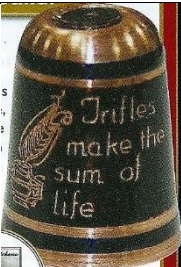
To be your guide To walk beside to shelter & protect you  
Guardian Angel  
TTG July 2008



*Towards World Peace 1987*  
view: Reagan Mikhail Gorbachev signing peace treaty  
TTG December 1987



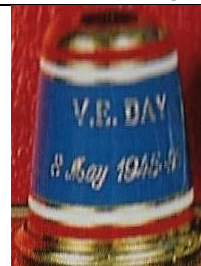
**TRAGEDY ON THE LAST TEA CLIPPER**  
Cutty Sark  
pewter  
TTG July 2007



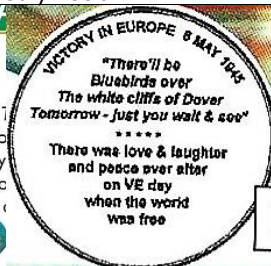
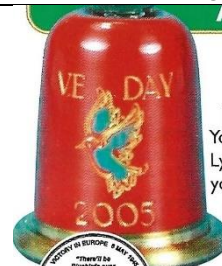
Trifles make the sum of life  
etched quill and ink  
bicentenary of Charles Dickens  
quote from David Copperfield  
TTG February 2012



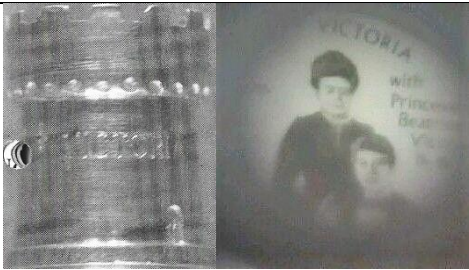
**TRIPLE TRIUMPH**  
etched Scottish cross  
view: Scotland's sporting success  
limited to **1080**  
TTG July 1990



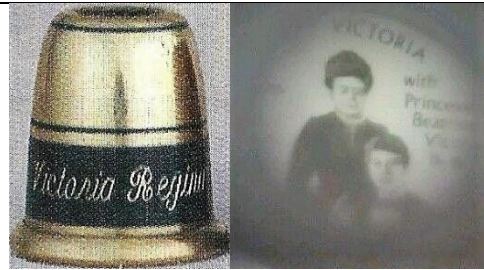
**V.E. DAY**  
8 May 1945-95  
Victory in Europe 40 years  
limited to **1500**  
TTG April 1995



**V.E. DAY 2005**  
etched dove of peace  
Victory in Europe 60 years  
TTG July 2005



VICTORIA REGINA  
golden jubilee  
four generations  
pewter castle-shaped  
TTG May 1987



VICTORIA REGINA  
golden jubilee  
four generations  
TSL winter 1987



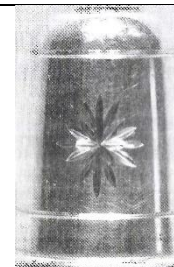
Virgin Atlantic Flyer  
limited to **750**  
TTG July 1987



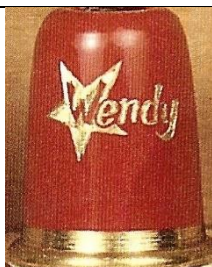
VIVAT REGINA  
Queen Elizabeth II's 80<sup>th</sup> birthday 2006  
TTG March 2006



WEDDING OF 1986  
view: Coronation Street  
Bet and Eric Gilroy  
TTG September 1987



Wendy  
etched star  
silverplated  
TTG February 1987  
see also: Peter



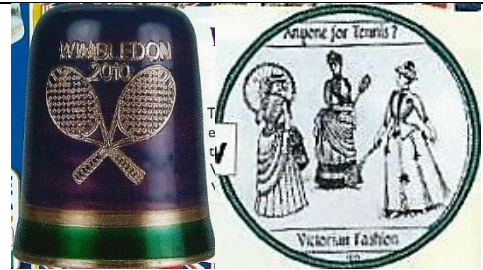
Wendy  
etched star  
TTG January 1989  
see also: Peter



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



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



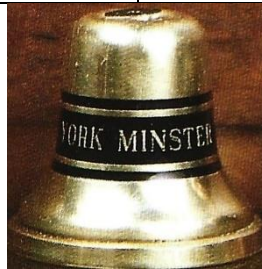
WIMBLEDON 2010  
etched crossed racquets  
Anyone for tennis – Victorian fashions  
TTG July 2010



*Winter in Holland*  
Dutch winter landscape  
VN February 2002



WOODSETTON PEEPS ENGLAND  
advertising  
Healacraft China



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

set of six bell-shaped thimbles with names of ships  
TTG October 1991



CUTTY SARK



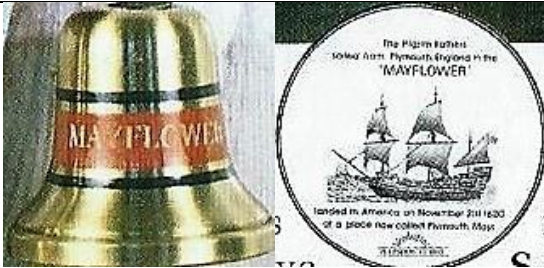
H.M.S. VICTORY



HMS REVENGE



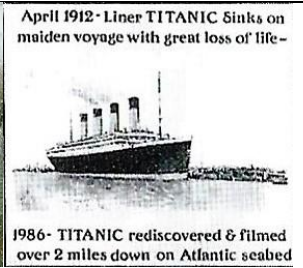
HMS WARRIOR



MAYFLOWER



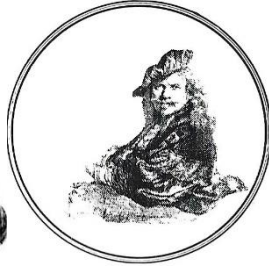
SS TITANIC



## Peep thimbles with no outer lettering

This is a more difficult section to arrange alphabetically. None of these thimbles have any external lettering. Some do have an etching on the outer surface. I have been guided by the peep's lettering or as listed in the mail-order thimble catalogues.

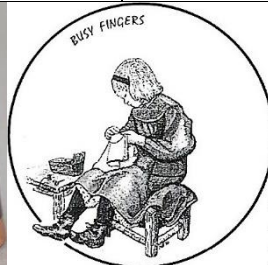
With no lettering the peep topic will be more of a surprise than those that were lettered. Some of the lettering is too faint to read – they will be moved if later lettering be deciphered.



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



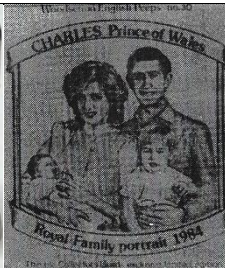
Anyone for tennis? Victorian fashion  
pewter



Busy fingers  
etched knitting – sewing tools – thread and needle  
TTG March 2001



Celtic blessing  
etched Celtic knotwork  
TTG August 2008



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



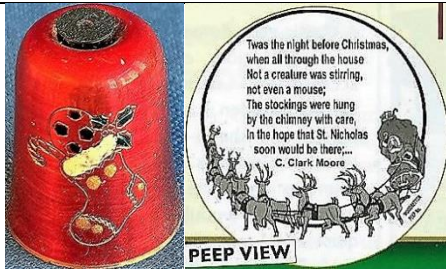
Christmas 1986  
etched leaves  
TTG November 1986



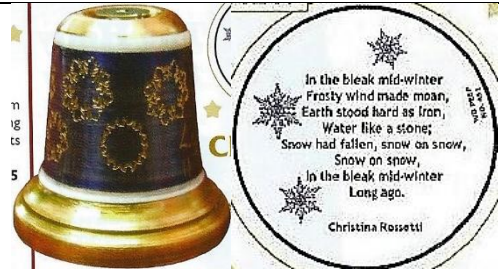
Christmas  
TSL winter 1992



Christmas  
TSL winter 1992



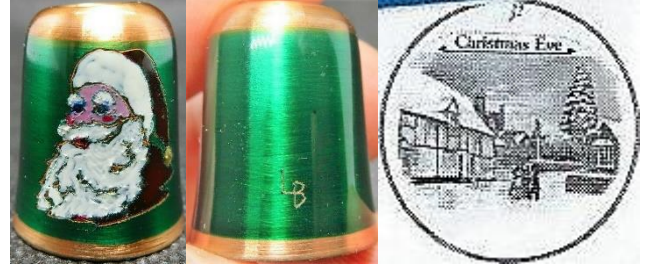
Christmas 2010  
etched Christmas stocking with toys  
Twas the night before Christmas ...  
TTG December 2010



Christmas 2011  
etched snowflakes  
In the bleak midwinter ...  
bell-shaped  
TTG December 2011



Christmas Eve 1984  
view: Victorian Christmas  
limited to **750**  
TTG December 1984



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



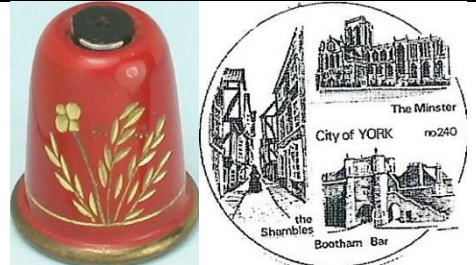
Christmas secrets  
bell-shaped  
silverplated copper  
TTG November 1989



Cicero - If you have a garden ...  
etched art deco  
TTG February 2010



Cinderella pantomime  
etched bow on two sides on lacquered brass  
TTG January 1987



City of YORK  
etched leaves and flower  
see also A Peep around England...York



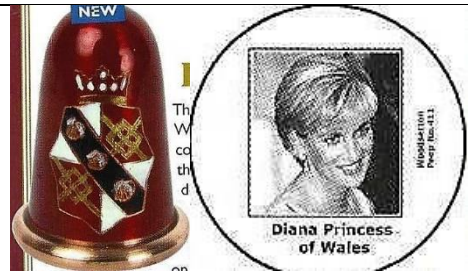
Claudette  
view: Anyone for tennis - Victorian fashions  
pewter  
figure repeated on verso  
TTG December 1987



Claudette  
pewter  
figure repeated on verso  
KS 12-1987



Crunchy salad recipe  
view: French onion soup  
TTG March 1988/



Diana Princess of Wales  
etched Spencer coat-of-arms  
10 years since her death  
TTG September 2007



Dudley  
Healcraft China



Easter  
etched silver cross  
The Lord's Prayer  
TTG April 2004



Fashion and the corset  
pewter  
TO winter 1985



Fashion and the corset  
pewter castle-shaped  
VN May 2002



finch  
view: courting couple



Flowers  
TTG December 1993





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



Golf  
fashion for sportswomen  
Healacraft China



Hats for 1910  
etched leaves



Hats for 1910  
etched flowers  
VH autumn 1994



Jean & Ken Scott  
www.stanhopes a closer view  
advertising  
coincides with publication of her book 2002



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



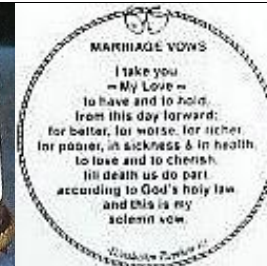
Lindau in Bodensee  
Lake Constance  
pewter  
tourism  
limited to **500**  
PJW June 1985



London Olympic Games 2012  
etched Union Jack  
TTG April 2012



Lorenzo Lotto's Nativity  
etched heraldic angel  
TTG December 2007



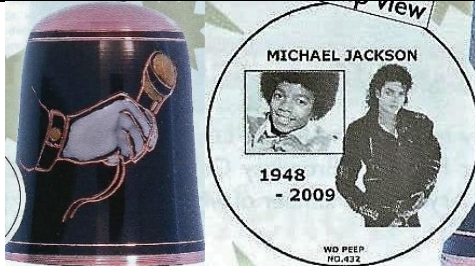
Marriage vows  
could be personalised  
TTG April 2008



Marriage vows  
etched cupid and heart  
silverplated brass  
TTG January 2003



May morning  
stripes indicating ribbons of maypole



Michael Jackson  
etched hand holding microphone  
his death  
TTG December 2007



Moon landing  
etched moon capsule  
40 year anniversary  
TTG July 2009



Moon landing  
etched astronaut



New Lanark the first 200 years  
TTG February 1985  
b&w photo



Prince Andrew and Sarah Ferguson marriage 1986  
sterling silver  
CJ



Prince Harry's birth  
pewter castle-shaped  
limited to **1000**  
TTG September 1984



Prince Philip's 70<sup>th</sup> birthday June 1991  
silver colour lacquered brass



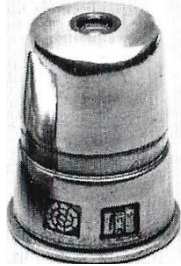
Princess Charlotte of Wales birth 2015  
Is this the last Woodsetton produced?



Queen Elizabeth's visit to China  
synthetic material  
TTG November 1986



Queen Victoria  
pewter



Rijksmuseum 50 years  
pewter  
limited to **50**  
KS March 1985



Rijksmuseum te Amsterdam  
pewter  
KS May 2002



Robert Burns The maker of rhymes 1859-1896  
pewter



S.S. Great Britain  
pewter beer mug  
TTG March 1985



S.T.S.  
etched thimble  
Seattle Thimble Society



Scottish Highlands  
deer  
antler horn (which we now know is bone)  
TTG February 1986



Secret Picture Curios  
etched flower and leaves  
advertising Woodsetton Peeps  
silverplated



Secret Picture Curios following the tradition of  
the Victorian originals



Shakespeare's family house  
pewter  
TO spring 1985



Sir Robert Peel MP Bart  
silverplated



Statue of Liberty  
centenary  
pewter



The Lords Prayer  
etched cross  
TTG December 2009



The Lords Prayer  
etched kingfisher  
white lustre lacquered brass



The Seamstress  
pewter  
TTG March 2010



The Seamstress  
taller thimble: original Stanhope peep for comparison  
L: recreated thimble viewed from inside  
last thimbles from Iles & Gomms  
limited to **956**  
TTG September 1990



The Seamstress  
VN autumn 1994



The Thimblemakers Nuremburg  
TTG October 1989



WRNS  
etched Women's Royal Naval Service symbol  
view: WREN 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary  
white lacquered brass represents Plimsoll Line  
TTG February 1989



White Christmas  
view: 10th anniversary of Bing Crosby's death  
TTG November 1987



Wolverhampton Grammar School  
pewter beer mug



Your pub needs you  
view: a poster

### Thimbles with no peep

None of these thimbles have a peep – created in the era when film was difficult to procure. They are arranged alphabetically by the lettering.

Often there is an indent in the apex as if intended to take a peep – filled with crystals, beads or ribboning etc



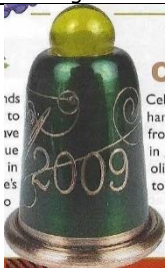
99  
4th August 1999 Birthday of Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother  
etched book  
deep burgundy lacquered brass  
**Lorraine Bates**  
TTG August 1999



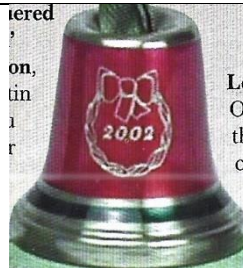
1688-1988 William & Mary  
TSL winter 1988



1840 CHARLES ILES 1990  
turquoise crystal in apex  
last batch made by **Iles & Gomms**  
TTG October 2006



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



2002  
etched bow and wreath  
bell-shaped  
green ribboning thru apex



A Major return 1992  
etched torch  
British PM John Major  
TTG May 1992



ACCEPT THIS TRIFLE FROM A FRIEND WHOSE REGARD WILL NEVER END  
mesh rose on apex  
TTG April 2004



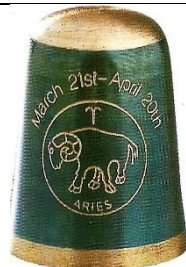
ADELAIDE  
crystal in apex  
tourism



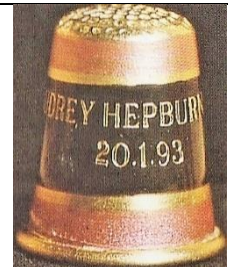
Always friends  
**Thomas Johnson**  
TTG December 1990



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



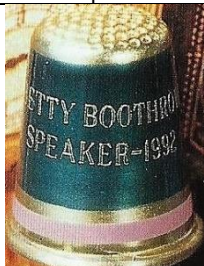
ARIES  
March 21st - April 19th  
etched ram zodiac sign & zodiac symbol  
TTG April 2002



AUDREY HEPBURN  
20.1.93  
TTG February 1993



Best Wishes 2005  
etched snowflakes



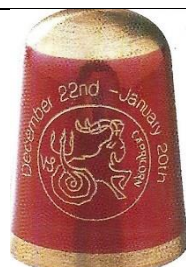
BETTY BOOTHROYD SPEAKER-1992  
TTG June 1992



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



CAPITAL AREA THIMBLERS  
red white and blue  
celebrating 30 years 2014



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



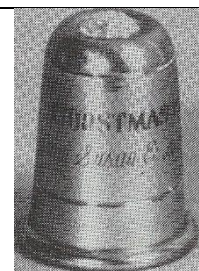
Caroline Mair  
personalised  
sterling silver & enamel  
TTG October 1989



CHANNEL TUNNEL  
Opens 6.5.94  
TTG June 1994



Chloe & Jack  
27/10/99  
etched wedding bells  
personalised marriage



Christmas 1985  
Susan & ...  
personalised  
crystal in apex  
TTG October 1985



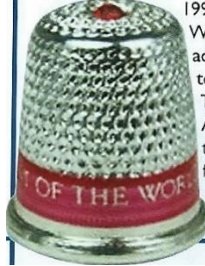
CYCLE RUN 1986  
*Land's End John O'Groats*



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



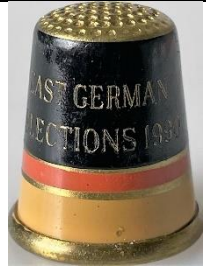
DEATH OF POLL TAX MARCH 1991



199  
W  
ad  
tc  
T  
A  
t  
f  
DIGITABULISTS OF THE WORLD  
UNITE  
silverplated **Iles**  
ruby crystal in apex  
**Thomas Johnson**  
TTG June 2008



*Drink to me only with thine eyes and pledge you mine. Or leave a kiss but in a cup And I'll not look for wine*  
**Ben Johnson**  
TTG July 2000



EAST GERMAN ELECTIONS 1992  
using German flag colours



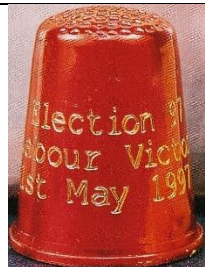
EASTER GREETINGS 2003  
etched Easter egg  
TTG March 2003



*Easter Greetings* 2006  
etched Easter lily and the crosses



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



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



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



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



FOR MOTHER  
etched rose  
TTG March 2007



FOREVER YOURS  
**Thomas Johnson**  
TTG December 1990



FREE AT LAST  
*John McCarthy 8.8.91*



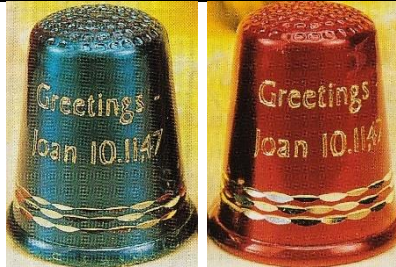
GEMINI  
May 22nd - June 22nd  
etched twins zodiac sign & zodiac  
symbol  
TTG May 2001



Gill  
etched coloured lacquered initial  
personalised  
TTG May 2006



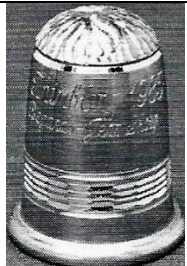
GOD IS LOVE  
**Thomas Johnson**  
TTG December 1990



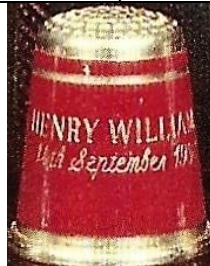
Greetings  
Jean 10.1.47  
personalised  
TTG May 1997



Greetings 2009  
white glass bead in apex



Happy Thimbling 1986  
TO winter 1980  
b&w photo



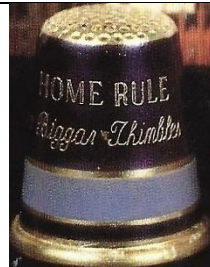
HENRY WILLIAMS  
4<sup>th</sup> September 1989  
personalised baptism  
TTG October 1989



HELEN SHARMAN  
18.5.91  
first British astronaut



HISTORIC BERRIMA 1834  
Australian colours lacquered brass  
tourism



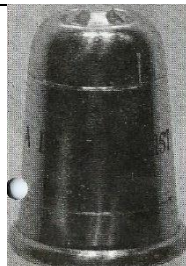
HOME RULE  
*For Biggar Thimbles*  
TTG May 1992



HONG KONG  
*Returning to China 1st July 1997*  
China's colours lacquer  
TTG August 1997



I (heart) THIMBLING  
TTG September 1992



I'm a Digitabulist  
crystal in apex  
TTG October 1986  
b&w photo



I'm a Digitabulist  
TO winter 1985  
b&w photo





I'M A DIGITABULIST  
**Thomas Johnson**  
green crystal in apex



JACKIE MANN 24.2.91  
*Magnificent to be Free*  
limited to **950**  
TTG October 1991



JE Y PESNE  
lettering spread over three thimbles  
bands of flowers



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



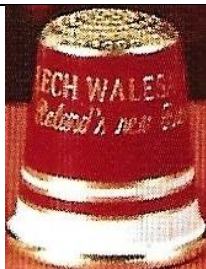
JOHN 12 VERSE 12  
PALM SUNDAY  
etched open Bible  
TTG December 2003



KEEP SAKE  
**Thomas Johnson**  
TTG December 1991



*Kind words can be short & easy to  
speak but their echoes are truly  
endless*  
etched heart  
Mother Teresa  
TTG March 2000



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



LEO  
July 24th-August 23rd  
etched lion zodiac sign & zodiac  
symbol  
TTG August 2001



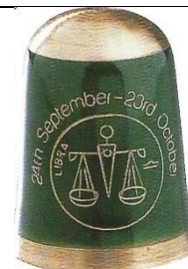
*Let Peace Encircle the World*  
etched silver dove on silver line  
limited to **750**  
TTG January 1991



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



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



LIBRA  
24th September-23rd October  
etched scales zodiac sign & zodiac  
symbol  
TTG October 2001



LONG MELFORD  
tourism



Marian Audrey  
personalised  
TTG May 1985



MARLENE DIEDRICH  
Goodby Lilli Marlene  
marbled  
TTG June 1992



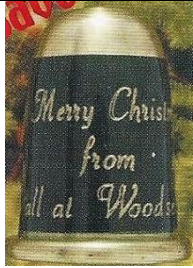
MARY & JOHN  
29<sup>th</sup> October 1989  
personalised marriage  
sterling silver  
TTG October 1989



May beauty and youth keep you in  
youth, Green tea and sage, preserve  
our old age J S Ogilvie  
etched 1884 bible and cup of tea  
TTG February 2000



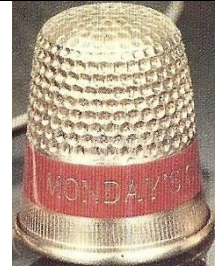
Merry Christmas 1988  
TTG November 1988



Merry Christmas from all at  
Woodsetton 1999  
TTG November 1999



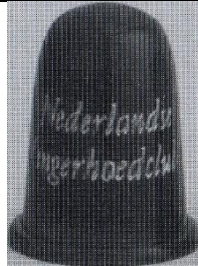
Merry Christmas Lorna  
personalised



MONDAY'S CHILD FAIR  
TTG April 1989



Mothering Sunday 2003  
etched bunch of flowers  
gold mesh rose atop  
TTG March 2003



Nederlandse Vingerhoedclub 1997  
VN March 1997



NELSON MANDELA  
President 10.5.94  
using new South African flag colours  
TTG June 1994



NELSON MANDELA FREE  
11TH FEB 1990  
limited to **950**  
TTG March 1990



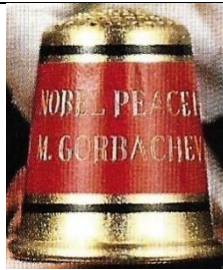
NELSON MANDELA NELSON  
MANDELA FREE  
11TH FEB 1990  
commissioned by South African Thimble  
Club 1990



NIGEL MANSELL  
1992 World Champion



NIGEL MANSSELL  
1993 IndyCar Champ



NOBEL PEACE PRIZE  
M. GORBACHOV 1990  
TTG November 1990



ORDINATION OF WOMEN 1992  
marbled



PISCES  
February 20th-March 20th  
etched fishes zodiac sign & zodiac  
symbol  
TTG April 2002



PRINCESS BEATRIX  
Born 8<sup>th</sup> Aug 88  
TTG August 1988



QUEEN MOTHER  
85<sup>th</sup> Birthday 1985  
crystal in apex



QUEEN MOTHER  
95<sup>th</sup> Birthday 4<sup>th</sup> Aug 95  
her favourite colours lacquered brass  
limited to **950**  
R: TTG March 1995



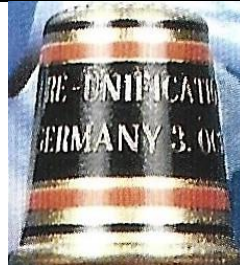
QUEEN'S 85<sup>TH</sup> BIRTHDAY 2011  
etched royal coat-of-arms



R.O.C. 1941-1991  
Forewarned is Forearmed



RAJIV GANDHI  
End of a Dynasty 21.5.91  
using India flag colours



RE-UNIFICATION OF GERMANY  
3.OCT.90  
limited to **1900**  
TTG October 1991



RE-UNIFIED GERMANY  
Visit by H.M. Queen Nov 1990



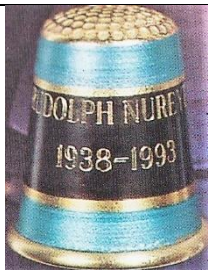
REMEMBER PEARL HARBOUR



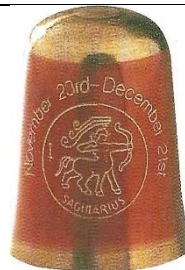
Riet '37-'87  
personalised



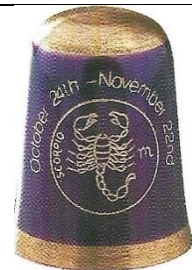
ROMAN BATHS BATH  
tourism



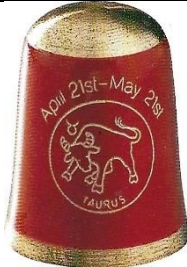
**RUDOLPH NUREYEV**  
1938-1993  
TTG February 1993



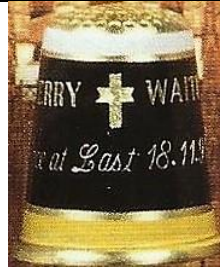
**SAGITTARIUS**  
November 23rd-December 21st  
etched archer zodiac sign & zodiac symbol  
TTG December 2001



**SCORPIO**  
October 24th-November 22nd  
etched scorpion zodiac sign & zodiac symbol  
TTG November 2001



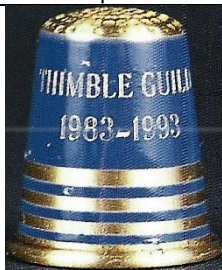
**TAURUS**  
April 21st-May 21st  
etched bull zodiac sign & zodiac symbol  
TTG April 2002



**TERRY WAITE**  
*Free at Last 18.11.91*  
etched cross  
TTG December 1991



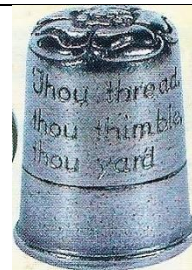
**THANK YOU**  
*Thimbles Only CA 1985*  
crystal in apex  
advertising



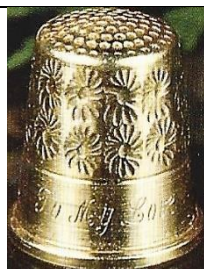
**THIMBLE GUILD**  
1983-1993  
*Here's to the next decade*  
TTG January 1993



*Thimbles Only Regards Jean Shoup*  
1985-  
advertising



Thou threads thou thimble thou yard  
Taming of the shrew  
applied flower on apex  
pewter  
TTG April 2004



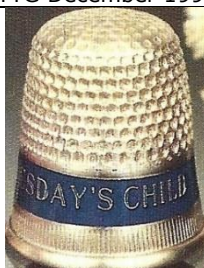
*To My Love*  
gold-plated  
last Iles thimbles  
TTG December 1990



**TOKENS OF LOVE FORGET ME NOT**  
**Thomas Johnson**  
TTG December 1990



**TONY BLAIR LEADS LABOUR INTO SECOND TERM SEVENTH JUNE 2001**  
etched roses



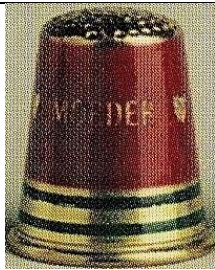
**TUESDAY'S CHILD GRACEFUL**  
TTG April 1989



**VIRGO**  
August 24th-September 22nd  
etched woman zodiac sign & zodiac symbol  
TTG September 2001



**VOOR MOEDER**  
etched hearts  
VN July 1993



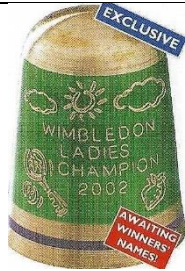
VOOR MOEDER  
etched hearts  
VN February 1998



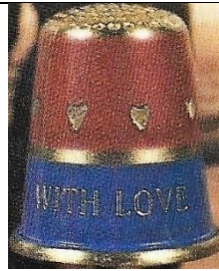
Wimbledon 1986  
white glass bead in apex  
representing tennis ball  
TTG July 1986



WIMBLEDON MEN'S  
CHAMPION 2002  
LLEYTON HEWITT  
etched tennis racquet  
Wimbledon colours lacquered copper  
TTG July 2002



WIMBLEDON CHAMPION LADIES  
2002  
etched tennis racquet  
Wimbledon colours lacquered copper  
TTG July 2002



WITH LOVE  
etched hearts  
TTG February 1992



WITH LOVE  
last Iles thimbles  
TTG December 1990



WORCESTER  
tourism



YELTSIN THE HERO  
using Russian flag colours

set of eight earth with planets thimbles  
etched moon and stars  
different coloured glass beads in apex  
limited to **750**  
TTG November 1991



EARTH



JUPITER



MARS



MERCURY



NEPTUNE



PLUTO



SATURN



URANUS



VENUS

## Thimbles with no peep and no lettering

None of these thimbles have any further decoration other than how the artist depicted them.  
I will organise this group by similar items.

this group have colourful lacquered brass finishes, some with painted etching



four seasons  
spring with lily – summer with sun – Autumn with leaves – winter with snowflakes  
L: signed LB for **Lorraine Bates** (LB 06)  
TTG June 2006



birth of a baby - birthday  
L: VN 1993 – C: TTG September 2002 – R: TTG September 1999 – VN 2000



glass bead in apex  
fairy – unicorn – witch – wizard  
L: December 2002



birds  
finch - kingfisher – owl – peacock - penguin – swift  
on a lustre white lacquered brass  
VN 2007 – TTG May 1995



Neferiti and Tutankhamen  
 L: different apex shape  
 limited to **20**  
**Lorraine Bates (LS)**  
 TTG January 2007

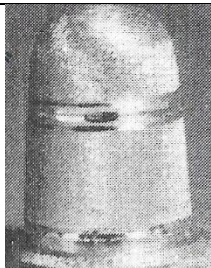


fairy – rose with matching red apex trim  
 L: Fm 5 1991

this group is made of various metals with etched designs



L: nickel-plated copper and silverplated with diamond cut designs  
 limited to **500** sets  
 TTG June 1989



brass  
 TTG March 1985  
 b&w photo



brass  
 TTG March 1986





Claudette  
lacquered pewter



Helen of Troy  
pewter or on lacquered pewter  
TTG November 1993 - TTG July 1987

This group has etched designs on lacquered brass



birds amongst foliage - etched diamond shapes - witch on her broom  
top R: Bluebird of happiness **Jane Hudson** - limited to **500** TTG October 2010  
lower L: seated woman **Jane Hudson** (listed as Pauline ...) - limited to **450** TTG December 1989  
lower R: red crystal in apex - Ruby Garden TTG

The following are all attributed to **Gill Bates**



jewelled pewter

L: REGARD spelled in crystals - rose quartz - emerald - garnet - amethyst - ruby - rose quartz - diamond R: pink and blue glass -  
TTG November 1991 - TTG September 1991



Splatter (oil and water don't mix)  
TTG April 1993



"Stardust"  
thousands of minute crushed crystals adhere to the lacquered brass  
each has an additional treasure on the apex which incorporates a crystal star  
limited to **500**  
TTG March 1993



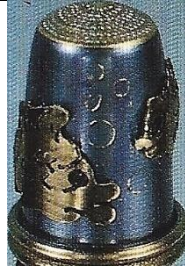
Hotfoil

six designs where hotfoil transfer applied by hand – centre of each flowers design are diamond cut by hand to highlight them

top: Bright and bold – Flowers – unknown

lower: fruit – Geometric – Masks with eyes diamond cut

TTG May-August 1996



two fish and bubbles  
TTG March 1991

### Others



marbled set of twelve  
supplied with wooden plinth  
TTG November 1990

## References

David Bates *De peep-vingerhoed Vingerhoed nieuws*. September 1992

Susan Jean Gowan *Thimbles of Australia*. 1998

Edwin F Holmes *A history of thimbles*. 1985

Jean Scott Stanhopes: *a closer view. A history & handbook for collectors of micrographic novelties*. 2002

## Contributors

Joanna Blackie-Sew Many Bits | Jenny Bockel | Pawel Brzyski | Micky Garvey | Elsa Haydee Giampaoli | Linda Heggs  
Jenny Janssen-Freens | Caroline Meacham-Elegant Arts | Bev McDonald | Maurice O'Reilly | Sue Roberts  
Jean Rose-Miss Mouse | Jean Taylor | Wolf-Dieter Scholz | Krystyna Zagajewska

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

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

© Sue Gowan  
April 2024