Felix Morel (Bath) 1984-2002



Felix Morel - 1930-2016

I always felt that the output of thimbles by Felix Morel was too big a project to tackle as a topic. Once I began tho, this topic just flowed. I became fascinated by the scope and range of his thimbles. How he developed his prodigiously creative talent over a period between 1984 and February 2002 took me on a marvellous journey. How can I be so precise? That was the period which was covered in detail by *The Thimble Guild* where Morel became more than a valuable supplier – they saw him as "our friend from Bath".

In the 1980s and 1990s thimble collectors everywhere were dependent on thimble mail order catalogues for buying modern collectables thimbles. Some outlets had monthly catalogues, some quarterly and some were annual. They were in the business of selling thimbles and as collectors we were totally dependent on them for the supply of new thimbles by new makers: the quality of their photos and the descriptions was important. Selling comes with marketing hyperbole as well.

It is the early thimble wholesalers and retailers tho who really began the move towards sourcing and supplying the growing thirst for collectable thimbles and here we must look to the pioneers. They were the ones who sought new makers to create thimbles, handpaint thimbles etc.

in the <u>USA</u> - Gimbel & Sons 1960 (Maine) - Roz Belford 1976 (New York) - Barbara Ringer 1970s (California) - Jean Shoup 1983 (California)

in the <u>UK</u> – Bridget McConnel 1981 (London) who sought out British silversmiths - Arthur Bell 1983 (Scotland) who championed Scotlish craftspeople

in the <u>Netherlands</u> – Kay Sullivan 1982 – Friedy Kamp 1986 – Bertus van den Dikkenberg 1994 in <u>Germany</u> – P.J. Walter – Hans Peter Feldmann 1987

The following are the thimble sellers who were in operation in 1987 when Morel began to make thimbles.

Mail Order thimble catalogues

- Shoup Thimbles Only. Jean Shoup featured Morel thimbles in her 1987 catalogue. The only reference to Morel was that they were from England. I would presume these were sourced thru Barbara Ringer who was a US thimble wholesaler
- Gimbel & Sons Country Store. Gimbel catalogues were published annually every October. They were a good source of Morel thimbles in the US. With Barbara Ringer being the US thimble wholesaler, is it safe to say that Gimbel sourced their Morel thimbles thru her? Their descriptions are perfunctory, tho they offered Felix's thimbles at a constant rate. They tended to offer many of the same thimbles in several catalogues in a row. Gimbel never once used the name of Felix Morel in their catalogues using Made in England (or the equivalent England, English). In 1992 a thimble was described as by "our friends at the Toll House on Pulteney Bridge Bath". Right towards the end of Felix's thimble-creative life, they first used the name of Tollhouse Thimbles [2000] and then not consistently. (I am missing their 1987-1989, 1993 and 1999 catalogues. They are vital to this topic and once they come to hand this study will be complete)
- TCG TTG The Thimble Collectors Guild/The Thimble Guild. From June 1987 The Guild offered more of Felix's thimbles than any other thimble outlet world-wide. Their blurbs for Morel were highly descriptive, with more than was usual useful information throughout Morel's thimble career they were the only catalogue offering his sets of thimbles for sale and they uniquely had many of his designed thimbles for sale. Felix was often described as their "our craftsman friend Felix from Bath". Rarely did they omit the maker's name but by then collectors could recognise an FM thimble? Each of the Morel thimbles sold by the Guild were offered by a thimble name names dreamt up by the Guild's marketing team.
- TSL The Thimble Society of London's Bridget McConnel specialised in selling antique thimbles to her members.
 Yet she was one of the first to offer new Morel thimbles for sale, in 1984. They were never offered for sale under the Morel name, using the generic term "Modern thimbles".

- Sullivan De Vingerhoed's Kay Sullivan offered only one Morel thimble for sale (1987), where the maker's name
 was not mentioned.
- van den D *Het Vingerhoedje*. Bertus van den Dikkenberg sold Morel thimbles in his Dutch-Belgian Thimble Club catalogues maker occasionally named.
- Kamp Vingerhoed Nieuws. Friedy & Gerrit Kamp. From 1993 the Kamps sold Morel thimbles. It took a while before Felix Morel was named as the thimble maker. Autumn 1995's thimble saw his name first used in their catalogues. There are catalogues in both Dutch and German. Once Morel announced his partial retirement in 1999, the Kamps purchased the remaining singles stocks.

Information is now coming to light attributing Barbara Ringer of Heirloom Editions, a thimble wholesaler in the US, for 'discovering' and encouraging Felix Morel in 1987 to turn from his jewellery store in Bath and begin his thimble-making career. This relationship continued until Morel's full retirement in 2002. **Academy Pewter** purchased Felix's remaining stock and continued to make his thimbles in their own factory. These were never to the standard of Morel's thimbles.

The spelling of this thimble maker's surname

I had been a thimble collector for more than ten years before I knew the correct spelling of the name of Felix Morel. When his surname is pronounced, it *sounds* to end in -LL.

The Thimble Collectors Guild tended to misspell their suppliers' names and it was only in November 1989 that they corrected the name from Morell or Morrell to **Morel**. The Guild often issued Certificates of Authenticity with the thimbles they sold, and the misspelled name would be perpetuated on those as well. This led to much misinformation with this maker's name being misspelt in the second-hand market.

Vingerhoed Nieuws listed this maker more times by Morell than Morel.

How to recognise Felix Morel thimbles

- Morel thimbles were never signed
- 99% of his thimbles were made of solid **brass** then of copper, occasionally nickel with a couple made out of wood and only a couple of designs in silver but they were not made only of sterling silver, which would have required assaying
- his brass thimbles were heavier than most of the British-made brass thimbles of his time
- his thimbles remained true to a traditional thimble shape some of which could be used for sewing if they fitted, though Morel was fond of attaching motifs to his thimbles, which would get in the way
- his thimbles were all of the same diameter not sized for different shaped fingers
- being hand-turned on a lathe, his thimbles do not have the fine vertical lines above the rim, which indicates a machine-made thimble
- he did not work in pewter
- he added motifs (ranging from handmade cloisonne to silver or brass) to the sides of many of his
 thimbles usually moulded to the shape of the thimble. He created the occasional fun or novelty
 thimble (one example is a cat's tail poking out of the side of a thimble). He catered for the
 collectables' market passion for thematic collections cats, butterflies, swans, clowns, frogs, teddy
 bears etc. Now you will be able to search for the one significant to your thematic collection
- he incorporated crystals (1991) into his designs used as flower centres and then pearls (1996) both faux and cultured
- from 1987 onwards, Morel experimented with using coins as part of his designs as coins became obsolete, he used them as motifs moulding farthings, halfpennies, threepences and sixpences. Occasionally they were used to form the top of the thimbles
- tooled leather was in his design evolution it was tightly wrapped around his brass thimbles, covering the sides, leaving the top in brass
- he evolved to using a moulded thicker shape to the rims of his thimbles from 1988, which he termed 'Wedding Band'
- he became most well-known for his engraved thimbles, which as the years passed, became increasingly complex and the hundreds of diamond cuts required to complete a design
- he worked assiduously on the top or apex of his thimbles and they became as much a work of art as the body of the thimbles

- commemoratives would have been commissioned by the Guild there weren't many in his 15 year career as a thimble maker – 95th birthday of the Queen Mother to name just one – find others for yourself in the following pages
- Morel did not engrave his thimbles with lettering. If there is any, it will be found as part of the motif that he affixed Woodsetton on the other hand lettered many of their brass thimbles

Evolution of Morel thimble designs

Initially, from 1984, Morel's thimbles were made of plain copper or brass, with smooth sides.

In 1988 he progressed to oxidising his brass thimbles to give them a black matt look.

This surface could then be diamond cut, letting the brilliance of his brass designs shine thru.

This was when his thimbles began to have the design engraved all around the thimble, greatly adding to their interest.

His next experiment was to use different colours to handpaint his thimbles – progressing in 1996 from that oxidising process to using black, blue, green, burgundy, white, brown, maroon and lastly purple paint. I find it difficult to really distinguish between burgundy and maroon – I have followed whichever colour was named in the catalogues.

Again, he engraved thimbles with a diamond cut to reveal the brass thru hundreds of cuts. He experimented with a very pleasing hammer (hammered) finish (1994) giving a texture to his previously totally smooth surfaces.

Next was a lacquered and then an enamelled finish (1994) tho there had been early examples in 1988 (I question whether the catalogues were loose in the use of the term lacquer?)

Once he had perfected the background colour processes, his expertise with his engraving tools grew, creating some absolutely wonderful designs. Not content just to diamond cut his designs, they were further embellished with silver- or gold-plate.

None of these steps were exclusive – he chose the method of each design to suit the thimble. It was a challenge that he seemed to relish for the rest of his creative life: continuously improving on his last marvel.

Morel did accept private commissions – for a thimble club in the Netherlands – and as gifts – like a dummy (pacifier) on a thimble for the birth of a baby. Do you have a privately commissioned thimble made by Felix?

A word of warning – Gill and David Bates of <u>Woodsetton</u> are highly skilled engravers and their later designs on their brass thimbles, without their peeps, are similar to Felix Morel's. Woodsetton brass thimbles tend to have a more domed apex than Morel's.

David Bates confirmed that Woodsetton Designs never collaborated with Felix Morel on any thimble.

What The Thimble Guild included in their catalogues about Felix Morel

- FELIX MOREL TAKES MUCH PRIDE AND PLEASURE IN HIS WORK. WITH SO MANY ITEMS NOW MASS-PRODUCED IT IS AN ESPECIAL THRILL TO SEE THE WORK OF THIS TALENTED AND DEDICATED CRAFTSMAN (April 1994)
- AN INCREDIBLE EFFORT AND TALENT GOES INTO SUCH ATTRATIVE CRAFTSMANSHIP FROM ONE OF BRITAIN'S MOST TALENTED MAKERS (March 1999)
- ONLY ONE MAN IN THE WHOLE WORLD OF THIMBLES CAN DO THIS ... FELIX MOREL (April 1999)
- FELIX PUTS A HUGE AMOUNT OF TIME AND SKILL INTO EVERY PIECE HE MAKES (May 2001)
- WHEN IT COMES TO CREATING THIMBLE MASTERPIECES FELIX IS A PERFECTIONIST.
- ONE OF BRITAIN'S MOST TALENTED THIMBLE MAKERS

Who was Felix Morel?

I am grateful to Marilyn Chesnutt for her 2017 article, for any biographical information. Personally, this aspect doesn't interest me as much as his thimbles.

It was her inclusion of the photograph of Felix I have used at the start of this topic that brought the man to life – tho the photo originated with Friedy Kamp. How I wish I'd met this thimble maker.

Felix was born in Prague in Czechoslovakia in 1930 and died in England in 2016. He was a goldsmith by training where he was apprenticed in Pforzheim in Germany. He arrived in the UK on a Kindertrain. As an adult he made the English West Country his home. He became a jeweller in Bath with his own shop and in 1987 turned his hand to thimble making. Here he had a thimble workshop and a shop called **Toll House** on the Pulteney Bridge in Bath. For those of you familiar with the Ponte Vecchio in Florence, the shops are similar on Pulteney Bridge.

Picture the size of his shop on Pulteney Bridge. It barely measured two metres deep by three metres wide. It was a size in keeping with the dimension of the bridge, which had shops on both sides of the bridge. The shop contained a small workbench and a chair, and it was from this shop that he sold his first copper thimble in 1987. There was a tollbooth to collect tolls in early days at one end of the bridge, which possibly gave Morel the name of his shop: Toll House.

Gimbel often referred to Morel as "from the Toll House at Pulteney Bridge in Bath" (1992) and from Avon (1996) – that is the name of the river that flows through Bath.





Pulteney Bridge, Bath - showing shops on the bridge

Were all Morel thimbles turned solely by Morel?

Felix turned his thimbles for years by hand on a lathe – starting with a block of solid brass, to create thimbles, which he then processed further by hand, with his own thimble designs.

His thimbles were not cast from a liquid metal as most other brass thimbles makers did - nor were they mechanically deep drawn as thimbles were, at the turn of 19th century.

As his popularity and collectability grew, could he continue at that pace as the sole maker of Morel thimbles? Read the blurbs I have included where they were indicating this (ie turning on a lathe in October 1998).

"Thimbles partly made by myself, partly bought and supplemented from Swann" (according to Morel himself). That should decide the matter once and for all!!

Once he had decided to buy in base brass thimbles, he could concentrate on his designs and the finishes.

I have noted when his thimbles were issued in <u>limited</u> numbers and this became increasingly noticeable as the years passed – even producing editions of as small as 40.

He could be found in his thimble shop Toll House, still wearing his jeweller's leather apron.

The layout of Morel thimbles in this topic

It was a difficult decision for me to decide how I could present the massive thimble output by Morel.

By colour became too clumsy.

I ended up choosing to list his thimbles in the order in which they were designed for sale, letting his growth as a thimble maker shine through, month by month.

Once I decided to use a chronological order for his thimbles as they were offered for sale (for the first of listed sale only), it was a then matter of letting the thimbles do the talking.

Heirloom Editions would have handled the dissemination of Morel thimbles in the USA, but with no mailorder catalogues to refer to (there were none), we won't be able to date the production of this group of thimbles. Please don't ignore this section at the end of this topic if your thimble can't be identified elsewhere.

There are over **945** thimble photos for you to browse – I hope you will find something of the affection for this thimble maker and his thimbles that I developed - to appreciate the passion that needed hundreds of hours that went into creating fine antiques of the future.

Not only have I included where the first thimble design appeared for sale – there is also a summary from the catalogue blurb. You should now be able to trace when your Morel thimbles were made, by what process etc. The name used in the catalogues is the one used here.

I have standardised all spelling to standard Australian spelling (words like enamelling) no matter the catalogue source but largely I used terminology used in the various mail-order catalogues.

As some of the catalogue photos are less than distinct (or in black & white) I will add a more recent photo taken of a real thimble, while retaining the original catalogue photos for posterity. Full views of the top of the thimble are as important, please.

Morel used many 'colourways' – I have included these below or after each relevant thimble in the mailorder catalogue section.

For other brass thimble topics see

Brass advertising thimbles
Jacqui and David Parker of Olivia (Birmingham) 1992-2001
Woodsetton thimbles 1983-2015

1984







Copper Threepenny coin forms top – hand beaten sides TSL summer 1984

L: Feldmann Penny no. 4 1988 L: b&w

R: hand beaten coin fits snugly into the top of the piece see the reverse of the coin inside **Brass**

Threepenny coin forms top - hand beaten sides TSL summer 1984



TCG <u>Threepenny</u> May 1989 (originally a copper pipe!)







threepence coin on wood (rounded or flat top)

This was Morel's first thile – he made it from a copper pipe. He placed the finished thimble in his shop window and it sold immediately – and the rest is history once he tried a second thimble

1986







Copper
Star of David
handcrafted
TSL summer 1986
TCG April 1989

(sold with the maker's name of Felix <u>Morrell</u>) see 1993 white <u>Star of David - 1996 Davidsstern</u>



Copper Cross TSL summer 1986



Copper Cupid TSL summer 1986



Copper Frog TSL summer 1986



Copper silver frog



<u>Pixie</u> TSL summer 1986



Copper silver pixie different position

1987













Copper
Stained Glass
applied heavy enamel. 1" high
Shoup spring 1987
Feldmann no. 7 1988 Mosaik
TCG February 1989 Stained Glass
(named as made by Felix Morrell)



brass with stained glass window





Brass

Brass Poppy

chased top & bright cut engraving made with beveled cutting tool to remove some metal to create beautiful patterns that reflect the light

Shoup spring 1987



Brass
<u>Lightning</u>
chased top & bright cut engraving made with beveled cutting tool to remove some metal to create beautiful patterns that reflect the light

Shoup spring 1987



Copper
The Butterfly
TCG May 1987
L: b&w photo







Copper
Copper w/Coin
authenic coin is copper plated. 1" high
Shoup spring 1987
Gimbel English halfpenny October 1990 US\$9.95
Half Penny genuine coin with Queen Elizabeth
TTG Half n p! August 1997
Kamp 2002

see 1995 brown ½ Penny



Brass

Burgundy Leather

leather made by book binding co. using scraps the way they cover books - chased top & leather inlay Shoup spring 1987 - 7/8"

TTG January 1991

<u>Leather Bound Collection</u>

hand tooled in gold soft richly coloured leather (black – burgundy – maroon – red) see 1988 for other tooling patterns/colours



Brass

leather with different width of tooling with floral design



Leather <u>Green Leather</u>

made <u>all of leather</u> – design stamped on leather & painted gold – flat top

Shoup spring 1987 - 7/8"



red with similar tooling - brass top





Brass

Summer Butterfly
enamelled wings
Sullivan June 1987

Gimbel October 1991 <u>Butterfly</u> (asst. colours) hand enamelled see 2000 burgundy <u>Butterfly Colours</u>







Brass
Cat's Head
sculpted
TCG June 1987

(sold with the maker's name of Felix <u>Morell</u> which is perpetuated on the accompanying Certificate of Authenticity!!))

<u>Gimbel</u> October 1994 <u>Cat Bust</u>

(Morel's only shaped thimble)



Brass Greek Key TCG July 1987

carefully etched his design onto a heavy white enamelled thimble – classically elegant Kamp no. 82 2004-2

(sold with the maker's name of Felix Morrell)







Brass additional lines

1988

- 1st use of his wedding ring rims
- 1st use of acid dipped to oxidise brass to black
- 1st designs of engraved design going around the thimbles giving wonderful symmetry



Brass

moss green gold tooled leather Florentine style

TCG April 1988

(sold with the maker's name of Felix Morrell)

see 1987 for other tooling designs/colours



blue with similar gold tooling



Copper
Jersey 1/2p genuine coin
TCG April 1988





Brass
Sixpence genuine coin
TSL spring 1988
TCG March 1989

(sold with the maker's name of Felix <u>Morrell</u>) see 1995 copper <u>Silver Sixpence</u> – 1991 black <u>Tanner</u>



 $\frac{\text{Brass}}{\text{Thistle}}$ handcrafted, (single thistle) motif in silver TSL spring 1988



Brass<u>Fish</u>
TSL summer 1988
b&w photo





Copper
Clown
TSL summer 1988
L: b&w photo



Copper silver clown



Brass black with enamelled clown





Copper
Comedy and Tragedy Masks
TSL summer 1988
b&w photo
TCG July 1989
see 1989 brass Comedy and Tragedy – 1995 black Silver
Tragedy/Comedy Masks



Copper

Music Sign

TSL summer 1988

b&w photo

see 1998 white Treble Clef - 1999 white Tuneful Tribute



Brass black with masks



Brass Lines white enameling TSL summer 1988 L: b&w photo

Feldmann no. 4 1988 <u>Diagonal</u> coated with white lacquer - engraved pattern of spirals cut into the lacquer



Brass
Dashes
white enameling
TSL summer 1988
b&w photo



Kamp no.98 2008-4 with different top

























Brass

Black Diamond Collection

brass thimbles dipped in acid to turn them black - engraved with diamond cutter ${\color{red}{\sf TCG}}$ September 1988

(named as made by Felix Morrell)

3rd from R: Feldmann Black-Gold no. 9 1988

3rd from R: Gimbel Rain October 1990

(a similar set available as below - black stove enamelled brass, diamond cut and gold plated)







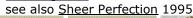






Gouden regen / Goudregen Kamp Gouden Regen I no.25 July 1993 Kamp Gouden Regen II no. 28 March 1994 Kamp Gouden Regen III no. 32 spring 1995

Kamp Goudregen IV no. 33 summer 1995 Kamp Goudregen V no. 34 autumn 1995 Kamp Goudregen VI no. 35 Christmas 1995













Brass

Kamp Feestlijke Hoed I-II-III 2004-2



Brass black Christmas Star October 1988







Copper

brass Girl Guides emblem TCG October 1988 (certificate identifies the maker as Tollhouse) 'Tollhouse' paper sticker inside see 1992 blue Girl Guides





Brass Diamant

finely engraved by hand with the centre of the flower deeper for a good needle grip – then gilded L: Feldmann no. 6 1988 A SMALL MASTERPIECE

b&w photo TTG December 1993 Star of Wonder

R: gold-plated AN EXTRAORDINARY PIECE OF WORK









Brass

Diamond

Gimbel October 1990

Stermotief

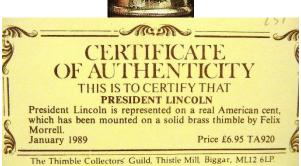
Kamp no. 89 2006-3 (sold with the maker's name of Felix Morell) slightly different star





Copper







American Cent genuine coin
TCG January 1989
(certificate names this President Lincoln)
(sold with the maker's name of Felix Morrell)





Copper
Dolphin
solid silver
TCG January 1989
(sold with the maker's name of Felix Morrell)





Copper
Tortoise
solid silver
TCG February 1989
(sold with the maker's name of Felix Morrell)





Silver

Heart

set with iridescent paua shell

TCG February 1989

(sold with the maker's name of Felix Morrell)





Silver-plated

Cameo

genuine pink set in a frame
(suspended by tiny ring from edge of top)

TCG February 1989
(sold with the maker's name of Felix Morrell)

see 1991 blue Cameo



Copper

Holy Cross
solid silver
Easter 1989
TCG March 1989
(sold with the maker's name of Felix Morrell)



Copper
Crucifix
(Christ on the cross)
solid silver
Easter 1989
TCG March 1989
(sold with the maker's name of Felix Morrell)



Copper
Lucky Horseshoe
TCG May 1989
(sold with the maker's name of Felix Morrell)



Copper <u>Dolphin</u> enamelled silvered TCG May 1989 £9.95





Brass
Anchor and Rope
TCG June 1989

(sold with the maker's name of Felix Morrell)

Kamp Anker no. 89 2006.3 (Tollhouse) (sold with the maker's name of Felix Morell)



Copper
Anker van hoop (anchor)
Kamp no. 83 2005-1 (Toll House)



Kamp Anker no. 89 2006.3 (Tollhouse) (sold with the maker's name of Felix Morell)



blue with added chain – engraving around body



Brass
Comedy and Tragedy
TCG July 1989

(sold with the maker's name of Felix <u>Morrell</u>) see 1988 copper <u>Comedy and Tragedy</u> – 1989 black <u>Silver</u> <u>Tragedy/Comedy Masks</u>



Copper
French Horn
TCG August 1989
(sold with the maker's name of Felix Morrell)
Kamp Jachthoorn no. 26 November 1993
(hunting horn)
see 1997 Horn Concerto



Copper
Silver Threepenny Bit genuine coin
TCG August 1989

(sold with the maker's name of Felix Morrell)
see 1995 dark brown Silver Threepenny – 1990 wood
Threepenny Piece – 1992 black Silver Threepence



Copper

John F Kennedy

engraved brass

'JFK' lettered at neckline

'Tollhouse' paper sticker inside

TCG November 1989



Brass

Ballerina
sterling silver
TCG December 1989
(first named as made by Felix Morel!!)



Brass nickel with silver ballerina











Brass

 $\frac{\text{Wedding Bands}}{\text{handpainted before heavy skillfully engraved band being added to base}}$ $\frac{\text{TCG December 1989}}{\text{TCG December 1989}}$

R: Gimbel October 1990 Wedding Band blue cobalt enamel thimble with a gold banded base







Copper

Hands in Prayer

TTG January 1990

TSL summer 2009

see 1996 black Betende hande





Copper
Wren
solid silver
TTG February 1990



Brass
iridescent Stained Glass surrounds the holy cross
TTG March 1990



Copper

<u>Kissing Cousins</u>
solid silver
TTG March 1990
see 1993 brass <u>Kissing Cousins</u> – 1997 blue <u>Kissing</u>



copper with stained glass with cross





Nickel-plated copper
Panda
hand enamelled
TTG June 1990









Nickel-plated copper Cloisonne Owl TTG June 1990











Brass

Black Beauties

dipped in acid to turn it midnight black – etched & cut by hand with a diamond cutter $$\operatorname{\overline{TTG}}$ June 1990



Brass no brass top



Copper

Farthing genuine coin

TCG June 1990

see 1995 dark brown Farthing – black 1992 Farthing







Brass

The Swallow

brass dipped in acid to achieve black matt sheen hand engraved two swallows

limited to **450** TTG July 1990

Kamp Zwei Schwalben February 1999





Nickel-plated brass
Thumper (rabbit)
cloisonne enameling techniques
TTG August 1990



Wood

<u>Threepenny Piece</u> genuine coin molded to form top

Feldmann no. 12 1990

see 1989 copper <u>Silver Threepenny Bit</u> – 1992 black <u>Silver Threepence</u> – 1995 dark brown <u>Silver Threepenny</u>



Nickel-plated brass Cloisonne Cat white with red ribbon Gimbel October 1990



Copper
Hummingbird
Gimbel October 1990



Silver-plated brass



Brass silver hummingbird







Brass <u>Spider</u> matte black finish with sterling and Swarovski crystal body – assorted colours Gimbel October 1990



Copper Angel Gimbel October 1990





Brass gold-plated enamelled thimble R: different gold rim at atop











Brass

 $\frac{\text{Cobalt and Gold Leaves}}{\text{22ct gold-plated then cobalt is applied with leaves then engraved}}$ limited to 250 sets

TTG November 1990

R: Gimbel October 1991 Leaf Design on Cobalt





Brass Burgundy



Brass

maroon gold leaves – top differently engraved and rounded rim

1991

- 1st use of burgundy
- 1st use of green enamel 1st use of crystals



brass The Little Mermaid TTG January 1991

















Brass

Burgundy and Gold etched thousands of times - tops are a work of art in themselves R: falling rain - starburst limited to 250 sets TTG February 1991



BrassGallantry

oxidised thimbles with medals made in the original form of each award, each with its original metal George Cross – Victoria Cross – D.F.C. – Military Cross

limited to **750** sets

TTG April 1991





Copper





Brass
The Enamelled Quacker
mallard in flight on handpainted black thimble
TTG May 1991







Copper
The Fireman
brass helmet (with lovely details) & crossed axes
TTG May 1991





Brass
Leaping Dolphin
hand enamelled on painted black thimble
TTG June 1991



Brass
Fledgeling
with engraved spiky feathers
TTG June 1991



Copper<u>Silver Dragon</u>
TSL summer 1988



Brass
Engraved Leaves
burgundy lacquer
TSL summer 1988



Brass and Enamelled Cat black lacquer TSL summer 1988



Brass

Birds of Brilliance

oxidised to a perfect matt black finish – diamond cut by hand – rose star engraved on the top with two perfectly engraved concentricc circles. The birds are produced on both sides

twigs & branches surround: $\underline{\text{kingfisher}}$ - $\underline{\text{swan}}$ (glides thru the rushes) - $\underline{\text{barn owl}}$ - $\underline{\text{wren}}$

limited to **250** sets TTG July 1991

Kamp Twee duifies no. 85 2005-3 (Tollhouse)

(no decoration on apex)



see 1992 Cobalt and Gold Swan - 1995 blue Golden Swan - 1993 Blue Owl - 1998 black Käuzchen



Brass cobalt with wren







Brass
Crystal Owl
black oxidised thimble - silver owl with Austrian crystals
with amethyst coloured wing (colour may vary)
limited to 400
TTG August 1991





Copper sterling <u>Filigree band</u> Gimbel October 1991 Kamp <u>Sommerversprechen</u> 1998-4



Brass black with brass band



Copper
Unicorn
sterling
Gimbel October 1991





Brass
Sterling Cat Face
Austrian crystal eyes (asst. colours)
matt black enamelled thimble
Gimbel October 1991



Brass cat with green eyes



Brass

Honey Bear
silver on green enamelled thimble
Gimbel October 1991



Sparkling Jester
colourfully asst enamelled – matt black
Gimbel October 1991



Copper silver honey bear



Brass blue with brass honey bear or green





Brass

Diamond Stars
22ct gold-plated
each diamond cut is perfect & alternate ones are
diagonally etched – rim is a perfect bevel
TTG November 1991



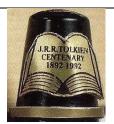
Copper





Silver-plated brass

R: purchased directly form the Toll House Bath 1980s



Brass

J.R.R Tolkien Centenary 1892-1992 black oxidised thimble with open book TTG December 1991

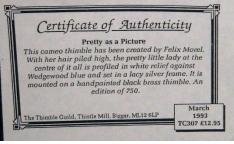


Brass

Tanner Thimble (sixpence)
curved & fitted snugly on black oxidised thimble
TTG December 1991

see 1995 copper Silver Sixpence - 1989 brass Sixpence





Brass

<u>Cameo</u>

blue machine-pressed in a small frame blackened brass

Feldmann no. 18 1991

TTG Pretty as a Picture March 1993

white against Wedgwood blue on black painted brass

limited to **750** sets

Gimbel October 1995 <u>Wedgwood Blue Cameo</u> black enamelled thimble see 1989 pink <u>Cameo</u>





Brass

Romancing the Stone

semi precious stones in silver mounts in Victorian style
black oxidised thimbles
black onyx – tiger's eye – amethyst – jade – turquoise – lapis lazuli
limited to 600 sets
TTG December 1991



Silver-plated Stones suspended from top's rim

1992





















Brass

Golden Snowflakes

gold-plated then handpainted white – each design diamond hand cut

limited to **575** sets TTG January 1992

Gimbel October 1992 White Enamel

see 1992 burgundy Brass Garland



Brass

maroon with diagonal leaf pattern



Brass
<u>Farthing</u>
genuine coin on enamelled thimble
TTG January 1992
see 1995 dark brown <u>Farthing</u> – 1990 copper <u>Farthing</u>





Brass
<u>Girl Guides</u>
blue handpainted
TTG February 1992
see 1988 copper <u>Girl Guides</u>



Brass blue with gold band at top



Brass
Silver Threepenny genuine coin
black oxidised thimble
TTG April 1992

see 1989 copper <u>Silver Threepenny Bit</u> – 1990 wood <u>Threepenny Piece</u> – 1995 dark brown <u>Silver Threepenny</u>



Brass
Silver Wedding Bells
black oxidised thimble
TTG April 1992





Brass

Jeremy [mouse]

gold-plated
black oxidised thimble

TTG April 1992







Brass

Cartoon Fun

black oxidised thimbles

western cowboy - wise old owl - Bumper the rabbit - fawn - singing bluebird

limited to 400 sets

TTG June 1992

Gimbel October 1992 Wise Old Owl black enamelled gold-plated















Brass

Summer Gems

handpainted snowy white then etched & individually deeply diamond cut into pretty designs. Felix has placed tiny cut colourful crystal gems into each design

TTG June 1992

green gems – mauve crystals – all have gold band top & bottom











Kamp Paradiso no. 25 July 1993

Kamp Witte Kerst no. 26 November 1993

white lacquered

Kamp Blue Lagoon no. 33 summer 1995

white enamelled brass thimble with blue stones in the four hearts of engraved flowers Rubin autumn 1995

Kamp Schneesterne no. 35 Christmas 1995



Brass

different engraving on top - blue flower gems used





Brass

Crystal Frog black oxidised thimble limited to 350

TTG July 1992

Gimbel October 1992 Forest Green Frog US\$19.95 hand enamelled with diamante frog



Brass
Felix's Cat
(colours vary)
black oxidised thimble
TTG August 1992





Brass

Autum Golden Leaves

<u>hazel leaf trail</u> – <u>sweet chestnut</u> – <u>floral fern</u> – <u>autumn hornbeam</u> handpainted moss green thimbles are gold-plated & have been diamond cut & displaying hand indented tops

TTG September 1992







Brass

Cobalt and Gold Swan
hand etched swan on gold-plated thimble
Gimbel October 1992

Kamp Swaan no. 29 June 1994 see 1991 black Swan – 1995 blue Golden Swan



Sterling Swan
Gimbel October 1992





Copper Vintage Car Gimbel October 1992





Brass Gold-Plated Bird Gimbel October 1992





Brass Burgundy Brass Garland hand etched with sunbursts & garlands Gimbel October 1992 see 1992 white Golden Snowflak



Brass Blue Owl hand etched with owl design then painted rich blue Gimbel October 1992 see 1991 black Barn Owl – see 1998 black Käuzchen







Brass gold-plated **Turtle on Black** enamelled thimble Gimbel October 1992







Brass Christmas Star gold-plated with star of Bethlehem engraved on apex with six engraved crosses - handpainted in rich burgundy TTG November 1992



Brass green Bright Holly diamond cut design - clear winter sky meets white line of frosty earth limited to 450 TTG December 1992



Brass white Winter Crystals ice white and sparkling like ice - cat's eye embedded TTG December 1992





Brass different rim

1993



Brass
Train Spotting
TTG January 1993



Brass
Lokomotiefje
Kamp no. 89 2006 (Tollhouse)
(sold with the maker's name of Felix
Morell)



Copper brass train







Brass

Woodland Wonders
fieldmice – squirrels
handpainted in dark leaf green - diamond cut & gold-plated to hold their sheen
limited to 300 pairs
TTG February 1993



Brass
Swan-Song
enamelled in gold outline-almost like
cloisonne work on black-painted
thimble (swan colours: red blue or
white)
TTG March 1993



Brass
The dodo
TTG March 1993



Brass
Silver Wings
celebrating 75 years of the Royal Air
Force (RAF)
painted in airforce blue with sterling
silver airforce wings
TTG April 1993
TSL winter 2008
see 2000 blue RAF Thimble













Brass Flurry of Wings

using a new technique, he applies the butterflies painted in glowing colours, to black thimbles – wings are then edged with gold & the thimbles bodies are diamond cut to give background of ferns & leaves

limited to **250** pairs TTG May 1993



Brass

Kamp <u>Serie Vlinders</u> no. 73 2002-4 (sold with the maker's name of <u>Felix Morell</u>) see 2000 burgundy <u>Butterfly Colours</u>



Brass

thimbles not engraved with sprigs



Brass
Kissing Cousins
gold-plated
limited to 300
TTG June 1993

see 1990 copper $\underline{\text{Kissing Cousins}}$ – 1997 blue $\underline{\text{Kissing}}$







Brass

Handsome Prince (frog)
gold-plated
green handpainted brass thimble - engraved pond
surface & plants

limited to **295** TTG June 1993



Brass Sophie Kamp July 1993 cloisonne cat



Brass

Bands of Gold

gold-plating around the broad rim with highly glossed jet black paint - engraved with leaves stars & flowers limited to $\verb"250"$ sets













Brass

set of 4 - bands are not engraved - black / blue



Copper

<u>Musiek Harp</u>

Kamp no. 25 July 1993

see 1999 black <u>Harfe</u> - 2001 Burgundy Harp





Brass
Silver Dragon
ebony black painted thimble
TTG August 1993







Copper
Fiets
Kamp no. 25 July 1993
(early bicycle in silver)
Gimbel October 1995
heavy silver Pennyfarthing (bike)
see 1999 brass Antikes Fahrrad





Copper<u>Musiek Cello</u>
Kamp no. 25 July 1993



Brass

<u>Golden Rose</u>
gold-plated
dark emerald green painted thimble
limited to **350**TTG August 1993





Brass
Roosje
Kamp no. 83 2005-1 (Toll House)
black with golden rose with extra gold band at apex





Brass

<u>Beautiful Blue</u>

deep blue thimble intricately engraved & then goldplated

<u>TTG</u> October 1993

(previously available as part of a set - not found)



Brass
Star of Bethlehem
black hammer finish
TTG November 1993
limited to 395





Copper
Musiek Saxofoon
Kamp no. 26 November 1993
brass saxophone

1st use of hammered brass



Brass
gold-plated <u>Burgundy and Gold</u>
leaf shapes that have been engraved stand out boldly
TTG January 1994
similar to <u>Gold-Plated Flower</u> 1994



Brass
Kruisje
Kamp no. 28 March 1994



Brass
white with silver cross over black
see 1998 black Inspiring Cross





Brass Stunning Stars

enamelled in the purest white – the engraved with the highest degree skill with a pink crystal at the centre of each star. two perfectly engraved concentric lines add to the brilliance highlighted with 9ct gold

TTG April 1994

Gimbel October 1994 Rose Crystals white enamelled Kamp Bruidstooi no. 33 summer 1995 enamelled, engraved with a diamond & provided with pink stones





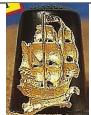
Brass
Ballet Slippers
hammered brass
TTG May 1994



Copper
France and Germany Star 1944-45
medal inscribed with the initials of King George VI this is a miniature replica awarded during the campaigns of NW Europe from D-Day to the surrender of Germany
TTG May 1994



Brass
D-Day Workhorse
black enamelled thimble
crafted gold-coloured jeep
TTG May 1994







Brass

Golden Galleon gold-plated matt black painted thimble crafted gold-coloured jeep TTG July 1994

Gimbel October 1994 Galleon blue enamelled thimble









Brass

Autumn's Glory

hammered finished & lavishly gold-plated – the tops are intricately engraved with leaves

TTG September 1994





Kamp <u>Hamerslagstruktuur</u> no. 25 June 1994 Kamp <u>Klimop</u> no. 30 autumn 1994



Brass

Kamp Hammered set of 6 to be issued one a month autumn 1994



BrassInto the Night
gold-plated

black enamelled thimble he has engraved the stars and ripples of the water which were gold-plated as well as the yacht

TTG October 1994



Brass

Zeilschip

Kamp no 89. 2006-3 (Tollhouse) (sold with the maker's name of Felix Morell)

no engraved stars, brass line at top



Copper brass yacht







Brass

Bird on a branch
gold-plated
black enamelled thimble
Gimbel October 1994



Brass
Black Hammerfinish
gold-plated
branches & flowers
Gimbel October 1994









Brass
Cloisonne Rose
white enamelled thimble
perfection in simplicity
Gimbel October 1994
Kamp Roosje no. 30 autumn 1994



Brass

<u>Prima Ballerina</u>

black enamelled thimble

her pink dress is a nice contrast
<u>Gimbel October 1994</u>

see 1996 blue <u>Prima Ballerina</u> - green 1995



Brass
Enamelled Bee
black thimble with sterling silver bee
Gimbel October 1994



Copper silver bee



Brass

<u>Sterling Clown</u>

holds colourful balloons on black enamelled thimble

<u>Gimbel October 1994</u>





Brass
Teddy Bear
gold-plated
hammerfinish
Gimbel October 1994
see 1997 green Teddy Bear



Brass

Wedding Band
gold-plated
beautifully engraved with traditional leaf design
Gimbel October 1994



Cloisonne Owl
black enamelled thimble (asst. owl colours)
Gimbel October 1994





similar to 1994 Burgundy and Gold







Brass
Tulip Spray
cloisonne
engraved with leaves that are gold-plated (colours may
vary)
TTG December 1994
Kamp Tulpenblüte no. 36 1996-1





Nickel

Brilliant and Sparkling gold-plated

leafy design hand engraved which reflects light from all directions

TTG December 1994



Brass blue

1995



Copper

1/2 Penny genuine coin
dark brown oxidised thimble
TTG January 1995
see 1991 Half Penny







Copper

Silver Threepenny genuine coin dark brown oxidised thimble TTG February 1995

see 1989 copper <u>Silver Threepenny Bit</u> – 1990 wood <u>Treepenny Piece</u> – 1992 black <u>Silver Threepence</u>



Brass

Ballerina on black
van den D February 1995
see blue Prima Ballerina 1996 – pink 1994



Brass enamelled flower black van den D February 1995 see 1995 white <u>Lily</u>



Copper
Farthing genuine coin
dark brown oxidised thimble
TTG March 1995
see 1992 black Farthing



Copper
Silver Sixpence genuine coin dark brown oxidised thimble
TTG April 1995

see 1991 black <u>Tanner</u> – 1988 brass <u>Sixpence</u>







Brass

VE Day Medal

applied to hammer finish thimble
silver-plated pewter

commemorating medal presented to all servicemen at
victory in Europe May 1945 1939-1945 lettering
TTG May 1995

Kamp Engeland herdenkingsmunt 1939-1945 no. 92

2007.2 (Tollhouse)







Brass
The Champion (horse)
nickel
black enamel with silver-plated laurel leaves
TTG June 1995











Brass

Sheer Perfection

hammer finished, hand cut each with a different yet equally striking design lavishly gold-plated

TTG June 1995









Brass

Wondrous Owl
gold-plated
hammer-finished thimble shimmers with the crystals on its breast limited to 150
TTG July 1995
Gimbel October 1995 Diamante Owl black enamel - engraved dome Kamp Uil in stras (owl in rhinestone) no. 83 2005-1 (Toll House)





Brass

Celebrated Cloisonne coated in white enamel diamond cut and gold-plated adorned with stunning flower (colour varies) TTG July 1995

see 1995 black







Brass

Kamp Enzian no. 41 1997-2 (gentian)



Brass red flower





Brass

Silver Scissors deep red, richly enamelled with silver scissors that actually open TTG August 1995

Gimbel October 1997 Burgundy Enamelled Brass



Royal Tribute

enamelled in rich deep burgundy gold-plating on the engraving catches the light part of the celebrations for the Queen Mother's 95th birthday limited to **450**

TTG August 1995



gold-plated Golden Swan blue enamel diamond cut thimble emphasises the delicate presicion of the engraving limited to 195

TTG September 1995 see 1991 black Swan – 1992 Cobalt and Gold Swan





Brass

German Silver Clown (won't tarnish) black enamelled thimble Gimbel October 1995



Brass handpainted glold and white clown





Gold auf Silber Kamp no. 34 autumn 1995

artful handwork from the workshop of Felix Morel. A gold-plated, diamond-cut thimble Kamp Gold auf Silber II no. 36 1996-1



Brass

Band of Silver

weaving around the rim of this black enamelled thimble are diamond cut silver shapes

TTG October 1995

see 2000 Black and Silver unengraved version



Brass
Gold-Plated Cat
black enamelled thimble
Gimbel October 1995
see 2001 maroon Aristocratic Cat



Brass

<u>Hunter Green</u>

enamelled thimble, plated horse head and shoe
<u>Gimbel October 1995</u>





Brass

Handetched Flowers

black enamelled thimble – graceful gold-plated hand appears to be holding gold-plated flowers

Gimbel October 1995

Kamp Hand met bloementakjes no. 95 2008-1



Brass<u>Gelukspaard</u>
Kamp no. 83 2005-1 (Toll House)



 $\begin{array}{c} \textbf{Brass} \\ \underline{\textbf{Heart}} \\ \text{white enamelled to highlight the (red) cloisonne heart} \\ \underline{\underline{\textbf{Gimbel}}} \text{ October 1995} \end{array}$



Brass
Silver Tragedy/Comedy Masks
hammer finish
Gimbel October 1995
see 1988 copper Comedy and Tragedy – 1989 brass Comedy
and Tragedy



BrassBlack with white heart, blue flower



Brass
<u>Sterling Cat</u>
black enamelled thimble
<u>Gimbel October 1995</u>







Brass
Stars and Snowflakes
pair of hammer finished thimbles, etched with the designs then gold-plated
TTG December 1995





Brass

brass windmill with club logo <u>CVV 1995</u> club thimble for 1995 of the Nederlandse Vingerhoedklub Kamp no. 33 1995-2 (Toll House)

1996

- 1st use of purple enamel
 - 1st use of pearls



Brass

Two Hearts as One

enamelled in white then expertly diamond cut – each
heart is studded with a crystal

TTG January 1996





Brass
Love is in the Air
22ct gold-plated
black enamelled thimble with lovebirds
TTG January 1996

















Brass

Kamp Königsperle I no. 36 1996-1
Burgundy red enamelling (Royal pearl set)
Kamp Königsperle II no. 38 1997-3
Kamp Königsperle III no. 43 August 1997
Kamp Königsperle IV no. 45 1997-6
Kamp Königsperle V no. 51 December 1998

Kamp Königsperle VI no. 54 June 1999









Brass

<u>Grüner Sarong</u> Kamp no. 38 1996-3

Kamp <u>Violetter Sarong</u> no. 41 1997-2 (sold with the maker's name of Felix <u>Morell</u>)
Kamp <u>Sarong III</u> no. 44 October 1997 (sold with the maker's name of Felix <u>Morell</u>)
red metallic circles

Kamp <u>Sarong IV</u> no. 45 1997-6 (sold with the maker's name of Felix <u>Morell</u>) garish green

see also 1997 Sari (a different shaped set)







Brass

Gimbel October 1996 Green Sari/Purple Sari





Brass

Prima Ballerina
gold-plated
black enamelled thimble
TTG February 1996
see 1994 pink Prima Ballerina – green 1995



Kreuz
Kamp no. 37 June 1996
this cross is carved with great care - was gold-plated after the enamelling, so the shine is permanent available in red or white





Brass

<u>Betende Hände</u>

Kamp no. 37 June 1996

hands are of gold-plated silver
see 1990 copper <u>Hands in Prayer</u>





Brass white with gold top



Brass

<u>Davidsstern</u>

Kamp no. 37 June 1996

see also 1988 copper <u>Star of David</u> - 1993 <u>Star of David</u>







Brass

Sari Designs

using the latest technology, each is double coated in brilliant jewel enamel colours of the East. Hand engraved traditional scroll patterns of the sari

lavishly highlighted by hand in 22ct gold (purple – jade – burgundy)

TTG June 1996 set

see 2000 <u>Purple Sparkle</u> for similar purple thimble

see also 1996 Sarong set





Brass blue sari





Brass
Schnuller - blau - rosa
Kamp no. 37 June 1996
(dummy for a baby boy or girl)



Brass Golden Sprays

described as enamelled cobalt blue, this catalogue photo is misleading! hand engraved & generously highlighted in 22ct gold TTG September 1996



black with golden sprays





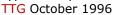
green with brass top and gold line at rim R: no brass top or brass line

L: made by Academy Pewter. I have retained this example, as their thimbles were not of the quality of workmanship as Felix's, when seen and handled in person



Brass

<u>Autumn Leaves</u> hammer finished thimbles hand cut with a different yet equally striking leafy design then lavishly gold-plated [chevron-type block pattern on apex)





Brass

silver with hammer finish



BrassRiding Ensemble

enamelled in racing green – decorated with a goldplated crop, stirrups & jockey's cap & horseshoe TTG October 1996

Gimbel October 1996 <u>Jockey</u> Kamp <u>Jockey</u> no. 82 2004-2 (Toll House)



BrassKamp no. 95 2008-1
green with silver







Brass
Pig Jumping Thru a Thimble
gold-plated
green enamel thimble
Gimbel October 1996



Brass
Floral
hand engraved gold-plated
silver is then applied to the blossoms
Gimbel October 1996



Brass
Gold Crosses
circle black enamelled thimble
Gimbel October 1996



Brass Wedding Bells

white enamelled thimble with diamond cut silver garland & radiant silver bells

Gimbel October 1996

Kamp <u>Huwelijksklokken</u> no. 84 2005 gold bells with different top Kamp Bruidsklokken no. 95 2008-1

no band at top with sprigs









Brass

white - with gold bells with three different tops



Brass burgundy with gold bells with different top



Brass Golden Flakes

burgundy enamelled thimble engraved by hand, gold-plating each one. Same technique for shimmering top TTG December 1996

1997

1st engraved rims







Brass

Violin Concerto Felix loved classical music! enamelled thimble with violin with diamond cutting emphasising its edges, as well as the rim TTG February 1997 see 1998 Burgundy Geiger



black with gold violin





Brass

Schneewei u. Rose Schneeweiss u. Blau Kamp no. 41 1997-2 real jewels Kamp no. 41 1997-2



Brass
Tulpen ... van Amsterdam
Kamp no. 41 1997-2



Brass
Gold `n' Silver
diamond cut to perfection in vertical lines - entire piece
has been gold-plated, the engraved areas further
highlighted with silver
TTG April 1997



Brass

Horn Concerto

the music continues – French horn with engraved areas
further highlighted with silver

TTG May 1997



A Cut Above
when it comes to diamond cutting Felix is certainly one
of the best exponents of this intricate craft
patterned & entirely gold-plated
TTG October 1997



no gold trim at apex



Brass
Pearl-Centred Floral
enamelled
Gimbel October 1997



Brass
<u>Golden Flowers</u>
brilliant purple enamelled
<u>Gimbel October 1997</u>



Brass
Electic Blue Teardrop
enamelled
Gimbel October 1997

TTG <u>Blue Raindrops</u> September 2001 a dense group of beveled raindrops etched thru vibrant metallic blue enamel - diamond cut double banding & a star on top with thick wedding band shape around the base





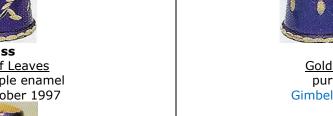
Brass
Kissing
blue enamelled
Gimbel October 1997



BrassKamp <u>De eerste zoen</u> no. 84 2005-2
different top
see 1993 brass <u>Kissing Cousins</u> – 1990 copper <u>Kissing Cousins</u>



Brass
Garden of Leaves
encircle purple enamel
Gimbel October 1997



Brass
Golden Teardrop
purple enamel
Gimbel October 1997



Brass
<u>Sterbloem</u>
Kamp no. 82 2004-2 (Toll House)



Brass
<u>Wedding Band</u>
four gold-plated sunbursts - enamelled
<u>Gimbel October 1997</u>



Brass
Teddy Bear
silver nickel
enamel
Gimbel October 1997
see 1994 black Teddy Bear



Copper
Roman Coin
antiqued copper with a casting of a Roman coin. Original found in Roman remains in Bath, Felix's home city
TTG November 1997







Brass
Schneemann
Kamp no. 45 1997-6
(Kamp uses Schnewpop in 2003)
Gimbel October 1997
enamel snowman with wreath





Brass

Weinachtsbaum

Kamp no. 45 1997-6

Dark red, with cloisonne tree full of lights

Christmas Tree

specially finished in festive scarlet decorated with

enamelled tree festooned with glittery red & white baubles & golden tinsel

TTG December 2000

see 1998 white Cloisonne Christmas Tree









BrassGlint of Gold

Felix's ability when it comes to copper wheel engarving is unparalleled – thimble has been deftly patterned before being entirely gold-plated

TTG December 1997

1998



Copper
Tennis Racquet with Ball
van den D March 1998



Brass Easter Cross

22ct gold-plated cross stands out on a pure white background – top is gold-plated having been diamond cut

limited to **250** TTG April 1998



Brass blue



Brass

Golden Crown

against a background of royal blue is a gold-plated crown – top has been diamond cut & gold-plated limited to **200**TTG May 1998



Brass

top is blue enamelled with gold rim



Brass

Golden Stars

several hundred cuts on each limited to **200** sets

TTG May 1998

R: hand scored design on black lacquer reveals sparkling brass



Brass

Felix de Katze in schwarz/weiss

Kamp no. 47 1998-2 cat's face with paws

(sold with the maker's name of Felix Morell)

b&w photo



Brass

cat's face with gold paws









Brass

Azure Pearls

enamelled with stunning deep metallic turquoise – hand engraved with delicate floral design pearl beads at the centre of each flower

limited to 100

TTG June 1998

van den D October 1999



BrassBurgundy Pearls

enamelled with beautiful burgundy – diamond cuts in depth intricate floral pattern & on top – engravings then gold-plated

7 cultured pearls at centre of flowers limited to **195**TTG June 1998



Brass
<u>Zwei Spechte</u>
Kamp no. 48 June 1998
woodpeckers





Brass
<u>Arabische Nacht</u>
Kamp no. 48 June 1998
Burgundy starry night





Brass
Crystal Berry
TTG July 1998

25 crystals encrusted in goldplated strawberry on dark green enamel (back to sold with the maker's name of Felix Morrell)



Brass blue enamel – no crystals



Brass green enamel – no crystals



Brass<u>Inspiring Cross</u>

model, cast, diamond engrave, gold platde & mount symbolic crosses on black enamelled thimble

limited to 175
TTG August 1998
(plaited look to the cross)
see 1994 white Kruisje





Brass

Pearly Pleasure

enamelled with deep forest green engraved with ornate Florentine Renaissance designs which are then goldplated – 5 cultured pearls set within engravings

limited to **150**TTG August 1998

(back to sold with the maker's name of Felix Morrell)



Kauzchen
Kamp no. 49 1998-4
(sold with the maker's name of Felix Morell)
owl (different top from 1991) – see 1992 Blue owl









Pearly Black
turned on a lathe, enamelled it black, intricately
engraved with diamond tool – gold-plated the
engravings & in centre set 5 cultured pearls

Brass

limited to **150**TTG October 1998
van den D October 1999



Brass
<u>Electric Red</u>
vertical engraving
Gimbel October 1998



Brass gold-plated with silver cascades



Brass
Thimble Cat
cloisonne face with tail
on gold-banded white enamelled thimble
Gimbel October 1998
see burgundy 1999





Treble Clef
gold-banded enamelled thimble
Gimbel October 1998
see 1999 white Tuneful Tribute – 1988 copper Music Sign –
1999 Burgundy Musikschlussel



Brass
Cloisonne Christmas Tree
Gimbel October 1998
see 1997 red Weinachtsbaum



Brass brass treble clef



Brass

Perfection in Pearls

5 cultured pearls set in gold-plated deeply engraved white enamel limited to 150

TTG November 1998







Brass burgundy grapes with pearls Gimbel 1998



Pewter
bead grapes
grapes are suspended off ring and articulated
made by Academy Pewter
their pewter thimbles have a distinctive rim not used by
Morel

1999

- 1st use of maroon enamelling
- 1st use of brown enamelling
- 1st use of jewellers' 'galerie wire'



Tuneful Tribute
enamelled in white – treble is cast, plated, enamelled &
applied (no gold rim at apex)
limited to 195

TTG January 1999 see 1998 white <u>Treble Clef</u> – 1998 copper <u>Music Sign</u> – 1999 Burgundy <u>Musikschlüssel</u>



Flashing Frost
engraved golden top, thru to twinkling highlights of Jack
Frost on branches ... deep pine colouring with gold
engraving
limited to **154**TTG February 1999

Brass



Brass Golden Spring

deeply engraved forsythia bloom around the branches on heavily gilded green enamelled thimble limited to 150

TTG March 1999







Brass

Budding Tree

deeply engraved on heavy gilded green thimble limited to 150

TTG April 1999









Brass

Budding Rose

leaves drape lazily from golden summer rose on deeply engraved maroon thimble

limited to 150 TTG June 1999





Brass

Sparkling Shapes

engraved golden top on (hammered) deep copper brown colouring offset by the gold engraving

limited to 150 TTG June 1999



Antikes Fahrrad (bike)

Kamp no. 54June 1999 see 1993 copper - Fiets



Copper

Spielende Delphine Kamp no. 54 June 1999 sterling silver dolphins at trim see 2000 black Black and Silver





Brass

Regal Blue

in vibrant blue & gold Morel used latest technology thimble double coated in bright blue jewel enamel colours with hand engraved designs & gold trim lavishly hiahliahted

limited to 100 **TTG** July 1999

(L photo does not show as gold!)





Brass

Golden Petals

combination of green & gold, meticulously hand engraved & generously highlighted in 22ct gold

TTG August 1999



Brass

emerald - different ringed apex



Brass
Tuba
Kamp no. 53 1999-4
(sold with the maker's name of Felix Morell)
see also 1999



Brass

<u>Geiger</u> (violin)

Kamp no. 53 1999-4

(sold with the maker's name of Felix <u>Morell</u>)

see 1997 black <u>Violin concerto</u>



Brass

<u>Musikschlüssell</u>

Kamp no. 55 September 1999
(sold with the maker's name of Felix <u>Morell</u>)

see 1998 white <u>Treble clef</u>







Maroon & Gold
deepest maroon background star & petal shapes
engraved around top of thimble – classically molded
bottom band – shapes are gold-plated
limited to 50
TTG September 1999

Brass



Brass
<u>Harfe</u>
Kamp no. 56 October 1999
see 1993 copper <u>Musiek Harp</u> - 2001 Burgundy <u>Harp</u>



Brass
cat on maroon
van den D October 1999 with extra engraving as cat's
body
see white Thimble Cat 1998





Brass

Farben der holländische Fahne
Kamp no. 56 October 1999

(red white and blue the colours of the Dutch flag)
gilded silver Dutch boy, windmill and Dutch girl
(sold with the maker's name of Felix Morell)
(made for Nederlands Thimble Club)







Brass
St Andrews Lion Rampart [sic]
against background of royal blue to commemorate reestablishment of the Scottish Parliament
TTG October 1999



Copper lion rampant





Brass Dutch boy - windmill



Brass Gothic Gold

Morel brings us one of the patterns found on mediaeval clothes – dark brown enamelled thimble – top & base encircled with two gold bands of mediaeval design TTG November 1999



Brass







Brass Golden Sprays

emerald green & gold hand engraved & highlighted in gold base is carved in delicate gold band TTG December 1999



black with medieval design



Mellofon Kamp no. 57 December 1999 (sold with the maker's name of Felix Morell)



Silvesterabend Kamp no. 57 December 1999 (sold with the maker's name of Felix Morell) (Burgundy shades from adjacent thimble – it's all brass)



Brass Sonniges 2000 Kamp no. 57 December 1999 (sold with the maker's name of Felix Morell) (for Millennium)



Brass <u>Tuba</u> Kamp no. 57 December 1999 (sold with the maker's name of Felix Morell) see also 1998

some Gimbel thimbles may first have featured in 1999 catalogue



Ready Teddy ... Not!

teddy is a bright gold colour wears a ruby-like bowtie –

brown enamelled gold-banded thimble

TTG January 2000



Brass

Black and Silver
black enamelled background shows up bright silver
gothic looking circlet
TTG January 2000

see 1995 black Band of Silver for engraved band – 1999
copper Spielende Delphine









Brass

Choice Mackintosh

leaves of gold deeply engraved – Morel adds a touch of Charles Rennie Mackintosh with trio of solid leaves intertwined & draped down from top of the piece – emerald green – royal blue - black

TTG February 2000

(showing both sides - C is verso view)









Brass

Tagesablauf
Kamp no. 59 May 2000 (Daily Routine)
morning – afternoon – evening – night
(sold with the maker's name of Felix Morell)



BrassKamp no. 80 2004.2



Brass
Circlet of Leaves
emerald green & gold hand engraved with 22ct gold
highlighting the circlet
TTG March 2000
see 1992 moss green autumn hornbeam



BrassBlue Sparkler

enamelled in brilliant blue with diamond cut with vertical design – bright brass top intricately hand scored TTG April 2000

see 2001 Blue and Gold Glitter



Brass no lines



Catastrophe!
black & white moggie on green enamelled thimble
TTG April 2000



Brass emerald



 $\frac{\text{Corpus Christi}}{\text{white enamelled thimble, cross has been diamond cut }-}$ white enamelled thimble, cross has been diamond cut – for 1^{st} communion $\frac{\text{TTG May 2000}}{\text{Gold Cross}}$ engraved white enamel with gold trim



Brass maroon with cross



Brass

Butterfly Colours

burgundy lacquered – butterfly colours vary

TTG May 2000

see 1993 black Flurry of Wings







Brass

Lacy White

applied a lacy filigree effect on top of white lacquered thimble draping over the sides – complemented by a frilly band near the base

TTG June 2000





Brass

Glittery Bluebird

blue rust & white enamelled bird on brown & gold hammer-finished thimble

TTG September 2000

for collectors unfamiliar with Morel thimbles, the use of <u>Tollhouse Thimbles</u> with no mention of Morel, may come as a surprise



Brass

RAF Thimble

Air Force blue & brass badge specially lacquered to keep its shine

TTG September 2000 see 1993 blue Silver Wings







Brass

Kamp RAF 2004-3 (from Toll House)



Brass

cobalt with silver badge



Brass

Purple Sparkle

purple enamel is cleverly diamond cut to let sheen shine thru

TTG October 2000 see 1996 purple <u>Sari Designs</u>







Certificate of Authenticity

Floral Filigree

A silvery filigree of fine flowers twirls around the base of a tichly coloured thimble.

Purple perfection from Felix Morel.

The Thamble Cuill, Thiale Mill, Buggos, ML12 6LP

Brass

Floral Filigree

silvery filigree of fine flowers twirls around base TTG October 2000



Brass
Red Maple Leaf
brown enamel thimble
Gimbel October 2000



Brass red and gold maple leaf brown mottled



Brass
Palace of Versailles
intricate crown encircles thimble
Gimbel October 2000







Brass
Gold Lovebirds
green enamel thimble
Gimbel October 2000



Falling Leaves
enamel thimble
(pearl in centre of the brass flower on top)
Gimbel October 2000







Brass
applied Pink Orchid & Gold Wreath
enamel thimble
Gimbel October 2000
see 2001 white Pink Orchid





Brass
Floral Garland
design embellishes gold-plated enamel
Gimbel October 2000



Brass
Encircling Stars
design embellishes gold-plated enamel
Gimbel October 2000



Brass
Cascading Gold Stars
enamel thimble
Gimbel October 2000

TTG February 2001 <u>Under the Loggia</u> gleaming concoction of leafy strands tumble down – enamelled in white, gold-plated the diamond cut design & gilt flower on top



Brass white with silver cascade



Brass
Green with Silver Enamel Thimble
Gimbel October 2000
(from Toll House Thimbles)



Brass
Blue with Gold Enamel Thimble
Gimbel October 2000
(from Toll House Thimbles)



Brass
Maroon with Silver Gilded Enamel
delicate filigree
Gimbel October 2000



Brass
Purple with Gold Gilded Enamel
delicate filigree
Gimbel October 2000



Brass
Black with Silver Gilded Enamel
delicate filigree
Gimbel October 2000



Sitting Cat
black enamelled thimble with charming cloisonne cat
Gimbel October 2000



 $\frac{\text{Brass}}{\underline{\text{Ginger Cat}}}$ brown enamelled thimble with charming cloisonne cat $\frac{\text{Gimbel October 2000}}{\underline{\text{Gimbel October 2000}}}$



Brass emerald





Brass
Green & Gold
golden rosebud crowns this glossy green thimble –
fringe of floral trelliswork
TTG November 2000







Blue & Silver

shower of etched silver flowers twinkle down sides of deep blue thimble with frosty filigree draped over the top TTG November 2000

Gimbel October 2000 Blue with Silver Enamel Thimble (from Toll House Thimbles)

2001



Brass

<u>Dotty Dalmation</u> [sic]

black-coated thimble

TTG January 2001



Brass
gilt Aristocratic Cat
rich dark maroon coating
TTG January 2001
see 1995 black Gold-Plated Cat



Brass maroon with copper cat



Brass

Swan Lake silvery finish on enamelled blue with a diamond cut ring

> top TTG February 2001



Brass

blue with gold swan





Brass

Black and Silver

spiked cap of glittering filigree over black enamelled thimble

TTG March 2001





blue with silver lace





Brass

Emerald & Gold

first enamelled in silver then in emrald green to give a gorgeous lustre – three panels are etched thru to the brass with starbursts; three remaining green panels are diamond cut with fern design - star motif on top limited to 40

TTG May 2001



Brass

Pink Orchid

glittering laurel wreath surrounds gold-plated orchid adding a single star on top $\bar{\&}$ gold band TTG June 2001

see 2000 white Pink Orchid & Gold Wreath



Brass

white with gold orchid





Brass

Maroon & Gold

careful engraving emphasises the rope edged effect on this glittering thimble - decorated in diagonal whirl of maroon enamel & diamond cut designs with a star on top

limited to 40

TTG June 2001



Brass

Black Fuchsia

purple cloisonne fuchsia hangs from a silvery stem touch of Art Nouveau; enamelled in dramatic black

TTG August 2001



Brass
Harp
Kamp no. 67 September 2001
(sold with the maker's name of Felix Morell)
see 1993 copper Musiek Harp – 1999 black Harfe



Brass
Shear Magic
reel of scarlet cotton & a pair of sewing shears stand out
on enamelled dramatic black
TTG September 2001



Brass
Blue & Gold Glitter
shower of diamond cut glitter cascades down sides:
enamelled, engraved & gold-plated – finished with a
festive starburst on top
TTG October 2001
see 2000 Blue Sparkler



Autumn Leaves
ferny leaves drift around etches design thru green
enamel & adds a starburst on top. A thick wedding ring
rim
TTG October 2001

2002 - farewell advert on Morel's retirement



Brass

five of six of these thimbles had not appeared in the TTG catalogues TTG February 2002

top three(cat butterfly horseracing) were again advertised TTG February 2003 with Morel's retirement he found a horde of one-offs whilst clearing out his Tollhouse – offered here?

Morel thimbles sold thru other outlets - at Toll House shop in Bath

the Kamp thimbles were singles acquired from Morel from 1999



Kamp no. 94 2007-4

Feston Kamp no. 83 2005-1 (Toll House) Goud krullen (shavings)

Kamp no. 95 2008-1



silver duck



white cat with spotted bowtie



jewelled rabbit

BLUE



pale blue & gold chequerboard (see also Green)



brass 'Pulteney Bridge Bath' (highly sought after!)



cloisonne fish – gold ring at top



Sterren Kamp no. 84 2004-4



gold engraved flowers



cloisonne frog



silver stork (see also Copper)



grebe - engraved flower on top



pale blue with silver seahorse - engraved reeds



<u>Vuurtoring Plymouth</u> <u>Kamp no.84 2004-</u>4

BRASS



Prince of Wales feathers (see also Copper; Green)



ship's wheel (see also Copper)





zigzag pattern all round



silver striped cat



Ammonite (see also Copper)



silver elephant



gold cowboy duck



silver mountain goat



Irish halfpenny Kamp no. 80 2003-5

BURGUNDY



stippled cross with two minis – gold top



plain crosses all round - gold top



Gekke poes (crazy cat)
Kamp no. 83 2005-1 (Toll House)



Fuchsia Kamp no. 82 2004-2 (Toll House)



Parelband Kamp no. 83 2005-1 (Toll House)



<u>Hartje</u> blauw – rood – silveren met steentjes <u>Kamp no. 77 2003 Aug (Tollhouse)</u>

COPPER



silver small bee



silver Celtic cross



Ammonite (see also Brass)



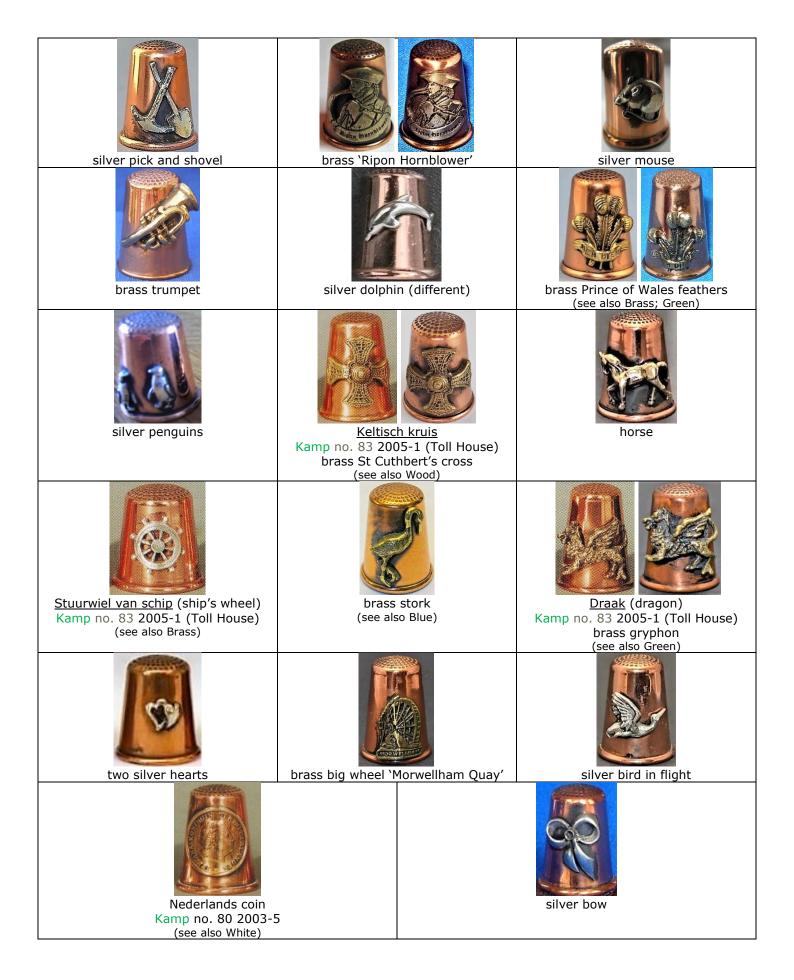
brass 'Tetley's Brewery Wharf'



silver shamrock or clover (see also Green)



silver eagle



GREEN | Interpretation | Interpretation



Prince of Wales feathers (see also Brass; Green)



rabbit with leaves



hedgehog atop with engraved leaves L: silver – R: gilt



pale turquoise green & gold chequerboard (see also Blue)



Klavertje drie (clover) Kamp no. 95 2008-1 (see also Copper)



brass rabbit atop with reeds



brass dragon/gryphon (see also Copper)



Sto



Stork delivery

Academy Pewter

R: gilt pewter



<u>Takken</u> Kamp no. 95 2008-1

LEATHER



black with different gold tooling

MAROON





wavy lines with dots







stylised flowers & leaves – gold top



squared silver lacy rim with filigree apex



stars and stylised flowers – centred designs remind me of arithmetic symbols!

NICKEL



flower

PURPLE



<u>Exotisches Guirlandes</u> Kamp no. 82 2004-2 (Toll House)

SILVER-PLATED BRASS



flowers & leaves – patterned top – diamond shape on band



stars on textured surface





stylised ferns



brass engraving falls down over apex





blue diagonal stripes **Academy Pewter**





Ruit op staal Kamp no. 82 2004-2 (Toll House) R: purchased directly form the Toll House Bath 1980s



Stalen vingerhoed Kamp no. 85 2005-3 (Tollhouse)



purchased directly form the Toll House Bath 1980s



purchased directly form the Toll House Bath 1980s

WHITE





Diamond Cut Motieven Kamp no. 92 2007.2 (Tollhouse)



blocks band Kamp no. 82 2004-2

Top R: The 'messier' copy may have come from the **Academy Pewter** era

Motieven Kamp no. 92 2007.2 (Tollhouse)



<u>Motieven</u> Kamp no. 92 2007.2 (Tollhouse)



daffodil with engraved reeds



Nederland Juliana Kamp no. 92 2007.2 (Tollhouse) (see also Copper)



Christmas tree with candles



engraved cross with flowing top





Bruidspaar Kamp no. 84 2005-2 (bridal couple)







<u>Bloemtjes</u> Kamp no. 92 2007.2 (Tollhouse) (flowers)



<u>Leo</u> sign of the zodiac

WOOD





brass St Cuthbert's cross (see also Copper)

None of these thimbles were made by Morel

all these thimbles have appeared for sale on ebay as Felix Morel thimbles – buyer beware!



domed apex - Woodsetton



Morel's thimbles did not have milled rims



domed apex - Woodsetton



pewter
Academy Pewter



made in USA in Maine, NH



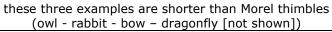
Shriner's fez - made in USA?







the reflection of the fine vertical lines above the rim in this photo (L) identify this brass thimble as machinemade





handpainted by Olivia, Birmingham

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Friedy Kamp Felix Morel Toll House <u>Vingerhoedwereld</u> Jan 2021
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Contributors

Wolf-Dieter first suggested Felix Morel as a thimble topic
My thanks to Wolf-Dieter and Jean for sharing scans of their Guild catalogues to complete my set. Without them this exercise would have been pointless

Yolanta Bogdziewicz | Joanna Blackie-Sew Many Bits | Pawel Brzyski | Marilyn Chesnutt | Betty Gerrits Lin & Bill Heggs | Friedy Kamp | Jelena Kruptsova | Mariam | Priscilla Moran | Ray Nimmo | Maurice O'Reilly Diane Poesk | Mabel Rogers | Linda Samaripa | Wolf-Dieter Scholz | Jean Taylor | Mary Ellen Wakeley Michael Wheeler | Krystyna Zagajewska

This listing of Felix Morel's 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.

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