

Dollshouse & MINIATURE SCENES

DIGITAL
EDITION WITH
BONUS FEATURES

OVER
115
INSPIRATIONAL
IDEAS INSIDE!

FROM BEGINNER TO EXPERT MAKES



Paint a winter scene...



...in a simple style

Sweet treats...



...at Christmas time

It's Christmas!

Festive miniatures for the season

2 5 1 31

BONUS
PROJECTS

AUDIO
FILES

EXCLUSIVE
VIDEO

EXTRA
IMAGES



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DollHouse

& MINIATURE SCENE

WELCOME TO THE
DECEMBER ISSUE!

CLICK TO VIEW VIDEO





WELCOME

to the December issue

Are you hanging up a stocking on the wall? It's that time that every Santa has a ball... yes, it's the December issue of Dolls House & Miniature Scene and if you hadn't already guessed, we're celebrating Christmas! To me, few things signify Christmas like Santa and Rudolph, the feel of an evergreen tree, mantles decorated with baubles and the scent of freshly baked gingerbread. As it turns out, gingerbread houses received a boost when the Brothers Grimm penned Hansel and Gretel, the story of a brother and sister who got tricked and snared into a house made of gingerbread by an evil witch. Carol and Tomas Kubrican took inspiration from that tale to create a whole series of 1/12th and 1/48th scale gingerbread houses made from paper and wood and all decorated to look like a piece in a high class confectionary store.

As featured on the front cover, we'll show you how to paint a simple winter scene, bake a quick make Christmas pudding and we explore quarter scale in greater detail.

That's about it from me for this month, in fact this year! I shall return in 2020 with more miniatures and more projects. I would like to thank all of the contributors who I have worked with over the course of the year and to wish you and your families a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Exclusive project
from Devin Smith
PAGE 59



Enjoy the issue.

Carl
Carl Golder
Editor

✉ Carl.golder@warnersgroup.co.uk
☎ 01778 391146



Online readers... Keep an eye out for these symbols

A huge thank you to this month's contributors...

Moi Ali, Lilli Bass, Sonia Bethwaite, Mary Broaddus, Bea Broadwood, Sadie Brown, Catherine Cuisy, Sherri Colvin, Julie Campbell, Lady Delaney, Ann Evans, Jane Fiddick, Ruth Flewelling Lesbirel, Stephanie Guy, Caroline Hamilton, Jane Harrop, Jenny Kelm, Carol Kubrican, Veronica Norris, Sofia Nogues, Julia Sensiba, Karin Smead, Devin Smith, Kate Ünver and Deb Weissler

READ ALL ABOUT...



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... an inspirational new collection

MADE BY YOU...



P54

... The Christmas orangery

CARL'S FAVOURITE FIND ON INSTAGRAM

"For me, this is what Christmas is all about! These cute characters have been made from polymer clay, of which I am a huge fan of. The attention to detail is spot on and the dressing of the photo is impressive too."



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@Dolls_House_Miniature_Scene



Let us inspire you

[www.pinterest.com/
dhmsmagazine](http://www.pinterest.com/dhmsmagazine)

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EXCLUSIVE GALLERY CONTENT
FOR ONLINE READERS



EXCLUSIVE AUDIO CONTENT
FOR ONLINE READERS



EXCLUSIVE VIDEO CONTENT
FOR ONLINE READERS

HOW TO ENTER...

ENTERING OUR GIVEAWAYS

FOR A CHANCE TO WIN IS SIMPLE, VISIT
www.dollhouseandminiaturescene.co.uk

The closing date for all entries is
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VISIT WWW.DOLLHOUSEANDMINIATURESCENE.CO.UK FOR MORE GREAT FEATURES AND PROJECTS

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£5 FOR 5 ISSUES

PLUS BONUSES

DON'T MISS OUT!

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THE SUBS ZONE

EVERY ISSUE SINCE JANUARY 2010

EXACT EDITIONS



DollsHouse & MINIATURE SCENE

ES.35 December 2019 Issue 307

OVER 115 INSPIRATIONAL IDEAS INSIDE!

FROM BEGINNER TO EXPERT MAKES!

It's Christmas!
Festive miniatures for the season

Paint a winter scene...
...in a simple style

Sweet treats...
...at Christmas time

The very best...
...from across the pond

Fantastic detail...
...all in 1/48th scale!

Make this...
...tasty pudding

PLUS

- MINIATURE MAKES
- FAB ARCHIVE PROJECT
- ARTISAN INTERVIEWS
- BRILLIANT QUARTER SCALE
- GREAT GIVEAWAYS
- CLUB NEWS
- CHRISTMAS SHOPPING
- EXPERT ADVICE
- INSPIRING IMAGES

EASY TO FOLLOW STEP BY STEP PROJECTS • **TOP TIPS, IDEAS & MORE...**

The Miniature Scene

Is your club doing anything exciting, got a new project on the go, raising money for charity or tackling a project from Dolls House & Miniature Scene? Let us know your news by emailing

Carl.golder@warnersgroup.co.uk

- Send a letter (and photos) to Carl Golder, Dolls House & Miniature Scene, Warners Group Publications, West Street, Bourne, Lincs, PE10 9PH

- Keep in touch through our Facebook page:

www.facebook.com/dollshouseandminiaturescene

News copy deadline for the February issue 309 is 18th December 2019.

Kensington Dollhouse Festival

Now only a few weeks away, this prestigious London show (30th November) will host over 160 exhibitors, many of whom are regulars and 15 who will be attending for the very first time. The DHMS team will be in attendance and are looking forward to meeting Robin and Shawn Betterley of Robin Betterley's Miniatures and Leslie Edelman from Tiny Doll House NYC, considering they're both travelling from the US it will be interesting to see what they bring with them!

Tickets for the show are still available and can be bought via:

www.dollhousefestival.com



China by Tiny Treasures Around the World



Miniature news on the go...

carl.golder@warnersgroup.co.uk

www.facebook.com/dollshouseandminiaturescene

www.twitter.com/dhmsmagazine

www.instagram.com/dolls_house_miniature_scene/

Hordle Castle

If you're a fan of social media (or the internet) you can't have failed to miss the recent story about Jon Trenchard, a National Trust enthusiast who



▲ Jon Trenchard and Hordle Castle

has spent the past 30 years building his very own stately home, Hordle Castle. The project began when Jon was 12, when he and his father constructed a room box. From there it grew and over the years seven additional rooms were added including a tiled Turkish bathroom, a lavishly decorated chapel and stunning entrance hall (below). Each room within the castle is inspired by various National Trust properties that Jon visited as a child and like most miniature projects, Hordle Castle is a work in progress, but has done enough to generate a buzz within the miniatures community.

If you're attending spring Miniatura, Jon will be there with Hordle Castle and DHMS will be catching up with him over the course of the next couple of weeks to talk to him about his mammoth build. More details to be revealed in next month's issue (turn to page 51 for more information).



▲ Inside the entrance hall

Exact Editions

Introducing Exact Editions, the new subscriber service from Dolls House & Miniature Scene.

If you're looking for ideas, inspiration, projects or even something to read whilst enjoying a brew

Exact Editions is ideal. Featuring ten years worth of content, it's accessible via PC, tablet or smartphone for only £9.99 a quarter! It's user friendly and can be read offline too. Go on, treat yourself!

More information can be found via:

www.dhmsmag.uk/exacteditions

 EXACT EDITIONS

More club news
can be found on
PAGE 62

ASK MOI

Dear Moi,

The rooms in my dolls house feel really empty, but I don't like dolls. How can I bring life into my little house without filling it with dolls?

Kaye, via email



Dear Kaye,

There are some fabulously realistic dolls, but if dolls don't do it for you, how about populating your dolls house with little animals? I rather fancy some dressed mice, hares or teddies. Needlefelted animals are apparently quite easy to make (I've yet to try) and can be dressed in the sweetest little outfits.

Jenny Barnett made the ones

pictured (which are between 9cms and 16cms, so 1/12th scale).

And just to let you know, Jenny will be publishing pdf file tutorials on how to make these characters over the coming weeks on her Etsy shop (www.jennybarnett.co.uk).

She'll also be adding tutorials on how to make furniture and various accessories. In a future issue I'll be reviewing one of Jenny's books, which are also available from Etsy.

Moi

Miniatura news

Autumn Miniatura has been and gone, and preparations are already being made for spring Miniatura (21st & 22nd March 2020) with news that Alexandra Blythe of Mayhem, Magic & Me will

be making a welcome return to the event after a thirteen year absence. At the recent autumn show, visitors were invited to take part in an early bird ticket offer for the spring show and it worked really well, so well in fact the offer has been extended from 1st November - 31st December 2019, entitling you to 27% off your ticket. More news about this fabulous offer, plus details of how to subscribe to the Miniatura newsletter can be found:

www.miniatura.co.uk



The attention to detail in Terence Facey's work is incredible, he'll be returning in 2020

WE ASKED YOU...

We posted the following question on our Facebook page:

We're counting down to 2020 and we want to know what mini related resolutions are you setting for the new year?

Star post and winner of this Noah's Art Kit by Jane Harrop

Rosie Middleton:

I'm spending the 2020s in the style of the 1920s...

Preparations are afoot. My resolution is to celebrate the fun times in history and never the bad.



Carl says... Make sure you pick up a copy of our January issue, we're paying a visit to the 1920s!

Sharon Denfield: To stop procrastinating with the last little bits of a project. I have no idea why, but I keep putting off doing the last few hours work.

Janice Rodger: My resolutions for 2020. To finish off the three houses that are half built. Finish off the four room boxes in various stages. Build at least two of the five kits still not started and finish the three dolls and various kits half finished. Don't buy any more house kits and stick to the resolutions!

Sarah Coupland Jenkins: I need to make a new little family of dolls to live in my house, put some bedding on their beds and finally put their Belfast sink together which has been in bits for over ten years now!

Helen Wynne: To obtain my first doll house so the fun can begin.

Pat Philbrick: I'm going to start my first house which has been sat in my bedroom for months..

Janet Mullins: To finish off all of the projects that are half done!

Helen Wynne: To obtain my first doll house so the fun can begin.

Want to join in?

Join the conversation for a chance to win...

www.facebook.com/dollhouseandminiaturescene

Jane Harrop has been making miniatures for 25 years and teaching miniature making for 21.

Many of her projects have never been presented as a kit for sale to the public, so Jane and

Bob are taking a trip down memory lane and

re-creating some of them for everyone to enjoy. Some will be limited edition, others a permanent feature on her website,

www.janeharrop.co.uk to find out more!

Turn to
PAGE 19
to read all about
the story behind
the artist

Sugar, Spice and Everything Nice!

A beloved holiday treat has inspired an American artisan to create an entire village.

What's Christmas without gingerbread?

Few things symbolise Christmas like sparkling evergreen trees, decorated mantles, and gingerbread houses. In medieval England, the term gingerbread simply meant preserved ginger and did not imply desserts until well into the 15th century. It would take the Germans, with their elaborate cookie-walled houses decorated with foil and gold leaf, to transform gingerbread houses into a holiday tradition.

Gingerbread houses received a boost when the Brothers Grimm wrote the tale of Hansel and Gretel, two wayward siblings

who stumble upon a woodland witch's cottage made entirely of treats. By the time the Grimms composed and published their version of the tale in the early 19th century, gingerbread houses had long been associated with Christmas as a religious treat. Their widely read tale was the icing on the cake that transformed gingerbread house making into an art form.

The fairytale witch may have been cunning, luring unsuspecting passersby with her edible abode, but miniature artist Carol Kubrican has taken them one step further. Her equally cunning 1/48th and 1/144th scale gingerbread house kits are guaranteed to make your mouth water

and lure you into trying one of her delightful kits. Placed singly or amongst her glitter houses, bottle-brush trees, and fireplace kits, it's clear the holiday season has arrived!

Carol's beautiful gingerbread village series kits are her most popular items around Christmas time. Easy to assemble, miniaturists love



▼ Tomas and Carol Kubrican

A sweet street



the look of these tiny iced gingerbread houses. Each year Carol adds to the collection and over the years her village has expanded.

In addition to her gingerbread structures, tiny 1/12th and 1/48th glitter house kits, called putz houses in Germany, are easy to assemble and illuminate with LEDs; perfect for decorating the fireplace mantle, a sideboard, or beneath the Christmas tree. Her kits vary in complexity. Some are easily tackled by new miniaturists or even children desiring to make something

with the guidance of an adult. Other kits are suitable for those with more advanced skills, and Carol is happy to offer advice; after all she has been making miniatures ever since she was a child.

"My mother gave me a large catalogue, rounded-tip scissors and cardboard boxes. I drew furniture, and cut curtains, lamps, rugs, and other items from the catalogue to furnish my first room boxes, which became homes for my dolls," Carol recalls fondly. "When I was nine, my mother bought a large Victorian-style dolls house

kit for us to assemble. Although we never finished the house, I became very interested in art, design, and architecture by way of researching and making period-appropriate furnishings for the dolls house. I attended art school and later built a graphic design business specialising in the design of gourmet food packaging."

True2Scale

About ten years ago, Carol started a blog. On a whim she posted a photo of the tiny paper houses she had been making. 



Gingerbread market stall in 1/48th scale... see the 1/144th version on page 12

"When designing the gingerbread kits, I like to start with the 1/48th version; all the while I'm thinking how the design can be adapted to maintain the details in the 1/144th kits. I enjoy these challenges!" Carol.



1/48th scale Gingerbread Wedding Chapel kit



1/48th scale Gingerbread market scene kit



When she began receiving requests from others to buy them, she opened up an Etsy shop to sell kits that became her miniature glitter houses. It wasn't long before she began travelling to miniature fairs, getting her husband, Tomas, involved in certain aspects of the business, and creating an expanded line of products.

"Each year, I try to challenge myself a little more with the design. So the newest kit is always my favourite." Carol

Gingerbread houses were a natural offshoot of that expansion, and each new addition is highly anticipated by miniaturists who love adding to their own village series. One is just not enough! "I try to challenge myself with each new kit I design and create. That's the part that holds my interest, Carol says. She loves creating kits that allow

1/144th scale Gingerbread market scene kit



Fabulous 1/12th!



▲ Strike a light!
A tiny fireplace kit



DH
MS

other miniaturists to infuse their creativity into their own pieces and loves seeing what others have done with her kits.

"Miniatures, like other art forms, are vehicles to explore our world and our relationships within it. I think the allure of miniature kits is that they provide each creator with the hands-on experience of manning the helm of their own explorations. In that respect I wish to provide our customers with experiences. These could mean escaping real life for a fantastical adventure; kindling feelings of nostalgia; and finding the confidence to make something amazingly small!"

The Germans turned gingerbread baking into an art form with their *lebkuchen* cookies made from honey and ginger. Carol's kits are crafted from paper and wood, including some brilliantly designed peel and stick wallpaper and flooring. Recently the couple has begun incorporating a lot of 3D printing into their processes that create phenomenal details. The results are equally scrumptious.

From wedding chapels to post offices, holiday ornament shops to whimsical cafes, toy shops to display shelves to hold it all, Carol's kits make us smile. Elaborately decorated gingerbread is synonymous with the Christmas season and this talented artist has captured the very essence of gingerbread houses that makes them so appealing to others.

It takes a lot of kits to sell on-line and at fairs such as Kensington, Chicago International, and Good Sam. Carol often

A BIT ABOUT ME...

Whereabouts in the world are you?

Petaluma, California, USA

What scale do you prefer to work in?

I work in 1/12th and 1/48th scale

Do you have any Christmas traditions?

My husband, Tomas is from Slovakia. Our host daughter is from Latvia. So we celebrate with a Christmas Eve dinner that is a mixture of traditional Slovak and Latvian Christmas foods: Sauerkraut soup, potato salad, piroshki (Latvian meat-filled dumplings) and strudel. We also make Latvian gingerbread cookies, *piparkukas* (pi-pahr-koo-kuhs) which are slightly thinner than the traditional gingerbread that we have in the US.

works nine-ten hours a day working while listening to classical music; more often if she is preparing for a show or new product release. Currently she is working on a gingerbread market cart selling chestnuts for Christmas 2019.

"I work out of a spare bedroom in our home. The closet holds the stock ready for shipping and the shipping area is a converted counter purchased from a yarn store that was going out of business. My work area is a converted dining room table that has a computer on one side and an area that serves as a work table/photo studio/kit packing station on the other.

Occasionally, I like to have a change of scenery, so I do much of my design work while sitting in coffee houses."

In addition to sales on-line and at fairs, Carol thought it would be fun to share her enthusiasm for miniatures with other like-minded people in the spectacular backdrop of coastal Northern California. Perhaps it's the inspirational setting of a historic town located in California's popular wine country, or maybe the fun, learning, and sharing that keeps attendees coming back year after year.

Whatever the reason, their successful workshops are a wonderful opportunity to learn new techniques and enjoy the camaraderie of other miniature enthusiasts. Previous workshops have created a chalk painted collector's cabinet, making faux china with decals, a Valentine stove complete with cookware in 1/12th and 1/48th scales, and a kids' clubhouse.

True2Scale's website reveals kits for all seasons, not just Christmas. Quarter scale is progressed beyond laser cuttings with crude details. It is one of the miniature world's fastest growing segments and Carol's work exemplifies that growing trend. So don't wait until Christmas to nibble that first bite of gingerbread! Now you can enjoy an entire village of delights. 🏠



INFORMATION

To see more of Carol's work visit:

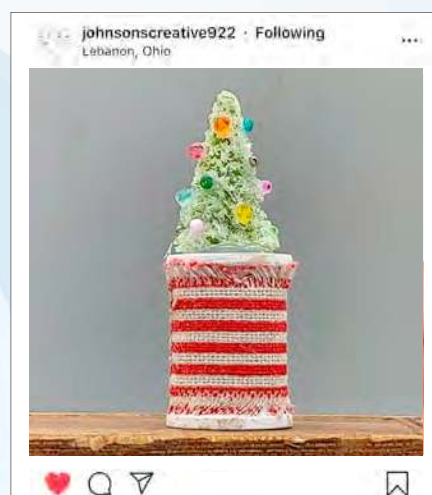
🖱️ www.true2scale.com

► Market stall in 1/144th scale



Caught @n Camera

When it comes to inspiration, social media is a really important tool especially with a watching world-wide audience. The DHMS team have been scrolling through their Instagram feeds and want to share with you these amazing Christmas miniatures.

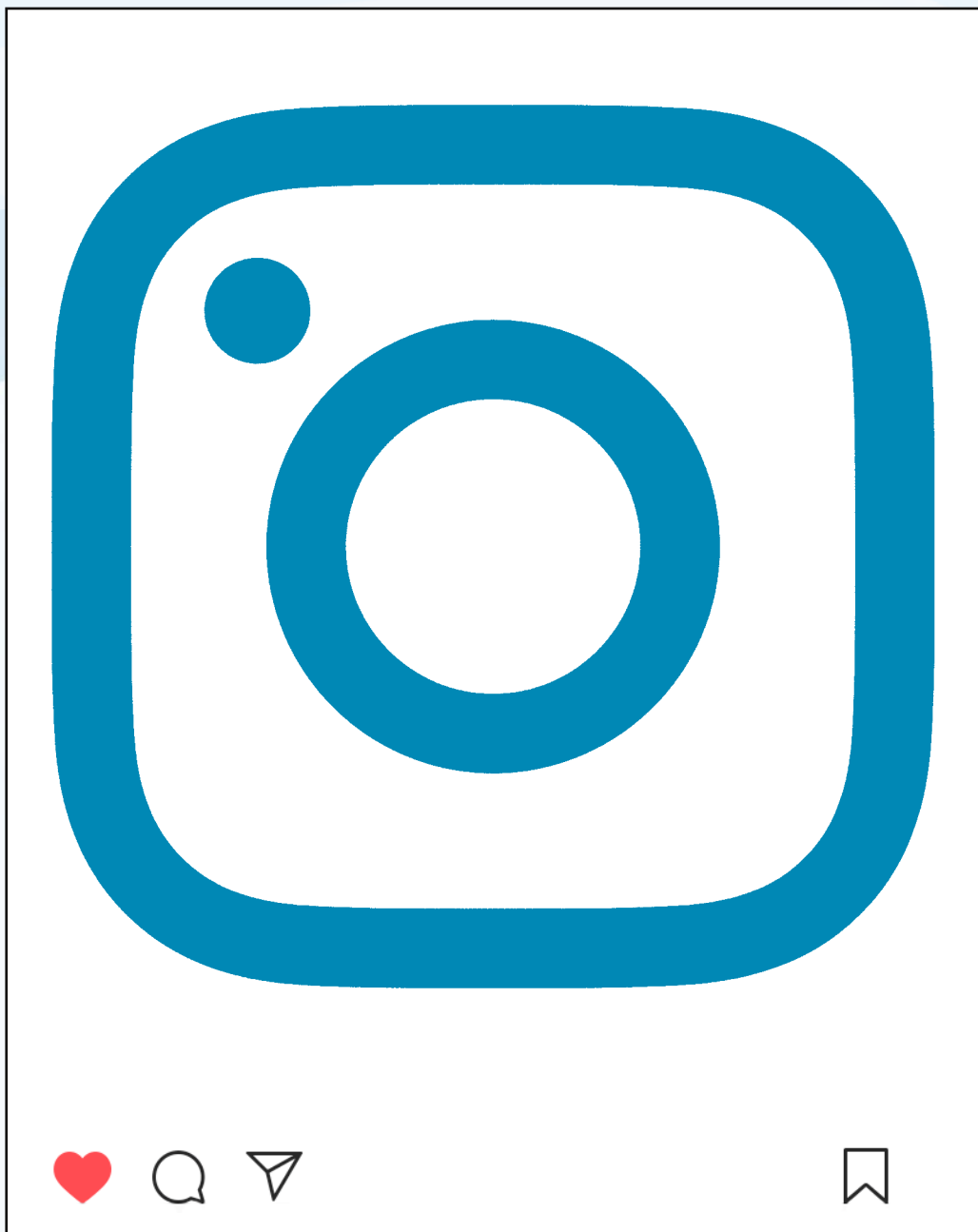


Follow our page for more inspiration: @Dolls_House_Miniature_Scene

If you would like us to notice your work, don't forget to add the hashtag: #dollhouseandminiaturescene

Caught Camera

DIGITAL EXCLUSIVE



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Felted gnomes, £6.00
www.kleineartchin.com



1/12th & 1/24th Scale
gingerbread houses, £15.00
www.kleineartchin.com

SHOPPING Guide

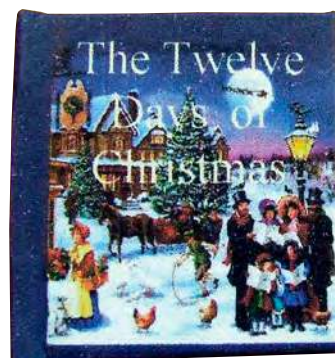
**All prices correct at time of going to press*

CHRISTMAS GOODIES

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with this assortment of goodies.



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www.amanspeakminiatures.co.uk



Twelve days of Christmas, £9.00
www.dateman-books.myshopify.com



Christmas pack with
warm white lights, £17.99
www.minimumworld.com



1/48th Scale ski chalet kit, £30.00
www.seasideminatures.co.uk



Greetings card display stand, £51.32
www.delphminiatures.co.uk



OOAK Miniature
Father Christmas, £140.00
www.etsy.com/uk/shop/EnchantedollsByTimeakastlekelmmminiatures



Shelf Elves, £12.00 each
www.etsy.com/uk/shop/kastlekelmmminiatures

GIVEAWAY!

Turn to page 4 for more information



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MAPLE STREET GEORGIAN



DOLLS HOUSE EMPORIUM

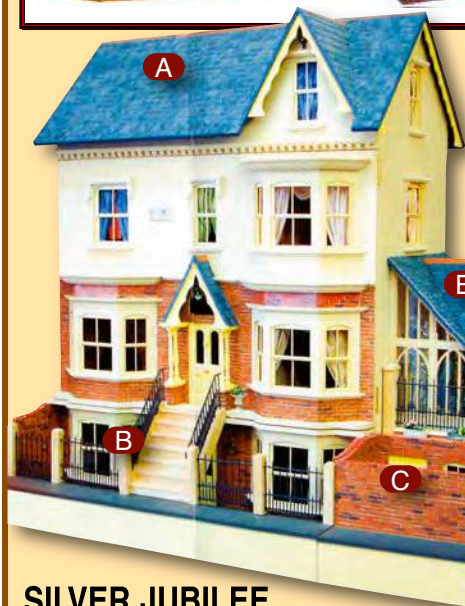


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D Garden £49.00
E Orangery £69.99
Set of all five £599.00!



SILVER JUBILEE

SID COOKE HOUSES

ORANGERY

CHRISTMAS DOLLS HOUSE KIT SALE

We have recently acquired a number of Dolls house kits, some current, some no longer made. All are boxed with full instructions and we can supply more details and photos if requested. We are open to all offers on these so do your homework, work out a value and give us a call!

SID COOK

Victoria House
Room Setting x 2
Room Box x 6
Georgian Basement
Upper Storey for Regency Shop
Upper Storey for single shops

DOLLS EMPORIUM

Mornington News House (2 x boxes)
O'Roukes Post Office and Store
Fairbanks House (3 boxes)
The Berkeley Basement (2 boxes)
Conservatory Kit x 4

BARBARAS MOULDINGS

Somerby House
The Kensington House
Somerby Basement
TOY WORKSHOP
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Tudor Top Box

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BM/57 25p
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BM/54 99p
99 x 112mm



BM/51 99p
74 x 99mm

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A Naïve Christmas Scene

Resident expert **Stephanie Guy** paints a wintry scene in a naïve style.

YOU WILL NEED

MATERIALS REQUIRED

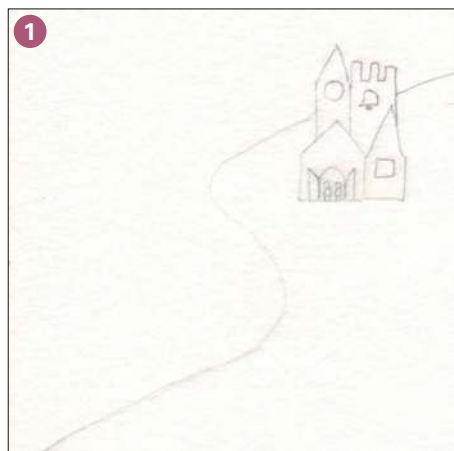
- Gouache or acrylic paints in spectrum red, primary white, primary yellow, permanent yellow deep, yellow ochre, primary blue, indigo blue, permanent green middle, burnt sienna, burnt umber, flesh tint (or mix yellow, red and white)

TOOLS REQUIRED

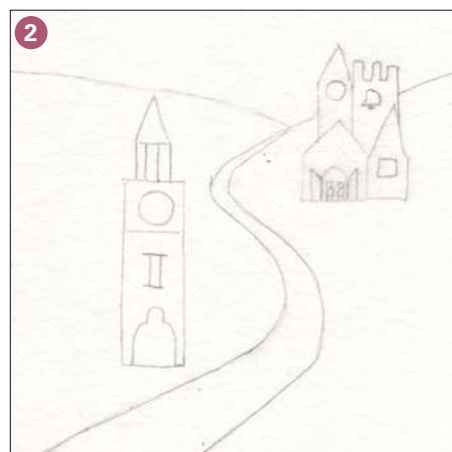
- Size 2 small round watercolour brush with a good point
- Size 10/0 round watercolour brush with a good point
- Size 2 small flat brush
- 300gsm (or heavier) hot pressed smooth watercolour paper

Stephanie says...

"Naïve art is all about childlike drawing, bright colours, patterns and fun."



1 Begin your scene by drawing a church in the top right-hand corner. I've used my local parish church as inspiration. I've moved the doors to the front for artistic purposes, and drawn them open with two people standing in the doorway. I've drawn a bell on the bell tower and a clock on the spire. Next, draw the distant hill and beginnings of a path by drawing an elongated S from top right to bottom left.



2 Next add a clock tower with a few pattern features. Notice that the clock tower is much bigger than the church - this is because it's much closer to us. Now add the other side of the path, disappearing at the top and gradually becoming wider. At the bottom it almost takes up half the paper.



3 Add in two seats, either side of the clock tower and draw very simple outlines of people sat down with hats on. Do not stress about your drawing here - this is naïve art and the people are supposed to look like a child has drawn them. Add in two people holding hands walking towards the church

- these are going to be very small because they are so far away, the arms and legs are just sticks. Put in a path to the church. Now add a big snowman, two children playing and a dog in the foreground.



4 Finally, add a big bare tree on the left hand side with two cartoon robins, a round lollipop style tree with a holly berry and leaf pattern by the children, a couple of houses and trees on the horizon, some more bare trees in front of the church, and a six pointed star in the sky.



5 Now to add some fun colours. Using your number 2 brush, paint each section of your church in a different shade of the same colour. I've painted my spire bright red, then added a touch of white to make the main part of the church pink, some yellow for the right hand orange part and more white for the lighter pink tower.



6 Using different shades of yellow, paint the clock tower. I've mixed red and yellow for the bottom and top, and put yellow and orange stripes at the top where the real thing has columns. Pop a time on the clocks that means something to you - I've gone for 4.00pm.



7 Paint the houses on the horizon in light colours so that they will contrast against the sky that we'll add in shortly. Leave the roofs white as these will be heavily laden with snow later. Paint all the windows in a warm glowing yellow, including the window and doorway of the church.

Stephanie says...

"Using your steel rule and craft knife, cut out the watercolour paper to a suitable size for your display. Mine is 2½" x 2½" (65mm). If you're planning to frame your painting then I recommend adding at least ¼" (5mm) all around the edges to allow for overlap - you can always trim this off later if your chosen frame does not require the extra allowance."



8 Have fun painting the people and the snowman in bright colours. You'll need to switch to your tiny brush for the people in the church. I've used flesh tint for the faces, with a touch of grey shadow for the eyes on the children at the front. The rest of the people do not need any facial features.



9 Paint the holly leaves bright green and the berries bright red. While we wait for these to dry, paint the holly trunk in a bright brown such as burnt sienna. Whilst this colour is on your brush, paint the seats by the clock tower and the church doors. Mix in a little green and a darker brown such as burnt umber and paint the big tree trunk on the left. Feel free to ad-lib a few extra branches and twigs. Paint the sledge in burnt sienna and a warm yellow such as permanent yellow deep, and the legs and sledge runners in dark blue. I've used indigo.





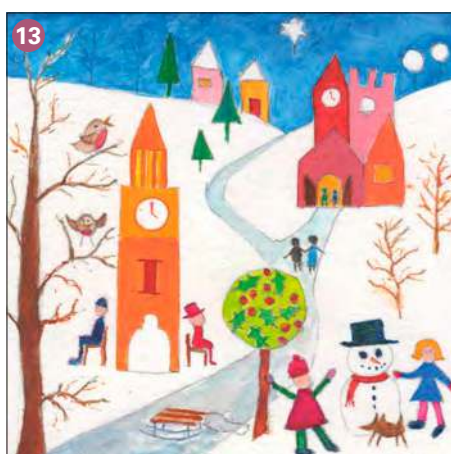
10 Now that the holly leaves and berries are dry, paint the rest of the tree. Mix an acid green by adding lots of lemon yellow to your green, and use it to fill in the top of the holly tree. Next, take the original green, add blue and paint the fir trees in the distance. Clean your brush and take some burnt sienna to paint the trunk and some of the branches on the bare trees to the right. Clean your brush again and paint the rest of the branches in yellow ochre. I've also added a few more scraggy yellow ochre branches to the tree on the left hand side.



11 Switch back to your size 2 brush to paint the sky in a bright primary blue. Turn the painting upside down so that you can use the point of the brush effectively against the buildings, allowing the belly of the brush to touch the paper as you go. Keep the paint quite wet so that it doesn't dry out and create hard lines.



12 Now turn the paper the right way up and add in a dark blue along the top and around the star. I'm using indigo. Again, allow the belly of the brush to touch the paper (avoiding the star), and soften the edge by tickling with the tip of a damp brush to blend the top and bottom of the sky. You should end up with a graduated sky that is dark at the top and lighter at the bottom.



13 Mix white with a touch of burnt umber, and separately mix white with a touch of the blue you used for the sky. Use both of these to paint the path, using plenty of pure white to keep lighter at the back where the path recedes into the hills. Allow some of each colour to show in the foreground - a mottled path will look more believable than one flat colour. If you lose the sledge strings you can draw them back in with your pencil. Now paint the robins, starting with the red breast, then a pale blue line around the red breast, then light brown body with slightly darker brown wings.



14 Next, we're going to add the shadows, using the same bright blue that you used for the sky. Use plenty of water to begin with. Skim the belly of your brush over the paper to paint the undulations in the hillsides, and use the point of your brush to add in the shadows underneath each object that is standing on the ground. Add in shadows to the top of the clock faces, the eaves of the houses on the horizon, and one side of the snowman. Paint shadows on the ground on the other side of the snowman to make him and add shadow on the bottom half of the lollipop trees on the horizon. Paint the star and church bell in bright yellow.



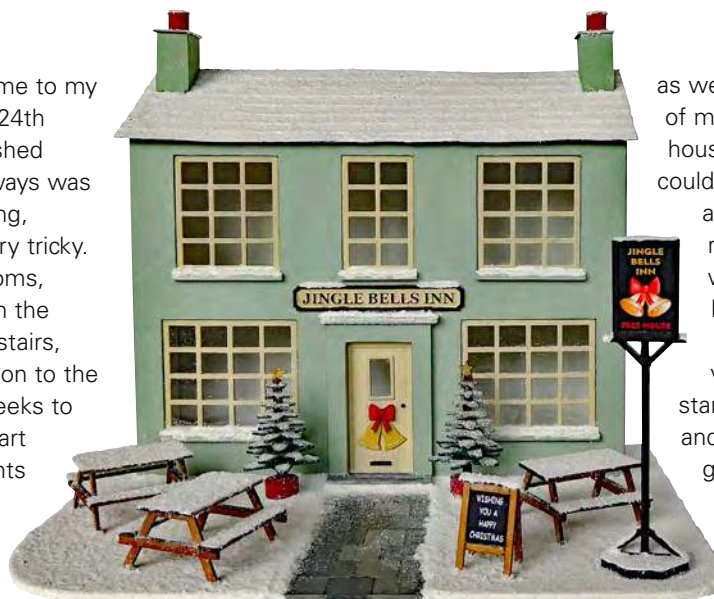
15 Let's add some extra snow with pure white paint directly out of the tube with our tiniest size 10/0 brush. Start with the roofs of the houses on the horizon then paint the top parts of the lollipop trees. Paint the roof lines on the church, add some snow to the dark green fir trees, add a couple of horizontal snow lines on the clock tower ledges. Add a few snowy bits to the large bare trees on the left. You don't need to paint the rest of the snow as the white of the paper does that job for you. All that remains is to add a signature and you're done! 



JANE HARROP

The initial attraction to the miniatures hobby is to recreate pieces from the past, so when Jane taught her 40s house, her students shared their memories from that era to create a very memorable and special project.

In 2016 I took myself back in time to my 1970s childhood. Initially the 1/24th scale project was to be a furnished house from the era. Bob as always was on hand to help with the building, but this time it proved to be very tricky. Everything was correct, the rooms, windows, doorways, apart from the small landing at the top of the stairs, followed by another two steps on to the main landing. With only two weeks to go until classes were due to start and no house to put the contents in, it became a bit stressful. As luck would have it, the mid-century 'Jentique' drinks cabinet I'd miniaturised for the house, proved to be the most marvellous 'retro' display for the 1970s project, after I'd re-drawn and increased it in size. The rooms had to be reduced to four, but the clear Perspex sliding doors meant all the colourful furnishings were clearly visible. Nearly all my students could remember the 70s and it became another unforgettable course with lots of shared memories.



▲ Jingle Bells Inn

Jingle all the way

Before any new kits go on my website, they have usually been tried and tested by my students, and I'm always appreciative when they agree to trial a project that isn't part of a course. Their feedback is always gratefully received and this year they have taken time out from a 1/24th scale barn conversion with contemporary furnishings, to help me with this year's advent calendar kit 'Jingle Bells Inn' which is designed to be constructed daily on the run up to Christmas.

Thank you

If you've been reading the series, I think you will have gathered that without my students I wouldn't have covered nearly as many different types of miniatures projects as I have and may not have written my books. I would also not have been able to help raise as much money

as we have for charity. In 2012 one of my ex-students was having his house re-wired and asked if he could drop off four tins of miniatures and DIY. It turned out to be a room full, my hall and stairs were literally covered in boxes. I approached the organiser of York Dolls House Fair and was very lucky to be given a charity stand. My students sorted, priced and manned the stall. It was a great success and it has now become a regular fixture at the show. I am delighted, that together with my students commitment and hard work, Barclay's bank fund matching, further generous donations of miniatures, books and DIY items, and of course visitors to the show, they have so far raised £37,359.03 for 'Breast Cancer Care and Breast Cancer Now' which is totally amazing and I feel reflects the commitment and generosity of my students and the miniatures community in general.

I want to say a BIG THANK YOU to everyone who has supported me over the past twenty-five years. I have always believed that making miniatures is one of the most rounded of all the creative hobbies. Where else would you learn about history, architecture, interior design, whilst using a variety of different creative skills like needlework, wood work, model making, painting and crafting. And if that's not good enough, what about the hobby boosting our mental wellbeing and the friendships made. So, here's to another twenty-five years of miniatures making! 🎄

THE WINNER OF LAST MONTH'S DRAW IS...

...Margaret Lynch's 1970s inspired cabinet.



GIVEAWAY!

Turn to page 4 for more information

One lucky reader will be chosen to receive a gift voucher worth £25.00

The Whole Kit & Caboodle:

LARGE CHRISTMAS SHOP CABINET BY ART OF MINI



This kit makes a wonderful cabinet that is just perfect for displaying tinsel, little fir trees, toys, baubles and festive decorations in a Christmas shop. However, if you were to make it without using the

▲ The kit

Christmas papers that are part of the kit, it would make an equally useful haberdashery shop cabinet, a grocery store unit - or even a large kitchen storage display for a stately home kitchen. In fact, it's extremely versatile and practical - oh, and it's surprisingly easy to make too!

German-based artofmini.com make a very wide range of adorable kits in vintage style. Shopfitting kits include a counter, plus various store shelves and cabinet in different sizes. All are precision laser-cut kits so they fit together without any hassle. Simply push the components from their backing and give them a light sand to remove any tags from the edges; glue, paint and enjoy!

This kit contains full-colour photographic and written instructions in English and in German, with decorative Christmas-themed papers to cover the cabinet with, and pretty vintage-style handles for the six drawers. All you'll need is glue and paint or stain. 

THE FACTS

Buy from: Art of Mini

 www.artofmini.com

Cost: €39.25 plus postage

Comes with: All components

Additional materials needed:

Glue and or paint or stain

Specialist tools needed: None.

Time: A day, including painting

Experience: Experienced beginner

Top tip: Use tacky glue as it has good 'grab'



Use it as a Christmas display or personalise it for another use
*Toys and accessories not included



▲ It comes flat-packed

Moi says...

"Janny of artofmini.com recommends using Lego bricks to help ensure that your gluing is true. It's a fantastic tip!"

GIVEAWAY!

Turn to page 4 for more information

One lucky reader will win a Christmas Shop Cabinet

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Through the Mouse Hole

We exclusively reveal a Beatrix Potter inspired scene from the private collection of **Caroline Hamilton**, and spend time in her wonderful Mouse House, on display at Newby Hall.

A smashing time

It has quickly become an aspirational cornerstone of the global miniatures scene, but 2020 marks five years since the magnificent collection of renowned miniaturists, Caroline Hamilton and Jane Fiddick went on permanent public display within the specially converted former potting sheds at Newby Hall in North Yorkshire. The collection, which comprises of more than seventy dolls houses, is in good company alongside television personality Gyles Brandreth's collection of more than a thousand teddy bears, which has also found a home at Newby Hall. Caroline and Jane's collection continues to engage and enthrall the thousands of visitors who have walked through the doors, but not quite everything made it to Newby Hall, and renowned

miniaturist, Caroline has given us special permission to exclusively reveal a beautiful piece which remains within her own personal collection.

This wonderful scene will be instantly familiar to the many fans of Beatrix Potter, depicting Hunca Munca and Tom Thumb from the author's 1904 story, 'The Tale of Two Bad Mice', two extremely naughty characters whose home lay beneath the skirting board. Hunca Munca and Tom Thumb's initial excitement upon entering a beautiful, red brick dolls house quickly turns to exasperation and, ultimately, infuriation as they discover the contents aren't the genuine article. The ham and the fish on the dining table are made from little more than incredibly annoying plaster and are glued to their plates! A trail of smashed food and general debris later and the young girl who

owns the dolls house decides she will place a policeman doll on guard at the front door. However, on Christmas Eve, our two bad mice place a sixpence inside the miniature stripey stocking hung at the foot of the bed to recompense for their trail of chaos and Hunca Munca returns daily, broom in tow to ensure the floors are kept neat and tidy!

We really must thank Beatrix Potter for creating a story which so perfectly lends itself to the imaginations of miniature creativity. The two mice within Caroline's scene were beautifully made by David Ward, although they became a little more well-travelled than originally planned. Caroline regales with great affection the tale (pun intended!) of Hunca Munca and Tom Thumb's arrival. "David had made a lovely mouse sitting on a cotton reel, stitching away as The Tailor of Gloucester,"



▲ The inquisitive Miss Mouse

► A magical Christmas world lies hidden behind the skirting board

▼ The Mouse House exterior



she explains, "But I hadn't realised he was tailless 'till I got mine and was horrified that the poor critters had no tail!" Deciding she preferred her mice with tails all present and correct, Caroline sent Hunca Munca and Tom Thumb off on an extra journey for a wee bit of plastic surgery, and the final result definitely delivers an extra swish to the overall scene. Caroline completes the diorama with a miniature hardback copy of Potter's book, ensuring this is truly a homage to creativity, both miniaturist and author alike!

Behind the skirting board

As a young child, a small crack in the wall could prove intensely fascinating as, fueled by stories such as 'The Tale of Two Bad Mice' and Mary Norton's 'The Borrowers', where a family of tiny folk live within the walls and floors of an ordinary house, we wondered what magical worlds lay beyond the chipped paintwork.

The Mouse House, a masterpiece of imaginative construction built back in the late nineties by Somerset based Michael Browning,

known for the natural wood finish of his dolls houses, perfectly taps into



that nostalgia. The house, squirrelled away beyond the floral wallpaper façade and that of a full size skirting board, is part of the exquisite collection on display at Newby Hall, meaning we can all drop in to visit Miss Mouse, the inquisitive and extremely house proud resident of this delightful bolt hole.

Merging worlds

Miss Mouse may come from a time when the term 'catch-up TV' meant making sure you'd set the video recorder the night before and the word 'Brexit' was alien to the lexicons of planet earth, but she still manages ensure she's right on trend as the Queen of miniature upcycling. An abandoned beer bottle top becomes a dish for Santa's cookies, whilst an abundance of paperclips find new life as a balustrade for the balcony bedroom, and pasta shapes decorate the Christmas tree. The festive season is everywhere you look, and not just in the obvious places we are immediately drawn to, such as the beautiful illuminated Nativity scene, the sparkling tiny fairy

lights, the strings of greetings cards strung up with drawing pins, or the bright silver tinsel wound carefully up the steps. If you look carefully at the 'painting' which hangs on the wall beneath where Miss Mouse stands, you'll notice that the picture is, in reality, a 20p Royal Mail stamp, and one of five issued as part of 1998s Christmas collection. Featuring an angel with her hands raised in blessing, the frame has been created from used matches.

Everything found in the house is easily something which Miss Mouse could have 'pilfered' from the world at the other side of the skirting board, even the furniture itself. Who can miss the Gütermann cotton reels, repurposed, along with a couple of buttons, as stools? Caroline turns the tables to ensure that you don't simply look at the them and think 'Ah, yes, two stools'. Instead, she has wound festive red thread back on to the previously empty cotton reels so you know instantly that Miss Mouse has been busily rooting around inside someone's sewing basket. The bed, which had labels added back on

for extra authenticity, is created using an anchovy tin and nothing goes to waste as the ring pull from the aforementioned tin has also gone on to enjoy a new life as a towel rail. There's so much to look at that the fear is you'll miss something, but as you won't be able to draw your eyes away that shouldn't in all actuality, prove too much of a problem. So, the next time you lose a toothbrush and can't find it, don't worry – your nearest neighbours, the residents of your local friendly skirting board, have probably commandeered it to sweep a new broom through their small residence! 🏠



INFORMATION

Thanks to Caroline Hamilton and Jane Fiddick
Photography of The Mouse House at
Newby Hall courtesy of Bay Hippiisley
Newby Hall & Gardens
www.newbyhall.com



A BIT ABOUT ME...

Whereabouts in the world are you Caroline?

After emptying my family house in Kew and installing my collection in Newby I moved to a posh retirement flat in Battersea where I have ONE dolls house only, but I have collected 202 little movable figures from Laurence and Angela St Leger over many years and I still go weak at the knees when they come up with a new one.

What scale do you prefer to work in?

I prefer 1/12th because for any smaller scale is so difficult to get fabric that looks right.

Who/what inspires you?

Anything I haven't done before. It could be a habitat for a homeless doll like a mermaid or a period style I haven't yet done.

Do you have any Christmas traditions?

Oh yes, a proper continental Christmas tree with pinchy candle holders for real candles at the end of the branches, and on Christmas Eve I start lighting at the top and work your way down, not forgetting a fire bucket and a damp towel standing by, then I put 'Silent Night' on the record player, lower the room lighting and ring the silver bell to summon the family. Then we stand round hugging each other and getting all weepy, remembering lost family members, followed by a glass of champagne and the children can start attacking their presents.



The Mouse House exterior

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The Proof is in the Pudding



We want some figgy pudding! Once banned by Oliver Cromwell, this festive favourite remains the most important dessert of the year. Ensure your miniature dinner table isn't left out with this fun project.

YOU WILL NEED

MATERIALS REQUIRED

- Polymer clay in brown and Christmas red
- Pastels in dark cadmium orange, golden ochre and brown
- Acrylic paint in black, burnt umber, yellow ochre, metallic festive green
- White card
- Gloss varnish
- All-purpose glue

TOOLS REQUIRED

- Small brushes
- Old toothbrush
- 1/12th scale 2cm bowl
- Small holly leaf punch
- Sewing pin or needle tool



1 Fill a 1/12th scale 2cm bowl with brown clay, using it as a mould to form the shape of the Christmas pudding.



2 Allow the clay to harden up in the freezer for five minutes before removing the pudding from the mould. Mix grated dark cadmium orange, golden ochre and brown pastel, creating a rich brown shade, brushing liberally over the clay before using an old toothbrush to texture the pudding. Roll a few holly berries from Christmas red clay and bake these alongside the pudding.



3 Use black, black mixed with burnt umber and burnt umber mixed with yellow ochre to add the all-important fruit to the pudding with a thin tipped brush.



4 Use a small holly leaf punch to press three small leaves from white card. Use a sewing pin or needle tool to score a line down the centre of each leaf. Paint the leaves with metallic acrylic paint in festive green. You can add a little burnt umber to the paint to make the leaves a little darker if desired.



5 Allow the leaves to dry and coat these, the holly berries and the pudding with gloss varnish. Glue the leaves on top of the Christmas pudding, followed by the berries.

Sadie's Gorgeous Glass Jars

You might have noticed the festive glass jars sitting on the equally Christmassy sideboard. This coloured glass is an effect which is surprisingly easy to achieve! Take a selection of clear glass jars and colour with red and green permanent marker pens. Allow to dry before sealing with gloss varnish.



INFORMATION

For more information please visit:

www.homewardflight.etsy.com

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The Christmas Party



You are cordially invited to the festive bash of 2019 as we bring your favourite doll artisans together to celebrate the most magical time of the year!

The magic of ideas

The Christmas Party is undoubtedly one of the most eagerly anticipated events of the year. It's that time when, at the end of a long year and the nights are at their coldest and darkest, we can finally let our hair down amidst a sea of tinsel and brightly coloured lights! For some though, preparation for the festive season begins whilst the skies are blue and sun tan lotion and ice creams remain high on our shopping lists!

Karin Smead finds summertime inspiration through trips to Bronner's Christmas Wonderland, a year-round Christmas store in Michigan, and demonstrates that the definition of a seasonal doll doesn't always have to be the traditional ideas we might imagine, as a 1/12th scale lady in modern dress raises a glass to the festive season, sat in front the Christmas tree!

Julie Campbell's festive dolls also showcase some beautifully unusual and imaginative ideas which take us

▼ Julie's Norman Rockwell illustration inspired scene



Cheers! Karin Smead's doll embrace the Christmas spirit



in a different festive direction. Her young boy practicing those Christmas tunes on his trumpet, and sitting in a fabulous chair by

Jill Lucas, was inspired by a 1950 illustration by Norman Rockwell.

A trip to see The Nutcracker and the acquisition of a miniature toy theatre kit produced by Tower House Dolls was the inspiration for another

holiday favourite as 1/12th scale Clara stands beside the completed kit, where Julie has expertly recreated the magic of the stage.

Julie, whose work was seen in 'The Miniaturist', the highlight of the BBC's festive schedules back in 2017, also finds herself inspired by her own Christmas past, with plans afoot for other fun festive designs. "I'll be creating some characters making homemade Christmas decorations. I like the nostalgic feel to the season and remember making

homemade decorations myself when I was a child," she says, burgeoning with enthusiasm for these new projects. "I've always loved Christmas. I'm inspired by real people excited for the festivities and having fun with the preparations. I also love the colours and traditions."

Ho ho ho

In addition to the wealth of ideas on display, Santa Claus remains a timeless classic for any doll artisan or collector and it's incredible to examine the flair with which our Christmas partygoers have given the man in the red suit their own unique spin. Lilli Bass, who tries to add a new Santa to her portfolio every year, is currently working on what she describes as an 'old world' themed character, but the Father Christmas she has chosen to bring along to our party was modelled on the classic 1950s Santa and is an original sculpt fired in porcelain. "His suit is a lovely bright Christmas

red velvet with added faux fur details," says Lilli. "His bag of presents and gold rimmed glasses adds to his whimsical look." Karin also loves the classic Santa costume. "I like the old Coca Cola Santa's advertisements.

These Santa's are more traditional with the red suits," she explains. "White trim, snowy white beards, gold rimmed glasses and sometimes smoking a pipe. Another favourite Santa is the old world Santa with his very long robe with hood attached and he usually has a long beard."

Whilst still creating something which holds that very traditional appearance, Sherri Colvin was looking to add a twist to Santa's outfit, hitting upon the brilliant idea of including tartan braces, which she has paired with a very festive red and white striped shirt. Julie too has added a fresh look to the traditional outfit as her Santa sits comfortably in his sumptuous tartan chair, checking that important list to see who's been good this year.

The colours of Christmas

All these different takes on the man who sprinkles magic through the skies on Christmas Eve are exceptional, bringing together the highest quality miniature design skills, but just what is it that doll artisans especially enjoy about creating seasonal dolls and where does their inspiration usually come from? Sherri says that, with Santa, the blueprint is already established, providing an excellent starting point. "Too many decisions on a doll can be challenging for me," she laughs. "I can spend way too much time rumbling through fabric piles. With Santa, tradition helped me with the color palette."

For Lilli, who prior to her miniatures career studied fashion history and fashion illustration, running a successful business creating magical ballgowns for ballroom dancers, festive fabrics are also a huge draw when creating her range of seasonal 'littles'. "There's more freedom in going all out 'Christmassy' in colour," she says. "I'm usually inspired by old vintage Christmas, such as Dicken's time or the 1950s. One of my favourites is the little elf in the red hat and gold shoes. I sculpted her ears before I fired the porcelain and then gave her freckles when painting and she's just too cute!" Lilli certainly never overlooks



Lilli's 1950s inspired Santa

The Nutcracker hits the miniature stage - set designer Julie Campbell!



An eye for detail. This festive girl's outfit features hand painted holly on the collar



a single detail in her work, always committed to ensure the highest standards, and if you look carefully at the young girl wearing the delightful plaid skirt and very swish red boots, you'll notice that her collar features beautifully hand painted holly detailing.

Your chariot awaits

Flying high with a succession of much-loved projects is artisan, Mary Broadus, who arrives at our party in style with a beautiful and unique miniature sleigh in tow. Eagle eyed readers may recognise Karin Smead's fabulous Santa from the December 2017 issue of the magazine, where he found himself a year-round home in a wonderful workshop imaginatively created by Mary. However, Mary wasn't finished there and, deciding that Santa would require a sleigh to park on the roof, began researching different designs online. "I ultimately decided that the one I liked best was an 18th century antique Russian sleigh. I loved the shape of it and it was small which is what I was looking for," she recalls.

This amazing Christmas fabric brings Lilli's doll to life



"After deciding on the design I then went searching for a resin reindeer that I could fur and embellish myself. There are lots of deer but not many reindeer but finally found one that looked like it was the right scale." With an embellished harness crafted from red leather, Mary covered the reindeer with hand cut alpaca yarn flocking, using alpaca yarn on his chest and feet, creating a stunning and realistic effect. "I know Santa had lots of reindeer but I don't have room or patience to make so many," smiles Mary. "I guess we can say this is the sleigh Santa uses to run errands! Obviously he doesn't have room for all his deliveries!"

Mary's biggest dilemma was finding a material suitable to bring her 18th century antique sleigh design to life in miniature, as she required something which was essentially contradictory, i.e. sturdy, but at the same time remained fluid enough to be moulded into shape. The answer presented after recalling a product she had originally purchased to create the curved awnings on Santa's shop, called task board. "The product is described as

ultra-light, made from sustainable forestry wood. It stays flat, doesn't warp and can be shaped with just water and it cuts with a craft knife. Perfect," says Mary. "It kind of has the appearance of mat board. Pretty much all parts of the sleigh were made with task board and then embellished with fabric trims." Proving that miniaturists should never through anything away as the old adage that it might come in handy one of these times is indeed true, Mary used a sumptuous flocked red scrapbooking paper she had kept stashed away for years to cover the sleighs main structure, lamenting that her subsequent searches for fresh supplies have sadly proved fruitless.

Getting in the party spirit

Having successfully ensured our dolls houses are sparkling with festive cheer, and before we all head off to get the party in full swing with a glass of eggnog, how do our artisans plan on spending Christmas themselves this year? "Decorating our house for Christmas usually starts in mid-November," says Karin, her love of the holiday season immediately infectious. "I like traditional decorations and colors like deep reds, dark or light greens accented with gold tones. Even my dolls houses get decorated for Christmas. Not long ago, I ventured into making and selling Christmas candles, wreaths, snowmen anything related to holiday decorations."

Lilli also adores decorating the house for the festive season, the centrepiece being a miniature train which sits beneath the Christmas tree, blowing steam! "I love being home for the holidays. Our children pop on over throughout the season usually dropping gifts and goodies off and it's just a cozy all around feeling."

For Sherri, Christmas Eve always involves a big dinner and an original Christmas skit performed by the younger members of the family. Mary and Julie will also be spending the festive period surrounded by those most important to them. "Hopefully creating more precious Christmas memories for future inspiration!" smiles Julie. And if our Christmas gathering has inspired you to create your own Christmas doll, what would be the key piece of advice we can offer? "Think about what appeals to you most about the season or maybe choose a favourite memory or Christmas ornament for inspiration." Julie suggests. "Start with your favourite holiday colours and then just go with your gut,



It's Christmas Eve! Karin Smead's Santa takes to the skies in this beautiful sleigh by Mary Broadus



▲ 'Braced' for a Big Night! Sherri Colvin's Santa

creating whatever style you like," adds Lilli. "Christmas style can be very minimal to over the top, but go with what you like and your doll will reflect your enthusiasm." So, essentially, the message here is whatever you choose to create, ensure you have oodles of fun and, most importantly of all, a very Merry Christmas! 🎅

INFORMATION

Julie Campbell

www.juliecampbelldollartist.co.uk

Lilli Bass

www.lillislittles.com

Sherri Colvin

www.colvindolls.com

Karin Smead

www.etsy.com/shop/kaytoriginals

Karin Smead

www.etsy.com/shop/kaytoriginals

Mary Broadus

www.pinterest.co.uk/sweetpotatoes1

DollHouse

& MINIATURE SCENE

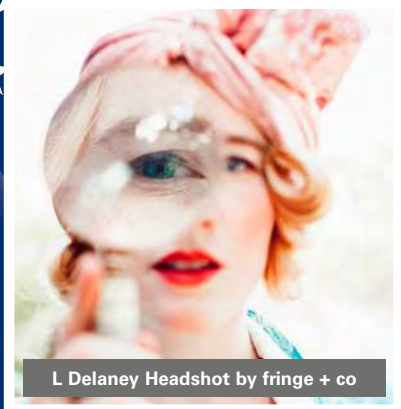
The Christmas Party

CLICK & SWIPE TO VIEW IMAGES



ACROSS POND

See what's new and on trend in the miniature world as **Kate Ünver** of The Daily Mini shares with us her favourite artisans. This month we're reacquainted with **Lauren George**, AKA Lady Delaney, whose miniatures are as unusual and exquisite as her life story is fascinating. You can connect with Kate via Twitter: **@thedailymini** or via her website: **www.thedailymini.com**



L Delaney Headshot by fringe + co

FIRST AND LAST NAME

Lady Delaney

CITY/STATE OR RESIDENCE

New Orleans, Louisiana, USA

FULL-TIME OCCUPATION

Author, miniaturist and time traveller.

HOW DID YOU FIRST GET INTO MINIATURE MAKING?

My grandparents introduced me to the hobby. My relationship to it expanded and evolved as I studied theatre design.

SO, WHAT'S YOUR MINIATURE SPECIALTY?

Making tiny books and solving tiny mysteries.

TRICK OF THE TRADE?

Seeing the potential in rubbish, antique rubbish and cast-offs. Imagining the history these antiques have witnessed and unfolding it with my craft.

WHAT INSPIRES YOU? WHAT KEEPS YOU MAKING MINIATURES?

There are endless worlds to design and stories to tell!



Christmas at mini Century Girl Vintage Boutique

Q: WHAT IS THE DAILYMINIATURE?

A: It's a digitally curated space that showcases internationally renowned artists and designers working in small scale
Follow along on  @dailymini!



Miniature Open Book Making Kit available on Etsy



The Exile of Prospero in close up detail



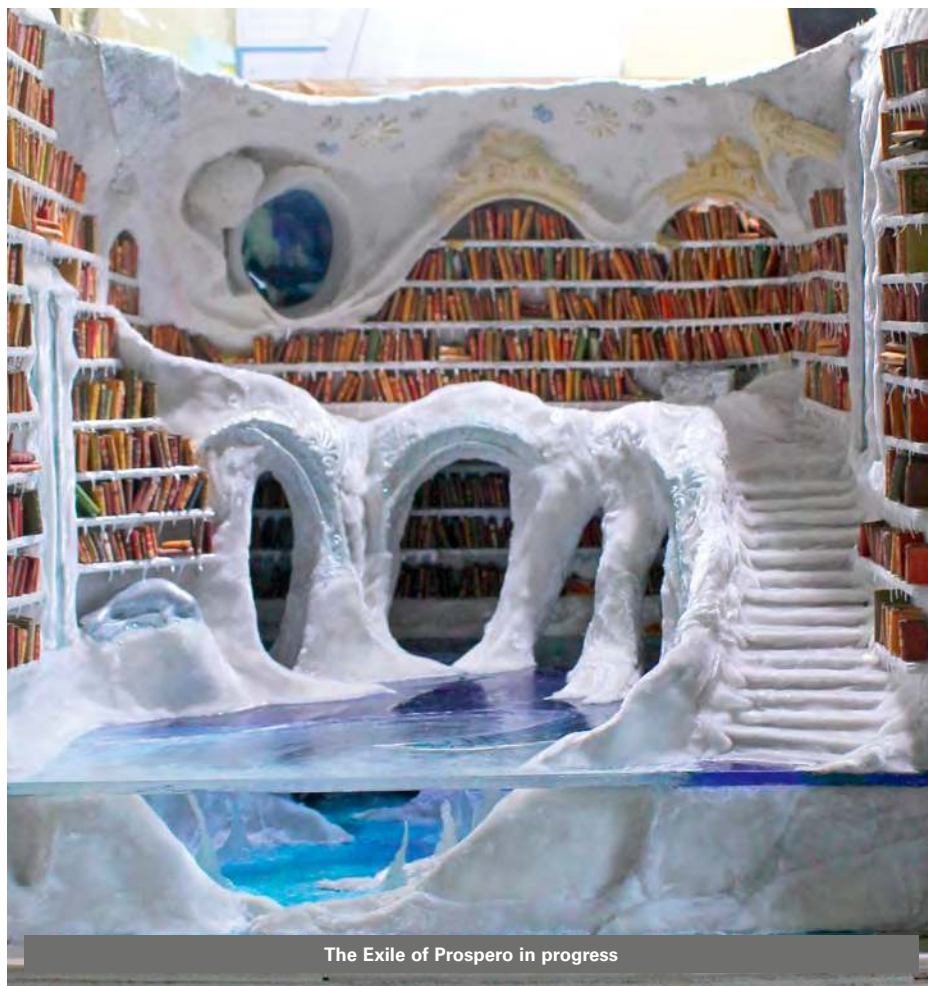
The Exile of Prospero



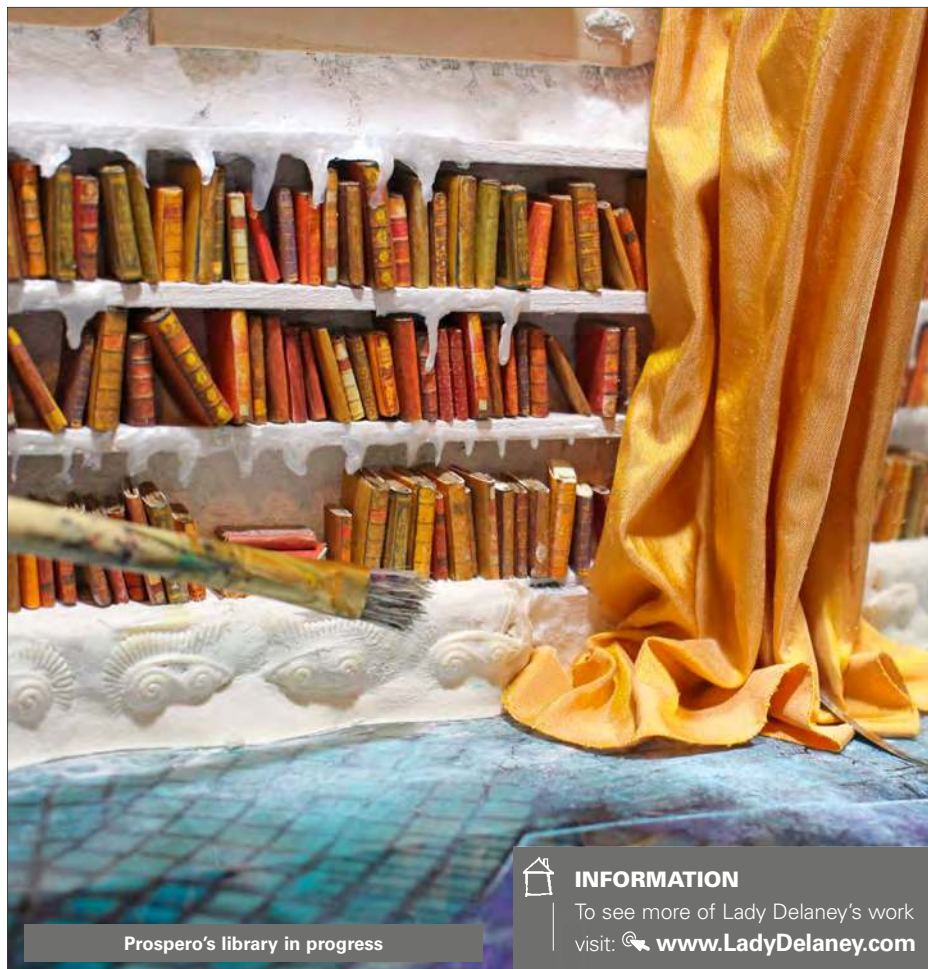
Prospero surveys his dukedom



Prospero's telescope



The Exile of Prospero in progress



Prospero's library in progress

**INFORMATION**

To see more of Lady Delaney's work
visit: www.LadyDelaney.com

**WHAT'S YOUR FAVOURITE WINTER
MINIATURE SERIES YOU'VE CREATED?**

In 2016, I received an empty wooden box from the curator of the National Building Museum in Washington, D.C. with instructions to fill it with my miniature 'dream room.' Inspired by William Shakespeare's play "The Tempest," the box glaciated into a library of ice as I imagined the wizard Prospero shipwrecked upon some remote and frozen pole. I had a lot of fun mining the play for references to sculpt into the scene: the 'rotten carcass' of Prospero's ship, his beloved Miranda, and of course the 'dukedom' of his books.

The Tempest explores how we react to Fate's dealings. As Prospero manipulates and controls nature, so I manipulated velvet, puff paint, papier-mâché, and nail polish into snow and ice. Through Prospero, Shakespeare explores the limits of humans and their craft; this project challenged mine. Fortunately, no one actually has to live in Prospero's chilly palace or my velvet rendition. And though Shakespeare claims that "the great globe... shall dissolve... like this insubstantial pageant," my submission seems to have escaped this fate, living out its days in the home of a private collector.

**WHAT'S YOUR FAVOURITE WINTER
HOLIDAY TRADITION?**

My family hosts a gingerbread house-making party in December. My mum bakes the house pieces for family and friends, as well as buckets of royal icing, stinking up the house with all kinds of deliciousness.

Every guest brings sweets to share and the one rule is that you must eat as you build. This year, I'll be introducing the tradition to New Orleans via my newly expanded Magazine Street studio. It is just one of the many classes on offer.

Though usually the miniatures we make involve glue and paper. This will be a sweet departure!

**IF YOU WEREN'T CREATING
MINIATURES, HOW WOULD YOU BE
SPENDING YOUR TIME?**

Reading, hunting for ghosts, and sipping tea with Bandit the bow tie-wearing cat. 



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An exclusive interview with... Kate Esme Ünver



Kate Esme Ünver is one of our regular contributors and has taken time out of her busy day to catch up with you readers! In 2012, Kate launched 'dailymini', a digitally curated space that promotes miniatures and small-scale news through interviews and studio visits with international artists and designers. She currently serves on the Board of Trustees of the International Guild of Miniature Artisans and provides social media consultancy services to miniature makers around the world. She's also a well-travelled motorcyclist and life-long collector of miniatures.

Find out about her inspirational journey... www.instagram.com/dailymini



Branch Biking by Ibni Achiruddi

How did you discover your passion for all things miniature?

I've loved all things small since as long as I can remember. I had a doll's house from a very young age, but even before that, I found myself drawn to one-off miniatures, and to anything smaller than its life-sized counterpart. When I was an infant, my mum fastened a chunky 1980s charm necklace to my stroller so it was the first thing I saw when I looked out into the world. My love for miniatures is deep-rooted; I like to think they've always been a part of my DNA.

What advice would you give to artists chasing the dream of being successful?

Never stop. Never settle. Be true to you, and to your own vision. If you find you enjoy personal projects more than chasing sales, find a balance between the two. And if you love to "make for making's sake," as Mackenzie McAlpin said in *The Book of Mini*, follow your pursuits, wherever they should lead you.



Retro Hot Pretzels Sign by Erika Pitera

What would you say to creatives who are scared to try making miniatures?

Give it a go! Everyone started somewhere, and in this case, we all 'started small.' Consider a medium that interests you most – whether paper, clay, paint, wood, precious metals, or something else – and pick up a book to help you along the way. There's a wealth of online tutorials just a click away, too, for example on DHMS Exact Editions, with all issues available from 2010!

How can DHMS help readers to achieve their miniature dreams?

Read through the latest issue and past editions. Become inspired and try your hand at mini-making yourself! Perhaps you'd like to create a work of miniature art and submit it for consideration, too. Editor Carl is always on the lookout!

"Dive headfirst into a new project, passion or pursuit!"

What would you say to a creative who is stuck in a rut, or having a creative low moment?

Step outside. Listen to different music. Visit a museum. Walk through nature and take it all in. Head to the local library and flip through as many books as you can stand. And yes, of course, you can always stumble along on the Internet until your interest is piqued.

How do you personally recover from these moments of self-doubt?

Hop on a motorcycle to become near-instantly recharged! Or simply read DHMS and stare at miniatures.

Come on – 5 issues for £5 is an absolute bargain, right?

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Argus the Cat by Michal Gvir

How is a DHMS subscription great value for money – what are you gaining from the mag?

Each month you'll find yourself re-energised and rearing to go. Dive headfirst into a new project, passion or pursuit, and if someone within these pages inspires you, make sure to reach out to them! Perhaps a collaboration will come about as a result.

So what are you waiting for? Nurture that curiosity for creating! Subscribe today with this sensational offer and never miss a project!



www.instagram.com/dailymini

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1/12th Scale Nativity Scene

With over 300 issues in the library, the DHMS team have been reading through the Exact Editions archive to find projects from well-respected and popular artisans. **Carol Clarke** gets into the festive spirit with this lovely little nativity scene from January 2014.

YOU WILL NEED

MATERIALS REQUIRED

- Small scale nativity figures
- 1/12th scale star
- 2mm thin balsa wood
- Acrylic paints in light blue, dark blue, white, tan, flesh, purple, tan, pale yellow, brown and white
- Dried grass or coconut coir
- Lichen
- Grass powder

TOOLS REQUIRED

- Craft knife & ruler
- Paint brushes
- Selection of enamel paints
- Cocktail stick
- Glue

Turn to
PAGE 50
to make gold,
frankincense
and myrrh!



PAINTING THE FIGURES



Mary

I used the following colours...
Light blue for the dress, dark blue for the cloak, white for the headdress, tan mixed with black for the hair and base and flesh for the skin.



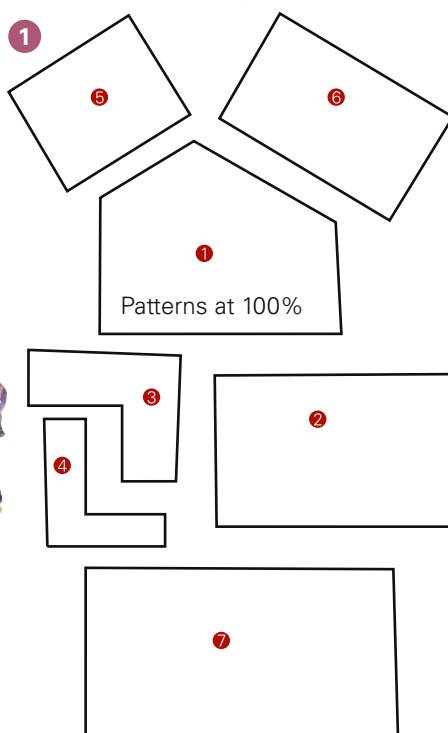
Joseph

Purple for the cloak, tan for the inside robe, tan mixed with black for the hair and base.



Jesus

Pale yellow for the straw of the manger, white for the swaddling clothes and tan for the lower part of the manger.



MAKING THE STABLE

1 Using the template, (left), and a sharp craft knife, cut out the panels in 2mm balsa wood.



2 Take extra care with the sides - you will be cutting against the grain and as the balsa wood is very thin it has a tendency to split.

3 Start by fixing the rear wall (no. 1) to the base (no. 2) using tacky glue. When the back section has dried slightly, add the sides (no. 3 and no. 4).



4 Before adding the roof (no. 5 & 6) try to angle the two joints at the pitch of the roof for a better fit. Glue in place. Glue the stable centrally on to the larger base (no. 7) keeping the back of the stable and the base level.



5 For the outside, paint with brown acrylic paint. For the inside, mix brown with white to create a lighter brown paint.



6 Allow the paint to dry, then add some small pieces of lichen at the sides to resemble greenery. Add coconut coir for the roof, alternatively straw will work. Glue it onto the roof leaving some to overhang the edges.



7 Add some strands to run across the ridge. For the floor cut the coir into very small pieces and then mix with bits with grass powder. The mix is then glued to the floor and around the front of the stable.



8 Add in the figurines. Cut some short pieces from a cocktail stick and cut in half lengthways to give you rounded pieces with a flat back. Cut one end into a sharp point, dip into glue and press the lengths into the soft balsa wood to make a small fence.



9 Add a small cross section securing with glue. When dry give the fence a coat of paint in a light shade of brown.



10 Finally fit the star to the front of the stable.

MAKING THE NEWS

IN JANUARY 2014...



Paul McCartney and Ringo Starr performed together at the Grammy awards

Roger Lloyd Pack, famous for his role as Trigger in *Only Fools and Horses* passed away aged 69.



2873 Athletes from 88 nations competed at the 2014 Winter Olympics in Sochi, Russia.

EXACT EDITIONS

Turn to
PAGE 60
to find out
more.



INFORMATION

Carol Clarke

www.dollhouseinterior.co.uk

ALL TOOLS AND MATERIALS USED IN THIS PROJECT ARE WIDELY AVAILABLE FROM ANY GOOD ARTS AND CRAFTS SHOP.



The Quatermaster:



HAVE YOURSELF A MERRY LITTLE CHRISTMAS

Deck the halls with boughs of holly, very tiny bows of holly that is, and even tinier red berries. It's Christmastime, and I've rounded up a few amazing quarter scale and smaller festive miniatures to enjoy as well as a few tips from the experts as to how to give your little dolls houses that sparkling Christmas look.



Santa and Rudolph getting ready to deliver

Veronica Norris of Little House at the Priory has been busy creating Christmassy and snowy items in various scales including a 1/48th Santa workshop and this gorgeous 1/48th Santa and Sleigh scene complete with his overflowing sack of toys for all good girls and boys. She's also made a lovely decorated mantelpiece where

you can hang your stocking which is just waiting to welcome Santa as he pops down the chimney to deliver his toys, and of course a 1/48th Christmas tree.

Sonia Bethwaite of Little Miss Miniature whose miniatures go down as small as 1/576th to create a fully furnished dolls house to fit inside a 1/48th dolls house has extended the range of these tiny buildings to include a lovely little church and some Swiss cottage style houses that you can just imagine on a snowy hillside in a winter wonderland setting.

◀ Little Miss Miniature's amazing little church and houses

Jenny Kelm of Kastle Kelm Miniatures has created the cutest little Santas and his helpful elves in 1/48th to bring a smile to everyone's faces as we gear up for the most hectic time of the year. I wondered whether these busy miniaturists will be taking a well-earned Christmas break from their work, or will it be all systems go for the year ahead? For Little Miss Miniature, she doesn't see any let up over Christmas. "From November onwards it's my busiest period," said Sonia. "It just takes off, as people get Christmas money or dolls houses, or something related to miniatures. So, at Christmas when everyone is eating and drinking, I'll be sitting there, making my miniatures."





► Elf and Santa by Kastle Kelm Miniatures

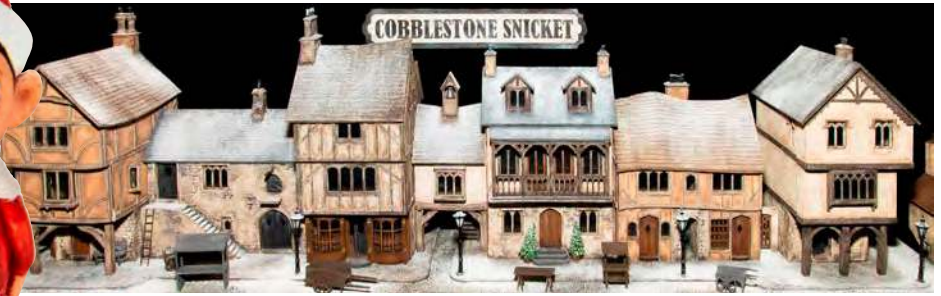


And was there anything she would particularly like to find under the tree on Christmas morning? "I'd like to have some 1/12th scale cabinets, because I want to fill them with my miniatures to give to my future grandchildren as heirlooms."

Julia Sensiba who creates miniatures in all scales, including quarterscale, is hoping to get another antique box to add to her collection of lovely little boxes - which she then furnishes in great detail. Julia returned after a 12-year break to exhibit at the recent Miniatura Show, coming all the way from France where she now lives. One of her boxes was a little vintage French item, covered in full-size French postage stamps, and another box, now fully furnished and inhabited had come from Russia.



▲ Julia of Whitewitch Miniatures turns a little box into a little home



▼ A wintery look to Cobblestone Snicket by Petite Properties

There's definitely a Christmas feel to **Petite Properties'** atmospheric street of old cottages, Cobblestone Snicket. Bea and family set up this lovely display at the recent Miniatura Show featuring seven buildings in 1/48th scale and with just a light sprinkling of snow it conjured up a delightful atmospheric wintery scene. This busy family of miniaturists are looking forward to some Christmas cheer, as I asked them what they are hoping for at Christmas. Bea said she would love a 1/48th vintage van in her Christmas stocking; while Tony says what he wants - is a rest! Oh yes, and some chocolates, but not miniature ones!

Jane Harrop is hoping that her Christmas stocking will have one or two luxurious scented items - in full size to enjoy when she does have time to relax and pamper herself between making her miniatures, kits and running workshops. She also plans this year to try and finish decorating her daughter's bedroom which she started before last Christmas.

"Christmas is a busy time, as although I always try to have lots of kits in stock, very often I'll be asked for that one kit that isn't in stock, so then I'll break off from what I'm doing to make it."

If you are wanting to make your dolls house look lovely and Christmassy, then Jane has come up with some great ideas that won't break the bank.

"If you look on the internet for glitter and baubles for miniatures, or in craft shops, the things that come up will be costly. But if you've time to wander around the Pound Shops you'll find tubs of fine glitter which will give a lovely sparkly effect. Also, I often use eye shadows which can give a glittery and luminescent effect to models. In particular, keep a look out for anything that's used in decorating your nails, such as tiny hole-less beads and tiny pearls which are perfect for giving that sparkle to your miniature houses."



▲ Jane Harrop's Christmas workshop table

And finally, what does our editor, Carl want for Christmas?

"Hmmm... that's a really good question, today I'm going to say a new sports watch, ask me tomorrow and it's more likely to be a week away from the UK, somewhere tropical and remote!" 

 **INFORMATION**
| Photos by Rob Tysall

▼ French antique box by Whitewitch Miniatures





At Home with THE BROADWOODS



With Christmas almost upon us and with a shiny new year waiting eagerly in the wings, this month the **Petite Properties** team are in a reflective mood as they take a look back, at not only their favourite 'miniature' memories of 2019, but also share some moments that they would rather forget!

It's beginning to look a lot like Christmas...

Here in PPHQ, we can't quite believe that December is here again and that Christmas is clearly visible on the horizon. For us as a team, 2019 has been filled to the brim with shows, demonstrations and of course the launch and development of numerous new kits and thanks to the addition of new model railway exhibitions to our schedule, our spring show season was our busiest yet.

Collectively, we've really pushed ourselves to accomplish all that we planned at the start of the year and 2019 has



seen not only the launch of a whole new collection of Calendar Cottages, but also a complete spooky street scene and an autumn showstopper too!

Ultimately, we love what we do and we have so many new ideas and exciting plans for the coming year up our collective sleeve. So as ever, watch this space for all our news, chortles, top tips, tutorials, new kits and projects; as we can't wait to do it all over again in 2020!

Tony, Bea and & Mo.

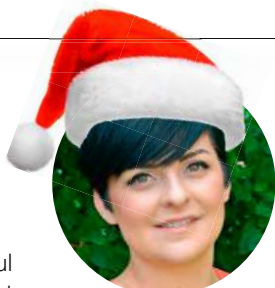
◀ **July Cottage, part of PP's Calendar Cottages Collection**

The year that was...

Mo

If I'm honest, escaping PPHQ for two wonderful holidays were high points for me during the year 🥰. But with my sun hat off and my PP hat firmly on, I would have to say that I really enjoyed the hustle and bustle of the York Dolls House Show. The reality of exhibiting at this popular show means a very long day and a lot of hard work too. By the time we've loaded up the van to head home, my feet are always killing me and I just want a nap. But despite the aches and pains and early start, I really enjoy the buzz and also the customers that I get to see there.

Back at the June show, I was able to introduce my daughter to the wonderful world of miniatures, when she joined the PP team as our newest 'honorary' member. She loved the show and looking at all the stands... so much so that she ended up going home with a whole bag full of goodies. Maybe she's a dolls house enthusiast of the future? Who knows?



But you could say; a love of miniatures is certainly in her blood.

If you would like to find out more about what goes on behind the PP scenes at the York show, check out the September 2015 edition, issue 256, (details of which can be found on page 49) in which Mo shares her day!

▼ **Boss Lady Junior**



▲ **Mo in action at the York Dolls House Show**

Tony

Despite a less than positive start (I crashed the PP van in February, don't ask!), 2019 turned out to be a very busy year and keeping up with Bea's (overly) optimistic schedule of new kits, has meant that we've all spent more time locked away in PPHQ than ever before. As a result of being so cooped up, getting out to shows has been a welcome break from the workshop routine and a high point too, as I



particularly enjoy chatting and laughing with our wonderful customers.

My personal low point of the year (other than the incident with the van... again, don't ask) was when we realised that our workload meant that we would have to cancel our planned summer holiday. Happily Bea and I did manage a 'spur of the moment' mini break together to beautiful Dorset. However, work inevitably came with us in the form of Bea's camera and sketchbook. But after all these years together, I'm pleased to say that I have perfected the art of sitting quietly, as she draws and when required, I make the perfect human ruler for scale photos. It's a talent, I know.

▼ On a Busman's.. the ultimate human ruler!



▼ Bea sketching away



Bea

Back in January, I clearly remember sitting down in front of the fire, note pad in hand, ready to plan for the year ahead. Maybe it was a waft of optimism that a fresh start brings, but the 'to do' list I created was long and (dare I say) eye wateringly ambitious. As a result, 2019 has definitely turned out to be our busiest year yet and work wise it has often felt relentless. I don't mind admitting that juggling and designing in six (very) different scales has often been not only a challenge, but headache inducing too.

Despite the busy schedule, my creative high point definitely came in the form of Stragglethorpe Manor. This stately quarter scale kit was such a lot of fun to design and develop and the Knot Garden that it is displayed on has instantly become my new 'favourite' PP base! But for now, with a new year just around the corner, I think it might be time for me to grab my trusty notebook (again) and start planning our 2020 kit schedule... but I don't think I'll tell Tony what's on it... just yet! 🤐

(Don't miss the January issue, in which Bea shares how she brought her 1/48th scale Knot Garden to life).



Stragglethorpe Manor & Knot Garden in 1/48th scale



And finally...

With the lights of Christmas starting to twinkle, we would like to take this opportunity to thank all of our customers for their continued support and unwavering enthusiasm for the kits we create. We never cease to be completely humbled by the overwhelming response and excitement our work receives. Thank you.

So, not just as a family business, but as a family, we would all like to take this opportunity to wish each of you a very merry Christmas. We hope that 2020 is not only filled with peace, health and happiness, but also plenty of time to enjoy the captivating world of miniatures too!



Merry Christmas, from our home to yours.
The Broadwood family. 🏠



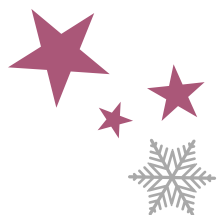
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GIVEAWAY!

Turn to page 4 for more information

One lucky reader will be chosen at random to receive an Advent Calendar



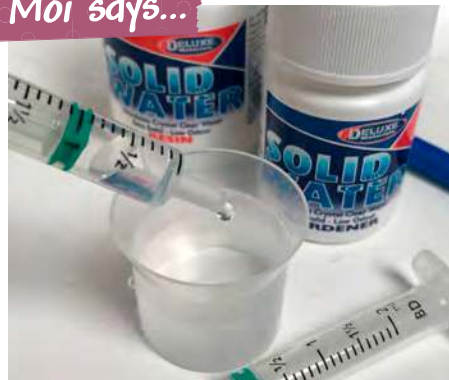
Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

YOU WILL NEED

MATERIALS REQUIRED

- Scenic Water by Deluxe Materials
- Paint
- Pastel or chalk
- Glasses plus punch bowl and ladle
- Air-drying clay
- Orange and lemon slices
- Amber or clear micro beads

Moi says...



"For these projects, make the basic drink mix by mixing one part hardener with two parts resin as per the Scenic Water instructions. For colourings, use paint (only the tiniest amount), dry paint power, pastels or crafting chalk powders. Use a cocktail stick to add and mix the colouring".

HOGMANAY CHAMPAGNE

On the stroke of midnight, see in the New Year with a glass of bubbly. You'll need a pair of wine glasses from Dolls House Emporium (they come in a pack of two). Mix a little pale yellow colouring into resin. Add to the glasses, and include a few clear or amber coloured micro beads for bubbles. Pop a bottle of bubbly on ice. I used the cap from a cosmetic bottle for my champagne bucket!

Moi says...

"Even people who tend not to drink all year round may enjoy a small tipple at Christmas, or raise a glass to see in the New Year. Make these seasonal favourites to create a Christmassy setting in your dolls house."

Moi Ali demonstrates how to create seasonal drinks to warm the cockles of your heart and bubbly to see in the Hogmanay!



MULLED WINE

A perennial Yuletide favourite, mulled wine will fill you with Christmas cheer. It's the perfect festive party tipple, so fill up a punch bowl and ladle out a few glasses of the warming liquor.

Put a little red colouring in a glass punch bowl, add resin and mix well. Sit a glass ladle in the bowl. Fill small glasses using a cocktail stick to drip resin into. Add a slice

of orange or lemon to the small glasses. When the resin is almost set (which will take several hours) float a few Fimo orange and lemon slices on the surface of the mulled wine. 



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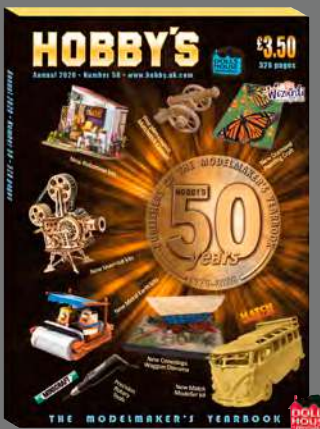
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THE MODELMAKER'S YEARBOOK





Áurea Segura

This month we chat to **Áurea Segura**, creator of the most exquisite hand painted miniatures, featuring everything from simple floral arrangements to busy village scenes.

DHMS: Hi Áurea, thanks very much for talking to us. Tell us what got you first interested in miniatures and how long you have been a miniaturist?

Áurea: I have always been passionate about art and decoration from a really young age, but about 20 years ago I became interested in dolls house furniture, realising that this allowed me to combine the two. 17 years ago, I bought my first dolls house, I can't remember where I bought it from, but it was totally unfurnished. It required flooring, wallpapering and painting so I started to hand paint my own miniature furniture that I had bought previously. My family and friends always said how beautiful and unique those pieces were and five years ago, I decided I wanted to share that with the world,

so I began to attend various dolls house fairs and eventually started Aurearte Miniatures.

DHMS: Were you crafty by nature or was it something you grew into in adulthood?

Áurea: I am an artist and I have been painting oil paintings my whole life. As a child I painted and

"My mission is to light up every doll house with unique and exclusive hand painted furniture. Every piece is made with careful detail to capture beauty characteristics."

Áurea.

Turn to
PAGE 44
for a Christmas
drinks project



▲ An elegant rest



The Christmas collection



◀ Christmas chest

▶ Finished in pink



was very creative. I studied restoration techniques in Rome and applied that knowledge to my miniature furniture, including the marble imitation techniques I learned.

DHMS: So what scale do you work in?

Áurea: 1/12th scale, I absolutely adore it! It allows me to focus on the most intricate of details.

DHMS: Do you require any specialist tools?

Áurea: My main essentials are my thin paint brushes. They are my number one tool with which to work with, perfect for applying the finer details to my miniatures.

DHMS: Your new Christmas themed miniatures look absolutely fabulous, who or what inspired them?

Áurea: This new collection of Christmas themed miniatures is one of my most exclusive collections - it has a lot of detailing and reflects the joy of the festive season with Christmas scenes in each of the pieces of furniture. 

▼ Finished in blue



► Pretty in pink!



“During my spare time I like to visit museums,
I find them to be so inspiring for my miniatures.”

Áurea.

I was inspired by the happiness that fills my heart during Christmas when I get together with my family to share wonderful moments. I went to a German school as a child and the way we lived and celebrated the Christmas celebrations was very special. That's what I try to reflect in my pieces.

DHMS: On average how long can one project take to make?

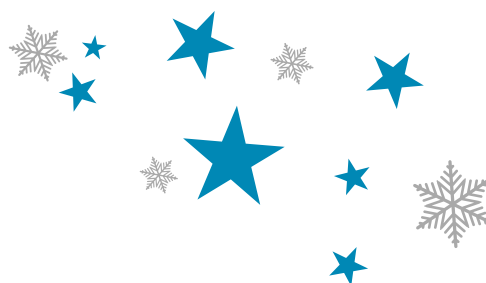
Áurea: It depends on the piece of furniture and the amount of detail already on it. On average, hand painting a piece of dolls house furniture will take me about six days.

DHMS: Do you have a favourite piece in the collection?

Áurea: Yes, the chimney panel (above). This piece takes you to a small town covered in snow where Santa Claus is giving out presents that will light up the children's faces when they wake up on Christmas morning. It's very detailed and so sophisticated too.

DHMS: What advice would you give to new miniaturists?

Áurea: Make your dolls house your dream house. For me a dolls house is the place where you can make your dreams



come true. If you fall in love with a piece, put it in your dream dolls house. Light it up with all those pieces that make you smile and fill your heart with joy.

DHMS: And finally, do you take commissions?

Áurea: Yes, I do. I'm contactable via email:

✉ aureart23@gmail.com

and via following

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Áurea Segura

CLICK & SWIPE TO VIEW IMAGES



FAIRS DIARY



7 June

Location: York

Venue: York Racecourse, York YO23 1EX

Organiser: Warners Dollhouse & Miniatures Fair



NOVEMBER

23 November

Location: Dedham

Venue: The Assembly Rooms, High Street, Dedham Colchester, Essex, CO7 6DE

Organiser: Dolly's Daydreams

24 November

Location: Nantwich

Venue: The Civic Hall, Market Street, Nantwich, Cheshire, CW5 5DG

Organiser: MM Fairs

30 November

Location: London

Venue: Kensington Town Hall, Hornton Street, London, W8 7NX

Organiser: Kensington Dolls House Festival

DECEMBER

1 December

Location: Basildon

Venue: Holiday Inn Basildon, Waterfront Walk, Festival Leisure, Park Basildon, Essex, SS14 3DG

Organiser: Dolly's Daydreams

JANUARY 2020

5 January

Location: Exeter - New Fair

Venue: Westpoint Conference Centre, Westpoint, Clyst St. Mary Exeter, Devon, EX5 1DJ

Organiser: MGM Fairs

11 January

Location: Rugby

Venue: The Benn Hall, Newbold Road, Rugby, Warwickshire, CV21 2LN

Organiser: MM Fairs

12 January

Location: Stafford

Venue: Members Pavilion, County Showground, Weston Road, Stafford, Staffordshire, ST18 0BD

Organiser: MGM Fairs

19 January

Location: Copdock

Venue: Ipswich Hotel, Old London Road, Copdock, Ipswich, Suffolk, IP8 3JD

Organiser: Dolly's Daydreams

26 January

Location: London

Venue: The Tower Hotel, St Katherine's Way, London, E1W 1LD

Organiser: City of London Dollhouse Festival

FEBRUARY

1 February

Location: Southport

Venue: Southport Theatre & Convention Centre, The Promenade, Southport, Merseyside, PR9 0DZ

Organiser: MM Fairs

2 February

Location: Lincoln

Venue: Windmill Farm Hotel, Runcorn Road, Off Whisby Road, Lincoln, Lincolnshire, LN6 3QZ

Organiser: Dolly's Daydreams

16 February

Location: Porthcawl

Venue: The Grand Pavilion, The Esplanade, Porthcawl, Bridgend, CF36 3YW

Organiser: MGM Fairs

16 February

Location: Rivenhall End

Venue: The Rivenhall Hotel, Rivenhall End, Near Witham Chelmsford, Essex, CM8 3HB

Organiser: Dolly's Daydreams

23 February

Location: Maidstone - New Fair

Venue: Downswood Community Centre, Chilern Close, Downswood, Maidstone, Kent, ME15 8XG

Organiser: MGM Fairs

MARCH

7 March

Location: Northwich

Venue: The Memorial Hall, Chester Way, Northwich, Cheshire, CW9 5QJ

Organiser: MM Fairs

8 March

Location: Cobham - Antique

dolls, dollhouse & toys

Venue: Cobham Village Hall, Lushington Drive, Cobham, Surrey, KT11 2LU

Organiser: Wendy's World

15 March

Location: Weston Super Mare

Venue: The Royal Hotel South Parade, Weston Super Mare, Somerset, BS23 1JP

Organiser: MGM Fairs

21-22 March

Location: Birmingham

Venue: National Exhibition Centre, Perimeter Road, Birmingham, West Midlands, B40 1NT

Organiser: Miniatura

Exhibitions

21 March

Location: Royal Wootton Bassett

Venue: The Memorial Hall, Station Road, Royal Wootton Bassett, Wiltshire, SN4 8EN

Organiser: MGM Fairs

29 March

Location: Market Harborough

Venue: The Jubilee Hall, Congregational Church, Bowden Lane, Market Harborough, Leicestershire, LE16 7JD

Organiser: MGM Fairs

ORGANISERS DETAILS

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See our advert on page 25



Three Wise Gifts

Light up your Christmas with gold, frankincense and myrrh, the gifts carried by the Three Wise Men as they followed the Star of Bethlehem.

YOU WILL NEED

MATERIALS REQUIRED

- Polymer clay in sunflower yellow, white and translucent
- Pastels in golden ochre, lemon yellow, red ochre and brown
- Lumiere acrylic paint in 'Bright Gold'
- Matte varnish

TOOLS REQUIRED

- Small brush
- Roller



2 For the frankincense, mix translucent clay with grated golden ochre and lemon yellow pastel. Keep them all light, but mix a few different depths of shade for a realistic variety, including one with a small amount of added brown pastel. As the colours alter once they're baked, it's always a good idea with clay mixtures such as these to bake a test piece for each shade to ensure the colours are what you're looking for. Once you're happy with the colours, shape into individual tiny pieces of different shapes and sizes.



3 Make the myrrh by mixing translucent clay with red ochre, golden ochre, brown and lemon yellow pastel. Once again, create a few differing shades, some darker than others. As before, shape into individual pieces of varying sizes. Bake everything and allow to cool thoroughly.



1 Mix sunflower yellow polymer clay with white to create a light yellow. Roll the mixture out to around 3mm in thickness and place in the freezer for five minutes, allowing the clay to harden up a little before using your fingers to break into individual pieces of 'gold'.



4 Paint the yellow clay pieces using metallic gold acrylic paint. You might find this requires a couple of coats to ensure solid coverage. I've used Lumiere acrylic paint in 'Bright Gold'.



INFORMATION

To see more of Sadie's work visit:

www.homewardflight.etsy.com

ALL TOOLS AND MATERIALS USED IN THIS PROJECT ARE WIDELY AVAILABLE FROM ANY GOOD ARTS AND CRAFTS SHOP.



5 Once the gold paint has dried thoroughly, coat all the gold, frankincense and myrrh with matte varnish. 



See
Carol Clarke's
Nativity Scene on
PAGE 38

IN YOUR NEXT
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JANUARY 2020 ISSUE ON SALE

DIGITAL EDITION:

12th DECEMBER 2019

PRINT EDITION:

19th DECEMBER 2019

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ISSN: 0967 4918

Warners Group Publications Plc,

The Maltings, West Street, Bourne, Lincolnshire, PE10 9PH.

Printing

This magazine is printed by Warners Midlands Plc.

Martin Harris

Tel: 01778 391000

Newtrade Distribution

Warners Group Publications Plc,

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Tel: 01778 391171

Nikkim@warnersgroup.co.uk

Subscriptions, reader offers and back issues

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DollsHouse & MINIATURE SCENE

Dolls House & Miniature Scene is published 12 times a year on the fourth Thursday of each month.

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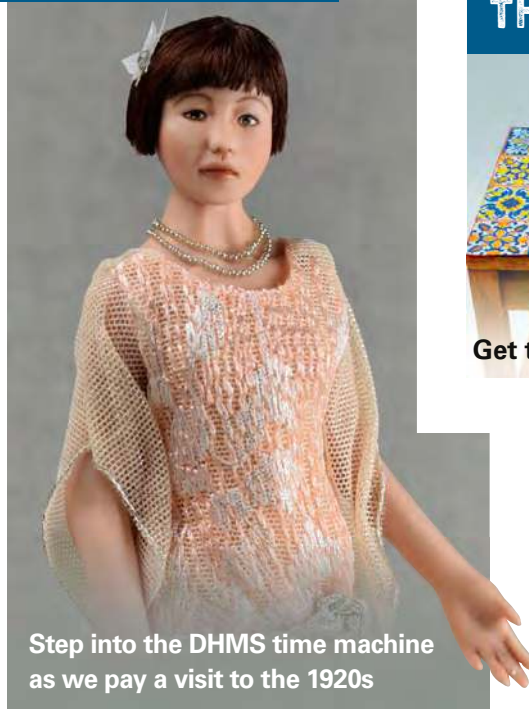
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as we pay a visit to the 1920s

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THIS!



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We chat to Jon Trenchard
about his epic build

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20 mini ideas for a big 2020

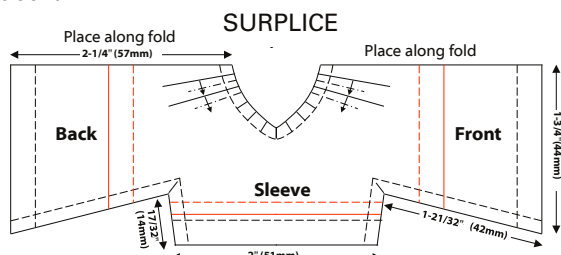
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A SCENE OF CHRISTMAS CHEER

Over the years I've accumulated a number of little boy figures, with the idea of one day making my own scene of choristers in the chancel. So here's my little ones, collecting their carol books and getting into their gowns in preparation for "Nine Lessons and Carols," just in time for the festive season.

- ☐ Steam iron
- ☐ Scissors
- ☐ Sewing needle & sewing machine
- ☐ Wax paper
- ☐ Straight pins
- ☐ 5mm (3/16") hole punch
- ☐ Forceps (optional, but handy for turning sleeves)
- ☐ Wooden cocktail stick
- ☐ Ball stylus
- ☐ Steel ruler



1 The pattern pieces are for a 102mm (4") tall figure, but can be hemmed for any height differences and are either wrapped



and the surplice, including lace, below the knee. Determine any changes you need to make in pattern lengths for your figures and also consider any sleeve alterations that may be needed.

Ruth's Top Tip!

"Glued hems look more in scale than sewn ones, but apply the glue very sparingly with the tip of a cocktail stick to the hem portion, rather than the main fabric, so it doesn't seep through to mark the right side."

2



2 Iron the fabrics smooth. Pin the cassock pattern piece on the folded grainline of the red cotton fabric. Mark and cut out this piece. Finger-press and hand-sew the box pleat in the back across the neck edge. Make tiny clips around the neck edge, finger-press, and lightly glue the fabric to the inside as a facing. Work on wax paper to protect the work surface. Turn the open edges of the front under, finger-press, and lightly glue, as a self-facing. Make a small thread loop at the top of the left front. Try it on the figure. Position and sew a bead to the top right front, so the front fastens across the figure's throat.

3



3 If the arms are free, place the cassock with right sides together, pin the seams, and machine-stitch from the ankle to the wrist. Clip into the angle, close to the stitches, and finger-press the seams open. Determine the sleeve and overall lengths for hemming. Finger-press and lightly glue the sleeve and bottom edge hems.

Ruth's Top Tip!

"Slip a pencil inside the sleeve and glue the hem before turning the sleeve right-side-out. If there are arm restrictions, sew the side seams halfway up, hem, and sew the side and sleeve seams by hand while on the figures."

4



4 Position the surplice pattern piece on folded white cotton, following the grain line. Cut out the surplice. Finger-press and hand-sew the pleats around the neckline. Make tiny clips around the neck edge and lightly glue the fabric to the inside as a facing. With right sides together, machine-sew the side and sleeve seams. Clip into the angle and finger-press the seams flat. Lightly glue the hems and turn the surplice right-side-out. Hand-sew the straight edge of the lace along the bottom edge of the hem. Again, if there are arm restrictions, hand-stitch the sleeve and side seams together after the surplice is on the figure.

Ruth says...

"My assortment of boys vary in heights between 76mm (3") and 114mm (4½") with the biggest challenge being the rigid resin arm positions! If you are buying figures for this project, try to get ones with their arms free from their sides and ideally, moveable. Moveable arms make dressing the figures infinitely easier! If not, leave one or both cassock and surplice sleeves open so they can be sewn together on the figure, depending on the pose of the doll. Or slip the sewn cassock sleeve(s) through the surplice sleeves and sew the cuffs together at the back as I did with two figures."

5



5 Thread the needle with doubled, knotted thread. Make short running stitches along the straight edge of a 64mm (2½") long piece of lace. Leave the needle attached. Pull the thread to gather the lace around the figure's neck. Stitch this lace ruff together at the back of the neck. Often choir members will wear ribbons earned at choir schools or in competitions. Some of mine have blue or red ones with gold medals. Cut a 89mm (3½") length of ribbon, place it around the chorister's neck, and spot glue the lapped ends in the front. Punch a gold circle and glue it over the join.

6 Carol sheet template at 100%



Sheet music

6 Cut 25mm x 38mm (1"-1½") piece of velvet paper. Score a 2mm (1/16") wide spine in the centre and fold along these lines. Photocopy the sheet music onto white paper. Score the fold lines on the music strips. Cut out the strips, removing the black top and bottom edges. Run a glue-stick along the back of the music strip and beginning at one end, fold it on itself accordion fashion. Weight the book flat and white glue the spine into the scored area of the cover. 



INFORMATION

All Photos by Stephen Lesbirel



Made by You: Christmas Orangery

CATHERINE CUISY



Catherine and her furnished orangery



The Victorian

We know how much hard work and dedication goes into dressing a doll, creating a room box or constructing a house, whether it be producing it from scratch or following instructions in a kit form. We thought that it would be nice to give the readers the spotlight that they deserve and share with you their finished projects.

Like most miniature projects, the idea for this 1/12th scale piece began in my head, with the idea of an orangery being part of my grand Victorian build. I bought the structure 'naked' which I assembled and then mounted. I gave it a coat of white paint and added rows of red bricks around the exterior made by cutting and gluing small pieces of balsa wood to the frame. The bricks give the orangery some character and keeps in style with the main house, and as you can see, a coating of faux snow around the window frame!

I began work on the structure in July 2018 (it had been sitting on my desk for some time) and it took me about five months to complete, working occasional weekends when work permitted. Some of

the pieces within the orangery were bought and some were made including Fimo gingerbread men on a garland which hang from a red garland from the ceiling. I also made the tablecloth and napkins



Let it snow!

on the table, which were embroidered by hand along with the cake and the biscuits. I like Reutter dishes, so I bought a couple.

I bought the Christmas tree, but made all of the decorations including the candy canes from short pieces of electrical wire. For the little medallions, I took a jewel ring that I filled with a tiny picture. The crackers were all rolled by hand using sweet papers, wrapped around small wooden spikes. I shopped around online and bought embroidery kits by Janet

Granger and Nicola Mascall which when completed I hung on the door.

The Christmas Orangery was a really nice piece to work on. As I added each element, it really felt like the scene was coming to life. As you can see it has been decorated for Christmas but it can be adapted for summer by removing a few key items and replacing them with birds and greenery. 🏠

Catherine Cuisy, Val de Marne, France



What a lovely tree

DollHouse

& MINIATURE SCENE

Made by you:

Christmas Orangery - Catherine Cuisy

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Freestanding pillar boxes like mine are widely available

First Class Christmas

Moi Ali takes a seasonal look at the postal service, and offers inspiration for adding a postal flavour to your miniature scenes.

Whether it's posting parcels or mailing festive cards, Christmas is the one time during the year that we are all sure you use the postal service. Email has reduced the sheer quantity of so-called snail mail, but at Christmas the volume peaks thanks to all those pressies and cards being exchanged by friends and family near and far.

The wonderful Postal Museum in London, part of the huge Mount

Pleasant sorting office, tells the fascinating history of the post since its inception through artefacts and storyboards. Harry Huskisson, Head of Communications and Marketing at the Museum, showed me round this amazing visitor attraction and explained, "The Postal Museum opens up the chance for everyone, from those with a topical interest to families looking for a fun morning or afternoon out, to experience

some of the quirky social history behind an incredible British invention that changed the world: the Post. Just across the street, Mail Rail gives people a once in a lifetime opportunity to explore a hidden piece of subterranean London by riding through its century-old miniature tunnels."

That quirky social history to which Harry referred includes the incredible story of two suffragettes who, in 1909, used the postal service in a highly novel way. The

Prime Minister refused to meet them to discuss votes for women, so they posted themselves to 10 Downing Street! 

Moi says...

"Bring the Royal Mail into your miniature scene by scattering mini love letters on a dressing table, business letters on a desk or the morning post on the breakfast table in your dolls house."



▲ Love letters look super on a dressing table



▲ Miniature foreign post boxes can also be found



Wall mounted and ready to be glued in place



▲ Wall mounted and ready to be glued in place

Back in the day, a postcard could be sent for just 2d (less than a penny in 'new' money) but a postcard containing the name of the sender, the date and "a conventional phrase of not more than five words" could be sent for just 1½d! I wonder if that's where the popular postcard expression "wish you were here" came from!

During the heyday of the postal service in the 1930s, it had its very own Public Relations Department - at a time when

PR was in its infancy. The Department created a brand for the GPO (General Post Office), complete with a distinctive logo designed by MacDonald Gill. The typeface, known as Gill, was designed by his brother Eric, the famous sculptor, and also appeared on the front cover of Penguin classic novels.

Having visited many postal museums across the globe, I can confirm that the one in London is up there with the best. One unique attraction it offers, a real slice

of postal history, is the Mail Rail. Descend into the former engineering depot of Mail Rail – the one-hundred-year-old Post Office railway – and journey back in time on a specially made miniature train through the original stalactite-filled tunnels and past station platforms where mail was once transported across London.

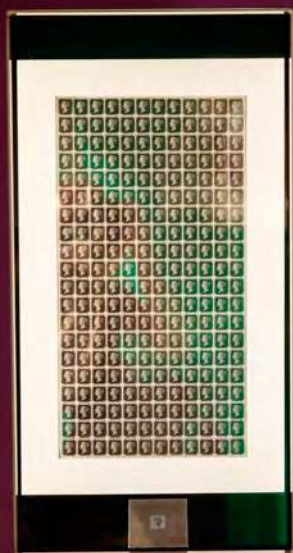
Despite the prevalence of email these days, we have maintained our love affair with the post. A Christmas card sent electronically just isn't the same! 📧

A BRIEF HISTORY OF THE POSTAL SERVICE

Founded by Henry VIII, the Royal Mail has been running for 500 years. The King insisted that each town provide three horses to transport royal letters, with the stables housing these horses called posts, hence the name Post.

Originally it was a royal prerogative to have access to the post – no one else could use it. However, when Victoria acceded to the throne in 1837, we began to see the development of a postal system that we recognise today – with stamps, post boxes and mail trains. (And, of course, the Queen and her husband Albert pretty much invented Christmas as we know it today!) By 1914, the Post Office had become Britain's biggest employer. Men leaving for war left vacancies for women, many of whom entered the workforce for the first time.

Sheet of the world's first postage stamp, the Penny Black, 1840



INFORMATION

Visit!

The Postal Museum

15-20 Phoenix Place

London WC1X 0DA

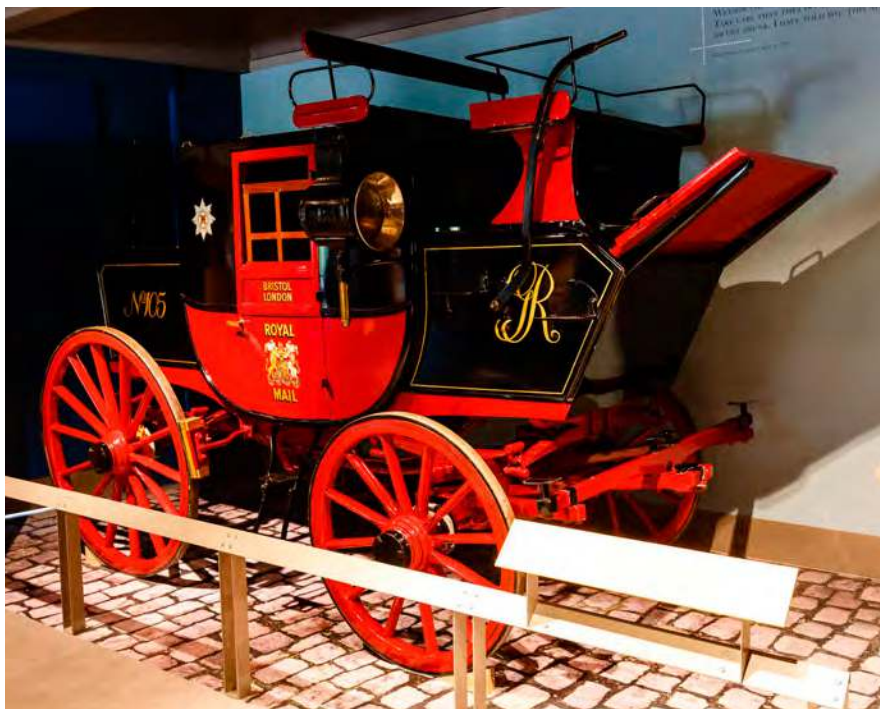
www.postalmuseum.org

POST IN MINIATURE

Why not add a touch of Royal Mail history to your miniature scene? Little Homes of England make adorable free standing post boxes set in brick pillars, complete with a snow capped top for the perfect Christmas scene. Alternatively, glue a wall mounted box to the side of your dolls house. Little Homes of England make those too, in the historic hues of yellow, green and navy. Or pick up a free standing pillarbox from the Dolls House Emporium. They offer a traditional Victorian 'Penfold' design, a round Edwardian version, and a wall box and prices start at just £3.59.

◀ Early Royal Mail post van and Air Mail pillar box

▼ Bristol to London mail coach, 1800s



Taco Time!

MAKE YOUR OWN MINI FROM THE BOOK OF MINI: INSIDE THE BIG WORLD OF TINY THINGS BY KATE ESME ÜNVER



Miniature food has the power to delight an international audience and elicit fond memories of childhood, traditions, adventures, and so much more. It's hard to have a favourite chapter from *The Book of Mini*, but the opening one on savoury food is right up there. Exclusively for *Dolls House & Miniature Scene* readers, here's a step-by-step tutorial from Wisconsin-based miniaturist **Devin Smith** of Awesome, thanks.

YOU WILL NEED

MATERIALS REQUIRED

- Printer
- Recycled brown paper, cut to 8½" x 11" (205mm x 280mm)
- Scissors or X-Acto blade
- Ruler
- Glue



1 Place a sheet of brown paper in your printer. Search for the Taco Bell logo online. Scale it down (anywhere from 30-50%). If you print multiple logos, make sure to leave about 3" between.



2 Cut the paper into strips, making sure to keep your logos centered. Time to fold! For this origami-like step, fold the paper five times (see above). 1" across at the bottom and ¾" on the side.



3 Cut four small snips into the paper, using your folded creases as a guide. Apply glue to the square area below and to the right of your logo. Also add glue to the area below and to the left of your logo.



4 Now fold the bottom of the paper up to create the base of your bag. Adhere the bottom edge of the paper to the glue so you've created a small rectangular base.



5 Keep folding the sides in on each other until you have a rectangular cube shape with the logo still near the base of the bag.



6 Pinch the topmost sides of the bag gently in on each other. Make sure to leave space at the bottom, where the tacos would be inside!



7 Trim off some of the excess paper at the top of the bag. Turn the bag on its back, with the logo facing up. You can roll the remaining excess paper in towards the logo.



INFORMATION

The Book of Mini is in stores now and available online
www.thedailymini.com



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MINI MEETINGS

Members of Aylesbury Dolls House Club reflect on how much they enjoy miniature-making at Christmas, and about some of their recent Christmas projects.



▲ Suzanne Devner's Christmas Village

Suzanne Denver

I first started collecting little houses to create a miniature Christmas village over a decade ago. I now have a rather extensive village scene, more like a small country really, and family and friends regularly buy me items to add to it - they are on the phone to me in early December asking if it's ready to view yet!

Nowadays it takes me over five hours to set up, and my husband jokes that I should really get planning permission first, especially when I added the 'inter village rail link'! But, with only assembling it once a year (and it's never the same twice) it's easy to make mistakes, so I have a large note taped to the inside of the box saying "foil, then lights, then spray, then snow" as I found out one year that once you have sprinkled snow everywhere, using snow spray is a very bad idea!

Sallyanne Bartlett

In the lead up to Christmas we get together as a club and chat about a project to work on. Last year we decided on a matchbox house beautifully decked out in a festive theme. Although one member may not have been listening too carefully and

turned up on the day with a shoebox!

This may I add caused much hilarity and a lot of friendly ribbing. So on a cold and wintery evening in November, at the club meeting, the members starting creating their cosy scenes. With ideas and suggestions flying to and fro the matchboxes were slowly transformed.



Sallyanne Bartlett's matchbox

The diversity of houses was amazing and truly showed the width and breadth of the knowledge the club has to share.

Diane Haylor

In recent years members of ADHC each made a tiny Christmas scene under a clear thimble dome. Due to the scale, not very much could be included, but it certainly taxed our imaginations!

Covering the base with 'snow' was easy, although I had to make sure to use very fine powder, and not flakes.

I wanted to have an outdoor scene with trees, but initially found it difficult to find tiny fir trees. Even the smallest bottle brush trees were too big. Then I had an idea about using fuzzy bumpy chenille pipe-cleaners. These allow you to cut 'trees' to any desired length.

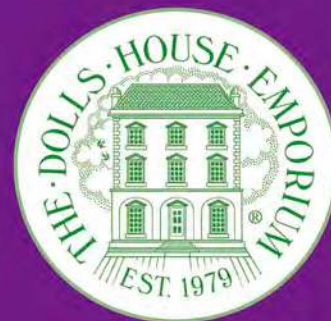
My snowman was made from one end of a cotton wool bud, with a black bead for a hat and a thin piece of wool for a scarf. He had to be re-done when I tried to draw facial features with a fabric pen, and they 'bled' into the cotton wool, but as all miniaturists and crafters will testify, you have to experiment with creativity 🏠



INFORMATION

🌐 www.facebook.com/aylesburydollhouseclub

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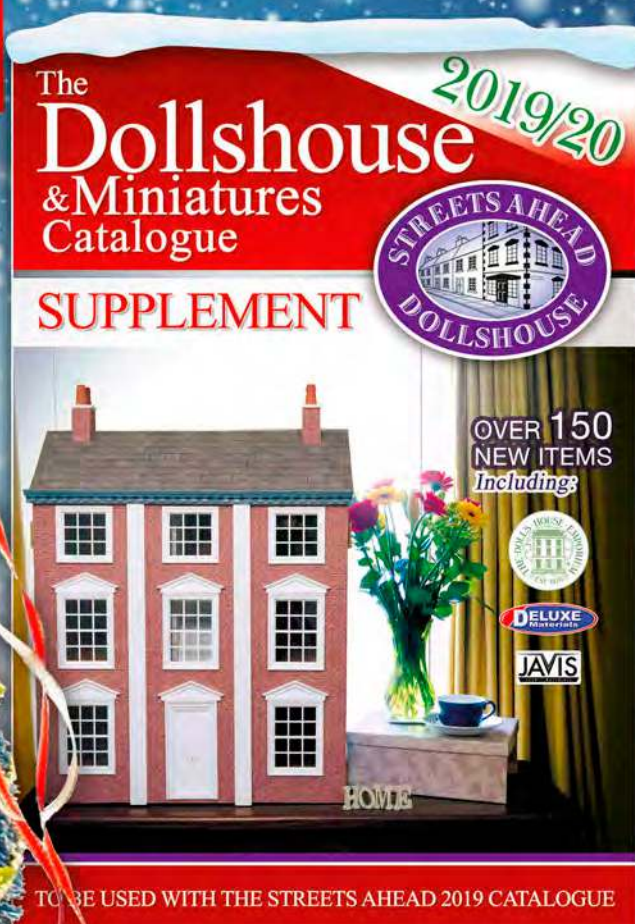
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TEA FOR TWO

Roz Walters provides these festive crochet patterns for a Santa and snowman tea cosy.

Snowman tea cosy Materials Required

- ❑ A single strand of embroidery cotton or Madeira Cotona 30 in white, plus a very small amount in colours of your choice for the scarf and hat
- ❑ Black embroidery cotton for eyes and orange for the nose
- ❑ A small amount of stuffing or a small pom-pom for the head
- ❑ 0.60 mm (US #14) crochet hook

ABBREVIATIONS - US terms in brackets

ch = chain
dc(sc) = double crochet (single crochet)
st(s) = stitch(es)
cont = continue
beg = beginning
sl st(s) = slip stitch(s)
dec = decrease by working two or more sts tog
inc = increase
rem = remaining
tog = together
rep = repeat
sl st = slip stitch
alt = alternate
approx = approximately
Work sts in square brackets the number of times indicated after the brackets.



These tea cosies take up very little thread, so I have used a single strand of embroidery cotton. You could use Madeira Cotona 30's weight if you prefer. The cosies fit a standard size 1/12th scale teapot.

Snowman Tea Cosy

- Tension/Gauge:
21 dc(sc) = 1 inch using 1 strand of embroidery cotton or 30s Madeira Cotona.

Make two pieces

Beginning at the bottom edge, work 24 ch. 1 dc(sc) into the second ch from the hook, 1 dc(sc) into each ch to the end, 1 ch, turn. (23 sts plus the turning ch).

- **Next Row:** 1 dc(sc) into each st to the end of the row, 1 ch, turn. (23 sts plus the turning ch). Work 15 more rows in dc(sc).

Decrease Row for Neck:

dc(sc) 2 tog across the row, end with 1 dc(sc) into the final st, 1 ch, turn.

Work 10 more rows in dc(sc) for the head.

Decrease Row: [dc(sc) 3 tog] 4

times. Fasten off.

Work a second piece to match.

- Run a gathering thread through the stitches at the top of the head and pull tightly. Sew up the side seam for two rows at the bottom edge. Leave a gap for the spout and handle, sew up the remaining side seams.

- Stuff the head with a small pom-pom, polyester stuffing, or cotton wool. Run a gathering thread through the neck and pull up tightly. Work the features using black cotton, with the addition of

two stitches for the carrot nose in orange. Work 'buttons' down the front with black French knots.

Scarf

- Using colour A work 40 ch. 1 dc(sc) into the second ch from the hook, 1 dc(sc) into each ch to the end, change to colour B, 1 ch, turn.
- Work 1 row in colour B, change to colour C at the end of the row, work 1 row in C.
- Fasten off. Sew in all the ends, place around the neck, catch down with a few stitches to hold securely.

Hat

- Work 26 ch in colour A. 1 dc(sc) into the second ch from the hook, 1 dc(sc) into each ch to the end, 1 ch, turn.

- Work 1 more row in colour A, change to colour B at the end of the row.
- Work 2 rows in colour B, change to colour C and work 2 more rows in dc(sc).
- **Decrease Row:** dc(sc) 2 tog across the row, ending with 1 dc(sc) into the final st, 1 ch, turn.
Rep the dec row once more, omitting the turning ch.
Fasten off. Sew in all the ends, sew up the back seam, and add a small pom-pom if required. Fit the hat onto your snowman.

Santa Tea Cosy Back of the Santa

** Beginning at the bottom edge and using the black thread, work 24 ch. 1 dc(sc) into the second ch from the hook, 1 dc(sc) into each

ch to the end of the row, break the black thread.

- Now work as follows:

2 rows in white.
2 rows in red.
2 rows in white.
4 rows in red.
2 rows in black.
4 rows in red. **

Continue in red working the neck shaping and head as on the snowman. Fasten off.

Front of the Santa

- Work as the back from ** to **.
- Still working in red work the neck dec row, now work 1 more row in red.
- Change to flesh or pink colour and work 7 more rows in dc(sc).
- Change to red and work 2 more rows. Rep the final dec row as on the snowman.

- Sew the seams as on the snowman, stuffing the head as before. Work features using either black or blue for the eyes, and a red French knot for the nose. I worked loose French knots around the face for the beard and hair, but you may prefer loops anchored down with a small stitch after each loop. I added a few stitches in white to the top of his head to simulate a pom-pom, and a few stitches in yellow to create the illusion of a belt buckle, or you may prefer to use a miniature brass buckle instead.

© Roz Walters 2011

Santa tea cosy Materials Required

- A single strand of embroidery cotton or Madeira Cotona 30 in red, white, black and flesh or pink, plus a tiny amount of yellow or gold for the belt buckle
- A small amount of stuffing or a small pom-pom for the head
- 0.60 mm (US #14) crochet hook

INFORMATION

More patterns are available in my book 'Miniature Crochet Projects in 1/12 Scale', published by GMC Publications. ISBN 1861082738
W: <http://www.spanglefish.com/rozminiatures/>
I can be contacted via email at roz.miniatures@virgin.net

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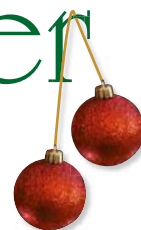


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A Christmas Boot Planter



Christmas is just around the corner so **Mags Cassidy** shows you how to make this Christmas boot planter.

This project is suitable for beginners and advanced polymer clay artists alike.

Materials Required

- ☐ Cernit® Clay Nature range: Granite (183)
- ☐ Number One range: Opaque white (027), Green (600), Christmas Red (463), Yellow (700), Brown (800)
- ☐ Craft knife
- ☐ Ball ended or hockey stick tool
- ☐ Rolling pin or small glass bottle
- ☐ White Tacky Glue
- ☐ Cocktail sticks
- ☐ Imitation snow (I used Deco Art Snow-TEX available from Coleman's Stationery & Craft supplies)
- ☐ Small leaf cutter
- ☐ Small flower cutter
- ☐ Black and white acrylic paints
- ☐ Ceramic tile (to work/bake on)



Step 1

Work the granite clay until soft by rolling and flattening it in your hands. Roll into a log or sausage shape and bend into a right angle.

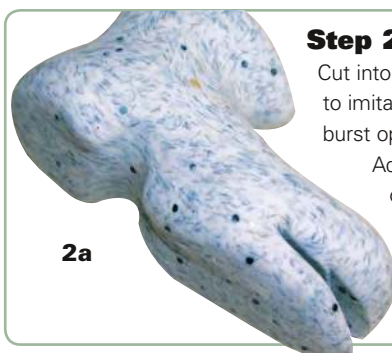
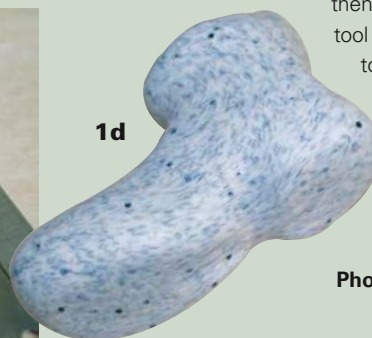
Photo 1a

Shorten the height, if necessary, **photo 1b** then take a ball ended tool and hollow out the top of the boot.

Photo 1c

Make a heel for the boot then press onto the bottom of the boot.

Photo 1d

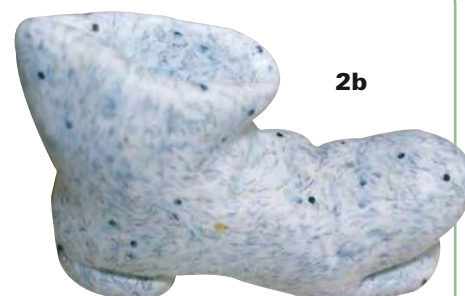


Step 2

Cut into the toe of the boot to imitate the seams having burst open. **Photo 2a**

Add a few creases on the top by lightly pressing with a cocktail stick.

Photo 2b



3a**Step 3**

Roll out a piece of clay for the lace flaps, marking the lace holes with a cocktail stick.

Photo 3a

Stand the boot up and press the flaps into position. **Photo 3b**

3b**Step 4**

Now your boot is ready to plant up.

Work a little brown clay and gently press into the top of the boot.

I have various flower and leaf cutters, collected over the years

and for this project I have used an ivy and a holly leaf cutter and a small Christmas rose flower cutter. Cut out your flowers and gently cup them with a ball ended tool, then add some yellow clay for the centres. **Photo 4** Cut out your leaf shapes then arrange the leaves and flowers on the boot and finally, add some tiny red berries. **See photo 7**

Bake the boot in the oven following the manufacturer's instructions on the packet. Allow to cool.

4**6a****6b****Step 6**

Either cut out the wing shapes freehand or use a small leaf cutter **photo 6a**, then press them gently in position on the robin. Now add a small bit of black and white paint for the eyes.

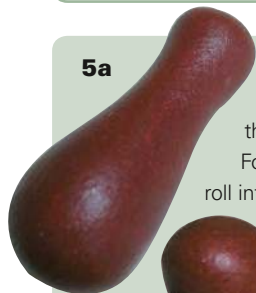
Glue the robin into position with a small blob of white tacky glue. Re-bake the boot. **Photo 6b**

Step 7

When cool, you can add some snow.

Using a cocktail stick, add a little at a time until you are happy with the way it looks. **Photo 7**

Your boot planter is now complete and ready to add to your Christmas decorations!

7**5a****Step 5**

You are now ready to make a robin and cover the boot with snow.

For the robin, work a small piece of brown clay and roll into a small ball.

Place your two forefingers on the ball and press lightly, rolling your fingers backwards and forwards to make a 'neck'. **Photo 5a.**

Then bend the smaller 'head' end upwards. **Photo 5b.**

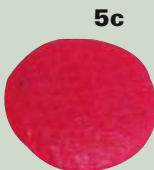
Gently pull out a piece of the clay into a 'beak'

shape and again for a tail. Make small indentations for the eyes.

5b

Make a small ball of red clay and either flatten it with your finger or roll out with rolling pin, position on the robin.

Photos 5c and 5d

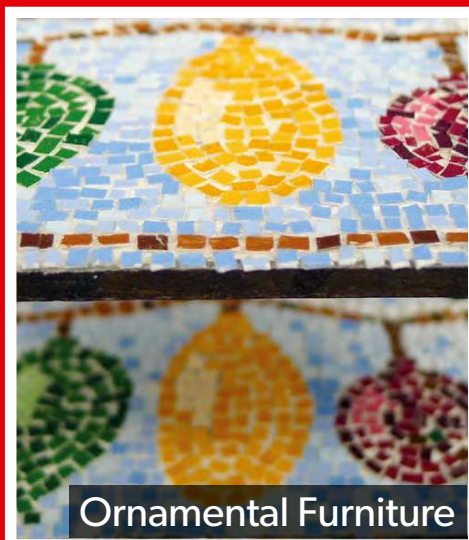
5d**INFORMATION**

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Welcome

Hello!

We certainly know how to treat you!

Back in spring, the DHMS team sat down as a collective and decided to launch Exact Editions, a new subscriber service enabling you to digitally access every project, feature and review published by DHMS dating back to 2010. (More information about Exact Editions can be found on the back page). To tie in with the theme of the December 2019 issue, this Christmas themed supplement is a retrospective look back at just some of the content from your favourite contributors you can enjoy with Exact Editions.



Carl Golder
Editor

Contents

- 3** Christmas Elves, a project by Kati Kainulainen
- 4** Christmas Mosaics, a project by Jill Latter
- 6** Poinsettia Cushion, a project by Sandra Whitehead
- 8** Traditional Decorations, projects by Ruth Flewelling Lesbirel
- 10** Festive Cake Slices, a project by Sadie Brown
- 12** Christmas Jumpers, projects by Nicola Smith
- 15** A Festive Stocking, a project by Lynn Allingham

ALL TOOLS AND MATERIALS USED IN THESE PROJECTS ARE WIDELY AVAILABLE FROM ANY GOOD ARTS AND CRAFTS SHOP.



Christmas Elves

These cheeky little chaps in 1/12th scale have just put in a 12 hour shift at Santa's workshop!

You will need:

Materials required

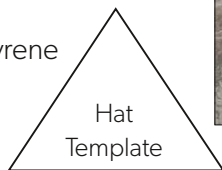
- Red thin felt
- Wool
- Red pipe cleaners
- White wooden bead (diameter 0.8mm-1cm)
- Glue
- Felt-tip pen
- Polystyrene balls

Tools required

- Scissors



1 Attach two polystyrene balls together by drilling into both and Cut a triangle from red felt measuring 1.5cm high x 2cm wide (or trace around the template).



2 Fold the pipe cleaner leg and the body pieces in half. Place the folded lines together and rotate the body piece around itself upwards. While rotating, attach the hands in place. Leave the end of the pipe cleaner from the body to form a neck. The height of a finished body is approximately 2cm.

3 Glue the wooden bead head into the neck.



4 Glue the red felt triangle onto the head, forming a Christmas hat. Use wool to form the beards and then glue on the chin.

5 Finally, draw small eyes with a blue or brown felt-tip pen. 



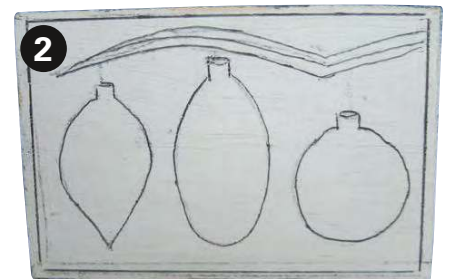
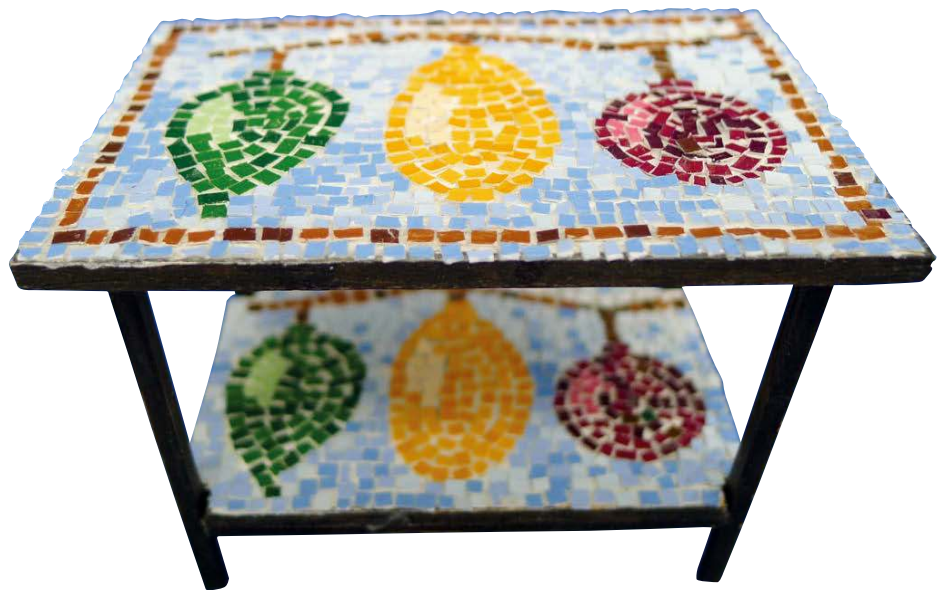
Christmas Mosaics

Jill Latter shows us how to transform a simple piece of 1/12th scale furniture into a stylish Christmas piece.

You will need:

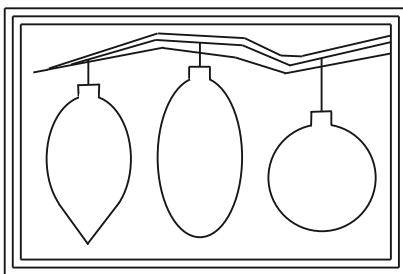
Materials required

- 1/12th Scale table
- Paint swatch colour cards
- Craft knife
- A few pieces of spaghetti
- Pair of scissors
- Ruler
- White paint
- Pencil
- Tacky glue

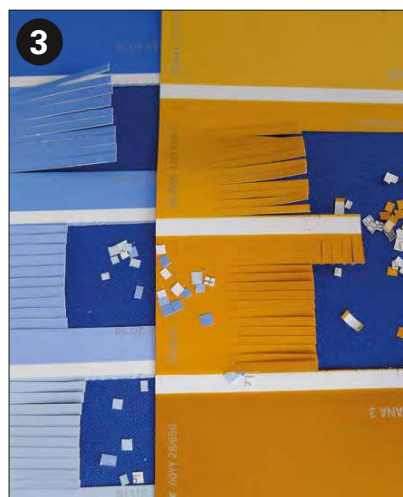


1 Paint your table top with white paint and allow to dry.

2 Decide on your pattern and trace onto your object, I have chosen Christmas baubles.



Pattern at 50%.



3 Using paint swatch cards, a very sharp scalpel and a metal ruler make horizontal cuts across the colours you want to use then cut across them to make small square shapes to make your tiles.

4 Spread glue over the border area of your pattern and pick up a mosaic piece with damp spaghetti and position it on your object. Continue until the border is complete and then with each part of the pattern.

5 Finally fill in the background.

6 Allow to dry then cover the surface with a thin coat of glue to form the grout. 

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Poinsettia Cushion

Sandra Whitehead has created a small panel which can easily be turned into a cushion, a panel for a fire screen, a small wall hanging, framed picture, or as a Christmas card design.

You will need:

Materials required

- 20A 5" square of cream 32 count evenweave fabric
- Tapestry needle size 26
- DMC threads in the following colours: 349, 367, 611, 842, 895, 902, 3371
- Daylight lamp
- Magnifier (optional)
- Tapestry frame (optional)
- Tacky PVA glue
- 4" square of cream backing fabric
- Plastic granules for stuffing (for cushion)
- Scissors, embroidery scissors
- Cream sewing cotton and sewing needle

- The panel is stitched on 32 count evenweave fabric.
- Panel size is 1-1/2" x 1-1/2".
- Stitch count is 49 x 49 stitches.

Preparing to sew

If you are using one, mount your fabric on the tapestry frame.

At this time of year the light levels can be pretty low even during the day so do have a daylight lamp available if you can. You may wish to sew the design on a mini frame but it can be worked without.



The design is stitched in tent stitch and diagonal tent stitch. Tent stitch is used for the detail of the design and diagonal tent stitch is used to fill in the background areas. Refer to the diagrams and bring your needle up at the odd numbers on the diagrams and down at the even numbers. Each square on the chart represents one stitch made over one thread of the fabric. Use one strand of the six strand thread in your needle and use thread lengths that are fairly short (8"-12").

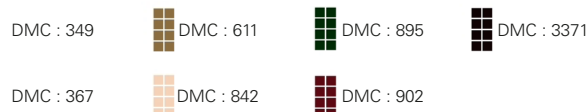
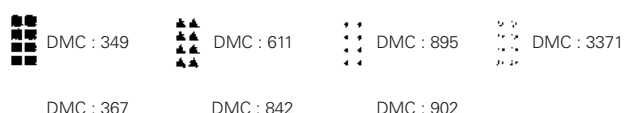
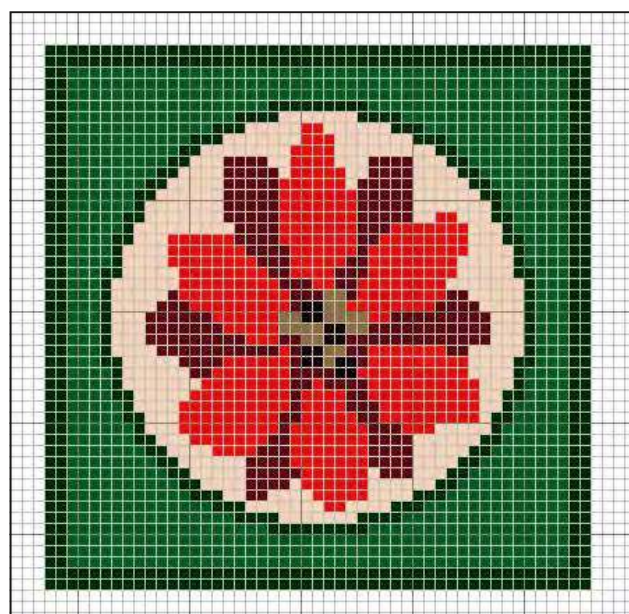
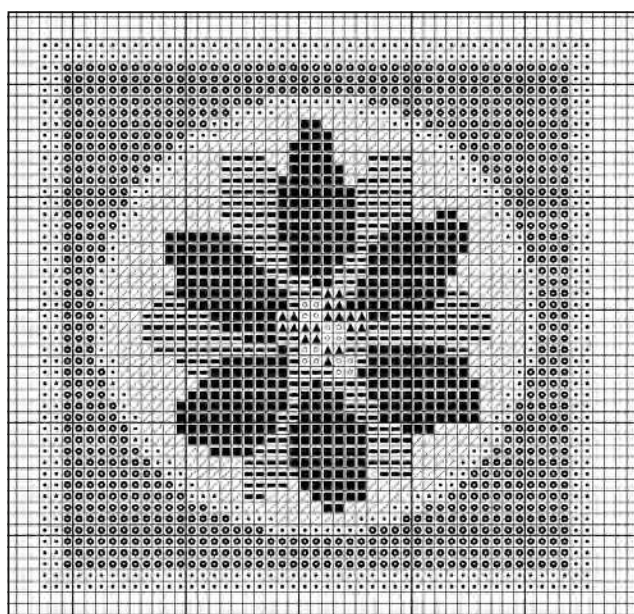
Fold your evenweave fabric in half side to side. Open out and fold it in half the other way, top to bottom. You will have a faint cross in the centre of the fabric so that you can easily work out where the centre is. During sewing allow your needle

and thread to hang down from the work occasionally as this will untwist the strand and reduce the risk of knotting. If you do get a knot in your cotton there is usually a loop of thread with a knot at the bottom. Put the point of your needle into the loop and gently tease the knot out.

Starting to sew

Start with the border and carefully count the stitches as you sew making sure that all the stitches are sloping in the same direction. If you prefer you can start your work in the centre and work out. If you do put your work down between sessions be careful when you restart your stitching to make sure that you have the design the right way up. The design is a square and it is easy to turn it through 90 degrees.

Thread your needle with a strand of cotton in the appropriate colour and put a knot in the end. Start sewing by putting your needle down through the evenweave from front to back about 1cm from where you intend to start and in the direction you are going to sew. The knot should be on the



front of the work. Stitch towards it and then carefully cut the knot away when you reach it. The cotton will be securely fastened behind the first few stitches on the reverse of your work.

When you are nearing the end of your strand or when you want to change colour, fasten the strand securely on the back of the work by threading the strand through a few adjoining stitches and cutting off any excess.

Continue stitching until the panel is complete. Cut away surplus evenweave allowing a border of around 1cm all around the design. Turn the design over and put a thin line of glue around the outermost sewing line. This will help to prevent any future fraying of the work. Allow the glue to dry.

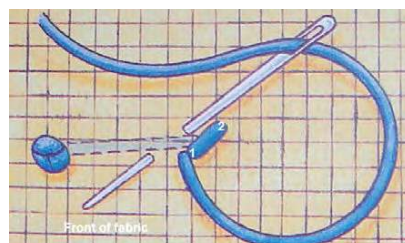
Finishing the cushion

Cut two pieces of cream cotton fabric slightly larger than the design area - this will create an inner bag for the cushion to

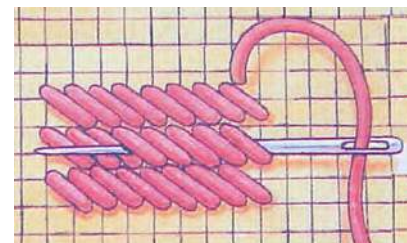
hold the plastic granules. Stitch around three sides, turn the fabric inside out and put some granules into the bag. Sew the last side closed. I like to use plastic granules as you can really shape the cushion to give a sat-upon appearance. You could also use a simple fibre stuffing if you prefer, just make sure that you don't overstuff the cushion.

Cut a cream cotton backing

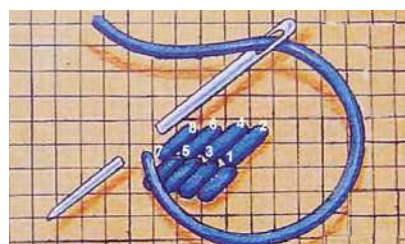
panel for the design, slightly bigger than the design area with enough border fabric to form a hem all round. Right sides together, sew three sides of the cushion. Turn out to the right side, put the inner bag into the outer cover and then slip stitch the remaining side closed. You may wish to add a braid around the outer edge of the cushion as a finishing touch. 



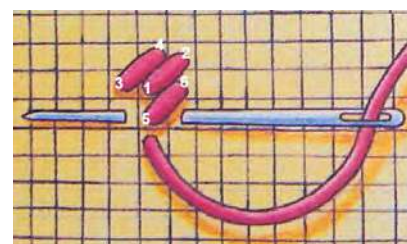
Starting the thread



Finishing a thread



Tent stitch



Diagonal tent stitch

Traditional Christmas Decorations

My normally Georgian style home, becomes the height of Victorian style at Christmas time. Decorated trees abound, there's a life-size deer in the living room and a near life-size Santa in the foyer along with a whole set of carolers outside. To say we go overboard on Christmas would be an understatement and here I've recreated some of my favourite festive trims.

You will need:

Materials required

- ☐ Knife
- ☐ Steel ruler
- ☐ Circles template
- ☐ Ivy or small maple leaf paper punch
- ☐ Scissors
- ☐ Ball stylus
- ☐ Wire cutters
- ☐ Tweezers
- ☐ Small hand drill
- ☐ Needle tool
- ☐ Small paintbrush
- ☐ Sewing needle
- ☐ Cocktail stick (for applying glue)
- ☐ White glue
- ☐ Super Glue



Mantel garland



Extra materials required

- Green covered florist wire
- Lycopodium or other greenery
- Matching sewing thread
- Narrow red satin ribbon
- 5mm beads resembling glass tree ornaments
- Very fine wire

1 Make three multi-loop bows as for the wreath. Cut a length of florist wire long enough down on each side and make two swags across your mantel.

2 Cut greenery sprigs and bind them onto the shaped florist wire, beginning at each end and meeting in the middle. Use enough tips to make a full garland. Snip away stragglers.

3 Tie the loop of each bow onto the garland at the three places where it will touch the mantel. Hold each bead with tweezers, apply Super Glue, and press them into the greenery.

4 Either pass a thread through the three high points in the shaped wire and tie the thread ends behind the mantel just below the shelf or tie individual thread loops behind each bow, long enough to come up over the mantel and be taped to the back.

Yule log



Extra materials required

- 38mm length of 16mm diameter branch
- Snow acrylic textured paint
- Lichen
- Tiny red metallic beads
- 38mm long cocktail stick tip
- Brown scrapbook paper
- Acrylic paint - green and white
- Black permanent marker

1 Sand the length of the branch so it will sit on the table without rolling. Paint snow along the top of the branch and let it dry.

2 Drill the centre of the top to receive the cocktail stick. Paint the cocktail stick green with a black tip and glue it into the log. Glue a bit of lichen around the base of this candle.

3 Cut a 41mm strip of brown paper, 10mm at one end and 5mm at the other. Paint the slanted edge white. Cut 2mm wide tabs in it to within 2mm of the straight edge.

4 Curl the strip, painted side in, from wide to narrow around the needle tool and glue it shut. Fan the tabs outward with the needle tool. Glue these pine cones into the moss around the candle and beads on edge to add sparkle to the arrangement.

Dining table arrangement



Extra materials required

- 6mm thick foamcore
- Three cocktail sticks
- Acrylic paint
- green and your choice of candle colour
- Black permanent marker
- Acrylic varnish
- Lycopodium
- 3/16" (5mm) shiny beads as for the mantel garland

1 Cut a 25mm x 50mm) foamcore oval base and paint it green. Paint 38mm of each cocktail stick, let dry, and varnish them. Tip the 'wicks' with black marker.

2 Cut two 32mm and one 38mm candles from the painted portions, pierce the foamcore with the needle tool, and glue the candles 13mm apart along the centre of the base, with the tallest candle in the middle.

3 Cut short greenery sprigs and glue them onto the base, with the tips outward. Glue a second greenery layer to the base, overlapping the first, filling it in. Add more greenery to cover the top of the base.

4 Snip the outer tips and glue along the upright edge to hide the base. Super glue beads among the greenery. ▶

Holly and ivy wreath



Extra materials required

- 38mm grapevine wreath
- Scrapbook paper - medium green and dark green
- Narrow red satin ribbon
- Very fine wire
- Red glass seed beads
- Satin varnish

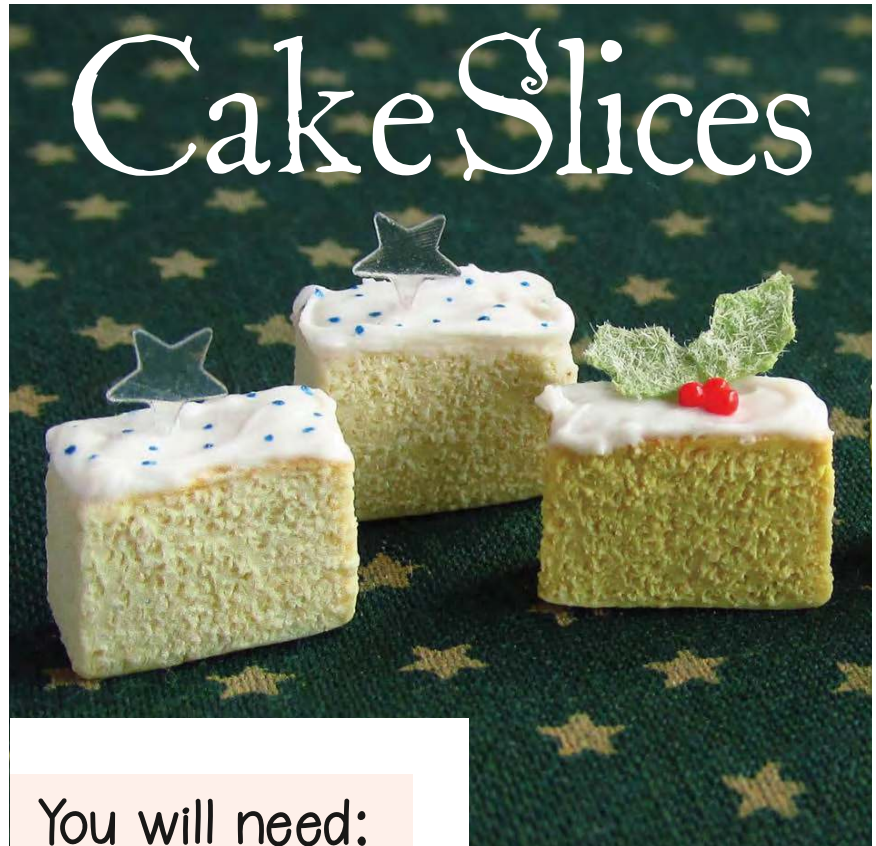
1 Make a multi-loop bow by forming a 25mm wide figure of eight with four loops on each side and 32mm tails. Wind wire around the centre, twist the ends together in the back, form a loop for hanging, twist together again, and clip the ends short.

2 Score and fold dark green paper 3mm from one straight edge. Mark and cut 18 holly leaves, each 6mm long, and vein them with the ball stylus. Punch 15 ivy leaves from lighter green paper and vein them.

3 Cut three 38mm lengths of fine wire and entwine one end of each into the wreath, Arch the exposed wire ends. Glue five ivy leaves alternating on each wire end and two sets of three holly leaves at the base of each wire.

4 Varnish the leaves. Place seed beads on glue dots in the centre of each cluster. Hang the wreath from a small brad, using thread through the wreath's back loop. 

Festive Cake Slices



You will need:

Materials required

- Polymer clay in white, translucent, yellow and red
- Pastels in golden ochre, brown, red ochre, burnt orange and white
- Sculpey Bake & Bond
- Stiff green material or card
- Small silver confetti stars
- Blue metallic acrylic paint
- Matte & gloss varnish
- Super glue

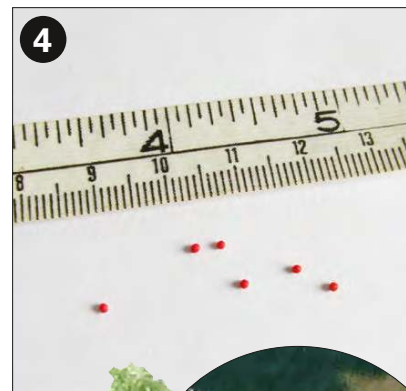
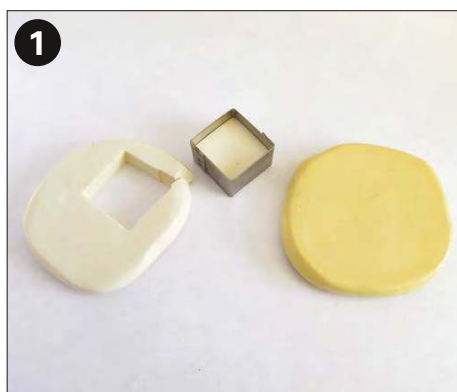
Tools required

- Square 2cm shape cutter
- Roller
- Needle
- Craft knife
- Small holly leaf paper punch

Get busy in your miniature kitchen with these beautiful polymer cake slices.

1 Mix two thirds white clay with one third translucent clay. Add a small amount of yellow clay along with some grated brown and golden ochre pastel. Roll the clay out to about 7mm in thickness and place in the freezer for a few minutes, allowing it to harden up before pressing a 2cm square shape cutter into the clay.

2 Mix grated golden ochre, brown, red ochre and burnt orange pastels to make a deep golden colour to brush over both the top and bottom of the clay whilst it's still retained inside the shape cutter.



3 Cut the clay into individual cake slices, each measuring roughly 9mm x 4mm. Textured sponge is undoubtedly the star of any cake slice! Take your time over this, using a needle to create the effect.

4 Roll three 1mm balls of bright red clay for each of the holly sponge cakes you're making and bake alongside the textured slices.

5 Mix the icing by adding white clay and white pastel to Sculpey Bake & Bond, creating a smooth but reasonably thick mixture. Use a needle to spread the icing over the top of the baked and cooled cakes. Add the tiny balls of red clay to the top of the golden sponge cake slices in 'holly berry formation'. Bake all the iced cakes.

6 Take some stiff green material or card and press out two tiny holly leaves for each slice using a small holly leaf paper punch. Fold each leaf in half. Coat the icing with matte varnish and the berries with gloss. Dip the back edge of the leaves in super glue and stick them into position on the cakes. 

You will need:

- Snowman and penguin jumpers:
1 ply cotton in blue, white and small amounts in black, red, orange and brown

- Christmas pudding jumper:
1 ply cotton in brown (B) and cream (C),
Venne Colcotton 70/2 in green and three small red beads for the berries
- Size 19 and 20 knitting needles

alt - alternate

pped up this winter scale knitted jumpers.

A blue and white knitted sweater with a snowman design on the front. The snowman has a black top hat, an orange carrot nose, stick arms, and a red scarf. The sweater has white cuffs and a white hem.

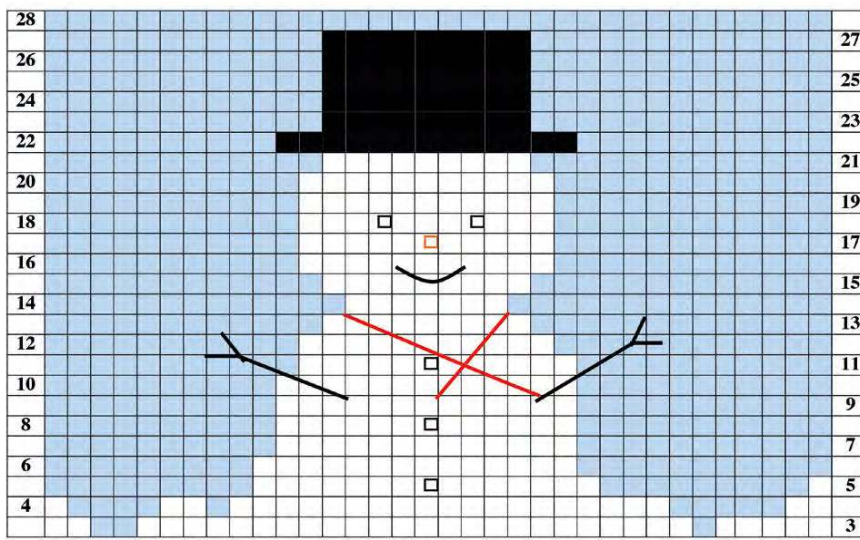
Break yarn and leave rem 30 sts on a stitch holder for yoke.

Join in blue yarn (and black for hat), cont in st st working from chart below - reading right to left for k rows and left to right for p rows.

Break yarn and leave rem 30 sts on a stitch holder for yoke.

-  Orange French knot or button
-  Black French knots (or small beads)
-  Arms in brown back stitch and mouth in black
-  Scarf in chain stitch or crochet chain in your choice of colour

[illegible]



Snowman jumper - sleeves

Using white yarn, cast on 24 sts.
Work 4 rows in k1, p1 rib.

Row 1: k.

Row 2: p.

Join in blue yarn.

Continue from chart and working increase as follows:

Row 3: (inc in 1st st, k to last st, inc in last st. (26 sts)

Row 4: and foll alt rows: p.

Row 5: k. Cut white and cont in blue only.

Rows 7 & 9: k.

Row 11: inc in 1st st, k to last st, inc in last st. (28 sts)

Rows 13 & 15: k.

Row 17: inc in 1st st, k to last st, inc in last st. (30 sts)

Row 19 & 21: k.

Row 23: inc in 1st st, k to last st, inc in last st. (32 sts)

Rows 25 & 27: k

Row 29: inc in 1st st, k to last st, inc in last st. (34 sts)

Row 31: k.

Row 33: cast off 2 sts, k to end. (32 sts)

Row 34: cast off 2 sts, p to end. (30 sts)

Row 35: k. **

Break yarn and leave rem 30 sts on a stitch holder.

Snowman jumper - yoke

Using blue we are now going to purl across all four sections in the following order – second sleeve, front, first sleeve and back - 120 sts in total.

Row 1: p.

Row 2: and foll alt rows: k.

Row 3: (p8, p2tog) rep to end. (108 sts)

Row 5: (p7, p2tog) rep to end. (96 sts)

Row 7: (p2, p2tog) rep to end. (72 sts)

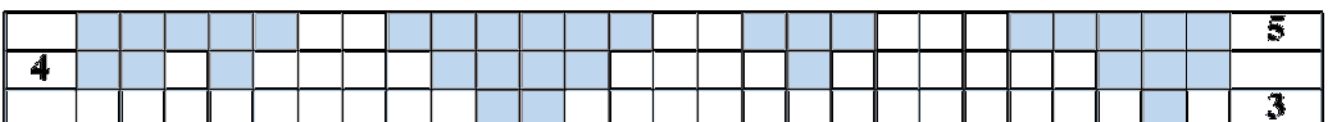
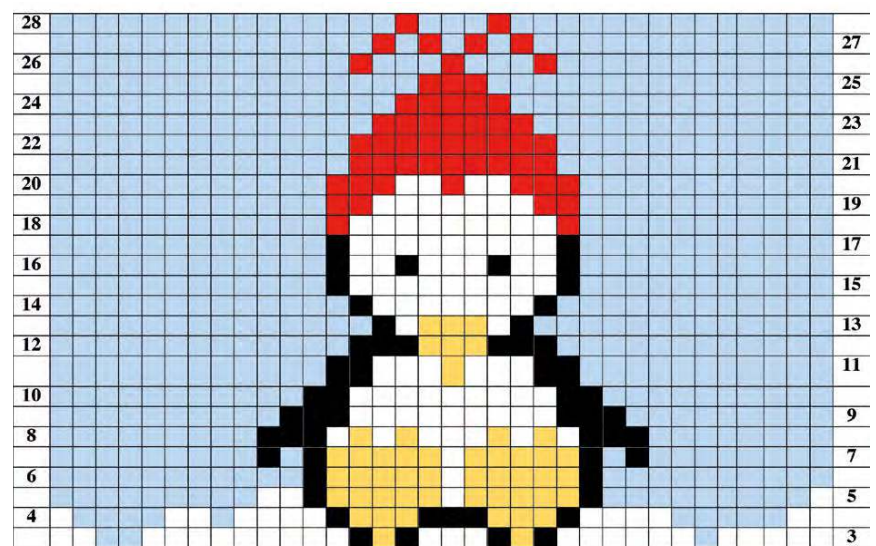
Row 9: p.

Row 11: (p2, p2tog) rep to end. (54 sts)



Penguin jumper

This is worked as for the Snowman jumper but following the penguin chart instead.



Skilled Project

Hat

Using your choice of colour, cast on 41 sts and work 15 rows in k1, p1 rib.

Next: comm with a k row, st st 12 rows.

Row 28: (k2tog, k3) rep to last st, k1.

Row 29: (p3, p2tog) to last 3 sts, p3 (27 sts).

Row 30: (k2tog, k1) to end (18 sts).

Row 31: p2tog.

Row 32: (k2tog) twice, k1, (k2tog) twice. (5 sts).

Break yarn and thread through sts. Secure tightly. Join back seam.

Penguin hat topper – optional

Cast on 3 sts and k 30 rows.

Cast off.

Attach centre of strip to the top of the hat.

Christmas pudding jumper

The back, front and sleeves are worked as for the Snowman Jumper but worked entirely in brown (B) yarn until the yoke.

Yoke

Working across all sections as before, continue as follows joining in cream (C).

Row 1: (p2B, p2C, p11B, p1C, p5B, p1C, p11B, p2C, p11B, p1C, p5B, p7B) twice.

Row 2: (k2B, k1C, k4B, k2C, k3B, k3C, k4B, k1C, k4B, k4C, k3B, k1C, k6B, k2C, k3B, k3C, k4B, k1C, k4B, k4C, k1B) twice.

Row 3: p1B, p5C, p2B, p2togC, p1C, p3B, p3C, p1B, p2togC, p3C, p4B, p1C, p2togC, p2B, p5C, p1B, p2togC, p2C,

p3B, p3C, p2togB, p4C, p3B, p1C, p2togC, p1B, p5C, p2B, p2togC, p3B, p3C, p2B, p2togC, p2C, p4B, p2C, p2togC, p2B, p4C, p2B, p2togC, p2C, p1B, p4C, p1B, p2togB, p3C, p2B, p3C, p2togB. (108 sts)

Row 4: k5C, k1B, k4C, k1B, k9C, k1B, k10C, k2B, k5C, k1B, k8C, k1B, k9C, k1B, k10C, k1B, k11C, k1B, k3C, k2B, k10C, k1B, k4C, k1B, k6C. Cut B and cont in C only.

Cut B and continue in C only.

Continue as for yoke of Snowman Jumper from Row 5 to Row 16.

Next: work 4 rows in k1, p1 rib for the neck.

Cast off loosely in rib.

Holly decoration

For the leaves:

Using Venne 70/2 and size 20 knitting needles, cast on 16 sts.

Row 1: p7, inc k wise into next 2 sts, p7. (18 sts)

Rows 2: & 4: k.

Row 3: k1, (yf, k2tog) 8 times, k1. (picot edge)

Row 5: p.

Row 6: k7, (k2tog) twice, k7. (16 sts)

Cast off.

Fold leaf at picot edge with rs of st st outside. Oversew cast on and cast off edges together. Fold this edge in half and over sew across cast off sts on underside of leaf. Gather up the row ends tightly and fasten off. Attach leaves to shoulder.

For the berries:

Use three red beads and attach to the point where the two leaves join. 



A Festive Stocking

This little Christmas stocking has been made using felt.

You will need:

Materials required

- Red, white, green and brown felt
- 3mm double sided tape
- Glue
- White thread
- Yellow acrylic paint
- Card for template

Tools required

- Sewing needle
- Scissors & a paintbrush



Lynn Says...

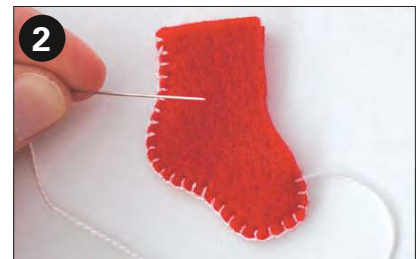
"Felt is a very versatile fabric and is perfect for creating quick and easy miniatures."

1 Take a piece of card and using the template provided make a stocking roughly 4.5cm x 2.5cm. Cut two stockings from red felt.

2 Take a needle and white thread and neatly sew the two red stockings together around the outer edge.

3 Cut a strip of white felt and use scissors to create a wobbly edge down one side to resemble melting snow.

4 Run 3mm double-sided tape around the top of the red stocking. Attach the white felt to the tape all the way around. Trim any excess overlapping felt.



5 Take green felt and cut out a Christmas tree roughly 1.5cm x 1cm. Cut a small tree trunk from brown felt. Glue both parts to the front of the stocking.

6 Use yellow acrylic paint and a fine paintbrush to create lights on the Christmas tree as pictured. Place your finished stocking as desired. 

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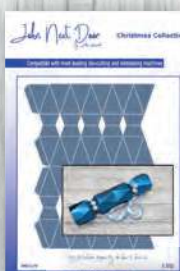


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John Next Door
by John Johnson



JND139



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