

CUT OUT FREE SIGNS FOR YOUR HOUSE

MARCH 2015 £3.95



dollshouse

UK'S No1 MINIATURES MAGAZINE

WORLD

www.dollshouse.tv www.dollshouseworld.com

BUILD A ROOMBOX: **PART ONE**

make

A SIMPLER
CHANDELIER
THAN THIS
ONE!



*Rooms to
inspire*

ISSUE 270 **ashdown**



03

How husband
finished house
in a tribute to
his late wife

**make an
easy bed**

**AND JEWELLERY
BOX & FIRESCREEN**



The small print

Editor: Richard Jennings

Email: richard@ashdown.co.uk

Assistant editor: Jill Mundy

Email: jill.mundy@ashdown.co.uk

Feature writer: Sandra Harding

Advertisement sales:

Maria Fitzgerald - 01903 884988

Email: maria@ashdown.co.uk

Subscriptions:

Email: support@ashdown.co.uk

Design: Wendy Crosthwaite

Contributors:

Marianne Colijn, Sue Kirkham, Ronnie Godfrey,
Mari Meredith, Martha Puff, Deb Weissler,
Alison White, Beryl Hales, Jan Clarke

Published by ashdown.co.uk

ISSN 0961 - 0928

Distributed to the newstrade by Comag.

To reach us:

Call us on +44 (0) 1903 884988

Or write to: The Editor, Dolls House World,
PO Box 2258, PULBOROUGH
RH20 9BA Great Britain

Email: ashdown@ashdown.co.uk

Internet address:

www.dollhouseworld.com

US office: Ashdown Inc., 68132

250th Avenue, Kasson, MN 55944, USA.

Tel: 507 634 3143

Email: usoffice@ashdown.co.uk

Subscription rates:

1 year (12 issues) UK £49; ROW £81; US \$110

iMAG £43. Add the iMag Digital Library to your
subscription for only an extra £31.99 per year.

TV £34.99. Add a year's subscription to the
online Dollhouse.TV channel for only £29.99
extra per year.

Postmaster: Send address corrections to Ashdown Inc,
68132 250th Avenue, Kasson, MN 55944, USA.
Canada Post International Publications Mail -
Sales Agreement No. 546038.

All rights reserved. Reproduction in whole or part without
the written permission of the publisher is prohibited. All
editorial contributions in the form of articles, letters and pho-
tographs (b/w or colour print or transparencies) are
welcomed by Dolls House World but cannot be returned
unless accompanied by a stamped addressed envelope.
In any event the publisher can accept no responsibility for
loss or damage to contributions. Material is accepted solely
on the basis that the author accepts the assessment of the
Publisher as to its commercial value.

All material submitted to the magazine for publication in
whatever form is accepted solely on the basis that copyright
in the work will be vested in the publisher who assumes all
rights worldwide, in all forms and in all media.

Contents

4

Open House

Talented Tanya Waughman has made almost
everything inside her authentic village tea room

6

Jim lights up mini world

Jim Larson shares his talent and a sense
of humour through minis

12

Meet the Maker

From a know-nothing start Lisa Johnson-Richards now
specialises in creating and dressing mini people

20

Small Accomplishments

We catch up with the mini creations of some
of our talented readers

26

Open House

Terry Brown tells the story of the one and
only doll's house he will ever make

32

Make a neat mini bed

Auralea Krieger makes a little bed and
shows how simple it is to create

34

House rescued from dump

An abandoned Tudor house has been given a complete
makeover, fittingly using re-cycled materials

37

Quick and easy jewellery case

Sandra Harding comes up with a simple, cheap
way to make expensive-looking jewellery

38

Busy club is full of ideas

The Rainham club who have been coming up
with great mini ideas for over 20 years





editor's welcome



- 40 Hever Castle**
Incredible collection reflects development of English country houses through the ages
- 46 A sparkling chandelier**
Caroline Dupuis has found a simple technique for making a fancy chandelier
- 43 Make a simple fire screen**
Use some coffee stirrers and some skirting to make an easy wooden screen
- 50 Steampunk top hat**
Lianda Sutherland shows how to make an ordinary top hat into an extraordinary accessory
- 54 Dinky Delights keep growing**
From a giant cabbage tiny things do grow.. into a fascinating range of right-sized miniatures
- 58 Unique granite doll's houses**
Rui Soares has managed to create her doll's houses even while studying for the BAR exam
- 62 A Sunday lunch**
Here's a wonderful platter for you to make with roast chicken and all the trimmings
- 68 Good intentions don't last long**
Sandra Harding gives in to temptation at the Marriott Dolls House Show in Portsmouth
- 70 Build your own Biltmore box**
Jo Bevilacqua shows how to create your own impressive roombox in the first of a series
- 75 Cutouts**
Great signs to cut out for your house

IT'S NOT often I'm shocked by a DHW feature, but I was this issue. Nothing to do with the maker who is producing Fifty Shades minis on the side. No, this concerned the promiscuous serving of Yorkshire puddings.

I've been bought up to believe that Yorkshires only went with beef when it came to Sunday roasts. But here was a Fimo spread of roast chicken served with the beautiful batters.

We pride ourselves on being historically accurate in our miniatures here at DHW (well, most of the time) so was this a Fimo faux pas?

Well greater minds than mine have looked into it. The Oxford Union recently debated whether batter puddings now also have a 'rightful place' on a plate with roast chicken (they weren't talking about miniatures though, obviously).

Passions ran high during the hour-long discussion, with some arguing it was now 'socially acceptable' to pair chicken with pudding, while others argued British traditions need to be 'treasured, upheld and preserved'.

But if you go back to the first written recipe by Hannah Glasse in 1747 she cooked her pudding under a joint of "beef, mutton or a loin of veal" as it spit-roasted before the fire.

This way of cooking meant that the drippings, essential in the diet, particularly for working men, were used rather than lost to the fire.

Last word goes to Aunt Bessie's. Their survey last year found that more Yorkshires are being eaten with roast chicken than with roast beef. So what do I know? I'm going to tackle the Fimo recipe and hope my mini batters turn out better than my real ones. Fat chance!



Richard

Richard Jennings - Editor. richard@ashdown.co.uk



82 Fair dates



House Hunt

FIND THE little house hidden somewhere in this issue. Last issue it was on page: 49.

Tanya's tempting Clockhouse bakery

Talented Tanya Waughman has made almost everything inside her authentic village tea room which is full of cakes and characters

By Sandra Harding

On a visit to view Tanya Waughman's lovely collection I was shown this delightful bakery and tea room, which sits on a landing at the top of Tanya's house.

It is called Clockhouse, mainly because Tanya wanted a clock on the top front facade, and the name just seemed right somehow. The delightful lettering on the front was actually done for



Tanya by her daughter Claire, a graphic designer.

The building is made up of three floors, the top being a private area where prospective brides and other customers can view important event cakes, and choose from a selection in books and catalogues. At the bottom of the stairs is a sign which reads: "Celebration Cakes, by appointment only. When closed, please enquire at the bakery counter", a delight-



ful touch which I found highly amusing and so realistic.

The gentleman sitting at the bottom of the stairs in the tea room is a retired general who often pops in here for a cup of tea and a slice of cake. He always carries his Daily Telegraph to read in the afternoon, and he carries it in his briefcase if it's raining. He hopes the child with Mrs Atkinson-Brown is going to be quiet today, but as she seems to be quite strict, he does not expect too much noise.

The boy (David) has his nose in an ice cream sundae and the general does not approve of such nonsense, but from their conversation he finds it is his treat for behaving well on the shopping trip. In the basket are flowers, handbag, purse and, I expect, lots of goodies at the bottom of the shopping bag all made by Tanya. Their coats are hanging on the





best coat today with the fur collar as it is feeling chilly. She saves her best one for outings with her husband. She will be glad to get home as this is the last stop on their shopping trip and she has her purse in her hand ready to pay

I could carry on weaving stories around these delightful people as they are really nice looking characters and I like them a lot. However, I must also mention that, apart from the obvious furniture, plates and china Tanya made pretty well everything that she could, including dolls, clothing, food items, cakes, bread, and most of the accessories. Mind you I am told that there are a couple of cakes made by friends, but they won't tell.

If this bakery was a real one I am sure we would all want to pop in for a cup of tea and a slice of cake, just like the customers I have mentioned. **DHW**



coat rack and, as it is cold outside, they will need them before they leave.

The general looks around at the variety of tempting cakes on display; they are all made on the premises by the husband and wife team that run the business (Tanya in reality), He doesn't know their first names, only that they are Mr and Mrs Andrews

On the ground floor we have the couple themselves, very busy serving customers in the bakery shop. Mr Andrews has just bought in the latest batch of bread and Mrs Andrews is serving Mrs Harrison and her daughter Emily. Emily is overwhelmed by the choice of cakes, and her mother will probably choose the one with the least amount of sugar in it for her. That's what mothers do isn't it?

Mrs Harrison is wearing her second



Jim lights up the mini world

Jim Larson shares his talent and a sense of humour through minis

By Traci Nigon

PHOTOGRAPHY BY JIM LARSON

Too often, thinks Jim Larson, miniatures are relegated to back rooms or storage areas or studies and remain unseen and under appreciated. “My main focus is to put the doll’s house smack-dab in the middle of the living room!” he says. Instead of a giant doll’s house tucked away in a corner office or, worse, out in the garage and exposed to changing weather, Jim sought ways to incorporate miniatures into household décor right from the start. His main miniatures for sale are what he calls “Lil-Lytes”—full-size lamps with Victorian houses as the base.

These pieces, which average only a foot or two wide, each have a distinct theme attached to them. From Victorian era rooms surrounded by a garden of





wildflowers or lilacs or sunflowers to a giant tree that claims “NO GIRLS,” Jim’s talent and humour shine through. “I’ve already planned my next five to six concepts and am giddy with what are sure to be very unique ideas.... Personally, I’m kind of a nut, and enjoy a somewhat cynical type of humour and many of my newer works will display this side of me.”

Jim takes structural inspiration from his childhood, where he grew up in Port Townsend, Wash., a city known worldwide for its Victorian houses and buildings, and his conceptual inspiration from Norman Rockwell paintings. “Norman Rockwell had a way of capturing a snapshot of Americana and conveying that to all of us, inducing memories of our own.... I love the idea of giving the viewer a glimpse of the ‘just before’ moment and possibly allowing them to decide what might be next.”

Jim’s first lamps were created several years ago as Christmas presents, and with that a new mini obsession was born. “While I’m doing anything else, my subconscious is constantly shopping for suitable building materials, or things I can modify in some fashion. I can’t seem to turn that off.”

A custom-home builder Jim is no stranger to the conception and creation of buildings. “I come from a family of



builders and have been building homes since I can remember,” he says. “I did a tour with the Marine Corps, and went right back into custom homes.” Designing buildings comes naturally to him. Mini work, though, is a little different.

When creating miniature designs, Jim doesn’t draw out any plans or ideas; he just sits and mentally visualises the piece a moment before beginning. “I have a very accurate idea of where each design is headed from the start,” he says. The H.M.S. Miniscale, the large cruise ship

ABOVE: The HMS Miniscale is five foot long and will light up any lounge.

he created, is “almost a carbon copy of the original idea with only minor changes, usually due to material constraints.”

Truly handmade

Jim’s experience as a builder gives him great skill for conceptualising these pieces but also for creating them completely by hand. He uses only one tool in creating these light masterpieces, “no lathes, no laser cutters, and no spray booths” are needed. “If I didn’t carve it from wood, then I formed it from resin, brass, or copper with a roto-tool”—his main tool, and his favourite.

His workshop is the spare bedroom, which has been taken over by his materials. “Painting, sanding, grinding, wiring”—any task that needs to be done is completed here. He’s hoping for a workshop, but for now he also does as much work as possible outside when the weather is good, and hunkers down in his spare bedroom for the rest of the time.

A giant feat

The piece that Jim is most proud of is that cruise ship. At 5 feet long and 4 feet tall, the H.M.S. Miniscale is truly a work of art. Spiral staircases, riveted



siding, shining brass and metal, dolls arranged throughout the deck in high-class attire, a stateroom below deck—Jim’s mental back story for the ship allowed him to turn a period piece into a one-of-a-kind masterpiece.

“The cruise ship is really really cool; I can stare at it for hours!” he says. Even at first glance, you can feel the excitement in the air as the passengers wait on deck and wave at their loved ones. The flags waving on the ropes bring a hint of a sea breeze; can you feel a slight salty mist? The rivets bring in the feel of the industrial age, and the Captain’s calm demeanour as he relaxes on deck with a cup of coffee eases the air from a fevered anxiousness into excited anticipation.

The real draw for most miniaturists, and the part that draws most people into the scene, is the portal. Through that large circular window, you see into the stateroom of a presumably wealthy passenger with her maid—calling to mind scenes from *Titanic* or another period film.

And it’s not just the ladies in the room that make it interesting. No, your eye is drawn to the trunk on the left with its fancy shoes laid out; as your eyes pass over the back of the room, gaining a sense of depth by seeing a closed door, your attention is caught by the open door to the right and its hallway and mirror. Such an opulent suite naturally would have more than one room! Instead of designing the whole stateroom and creating a way to see into it, Jim simply created the illusion of more rooms through the door, leaving our eyes and imaginations open to numerous possibilities.

All this craftsmanship and thought, and it only took four months to build. He is going to sell the piece, but for now he’s enjoying its stately presence in his home. “My house will feel empty when it’s gone....Guess I’ll need to make another!” he laughs.

Still new to the scene

The Miniscule is his pride and joy, but the Lil-Lytes are his bread and butter. Jim is bursting with ideas for future themes, and he continues trying to stretch the limits of what he can do with the materials and ideas he has. Wiring, in particular, causes a bit of a headache



as he plans. “As the wiring types increase, so does the trick of keeping down the weight and amount of wires to the wall,” says Jim. “I will soon be implementing motors and ‘effects,’ all the while using only one power cord.”

He’s attended only one show so far,

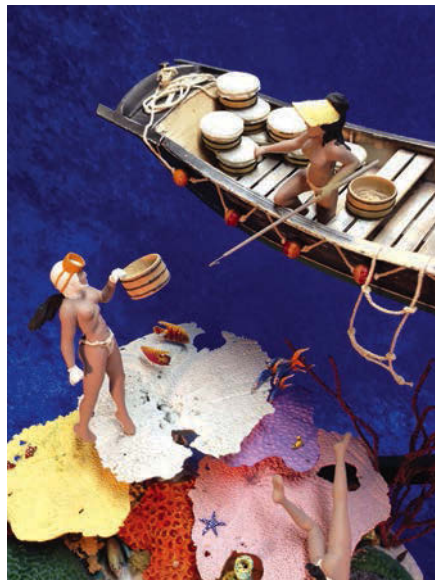
in Portland, and has a few pieces in private collections. For now, Jim is hoping to continue selling his work to an ever growing market. His biggest concern is the space needed to sell each piece; comparing himself to someone who sells rugs, Jim knows his pieces are larger—





and more expensive. But he enjoys the challenge. "My goal is to build the less obvious choices. I enjoy creating what no-one has, and I hope the public wants truly one-off pieces," he says.

One thing he knows for sure is that his Lil-Lytes are conversation start-



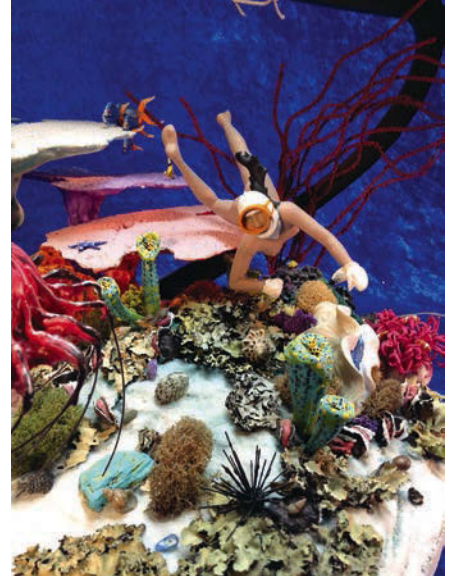
Jim's latest mini scenes are a tribute to the pearl divers of yesteryear.

MINICONTACTS

Jim Larson Designs
111b, 37th Street
Anacortes, WA 98221
Tel: 001 360 840 6022
or email: jl Larson2112@comcast.net
<http://jimlarsondesigns.com>

ers. "In the last five or six years not one person has not made a comment about the lamps in my living room. Most are attracted immediately, and a great conversation ensues!"

We're sure to hear more conversations about Jim's work as the years go on. **DHW**



Dolls House & Miniatures Fair
 at The Inn On The Lake Hotel DA12 3HB
 (on A2 between Dartford & Rochester)

SUNDAY FAIRS 2015
JANUARY 25TH
MARCH 22ND
MAY 24TH
JULY 19TH
SEPTEMBER 27TH
NOVEMBER 29TH

Admission £2.00 accompanied children free
 10.00 am - 3.30 pm

01634 370420 / 07867528853
 email: peapa001@medwaymail.org

JENNIFER'S
 OF WALSALL

01922 633381

Fabrics and rugs
 now available
 to match
 Brodnax papers.



See us at the following show:
 City of London, 18th Feb.

www.jennifersofwalsall.co.uk

polymini
 Dolls House Miniatures

1/24th scale being introduced



Individually hand-crafted miniatures

Food items, Wood items, Wedding Cakes
 Full catalogue downloadable from website
www.polymini.co.uk,
 email sales@polymini.co.uk
 or call 01530 249371



World Of My Own & Rob Lucas Miniatures



Dollhouse Dolls
 and Whitewood
 Furniture

18 London Road,
 Farningham,
 Dartford, Kent DA4 0JP
 Tel: 01322 862680

Email:
worldofmyown.mins@talktalk.net

www.worldofmyownminiatures.co.uk

 **Criss Cross Miniatures**

1/12th scale
 hand-stitched,
 framed pictures
 and screens.



Hand-crafted Period and
 leather-upholstered furniture.

Email: cc.m@outlook.com
www.crisscrossminiatures.webeden.co.uk

Lili-Anne Miniatures

Exquisite Collectable Dolls House
 Bathrooms & Accessories
 Exclusive to Lili-Anne Miniatures

- All produced in 12th scale
- Authentic Thomas Crapper High-level W.C. set
- Victorian roll top bath with stunning shower taps
- Victorian sink including taps & tiny plug
- Toilet roll holder with toilet paper
- Ready made or in kit form
- All hand made in England

Also a range of 'one of a kind' creations in a grubby,
 worn or distressed appearance

www.lili-anne.co.uk or tel: +44 01702 304919




Jean Day Miniatures
 New Laser Cut Kits & Books
 Digital Download Album projects

website www.jdayminis.com
 Esty Shop jdayminis
 eBay Shop jdayminis
jday1@shaw.ca

MM FAIRS

www.dollhouse-fairs.co.uk
 Tel: 01332 660428

SATURDAY 7th FEBRUARY 2015
 Southport Theatre &
 Convention Centre,
 SOUTHPORT PR9 0DZ
 10.30am - 4.00pm

SATURDAY 21st FEBRUARY 2015
 Winsford Lifestyle Centre,
 WINSFORD, Cheshire CW7 1AD
 10.30am - 4.00pm

(once again at this venue due to the delay at
 Northwich Memorial Hall - we are planning
 to hold a fair at Northwich as soon as they
 open April/May time)

Appointed
distributors of



Appointed
distributors of



**Streets Ahead are the largest TRADE ONLY suppliers
in the UK. Also exporting worldwide!**

**New 2015 Catalogue
available NOW at your local
Streets Ahead stockist!**



**Including all
Dolls House
Emporium items**

We look forward to meeting
our Trade customers at:
**International Toy Fair
Spielwarenmesse**
28th Jan - 2nd Feb 2015
Nuremberg, Germany
Hall 1 Stand F13



NEW!

Now including
The Dolls House Emporium
range.



£3.95

ALL YOU NEED TO MAKE THE PERFECT DOLLHOUSE!

**Looking for a Streets Ahead &
The Dolls House Emporium stockist near you?**

Visit our website to find your local stockist worldwide!

Are you a stockist? Visit our website and ask to be listed on the stockist page

**Now over
240 pages!**



Telephone: 01752 338222 Email: sales@sa-imports.co.uk
Fax: 0872 331 4407 www.streetsaheaddollhouse.com
Streets Ahead Dollhouse, Unit 6, Bell Park, Bell Close,
Newnham Ind. Est., Plympton, Plymouth, Devon, UK. PL7 4JH

Doll artist and couturiere

More than ten years after she purchased a kiln and moulds with no idea how to make a doll, Lisa Johnson-Richards now specialises in creating and dressing mini people

By Martha Puff

PHOTOGRAPHY BY LISA JOHNSON-RICHARDS

There is a little piece of my heart in every doll I create," says Lisa Johnson-Richards. "I 'knew' doll making was something I could do. Don't ask me why—I just knew. With each newly completed piece I am constantly amazed that it actually came from my own hand." Lisa has been creating twelfth scale porcelain dolls for discerning collectors for over a decade.

She particularly loves the romance of the Regency and Edwardian eras.

Lisa grew up in the North East in a very art-inspired home. She has wonderful childhood memories of watching her father painting in his studio or of delighting in her mother's talents for interior design.

Today, Lisa is happily married to her husband, Mark, and they live just a few



LEFT: Tudor Family, circa 1570. Son Robert, Lady Katherine Aldersey, Martha the Maid, daughter Ellen, and Sir Rauff Aldersey. This piece was a special commission.

ABOVE: Le Mademoiselle, an all-porcelain figure, wears nothing but a sheer Silk Mouseline "Robe-de-Chambre" with tumbling curls and an oversized bow.

miles away from where she grew up near Newcastle. "We raise our two children, Christian, our academic, and Rebecca, our free spirit, in a small town, Jarrow, Tyne, and Wear. We have a much-



ABOVE: You will adore sweet-faced Molly, a modern-day girl wearing a pretty floral dress with matching headband and red painted Mary-Jane shoes with tiny pearl buttons.

BELOW: Enjoy the company of Lucille, an Edwardian lady dressed in a silk tea dress with silk chiffon overlay and vintage laces. Her hair is fashioned in an “up-do” style.



loved pet, Sophie, our black Labrador.” The past ten years, they have been renovating their Victorian town house—refinishing, replacing, and redoing almost every inch of their grand old domicile.

“I attended my first big miniature show with the intention of buying our daughter a doll’s house doll for her first birthday present,” Lisa says. “The beautiful dolls that I liked, I could not afford. The ones I could afford, I did not like. It was my husband who said, ‘Why don’t you make her one?’”

Almost immediately Lisa set about dressing a typical doll kit but was not happy with the way the kit was painted. Being an artist, she wanted to be able to paint, costume, and wig the entire doll herself. At this same time, her grandfather left Lisa a small inheritance. “It was fate. I jumped into my business venture full-time. I purchased a kiln and moulds without having any prior knowledge of how to use them or even how to make a doll.”

The art of anatomy

Although she is entirely self-taught, Lisa did attend Art College. “Nude drawing was a fundamental part of the curriculum and, being only sixteen, I found it quite embarrassing. As I look back on this experience, I believe it has been quite invaluable in my doll-making career.” She uses

RIGHT: Victorian Miss in silk dress with bustle at the back, trimmed using vintage laces and silk ribbon with a Swarovski crystal brooch. Her long red hair is braided and tied in silk bows.



ABOVE: The “Dressing Room” contains a beautiful Edwardian lady wearing undergarments made with vintage laces, silks, and lovely pearl buttons. Her bloomers have three hand-sewn rows of tiny pin tucks and frills. Her tiny painted black-leather shoes have two straps with tiny pearl buttons.





anatomy books with many sketches and these provide useful reference. When stuck with a pose, Lisa will get out the camera and enlist the children to pose in different ways. "I take pictures of body parts like ears, hands, feet, crossed legs, etc., to help me when sculpting detail."

She delights in filling notebooks with ideas and sketches. Her studio shelves

ABOVE LEFT: Campaigning Suffragette (circa 1908) in a simple yet pretty and feminine Edwardian day dress, wearing a "Votes for Women" sash and handing out propaganda for the feminine cause.

ABOVE: Mr. Darcy from *Pride & Prejudice* (Jane Austen, 1813) wears a hand-dyed overcoat and a tail coat, waistcoat, cravat, shirt, and breeches. He carries a riding crop and "beaver" hat.

ABOVE RIGHT: Wickham, A Regency Soldier (circa 1815) in a uniform typically worn in the Battle of Waterloo, complete with a scabbard and sword.

LEFT: The Love Letter (circa 1811-1820). Alyssa wears a pretty empire-style dress of fine lawn with silk chiffon overlay and silk slippers with real leather soles (Regency period, nineteenth century England).



are full of vintage reference books. Many ideas are gleaned from watching period dramas, children playing in a park, and people sitting in a cafe. Just holding a piece of vintage lace can bring forth an idea of a completed Edwardian ensemble.

"I do a lot of research and think it is a fundamental part of getting the entire piece correct. For me, all of it has to be 'just-so' and thus everything must be thoroughly researched." Clients, too, are inspiring. She finds it very rewarding to interpret her clients' vision and share in their dreams.

Supplies and demand

Lisa uses commercially available moulds. She finds dental and jewellery-making tools to be quite helpful for sculpting and has modified some to suit her own specific requirements.

"Carefully sculpting into the wet clay, which originally came from a mould, is a constant struggle, yet an affirmation



of my skills,” Lisa says. “I spend many hours meticulously sculpting into the clay as I change the structure, add details, and define features.” She manipulates and fine-tunes every minute facet to make each creation her very own, and considers this an integral part of her doll-making process.

Working in porcelain, Lisa uses porcelain slip. “Its texture and luminosity is what draws me to it. A beautiful material to work with—very fragile, quite unforgiving—yet it produces wonderful results.” Sometimes she knows what a doll will look like in advance. Often, however, the doll speaks to her as it fights to evolve in a certain way. “I’ve learned to go with what the doll is asking of me.”

Painting is when Lisa has the opportunity to breathe life into a doll. Using special techniques—which involve many paint firings—allows her to create life-like appearances.

LEFT: Edwardian Lady (circa 1910) in a green silk and vintage lace dress with a silk chiffon overdress and elaborate hat.

RIGHT: Sleeping child in modern-day handsmoked dress with five tiny buttons, a plain cotton collar, and red painted Mary-Jane shoes. She holds her favourite teddy bear.

Costuming

Costuming begins only when Lisa is entirely happy with the personality of the doll. She simplifies real historical fashion patterns to suit one-twelfth scale.

Lisa begins costuming by pulling together natural or vintage materials, which often spill out of the numerous drawers in her studio. “Any professional costumer will tell you it doesn’t matter how good the costume is. If the undergarments are not true of the period, the entire piece will look wrong,” she says.

Using only natural fabrics, such as silk, cotton, linen, and batiste, Lisa purchases the very best materials she can find. “This is the only way to achieve the results I demand. I hand-sew all my costumes, although I am not averse to using special fabric glue when necessary to cut down bulk. I get great satisfaction, however, in seeing a tiny hand-stitched garment.”

Finding gorgeous vintage materials is becoming increasingly more difficult. Through the years she has established wonderful relationships with a variety of quality suppliers. She has an exceptional lace supplier who calls from time to time to say she has something very special that may be of interest.

In her “library” Lisa has stashed many things that are beautiful and wonderful. “If I don’t have just the right something, I will create it



BELOW: This elegant Edwardian Lady (circa 1908) is in a fine silk ensemble, trimmed with vintage braid and lace. She has a vintage lace shawl, an elaborate matching silk hat with beautiful curled feathers, and a lovely parasol to complete her outfit.



MINIATURE MANSIONS

Mouldings

Create beautiful rooms with our easy to use, finely detailed resin mouldings, hand crafted to produce that exceptional look.
Buy online or by mail order.

ALL NEW WEBSITE!

www.miniaturemansions.co.uk
T: 07786 397 871

Odins Miniatures

www.odinsminiatures.com

Online Discount Code OMDHW10

We supply exclusive Miniature kits, silk & leather footwear, craft materials and a large range of hand-crafted items.

For a price list of potted plants, garden items and flower arrangements, please send s.a.e. to:

The Flower Lady

21 Kingston Park
Canada Road, West Wellow
Romsey, Hants. SO51 6DE
jantheflowerlady@gmail.com
www.jantheflowerlady.co.uk



INSURE YOUR DOLLS
ALL RISKS NO EXCESS

£ 5,000 cover £31 p.a.*
£10,000 cover £56 p.a.*
*plus Insurance Premium tax

We cover **All COLLECTABLES**:
Stamps, Postcards, Coins, Medals, Diecast Models, Teddy Bears etc

PUBLIC LIABILITY for Societies from £20 p.a.

DEALERS COVER available

STAMP INSURANCE SERVICES
C G I Services Limited (Dept 30DM)
29 Bowhay Lane, EXETER EX4 1PE
Tel: 01392 433 949 Fax: 01392 427 632
www.stampinsurance.co.uk
Authorised and regulated by The Financial Services Authority

TO ADVERTISE IN

dollhouse WORLD

the markets leading doll's house magazine

call Maria on
01903 884988 or email
maria@ashdown.co.uk
for more information

JIM LARSON DESIGNS
UNIQUE DOLLHOUSE ROOMBOX LAMPS AND OTHER MINIATURE CREATIONS.



All individually designed and built to the highest quality and workmanship, in 1/12 scale. Themes can be modified to suit your personality and commissions will be welcomed.

View <http://jimlarsondesigns.com> or email: jlaron2112@comcast.net

Dolls House Remote Controlled Lighting
from your armchair



There are four versions available to suit all dolls house sizes
We also stock many other dolls house lighting accessories
Tel: 01502 731805 for more details or go to our web site
www.microminiatures.co.uk
Birchwood Hs Lowestoft road Blundeston Lowestoft Suffolk NR32 5BW

knitsy
FUN, FREE AND FABULOUS



www.Knitsy.tv
[@knitsy1](https://twitter.com/knitsy1)



LEFT: Edwardian Couture. An Edwardian dress hangs from a quilted silk hanger near an elaborate hat and matching parasol. Lisa is also well known for her couture pieces.

RIGHT AND BELOW

RIGHT: Modern Day Girl is in a tartan hand-smoked dress with a lace collar and bow. She wears red painted Mary-Jane shoes with tiny pearl buttons, and her lovely curly hair is parted into two braids tied with red bows.

BELOW LEFT: An Edwardian Lady (circa 1906) dressed in a pink silk ensemble trimmed with vintage laces and an elaborate matching hat.



myself in a new and novel way,” she says. “For example, I am more than happy to hand-paint fabric.”

Wigging also requires reference to get the style “just-so” and appropriate to the time period. Finally, finishing touches



like hair ornaments, jewellery broaches, earrings, necklaces, parasols, and hand-bags are added.

“I pay attention to every aspect of my creation—no matter how small. I continually strive for perfection and, because of this, I grow as a doll artist while I keep learning from each commission. My favourite doll is always the last one created.”

Creating doll magic

For the past nine years, the dining room has been Lisa’s studio. She works her doll magic on a desk near her kiln, an ever expanding collection of reference books, and drawers filled with fabrics, trims, etc. Her constant companions are Sophie and a TV.

In looking ahead, Lisa says, “I’m often asked about holding a class on doll-making or costuming. As a result, I have lots of ideas whirling around in my head.



Perhaps further on I would like to write a book on doll making. I always say listen to your heart and go with your intuition; it’s never failed me— there’s magic in that! Dreams do come true, you know!” **DHW**

“I grow as a doll artist while I keep learning from each commission. My favourite doll is always the last one created.”

Tudor Rose Miniatures

FIND US ON FACEBOOK

www.facebook.com/dollshousenorfolk

Huge range of exclusive miniatures +++ weekend classes held throughout the year.

Bluebell Square, Bawdeswell Garden
Centre, Bawdeswell, Norfolk
NR20 4RZ. 01362 688669
Email: solo.barn1@virgin.net
www.tudor-rose-miniatures.co.uk

Shop open 6 days a week
Closed Mondays

HOBBY'S
The Modelmakers Yearbook
ANNUAL 2015 • ISSUE NO. 45 • www.hobby.uk.com

£3.25
FREE P&P
320 PAGES

NEW RC MODELS
REVELL MODEL KITS
MATCHITECTURE BUILDINGS
DREMEL RANGE OF TOOLS
CONSTRUCTO GALLEONS
NEW ARTICLES
NEW FRETWORK MARQUETRY KITS

FREE PLAN
Working Matchstick Grandfather Clock

Hobby's (Dept DHW), Knight's Hill Square, London SE27 0HH
020 8761 4244 mail@hobby.uk.com www.hobby.uk.com
Available at WH Smith & leading newsagents or direct

We are now able to offer promotional opportunities on our exciting

Dolls House TV

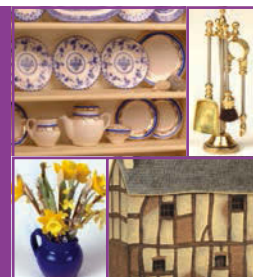
Be one of the first to take advantage of this new and innovative form of advertising. But hurry as there is limited availability.

To find out more, call Maria on
01903 884988 or
email: maria@ashdown.co.uk

dollshouse.tv

Reach more than 40,000 miniaturists every month

An advert in Dolls House World will do BIG things for your business in the miniature world.
Talk to Maria to see how our readers can become your customers.
Call her on 01903 884988 or email maria@ashdown.co.uk



Vanessa's Miniature Dolls

BEAUTIFULLY UNIQUE 1/12 SCALE DOLL MINIATURES,
DRESSED IN HANDMADE VINTAGE CLOTHES.



Every doll is individual, a completely unique one off. All costumes are hand-sewn, using only antique or vintage material where possible, to maintain period integrity. The dolls are also wigged to ensure a soft and natural look. All dolls come with their own certificate of authenticity.

Commission projects are taken on by request.

Telephone: 01789 720730

www.vanessadolls.uk



MATLOCK MINIATURES

The Dolls House Accessory
& Lighting Specialist

Online Shop featuring a wide range
of items including:

- Lighting • Accessories
 - Furnishings • DIY Components
- and many unique handmade specialist items for Pubs & Shops.



Visit us at:

www.matlockminiatures.com

Tel: 01332 660428

Email: matmins@aol.com



Sunday 1st February 2015
11.00am - 5.30pm

The Tower Hotel, St Katherine's Way, London E1W 1LD
(underground: Tower Hill - District & Circle lines)



For more information or to book tickets log onto:

www.dollhousefestival.com
or call 020 7812 9892



Craft Village & Butterfly World

Studley Grange

Just off the M4 @ junction 16

Visit our web shop at www.studleygrange.co.uk/dollhouse

One of the biggest selections in the South West



3 good reasons to visit Studley Grange Dollhouse Workshop...

- Earn up to 10% discount with our new loyalty scheme
- And we are now twice as big so there is more to choose from!

Including an exclusive new range of hand-made fruit and vegetables and hand-knitted clothes, unique dressed furniture made in our own workshop, adding to our existing collection, fine furniture, carpets, lighting and a huge range of wallpapers

- Dolls houses in kit form or fully built – 24 different stock styles
- Full range of electrical equipment

STOCKISTS OF THE FOLLOWING SUPPLIERS:

- Dolls House Workshop Houses
- Heidi Ott quality miniatures
- Little Trimmings Haberdashery
- Reutter Porcelain
- Streets Ahead Houses and Furniture
- Wonham Collection
- Dateman Books

www.studleygrange.co.uk • Telephone: 01793 854606

Unit 5, Studley Grange, Craft Village, Hay Lane, Wroughton, Swindon, Wilts, SN4 9QT
Follow signs from M4, junction 16 (1/2 mile towards Wroughton).

BARBARA'S MOULDINGS

**A family run business with 15 years experience
making quality dolls houses for the UK.**

We also make a full range of wooden architectural mouldings such as skirtings and architraves. We produce sheets of very realistic brick and tile finishes for your dolls house which are embossed and textured. They are easily applied, can be bent around corners and are easily weathered to give an aged appearance.

We are constantly adding to our range of houses and the images here show a selection of our new styles.

Specialist suppliers to the trade.

For your local stockist please ring 01572 770383

Email: orders@barbarasmouldings.co.uk

27 Pillings Road, Oakham, Rutland LE15 6QF

www.barbarasmouldings.net

Get our latest brochure free by fax, phone, email or snail mail.



small accomplishments

Share your fun with other readers

Send us your photos

We want to feature readers' projects every issue. So whether you've dressed a doll or decorated a mansion, send us the photos. Don't be shy. Email richard@ashdown.co.uk with Small Accomplishments in the subject line. Or send photos to Small Accomplishments, Dolls House World, PO Box 2258 PULBOROUGH RH20 9BA Great Britain



Blue Heaven duo

Gift shop and greengrocer's are the result of a club project which kept on growing

By Sandra Harding

This lovely couple of little semi-detached houses have been lovingly made by Noreen Jeffery using MDF, with a pre-made purchased shop front and basement added.

They came about as a result of a workshop held by GOFAR (Gosport and Fareham Dolls House Club) which resulted in each member making a shop/roombox from a kit supplied by Steve and Jane of Burleigh Miniatures, who also led the workshop.

At a later workshop the members made a second floor for living accommodation closely followed by a roof area with mansard roof. Fake windows were added for that extra little touch and, at yet another workshop, a basement was made to house the kitchen. Noreen had already decided that she wanted another

floor so purchased a further 'floor' box from Burleigh and, before decorating the complete structure, made the room dividers to enable the family to have a bathroom.

It was to be a gift shop, with accommodation above and is called "Blue Heaven". It is stocked with any suitable and pretty goods one would normally find in a gift shop, including many items from Noreen's large collection.

Knowing Noreen as I do, I was not surprised when she told me that she wanted a second building to match the first, and the shop was going to be greengrocer's called "Top of the Crop". The





stock for this shop, however, was going to be made by Noreen's fair hand, with the help of Fimo expert and friend Diane Carpenter (also a member of GOFAR).

The stock they made has since found its way into yet another project, a garden centre, which was shown in DHW 265. The left hand shop is still in the process of being stocked, but you can see that

Noreen plans to have a very ornate lighting shop when it is finally complete.

The items inside these two little shops and houses were made to home some of the large amount of stock that Noreen seems to acquire, and include pretty purchased kitchen units, beds and furniture that look just right in their new homes.

They also include quite a few gifted





items and some because Noreen particularly liked them, which includes the pretty cloisonné eggs and stands.

The sofa in the sitting room was the first thing that Noreen remembers buying for herself, and it has rightly taken pride of place.

Further presents include the Art Deco set from her son, Brian, and a pretty shell mirror from talented friend Julia who made it from shells she collected herself from a local beach. Incidentally, she is one half of Mini Mixtures, a local couple of friends who exhibit regularly at local shows, who also sell lovely jewel cases and other items made from these shells. The cakes on the table were made by the other half of this duo, Diane.

This is a very pleasing pair of semi-detached premises and I do believe that if Noreen had the space, she would have eventually ended up with a whole terrace of shops and houses. **DHW**



Poppy's Collection

(part 2)

We take a look at more unusual houses in Poppy Higgin's incredible collection

By Sandra Harding

When I visited Poppy Higgin at her home in the Isle of Wight it was as a result of a conversation when she told me she had more than 60 houses. Now, not being one to miss a trick like that, I arranged to visit to report on this collection for you, and I hope you have already enjoyed reading the first part.

This is part two of what I expect to be quite a few, as I have to plan another visit to see Poppy. I could only do about a third of the collection first time round you see, as my head was spinning.

The Shoe House

This interesting item was one of the first things I saw when I went into Poppy's "museum", and was a first for me. I was shown a Hobby's blue book catalogue from

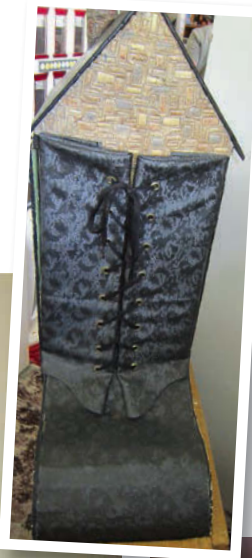
1991, which listed it as a plan to make yourself. It was design number 1554/1, and made by P. Giles at a cost of £1.10 and obviously was at some-time made with love for a little one. I don't think they are still available, which is a shame. Unless you know better?

However, to come back to this shoe. It is based on "There was an old lady who lived in a shoe" of course, but as usual with Poppy, nothing is as it seems.

There are at least eleven dolls in this house, and such an eclectic mix, they may not even be related. There are 1950 dolls made of celluloid, some

rubber dolls, and more modern ones, plus a couple that look as if they are from foreign shores. As Poppy is a REAL collector, she just hoo-ver's up her miniatures, wherever and whatever they may be, and is often not sure where they came from, or even where they are going to.

Scattered about the house are also toys, teddies, and playthings of all kinds, all from this large collection. "If it looks OK,





in it goes.. somewhere," Poppy tells me.

Coming back to the old lady supposed to be living here, I was told she was too big so she ended up in some other house somewhere. That left the way open for a very attractive blonde of about 25 or so, who looks Dutch. It makes me wonder if the children from foreign shores are hers, and she just looks after the others for the old lady whilst she goes off on a cruise? Living rent free of course.

The Blue Box

This is not, of course, just any blue box. It is actually a CD cabinet which Poppy has turned into a home for yet another eclectic mix of items. In the top room, there is a lovely bedroom suite, which is probably Kleeware from the 1970s which Poppy had dressed with pictures, jewellery and bed linen.

In the middle room, there is an eccentric china tea table with tea cups, which looks perfectly at home, with old wooden chairs, a standard lamp, pictures, mirror, and oh yes, a fat plastic cat.

In the bottom room is the kitchen with more Brimtoy or Kleeware furniture and a smart kitchen range, pictures, clock and calendar on the wall.



Blue Creek Valley Watermill

This is one of those car boot rescues that Poppy seems to find wherever she happens to be. It is marked PIKO Germany, circa 2000, and it came with some of the items in and around it. The Pond is probably Emporium, and the lovely little clothes line, with pegs and clothes basket is Playmobile. There are assorted animals, including chickens, goat, a donkey, as well as Margaret and Michael, who I believe are mother and son. Inside, the furniture and accessories are from Poppy's



large stock rooms.

I hope you have enjoyed this peep into some of Poppy's collection, and In the next part, I will choose from a church, a pub, a holiday home or maybe something made of tin plate. [DHW](#)



Dolls Houses & Miniatures at The Old Bell Pottery



A Woman's Touch hand decorated Miniature China



Both hand-crafted and
manufactured selection

Also traditional toys
& games, pottery &
gifts for all occasions



High Street, Lechlade, Glos GL7 3AD. Tel: 01367 252608
enquiries@oldbellpottery.co.uk www.oldbellpottery.co.uk
Friday and Saturday 10:00 till 5:00 Sunday 11:00 till 5:00



Seaside Miniatures.

Specialists in 1/12th, 1/24th and 1/48th
Scale Beach Huts, Lighthouses, Caravans
Shepherd Huts and Seaside Accessories.



Tel 01590 643546, 07970 484579.

www.seasideminatures.co.uk

www.dollshousemouldings.co.uk



Shop on line 24/7

Shop In-store Tuesday to Saturday 10.00am - 4.00pm

Dolls House Cottage Workshop, Sawley Marina, Sawley, Long Eaton, Nottingham, NG10 3AE Phone 0115 9465059

THE MODOLLHOUSE

there's always
something
for every room
in every doll's house
in the
modollhouse



www.modollhouse.com

...and if you prefer Rita's on the phone: +(0)1381 610775

Jandora

Dolls House Improvements

Specialising in building, lighting, decorating,
repairing and renovating dolls houses.



BEFORE



AFTER



Telephone: 01702 475703

Email: dws84a@gmail.com

www.jandora.net

Miniatura®

The World Class Miniatures Show
National Exhibition Centre, Birmingham, UK.



March 28th & 29th 2015

Model houses and everything that goes in them with an outstanding level of detail to satisfy the most demanding collector.

See fantastic craftsmanship supported by tools, materials and techniques unique to this hobby making it a DIY heaven for modellers.



See more at www.miniatura.co.uk

General enquiries - 0121 783 9922

Ticket Hotline - 0121 767 4100

Saturday / Weekend tickets are limited in number and must be bought in advance.
Sunday tickets available in advance or at the door. Doors open 10am - No charge for parking.

DOLLY'S DAYDREAMS EVENTS

SUNDAY 8 FEBRUARY

Kelham Hall, Kelham, **NEAR NEWARK**
NG23 5QX (on A617 to Mansfield)

SUNDAY 15 FEBRUARY

The Rivenhall Hotel, Rivenhall End
NEAR WITHAM CM8 3HB (on A12)

SUNDAY 22 FEBRUARY

Holiday Inn Ashford-Central
Canterbury Rd, **ASHFORD** TN24 8QQ
(M20/J9, then A28 to Canterbury)

SUNDAY 1 MARCH

The Pride of Lincoln Hotel, Runcorn Road
Whisby Road, **LINCOLN** LN6 3QZ (A46)

SUNDAY 8 MARCH

The Mill, **RAYLEIGH** SS6 7ED (A127)

All fairs open 10.30am to 4pm. Half price entry from 1pm.
Accompanied children under 16 FREE all day!

DOLLY'S DAYDREAMS

01945 870160/07860 517048

www.dollysdaydreams.com

www.facebook.com/dollysdaydreams

P M I Miniatures

THE DOLLS HOUSE
For all your small needs

Visit one of the **LARGEST** ranges of dolls house items in East Anglia. We are **100% DOLLS HOUSE**, with **THOUSANDS** of accessories, a **HUGE RANGE** of houses, plus wood, electrics, fabrics, braids & yarns.

Ranges include: Barbara's Mouldings, The Wonham Collection, Streets Ahead, Heidi Ott, Reutter Porcelain, Dee-Daw Designs, Tasma products, Dijon, Warwick Miniatures, Hearth & Home, Jacksons and many more!



Find us on Lynn Road (B198) at Bamber Leisure.
Just off the A47 near Wisbech - follow the signs for the Aviation Museum.



**Open 7 days a week,
10am to 4pm
Telephone: 01945 582004**

Also on site: The Craft Den,
Tea Room, Chestnut Garden Centre,
Cliffords Heating



**HEVER CASTLE
& GARDENS**

CHILDHOOD HOME OF ANNE BOLEYN

MINIATURE
MODEL HOUSE
COLLECTION
Country houses through the ages

A DAY TO REMEMBER

DISCOVER ONE OF ENGLAND'S MOST
BEAUTIFUL AND HISTORIC CASTLES

hevercastle.co.uk

Call 01732 861701 | Email info@hevercastle.co.uk



Terry's finishes wonderful tribute to his late wife

Visitors to the Kensington Doll's House Festival were amazed at the Mackintosh house on display. But they were also moved by the story behind it. Here Terry Brown tells the story of the one and only doll's house he will ever make

By Terry Brown

My late wife Sue had for a long time wanted me to make her a doll's house and after some procrastination I finally relented! She was also extremely keen on the Arts & Crafts Movement and the buildings of Charles Rennie Mackintosh in particular.

So my task was to create that house. I am not a doll's house maker or a miniaturist but have worked as a theatre designer professionally as well as, for a few years, being a production designer for a company that made model animated films for childrens

television. I am quite experienced as a model maker but doll's houses were new to me.

Fitting it in between work meant progress was intermittent and unfortunately my wife was diagnosed with cancer during this time. Despite a valiant struggle she finally lost the battle and died before I was able to finish the house.

For a long time I could not bring myself to do any more work on it but after the best part of two years had passed I felt that I needed to do something with the house. I made a big effort to complete it as much as I could with the aim of selling it to raise funds for the Royal Marsden Cancer Charity, the hospital where she had such wonderful treatment and support.

I was offered the opportunity of displaying the house at the Kensington Dolls House Festival in November by Charlotte Stokoe. So I took it there and was fortunate enough to get quite a prominent position on the first floor. I was overwhelmed both with the interest shown and the kind remarks, particularly from much more experienced doll's house makers than me (this was my one and only doll's

house build). I received three offers and was able to return home having made over £2000 for the Royal Marsden Cancer Charity.

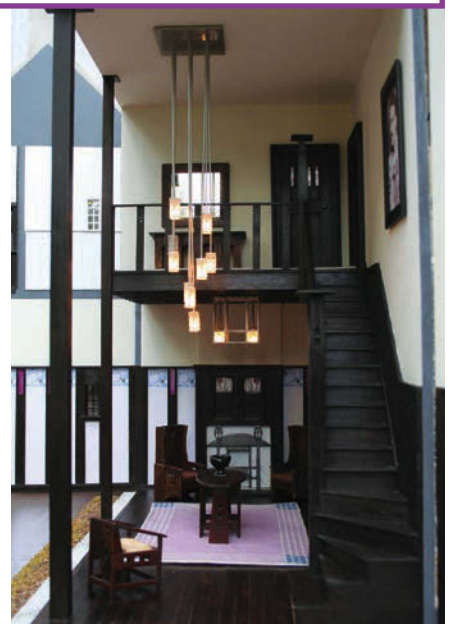




The hall & staircase

Based on the hall and stairs of the Hill House outside Glasgow. I added a portrait of the man himself as a gesture!

The wall cladding was painted and then scanned and printed to get the repeat. The wall clock, again based on the Hill House, is a working clock built round a watch mechanism. The rug based on another Mackintosh design was made by Sue.





Terry started with a bought kit which he customised and furnished with a mix of bespoke, commissioned and bought pieces. He refinished many of them to give a greater authenticity

Other interior rooms

There are four further rooms making up the remainder of the doll's house.

They comprise the sitting room and bedroom on the upper floor and the dining room and kitchen on the ground floor.

The sitting room

This is based on an amalgamation of decoration and furniture from other Mackintosh properties rather than one single reference. The main reference for the walls and the fireplace was the drawing room from 120 Mains Street Glasgow, which was the apartment that Mackintosh and Margaret Macdonald first moved into after their marriage.





The dining room

The wall decoration and furniture is based on the dining room at 78 Southpark Avenue which has been recreated in the Mackintosh House in the Hunterian Art Gallery Glasgow.

The rug is a generic Mackintosh design.





The kitchen

I had no reference for any kitchen in a Mackintosh house so because of what was available chose to make it a traditional Edwardian kitchen. There is a nod to modernisation with a gas cooker as well as a range.



The bathroom

Mostly generic period bathroom fittings but the panelling is again based on the walls of the bathroom at the Hill House.

The shower unit I made and it is based on the shower in the Hill House bathroom.

It does not work!





Views of the house
lit at dusk



The bedroom

Again this was based on the main bedroom at the Hill House with some reference from other Mackintosh houses. The bed and wall decoration are from the Hill House along with the washstand.

The cheval mirror is based on the mirror at 78 Southpark Avenue which had originally been designed for 120 Mains Street.

The two ladder back chairs are actually plastic and were found in the gallery shop at the Palazzo Strozzi Florence Italy!



making a neat MINIATURE BED

Auralea Krieger makes a little bed for the newest house that she has been working on and shares how simple it is to create

By Auralea Krieger



Making a bed for your mini bedroom can be so much fun. I always start off telling myself I want to make it unmade and wonderfully messy. Unfortunately, I have a mild case of OCD and it rarely ends up that way. The same thing happened with this bed, but I love how it turned out. This is such fun and the further you push it the more fun you will have.

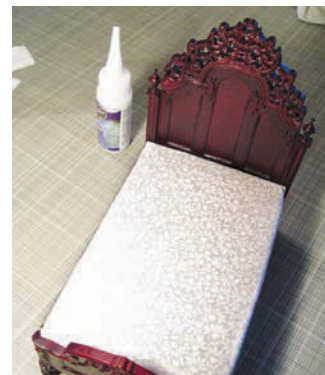
First I gathered all of my materials including a collection of trims and ribbons. Having more than you will use is better than not having enough choic-

es. As you are laying out the bed design you will probably change your mind a few times. Just trust your instincts and use the materials that make you feel happy when you look at them.

Remember, there are NO rules. This is only about what you want to do and what makes you happy.



mattress upside-down, fold the fabric over it and cut out the ends as shown. This will make your folds less bulky. Put small dots of glue under each length of the material and with your fingers, press/rub fabric to adhere to mattress back.



YOU'LL need

- Mini mattress
- Fabrics
- Scissors
- Iron
- Polyfill
- Needle
- Thread
- Trims and ribbons
- Fabric glue or Tacky Glue
- Hot glue gun

Step 1: In this case my bed came with a mattress that was already assembled. If you are starting from scratch you can use a thick piece of foam glued onto a thin piece of card stock. Then either cover it with the sheet material as shown in next step, or cover it in what would be a mattress cover and then add a sheet on top of that.

Step 2: Cut a piece of fabric for the sheet that will wrap around your mattress. With the



Step 3: Fold the corners so that the seams are in the corners. Glue the fabric to adhere it permanently.

Step 4: Put the covered mattress into the bed frame.

Step 5: Cut a piece of fabric that will be the top sheet. I have measured the sheet to fold over both sides, with some extra to trim off once I know how wide I will need it. I only made it 3" long because it will only need to show at the top of the bed when I fold it over the top blanket.



Step 6: Cut the top of the blanket the same width as the top sheet and then fold it two times in different directions as shown below, then iron the folds.

Step 7: Iron the top sheet to fold over the blanket so that only a portion of the folded blanket section shows.



Step 8: This is when you glue in the lace if you choose to have some. If not, then you will only be gluing the blanket to the top sheet fold.



Step 9: Cut out the fabric for the main pillow. Leave 1/8" trim to sew together. Leave one end open to put the stuffing in.



Step 10: Turn it right side out and iron the edges flat.



Step 11: Fill lightly with polyfill. You can use scissor ends or the eraser end of a pencil to shove the polyfill in. If you fill it too thick it won't have an authentic look. Then fold in remaining fabric and sew it shut.

Step 12: Lay the blanket on the bed and trim the sides of it as well as the top sheet to be the length you want. Then trim the bottom of the blanket leaving enough fabric for a seam to fold under and iron flat.



Step 13: Glue on the trim to both sides of blanket.

LEFT: There are endless possibilities when making decorative pillows. You can even add an extra blanket to the base of the bed. I used a piece of knit that used to be a shirt.



until glue cools. Do this for both sides.

Step 15: Glue down the trim where the top sheet meets the blanket fold.

Step 16: Add all of your decorative pillows! **DHW**

Step 14: Lay the blanket with top sheet attached on the bed and position exactly where you want it. With a hot glue gun, lift the side and quickly leave dots of hot glue down the side of the mattress then press down blanket to mattress and hold



How Maria rescued house from dump

An abandoned Tudor house has been given a complete makeover, fittingly using re-cycled materials

By Sandra Harding

Knowing how I originally discovered doll's houses by accident, I am always fascinated to hear how other people got into the hobby by a stroke of fortune.

Take Maria Nikolajeva. She was getting over a serious illness and looking for something to take her mind off her problems.

One day, quite out of the blue, her husband presented her with a 'gift' which he had found at the local dump: a Tudor doll's house in need of lots of care and attention. She ignored his "I'll take it back if you don't want it", and was overcome with the emotion one gets when one finds an abandoned puppy dog. Her heart strings were well and truly tugged.



This house was unpainted, dirty, neglected and maltreated... and just begging her to love it, and breathe new life into it. She suddenly became very possessive, much to her husband's relief.

After reading lots of books on the subject, including several by

Swedish Miniaturist Eva Malmsten who makes fantastic things from recycled materials, she was hooked on recycling. Maria decided that she quite fancied developing the idea and using as many recycled items as she could in her miniature world.

However, the very first thing she did was to give the house a good scrub, and then did what any sensible person would do: she ordered a definitive book on the subject, 'The Authentic Tudor and Stuart Dolls House' by Brian Long. I have this book myself as I am in the middle of doing up a Tudor House and it is an invaluable reference book.

Whilst the house dried out Maria began studying the book and, being a stickler for authenticity, she also began visiting real Tudor houses, particularly in Lavenham, Suffolk. She also spent many happy hours in the Museum of





Childhood in Bethnal Green and to inspire her before she made her Tudor bed, she viewed the great bed of Ware in the Victoria and Albert Museum, plus other items from the era.

Looking at the finished house, one can see many authentic touches, including the inglenook fireplace. In the original house the fireplace was quite wrong, and, although Maria did not want to lose any space she realised that she had to build a new wall, and lose an inch or two in the process. The result speaks for itself.

She is also very pleased with the lattice windows, which are made from the empty orange bags from the greengrocer. Painted grey, and pasted onto transparent plastic sheets, they look just right.

There are many more items throughout this house either made or recycled by Maria including the wall brackets, made from the black foil from the tops of wine bottles, and the little shutters at the windows made from lolly sticks..

There are chess pieces at the bottom of the staircase, and the trestle table was made from off-cuts of wood. Many items were found on her trips to charity shops and car boot fairs, including the



collection of 'pewter' and, as in many collections, the various sizes somehow does not really matter (just look at any early cabinet or baby house to see this).

Talking to Maria I was very interested to hear that she is Swedish and that before she moved to the UK six years ago, she belonged to a Swedish Miniature group. She



has recently joined some in the UK including the one where, I am pleased to say, we met.

I do hope you have enjoyed this glimpse into Tudor life and I look forward to showing you Maria's other projects including, she tells me, a grand project called Womble Hall which will pay tribute to those famous recyclers, The Wombles. **DHW**





WATCH ON YOUR COMPUTER, TABLET OR PHONE

DON'T MISS OUR FREE ONLINE CRAFT COURSES!
LEARN EVERYTHING FROM MINIATURES TO PAINTING

www.mycraftacademy.com



mycraftacademy
We make it simple..you make it special



quick and easy JEWELLERY CASE

Sandra comes up with a simple, cheap way to make expensive-looking jewellery

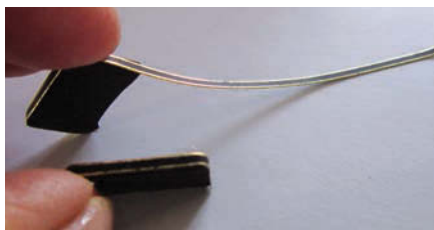
By Sandra Harding



YOU'LL need



- Thin foam sheet (from Hobbycraft). I used black, but there are many colours available. Or use thin card if preferred
- Scissors, glue, tweezers
- Sheets of stick-ons (Hobbycraft)
- No hole beads (99p shops, in jars of many colours)
- Tiny jewels, from Hobbycraft or card shops, or nail jewels
- Bindis (Indian decorations). I have seen them at Claire's Accessories or Accessorise. I got my bindis online.



Decide on the size of your 'case' and cut two pieces of foam the same size, neatly rounding off front edges slightly.

Using dabs of glue, carefully apply your chosen stick-on to both rounded edges. Leave the flat back untouched. Let both dry making sure the edges are tidy.

Choose one of the pieces of foam as the bottom, and arrange your decorations, jewels etc until you are happy with arrangement, and then carefully glue them on.

Start with your centre piece, if it is the largest, and work each side to match, until you get to the top corner of the flat back. Let it dry.

Now apply the flat back top to the flat back of the bottom, at an angle. Glue them together at the flat backs and hold in place until you can safely let go.

In the centre of the top apply tiny dot or similar to represent a small keyhole. I used the dots from stick-ons that have various different shapes on them.



For the standing display cut one piece of foam and glue stick-ons on each of the front four sides.

Place centre 'jewel' at the bottom of the foam and place a very thin line of glue

where you want the necklace to be.

Add no hole beads to the line of glue; shake off excess beads and tidy up the shape. Or, place stick-on jewels to follow the shape of the necklace. Let it dry.

Glue small piece of foam or card behind the display as a prop. Let it all dry. **DHW**

TIP Don't be afraid to cut your bindis or anything else you have to make a pleasing piece of jewellery. Do it over your work table as the tiny pieces might just fly away.

Busy club is full of ideas

We catch up with the active Rainham club who have been coming up with great mini ideas for over 20 years

The Rainham and District Dolls House and Miniaturist Group was started by Jill Lucas in Kent in 1992 when she couldn't find a club locally to join.

After placing posters in local libraries and putting an appeal out on her local radio station (Radio Medway as it was then) she held her first meeting in the Oast House in Rainham. Ten people attended that first meeting with each one paying £1 membership. That £10 was enough to pay the rent for the venue for that one night. As Jill says: "Would that rooms were so easy and cheap to hire these days!" Very soon the club was meeting monthly and had elected a committee to run it.

Today Rainham is a busy and active club. The committee meets every three months and agrees several projects. These monthly projects are all designed to be finished within the evening's meeting as it is known that half-completed items often stay that way when

taken home. The club also invites guest speakers or demonstrators for some meetings.

Last year's club project was 'The House of Lucas' department-





When they meet

The club meets on the last Thursday of each month (except December) at The Howard Memorial Hall in Woodside, Wigmore, between 7.30 and 10. Members can leave whenever they want. There is no compulsion to stay to the very end although one member admitted "the bar does attract some to stay longer than they otherwise might".



to fill the gap.

One of the previous projects was "A Corner" which proved very popular and produced many and varied scenes and new ones keep emerging

The latest project was a riverbank scene. At club meetings there had been a session on making a fishing rod, another had a large umbrella and yet another had fishermen's boxes and bags.

The club celebrates each year with a dress dinner (see inset photo left). These proved so popular that for the last two years there have been two dinners. The dinners are a great way of giving everyone a chance to talk to other members and guests about their miniature world while enjoying some superb food cooked and served in the meeting hall by a local caterer.

The club also holds an exhibition each year, usually on the

August Bank Holiday weekend, when members bring along everything from a mansion to a 1/144th scale house. **DHW**

• If you would like further details please contact Sylvia on 01634 312038 or visit the club website: www.rainhamdhg.co.uk

Fund raising

The club raises funds for the Kent, Surrey and Sussex Air Ambulance Trust, often through mini club sales when members bring in unwanted items.



Houses are perfect in every period detail



Incredible twelfth scale Guthrie Collection at Hever Castle in Kent reflects development of English country houses through the ages

By Sandra Harding

PHOTOS BY SUE HODGSON AND HEVER CASTLE

I am sure many of you will have heard of the wonderful Hever Castle near Edenbridge in Kent, which became famous as the childhood home of Anne Boleyn. But I wonder how many

of you know of the fabulous miniature collection, quietly sitting there in its own building, just waiting for you to visit?

Having visited the castle many years ago and seen the display I realised on my latest trip that it was this very collection that first made me want to get into miniatures.

I was as excited as a child when I walked into the first room and saw the

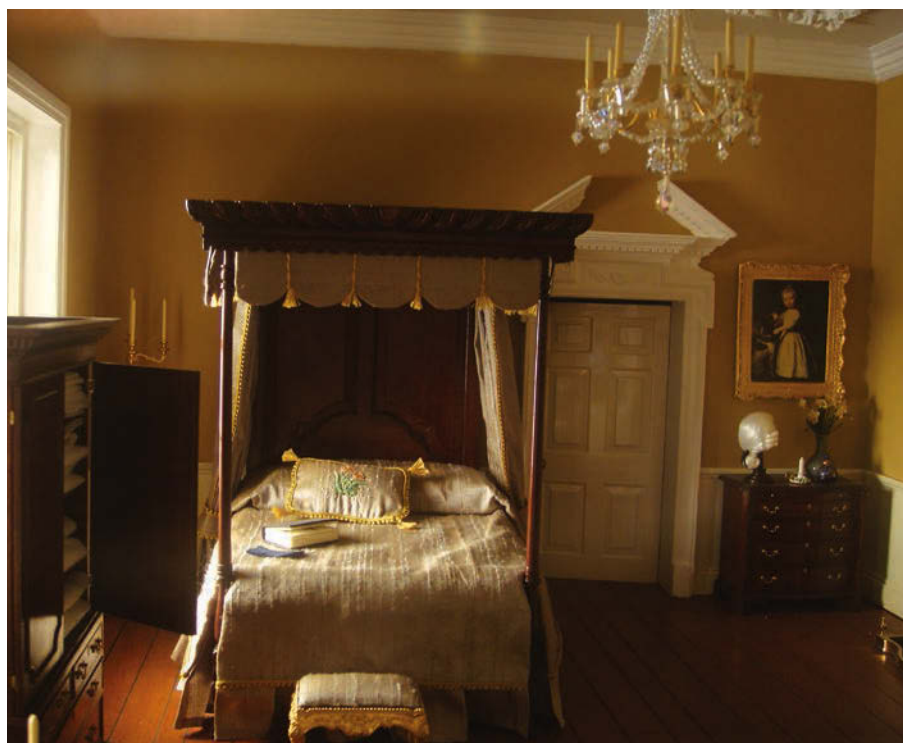
brehtaking displays laid out in front of me. Nothing I can write, and no photograph, can depict the wonder of this totally perfect exhibition. I can only give you a taste of what to expect.

The Medieval House

The great hall is based on the one at neighbouring Penshurst Place and has beams and rafters from 17th century oak. There are over 2000 handmade floor tiles, wonderful stained glass windows, and handmade tapestry with over 42,000 stitches. The carpet was inspired by a 16th century carpet now in the V&A museum. There are three open fires in the kitchen, and an interloper bag of King Edward potatoes (a joke by master miniaturist John Hodgson)

The Stuart House

This is based on Burton Hall in Yorkshire and occupied by a Stuart family in about 1640. In the garden the roses are real miniature dried rose heads and the other flowers are made of brass and hand-painted. In the parlour an elderly lady sits at her spinning wheel using Leicester long haired sheep wool. The gentlemen at the other side of the house are playing shovelboard, the predecessor of shove halfpenny. Notice the dark carved wood panelling, columns and plaster frieze. The ornate, open-well





staircase has generous proportions to allow for farthingale skirts, or was it the other way around?

The Restoration Drawing Room

This room shows the decorative nature of panelling, ceilings and furniture which developed during the Restoration of the monarchy from 1660. The fire-place depicts the Royal Oak of Charles II (c. 1660) and notice the general use of upholstery, making furniture more comfortable. Floors were polished oak parquetry and the furniture highlights the influence of the Huguenots in the 1680s. Notice the walnut and marquetry cabinet – a superb example.

In the 1690s black Chinese lacquered furniture became popular, as depicted in the cabinet on display. In 1689 the accession of William and Mary introduced a more delicate, tall and elegant style of furniture and the chairs here are copies of real chairs in the long gallery in Haver Castle.



The Georgian House

This classically styled house is based on Sledmere House in Yorkshire. The doors are solid mahogany and the marble in the hall comes from Devon. In the amazing dining room the bone china dinner service is monogrammed "G" for

Guthrie, the current owners of Haver Castle, and the painting over the fireplace is a copy of the real one in the Haver library. In the bedroom the bible can be read, as can the three books on the desk, and the harp in the drawing room can be played.







The Victorian House

The drawing room is decorated in Gothic revival of which the windows, doorways, ceiling mouldings and over mantel are all classic examples. The wall-

paper 'bower' is William Morris c.1877, the floors are parquet woodblock and the carpet a copy of an Aubusson carpet. The furnishings are typically Victorian with button back sofa and chairs, several



side tables, sewing table and plant stands. There is a floral bell pull by the fireside and a phonograph, which was a new invention in the 1890s. There are many more Victorian touches, for instance a shell collection, glass dome with magpie, dried flower arrangements, and numerous porcelain, glassware, silver and pictures. In the small hall there is a dado rail and anaglypta wallpaper, popular at this time.

Below stairs the staff are preparing meals for the Christmas period. Note the pastry wheel, egg timer and mincing machine – items we use today, plus the wide range of household items on the dresser and shelves. To the right is a passage, with a servant polishing his master's boots using a wide range of brushes. The nursery is a small attic room, used



Castle well worth visit

Even without the attraction of The Guthrie Collection, moated Hever Castle is well worth a visit. Attractively compact with a comfortable “lived in” feel and dating back 700 years, it is steeped in history, and yes, Henry VIII is thought to have slept there. It is set in glorious grounds and gardens and it even has an adventure playground for the children.

The cafe is large and open plan, the food is delicious, and the staff are brilliant, especially Stewart Kinnear, who gave us excellent advice on the day. One complaint only. I had a scone and coffee when we arrived, and after I took my seat in the garden, a mummy duck with four baby ducklings came over, mugged me, ate my entire scone, and then deserted me when it was obvious I had none left for them. Another truly magical moment.

Add this to your places to visit, I promise you won't regret it.

● For further information go to: www.hevercastle.co.uk
Telephone 01732 865224
See the ad on P25.



as a day nursery, away from their parents. However, they did have all kinds of mechanical toys, hobby horses, tops and doll's houses. The nanny also had another new invention, a sewing machine.

In the beginning

In 1989 John Guthrie, the owner of Hever Castle commissioned John J. Hodgson, master English miniaturist furniture maker, to create model period houses to form the basis of his collection. Each house was to faithfully reflect architectural features and every aspect of the period. The models are set within a permanent twelfth scale exhibition to illustrate the development of English country houses through the ages, from Tudor to Victorian times.

Well done John Guthrie and John Hodgson – I salute you. [DHW](#)



a sparkling CHANDELIER

Caroline Dupuis has found a simple technique for making a fancy chandelier and she is happy to share it with you!

By Caroline Dupuis



YOU'LL need



- 22-gauge wire
- Tiny glass beads
- Thread
- 5 spaghetti beads
- 1 long tube bead
- White glue
- Industrial strength glue (E-6000),
- Tissue paper of your favourite colours
- If you want to light the fixture a mini LED battery operated light (but an electric light bulb can also be used).

A crystal chandelier is a marvellous romantic addition to a doll's house. When I began building doll's houses I wanted a beautiful chandelier to add glitter to my doll's house. I looked on the Internet for a tutorial. I followed the steps, but soon veered off course into my own version. I wanted my chandelier to be simple, easy and quick.

Step 1: I cut 5 pieces of wire for the arms. You can use the number of arms you like. These are from 22-gauge wire. You can use thicker wire if you want a different look. 22-gauge works well if you want to string

seed beads to make a crystal chandelier. The wires are about 5" long. The length will depend on how big you need the chandeliers to be.



Step 2: Curled all five wires around the cap of a paint bottle to create a curve.



Step 3: Glue the 5 curled wires to the long bead. You can use

industrial strength glue for this step. But if you want to quickly adhere the chandelier arms to the long bead use hot glue. You can then cover the hot glue with industrial glue for added strength.



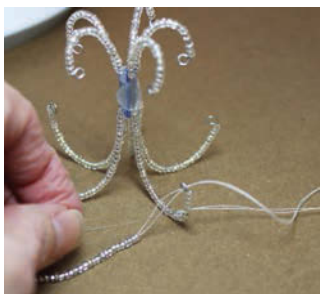
Step 4: String your beads onto each top and bottom wires. Curl the ends into a closed loop to secure the beads.



Step 5: Thread a needle with about 30" of thread. Secure the thread onto the first bottom loop.

TOOLS

- Needle
- Pliers
- A hole punch (mine has a snowflake cut-out)
- Scissors
- Hot glue optional for some parts of this project.



Step 6: String the beads onto your first swag. You can make each swag as long as you want. Go through the next loop and secure just like the first loop.



Step 7: Go around all the loops once for your swags. Then go around again for a second layer of swags. You can do as many swags as you wish for a grander look.



Step 8: Tie off by working your needle through all the strings on that loop.

Step 9: Secure where each loop and string come together with a dot of white glue.



Step 10: Repeat the same process with your swags at the top of the chandelier. I curled the top arms of the chandelier with a pen.

Making roses

Step 1: Cut out your flower shapes with 4-6 petals and leaf shapes.

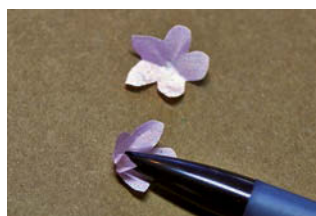


Step 2: Take 3 flower shapes and 3 leaves.



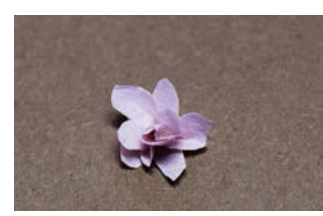
Step 3: Fold one of the flower shapes in half and roll it together. This is the rose centre.

Step 4: Shape the 2 other flower shapes into bowls. I did



this by shaping it on the end of my pencil.

Step 5: Glue the rolled centre



into the first bowl and glue that bowl into the other bowl. You can use hot glue or white glue.

(continued on p49)

make a simple FIRE SCREEN

Use some coffee stirrers and some skirting to make an easy wooden screen

By Sandra Harding



Instructions

1. Decide on the size of screen and cut two matching pieces of coffee stirrer for the top and bottom, and two pieces for the sides. Sand gently until smooth. These can be mitred or not, depending on style you want

YOU'LL need

- Paper picture cut-outs from magazine (see P75) or suitable fabric
- Plain firm card
- Coffee stirrers
- Wood stain of choice
- Scissors
- Tweezers
- Fancy findings or jewellery finding
- Gold/ black outline stickers (Hobbycraft)
- Glue
- Small piece of skirting board
- Paper "wooden" card to cover back if needed
- Small saw
- Small mitre block
- Small sander/emery board



(and also if, like me, you are not too clever with saws and mitre blocks). This will be the frame.

2. Stain the stirrers to the

colour wanted, or leave as natural. Let them dry.

3. Cut out a piece of card to the size you want, and to match



the overall size of your "frame". (The frame will be glued onto the card, so the card must be big enough for this.)

4. Cut out two thin pieces of skirting board, and make a small slot in each one for the frame to sit in. Stain them to match frame. These will be the feet of your screen.

5. Choose your picture or piece of fabric and make sure it will sit nicely inside your frame.

6. Carefully glue the four pieces of wood (coffee stirrer) onto the

(continued from p47)



piece of card, making sure the corners are neat and tidy. Let it dry.

7. If needed, stick a piece of “wooden” paper onto the back over the card to give a tidier finish.

8. Glue your chosen picture or fabric onto the front of the frame, neaten it to fit inside the frame. Let it dry.

9. Glue decorations at each corner, which finishes it off, and hides any slight imperfection. Add a gold or black outline sticker if wanted, either inside the frame, or on the outside edge. I added a little gold handle at the top of

one and a cardboard trim on the top of another.

10. Glue the feet onto the bottom, holding it in place until the glue takes. Keep it upright and let it dry. Make sure the shaped side is to the front. **DHW**



Step 6: Glue the 3 leaves to the back of the rose.



Step 7: Glue each rose onto the chandelier until you have covered the centre bead. Don't plug the bead holes with glue! I used 13 flowers to cover my centre bead.

Adding a light



Step 1: I used mini LED lights that are battery operated for my chandelier. But you can also use an electric bulb. Pull the electric wires through the holes of your centre bead.

Step 2: You can paint the wires to make them blend into your décor.

Adding candles



Step 1: I cut 5 snowflake shapes with a hole punch out of card stock to make the candle holders.

Step 2: I folded the snowflakes arms up so it looks like a bowl.

Step 3: I glued a spaghetti bead to the middle. If you want a little bulb shape just touch the end of your glue gun to the bead, squeeze a tiny amount of glue out carefully, pull the gun away and twirl the nozzle to cut the hot glue string.

You're all done! And now you have an adorable little light fixture that makes your doll's house feel warm and cozy. And you can easily adapt my design to suit your tastes and needs. **DHW**



steampunk TOP HAT PROJECT

Lianda Sutherland shares her technique with us on how to make an ordinary top hat into an extraordinary accessory

By Lianda Sutherland



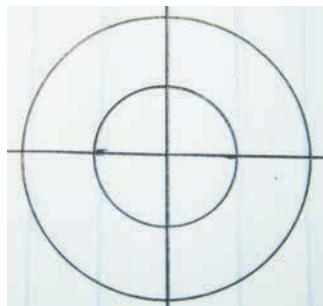
I love all things steampunk and have such fun making these little fashionable top hats for my ladies I wanted to share how it's done. I find that thin leather works the best, however, it's easier with slightly thicker leather. Personally I tend to find a colour I like and then make the rest work for me. It's really easy if you follow these few steps.

YOU'LL need

- Leather
- Circular ruler
- Sharp scissors
- Pen
- Piece of paper to draft the pattern
- Curved glue syringe
- Leather glue
- 10cm beading wire to make the spring
- Photocopy of a small clock face
- Thin bendable wire for the brim - this will help shape your brim
- Cogs and feathers for embellishment



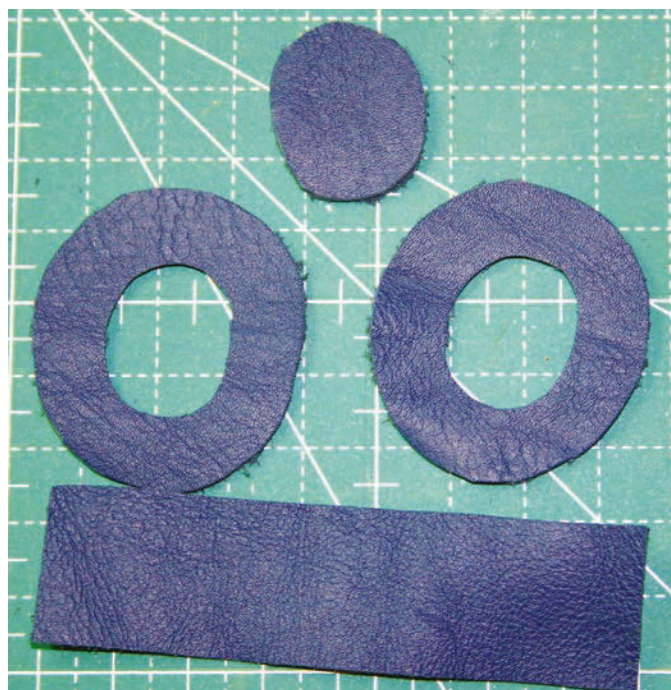
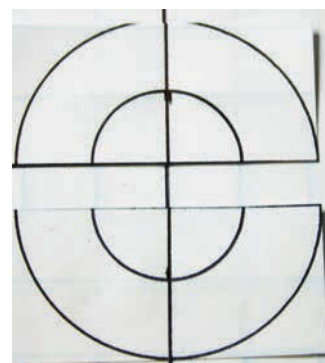
Step 1: Get your circular ruler and find a circle size that fits comfortably on your doll's head by holding it over them. The one shown is 18mm.



Step 2: Draw a cross on your blank paper. Lay your circular ruler on the paper and match up the marker points and the draw your circle.

Step 3: Now use the largest circle on your ruler (36mm) and match your cross to your markers and draw the second circle around the first.

Step 4: Now cut your circle out and then cut it in half. Glue the half circle cut outs back onto your paper, but leave a 5mm gap in between them. This will now change your circle



TIP: If your hat is for a doll it is best to wig her first and then make her hat so that it will fit correctly. I draft a separate pattern for every hat to be sure I get a perfect fit.

shape in to more of an oblong shape. Let the glue dry.

Step 5: Cut out the inner circle and test it again on your dolls head to be sure it's the right size.

Step 6: Cut two oblong circles out of the leather for the brim.

Step 7: Cut one small inner oblong circle out of leather for the top of the hat.

Step 8: Cut one long strip 20mm high (you can make your hat as high as you like) and 80mm long (8cm) for the body of the hat.



Step 9: Gently bend your wire into the shape of your hat brim. Lay it about 2-3mm from the outer edge. When you have your shape correct then cover your bottom brim with leather glue and gently push your wire into the glue. Try to get it evenly around the brim.



Step 10: Put the second brim on top and leave it under something heavy for 30 minutes, so

the glue can dry.

Step 11: Take your hat body and roll it into a tube shape. Don't glue it yet; we need to first check the size.



Step 12: When your brim is dry, take the body of the hat and put it through the inner hole, check the overlap - you will only need 1-2 mm overlap, the rest you can trim off.

Step 13: With a fine bead of glue, glue your body shape into a tube; let it dry for about 15 minutes. Check the drying time on the brand of glue you are using to be sure.



Step 14: Once the body section has dried, you can add it to your brim with a thin bead of glue. Set aside to dry.

Step 15: Finally, now you can add your top with a bead of glue.

Step 16: Now the fun starts! Carefully trim off the excess leather on the brim, as close to the wire as possible and then



with a clock on the end and "voilà" your basic steampunk hat is finished! **DHW**



trim any excess off the top of the hat. I like to do my embellishment over the side seam on the body of the hat, any mistakes you may have made, can at this stage, be hidden.

The most fun is the decorating. A few old watch cogs, a few very fine feathers, a thin spring made from beading wire

Masterpieces made in bronze

Carol Huffman explores the techniques and inspiration of IGMA Fellow Neil Carter, and his incredible sculpted bronze figures

By Carol Huffman

Tucked away in the southern part of the East Midlands, near the River Nene, in the county of Northamptonshire, is a small market town called Raunds. In late Victorian time, Northamptonshire was the shoe and boot making capital of England. Archeological digs in the region show evidence of the Bronze Age.

And bronze it is. At the end of his garden path in the vintage remnants of a cobbler's workshop, Neil Carter has revived the art of the ornate bronze in miniature. Neil claims he was never any kind of artist. He used to work as an ad man for a London magazine publishing firm. He would make brooches and paperweights for his colleagues and for his efforts was paid in the local pub on Friday after work.

Neil began his sculpting career making large resin bronze garden statues and water fountains, but

RIGHT: Beautiful figure finished with polished patina, painted white enamel, and gold leaf details.



success didn't come until he began making resin cast fireplaces and Agas (a type of stove) in twelfth scale and selling them at craft fairs. In 1990 Neil discovered that the doll's house market was more lucrative. Thinking big meant making things small.

Those of you who have been miniaturists for over 20 years might remember Neil at several shows in the early 90's. He did travel to the US, but family has kept him closer to home these days.

Work process

To create his beautiful figures, Neil uses a "lost wax" method that has not changed for centuries.

"Starting with a wine cork, I insert copper wire into it to form an armature upon which I build up the model in Milliput, using my fingers, dental tools, and whatever else comes to hand," Neil explains. "Once I am happy with what

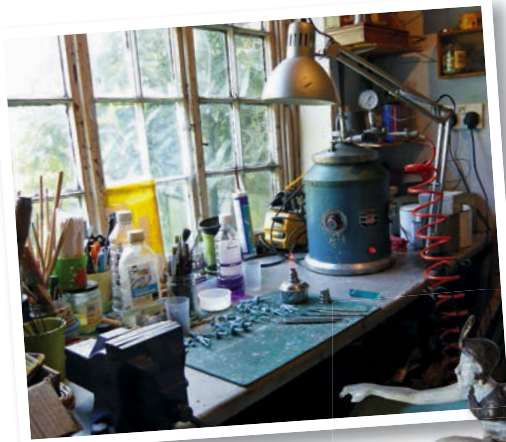
TOP LEFT: "Butterfly Girl," a graceful Art Deco figure, measures 1" high.

TOP RIGHT: IGMA Fellow Neil Carter stands outside his workshop, a converted cobbler's shop.

ABOVE LEFT: "Archer." 1:24 scale, measures 1" tall. Modelled after French sculptor Pierre Le Faguays.

BELOW: A pair of bronze bookends. Measure 3/4" high. Modelled after piece by French artist Maurice Guiraud-Riviere, a painter and sculptor during the Art Deco period.





I have sculpted, it is sent to the foundry."

The foundry produces a silicon rubber mould from the "Master" model, and then is returned to Neil. He then injects hot casting wax into the mould using a foot pump operated wax injector. Once the wax has cooled and been removed from the silicon rubber mould, Neil cleans it up by removing any flash lines and fixing any imperfections. The wax models are then returned to the foundry.

"This wax "Sub-Master" is then covered with a type of plaster," explains Neil. "When set, it goes into an oven, drying out the plaster and also melting the "Sub-Master" inside, which drips out leaving a cavity. Into this cavity is poured the molten bronze."

The foundry uses a combination of gravity and vacuum so that the bronze is sucked into all the nooks and crannies of the cavity inside the mould. The mould is then smashed open and the rough bronze figure is returned to Neil for final finishing.

Neil cleans the models with tiny files and fine abrasive papers, and uses various acids and chemicals to enhance the patina.

"Where appropriate, some models are painted with oil based enamels to imitate ivory and some are gold leafed," Neil says. "The finished bronzes are then coated with a mixture of pure beeswax thinned down with artists turpentine."

Once the finished bronzes have dried overnight, Neil gently buffs them using a soft bristle brush.

This method "Cire Perdue" or "Lost Wax" has been used for centuries in the great civilisations of the world and, gratefully, in Northamptonshire.

Neil's inspiration

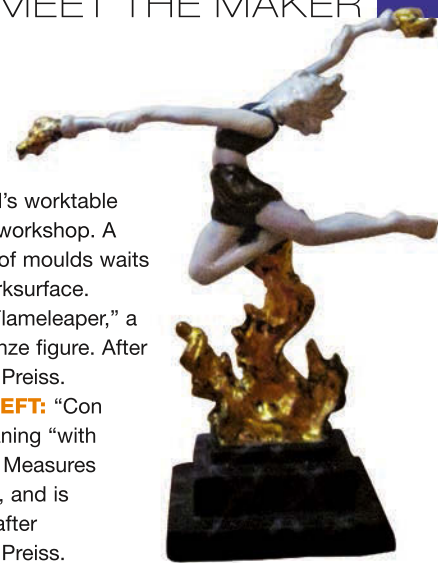
Neil's inspiration comes from the works of some of the most renowned Art Deco and Art Nouveau artists of the time, such as Pierre Le Faguays, Ferdinand Priess, Demetre Chiparus and even George Stanley's "The Oscar" statue of 1928. From the photos you can see that I favour his Art Deco and Nouveau collection. His Renaissance, Egyptian, and modern subjects are all mini monuments of real life masterpieces and antiquities.

In today's modern era, the Art Nouveau movement was overshadowed by the Art Deco period that followed. The term Art Deco was coined by Bevis Hillier in 1961. Unfortunately both styles came and went very quickly. The effect of World War I, The Great Depression, rationing, world hardships, and World War II came into play and stunted the growth of two periods in history and art that attempted to maintain beauty, craftsmanship, and art in its natural and abstracted states. These styles and methods will never again be captured in the modern world of machines, mass production, and industry without the skilled artistry of the Neil Carters of the world. **DHW**

LEFT: Neil's worktable inside his workshop. A collection of moulds waits on the work surface.

RIGHT: "Flameleaper," a gilded bronze figure. After Ferdinand Priess.

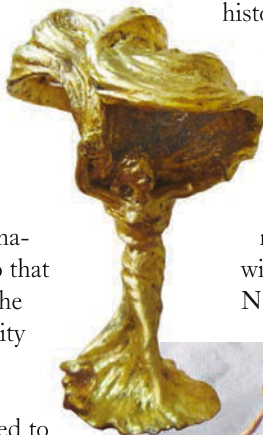
BELOW LEFT: "Con Brio," meaning "with panache." Measures 11/2" high, and is modelled after Ferdinand Priess.



LEFT: Gilded bronze table lamp. Art Nouveau piece by Raoul Larche. Measures 1 3/4" high.

ABOVE: "Ballerina Tying Laces" in its wax form, after being removed from the silicon rubber mould. It's ready to return to the foundry where it will be covered with a type of plaster. The wax figure will then melt out, creating a cavity that the molten bronze will be poured into.

BELOW: Set of bronzes back from the foundry and ready for clean up.



Dinky Delights keep growing

From a giant cabbage tiny things do grow.. into a fascinating range of right-sized miniatures

By Sandra Harding



Louise Miller of Dinky Delights did not know that an innocent purchase of a roombox for her son (who wanted to build a war time shop) would turn her into a miniature convert. As often happens, her son had gone off the idea and she was left with the roombox.

Not being a person to let anything go to waste she decided to make a green-grocer's (as you do) and then bought all the colours of Fimo that she could find. I would love to say that everything went perfectly, but I would be lying, as

Louise's first cabbage was as big as a tennis ball – not quite what she had planned.

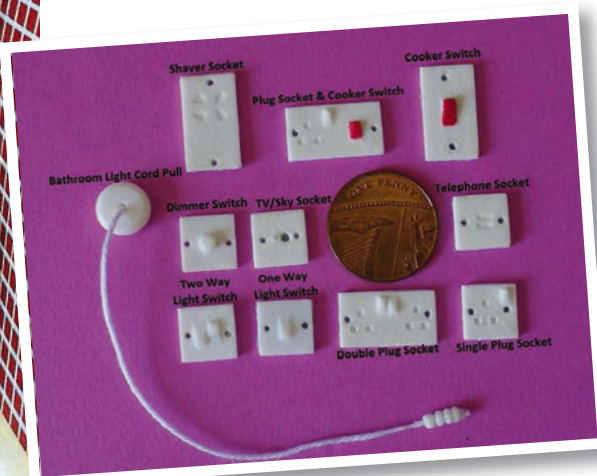
However, within six months she had produced an array of fruit, vegetables, bread, sweets and meat (now all twelfth scale). She had also made six market stalls in which to display them and, to this day, the original poor little roombox has not been used.

After her friends and family got over the amusement of her new hobby, they recommended that she should sell her wares on eBay, which she eventually did. Her first sale was sweets in the shape of

liquorice allsorts in 2010, which continues to be one of her best sellers.

Other products of her own (over 200), are noticeboards for customer ads, shop signs, labels, magazines and newspapers, sticks of rock, plentiful sweets and food, and many designs of paper plates. She has even added some naughty little items based on Fifty Shades of Grey, but please don't tell anyone.

After this success, Louise decided to attend a fair as a seller and her first one was a Dolly Daydreams event at Dedham in Colchester in November 2011, selling only her own products. Within a few months she had expanded to include products from Streets Ahead and The Wonham Collection, including DIY,





wallpaper, carpets, furniture, lighting and dolls.

Although Louise loves all styles she tends to go for the more 'modern' look in her own goods, and spends a great deal of time researching a product before launching it. Her latest products are the 3D effect switches and sockets, which

took some time to develop and perfect. They have already become very popular, and having seen them myself, I can guarantee they will add realism to any modern setting.

To add some interest Louise's good friend Steve (who also does all of the driving) has started to have his own



table, selling doll's houses under the title of Dinky Developments, whilst still supporting Louise at her stand. **DHW**

“ She has even added some naughty little items based on Fifty Shades of Grey, but please don't tell anyone. ”



Dolls House World *subscription offer*



CLAIM A LOVELY FREE HOUSE OR SWEET TREATS

You save on the iMag and TV channel

When you subscribe to the print version, you qualify for big savings on the Dolls House World iMag digital library.

With the iMag you will be able to read all the current magazines on your computer, plus you get access to back issues of Dolls House World in the iMag library. All for a one-off additional price.

Also, don't miss Dolls House World's very own online TV channel (www.dollshouseworld.tv) It's like having a workshop in your home. You can watch programmes 24 hours a day via the internet on your computer or mobile device.

Subscribe to the print edition of Dolls House World and we'll send you a beautiful miniature gift completely free.

If you subscribe for one year you'll receive the twelfth scale Sweet Treats set pictured right with cakes and desserts to tempt your doll's house residents.

Subscribe for two years and we'll send you this detailed mini ceramic house. You can feature the house in a room or a scene, or simply display it as an ornament on a shelf.

Both gifts are carefully crafted by Reutter Porcelain of Germany and come beautifully boxed in their own perspex presentation case.

3 easy ways to subscribe

- ★ *Online at www.dollshouseworld.com*
- ★ *Call free in the UK on 0800 435553*
US: 1-866-606-6587. Outside UK: +44 (0)1903 884988
- ★ *By post using the form on the right*

One year magazine subscription (12 issues): UK £49; US \$110; Rest of world £81

Call FREE today on: 0800 435553 Outside UK: +44 (0) 1903 884988



Be inspired every month

Make sure you have the inspiration of Dolls House World coming to your house every month. Don't miss out on all the wonderful features and projects our team have planned for you over the coming months. Subscribe to the printed magazine today and claim your lovely free gift.



Subscribe today.

It's easy online or call the DHW office free on 0800 435553

Only available to new annual subscribers



DHW ON THE TABLET AND PHONE:

DHW magazine is now available to read on your favourite device, including the iPad, iPhone, iPod touch, Samsung Galaxy Tab. Buy the latest issue anywhere in the world at a fraction of the cost of the paper edition.

Download your FREE App today. Simply search for 'Dolls House World Magazine' in the Apple App store or Android Market.



Send to: Dollhouse World Magazine,
PO Box 2258, PULBOROUGH
RH20 9BA Great Britain

☐ **YES** I would like to subscribe/renew to Dolls House World Magazine. Send me my free gifts.

☐ **1 year**, 12 issues

UK £49; US \$110; Rest of world £81

☐ **2 year**, 24 issues

UK £95; US \$210; Rest of world £159

☐ Tick here to add the **iMag** Digital Library to your subscription for only an extra £31.99 per year.

SAVE ££ off usual iMag price!

☐ Tick here to add a year's subscription to the **online Dollhouse.TV channel** for only £29.99 extra per year.

SAVE ££ off usual price.

Your subscription will renew annually at the best price.

YOUR DETAILS

Mr/Mrs/Ms/Miss: Forename:

Surname:

Address:

Postcode:

Tel:

Email:

TO GIVE A GIFT SUBSCRIPTION

Please fill out both the recipient's details below and the 'Your Details' section on the above.

Mr/Mrs/Ms/Miss: Forename:

Surname:

Address:

Postcode:

THREE EASY WAYS TO PAY

1. Cheque enclosed payable to Dolls House World Magazine

2. Please debit my: ☐ Visa ☐ Mastercard

Card number:

□□□□□□□□□□□□□□□□

Expiry date:

Issue No:

3 digit security code:

□□/□□

□□□□ □□□

Signature:

Date:

3. Want to pay monthly? No problem. You can when you subscribe online.* Go to www.dollshouseworld.com
Gifts not available to monthly subscribers

Unique granite doll's houses

Rui Soares of Portugal has managed to create her doll's houses even while studying for the BAR exam

By Allison Croat

PHOTOS BY WWW.ALTERWARE.NET



Juggling your hobby with your career is a challenge many people are intimately familiar with. Rui Soares knows all about struggling to find time for creating miniatures, since she had to juggle law school and the BAR exam when making minis. And yet she's managed to create stunning granite houses without ever being instructed in miniatures.

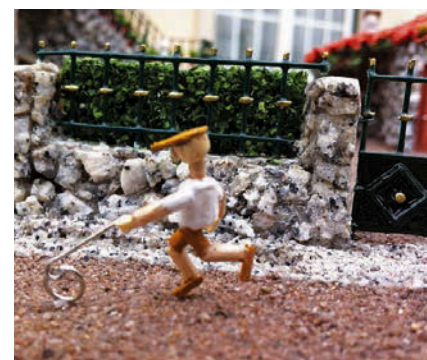
The miniature bug bit Rui when she was 16-years-old.

She spent summers at her grandmother's house, where she was often looking for things to do. "So I started my first house," Rui states quite matter-of-factly. Each summer she would make another house, each one taking more and more time as she built up her skill set. "I did my first 10 miniature houses during summer vacations. The rest of the year, I went to school."

After beginning law school, Rui's summers began to fill up with continual studying, so

her miniature creations were put on hold. Even after she had finished school, she then had to concentrate on studying for the BAR exams. "During 4-5 years, my last house was only roughly started. But the past two years I have continued it, despite the fact that my spare time is shrinking."

It is clear that making houses is something Rui is passionate about, since she dedicates much of her precious little spare time to creating them. All of her



houses are inspired by the region in Portugal where her family hails from, the Beira Alta region. "I don't copy a real-life house," she says, "I use the typical features of the real-life houses of Beira Alta." What is that typical feature? Granite.

The primary material for all of Rui's houses (except her very first one, which she made with wood) is granite. The granite she finds at her grandmother's house; she then breaks each piece into smaller pieces, and uses the dust to cover the glue between the rocks. This is a time consuming process, but it is clearly very important to the overall





look and realism of the house.

Besides granite, Rui names imagination, patience, and perseverance as her most commonly-used materials. Imagination comes into play in every aspect of creation, including decisions about what materials to use to create different pieces, seeing as she makes every item associated with her homes.

Some typical items she uses are small needles, used for iron furniture and door hinges; plastic bristles from brooms, used for window frames; chopsticks, pin-heads for door and drawer handles; the caps of plastic pens for lampshades; and oven-bake clay to manually make the over 2,500 roof tiles for her current house. "You only have to look around and think of ways of using materials that you know and find anywhere," she says of her unique material interpretations.

Her building and creating style comes from amassing information throughout each of the previous houses she's made. "My technique uses the successful tries of the last house, which means things are constantly evolving. Usually when I'm doing a project, I'm already thinking about the

next one, what would it be, and the things that need to be improved from the one I'm doing."

With all of this internal thought process, it might be fruitful to take notes about what you're thinking. Not Rui. "I don't write down my ideas or draw anything. I don't forget." So there it is, a mindful of ideas always circulating, helping Rui get creative with her miniature creations. Before beginning each piece, she has an idea in mind. "But I don't spend much time thinking about it

or what materials I'll use. If I don't get it right, I try again." Simple and effective!

Because everything is handmade, Rui manages to find defects in her creations. "I don't correct them though, because usually it seems that I'm the only one that can see them. Other times, it would be impossible to fix them. But the next time I have to make another piece like that, I know what went wrong so I can correct it."

Rui chooses to handcraft her pieces because she has difficulty finding pieces she

would want to buy and place in her house, claiming that they lack the level of detail she desires. "So, I just do all the pieces, from the door hinges to the street lamps." If it's the first time she's making a piece, she keeps it relatively simple. If it turns out, she enhances it, making it more detailed and perfect.

She does say that it is difficult when trying to make multiple pieces of the same kind, such as a set of four chairs. "They have to be similar, which can be tricky seeing as they're entirely handmade.



Lorraine Miniatures

(The Dolls House Store)

Beautiful Handcrafted Miniatures & Craft Materials for Miniaturists.

Many pieces are exclusive and one of a kind.
Only the best quality items are offered, at affordable prices.
Specific commissions undertaken if you want something made to your individual needs.



www.lorraineminiatures.com

THE CRAFT
PACK
COMPANY

Beautiful Range of Craft Kits for Dolls House Enthusiasts.

Craft Packs are DIY project kits that enable you to make handmade doll house miniatures, celebration cake toppers, room boxes, miniature framed scenes etc.

Each pack is beautifully presented, with full, easy to follow instructions and all of the materials that you need for each project.



www.thecraftpackcompany.co.uk

Est 1976

SussexCrafts Miniatures

Specialist Makers of Top Quality Miniatures



Plovers Cottage, 43 Rollesby Way,
Happisburgh, Norwich,
Norfolk NR12 0QJ
Tel: 01692 650389
sussexcrafts@btinternet.com



MAIL ORDER AND WEB

www.sussexcrafts.com

Now available on your tablet!

Dolls House World magazine is now available to read on your favourite device, including the iPad, iPhone, iPod touch, Samsung Galaxy Tab. Buy the latest issue anywhere in the world at a fraction of the cost of the paper edition.

Download your FREE App today. Simply search for 'Dollshouse World Magazine' in the Apple App store or Android Market.

www.pocketmags.com



 pocketmags.com

Available on the
App Store

 Google play



their own single identity, a unique signature, that is passed on to the miniature. I don't mind at all if people use some of my ideas, because the most important thing of all is not the technique or the materials used; the most important thing is your imagination, and enjoying yourself while making miniatures." **DHW**

But all the difficulties are what I love most when I'm doing my miniatures," Rui admits. "It's that which allows me to constantly evolve and get better at my way of creating."

And the future holds big possibilities for evolution. Rui plans on making not one, not two, but four different houses, and a church. Made from different sizes and types of granite, she wants it to look like a small village centre. "Continuing to work in a career that I love, as a lawyer, and have spare time for my hobby" is also high on her priority list.

In true miniature fashion, Rui wants people to be inspired by her designs. "Everyone's creations have

Rui's latest house

Rui shares a description of her latest doll's house that you see pictured here:

This granite house is a typical 1940's countryside granite doll's house, from the Beira Alta Region, Portugal.

This house is middle class house of that region, with a grocery store, and is a postal office too. It was very common at that time for stores like this to sell stamps, send goods, and do all the things the post office does, which is why the building has a mail box at the entrance. As it is a grocery store, it also has scales, fruit baskets, and a table with codfish for sale.

On the first floor, the house has a bedroom and a living room. Both have simple furniture, as these kind of houses used to have. The bedroom has iron furniture, a sink, a dresser, and a nightstand with a working lamp.

The living rooms of these houses were very simple too. This house only has a cupboard with some plates and glasses, a table with some chairs, a old clock, a wall calendar, and a painting.

Some of these real houses had an enclosed veranda outside near the stairs. So, I made one, too, and inside there are two old ladies sewing.

It was also common that houses from a rural region had a big yard, which allowed having dogs, cats, chickens, a henhouse, and a place to put the wagons. So, I made all those things: a dog and its little kennel, chickens walking around while a cat on the stairs is looking them, a wagon parked, and the henhouse. I also made a small house where the oven was traditionally kept. This

is actually where I put the voltage transformer for the LED lights that light up the outside of the house.

On the street in front of the house I put a small girl playing with a balloon, walking by the hand with her mum. I also made a small boy playing a traditional game of walking or running with an iron wheel and using a wire to make it roll. I also put a street lamp that actually works with optical fibre cable.

I put some flower vases on the stairs and the balcony, some moss and grass that sometimes grows on the roof, and the yard has gates that open and close. I hope you enjoy it!



a Sunday lunch of ROAST CHICKEN

Here's a wonderful Sunday lunch for you to make with roast chicken, roast potatoes, beans, carrots and Yorkshires

By Tanya Waughman



There's nothing like the smell of roast chicken in the kitchen just before Sunday lunch is served. You might not be able to smell it, but this roast chicken will certainly look the part. Tanya takes you step-by-step through the process to create chicken, roast potatoes, beans, carrots and even Yorkshire puddings.

YOU'LL need

- Polymer clay in ochre, orange, flesh pink, green, transparent, and white
- Hand wipes
- Platter to place your chicken on
- Single-edge blade
- Toothpick
- Paintbrush with soft bristles
- Rough sandpaper
- Rolling pin
- Talcum powder
- Ceramic tile
- Gloss varnish
- Tacky glue
- Methylated spirits (for degreasing)
- Pastels in white, orange, and brown
- Paper

Step 1. Mix 1 part white, 3/4 transparent and a tiny bit of ochre (1:40) together.

TIP If your clay is old, a drop of almond oil will soften it up.

Step 2. Take a hunk of flesh-pink clay and shape it into a round cylinder. This will be your chicken flesh.



Step 3. Take your white mixture and roll it out. This is going to be the skin and will go over the pink flesh. Spread some talcum

powder on your ceramic tile and put a little powder on your rolling pin as well. Roll out the white quite thin, because you don't want the skin to look too thick.



Step 4. With your blade, straighten one short edge of the white clay.



Step 5. Place your pink cylinder onto the white and start to roll the white around the pink.



Step 6. After rolling once, cut off any excess white so the edges just meet up with each other. Don't let them overlap or the skin will get too thick.



Step 7. Shave off the extra white from the sides of the cylinder and save that for the potatoes and Yorkshire puddings.



Step 8. Using your fingers, work the clay into a cylinder. Start in the middle and work

out to get rid of all the air bubbles. Work until it's 1.5cm or just over 1/4" thick.



Step 9. Slice off the end so it's nice and neat. We're going to work this neat edge into the chicken's cavity; start by pulling the white skin mix over the end.



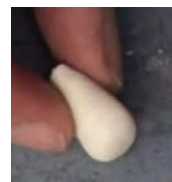
Step 10. Using the end of your paintbrush or a rounded-edge tool, push into the end and create a cavity. Continue moulding and pinching until the end cavity looks like a triangle.

Step 11. Continue pinching until the end is a bit thinner, and keep using your rounded tool to keep the cavity open.



Step 12. From the other side of the chicken piece, chop off about 3/4" and set that aside to be used for the drumsticks, wings, and extra slices. On your original piece, use the same technique as above to pull the white end of the clay over the flesh.

Step 13. Mould this piece until it has a nice chicken shape. The breast should be nice and rounded, the top a little bit pinched, and the opening for the cavity should be shaped.



TIP You can leave your rounded tool in the cavity as you pinch and mould if it keeps closing up.

Step 14. Continue shaping and moulding your chicken, slicing off any excess clay.



Step 15. Mark the breast by making an indentation using your toothpick; wiggle the toothpick a tiny bit to make a stronger indent.

Step 16. Set your chicken body to one side as you create the drumstick and wings.

Drumsticks

Step 1. Cut off 1/2" of the white and pink chunk you set aside earlier.



Using the same technique as above, stretch the white over the flesh on both ends of the clay. Smooth this out so there are no creases.



Step 2. Work and stretch the clay from the middle so each side turns into a teardrop shape. Cut this in half and you'll have two drumsticks.



Step 3. Work each half of the drumstick. Stretch one end so it becomes nice and thin.



Step 4. Roll the thin end of the drumstick to make it a bit thinner, then slightly flatten the thick base where it will rest against the body of the chicken. Leave the thin end long until you've finished the second piece.



Step 5. Make your second drumstick in the same way you made the first one in Steps 3 and 4.



Step 6. Once you have both pieces, bend up the join of the leg. Use your toothpick as a guide and bend the skinny parts perpendicular to the rest of the drumstick.



Step 7. Cut off your excess clay close to the bend, making sure both leg lengths are the same. Keep your extra clay.



Step 8. On the drumstick, use your blade to mark the creases on the joint; this is usually about three marks.



Step 9. Add your drumsticks to either side of the chicken. Pop them in place and press. Open up the cavity again if you need to once you're done with the legs.

Wings

Step 1. Cut off another 1/4" from your white and pink clay piece, then cut that in half again, as you'll be making each wing separately.



Step 2. Starting with one wing, close both ends of the clay so you can't see the flesh. Mould this into a small teardrop with the stretched end extending quite long; this end will become a Z-shape for the wing.



Step 3. Make your Z-shape and cut off any extra clay.

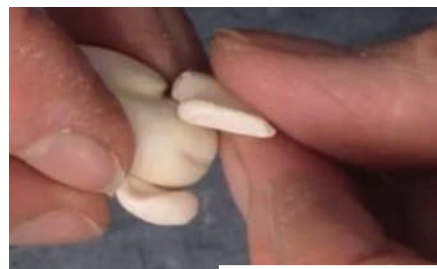
Step 4. Flatten the end of the skinny part



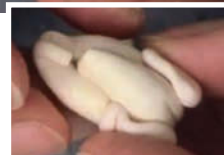
and make it a little bit pointed. Using a toothpick, make a line along the skinny end.



Step 5. Make the second wing in the same way, but remember to reverse the Z direction so you have a pair.



Step 6. Add the two wings to your chicken. Make sure you put the wings on the right way, because it can be a bit confusing. Look at a photo of a real chicken if you need to. Note that many chickens are sold with the top part of the wing folded underneath the body, so take that into consideration.



Finish the chicken



Step 1. Now that you've got the shape of your roasted chicken done, all you need to do is texture the skin with a bit of sandpaper.



Step 2. Scribble white, orange, and brown pastel onto your paper to get some chalk dust.

Step 3. With a soft paintbrush, mix the three colours together until you get a nice, roasted colour.



Step 4. Dust the chicken with your pastels to give it colour.



Step 5. Pop the chicken onto your platter.



Step 6. Use your leftover clay! Simply make thin slices and use these to create a platter or plate of cut chicken pieces.

Roasted potatoes

Use the skin mixture you made for the chicken to make potatoes.

Step 1. Take a little bit of the clay and roll it into a sausage shape.

Step 2. Cut off less than 1/4" and roll it. There's your first potato!

Step 3. Make one slightly bigger, and cut it in half. Continue making potatoes until you have enough to add to the platter.



Step 4. Brush your potatoes with the chalk to give them a nice roasted look. Arrange these next to your chicken on the platter. Push them in a little bit so they attach to the chicken and to each other.

TIP You can bake each piece separately, but when you bake them together on the platter, they tend to stick together and stay much better.

Yorkshire pudding

A traditionally British treat often served with roasted meats and gravy, Yorkshire pudding is made from batter cooked in the heated meat drippings. When cooked, it puffs up, similar to a popover or other pastry. This admittedly would be more appropriate for a Christmas scene than a Thanksgiving one, but we couldn't resist

leaving it in! You can always forego the indent and gravy and use this method to create American-style biscuits, if you like. To make this dish, start with the same white clay colour.

Step 1. Take a tiny slice of clay and roll into a ball.

Step 2. Using the end of your paintbrush, poke the end and make an indent.

Step 3. Dust it with your chalks to make it look cooked, and pop it onto your plate.

Step 4. Make as many as you like! Make different shapes and sizes because they're never really uniform when they're baked in real life.



Carrots



Step 1. Take the orange clay and work it until it's soft.

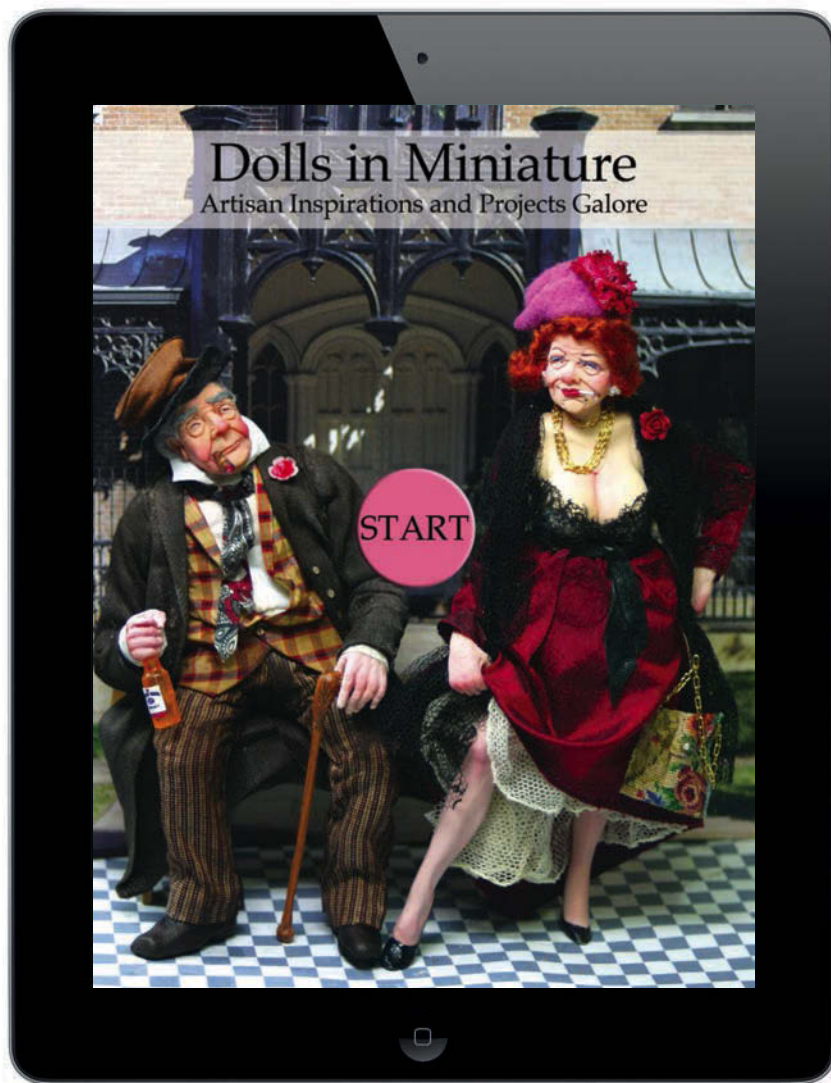
Step 2. Just pinch off a tiny bit, roll it into a ball, then use one finger to roll one edge so it gets a carrot shape.

Step 3. Take the green clay and flick off a

Get the App!

Fabulous miniature Apps from the makers of Dolls House World

ONLY
£2.99
\$4.99



Now available from the App store are these brand new unique miniature Apps for iPads brought to you by Dolls House World. Including projects, interactive galleries, videos and even more dazzling features, these Apps allow you to swipe through projects, expand pictures and open up a whole new world of miniatures.

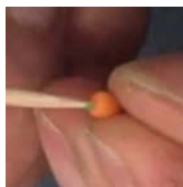
Android users need not be disappointed as all these apps will be available for other tablets and devices very soon! ♥



Available on the
App Store

tiny bit with a toothpick. Add it to the end of the carrot and push it in. This will colour the top green, just a bit, so it looks even more real.

Step 4. Make as many as you like, then add them to the platter and push them together slightly so that when they're baked, they'll stick together.



You can use a toothpick to help arrange the beans.

TIP Make peas using the same principle, but instead of cutting them, roll them into tiny balls.

Finish the platter Bake your platter at about 110 degrees for 20 minutes. After it's baked, give it a shake. If anything falls off, stick it back on with tacky glue. Give the whole platter a cleaner look with methylated spirits, then varnish with your gloss varnish.



Beans



Step 1. Take a scrap of green clay and work it until soft.



Step 2. Make a very, very thin sausage.

Step 3. Chop little tiny pieces to make your beans.

Step 4. Gather all the beans together and, with very light pressure from your finger, group them together and add them to your platter.

TIP To make gravy (a staple for many dishes, especially those with Yorkshire pudding!) mix liquid Fimo with oil-based paints until you reach the desired colour and texture. Then pour this over the foods.

You can use this same technique with these same ingredients to make individual plates. When you do so, just use the sliced chicken instead of the whole baked chicken. Another option: after the platter is out of the oven, but while it's still hot, take your blade and make a few slices into the chicken. This way it will look like you've begun carving. Arrange the slices to the platter and enjoy your feast. [DHW](#)



dollshouse

WORLD

now available
on the **nook**



SUBSCRIPTIONS

As issues are released, they'll be available online in the My NOOK Library section of your account, NOOK and free NOOK app. Your default credit card will be charged monthly. If you're a first time subscriber to this publication, you'll receive a FREE 14 day trial. You may cancel anytime during your free trial by clicking on "Manage Subscriptions" in your Account or My NOOK Library, and you will not be charged.

BUY CURRENT ISSUE

You also have the option to just purchase the current issue of Dolls House World magazine- just click on the "Buy Current Issue" button.

Subscription £2.99 per month
Delivered: Monthly
Includes 14 day FREE trial

Single issue £3.99 per issue

nook
by Barnes & Noble

Good intentions don't last long

Sandra Harding gives in to temptation at the
Marriott Dolls House Show in Portsmouth

By Sandra Harding

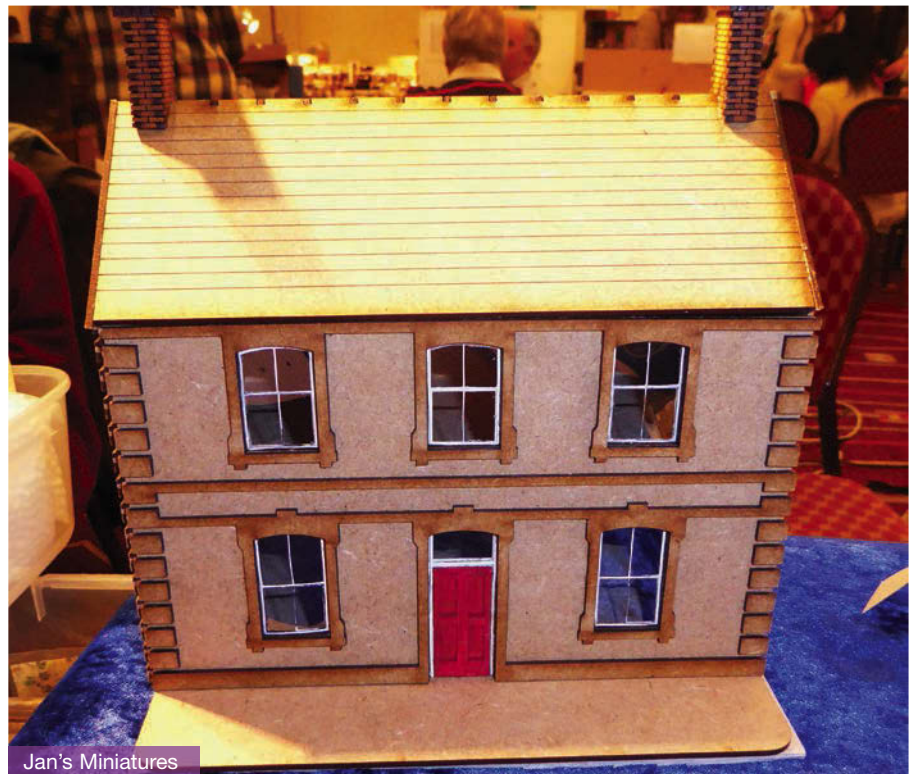
Prior to the show run by Dolly's Daydreams in Portsmouth, Hampshire, I had as usual decided that whatever happens I would not buy a single thing more for my houses unless I definitely had somewhere to put it when I got home.

You've guessed it; my good intentions lasted at least 10 minutes, as I soon found myself in possession of a one-inch high Victorian crinoline lady, which was originally a cake decoration, and a one inch long plaque with a Spanish lady's face on it, which I assume was from Spain. These were both from Linda from

Cat's Whiskers who always has something to tempt me.

The crinoline lady is now standing in confusion on my gentleman's desk, confusing my gentleman, and the plaque is on the wall of the flat over my bridal shop, and the owner does not even know

where Spain is. I really should not be allowed to go near the stands on my own, although I always manage to find my impulse buys a permanent home – eventually.



Seriously though, it was a lovely show as usual with customers already queuing when we arrived. The first couple in the queue had travelled from Brighton and told me that this is their favourite show. This lovely venue is always popular with both exhibitors and visitors, and the stall holders were happy as they had all been given a chocolate selection box from the organisers, Jan and Barry Phillips.

There was a wide choice of exhibitors, with lots of new products on offer. I was very taken with Jan's Minis' new 1/48th scale house kit at a very reasonable price, and which she makes herself. I did not give in to temptation, however, as I already have several kits waiting to be made. I also loved the unusual fabric Christmas trees, beautifully made by In-Miniature and Magpies' detailed musical instruments.



Magpies



KI-GIs Miniature World

It was also nice to see a new exhibitor from Birmingham, KI-GP's Miniature World (Kim & Gill) with their large array of varied items. They bought the Christmas spirit with them, as they were dressed as an elf and Santa Claus. I hope to tell you more about them in a later issue.

Amongst others, I met friend Poppy and I saw that glint in her eye which told me that she had spotted



In Miniature



Jacqueline Wheatley

something she wanted. It turned out to be the bargain of the day from Dolls House Builder, a lovely large doll's house. But, as she already has over 60 houses, I think her husband might have to live in the shed if she gets another one. Luckily, another mutual friend, Jacque, saved her from that difficult decision as I think she bought it. [DHW](#)

● As always, this show was fun and very friendly, and if you want details of Dolly's Daydreams shows for 2015, go to: dollysdaydreams@btinternet.com or telephone 01945 870160

build your own BILTMORE BOX



Jo Bevilacqua's recent Biltmore class is now a series for you to follow along with! In our first installment, we build the box and begin the floor

By Jo Bevilacqua

This is a really versatile box that I've taught at classes this past year. You can decorate it with the seasons or you can keep one scene forever. It's really up to you! It's a long project, though, so we will be publishing it in a series.

Please read these instructions thoroughly before beginning.

Alternate technique

If you need to have a removable back wall, use Technique A. Those notes will be called out in boxes like this one.

Step 1. Select a frame. Below is my Biltmore behind a black frame. Your box will be cut to fit the frame.



Building the box

Step 1. Cut four pieces of ½" wood to attach to the frame. I used 4 ½" as my depth, so the two side pieces should be that depth and the same height as the frame while the top and bottom pieces should be that deep and the same width as the frame.

Step 2. Glue and clamp these four walls together, making a box; make sure the frame fits to it flush before clamping and gluing.

If doing Technique A:

Do not glue the top of the frame until you are finished with the project.

Step 3. Cut a ½" piece of wood for a back wall; fit this your box dimensions, but do not attach it. The edges of this back wall should be able to attach to the box edges so that all joints are flush on the exterior.

Step 4. Cut a piece of ½" wood a bit thinner than your floor piece and roughly the same depth; this should fit within but not get stuck inside the box and be able to move in and out without stopping. This will serve as the subfloor.

Step 5. Cut four pieces of wood of various heights and the same depth as your subfloor. These will raise the subfloor to the height of the glass insert in the frame; that way, the bottom of your scene will start at

YOU'LL need

- Frame, your choice of size
- Box that is built to fit your frame using ½" wood the width and height of your selected frame dimensions and as deep as you like
- Subfloor part - ½" wood with four riser blocks
- Landscape light (optional; use your choice)
- Door
- White tile adhesive mix
- White, matte (non-shiny) tub and tile caulking
- Acrylic paints in burnt umber, black, sea mist, barn wood, white, Italian sage, seascape, linen, avocado, burnt sienna (for wall stucco mix, door, casing, sky ceiling)
- Spray matte sealer
- Tweezers
- Small scissors
- Clear stained glass paint (you can find this at a hobby store)
- Bricks, about 400
- A cap off a spice bottle (to indent arch mark for the alcove)
- Masking tape
- Blue painter's tape
- Plexi mirror or regular mirror for side walls
- Hanger for the back of the piece to hang or four felt pads for the bottom



RECREATE Jo's

JO'S BOX DIMENSIONS

- 13½" tall X 16½" wide by 4½" deep
- My subfloor inside measured 4" deep by 15½" long (to fit the frame width) with four pieces for risers of approximately 5/8" tall x 4" long (to fit the depth of the box)
- Door: I used Houseworks Deerfield #6028 but Jamestown #6010 would also work
- Bricks: I used Houseworks bricks #8204, 7 to 8 packs of 50; these are for the planter, arch, and floor

the glass instead of getting blocked by the frame. Note though that while the subfloor should go up to the glass slot, it should not go higher. You should not be able to

see the edge of the subfloor when looking through the frame opening.

Step 6. Glue the four block risers under the sub floor.

Step 7. Prime the interior and exterior of the box, the back wall, and the top of the subfloor.

Step 8. Sand all the primed pieces.

Step 9. Tape the back wall onto the framed box, but again, do not completely attach it.

Step 10. Set the subfloor in, then decide where the door is going to be. Once this is decided, centre the door on the back wall, then pencil around it so that you have an accurate measurement of where the door is supposed to go.

TIP If the subfloor sticks when sliding into the box, sand the sides. You can wax the sides to make it slide better but it should fit.

If doing Technique A:

Step 9. Screw the back wall onto the frame box, making it a complete box.

Step 10. Set the subfloor in, then decide where the door is going to be. Once this is decided, centre the door on the back wall, then pencil around it so that you have an accurate measurement of where the door is supposed to go.

TIP If the subfloor sticks when sliding into the box, sand the sides until it slides in and out easily. You can wax the sides to make it slide better but it should fit nicely.

Step 11. Remove the back wall and cut the door opening out.

Step 12. Screw the back wall back in place.

Step 11. Remove the back wall and cut the door opening out.



Step 12. Glue the back wall in place using wood glue and clamps.

Step 13. Paint the outer sides of the box to match the frame.

Step 14. Seal the finish using a matte, satin or gloss, clear coat. The photo below is what your item should look like now.

First major decisions

Step 15. Select your door colour, wall colour, casing colour, and the layout of your box.



TIP If you have a light-coloured stucco wall, you need to use a white or ivory casing so the two colours do not compete with one another. Wall colour should also coordinate with the door colour.

Step 16. Decide if you want a wall niche, one planter, or two planters. The construction will require more brick if you use two planters.

Begin building

Reminder: The frame on Technique A will be glued on when you are completely done with the project.

Step 17. Put the subfloor in the box.

Step 18. Dry lay the two side mirrors into the box. Using a mechanical pencil, mark





the perimeter of the inside edges, all around the back wall and subfloor.

Begin the brick patio



Layout of bricks used was a 2 x 2 alternating formation as shown above.



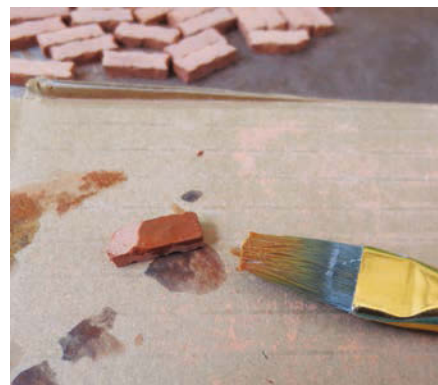
Step 19. Chip all the bricks on the top side and edges. Save any brick that breaks, as you can use it later.

Step 20. Sand the tops of the chipped surfaces of all the bricks using coarse sandpaper.



Staining the bricks

Step 21. Sort bricks into seven categories or more.



Step 22. Mix different stains for your bricks using:

- White (watering down all the paints to absorb into the bricks)
- Burnt Umber
- Black and Burnt Umber
- Tan
- Tan and White
- Italian Sage and Burnt Umber
- Burnt Sienna
- Burgundy

I mix 2 or three of these paints to create different colour bricks. Let these dry once stained.

Step 23. Once the first coat is dry, sand the bricks using a finer sand paper (top sides only) and then re-stain again. Mix the colours up when you do this.

Step 24. Lightly sand the bricks one more time.

Patio brick perimeters

Step 1. With the subfloor in the box and door casing placed, pencil around the door onto the subfloor (this is so the brick will not hinder the fit once the door casing goes in place). Bricks must fit up to the casing of the door unit, not go under it. You may have to cut a few bricks using the pliers after the patio is completed.

Step 2. Mark off the planter area. Measurement for the planter space is $2\frac{3}{4}" \times 7\frac{1}{16}"$; this will remind you of your perimeter of the planter while laying the patio brick. The planter wall will set on top of the patio brick, so lay the brick past the penciled line.



Step 3. Make a centre line first. Then draw a line left to right, making a cross formation.

TIP Your project could take more than seven packages of bricks. I used six packs of 50 plus 25 more bricks to complete my project. For count, the arch on my wall took about 40 bricks and the planter about 25-28 for reference. Depending on the size floor you use, seven bags should be safe if just slightly over my dimensions.



Step 4. You will need to dry lay the bricks in rows of twos, left to right first, then one row up and down in the centre to show if they run even. Do NOT glue anything! Dry laying the bricks will let you know the positioning of the bricks before you glue them down.



TIP Very important! Remember grout spacing when doing this!

Step 5. Dry lay a few bricks (up and down) alternating, using grout spacing about every 2" to see if the bricks will fit in the perimeter mark and front to back allowing grout spacing. Again, do not glue anything.

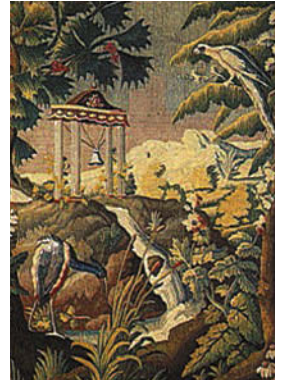
Step 6. Lay the bricks up to and around the planter mark; you may use a jig for the specific planter measurement. My planter measured $2\frac{3}{4}" \times 7\frac{1}{16}"$. **DHW**

● Next issue In our next issue, we'll go through the process of actually gluing the bricks in, plus working on more of the room box. Don't miss it!

MINICONTACTS

SPENCER'S NOOK
110 Holbrook Drive,
Huntsville, Alabama 35806
001 256 722 4786
www.spencersnook.com

FOR YOUR FIRE SCREEN



ENAMEL ADVERTISING SIGNS



A cultural collection

A visit to the folk museum in Norway prompted a discovery not only of the country's miniatures but also the cultural history behind the items

By Barbara Corley

PHOTOGRAPHY BY KETIL BLOM HAUGSTULEN



Our journey began at the Norwegian Folk Museum (Norsk Folkemuseum), where we discovered ten dollhouses ("dukkestuer") on display and thirty more in storage dating back to 1765. What better way than in miniature to see the varied home life of Norway's past? Certainly, it was a charming contrast to the regal French filigree we stumbled upon later in the doll's houses of Aix en Provence.

In fact, upper-class families were a very small minority of Norway's largely agrarian population, which had been

ruled by Sweden and Denmark for years. Beginning in the late eighteenth century, those that could afford to—like their high-society counterparts in Germany, The Netherlands, the United Kingdom, and the United States—constructed doll's houses for adult admiration: cabinets of curiosity representing the taste and wealth of a family's estate, rather than as toys for their children.

This decorative tradition continued in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries, when families imported their miniature furniture from German and British factories. Some more isolated estates com-

missioned village carpenters and—what came as a surprise to us!—local prisoners to fill in the gaps of production. In these cases, we saw Norway's creativity on full display: one doll's house had a full dining set and buffet made from a cigar case; another, the boiler made from a baking powder tin; and others, chair arms and legs from pinecone stems.

We also learned that that during the Second World War, doll's houses were used as a tool for political subversion. Though families could not show national pride under Nazi occupation, in the dukkestuer they managed to display their National Day may-flowers on balconies, the Norwegian flag from banisters, and the portrait of King Haakon II on the walls.

Case studies

Stepping back in time a bit, we discovered two families that shared an invaluable and evolving use of the doll's house: the Selmers and the Sibonis, both from the later nineteenth century.

The Siboni family home was one designed for display more than play, and it had all rooms and items of their home represented, down to a tiny ivory spindle



ABOVE AND AROUND: Various pieces showcasing Norwegian history and heritage from the Norwegian Folk Museum.



and sewing wheel. These were set along side the family: Frøke Siboni, her lady companion, the cook, the nursemaid,

and the Siboni children. The only absent member is the father, Herr Siboni, who is surprisingly missing from the family's historical records, as well. We found this fact curious, as the doll's house seemed to demonstrate the largely female domain of the household, and seemed to be

an outlet through which the lady of the house could express her sense of independence and belonging.

To carry on with this notion, we found The Selmer family house more quaint in physical scale, but more adventurous in psychological scope: it

came with a book of stories about the doll's house family written by Fr. Selmer for her five-year-old daughter Tordis! In these stories, the family is not named Selmer, but is fictionalised as Smith. Captain Smith, the father, is intended

to parallel the true father, Dr. Selmer, who frequently sailed to local islands on medical visits and who, like Captain Smith, rarely saw his eight children and wife. We are assured (as we hope the tiny audience Tordis was) that while away, Captain Smith remained a dutiful father and steadfast husband who cared for his children deeply and who wisely followed his wife's advice. This latter inclusion by Fr. Selmer, we found humorous, and a wise note to pass on to future sons, as well!

At the end of our journey we came away with even more admiration for our Norwegian predecessors: their craftsmanship and their creativity nurtured the spirit of their countryfolk through times of national and personal strife, times that tested the courage of all members of the family— great and small. [DHW](#)



ABOVE LEFT: Three pieces from the Norwegian Folk Museum.

BELOW RIGHT AND BELOW: Two of the French ornate scenes that Barbara saw on her trip while in Aix en Provence. Note the filigree and extravagance in this compared to the Norwegian scenes of simple agrarian life.



dolls house world register

dollshouseworld.com/classifie

CHESHIRE

OUR TINY WORLD. Warrington Market, Cheshire. Open Tuesday to Saturday.

CUMBRIA

FLINTS GIFT ENTERPRISES, Glenridding, CA11 0PA 017684-82276. Extensive range of dolls house furniture and accessories.

DERBYSHIRE

CHESTERFIELD DOLLS HOUSE GALLERY. 7, South Street, Chesterfield (near Wilkinsons). 01246 556060. Open Mon-Sat. closed Wednesdays. www.dollshousegallery.co.uk Good stock of houses, miniatures, DIY.

DEVON

HALCYON. The dollhouse and accessories Shop with the WOW factor. Mail order available. 42b Fore Street, St. Marychurch Precinct, Torquay. TQ1 4LX. Tel: 01803-314958. Website: www.halcyoncollections.co.uk.

ESSEX

BIJOU DOLLS HOUSE SHOP, Unit 8, Blake House Craft Centre, Rayne, Braintree CM77 6SH. 01376 335111. www.minibijou.com

DAVID SILVERSTONE for building, lighting, decorating or renovating. Tel: 01702 475703. Collection and delivery arranged.

KIRBY MINIATURES. 16 The Street, Kirby-le-Soken, Frinton-on-Sea, CO13 0EE. 01255 674694. Open Monday to Friday.

GLOUCESTERSHIRE

COTSWOLD COLLECTABLES. (www.carolscabin.co.uk) Large

selection, dolls houses, furniture, miniatures, lighting and DIY materials. 7 Long St, Wotton-Under-Edge GL12 7ES. Open 10am-5pm Tue, Thur, Fri, Sat. Tel/Fax: 01453-842259.

THE DOLLS HOUSE established 1971, England's first specialist shop. (Covent Garden 1980-95.) Open Saturday 10-5, most Thurs & Fri, ring to check. Market Place, Northleach, nr Cheltenham GL54 3EJ. 01451 860431 www.the-dollshouse.co.uk

OLD BELL POTTERY & CRAFTS. Great choice of specialist handcrafted and manufactured 1/12th miniatures for all ages. Traditional games plus many gift ideas; Knitting & Haberdashery. Open every day. High St., Lechlade-on-Thames. 01367-252608. enquiries@oldbellpottery.co.uk

HAMPSHIRE

DOLLS HOUSE HAMPSHIRE Relaxing atmosphere in the Hampshire countryside. Great choice of 1/12th and 1/24th. Explore the myriad of display cases for thousands of unusual collectors' items. The Little Chapel, 6 Winchester Street, Whitchurch, Hampshire RG28 7AL. 01256 893889. Free Parking.

KENT

FOR BUILDING, lighting, decorating, repairing or renovating see Silverstone, Essex.

LANCASHIRE

BARBARA ANNE MINIATURES. 105 - 109 New Street, Blackrod nr. Bolton BL6 5AG. 01204 667755. For all your dolls house requirements. Open: 10.00-4.00pm. Closed Wednesday. Late night Thursday. [\[miniatures.co.uk\]\(http://miniatures.co.uk\). email: \[barbara.rudd@02.co.uk\]\(mailto:barbara.rudd@02.co.uk\)](http://www.ba-</p></div><div data-bbox=)

WIDE RANGE of Dolls House plans, kits, building materials, wallpapers, lighting, furniture and accessories. Picture framing and gallery. Hobby's stockist. Raymond K Boyes, 11-13 Poulton Street, Kirkham, Nr Preston, PR4 2AA. Tel: 01772 671900. Free Parking.

LONDON

FOR BUILDING, lighting, decorating, repairing or renovating see Silverstone, Essex.

MIDDLESEX

FOR BUILDING, lighting, decorating, repairing or renovating see Silverstone, Essex.

NORFOLK

COBHAM MINIATURES. Over 400 handcrafted 1/12th scale miniatures and collectables. 14 Broad Row, Great Yarmouth, NR30 1HT. Open Wednesday-Saturday 10.00am- 4.00pm. cobholm.minis@btinternet.com

NORTHAMPTONSHIRE

THE DOLLY LODGE, Earls Barton. 01604-812852. See main advert. www.dollylodge.com

NOTTINGHAM

DOLLS HOUSE COTTAGE WORKSHOP. Selected houses & accessories. Sawley Marina, Sawley, Long Eaton, Nottingham, NG10 3AE. 0115 9465059. www.dhcw.co.uk

SHROPSHIRE

MARGO'S MOUSE HOUSE for dolls houses and accessories. Wellington Market, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday, Saturday. 01952 670370.

STAFFORDSHIRE

SANDRA'S DOLLS HOUSE miniatures, collectables and gifts. Leek Buttermarket, Leek. Open Wednesday, Friday, Saturday.

SUFFOLK

LITTLE HOUSES PLUS, (opposite the Regal Cinema) at 125 Ipswich Street, Stowmarket. 01449 774838 www.littlehousesplus.co.uk

SURREY

FOR BUILDING, lighting, decorating, repairing or renovating see Silverstone, Essex.

DREAMS CAN COME TRUE, 45 Upper High Street, Epsom. 01372 722221. Open Tues-Sat, 9.00-5.30pm

SUSSEX

D&P CRAFT SHOP, Hillier Garden Centre, Horsham. Large range of Dolls House miniatures. 01403 264123.

WILTSHIRE

MARGARET'S MINIATURES, 31 Copheap Lane, Warminster, BA12 0BG. Tel: 01985 846797. Tues-Sat, 10-4.30pm. Mail order Cat. £2.95. Large displays, tea room and car park.

If you're not listed your business could be missing out.

If you're in the miniatures business make sure you're in the register, call +44 (0) 1903 884988

dolls house world register cont.

DOLLSHOUSE WORKSHOP,
Studley Grange Craft Village,
Hay Lane, Wroughton, Swindon.
01793-852400. Open 7 days. SEE
MAIN ADVERT.

YORKSHIRE

**WEAVERTHORPE
DOLLSHOUSE MINIATURES.**
27 Main Road, Weaverthorpe,
North Yorkshire YO17 8HA. 07811
115020 We carry a substantial
stock; everything from animals,
gardens, bicycles to bathrooms.
Also a good selection of dolls
houses and much more. Open:
Monday to Sunday, 3pm to 6pm.

SCOTLAND

TOLBOOTH MINIATURES
Specialist Dolls House
Shop. 20 Cow Wynd, Falkirk,
01324 622875. www.tolboothminiatures.com

WALES

**GEORGIAN HOUSE
MINIATURES.** 40+ Dolls Houses
on display. Large collection
of furniture, dolls accessories,
wallpapers, electrics, DIY. Open
Mon-Sat 10am-4.00pm Closed
Wednesday & Sunday. 36-37
Feidrfair, Cardigan, Ceredigion.
01239-612073. sales@georgianhouseminiatures.com

Make sure you are included
when our readers' plan their
visits by listing your company
in our County Register.

Contact Maria Fitzgerald for
details on +44 (0) 1903 884988
or email:
maria@ashdown.co.uk

Come and visit our online tv channel:
dollshouse.tv

mini market

dollshouseworld.com/classified

DOLLS

FOLLY FOLK

1/12th Scale Dolls
Dressed or Undressed
Kit Cat: A4 s.a.e. with
Large 1st class stamp.
Ms. L. Potter, 74 Keys House
Beaconsfield Road, Enfield.
Middlesex EN3 6UY.
01992 763323
www.follyfolkdolls.com

KNITTING

knitsy
FUN, FREE AND FABULOUS

www.Knitsy.tv
 @knitsy1

MAIL ORDER

Wood Supplies

- Extensive new range of fine quality woods
and mouldings in many sizes and species,
carefully prepared in our own workshop for
miniature work of all types. Also picture
frames ready made, or made to measure.

Available at miniature shops or by mail order
only. Two first class stamps for catalogue or
website: www.wood-supplies.com

MONKEY PUZZLE COTTAGE
53 WOODMANSTERNE LANE
WALLINGTON SURREY SM6 0SW
020 8669 7266
(Mon - Fri 9-12am & 6-9pm)

RETAIL SHOPS UK

Bijou Dolls Houses
& Miniatures
Blake House craft centre
Braintree Essex
01376 335111
Open Tue - Sat 10am - 5pm & Sunday till 4pm
www.minibijou.com

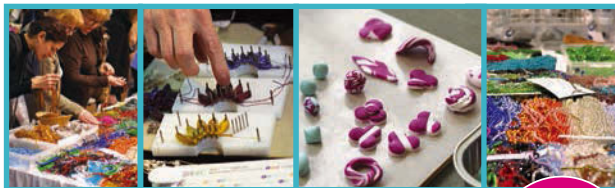
FAIRS

Big Bead Show
ORGANISED BY BEAD & JEWELLERY MAGAZINE

DON'T MISS BRITAIN'S BIGGEST ALL BEADING EVENT

Next event
Saturday March 21

Winter Show: Saturday October 17th 2015



Sandown Park, Esher,
Surrey KT10 9AJ
10am - 5pm

**KIDS
UNDER
16 GO
FREE**

www.thebigbeadshow.co.uk

We have your
interests
at heart



UK OFFICE: PO Box 2258
PULBOROUGH RH20 9BA
Great Britain

Tel: (01903) 884988
Email: ashdown@ashdown.co.uk

US OFFICE: 68132 250th Avenue,
Kasson, MN 55944.
Tel: (507) 634 3143
Email: usoffice@ashdown.co.uk

If you're in the miniatures business make sure you're in the mini market, call +44 (0) 1903 884988

To advertise in the Dolls House World internet register call Maria on +44 (0) 1903 884988 or email maria@ashdown.co.uk

internet register
dollhouseworld.com/classified

ADVERTISERS' INDEX

BARBARA'S MOULDINGS.....	19	MINIATURA	25
CRISS CROSS MINIATURES.....	10	MINIATURE MANSIONS.....	16
D & M FAIRS	10	MM FAIRS.....	10
DOLLS HOUSE COTTAGE		ODINS MINIATURES.....	16
WORKSHOP.....	24	PMJ MINIATURES.....	25
DOLLS HOUSE EMPORIUM 'THE°.....	84	POLYMINI.....	10
DOLLS HOUSE IMPROVEMENTS.....	24	SEASIDE MINIATURES.....	24
DOLLY DAYDREAMS.....	83	STAMP INSURANCE SERVICES.....	16
DOLLY'S DAYDREAMS.....	25	STREETS AHEAD.....	11
HEVER CASTLE LIMITED.....	25	STUDLEY GRANGE DOLLS HOUSE	
HOBBY'S.....	18	WORKSHOP.....	19
JEAN DAY MINIATURES.....	10	SUSSEX CRAFTS.....	60
JENNIFERS OF WALSALL	10	THE CRAFT PACK COMPANY.....	60
JIM LARSON DESIGNS.....	16	THE FLOWER LADY.....	16
KDF CITY OF LONDON		THE MODOLL HOUSE.....	24
DOLLS HOUSE FESTIVAL.....	19	THE OLD BELL POTTERY.....	24
LILI ANNE MINIATURES.....	10	TUDOR ROSE MINIATURES	18
LORRAINE MINIATURES.....	60	VANESSA'S MINIATURE DOLLS.....	18
MATLOCK MINIATURES.....	18	WORLD OF MY OWN.....	10
MICRO MINIATURES.....	16		



bybarb.com



ENCHANTED CASTLES
The home of unique dolls houses, miniatures and unusual gifts.
Everything you need and more.
www.enchantedcastles.co.uk • Tel: 01553 409061 • e-mail terry.rands@sky.com



The Silk Route
Pure silk fabrics - 01252 835781
www.thesilkroute.co.uk
Online shopping now available



TEXAS TINY
1:12 Cowboy/Western, Hispanic, American Indian
www.TexasTiny.com



Visit
www.beadmagazine.co.uk
UK's first ever beading & jewellery magazine



dollhouse.tv



Dollhouse Miniatures
www.dhminiatures.com



knitsy @knitsy1
www.Knitsy.tv

internet register

To advertise in these columns please call
Maria on +44 (0) 1903 884988 or email
maria@ashdown.co.uk for more information

ONLINE ADVERTISING

dollhouse.tv



Be the first to secure your place on our
hugely popular website.

Limited space available.

Call Maria now on +44 (0) 1903 884988
or email: maria@ashdown.co.uk

If you're in the miniatures business make sure you're in the internet register, call +44 (0) 1903 884988

fairDATES

■ If you would like your planned fairs or events to appear in these listings please send the details at least 12 weeks prior to the event date, to Dolls House World, Fair Dates, Unit 5E, Park Farm, Chichester Road, Arundel, West Sussex BN18 0AG, or email richard@ashdown.co.uk

FEBRUARY

SUNDAY 1ST FEBRUARY

CITY OF LONDON DOLLS HOUSE FESTIVAL

The Tower Hotel, St Katherine's Way, LONDON E1W 1LD
Open: 11.00am - 5.30pm
Organiser: London Dolls House Festivals

SATURDAY 7TH FEBRUARY

DOLLS HOUSE & MINIATURES FAIR

Southport Theatre & Convention Centre, SOUTHPORT PR9 0DZ
Open: 10.30am - 4.00pm
Organiser: MM Fairs

SUNDAY 8TH FEBRUARY

DOLLS HOUSES & MINIATURES FAIRS

THE KELHAM HALL TRIPLE
Kelham Hall & Country Park, KELHAM, nr Newark, Nottinghamshire NG23 5QX (On A617 to Mansfield)
Open: 10.30am - 4.00pm
Organiser: Dolly's Daydreams

SUNDAY 15TH FEBRUARY

DOLLS HOUSES & MINIATURES FAIR

The Rivenhall Hotel, Rivenhall End, near WITHAM, CM8 3HB (on A12 westbound)
Open: 10.00am - 4.00pm
Organiser: Dolly's Daydreams

FRIDAY 20TH - SUNDAY 22ND FEBRUARY

BRIGHTON MODEL WORLD 2015

The Brighton Centre, Kings Road, BRIGHTON BN1 2GR
Open: 10.00am - 5.00pm
Organiser: Brighton Model World

SATURDAY 21ST FEBRUARY

DOLLSHOUSE & MINIATURES FAIR

Thame Leisure Centre, Oxford Road, THAME, Oxford OX9 2BB
Open: 10.00am - 4.00pm
Organiser: Ron & Felicity Holland

DOLLS HOUSE & MINIATURES FAIR

Winsford Lifestyle Centre, WINSFORD, Cheshire CW7 1AD
Open: 10.30am - 4.00pm
Organiser: MM Fairs

SUNDAY 22ND FEBRUARY

DOLLS HOUSES & MINIATURES FAIR

Holiday Inn Ashord-Central, Canterbury Road, ASHFORD, Kent TN24 8QQ (M20/J9)
Open: 10.30am - 4.00pm
Organiser: Dolly's Daydreams

MARCH

SUNDAY 1ST MARCH

DOLLS HOUSES & MINIATURES FAIR

The Pride of Lincoln Hotel, Runcorn Road, off Whisby Road, LINCOLN LN6 3QZ (on A46)
Open: 10.30am - 4.00pm
Organiser: Dolly's Daydreams

DOLLS HOUSE & MINIATURES FAIR

The Conygre Hall, North Road, nr Timsbury, BATH BA2 0JG

Open: 10.30am - 3.00pm

Organiser: MGM Fairs

SUNDAY 8TH MARCH

DOLLS HOUSES & MINIATURES FAIR

The Mill Arts & Events Centre, Bellingham Lane, off High Street, RAYLEIGH, SS6 7ED (off A127)
Open: 10.30am - 4.00pm
Organiser: Dolly's Daydreams

DOLLS HOUSE & MINIATURES FAIR

The Thistle Hotel, Gloucester Road, CHELTENHAM, GL51 0TS
Open: 10.00am - 4.00pm
Organiser: Wendy's World

SUNDAY 15TH MARCH

DOLLS HOUSE & MINIATURES FAIR

The Village Hall, UPLOWMAN, near Tiverton, Devon EX16 7DP
Open: 10.00am - 3.00pm
Organiser: MGM Fairs

ANTIQUE AND MODERN DOLLS HOUSE FAIR

Cobham Village Hall, Lushington Drive, COBHAM, Surrey KT11 2LU

Open: 10.00am - 4.00pm

Organiser: Wendy's World

SATURDAY 21ST MARCH

DOLLS HOUSES & MINIATURES FAIR

The Assembly Rooms, High Street, DEDHAM, near Colchester, CO7 6DE (off A12)
Open: 10.30am - 4.00pm
Organiser: Dolly's Daydreams

SUNDAY 22ND MARCH

DOLLS HOUSE & MINIATURES FAIR

The Inn on the Lake Hotel, DA12 3HB
Open: 10.00am - 3.30pm
Organiser: D&M Fairs

SATURDAY 28TH & SUNDAY 29TH MARCH

MINIATURA

National Exhibition Centre, BIRMINGHAM B40 1NT
Open 10.00am - 4.00pm
Organiser: Miniatura

ORGANISERS:

Brighton Model World www.brightonmodelworld.com

D&M Fairs: 01634 370420. E: peapa001@medway.org.uk

Dolly's Daydreams: 01945 870160. www.dollysdaydreams.com
E: dollysdaydreams@btinternet.com

Doreen Jeffries: 01274 616539.
www.doreenjeffriesdollshousefairs.co.uk

Emma's Doll's House Fair: Tel: 07773709164 (eves only)
E: cornishpastie@tesco.net

Kensington Dollshouse Festival: 020 7812 9892
E: kdf@dollshousefestival.com www.dollshousefestival.com

MGM Fairs: Tel: 01225 466533 Mob: 07818 462448
E: admin@mgmfairs.co.uk www.mgmfairs.co.uk

Miniatura: 0121 783 9922. www.miniatura.co.uk

MM Fairs: Tel: 01332 660428. www.dollshouse-fairs.co.uk

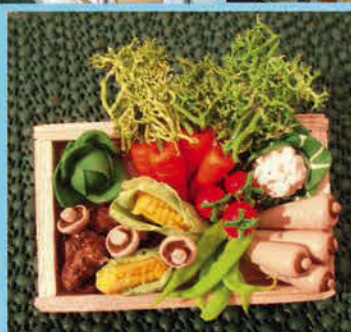
Thame Dollshouse & Miniatures Fair: Tel: 07738009795
www.thamedollshousefair.co.uk

Wendy's World: 01895 834348 www.wendysworldfairs.co.uk
E: wendyhobday@wendysworld.co.uk

White Rose Fairs: 01709 890649. whiterosefairs@hotmail.co.uk

Club exhibit

West Glamorgan Dolls House Club will be exhibiting at Swansea Museum on Saturday 7th and Sunday 8th March from 10am to 4pm. The club will also be exhibiting at the National Botanic Garden of Wales, Llanarthney, Carmarthenshire on the 23rd, 24th and 25th May (Bank Holiday weekend) from 10am to 5pm. An amazing variety of doll's houses, room boxes and miniatures will be on display and all donations will be given to local charities.



Over 100 houses in stock
and a huge selection
of 1/12th scale miniatures
NEW
UPSTAIRS SHOWROOM

dolls' houses & dolls' house furniture **Dolly Daydreams**

www.dollydaydreams.net T: 01256 889111 OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK

Elm Park Garden Centre Aldermaston Road Pamber End Hampshire RG26 5QN

More NEW brands being added!

Order at www.dollhouse.com or call 01332 912989 now!



Many more offers online at dollhouse.co.uk/dh237

Now with 1000s of NEW items from your favourite miniature brands!



facebook.com/dollhouseemporium



twitter.com/dollhouse



pinterest.com/dollshouses

dollhouseforum.co.uk

dollhouseblog.co.uk



Good to know: We share our customers' enthusiasm for their hobby – regularly posting pictures of their projects online on our company blog. Quite simply, it's something we enjoy!

100s more items on offer only online! visit www.dollhouse.co.uk/dh237 to order or call 01332 912989 now!