



PLUS OLD
DOCUMENTS
TO CUT OUT

PROJECTS & EASY BOWLS & LAMPSHADES



DOLLSHOUSE &



contents

small details

August 2019 ● Issue 323

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"where little things matter"



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welcome

It's the holiday season when lots of us will be going away and coming

back bursting with miniature ideas, from creating a fun beach kiosk to adding an elegant terrace and pool to the side of the house.

A lot of those ideas will melt away faster than a chocolate Magnum dropped on hot sand, but some will lead to inspired creations.

When Nicola Mascall took a trip to the Vatican with her daughter they took a guided tour of the Gallery of Tapestries where, Nicola said: "I feasted my eyes on a sumptuous display of 16th century wall hangings."

She determined she would recreate one of the incredible tapestries for the Perfection in Miniature Awards. run by the Kensington Dollshouse Festival. Nicola put 420 hours of work into her tapestry, but was rewarded with first prize of £3000. You can see Nicola's fabulous work, which measures 156 x 128 mm, on P12. Nicola's was one of many stunning pieces entered in this year's Pimas, which once again showcased the incredible work that our top miniature craftspeople are producing. I'm in awe of their talent and commitment.

Elsewhere this issue Kelly Havens takes us on a tour of her seaside hideaway, inspired by a house she saw by the ocean, and Sandra Harding has an idea of how to display those tiny shells we collect on the beach.

Good luck with your holidayinspired ideas. They probably won't end with a prize-winning tapestry but you'll love them just as much.

Kichard. email: richard@ashdown.co.uk Follow me on Instagram @dollshouseworld

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House in disquise has been made using Annelie's 3D printer

Mini Makes

Gina takes you through step-by-step on how to make a ham look very realistic

Mini Makes

Brighten up your house with mini lampshades using fabric

Doll Dressing

Create a Venetian gown that's simply stunning with Dana

House Tour

Continue your tour of the enchanted doll's house with Auralea

Ouote of the month:

People rich enough to redecorate every 10 months are certainly careless with antique furniture. I found four 1760 French side chairs, tapestry seats intact. Claiming them proved easier than persuading any cabdriver to transport the things.

Allan Gurganus

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We visit two miniature homages to Scotland's most celebrated architect

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Dress up those drawers in curio cabinet style with Sandra Harding

Cutouts

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We chat with Jan Stone about her life in the hobby



HOUSE HUNT

Find the little house hidden inside. Last issue it appeared on page 73.



Welcome to a fun

seashore hideaway

Miniaturist Kelly Havens used a kit to make her dream cottage located by the sea, and it was a first for her in so many ways

BY PAM NORTH

hen Kelly Havens was 12-years-old, she read The Borrowers, by Mary Norton, and fell in love with miniature things. A catalyst to seal the deal came as an old cabinet given to her by her grandfather that she

filled with four floors of doll's house miniature furniture; it has become her prized possession.

As a retired kindergarten teacher, Kelly now has much more time to spend on miniatures, and she enjoys going to miniature shows to expand her knowledge and contacts, and as a source of inspiration.

She said: "I love to study other miniature artists and learn from them. I really miss having a doll's house shop in our city. While I get excellent service ordering online, I miss browsing in a miniature store."

She makes a little bit of everything herself: doll's houses, flowers, rugs,





bedding, stitchery, some furniture. Her creations mostly have been for her

own enjoyment rather than a venue for sales.

 HOUSE PROUD

"My projects so far have been sentimental to me, and fulfil a purpose," she told us.

Kelly's workplace is a small room on the lower level of her house where she keeps all her doll's house things.

"Like most collectors, I have several projects going at once," she said. "I love to read, and books give great inspiration in the fascinating world of miniatures. What I love most about miniatures are the tiny details in each piece."

She has no formal training, and has slowly built up her expertise largely through experience and experimentation. She cites her tweezers as her most valuable tool. Her architect husband, Hal, is very supportive of her hobby.

One of her recent projects is this Cottage by the Sea, which was created from the Craftsman Cabin kit featured in a Hobby Builders Supply contest, and which resulted in her being the Grand Prize Winner that year.

Her cottage has a warm, comfortable ambience about it that invites one to just move in and stay forever. Kelly came up with the idea from the clerestory windows, which reminded her of a house by the ocean that she recently had seen.

From there, the ideas began to accumulate. Materials used were wood, air clay, and fabrics.

She described her process: "I altered the kit, adding wood pieces to fit the picture in my mind. This doll's house was a first for me in many ways: first time to totally rebuild an original kit; first time to build and decorate a garage; first time to make all the flowers and bushes; first time to make all the rugs, stitchery pictures, curtains, bedding, and pillows; first time to make the roof shakes from air clay; first

Her cottage has a warm, comfortable ambience about it that invites one to just move in and stay forever.







The cottage shown from the back. This was the first garage Kelly made and she had lots of fun with it.







Above: The dining room and living room share a space, which makes this house feel very cosy.

Below: This was Kelly's first attempt at building a kit. She had fun completing it and is proud of her efforts.



Below right: The bedroom works well in a converted loft space.

Bottom right: The metal bed is dressed with charm and care.

time to build the front door and mullions in the windows."

She designed the house to fit some doll's house pieces in her collection, as well as purchased pieces from Hobby Builders Supply, including the retro kitchen. The garage tools are from Sir Thomas Thumb; the table from J. Getzen; the rug and pillow kits from Janet Granger Designs; the wicker from Vicky Sanfield; the pottery from Jane Graber. She had a picture in her mind of how she wanted the piece to turn out. "A few things changed throughout the process, but the final piece was just what I envisioned, Kelly said.

"It is a fun challenge to take a basic kit and design a new piece. My favourite part about this piece is that I can picture myself sitting in the front garden, looking out at the sea. The flower gardens and landscaping also were delightful to create!

"Making the curved roof over the garage was the most difficult part of the entire project. I used very thin wood, which I scored with an X-Acto knife. I glued and clamped the piece to the roof overnight. By using air clay for the roof, I was able to make more of a sweeping curve."

She is optimistic about the future of miniatures, saying the hobby: "There is something very magical about miniatures! I am hopeful that more people will be drawn to the hobby by seeing different works in publications such as DHW."

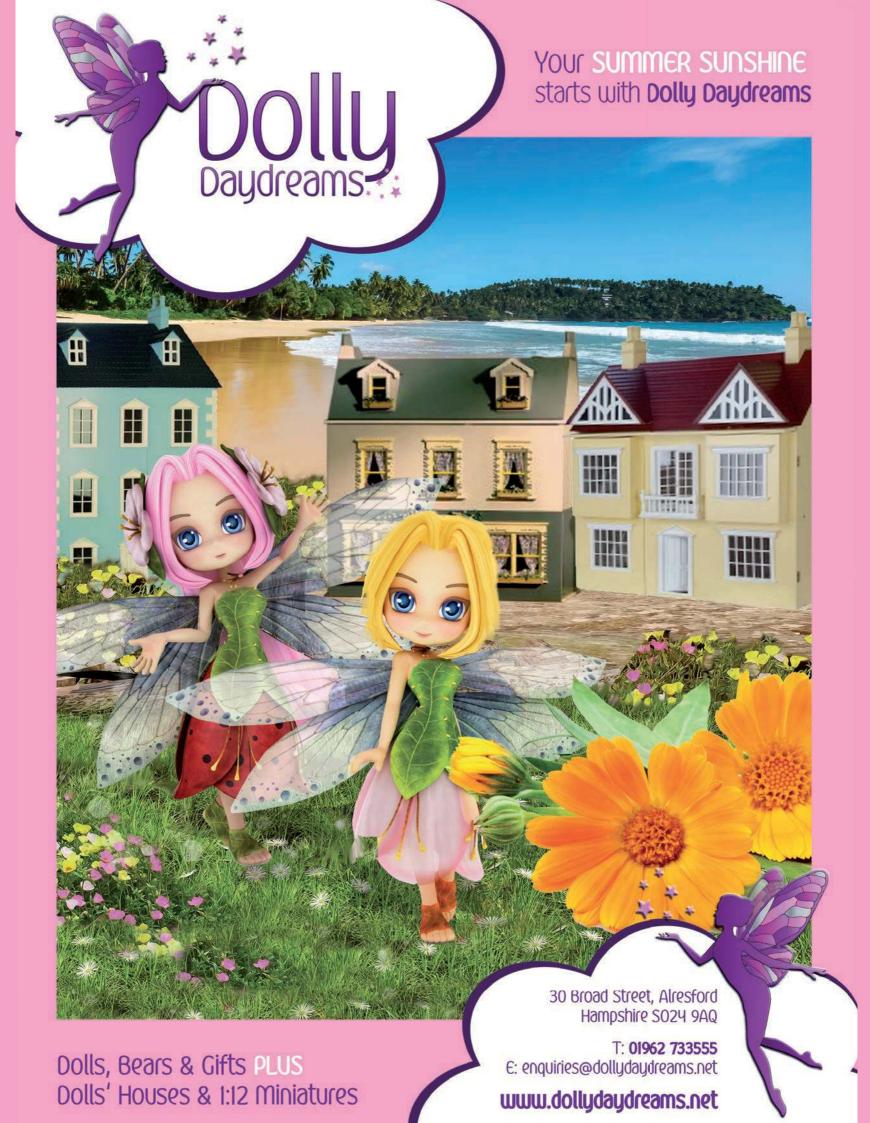
As for what's next for Kelly and her creations, she is full if ideas. "I have a fabulous neoclassical wall house in my mind."

A few things changed throughout the process, but the final piece was just what I envisioned.











Make a comfortable miniature day bed

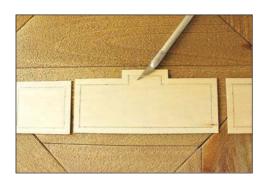
This romantic miniature day bed will be the perfect piece of furniture for your little cottage or for a small bedroom. Have fun and make it your own



his little twelfth scale day bed is the perfect addition for a room with little space. It can be a sofa during the day and a comfy bed at night.

Step 1: First, let's cut the wood. I used a small box cutter. A craft knife works too. You need a back piece and bottom piece that are both 6 1/4" x 2 3/4". The 2 side pieces are 2 7/8" x 2 3/8". And the bottom rail is 1/2" x 6 1/4".

Step 2: Let's make the back of the bed a little more interesting by cutting a nice detail at the top. I cut 2 1/8" from the side and 3/8" from the top. Now the sides of the bed will be even with the back when they meet at the corners.



Step 3: I drew a line all around the back and 2 sides 1/4" from the edge. I'm going to cut a channel all around to make a nice groove detail. I used an X-Acto knife to cut and lift the wood. Don't cut too deep. We only want to take off one layer of wood. Remove the wood inside this little channel you cut.

Step 4: Sand inside the groove. Also sand all the edges of your sides and back pieces of the day bed.

Step 5: It's now time to glue the bottom of the bed. I marked all the pieces to make sure the bottom will be straight. I drew this line 1/2" from the bottom. We'll be using the 1/2" rail we cut out earlier in the front of the bed under the bottom.



Step 6: Glue everything together. I glued the bottom to the back first and then each side. Lastly, I glued the 1/2" rail to the front, under the bottom and between the sides.

You will need

- Basswood Sheet 1/16" x 4" x 24''
- All purpose glue
- Paint
- Sandpaper
- Craft knife/box cutter
- Stair spindles or 1/8" dowel





Step 7: Let the glue dry completely or the wood will warp and un-glue with the paint application.



Step 8: To make the pretty decorative relief I used card stock and cardboard. To make a flower, I used card stock cut into a flower shape. The flower shape is 3/8" wide. I used 3 flower shapes to make one rose. The middle is rolled and glued onto one flower shape and then glued onto another flower shape.

MINI MAKES



Step 9: The leaves are cut out of cardboard (like the cardboard from a cereal box). Make a pretty composition.

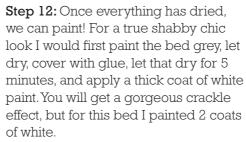


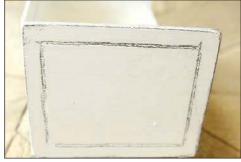
Step 10: You will want to harden the flowers or they will loose their shape with the paint. I used Mod Podge. You can also use white glue. Let dry completely.





Step 11: The legs of the bed are 1 1/8" long. I used stair rails that I cut to size. But a simple dowel 1/8" in diameter works too. Glue your legs in place and allow to dry completely.





Step 13: Then I took a pencil that I cut with my box cutter to expose more lead and applied it into the grooves and around the edges. The more you apply the more dramatic the effect. I did mine pretty light.

Step 14: Once you wet the lead with your last coat of white paint, you will get a soft grey highlight to all the places where you applied the lead.



Step 15: The mattress base is a piece of cardboard 2 5/8" wide x 6 1/8" long. I hot glued some stuffing/pillow filler on top of the cardboard and trimmed it neatly. There's 1 3/4" of stuffing on my bed.



Step 16: Next, I covered with fabric. The fabric piece is 8 3/4"x 4 3/4".



Step 17: Hot glue the cardboard mattress to the bed. Now dress the bed with bed skirt, blankets, and pillows. I put a dot of glue to hold the blankets in place. Some places I used hot glue.

Step 18: For the pillows, I fill them with candle filler sand. This makes the pillows heavier and look much more realistic.

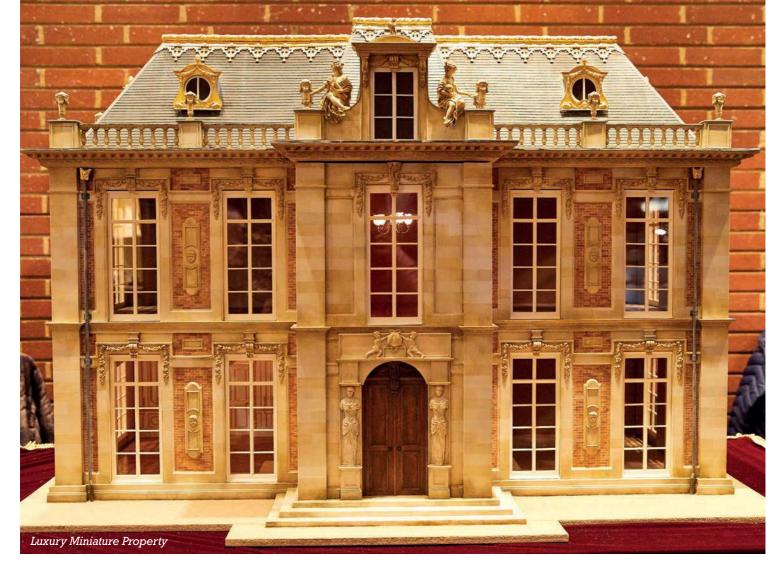
 See more of Caroline's work at cinderellamoments.com.







Above: 'From Rome to Frome' took the £3000 first prize in the Perfection in Miniature Awards at the Festival. This incredible work was a 1/24th scale replica of a tapestry that Nicola Mascall saw hanging in the Vatican Museum when she was there on holiday with her daughter. She decided she had to duplicate it in miniature. She spent many days/ weeks drawing the plan and then stitching it in silk on 58 count silk gauze. What the judges all commented on was the subtlety of the colours and shading. The judges were: Ahmed Al Thani, Madelva Fernandes de Rojas, Caroline Hamilton and Leslie Edelman. Right: Nicola Mascall (right) collecting her prize from Festival organiser Charlotte Stokoe. Left: First time exhibitor Tiny Doll House NYC brought some stunning miniatures for their New York store to the Festival.





Stunning tapestry wins top miniature award

We pay a visit to the Kensington Dollshouse Festival Summer Show and discover a host of talented new exhibitors and some amazing pieces in the Perfection in Miniature Awards

BY CHARLOTTE MERRYWEATHER

he dust has settled on another busy show at Kensington Town Hall. As usual, the venue was buzzing from the moment the doors opened at 11am on Friday to the time they closed at 5pm on Saturday. There is so much to fit into your visit that planning in advance is always a good idea.

New exhibitors at the show this year included two from the US, Tiny Doll House NYC, who brought some unusual and beautiful miniatures from their New York store, and Eric Goddard who makes fabulous miniature scenes and dioramas in all scales. From Spain and

The Netherlands there were two unique doll and figure makers: Yolanda Bartolome Fernandez creates colourful and artistic dolls and clothes and MiniKturen specialises in dressed creatures and

beautiful flowers.

From the UK new maker Debra Alison Kirby showed off her carved furniture and Nellie McKay had a tiny gallery of her gorgeous paintings. Her stand was a big attraction as she

> had a virtual reality mask that allowed you to step inside her miniature gallery and actually look around yourself.

> > Left: PIMA HC - Sandals

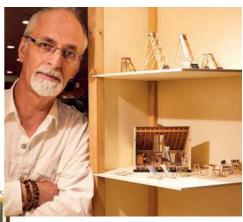
PIMA HC - Penny Thomson







Above and below: PIMA 3rd place -Jeremy Smith

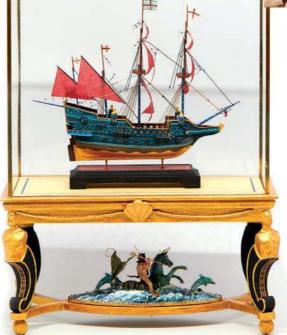


Left: Paul's Cased Ship took second place in the PIMA awards.









Other new makers included EH Miniatures, who make charming, characterful animals, Kleine Artchin with enamelware and picnic hampers and Luxury Miniature Property brought their first incredible doll's house.

The highlight of the show was the Perfection in Miniature Awards (PIMA) showcase. With close to 40 entries this year from a tiny pair of sandals to a complete candy shop, the variety was huge and the quality jaw-dropping.

Nicola Mascall won the main competition prize with her stunning tapestry that was a 1/24th scale copy of one in the Vatican Museum.

Paul Briggs got second place with his cased ship, based on a 15th century Elizabethan galleon and Jeremy Smith (Catmando Miniatures) came third with a Japanese puzzle box that had an incredible complex mechanism, needing 14 moves to open it. This followed his winning entry in 2017 (a fully poseable artist's mannequin). Penny Thomson, Graffialuna, Sarah Heasman and Hong McKensie all received Highly Commended.

The visitors and exhibitors could also choose their favourite entries this



year and the People's Vote proved very popular. Nicola Mascall was top again, Gale Elena Bantock was placed second with her elaborate sedan chair and Petworth Miniatures' quarter scale copy of Beatrix Potter's Hilltop kitchen and Le Palais Deliceux' Parisian candie shop shared third spot.

The young visitors at the show also had lots to do. The "Marvellous Mouse Hunt" was running throughout the show and the lucky winner won some "Mice in a Boat" by Shoebutton Bears and the "Gingerbread Craft Club" had a Sofa Workshop running throughout Saturday, for children to create their own sofa or armchair for their doll's house.

You are always sure to see some new and exciting work at the Kensington Dollshouse Festival. There is so much to take in over the two days, but you can be sure that you will return home with plenty of inspiration for your next project.

 Kensington Dollshouse Festival Christmas Show November 30th 2019 11.00 - 18.00www.dollshousefestival.com





WHERE! WORK

THIS MONTH WE VISIT JENNIFER WIGHTWICK OF LITTLE TREASURE TRUNKS, WHO WORKS IN CLOSE COMPANY WITH HER OWN LITTLE TREASURES

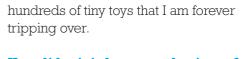
Hi Jennifer, you've been involved with miniatures quite a while? For as long as I can remember. I got a doll's house for my fourth birthday and I'm fairly sure that it was only a couple of years afterwards that I started making things for my dolls.

How did that begin? My mum is a keen hobby seamstress so there was always plenty of scrap fabric in the house and I was desperate to try to sew clothes for my toys. In fact, it was only in the last few years when my parents did a big house move that we discovered some of my original clothing creations boxed up in their loft. I used to have a hand-crank sewing machine so they were all made using a combination of that and hand-stitching.



watched things like Blue Peter which would give me ideas about how to create things; I have a very clear memory of a sofa I made using a tissue box and toilet rolls covered in some kind of suiting fabric.

And those skills stayed with you? As I grew up I left the world of dolls behind but not my crafting abilities. I spent a year at the London College of Fashion refining my sewing skills before moving on to study silversmithing, goldsmithing and jewellery design at the Kent Institute of Art and Design. I later moved into teaching classical studies until I had my three chil-



dren and, of course, with them has come

How did minis become a business for you? I started Little Treasure Trunks in September 2018 after a friend showed me some modern doll's house items and asked if I could create a travel doll's house for her daughter's birthday. There are other makers around the world who have used these little suitcases to create room boxes but I decided to try to focus on reducing real life rooms to one twelfth or eighteenth scale. This idea has proved popular with people who would like to have a lasting representation of what their children's room looked like at a particular period in time.



dining room which we very rarely use for eating in. However, I quickly took over the entire room and, as I like to work in what I will term a 'creative mess', it was becoming apparent I needed to relocate.

Where did you move to? We had recently cleared out, and converted, a section of our loft into a useable area, so officially my craft space is up there. But in reality I still do a lot of work in the dining room where my sewing machine and computer is. I look after our three pre-school children full time so the dining room is also convenient because it is right next to their play-













room. I can work and keep an eye on them easily.

Do you stay in one room? I'm afraid I tend to spread out all over the house! If I'm knitting in mini then I would do that sitting in front of the TV in the living room. If I'm sewing then I'm definitely going to be in the dining room, which is also where I have my computer and Cricut Maker set up for creating vinyl decals or for making iron-on details for sewn items. If I need to print things out then I will be up in the loft encroaching on my fiancé's office

space. My space in the loft is currently reserved for woodworking and storing my stock of mini items and works in progress.

How have you developed a customer base working from home? A big part of my day is keeping my online presence up to date; Little Treasure Trunks has its own website, Instagram account and Facebook page. I do have an Etsy shop too but I prefer to sell through my own website so my Etsy shop is mainly for people who might find me there rather than the social networks. Instagram is probably the area that takes up most of my time because it is the place I gain most customers and enquiries from. I have to be able to answer these queries quickly and keep an eye on the orders that come in through the website and the easiest way to do this is through my phone because I can take it everywhere with me and work on the go. I try to post daily if I can so that I keep people interested in my work and I utilise hashtags to ensure people can discover me when browsing the miniatures pages.



And you've run your own online competitions? In May I ran an Instagram photo challenge for miniaturists using the hashtag 'mayminimakers'. The idea was to bring mini makers from around the world together by using a daily prompt, for example 'starts with M', to inspire them to post a photo of something they had made. This was a great way to network with other small businesses and create a community of mini makers from all around the world.

Do you work at particular times?

I don't have any set times at all. I just make as and when my children allow it. If I'm right in the middle of a project with a hard deadline then I will work on it once the children have gone to bed. A good example of this was when I created my 1/24th scale replica of the Great British Bake Off tent in a trunk. I wanted this one finished and ready to reveal on the day of the program's finale, so I was working really hard on it in the evenings when I could get some peace from my trio of trouble.

What makes your space for miniatures so special?

I think it's special because it is part of our home; it allows me to dip in and out of work when I have the time to spare, even if it's only for five minutes. We absolutely love our house; we moved out in to the Scottish countryside where the big old Edwardian house that we dreamed of was much more affordable than in the towns around Glasgow where we had been living. Having so much space gives me the freedom to experiment with all the different skills I have and





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see how I can apply them to minis, whilst at the same time never compromising on the amount of time I spend with our children.

Doesn't sound as though you have a private workspace?

Honestly anyone can wander in and out of my workspace, but I try to keep the door closed on the main areas I work in. That's purely because my youngest son is a climber and he would definitely find the most dangerous thing he could lay his hands on and try to use it on his brother and sister.

Who's your biggest fan? Definitely my daughter who loves to play with anything miniature and loves to explore whatever I'm working on. I don't think I would stand a chance of keeping her out of my workspace.

Do you listen to music while you work? The soundtrack to my work is usually a background of children's TV mixed with the excited and very loud playing of my children – I'm lucky that they play really well together. Working in the room next door allows me to overhear some very cute conver-

sations and role play games going on between them all. If I'm working after they are in bed, or during a nap time, then I tend to stick to silence; our house is a cacophony of noise throughout the day so it's lovely to have some quiet time in the evening.

Name one thing that is banned from your workspace. Sticky fingers! I try to avoid even taking my own food and drink in to my workspace because it will just lead to accidents. But I definitely don't let any little people in unless they are totally clean. I also try to avoid sticky fingers of the more colloquial kind – all my children have a tendency to wander off with my things unless I keep a close eye on them.

Describe your workspace in five words. Messy, exciting, experimental, chaotic, creative

What is the one thing that your workspace can't be missing? I think my sewing machine is the most important tool in my workspace; I don't think I could create the items I do without it. I have a machine my parents gave me

ing strong, although I also added an overlocker about four years ago when I realised how useful it would be to me. My Cricut Maker machine has been a fantastic addition to my craft area with so many uses but nothing beats a sewing machine for the amount of different items you can create.

Your dream workspace? I think in an ideal world I would love to have a little boutique shop, with a workspace, so that I could have everything out all the time. Failing that it would probably be a huge workspace at least the size of a double garage with two separated areas. I'd love a jewellers' work bench set up with all my metal working tools, and a woodworking section, and then a 'clean' area for sewing, but with a huge cutting table and my computer workstation. I think, ultimately, I love working from home too much to leave it for anywhere else – unless it was for my own shop.

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when I turned 18 and it is still go-

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All fairs run from 10am to 4pm

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Miyi Obsessions Whats Yours?

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Co-Chairs: Judi Hamilton, judimuseumfallshow@gmail.com Deanna Thomas, deannalt@comcast.net For more information, visit www.dmmdt.org or call 720.879.1820



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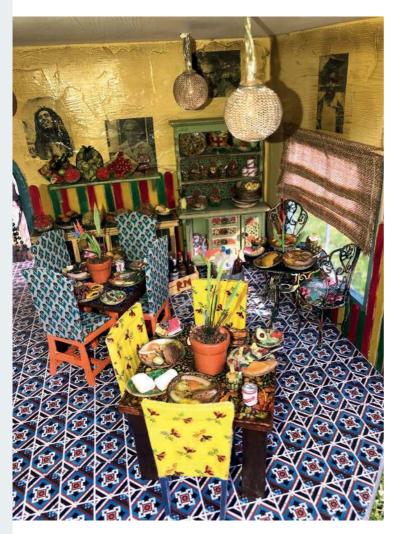


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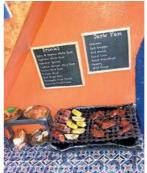


ACCOMPLISHMENTS

WHERE READERS SHARE PROJECTS THEY'RE PROUD OF, HOWEVER SMALL. EMAIL YOUR ACCOMPLISHMENTS TO RICHARD@ASHDOWN.CO.UK









Old-time Jamaica

ilton's Kitchen is an authentic old-time restaurant in Spanish Town, Jamaica, with the café/restaurant downstairs and a bijou apartment for the proprietors above.

It was made by Annette Young and was inspired by her roots in the Caribbean —both her parents moved to England in the early 1960s.

The building is filled with personal touches, such as pictures on the walls from her parents' wedding in 1963. Proud husband Robin sent in the photos and told us: "Her creative style is to make her houses look charming, warm and a little bit rundown, so people can feel they are in a really down-to-earth place.

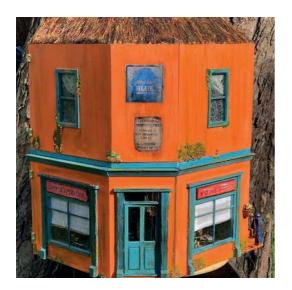
"There are lots of detail that those

familiar with the island will recognise — outside the back door is a jerk-pan for grilling food and the restaurant pictures include murals of Jamaican icons. The food in the restaurant is typically Jamaican with 'soup' (stew) dishes, ackee & saltfish (Jamaica's national dish) and local vegetables."

Fabulous job Annette.







Fernando transforms old radio into beautiful bar

BY SANDRA HARDING

met this very interesting man at Miniatura when he patiently translated what a Spanish exhibitor and I were trying to say to each other. It turns out that they are both friends and makers, and I hope to do a further article on his work later for you.

The man was Fernando Wedge, from Portugal, and he told me about how he had seen a miniature living room inside a large 1940's television and thought it would be fun to do a smaller version inside a radio. After searching around his area for a suitable old radio, he actually found one in the rubbish and soon started work on it.

After removing the front fabric, and the inside bits and pieces, he replaced the fabric with a sheet of glass and added the flooring and the lights, which he considers very important. As a craftsman, Fernando was able to make the furniture, including the card table, counter, the lovely cabinet and the fireplace, adding a little radio on top, which was actually bought from a friend.

The lovely posters, mirrors,

bottles, glasses and accessories enhance the scene perfectly. The dolls are antique and quite special. There are two gentlemen playing cards and a man in the armchair, and the barman is from a German collection.

Fernando started collecting and making doll's houses about 15 years ago at his home in Lisbon, and has about 15, including a palace (which I think we need to see later). Since he moved to London six years ago, he has already managed to collect a further five and, as there is only one doll's house shop in Lisbon, he thinks London is paradise. The house Fernando is currently building is inspired by Art Nouveau but he also has a Victorian house and a roombox inspired by the London play "The Dresser".

Another string to his bow is as a maker and he exhibits once a year at Kensington, representing some Portuguese makers, under the name "Portuguese Miniatures".

I love what Fernando has done with this old radio and I plan to keep an eye open for one. I'm feeling a little inspired.









Club's kit challenge is a study in teamwork

Hobby's Annual sell several kits to make up different rooms from kitchen to studio. We asked one club to put one of the kits to the test

BY RALPH KEEMAR

iven the opportunity to build and evaluate the Sam's Study kit Gatwick Dolls House Club decided to do this on their workshop day and gave the task to ten of their experienced members.

The group was led by Margaret Miller and Sandra Fudge who met prior to the actual build, to plan and organise our approach.

At the workshop day each person chose to undertake certain parts of the kit and the following observations were recorded:

- Some of the group felt that there was a lack of clear instructions and that this would be a problem for absolute beginners.
- The assembly of some parts was accomplished by individuals using their experience and initiative, with some parts easier than others. The chair

was identified as being particularly

- On a positive note the quality of parts was considered to be quite high
- The printed sheets of books came in for some criticism as the proximity of individual books made it easy to make wrong decisions as to where to cut, and in some instances the books slightly overlapped.

I was allocated the lighting as I am particularly experienced in making my own lights from odds and ends. I liked the idea of not using soldering, but felt that a note to mark the positive lead of the LED, prior to cutting both leads to the same length would avoid a potential disaster.

Most of the assembly was not too difficult, if not particularly well illus-

> However, the final assembly, where the three pre-wired branches needed to be held in position against the centre column while being

Above: Margaret Miller and Sandra Fudge, who planned and organised Project Sam's Study, proudly display the completed room.

Left: Other room kits featured in the Hobby's Annual range from greenhouse to flower room.

Left: The completed kit.



secured by a metal band, defeated me, and I resorted to Aralditing each one at a time. I would love to see a video of it being done or meeting the person with four sets of tiny hands.

The comment regarding the finished product was: "Good, if you manage to finish it''.

We may have been optimistic in believing the assembly could have been completed during the workshop as, including pre-planning and a final assembly meeting at a member's house, it is estimated that total hours to completion was in excess of 50 hours.

In summary we believe that with time, experience and initiative, it is possible to end up with an acceptable product, but it is probably beyond the capabilities of an absolute beginner

We were, however, very pleased with the result and found the exercise challenging but satisfying.

If you would like to see, or indeed win, the completed Sam's Study, Gatwick Dolls House Club would welcome you to our "Have a Go Day" on the 19th October between 10 am and 3 pm at Horley Methodist Church, Horley, Surrey RH6 7AS





Hobby's, Knights Hill Square, London SE27 0HH tel: 020 8761 4244

email: mail@hobby.uk.com web: https://hobby.uk.com

MEVIEW







Above: Ten experienced members worked on the kit during the club's workshop day, but it took a lot longer than planned.

Above left: The chairs were particularly tricky to sort out.

Above far left: The bookshelves went together okay, but the books were another story.

We were, however, very pleased with the result and found the exercise challenging but satisfying.

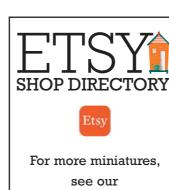




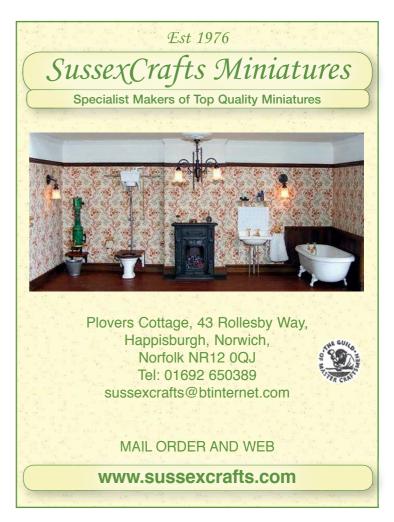
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SUNDAY 8 SEPTEMBER - 9TH YEAR!

The Rivenhall Hotel, Rivenhall End NEAR WITHAM CM8 3HB (on A12 westbound) SUNDAY 15 SEPTEMBER - 10th YEAR!

Windmill Farm Hotel Runcorn Road, off Whisby Road LINCOLN LN6 3QZ (on A46 westbound)

SUNDAY 13 OCTOBER - 22ND YEAR!

The Mill Arts & Events Centre Bellingham Lane, off High Street RAYLEIGH SS6 7ED (off A127)

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Family helps to inspire pretty Ashley Cottage

Having a talented miniaturist for a mother-in-law certainly helped when it came to ideas for decorating the house Kathy's husband built out of pallets one weekend

BY ALICE MONROE

t has taken Kathy Caff more than a decade to make and decorate Ashley Cottage, her large mock-Tudor family house. But she's loved every minute of the journey.

It was Jean Caff, Kathy's talented mother-in-law, whose work has featured in many an issue of DHW over the years, who got her started on the mini road.

Kathy said: "She started to put ideas in my mind and soon the longing to have a go myself became a must."

When Kathy came back from a work seminar she found, to her extreme surprise, that her husband had used the weekend wisely and built her a Tudor mansion out of reclaimed pallet wood.

"Seeing it empty, opened up endless possibilities to me," she said. "Ten rooms, plus the outside of the build-

ing and a garden had to be attended to. I decided to focus on a style and not a precise period as I did not feel confident enough and feared creating anachronisms."

At the time Kathy was very fond of Laura Ashley designs - hence the name of the house - and kept that style in mind that when she started decorating.

"Living in France, the choices in terms of doll's house suppliers was really limited, thus DIY was on the agenda which pleased me.

"I started by making all the wood floorings and installing the wiring. I can still recall the shriek of joy when I first turned on the lights."

In the kitchen the shelving holds dishes she collected when attending fairs in England. Prints on tea towels were made with felt pens, and one of

On the dining room table card dinner plates were covered with a pattern found on the internet and varnished, and Kathy is also proudly displaying a selection of wood-turned items made

The rooms are deeper than standard giving room for an imposing fireplace in the drawing room, as well as a large bookshelf filled with many handmade books.

Kathy said: "On the landing there is a terracotta bust which makes me smile each time I look at it, as it is in fact a white plastic gift found in a cereal box representing a famous footballer."

There's not much noise in the blue bedroom as both girls play quietly. The paint tubes in the paint box were made with small bits of cocktail sticks covered with foil. Pencils were made with spaghetti cut to size and sharpened. The small dolls were made out of Fimo and dressed with ribbons.

Kathy recalled some of the drama from the build. She said: "The lady in the parents' bedroom could definitely not be facing as my first attempt at making a doll's face was not very



























On the landing there is a terracotta bust which makes me smile each time I look at it, as it is in fact a white plastic gift found in a cereal box representing a famous footballer.









successful; her curlers are made with cotton tips.

"A little girl is hiding in the attic, trying on some fancy costumes found in the old trunk. The curved shape of a wooden fruit punnet tempted me to make some old skis.

"The blue tiles in the bathroom were printed from the internet on photo paper and slightly scored to give the









HOUSE PROUD







impression of real tiles. A small corridor gives the illusion of leading to other rooms."

Both the games room and cellar were added a few years later. In the cellar, wooden wine bottles are painted with glass paints to give the illusion of glass bottles; no one is allowed to touch them as proper dust adds to their authenticity.

Finally the front of the house is filled with flowers made from kits or from Kathy's own paper punches, while the roof tiles were made out of cardboards with two wine corks used as chimneys.

Kathy has no doubt who she has to thank for her wonderful house: "I must thank Jean Caff, who was always available to offer sound advice, and my husband for building the shell of my beloved Ashley Cottage.





MINI MAKES

Mini mobile is a smart addition to your house

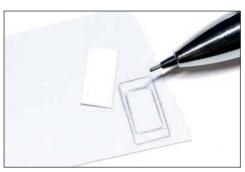


An up-to-the-minute smartphone is the must-have accessory for any modern doll's house - it will look good and won't cost you anything in calls

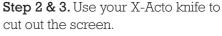


BY TANJA JENSEN

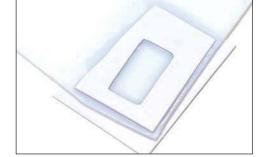
obile phones have become a permanent accessory and a useful tool for a lot of us, so why not bring them into the doll's house as well? In this tutorial I'm going to show you how to make a smartphone — a great detail for any modern miniature scene.

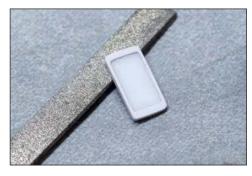


Step 1. Begin by making a template in the size you want your phone. I made mine 12 x 6mm. Cut that out and trace it onto a sheet of ABS plastic (0.25mm thickness). Depending on the make and model of phone you're making, you may or may not wish to have a white border at all (see next step).



To make this process easier, print out the entire front of the phone and skip to the next step. I'm showing how to create a more dimensional look because it translates well to other projects that require a screen.





Step 4 & 5. To make the phone slightly thicker, I sandwiched three layers of the ABS plastic and glued them together (0.25 + 0.5 + 0.25 mm thickness).

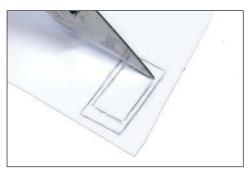
Then I used scissors to roughly cut out the shape and used files to make it nice and neat. I also gave it a light sanding on the front and back to slim it down just a tad.

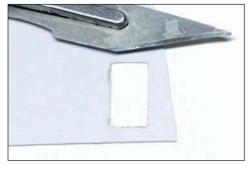
You will need

- ABS Plastic sheets. I'm using 0,5 and 0,25mm thick sheets.
- Glue for plastic, I'm using Tamiya extra thin cement
- Scissors and X-Acto knife
- Pencil, paper and a ruler
- Acrylic paint
- Files and very fine sandpaper
- Acrylic paint and a detail brush

Optional materials:

- Printed image of the phone screen. I printed mine on matt vinyl, but you can also print on normal paper in which case you'll need glue and a sealer (eg Mod Podge) as well. Or you can use the image on Cutouts on P77.
- Dremel (or similar tool) with a small ball shaped file/burr





MINI MAKES



Step 6. I then used a burr to create two small indentations (one on the front where the home button is, and one on the back for the camera) as well as a hole where the charger would go.

If you want to go for a 'no Dremel' option, you can simply use acrylic paint to add these details, or include them on the print for the screen.

You also want to cut out a few rectangular buttons for the side of the phone and glue them in place.



Step 7. Add the printed screen; this is what the phone should look like so far.





Step 8. Add a few additional details using acrylic paint. Then finish off by covering either just the screen itself as well as the home button, or the entire front of the phone with a layer of resin. Cover the camera lens on the back using resin, and the phone is done.

www.sugarcharmshop.dk



BY ALICE MONROE

You will need

- 18 thread to the inch canvas size 6in x 8in
- DMC thread; gold, dark blue, light blue and silver
- Fabric glue
- Scissors

diagram right).

Step 1. Colours may be altered to suit your own colour scheme. Use three strands of thread and work a half cross stitch following the pattern provided. Take your time as this is quite a busy pattern.

Step 2. When you have completed the carpet, fringe each end using six strands of thread and working over four holes (see tassle

Hole 2

Hole 2

Hole 4

Step 3. Take the needle down through hole 1, leaving a 1 in end of

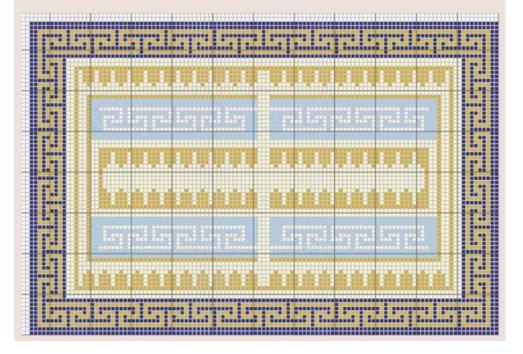
thread. Go up through hole 2 and leave a loop across the front at the same time.

Step 3. Catch the loose end from hole 1 and pull it down through the loop. Take needle down through hole 4 and up through hole 3.

Step 4. Bring the needle down through the loop at the front and cut thread leaving 1 in of thread. Pull both ends down tightly through the loop to make a tassel.

Step 5. When the fringe is finished, cut the edge of the canvas to leave three empty rows.

Step 6. Mitre the corners, fold the edges under and use fabric glue to hold in place. Trim fringe to required length.



a LOOK AT LUNDBY



Lundby fever has taken hold of Rita and family

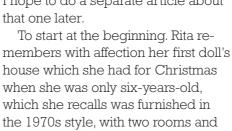
Rita takes time out from her motorcycling hobby to decorate her latest house and consult with the two famous interior designers who live there

BY SANDRA HARDING



well remember the first article I wrote regarding Lundby three or more years ago, and finding things rather confusing as they all sort of looked the same to me. How wrong I was and, of course, I have since learned to look more carefully.

When Rita Ross, from Germany, sent me pictures of her Lundby it reminded me of those early days, as they were of two different houses. After I got myself sorted, I realised that Rita's first buy was a Frog House which started her "Lundby fever" (her words!) and I hope to do a separate article about



plastic furniture. I think that these early

memories have rekindled her childhood memories, as the 1970's Lundby pictured here is very much in the theme of that decade. The house was bought in May 2017 in need of some attention and once Rita had decided on the colour theme, the renovation began.

The house is bright and cheerful and I love the way the colours of each room are so carefully chosen to flow throughout, as if a real family has designed it. Although the house is full of delightful pieces, Rita tells me her favourites are the stereo and the leather chair and footstool, which is also Martin's favourite chair.

Martin is the head of the house where he lives with wife Steffi, their son Nick, and twin daughters Lena and Lisa. The couple are famous interior designers, and they love to practice their ideas on their own house, which always seems to work out. Nick, however, did choose his own bedroom colours but his taste matches that of his parents, so it wasn't a problem. The twins are too young to give an opinion at the moment, but I wonder what will happen when they are old enough to want bright purple or pale pink in their

It is obvious that there has been a lot of refurbishment and furniture painting in this house but then, Steffi is an interior designer.

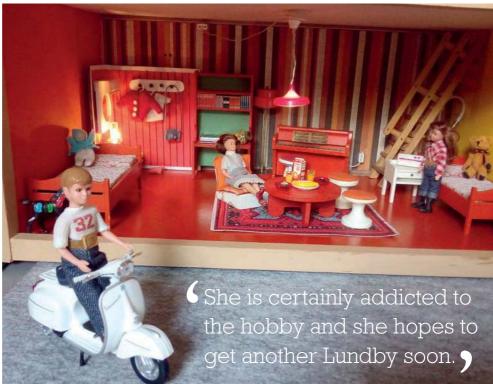
The family are very lucky to have an outside pool and play area with





A LOOK AT LUNDBY









this house, and they are all very fond of the many animals they seem to have. I think the twins are responsible for most of them, but their daily help keeps an eye on them when they are out.

Rita tells me that her other hobby is motorcycling, but a lot of her time is also spent refurbishing old Lundby pieces which she buys, and gives them a new lease of life. She is certainly addicted to the hobby and she hopes to get another Lundby soon, this time furnished and decorated in 60s style.

As she has already started collecting furniture, I am sure it will be as lovely as this house is. Just as well her two grown up sons have left home as I think their rooms are going to be useful!



Old wrinkled dolls find ideal home at St Mary's

Sandra wants to book a place after seeing what delights St Mary's Rest Home has to offer — but there's sure to be a long waiting list after word gets out

BY SANDRA HARDING

his delightful little house looks just the place for me when I am in my dotage (no funny comments, thank you), and it's all down to Jen Gibson and her daughter Angela who bought the house about 20 years ago.

As often happens, life got in the way, like Angela's daughter Louisa, who was born shortly after the purchase.

Jen took over the house about 18 years ago and decorated it using various full size wallpapers, along with some scale versions. At the same time she also tried her hand at Fimo dolls. but, as they all turned out to be old and wrinkled, she decided that they would have to be housed together where no-one would see them much. Luckily the only people that do see them are doctors, nurses, sundry health visitors and the occasional family visitor, who all love them in spite of their looks.

Although Jen claims that it is not entirely finished (never is with doll's houses) the residents at St Mary's are well and truly at home. The top floor has two bedrooms for residents and a nurse's station where Trudy Light is practising her darts during a coffee break.

She plays for the local ladies team at The Jolly Roger, the village pub where she can often be found after finishing her shift. Notice the lovely hand made flowers, tidy beds and plenty of pills and potions — obviously a very wellmanaged home.

The dear lady in pink is Ivy Bush — her sister Rose is visiting and has brought flowers from their garden (they share a house), although Rose does most of the work outside. Ivy prefers to bake, so it suits them very well.

The next floor of the rest home has another two bedrooms, a landing and a bathroom. Mr Ivor Bow is practising his violin and he is only there because Jen broke his foot off while dressing him, and he will never forgive her. To compensate Jen has allowed him a regular visit from his dog Lucky.

Another nurse, Issie Betta, is trying to persuade Mrs Bird not to let the parrot out of the cage, and the doctor (the only purchased doll) is giving Mrs Goodenough the much anticipated news that she can go home..

On the next floor there are two reception rooms and a hall for the day visitors. The ladies' zimmer frames are made from scoobies with pins and silver paint added, and they once belonged to Jen's grandchildren (the scoobies, whatever they are, not the zimmer frames).

The ground floor has the dining room and kitchen; some of the day patients are hoping for a game of dominoes, although they are being glowered at by two ladies who want their seats. There is, of course, a lift at



the back as the old people would not be able to manage the stairs.

In the kitchen Lettice Begin and Anne Nother are preparing for yet another round of meals for the old folk upstairs. They are both pretty patient with the patients and really don't mind supplying them with their little fancies, and adapting the menus. Mind you it drives the manager, Ellen Bach, to distraction when she is ordering the supplies. But, she is well paid so doesn't mind and, anyway, her mum is a resident.

The lady with a bed tray insists on having her meals served that way as, she claims, it aids her digestion. She is a titled lady and thinks herself above eating in the dining room. However, Lady Bird does not mind visits from her friend who loves the chance of a free pedicure whilst she is there, not to mention the free tea and a slice of cake.

I got quite carried away naming some of these really delightful Fimo dolls made by Jen, and I think they all have lovely little characters. The attention to detail makes me wonder if she has visited such a home.

I know I have, and the detail and the many, many accessories make it look very real. I think I will put my name down for a place as there is sure to be a waiting list.

"The attention to detail makes me wonder if she has visited such a home."

HOUSE PROUD



















JULY

SATURDAY 06 JULY

DOLLS HOUSES & MINIATURES FAIR

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

SUNDAY 7 JULY COBHAM ANTIQUE DOLLS HOUSE FAIR



Cobham Village Hall, Lushington Drive,

COBHAM, Surrey KT11 2LU Open: 10.00am - 4.00pm Organiser: Wendy's World

SUNDAY 21 JULY

DOLLS HOUSES & MINIATURES FAIR

Ipswich Hotel, Old London Road, COPDOCK, near Ipswich IP8 3JD (off A12)

Open: 10.30am - 4.00pm Organiser: Dolly's Daydreams

AUGUST

SUNDAY 04 AUGUST

DOLLS HOUSE & MINIATURES FAIR

Craig-y-don Community Centre, Queens Road, LLANDUDNO LL30 1TE Open: 10.30am - 3.00pm

Organiser: MGM Fairs

SUNDAY 18 AUGUST

DOLLS HOUSE & MINIATURES FAIR

Exeter Conference Centre, Westpoint, CLYST ST. MARY,

Exeter EX5 1DJ

Open: 10.00am - 4.00pm Organiser: Wendy's World

SEPTEMBER

SUNDAY 01 SEPTEMBER

DOLLS HOUSE & MINIATURES FAIR

Members Pavilion, County Showground, Weston Road, STAFFORD ST18 0BD

Open: 10.30am - 4.00pm Organiser: MGM Fairs

SUNDAY 08 SEPTEMBER

DOLLS HOUSES & MINIATURES FAIR

The Rivenhall Hotel. Rivenhall. near WITHAM, CM8 3HB (on Al2 westbound) Open: 10.30am - 4.00pm Organiser: Dolly's Daydreams

COBHAM ANTIQUE DOLLS HOUSE FAIR

Cobham Village Hall, Lushington Drive, COBHAM, Surrey KT11 2LU Open: 10.00am - 4.00pm Organiser: Wendy's World

SUNDAY 15 SEPTEMBER

DOLLS HOUSES & MINIATURES FAIR

Windmill Farm Hotel, Runcorn Road, off Whisby Road, LINCOLN LN6 3QZ (off A46) Open: 10.30am - 4.00pm Organiser: Dolly's Daydreams

SUNDAY 22 SEPTEMBER

DOLLS HOUSE & MINIATURES FAIR

Royal Hotel, Knightstone Road, WESTON SUPER MARE, BS23 2AH Open: 10.00am - 4.00pm Organiser: Wendy's World

FAIR ORGANISERS:

D&M Fairs: 01634 375763 E: pattydixon54@gmail.com

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

SUNDAY 29 SEPTEMBER

DOLLS HOUSE & MINIATURES FAIR

The Inn On The Lake Hotel Gravesend, Kent DA12 3HB Open: 10.00am - 2.30pm Organiser: D&M Fairs

OCTOBER

SATURDAY 5 & SUNDAY 6 OCTOBER

AUTUMN MINIATURA

National Exhibition Centre, BIRMINGHAM, B40 1NT

Open: T.B.C.

Organiser: Miniatura

SUNDAY 13 OCTOBER

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

SUNDAY 20 OCTOBER

Dolls Houses & Miniatures Fair

Knights Hill Hotel & Spa, South Wootton, near King's Lynn, Norfolk PE30 3HQ (Junction A148/A149) Open: 10.30am - 4pm Organiser: Dolly's Daydreams

OVERSEAS

SATURDAY 07 & SUNDAY 08 SEPTEMBER

39th Annual Show & Sale,

benefitting The Denver Museum of Miniatures, Dolls & Toys. Theme: Mini Obsessions - What's Yours? At The Denver Tech Centre, 7801 E. Orchard Road, Greenwood Village, CO 80111.

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While we make every effort to ensure the accuracy of these dates, please do check shows before travelling.



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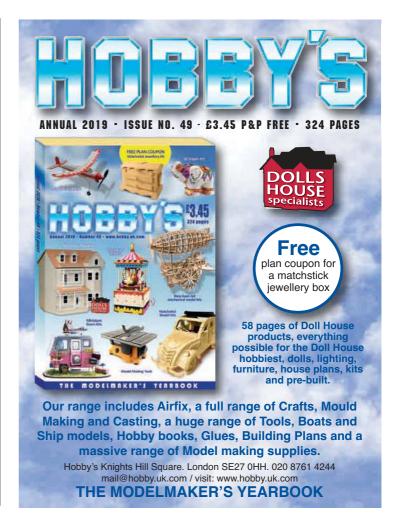
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Miniature show

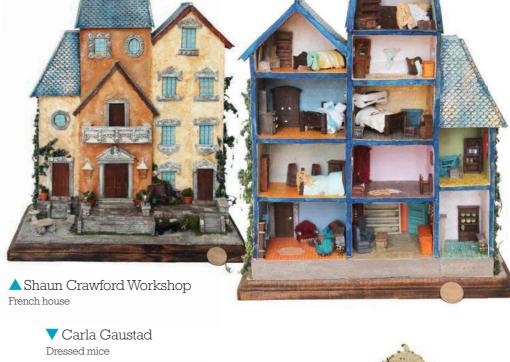
Judi Hamilton shares some memorable miniature works of art from the Denver Museum of Miniatures, Dolls & Toys Show and Sale

BY JUDI HAMILTON

he Denver Museum of Miniatures, Dolls & Toys held their 38th annual Show and Sale. While the museum is temporarily closed, this large fundraiser will continue each year. It is the one time each year that Denver area miniaturists get to host guests shopping for mini treasures from over 50 artisans. If you haven't experienced the show, you are missing out! In addition to being surrounded by beautiful Colorado mountains, you also get to visit with friends, attend workshops, enjoy delicious banquets, discover exhibits, take part in coveted raffles and auctions, and purchase miniatures for your own collection. Be sure to join us in September 2019 for "MINI OBSES-SIONS; WHAT'S YOURS?" (P.S. Do your doll's house dolls have their own mini collections? Are they as obsessive as you?). Enjoy this sampling of artisan miniatures from the 2018 show.

- The Denver Museum of Miniatures. Dolls & Toys 39th Annual Fall Show and Sale "Mini Obsessions, What's Yours?" September 4-8, 2019 Greenwood Village, CO
- Chair: Judi Hamilton judimuseumfallshow@gmail.com Phone: 001-720-879-1820 Web: www.dmmdt.org/fallshow











Georgian house helped Linda back to health

Husband's idea to buy a doll's house helped one woman through dark days after a terrible accident and meant she could develop her needlework and crafting skills

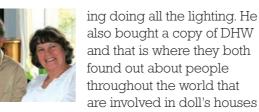
BY ALICE MONROE

here isn't much in Linda Ovenden's Georgianstyle house that she hasn't made, painted or adapted in some way to fit in with the décor in her rooms. From the outside the house immediately gives the impression that it is lived in by a fairly wealthy family; there are three floors and the attic, each room carefully decorated and full of Linda's beautifully

created pieces.

Let's first go back to the beginning of this story, Linda was involved in a very bad road accident some years ago – resulting in multiple fractures in all four limbs, and was not expected to live. Before the accident both Linda and her husband lim were nurses, and because of this she was allowed out of hospital early to allow Jim to nurse her at home. They had all the necessary equipment installed at home to help with this, items such as hoists, etc., but it was Jim who willed her to live. He worked tirelessly, day and night, to nurse her back to health.

Linda spent the next two years in a wheelchair, as she was unable to walk, she couldn't breathe very well, and couldn't move one of her arms because it was all plated together. It was Jim's inspirational idea of a doll's house that started Linda on the road to becoming a miniaturist. Jim thought that it might be something to take her mind off her injuries, so he bought the house in kit form and built it for her, includ-



and everything else that we need to complete them.



The house gave Linda a sense of purpose and provided much needed physical and psychological therapy. Jim said: "We were just trying to think of something Linda could physically do in a wheelchair, and a doll's house appeared to be ideal."

The house was originally from Dolls House Emporium, but the staircase in the centre of the basement has been taken out to make a larger kitchen, and alcoves in a number of rooms have been built in to add a different dimension.

Even before her accident Linda was a very skilled needlewoman making cross stitch pictures - incredible Siamese cat pictures, beautifully stitched, can be seen hanging around the walls of the sitting room. Many more can be found all over the house. So miniature cross-stitch was, of course, something that she could do sitting in a wheel-

Top right: The stair carpet Linda admits was a labour of love, as it goes all the way up the two floors and had to be made to fit as there is a bend in the staircase between floors.





Right: Linda dressed the nursery maid using a pattern from DHW. She also knitted the baby clothes, including the beautiful baby's shawl.

Below: Nanny is taking her charge for a walk in the park - her outfit was from a pattern in DHW.

Below right: The bright colourful nursery is a wonderful place for the children to spend their time either playing or learning. All of the wooden toys around the nursery Linda has made, like the boat, train, weaving loom, hobby horse, elephant on wheels and golly. The doll's house came from America. There are also pencils and paints ready for the children to use.

























Above: Every room is full of beautiful hand-made items, from the scullery maid's clothes, to the silk-draped four-poster bed on the top floor.

Right: The little girl is fast asleep in her pretty blue and white bedroom. Linda designed and made all of the furniture, but it was Jim who painted on the flower decoration - another skill he has hidden away! The inspiration for the colour of the room came from a patchwork quilt that Linda's aunt had made for her about 30 to 40 years ago. The idea of using panels of wallpaper are not only decorative but help to make the room appear larger. The soft colours woven into the carpet have again been beautifully stitched by Linda. Below right: Linda wanted to create a very masculine room so has used deep red for the walls and dark stained furniture. Again, most of the furniture Linda has made, often using patterns from magazines or books, although she added that the grandfather clocks around the house have been put together from kits. The man of the house, seen here having a few quiet moments to himself, is one of the very few men Linda has dressed and wigged.

chair - although to begin with it was only for a little while at a time. It took a long time to complete a carpet because of her physical limitations, but as she says: "I got so much pleasure from it, it stopped me from going round the bend, it gives you something else to think about, and it slowly evolves over time."

As you look around the rooms Linda's work can be found everywhere. She has dressed the dolls. stitched the carpets, made the furniture from scratch, not just from kits. In the dining room Linda said she didn't know how many thousands of stitches there are in that carpet, she just remembers it took months to complete. The only items in that room Linda didn't make are the dining chairs; she wasn't keen on doing the cut-out bits for the backs. The alcoves in the back walls hold some of the beautiful German china Jim brought her as a special gift.

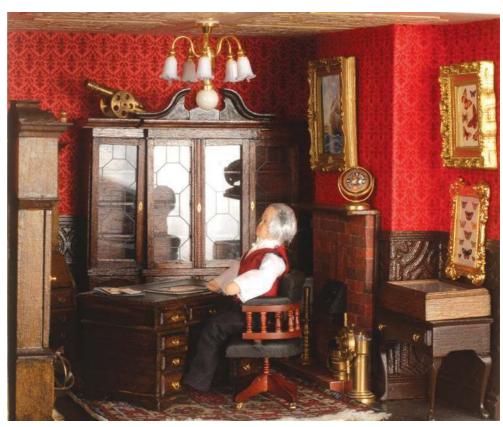
Linda loves Cranberry glassware and whenever they visit a doll's house shop around the country, they are always finding new pieces to add to the collection.



Just the start

The Georgian house is only the start of Linda's doll's houses - her second house, a 1930's is well is on its way." She has started to put bits in it to make it look like a home, in the garden she has already made and laid the paving slabs, decking, pergola, baskets and flowers. The house will reflect the décor of their own full size house, with its blue upholstered furniture and carpets in the sitting room. It has large varying sized rooms so there is still a lot of work to be done.

Linda also has a general store that is also a 'work in progress'. She has lots of ideas for it – possibly outside steps up to the first floor, with a door in the side to make this room into a café, with living accommodation above. Like most miniaturists Linda has a wonderful imagination that allows her to visualise how the final outcome will look.





Like most miniaturists Linda has a wonderful imagination that allows her to visualise how the final outcome will look.

Summer garden

Throughout the summer months both Linda and Jim can be found working in the huge garden that surrounds their house. The garden has been designed as labour-saving as possible, with raised beds and lots of pots everywhere. Linda is responsible for planting all the seeds and for raising the cuttings, and Jim does all the heavy work - digging and moving things

around. Although there is not much to do when all the hundreds of shrubs and flowers are out, and at the end of the summer they just chop it back, and wait until it all grows again next year. Linda says that the garden is her summer job and it is in the winter, with the dark evenings, when she works on her doll's houses.

Thinking ahead, Linda already has plans for the future of her doll's house,



Left: The alcoves make for a more interesting effect and are just the place to put the beautiful German dinner service Jim brought her. The parlour maid is ready to serve dinner, wearing her black dress and white apron, her wigging and dress all made by Linda. The dining room carpet is one of the largest Linda has made so far, its design came from a pattern in a book and it has over 50.000 stitches.

Above: This room with its pretty pink walls was designed to show off Linda's collection Cranberry glass.

Above right: The bedroom is dominated by a beautifully draped four-poster bed, which Linda has spent many hours creating. The pattern for the hand-embroidered quilt was taken from one of Linda's many project books. As she doesn't have a pleater, all of the drapes have been done by hand. Right: The dressing table is Linda's own design using spindles to make up the main structure. The pretty little bonnet is from a pattern in DHW. Far right: The dresser in the sitting room is Linda's creation. She has perfected the

art of staining and polishing furniture. The workbaskets are all handmade using canvas, while the embroidery

stand is made from spindles.





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Above: The laundry is a very busy room with washing always needing to be done - Linda loved making everything in here from the copper boiler in the corner, to the distressed blue settle and table, and even the clothes dryer hanging from the ceiling. The sink is made from mount-card, and so is the copper. The mangle is from a Phoenix kit as Linda wasn't sure she could make one. Having dressed and wigged the scrubber girl, it was a work of art to make her kneel down. The box of vegetables on the table were made by Jim.



as her eldest grand-daughter, who lives in California, has laid claim to it. Although, as Linda says: "I'm not sure how we will get it to her. I don't know whether it can be shipped safely, but we've moved house with it, and everything was fine. I've enjoyed doing it, knowing that it's for Lucy."

Meeting Linda and learning the story of her brave fight to get well again, just adds to the long, very long list of reasons why I love miniatures, knowing that her whole life, and that of her husband Jim, has been totally changed because of our hobby.

Left: The kitchen is definitely cook's domain. She's busy preparing pastry for her next pie. Linda has made all the furniture and the chairs are all carefully strung using cotton thread. Jim made all of the vegetables and bread. The copper pans are the most expensive items in the kitchen. The bowls and plates on the dresser are just wooden ones that Jim has painted and decorated with tiny flowers.



Make tile coasters and a storage box

This is a fun project to make some pretty little coasters, along with a wooden storage box. It will look great on a table in your lounge or study



BY KLEINE ARTCHIN

Tile coasters



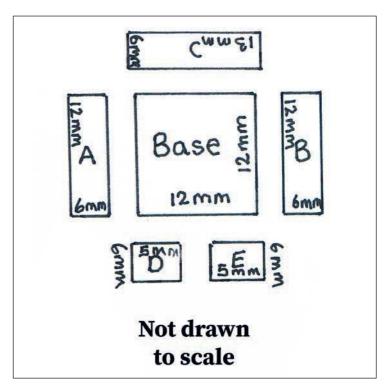
Step 1. Choose your tile design copy and paste into a Word doc. Reduce the size to 1cm square. Repeat process until you have the amount you want to make. I'm making four but you could make as many as you want. (You could try tile catalogues for images and trim to size, glue onto card

and give image a coat of PVA to give it a shine).



Step 2. Print out onto photo paper and cut out with scissors. Remember to let the ink dry before cutting out. (You can print onto card, then coat image in PVA to give it a shine).

Apply glue with a cocktail stick to the back of the tile



You will need For tile coasters

- Printed tiles that are 1cm square (ideally onto photo paper)
- Smooth non-fraying fabric (i.e felt, suede or leather)
- Sharp, small scissors
- PVA glue
- Cocktail stick

For storage box:

1/32 obeche wood

- Fine grade sandpaper (recommend P600)
- Wood glue
- Cocktail stick
- Sharp pencil (mechanical pencil with 0.35 lead)
- Sharp cutting knife (i.e scalpel)
- Metal ruler
- Smooth fabric as above
- Optional paint or wood polish to finish

picture; stick down on chosen fabric and leave to dry.



Step 3. When dry, trim around tile and that's it.

Storage box

Step 1. Look at the cutting list and cut out in obeche wood the six pieces needed using a craft knife and metal ruler. (Always use a fresh blade as less pressure is needed to cut through the wood and accidents are less likely to occur).

The storage box has been designed to hold just four coasters. If you want yours to hold more just increase the height of the side pieces.

MINI MAKES





Step 2. Lightly sand all pieces. Then apply a little glue to the bottom edge of side piece A and press flush to side of base. Repeat with piece B and press flush to the other side.



Apply glue to the bottom edge and sides of the back piece (C) and press flush to base. Check the side pieces are square to the back. Remove excess glue with the cocktail stick. Leave to dry.



Step 3. Apply glue to front piece D on bottom edge and side; glue to the left hand side of front.



Repeat with piece E and glue to the right hand side. Remove excess glue and leave to dry.

Step 4. Lightly sand all sides, then either paint or wood polish piece. You can leave it plain if you prefer. Apply glue to the underside of the base with a cocktail stick and stick onto chosen fabric. Leave to dry. When dry trim round edges with sharp scissors.

• We've added tiles to the Cutouts page on P77 if you prefer to use those.





Painting by numbers

- What are we hanging in our houses this month? Two paintings by August Macke. One of his country scenes, and a portrait of his young wife.
- 2. I see what you've done there. The August issue and all that. But who's August Macke? One of the most popular German artists of the 20th century.
- When did he paint? He created most of his extensive work from 1911 to 1914.
- 4. What did he produce? He was talented and prolific. In those few years he created almost 600 oil paintings, just as many watercolours and nearly 9,000 drawings, in a unique and unmistakable style.
- 5 And his style? Expressionist. The use of colour and its luminous effects was critical in his work as he tried to express the unity of humankind and nature. Macke saw art as the "song of the beauty of things."
- 6. Was he married? He met his future wife, Elisabeth Gerhardt, in 1903 while still in school and the couple shared a deep love and spiritual kinship. Elisabeth's wealthy family encouraged the young artist and helped finance his travels, such as trips to Paris that were important for his artistic development. In 1910 the fam-

ily gave the couple a house where August had the top floor converted into a lightfilled studio.

- 7. Why did he stop painting? He was drafted into the army at the outbreak of the First World War, and sent to the front at Champagne, France. He was killed within weeks. He was 27 years
- Now hang the pictures in your house. See Cutouts on page 77.



Snip and create with our inspirational Cutouts

Sandra looks back to recall how, armed with patience and scissors, and a little imagination, she has added so much to her houses from the DHW Cutouts pages



BY SANDRA HARDING

ollowing on from the Barry Hipwell chest which we featured in last month's issue, I was surprised to realise just how many DHW Cutouts I have actually used in my many creations over the years.

In my big house, featured in 2014, I have many cutout children's books and board games in the children's playroom. In the study, the bookcase is full of books, with newspapers and other documents scattered around, and the family photographs are also cutouts.

In the desk and the drawers there are letters, envelopes, copies of wills, and other legal documents, and a stationery box with paper, envelopes and stamps all waiting to be used. There is also a box of old Christmas cards and photographs somewhere in the attic

In the kitchen there are cookery books, and in the housekeeper's room there are several ledger type books. In the garden room there are gardening books and packets of seeds waiting to be planted, and a gardening diary the

lady of the house was looking through at tea time. The famous opera singer, Sarah Nade, is rehearsing for the soiree later using a song sheet, and the pianist, Ivor E.Kees, is playing from his own sheet of music. (I must check to make sure it's the same music sometime — or not!). Many of the paintings on the walls are framed pictures from the DHW Cutouts.

In my bride's shop, featured in May 2011, there are shelves overflowing with cutouts from hat boxes, along with other boxes holding veils, ribbons, lace, shoes and slippers. Of course most boxes those items in them what a lovely hobby!

There are boxes on the shelves full of business information, some of it years old, as the owner likes to hoard everything. At the desk there are invoices, bills, a cash box full of cash, receipts, as well as unused stationery, and there are folders full of dress patterns down below in the workroom. In the flat above the shop owner has a

magazine rack overflowing with newspapers and magazines for when she has time to read. All from the inspirational Cutouts pages over the years.

For those of you who hate the idea of cutting up your lovely magazine, don't fret, as the Cutouts are there for you to have fun with. I usually wait until I have a few and then cut them all out, and keep them separately. I hate it when I have to search through lots to find what I'm after, as I keep getting distracted by a picture of a doll, a house, or almost anything, and it can takes hours! Although that's part of the enjoyment, isn't it?

It is so simple to do and you only need a little time, imagination, patience, scissors, and sometimes thin card to stick the Cutouts onto first. You will be amazed at what lovely things you can achieve. So, have a go and have fun.

 The Cutouts this issue are on P77 and 78.





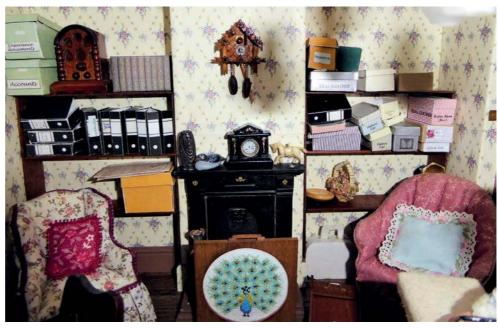
會MINI IDEAS

















Mix up some plaster to make beautiful bowls

Danielle shows us how to create pretty little bowls using chocolate box moulds and craft plaster. It can be tricky but keep calm and carry on



BY DANIELLE MULLER

oday I'm going to show you how to make your own little bowls for your doll's house projects. These can be used in many different ways and are fairly easy to make.





Step 1. Put on your disposable rubber gloves. Mix your plaster with water according to the manufacturer's instructions on the package.

bowls come out of the mould easily, now would be a good time to apply some of the Easy Demoulding Vaseline from Gedeo. I purchased mine from Amazon.

Apply some with a paintbrush, on both moulds to where it's going to be in contact with the plaster.

Use an old tablespoon and fill the mixture into your moulds, making sure they're only half full (a bit less than half full would be even better).

Step 2. The mixture should not be too runny, but still easy to stir.



Step 4. Take a second mould and press it on top of the first, pushing it slowly all the way down.

Don't worry about the plaster coming out on the sides, that's perfectly normal. Let dry overnight.

You will need

- Chocolate packaging for the bowl (I used the brand TOFFIFEE) or quail's egg containers
- Craft plaster
- Water
- Disposable plastic cup
- Wooden stirrer
- Plastic tea spoon
- Disposable rubber gloves
- Newspaper or paper towels
- Paintbrush
- Measuring cup (optional)
- Fine sandpaper
- Acrylic paints
- Dotting tool/stylus
- Acrylic glossy varnish
- Beads, pearls or rhinestones for decoration
- Small water decals (Nail art)
- Gédéo Vaseline for demoulding (Amazon)



Step 3. Protect your work table with an old newspaper or some kitchen paper towels. If you want to make sure your

MINI MAKES



Step 5. Now comes the moment of truth–demoulding your miniature bowls!

Don't worry, some will definitely break. That's okay just be gentle while doing this. Remember not to push too hard, because the plaster isn't very thick and is easily breakable.

It might seem like a bit of a fiddly job the first time, so stay calm.

The upper borders of your bowls will look like this, which is perfectly normal (this is a photo I made when I first made these bowls). After some practice, it will get better and the borders will be much more straight when they come out of the mould.



Step 6. Take a piece of fine sandpaper, place it on your worktable and sand off the rough edges until your upper border looks smooth and straight. Again, don't push too hard while holding the small bowls and moving them over the fine sandpaper.



Step 7. As you can see, once the borders are sanded, they look neat and straight.





Step 8. Now comes the fun part. Get out your colours and start painting. As you can see I painted mine in all sorts of different colours, which is fun and that way, you can use them in many different miniature scenes.



Step 9. For decoration, I'm using a dotting tool to add dots and/or fine lines, since I find this easier than doing it with a paintbrush, but you may want to try both methods and see which one's the best for you.

Once the paint has dried (I'm usu-

ally applying two coats) you can add more details to your bowls using mini pearls, rhinestones or whatever you have in your stash. Another way to decorate them is with water decals, Nail Art decals are great because they have the right size.



Step 10. Once you're done with painting and decorating, add a coat of clear glossy varnish (preferably water based) and let it dry. Now you're finished! Have fun putting your new bowls in your doll's house scenes.

Just for fun, I have added a few more photos showing the collection of bowls I made. Maybe they will get you in the mood to create or simply give you some ideas for your own bowls.









Mark shares building tips and techniques

Sometimes just understanding what goes into creating a masterpiece helps us to really appreciate the finished work. We asked Mark Turpin to share some insights

BY CHARLOTTE MERRIWEATHER

n issue 322 of DHW we shared Mark Turpin's gorgeous build named Birch Hill. Mark has offered to share some of his techniques and building tips with us here.

What are your top three adhesives and what do you use them for?

Elmer's Carpenter's Wood Glue (I prefer their yellow glue over the tan 'max' glue), for structural work where you need strength and a permanent bond; Titebond II Wood Glue (blue label) or III (green label) for gluing exterior trim; Aleene's Original Tacky Glue for lightweight interior trim as well as anything you might need to remove. Also good for fabric, by thinning slightly with water and used sparingly.

What finish do you prefer on your hardwood floors (if they are real wood)? If not wood, what do you prefer to use? Minwax Wood Finish Stain (water based; non gel) on real wood. I like to use wood veneers, which can be cut into strips using an X-Acto knife. Some veneers, like cherry, have smaller grains than others; Woodcraft and similar stores usually have a good selection. The strips are easy to cut, glue, and sand by hand or with a mouse sander. I glue them to illustration board outside of the house, for easier installation when completed.

When drawing up your initial design do you use pencil/paper or a

computer? I first start with pencil and paper to sketch my ideas. I like to work in locations where I feel creative, which usually leads me outdoors. Many of my ideas have arrived at various beaches or on long walks. Fresh air clears the mind and provides room to create.

Then I go back to my computer and transfer the ideas to AutoCAD, to see how they can be constructed and assembled. I draw all the floor plans, elevations and interior sections, plus doors, windows and trims in detail, but with flexibility in mind. Occasionally there are minor changes along the way once I see the spaces taking shape.





Are your stairs built from scratch or are they kits that you add to? Any tips on stair building? At first I bought assembled curved staircases for specific traditional houses and then added to those. For my contemporary houses I started building staircases from scratch for a more unique look. For example, Aqualina has a floating staircase with steps attached to the frame of the structure. Birch Hill has stairs made from basswood and built into the house in a more traditional way.

Graph paper is helpful when you are planning staircases, and keeping the staircase sections at 45 degree angles makes them easier to build and assemble.

I like to devote plenty of space for staircases, because people who are not familiar with miniatures seem to enjoy finding their way through a house where the staircases lead somewhere. Perhaps they may have an 'a-ha moment' and get hooked on miniatures themselves, if they see how interesting a small scale house layout

Observing someone's delight as they discover the inner workings of your house is a great reward. Planning the layouts is a lot of fun, like creating a puzzle in a way. Visualising and planning 3D spaces is also a great way to exercise and challenge your mind.

A few tips

Along with adequate space for

MINI MAKES



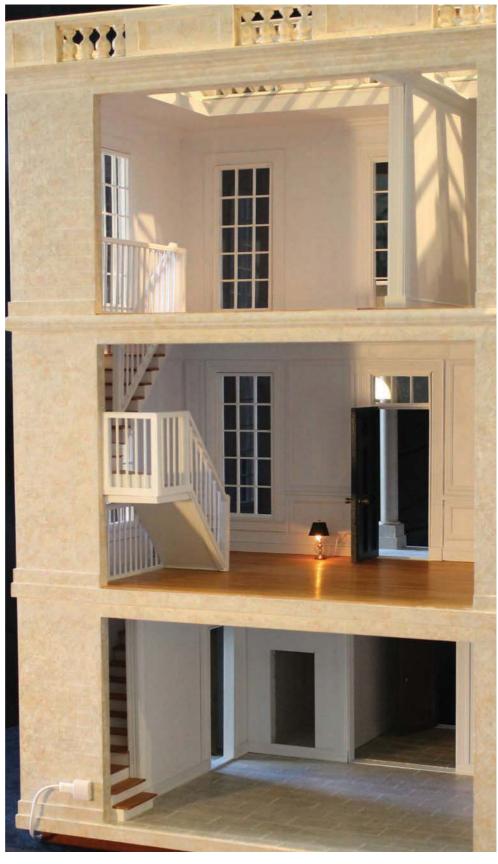
Above and right: The photos above show the stairs during and after construction.

stairs, I like to make sure the walls appear thick enough for the style, not just for strength. If you are building a brick or stone house, the walls should be thicker than a wood framed house. You can beef up the appearance of wall thickness with additional trim, or by planning adjoining rooms that are accessible from a different side of the house.

I have built front opening houses and others, but I enjoy building houses that have multiple points of access and are not just cabinets. I'd like to do more structures that open like puzzles. I think some of the antique houses have such details.

I enjoy planning rooms in which I would like to spend time. I have seen decorated miniature rooms on Pinterest that look so comfortable I would like to move right in.

My favourite rooms are usually bright with plenty of windows and high ceilings, but I also like warm, cosy



rooms. Planning spaces we would like to live in is probably one of the primary things that those of us who love miniatures enjoy most about this hobby. See more of my work at www.markturpin.com.



Mark Turpin

email: mark@markturpin.com call: 001 954 654-5161

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HOUSE PROUD



House in disguise made by Annelie's 3D printer

Furnishing a house using a 3D printer was quite a challenge, but Annelie had the patience to see it through after being given the printer for her birthday

BY ANNELIE SÖDERBERG



have been making miniatures and building houses for many years now here in Sweden, mostly in twelfth scale.

At the moment I have around five houses plus three Lundby and, I think, 11 room boxes that are decorated. But I also have a few more empty Lundby houses waiting for a makeover.

About two years ago I got a 3D printer for my birthday. What better use could there be for it, I thought, than making miniatures for my doll's houses. I could do my own designs, or even be inspired by other furniture I liked.

It was a bit hard to learn how to build up the drawings in the beginning. Sometimes I had to do things in separate parts and glue them together. It can take a long time to make the drawing, put in the measurements, and build up the layers. It's not possible to print everything, and I learned from my many mistakes, but there are lots of possibilities - even mixing in different materials like wood, fabric and leather.

I wanted to furnish my Dallas house with everything being done on my 3D printer to see if you could make a modern and cosy miniature home with it.

I think the only thing I bought was some of the lamps, pillows and rugs.

The house itself is a house in disguise. All the new walls, wallpaper and floors are removable. I haven't glued anything into the house, so I can easily have my original house back if I want

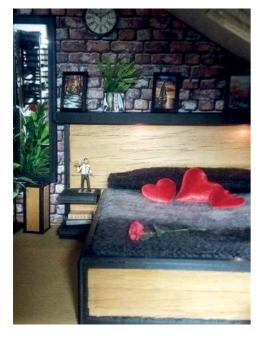
The wallpapers and stone walls/ floors I produced using my paper printer.

The new front I made of a harder paper, and printed the windows, spiral staircase, along with the garage and sliding doors. Perhaps there will be a garden too, in the future.





HOUSE PROUD

















Here lives the Bylund family in love, peace and harmony.

- Upstairs grandfather Hugo and grandmother Alice have the balcony room. Hugo had specific ideas how the bed and shelf should look. Of course Annelie did exactly as he wanted.
- The two little girls Miranda and Teresa have the middle room by the hallway. They also collect doll's houses.
- Mum and dad, Julia and David, who wanted dark furniture with real wood inlays.
- The middle floor is where the family and their friends come together. A little bathroom is hidden behind the kitchen. Annelie didn't know were to put it, but a new wall with a door, solved the problem.
- On the bottom floor there is a gentle dentist, called Denise.
- Between the dentist and the waiting room Annelie made a new wall using a spare door.
- A little home spa and gym is a nice combination.
- The horse and car is long gone, so the stable/garage became a cafe, run by Emilia, who is famous for her delicious cookies and splendid coffee.



Polymer clay ham is a real treat for lunch

This delicious looking ham will be the star of your table. Gina take you through step-by-step on how to make your ham look very realistic

BY GINA THEESFIELD

hy not make a ham for Sunday lunch? This ham tutorial will help you make the scene extra special.



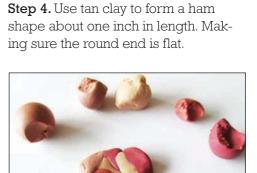
Step 1. Roll out a thin sheet of tan polymer clay. Roll out a snake of brown clay.

You will need

- Polymer clay: tan, brown, Ecru, red. translucent
- Craft knife
- Ruler
- Polymer clay Bake & Bond
- Toothbrush
- Needle tool
- Fine grit sandpaper
- Pastel chalk in brown earth tones
- Acrylic paint in brown earth
- Black craft sand
- Paint brushes
- Polymer clay gloss/glaze



Step 2. Wrap a tan sheet around a brown snake. Make this about one inch long. This will be your centre bone. Set aside.



ecru/red/brown until you get at least

4 different shades of 'meat' colours.

will be used for 'fat' layers.

Then mix translucent/tan/brown. This

Step 5. Create a circular pancake shape using tiny amounts of different 'meat' colour clays. Make sure to layer in some translucent/tan/brown for layers of fat between the meat shades. Vary the shapes of each shade.

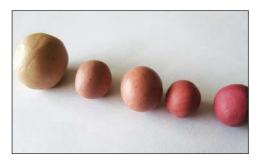
MEET THE MAKER:

Gina Theesfield "I own an auction house with my husband. We have three fabulous cats: Pancakes, Butters, and Eggz. I love all tiny things.



I figured out it was easier to collect hundreds of tiny things as opposed to hundreds of cats."

Follow Gina on Instagram -Calico_garden!



Step 3. Mix various shades of clay using red/brown, tan/red/brown and



會MINI MAKES



Step 6. From the centre bone piece you made earlier, slice a tiny section off with your craft blade.



Step 7. Using Bake & Bond, attach a tiny slice of bone to your meat pancake.



Step 8. Using Bake & Bond, attach the back of your meat pancake to the front of your tan ham shape. Trim off the excess clay.



Step 9. Roll out a thin sheet approx 3.5" long of translucent/tan/brown.



Step 10. Wrap the ham with the layer of translucent/tan/brown. Make sure to line up the front edge of ham with the front edge of translucent/tan/brown

Step 11. Roll out a very thin layer of tan



Step 12. Wrap the outside of ham with the thin layer of tan.



Step 13. Texture the ham using sweeping brushstrokes of a toothbrush and long strokes of a needle tool. Texturing is where the magic happens. Spend lots of time on this step to create a realistic texture. Meat sections have grains just like wood. The sections where there is fat will be smoother.



Step 14. Next, roll the outside of the ham on a sheet of sandpaper to get the realistic texture of ham on the outer skin.

Step 15. Use a needle tool to score diagonal lines on the outside of the ham to form a diamond shaped pattern.



Step 16. Use the needle tool to create a hole in the tapered end of the ham.

Step 17. Slice off a small portion of centre bone about 1/4" long.



Step 18. Using Bake & Bond in the hole, insert the 1/4" long portion of the clay centre bone.

TOPTIP

When mixing clay colours, start with light colours first, then add very tiny amounts of red and or brown to get desired shades.



Brighten up your house with mini lampshades

Choose some nice fabric from your stash and let Danielle show you how to turn it into a pretty lampshade. You won't want to pull the plug at making one



BY DANIELLE MULLER

sing the pattern and steps, you can make any style lamp you wish. Have fun and get creative!

Step 1. Print out your pattern on thick cardboard or matt photo paper. If the cardboard is too stiff, you might have trouble bending it later. Cut out some fabric slightly larger than the pattern.

Step 2. Place the pattern on the fabric to check that it's large enough.



Step 3. Turn over the piece of fabric and glue the cardboard pattern to it. Let dry.

Step 4. Once the glue has completely dried, cut all the overlapping fabric off. If your fabric fringes a bit, just add some glue (very little) using your fingers. That should do the trick.

You will need

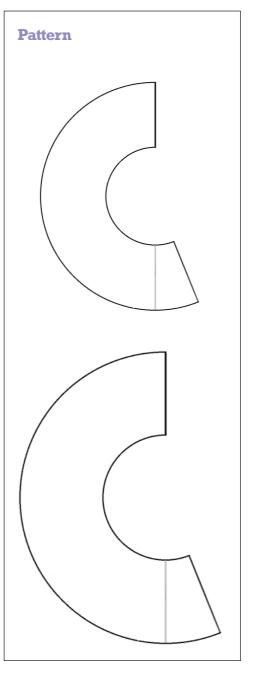
- Lamp shade pattern
- Fabric
- Scissors
- All purpose glue or No-Sew fabric glue
- Super glue
- Tweezers
- Head Pin 2" long
- Beads
- Jewellery finding
- Circle punch 1"
- Lace or ribbon



Step 5. Glue your lampshade together. Try to be as accurate as possible here in order to have a perfectly round shape. Overlap and glue about 1/4".

TOPTIP

If you don't want to use fabric for this project, you can also use paper. I often use my own templates, but there's a lot of free stuff out there on the Internet. Have fun!



TOPTIP

Remember that the bigger you cut out this circle, the higher the lampshade will be and the more of your lamp stand will show.

Step 6. Choose the beads that you are going to use for your lamp base. You'll need a head pin that is about 2'' long as well as a metal jewellery finding for the base. It's best to use a tiny amount of Super Glue here.



Step 7. These are the beads and pieces I used for this lamp stand.

Step 8. Assemble the beads and check if you're happy with the result before using any glue.



Step 9. Glue everything together, from bottom to top. Keep an eye from all angles to be sure it is centred.

Step 10. Cut out a circle about 1" using either your scissors or a punch. For this purpose, it's best to cut out the circle from cardboard that's quite stiff, in order to give your lampshade a better hold. I used some sort of mirrored cardboard here

MINI MAKES

Step 11. Punch a small hole in the middle of your circle and glue it to the top of your lamp base.

Step 12. Add some lace or ribbon to your lampshade if you want to embellish it a little bit.





Step 13. Using super glue, put the lampshade on top of the circle and adjust it until it's in the correct position. Let everything dry and you're done. Enjoy your new creation!

continued from P61.



Step 19. Shave pastel chalk with a craft blade to create pastel powder. Using powder from light to dark, dust ham with a dry paint brush to create shading.

Step 20. Use your fingers to sparingly dab a very thin layer of Bake & Bond on the outer skin. Sprinkle a very small amount of black craft sand to look like pepper. Brush off any excess sand with a dry paint brush.

Step 21. Bake the ham at 275 degrees for 25 minutes. Then let cool.

Step 22. Using acrylic paint and water, from light to dark, brush the ham with the mixture to create even more shading. Let dry.

Step 23. To make it look real, seal with gloss glaze.

I placed my ham on a metal serving tray garnished with carrots, green beans, lemon slices, and lichen pieces.



MEET THE MAKER:

Danielle Muller
"I am originally from
Luxembourg. My hubby and
I have lived in Germany for
12 years. We have two lovable





Create Venetian gown that's simply stunning



Dress your doll in an extravagant Venetian gown. Dana takes you through the creative process stepby-step and advises when to leave well alone

BY DANA

edina is dressed in a gorgeous Venetian gown. Follow along with Dana and dress your own

Step 1. Paint your doll's shoes with fingernail polish.

Step 2. Assemble the doll using your favourite construction method. Attach the doll to the doll stand. Add a small tight slip to neatly cover up the wire armature.





Step 3. Glue cosmetic sponges to her hips, to make the over skirt stand out.

I have given her wide, thin panniers.

The underskirt

Step 4. Cut a 4 1/2" x 10" rectangle out of white batiste for the under skirt.

Step 5. Turn under the bottom edge to wrong side and glue for a hem.

Step 6. Cut out a pretty bit of embroidered material and glue to the front.



Step 7. Now glue the under-skirt around the doll's padding, overlap the back edges and glue flat. As long as the front panel is FLAT you are fine. The top, sides and back do not show in finished doll design.

The skirt

Step 8. Cut an 18" x 5" piece of print material.

Step 9. Turn under very bottom edge, and both side edges to the wrong side of the material and glue for finished edges.







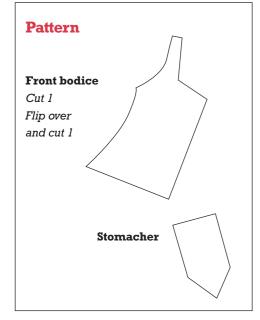


Step 10. Hand pleat the material around the doll, pinning the material into the cosmetic sponges (panniers) to hold in place until satisfied with the pleating design.



You will need

- Porcelain doll's house doll
- Pipe cleaners, florist tape and cotton balls for doll assembly
- Paper to print pattern
- Small sharp scissors
- Straight pins
- Aleene's Original Tacky Glue
- Needle and thread
- Ruler
- Cork or macramé board to drape dress
- Paint for doll's shoes
- Fingernail polish
- Material, laces, silk ribbon and trims
- Tweezers
- Zap-A-Gap Super Glue
- Batiste
- Corsage pin
- Hair spray
- Florist tape for armature
- Doll stand
- Cosmetic sponges
- Index card
- Wire
- Wire cutters
- Flat toothpick
- Pearl Ex gold
- Paint brush
- Feathers and paper for mask
- Misc beading, jewellery findings and chain
- Curved glue dispenser
- Viscose



Step 11. Cut out (2) 6" x 3" rectangles.



Step 12. With right sides of material together, fold in half and glue side seams, leaving top open.



Step 13. Turn the rectangle right side out, and hand pleat (gluing or sewing the folds into place) to form a hip pouf.



Step 14. Glue on each pouf of the material at her hip. Insert a little ball of cotton if needed to puff up the pouf into desired shape.

Step 15. Please remember that it is almost impossible to hand pleat both poufs the same. BUT the decorative sleeves cover most of this piece.

The bodice

Step 16. Cut out a 1 1/2" x 2" rectangle for the back bodice. Turn under bot-

tom edge to wrong side and glue.

Step 17. Put a light layer of Tacky Glue around her torso, back, and sides. Let the glue get tacky.





Step 18. Pull the bodice strip around her back tight.

Step 19. Cut off excess material at the side seam.

Step 20. Cut out (2) front bodice pieces using the pattern provided.

Step 21. Turn the bottom edges under to the wrong side and glue.

Step 22. Glue on each piece as shown in the photo. You may need to cut off the excess shoulder strap material.



Step 23. Cut out a velvet stomacher and glue to the front of her bodice.

Decoration

Step 24. Piece cut the very edge of the lace, and glue it completely around the stomacher.

Step 25. Then glue on two small strips of silk ribbon horizontally.

Step 26. Lastly, glue on 4 of the small bead decorations. Then dot the beads with gold fingernail polish to match her necklace chain.

Assembling the arms

Step 27. Glue a pipe cleaner into the porcelain hand hole, and let dry thoroughly.

Step 28. Insert the doll's arm into the torso and check the length. Stand her in front of a mirror if you need help judging the correct length. This is a great way to see imperfections.

Step 29. Wrap white florist tape around the arm to give a little bulk before adding the sleeve.

Sleeves

Step 30. Cut out (2) 1 1/2" x 2" pieces of printed cotton material.

Step 31. Turn under one of the side edges and glue to the wrong side.

TOPTIP

I took a corsage pin, and lightly teased hair before putting into ponytail. I also sprayed finished wig with hair spray (LIGHT LAYER) to keep the rounded shape.



Step 32. Overlap the edges forming a tube, and gather the top.

Step 33. Put on the doll's arm, and glue the arm into the torso.

Step 34. Gather 6" of lace and glue it around the cuff of sleeve for a pretty edge.



Step 35. Glue on a little red bow for decoration.

Ruff collar

Step 36. Glue and gather a piece of lace around her neckline.



Step 37. I took a brush, and lightly dabbed on PEARL EX gold metallic chalk into the lace to create definition and shading. IF you are at all new - this is not a technique for you.

Step 38. Lastly, I dabbed on gold fingernail polish at the edges of her lace ruff to accent. ONE WRONG MOVE and you will ruin your dress. Again, this technique is not for newbies, or the faint of heart.

Wigging

Step 39. Glue a realistic hairline on the doll's head and lay a strip of viscose on top (nose to neck).

Step 40. Now tie a knot into another section of viscose on both ends.

Step 41. Glue the knot on top of the head from ear to ear.





Step 42. Gently fold the front section of hair over knots and to back of head.

Step 43. Gather up all the hair and tie like a ponytail with thread.

Step 44. Cut off excess hair from the ponytail and put glue on stub.

Step 45. Make a fat curl, and glue over the stub.



Step 46. I added two long face curls, and two curls on each side (that are pulled back into a bun). View photos for reference.



Mask

Step 47. I cut a tiny '8' shape out of paper and glued it to a toothpick.

Step 48. I then painted the entire piece with fingernail polishes to colour and decorate.

Step 49. Next, I glued on tiny scraps of lace around top of mask to decorate. When the glue was dry, I coloured the lace with fingernail polish.



Step 50. To finish, glue on a few curled feathers.

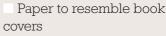
Medina is now ready for the ball, and I hope you find unique ways to create your own special version of this doll tutorial.

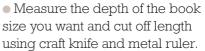
MAKE EASY BOOKS

FROM SALLY VAN DER HEYDEN

You will need

- Small, used vinyl-covered diary
- Craft blade
- Metal ruler
- Gold paint
- Sandpaper
- Glue





- Cut rest into individual books, using first book as a template or just measure for each book.
- Place all books together, and lightly sand to make uniform size.
- Cover each book with chosen "book" paper using glue, and let
- Mask off some lines on spine, and lightly paint gold. Remove masking when dry.





Continue your tour of the enchanted doll's house

Auralea guides us around her vintage style house and reveals the inspiration behind the personal decorating touches that are reflected in every room

BY AURALEA KRIEGER

s we walk up the steps we are greeted by an intricate Victorian wallpaper design and charming old wood floors. These floors were made from pieces of my old window blinds. The little rug was printed on cotton from the computer. There are a few loose strands that I don't dare touch! I could snip them, as I would in any other doll's house, but I don't want things to be too perfect here.

As I mentioned previously in the tour, this doll's house is based on my story "Ophelia Under the Day Moon". I wrote and created the illustrations for this story starting in 2007.

I still need to tie various mini hair ribbons from the banisters. Ophelia has a curious habit of tying her hair ribbons to the rails to remind her of her fabulous dreams. Sometimes when she wakes her dreams seem so real that they can alter her mood all day.

The small shelf in the corner holds tiny treasures and photos.

The first door we come to is very important to Ophelia's story. This is the dreaded attic door. The thought of what may be lurking up there sends shivers down her spine. You see she has been hearing a strange tapping sound coming from above her bedroom all summer and she is certain it's coming from the attic.

I made the door by building a false wall and then building a winding wood staircase that goes up to the attic. The next door is a false door

that I have had in my stash since my very first doll's house at 16 years old! Finally it was put to use as the parents' bedroom door. It is glued to the wall but still looks as if it would open. The exterior window for this fake room has a print of a bedroom inside it with real curtains.

The lovely bench was a wonderful find from a miniature show vendor who sold affordable vintage items.

The next door is the bathroom door. I made that wall so that it can be removed for decorating and photographing the bathroom. The other door is





the door to Ophelia's bedroom, which we shall enter for this issue.

She is a young girl but not yet a woman. Perhaps by exploring her room you will get to know her without reading her stories. This is where I may share more of my "Ophelia Under the Day Moon' story with you so you will understand some of the pieces in this space.

As you may have noticed, purple is Ophelia's favourite colour. I used scrapbook paper on the walls and the curtains are fabric, mailed to me by my mother. The lace along the window was white lace that I painted purple. The rug was another computer mouse pad like the one in the living room. I built the floor around it because it was 1/8" thick.

The bed was dressed with lace and cotton. Her infamous red leather journal lays next to the just as important rabbit mask. The mask is representative of the wonderful paper mâché rabbit mask that Nevel made for her upon their first encounter.

I found this mask the same day I found little Bat (her dog), and the fairy bowl on her bedside table at a miniature show before I had even started to write Ophelia's story. In fact, I had no idea I would make the first art piece

Above: Auralea's mixed media art depicting Ophelia. The art is hand-cut paper layered like a puzzle and then accented with various mediums.

會HOUSE TOUR







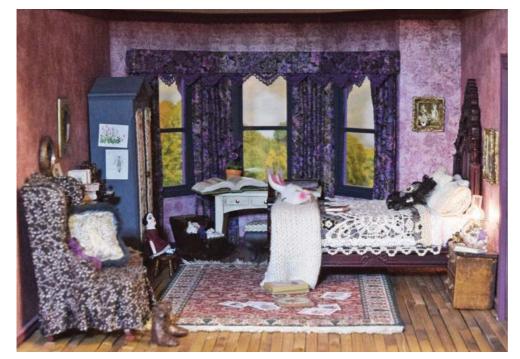


Above: The attic stairs were built in as a false wall insert.

I made the door by building a false wall and then building a winding wood staircase that goes up to the attic.



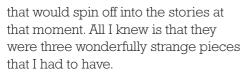
Below: An overview of the bedroom. Below right: The small fairy bowl given to Ophelia by her friend.





會HOUSE TOUR





I wrote them into the story, then four years later built this doll's house. What a pleasure to put them in their places knowing the new meaning behind them.

The bedside table is one of my most favourite scenes in the house. The fairy bowl was given to her by her best friend Penance who claims she can see fairies. She gave Ophelia very detailed instructions on how to care for them. You see the fairies told Penance that they were having a horrible time with the neighbourhood cat and were in fear for their lives. Penance took a few into her own care and gave the rest to Ophelia. Ophelia, not having seen any fairies, trusted her good friend and did as she asked.

The wonderful art above the table was found online and printed very small. It is a painting by Ilya Zomb.

The black cat fortune telling game on the floor was made by LeClosDe-sLavandes. I fell in love with it the mo-

ment I saw it!

The chair holds a handmade pillow and a bear. The shoes were my first attempt at making tiny leather shoes. They fit a Heidi Ott doll but are not very feminine. I decided to display them anyway because they took a lot of patience.

I had ordered the vintage fireplace online and didn't know it would be so small. But after I cleaned it up I was very happy with it. The grill is metal and I think it is one of those vintage pieces that help make this feel more like an antique doll's house.

The lovely vintage style piece hanging over the mantle is by Dominique Autin. I purchased this during my first trip to Chicago while at The Miniature Show. I made all of the books on the mantle as well as the ones on the floor.

The paintings hanging on the wardrobe are Ophelia's artwork and sketches. She has a passion for insects and loves to study their behaviours. Her dream is to one day become a famous entomologist and be able to paint all of her discoveries for future studies. Beetles are positively her favourite subject!





Above: The small rabbit mask that inspired part of Ophelia's story.

The wardrobe was refurbished by printing butterflies on cotton with an ink jet printer and gluing it over some padding then framing it with rope.

Making the art table was a pleasure. Ophelia has a giant book on insects that she can barely lift so it stays on her art table and is used for reference. The paints are a print out put into a box and then painted to look shiny. The little stool was a vintage pill box I found at an antique shop. I covered the lid to look like a cushion and it was perfect!

The photo on the back wall is a bunny and fox in Victorian clothing. Quirky art rings my bell and is a great fit for this little doll's house.

In the next issue we will finish up this doll's house tour with the eerie attic!



MARVELLOUS MAC

Moi Ali marks the recent 150th anniversary of the birth of Charles Rennie Mackintosh by showcasing two miniature homages to Scotland's most celebrated architect

BY MOI ALI. PHOTOGRAPHY BY MURIEL AND DAVID WATSON

sk anyone in Scotland to name a famous architect and everyone will chant "Charles Rennie Mackintosh''! He invented Scotland's unique take on Art Nouveau. Mackintosh was also a designer and artist who had a big influence on European design. He even designed distinctive furniture that has stood the test of time. Many of his unique furniture pieces are still in production today.

Back in 2000, British company Dolls House Emporium (DHE) created an unusual twelfth scale doll's house kit as a tribute to Mackintosh. There is a fully built version of that house in the collection of the celebrated Victoria and Albert Museum (V&A) in London. It forms part of their extensive collection of doll's houses at the Bethnal Green Museum of Childhood, also in London.

The DHE house is not actually a copy of a real Mackintosh design. Instead, it was intended to capture the essence of the architect's work. Sadly that kit - and DHE's fantastic range of complementing Mackintosh furniture – is now discontinued.

Fortunately second-hand Mackintosh doll's houses can very occasionally be found on online auction sites. I was lucky enough to secure one recently. As I researched it on the internet, I discovered another DHE Mackintosh doll's house on a miniatures blog. Like mine, it had been purchased second-hand on Gumtree, a website for selling anything and everything. Just like me, the owner of that one, Muriel Watson, had coveted it for years. The coincidences did not stop there! Muriel also lived in Scotland.

We already had so much in common! It turns out that retired Muriel, who lives in Aberdeen in the north east of Scotland, is the lucky owner of not one, but two magnificent Charles Rennie Mackintosh (CRM) houses.

However, her DHE Mackintosh house was anything but magnificent when Muriel purchased it. The previous owner was a teenage girl who was seriously into shocking pink! To my knowledge, Charles Rennie Mackintosh never designed houses in Barbie pink! It took Muriel four coats of paint to purge the pink. Bizarrely, one of the rooms in the doll's house sported Manchester United wallpaper - and a snooker table! Another, somewhat inappropriately for a young girl, had Playboy wallpaper.

Muriel set about some serious



JTOSH HOUSES





renovation. This involved laying nearly 2,400 individual roof tiles; stripping the wall and floor papers within; fixing the lighting, much of which was held together with sellotape; and repairing damage to some of the decorative details.

I asked Muriel about her interest in miniatures: "I have been into miniatures since the late 1970s, but at that time I was working hard and did

not have a lot of time to spend making minis. By the time I finally saved enough to buy the Mackintosh house I had coveted, I was sad to discover that it had been discontinued by DHE. It was near-impossible to buy a second-hand one without taking out a mortgage! They were rare and pricey! Then one day I found an advert on Gumtree and went to see the house."

Despite its obvious flaws, and the

All these rooms are from the twelfth scale doll's house.

fact that structurally the house was not in a good state, Muriel went ahead with the purchase. "You might think I was mad, but the doll's house had all of the original lights, which are really difficult to acquire, so I bought it. The house is huge, but I managed to transport it home in the back of my car. I

PEFATURE







Above: The 1/24th scale master bedroom with an Art Deco fireplace.

Left: The 1/24th scale dining room with stylish furnishings.

Above: Blue and white stripes in the 1/24th scale child's bedroom.

Above right: The 1/24th scale music room has clean lines and simple black furnishings.

find all of the furniture. Meantime, I read all I could about CRM style and decoration."

Muriel continued: "For all my mini houses I like to put in lots of details. For example, I don't just buy a table; I insist on adding a tea service, wine glasses or books to bring the table to life! My rooms are packed full of the items that a full-size room would have. Mackintosh foresaw the Art Deco style, with his geometric motifs. I have therefore added a few Art Deco touches, such as using Art Deco style earrings from my late mother-in-law, which make perfect wall ornaments."

As a Mackintosh enthusiast, Muriel also has a 1/24th scale CRM house. which was a special commission from Toptoise, Scottish makers based in Selkirk near the English border. Abbotsford Lodge is a replica of an actual house in Galashiels in the Scottish Borders, and the inside is recreated in Mackintosh style. Muriel asked Chris

stripped it all down and redecorated it, as well as searching the internet to find someone to make me grey slatelike tiles for the roof."

As a stickler for detail, Muriel researched Mackintosh by visiting Hill House in Helensburgh, one of his most famous commissions, as well as the Hunterian Museum in Glasgow and House for an Art Lover – all sources of authentic CRM detail. She told me: "I travelled to Glasgow, as it has lots of Mackintosh architecture, including the beautiful Willow Tearooms, which was

also an inspiration for me. From then on, I was hooked on Mackintosh-style minis."

The next challenge was furnishing it. "I searched and searched, as Dolls House Emporium didn't have any stock left. I trawled auction sites, and managed to pick up one or two bits of furniture whenever we went on holiday. I also emailed lots of miniature shops to ask if they had any of the furniture. I was very lucky to find some at a lovely shop in Inverness, which is not so very far away. It took ages to

會FEATURE





Rouche from Toptoise to install CRM fireplaces when he was making the house, and he also managed to make the turret removable so that she could include even more CRM furniture!

The blue bedroom in that house is based on a house Mackintosh designed in England, 78 Derngate in Northampton. "I really loved the design," said Muriel, "It was impossible to find 1/24th scale CRM furniture so I commissioned the beds, cupboard and footstool from a wonderful miniaturist in Colorado whom I became friendly with when she saw my video on the large CRM house. Her husband made most of the 1/24th scale CRM furniture for me. He even went so far as to make a curved cabinet for the tower room."

Muriel had added archetypal Mackintosh details throughout her CRM houses. "For example," she told me, "I added a Glasgow rose tiny metal detail to the large bed in the big house. I also made a Scottish kilt for the bedroom, and placed clothing inside the wardrobes. Mackintosh often included pink glass details on his doors to add extra interest. I have put tiny pink hearts on some of the doors in my little houses as an attribute to him."

So addicted to CRM style is Muriel that she has just bought a 1/48th scale

CRM doll's house made by Toptoise. Again it's an actual house just outside Inverness, in the north of Scotland, called The Artist's Studio. Furnishing that was very challenging: "It was very difficult to source the furniture for the twelfth scale house, almost impossible for the 1/24th...and the 1/48th scale was a different universe altogether! I eventually found some wonderful makers such as Jane Harrop, who now does CRM kits. I got some 1/48th scale easels for the studio from her. I have also used 3D printed furniture, which can have amazing detail when painted in CRM style."

Who was Mackintosh?

Born in Glasgow on 7 June 1868, Mackintosh came to be regarded as one of the most creative figures of the 20th century and a leading figure in both the Scottish Arts and Crafts Movement and European Art Nouveau. His work can be seen in his home city, in the buildings and interiors, and in the city's museum collections.



Jane Harrop

call: +44 (0)1625 873117

email: janeharrop148@outlook.com

web: https://janeharrop.co.uk

Get the look!

Create a miniature homage to Mackintosh! Simply make a rectangular room box, then give it an authentic Mackintosh feel by introducing some of his key design elements:

- Flat white walls with no cornicing or dado
- Simple black ebonised furniture
- Purple and green accent colours
- Minimalist interiors, no clutter
- The 'Glasgow rose' motif on walls, fabrics and furniture

- Stencilled furniture, textiles, and walls
- Stained glass inserts in furniture, doors, and lighting
- Black metalwork inside and out
- Elongated forms such as very high backed chairs
- Geometric forms such as straight lines, grids, and ladderback motifs
- Harmonious schemes in which furniture, lighting, and textiles coordinate

Quick and easy



You will need

- Set of drawers of any size
- Tiny shells. Mine were from Bali, but can be bought online or gathered on many beaches
- Tiny pieces of gem stones. These were from a seaside gift
- Tiny accessories, dried seaweed, bones, dolls, or anything that fits.
- Black card
- Scissors
- Glue



Dress up those drawers in curio cabinet style

BY SANDRA HARDING

think it rather sad to have empty drawers in my doll's house when I could have little accessories that would add interest.

Visitors are always fascinated when they open a drawer or box to find things in them, even though they do look at me rather strangely. Here's how to make a set of drawers into a fascinating curio cabinet, quick and easy style.

- Cut black card to fit each drawer.
- Making sure the drawer can still close, glue shells or any tiny items

in a nice pattern on the card and let dry. Glue it in the drawer, or put in with tacky wax in case you want to change things.

• I carried on the theme in the top cupboard, which sits on the wall above the drawers. There is a piece of coral in a glass dome. more shells, a ship and a Buddha, because he fitted. There are stamps in the stamp box, but no drink in the decanters. Even I draw a line somewhere.



















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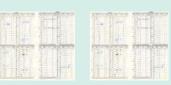


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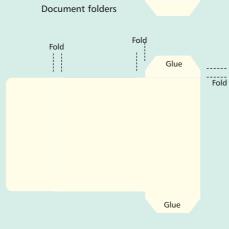


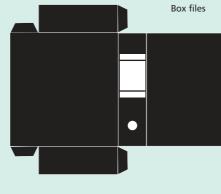


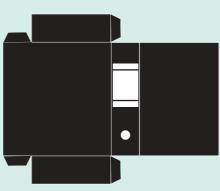


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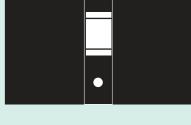


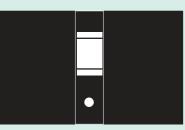






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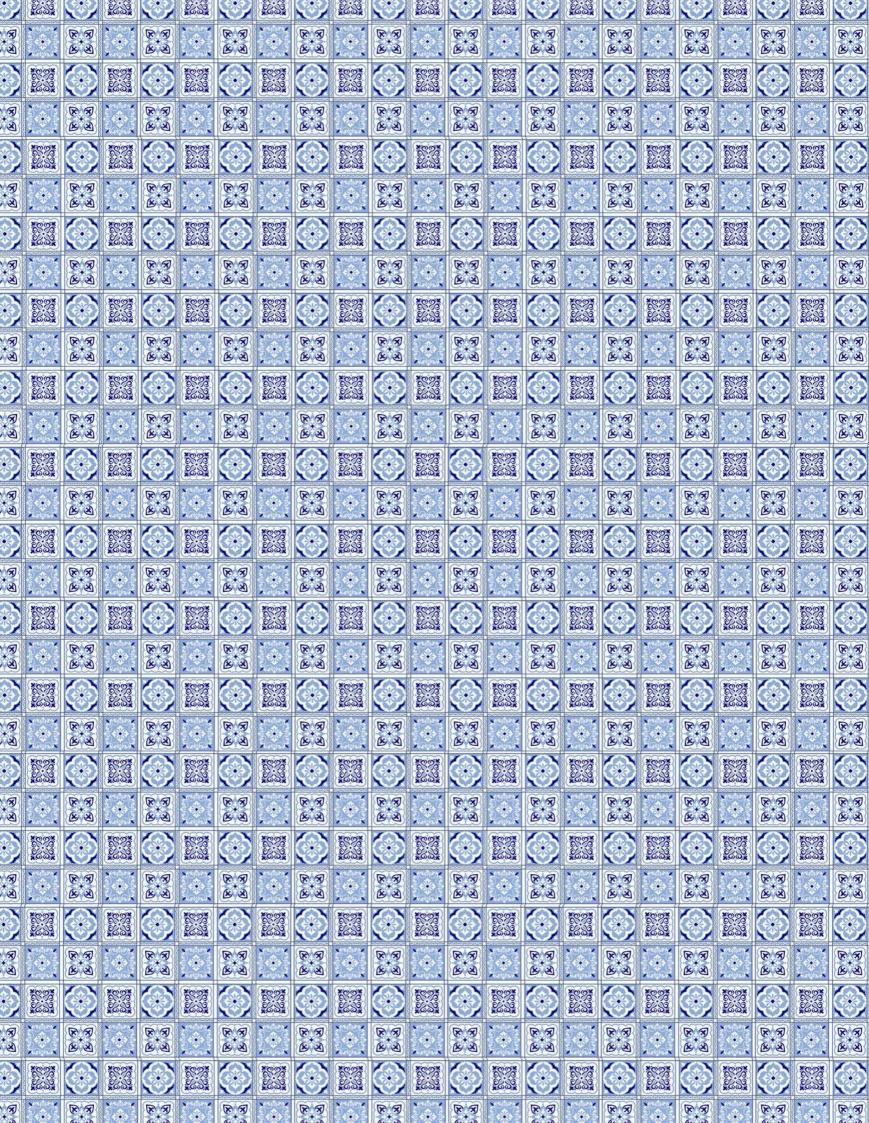












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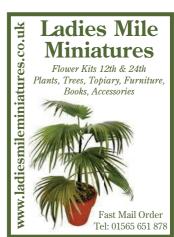
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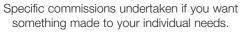


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WE TALK TO READER JAN STONE ABOUT HER LIFE IN THE HOBBY

Hi Jan, what's your latest project? I

bought a cardboard keepsake box with two identical drawers and I'm planning to upend it and turn the drawers into looking-glass rooms. They will mirror each other, but there will be subtle differences. Not sure of the details yet; I'm still at the staring-endlessly-into-the rooms-and-waiting-for-inspiration-tostrike stage.

Do you have houses? I live in a tiny cottage, with no space for doll's houses, so I make room boxes and figures and sell everything I can't keep on craft stalls or in my Etsy shop. I adore steampunk, based in Victorian or Edwardian times. but with a futuristic twist. You can let your imagination run riot and the costumes and gizmos lend themselves to my crazy kind of upcycling.

What do you make? I buy cheap, massproduced poseable dolls and give them a total makeover - new wigs, faces and properly hand-stitched costumes. They usually have tiny goggles and top hats and a few gadgets, too. Everything else is made from scratch, using junk shop finds and all manner of everyday objects.

When did your mini madness start?

A few years ago my son lost his job and decided to make room boxes to sell. He asked if I'd make figures to inhabit them. Then he got a new job so he had to stop. By then, though, I'd got the bug and was designing rooms and creating gadgets to go in them. I started hanging around



pieces of packaging. It wasn't long before it got totally out of hand.

charity shops and saving interesting

What other hobbies have you tried?

Almost anything involving textiles. I learned to knit, sew and cut patterns from my grandmother.



What do you do when you're not in mini mode? Gardening is my other great love. My daughter has just bought a house with a very overgrown garden and I'm having a wonderful time rediscovering hidden treasures and taming it. I also write a blog, with tales of my mini characters, at www.steampunkshrunk.com.



What's been your most outrageous purchase? At an antiques centre I noticed a sign which said 'Dolls House Boot Sale'. There was a huge shelf filled with the most beautiful, battered and broken doll's house furniture – I filled a couple of carrier bags with all manner of treasures. As I've said, I adore upcy-

cling, so finding a new use for each of

these pieces is giving me hours of fun.



What do you love about our hobby?

I watch my grandchildren playing with their miniature toys and realise I've never grown up. I still feel the excitement I felt as a little girl as I put the finishing touches to a tiny costume or room box. I also love creating intricate little pieces from what others would see as junk. I can't think of any other hobby that gives so much variety, creativity and fun.

"Finding a new use for each of these pieces is giving me hours of fun"



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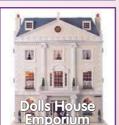


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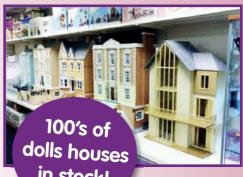






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