

# LEGEND LIFE

## *Inside this issue*

Firstly let us wish all our collectors' a very happy 1996 and hope you enjoy the second issue of Legend Life.

In this issue we tell you the shocking news of copiers operating boldly in the UK and the sad omission of Legend from the Millers Collectors; Guides and what you can do to help raise Legend's profile.

Also we conclude the story of Pocahontas - the American Indian Princess and latest Walt Disney character, now available to buy from Legend. And included with this newsletter the results of the cataloguing of all the old designs through Legend's long history, and details of members who want to swap and correspond with other members.

Please read on and enjoy...

## Concrete Copiers

This shocking tale all began with a lady telephoning the Legend office out of the blue. She wanted to buy our bird range but in concrete. Confused, we asked her why, since we only make the birds in gypsum and then hand paint them. It turns out that she had seen them in all sorts of outlets in and around Nottingham and Derby made in concrete with our Company name on them.

More confused than ever, we thought "What is going on?" and we decided to investigate. On visiting many outlets we were horrified to discover copies of our birds as the lady had told us. Obviously we were

very angry and upset. The Legend birds have been chosen because of the painstaking attention to detail, these unscrupulous copiers are cashing in on our expertise, hard work and commitment.

Since then we have been trying to assess the size of the problem and it is proving to be no mean feat. There appears to be more than one copier and they all seem to be buying moulds from somewhere and are all over the country. Of course we are now taking steps to sort out these people using legal methods and letting the outlets concerned know that they are selling copies of our Company's products which is an infringement of the copyrights.

It has proved very difficult to try and find these people as they operate in underhand ways, such as not leaving an address with the outlet, we think they are most likely making them in a garden shed or similar and taking them around in the back of an estate car or small van.

We thought that as these copiers are all over the country we would enlist the help of our Collectors' Club Members. So that those of you who live in the UK can keep your eyes open and if you see any birds with or without our name on them in any outlets we would be grateful if you would let us know. We are offering a reward for information leading to a copier, this will be a brand new wall mask of Pocahontas completely free. The bird range is pictured in the main catalogue, remember they aren't painted but just made in concrete and could be grey, buff or sandy, sometimes they have the birds name on and sometimes they even have Legend Products Artware and the year of copyright.

We will be suing these people, copyright on all designs has been signed over to the Directors David and Sheila and lasts for 50 years after their deaths, as they are both very much alive these copiers are committing fraud.

## Miller's Guide Missing Legend

Legend have recently written to Miller's Antiques Guides, as apparently their latest edition of the collectables book has a section on Lilliput Lane, Bossans and Naturecraft but not one mention of Legend at all. This seems very strange as surely with Legend history we must overqualify to be included.

Naturally we feel quite affronted at the omission and thought it would be a good idea for Legend collectors to write to Millers to tell them of their collections and a little history. This should make them take notice and will also make the models you own more desirable and therefore more valuable if included in the next issue of the Guide. Please help us with this, we're sure you agree that we shouldn't be left out.

## Research Results

Included with this newsletter is a full listing of all the Wall Masks Legend has ever produced. This will prove invaluable to all Collectors and is the result of months of painstaking research. All the other varied products are being catalogued and when complete Collectors will receive this listing as well.

## Pocahontas

The latest Legend Wall Mask, Pocahontas is now available to buy and a photograph is included with this newsletter.

The Legend sculptor worked from a 17th Century engraving to try to re-create the face of Pocahontas. Unfortunately the researchers were unable to find any illustrations of her in her native Indian dress. The engraving shows her dressed in the style of the English Court of James

the First. However we magnified her features and dressed her in true Powhatan style using buckskin, shells, beads and feathers. We are rather proud of the result.

The story of Pocahontas has provoked controversy for centuries. In the last 400 years she has been the subject of speculation, novels, plays, poems and children's books. The mix of myth and legend is part of what makes the Pocahontas story as fabulous as any of the great New World adventure tales. Her story has been written by the likes of Ben Johnson, Thackeray, Noah Webster, Hart Crane, Carl Sandburg, Garnett and numerous more. As a symbol she has been used to sell everything and anything.

The Disney movie has Captain Smith sounding like Mel Gibson and looking too hunky to be true and Pocahontas as a Naomi Campbell beauty in a simple story of paleface meets Indian and Indian shows him the path of righteousness. But it is good clean light entertainment.

In reality when Mr and Mrs John Rolfe arrived in England, lady Rebecca (Pocahontas) was a huge hit with everyone. No less than 18 Inns in London were named Indian Queen after her. Her mysterious beauty and her conversion to Christianity made her the talk of the country and she met James 1st's wife Queen Anne and was accepted at court.

Sadly Pocahontas died of smallpox whilst here in England and is supposed to be buried at St George's Church, Gravesend, where a bronze statue was erected in her memory.

We hope you like our version of her, we expect a good demand for the model, so place your order right away.

## Club News

The following members have asked to have their details printed in Legend Life, they are both interested in swaps and hearing from other collectors. They would love to hear from you, please write to them at the following addresses:-

Mr Philip Daufel  
59 Calder Avenue  
Brookmans Park  
Nr Hatfield  
Hertfordshire  
A19 7AJ  
UK

Mr Brian Parker  
53 Riverdale Road  
Plumstead  
London  
SE18 1PD  
UK

### *The Next Issue...*

Legend would welcome any articles or suggestions for the next issue of Legend Life, if you have an interesting Legend story to tell or perhaps you want to swap/sell items from your collection please send your contributions to:-

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