

LEGEND

Inside this issue

Welcome to the latest issue of Legend Life.

In this colour issue we conclude the concrete copiers story - which has a happy ending for Legend and marks our entry into a new and exciting market.

Also we have news from one of the dedicated members of the Collectors' Club - Martin Clark, he has a fascinating collection with lots of information on old pieces. We give you a list of retiring pieces from the Legend range and show some old Legends to help you put faces to the names in the History Listing.

But please read on and enjoy the first article on the superb new wall mask shortly to join the collection...

Cleopatra

The new exquisite wall mask from Legend is well under way and should be available to buy in September 1996.

We have had many suggestions for new masks from many collectors. We gave them all a lot of thought but finally decided to sculpt 'Cleopatra'. This decision was reached for many reasons; but mainly because we have always been told that we don't have enough females in the collection which is true, and because of the interest surrounding all things Egyptian. As a great Queen of Egypt she was surrounded by pomp, circumstance and mystery and makes her a fascinating piece to add to the collection. All in all we couldn't resist her.

The mask has been sculpted by Alice Brindley who has historically worked for Bosson's for many years. She approached us earlier this year wanting to work with us at Legend and we are delighted to do so. We are extremely happy with the result of our combined endeavours.



Cleopatra is shown above at the clay stage.

Cleopatra	68 - 30 BC
Queen of Egypt	51 - 48 BC
and	47 - 30 BC

When the Roman general Julius Caesar arrived in Egypt he restored Cleopatra to the throne from which she had been ousted. Cleopatra and Caesar became lovers and she went with him to Rome. After Caesar's assassination in 44 BC she returned home to Alexandria and resumed her position as the Queen of Egypt.

Rome at this time was ruled for brief periods by rival factions. After the death of Caesar Rome lived through the turmoil of another struggle for power. This time the combatants were the senate and two of Caesar's heirs. One was Octavian, his grandnephew and legal heir, the other was Mark Antony, Caesar's consul. Despite Octavian's right to Caesar's papers, Antony seized them and claimed his mantle of authority. The Senate threw his support behind Octavian, who seemed more tractable. This mildness, however, was a pose.

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Naming Old Legends

We are picturing in this issue some of the wall masks including sizes to help you to put faces to those names in your lists.



William the Conqueror
6 inch
1955 - 1965
Sc. F Garbutt



Group Eastern Hawks
1973
Sc. F Wright



Walter Raleigh Turkish Water Carrier
6 inch
1955 - 1965
Sc. F Garbutt



Group Romany Rogue Rajah 8 inch
1955 - 1965
Sc. F Garbutt



Sheik Zulu
8 inch
Sc. F Garbutt



Jingles Sheik
1967 1955 - 1965
Sc. F Garbutt



Group Assyrian Warrior
1955 - 1965
Sc. D Ratcliffe



6 inch 1st Brigand
Sc. F Garbutt

Retirement

The following pieces are all due to be retired from the Legend range:-

Masks

Mexican
Gypsy
Dutchman
Alpine Guide
Artful Dodger
Fagin
Bill Sykes
Mr Bumbles
Mr Pickwick
Sairy Gamp
Tinker
Jenny Jones

Plaques

Punting
Thistles
Courtyard
Cobble Coome

Club News

Mr J Hitchin would love to hear from any other collectors, his address is:-

80 Cantrell Road
Bulwell
Nottingham
NG6 9HJ
Phone/Fax 0115 975 4594

Mr Martin A Clark who sent the following letter and photograph would also like to hear from other collectors, his address is:-

16a Dowanside Road
Dowanhill
Glasgow
G12 9DA



9.7.96

Dear Legend Life

Here is a photograph of 3 early Legend dogs, Corgi, Cocker Spaniel and Labrador. All are 5" in length. I also have a Grey Poodle 6" in length. I would be interested to know if anyone has found any other breeds. So I know what I have to look out for!

Also a photograph of 5" head mask 'Persian'. Does anyone have the 'Turk', 'Sikh' or 'Bedouin'?

I would be interested to see photos of other masks or collections owned by other collectors published in 'Legend Life' in the future.

Yours sincerely

Martin A Clark

Profile

Martin has a huge collection of Legend sculptures and adds to his collection every week. He frequently manages to unearth early Legends and has established a grapevine of contacts who keep a look out for him and offer him pieces from time to time.

Of course some are so old that they are very scarce. They also turn up in the oddest of places, for instance Martin was offered a piece that was covered in nicotine deposit and he suspected that it had been on a pub wall for many years.

Martin frequently sends in to Legend very good photographs of his finds so that they can be dated and named. Martin also helped us out with the suggestion and design of the new mask 'Cleopatra' and supplied us with a wonderful drawing of how he thought she should be designed and we liked the idea so much that we decided to use it.

Martin works in Costume design for the BBC in London and on location in different parts of the country. He also works in the film making industry.



Concrete Conclusion

We thought you might like to hear the conclusion of the Stone Bird copiers story. It was very exciting for us.

We had been in contact with Cheshire Trading Standards and also with the Staffordshire C.I.D.. After some discussion it was decided that the manufacturing base which had been by now discovered should be raided and all the copies, moulds and records of the copiers' illegal trade confiscated.

Therefore on the morning of the 7th May 1996 three C.I.D. officers and two trading standards officers entered the premises at 7:00am. The copiers were operating from their home, which was a "small holding" type of property set behind high hedges and large gates complete with spikes. The property had many outbuildings of various sorts.

Using a search warrant the house and outbuildings were examined. The trading standards officers filled to capacity a long wheel base two ton van with hundreds of stone bird copies. They also seized many bags of moulds and even found a set of our original hand painted birds. These showed clear evidence of the Legend name, copyright emblem and sculptor's signature which had been gouged out and re-filled to blank out the area. Trading Standards also took away all their invoices, orders and suppliers records.

So we were very pleased and relieved that they had been stopped in their tracks right in the middle of supplying many new customers. It was just incredible that they had the cheek to supply so many tourist attractions and prestigious garden centres even in nearby areas to our location here in Macclesfield.

In conclusion we have now contacted many of the outlets concerned and have taken over their trade and are making garden stoneware ourselves.

Cleopatra

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Actually Octavian wanted the Consulship, and when the senate refused to give it to him, he occupied the city with his army and forced his election to office. He then formed an alliance with Antony and Lepidus who was one of Caesar's lieutenants. These three then divided and ruled the Empire jointly. They decided to punish the murders of Caesar and their own enemies, and began making deals and trading friends and relations for gain.

Not unexpectedly, this uneasy coalition soon began to turn in on itself.

Antony, completely captivated by the lovely Cleopatra rejected his legal wife, Octavian's sister and married Cleopatra. Octavian then turned against him. In 32BC Octavian produced a document that he claimed was Antony's will and read it to the senate: it bequeathed all of Rome's Eastern territories to Cleopatra. The angry Senate promptly gave Octavian permission to annul Antony's powers and declared war on Cleopatra.

Next year at the Naval battle of Actium, the Roman fleet defeated the Egyptians off the coast of Greece and Cleopatra and Antony fled back to Egypt with Cleopatra's 60 ships.

There in despair they killed themselves.

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.

We would also welcome your ideas and suggestions for new masks.

Please send your contributions to:-

Legend Life Editor
Legend Lane Collectors' Club
Albion Mill
London Road
Macclesfield
Cheshire
SK11 7SQ
United Kingdom