

W.A.D.D.H.A.M.S

Wolverhampton & District Dolls House and Miniature Society

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Special points of interest:

- *MGM Buxton Fair, Sunday 25 June. Palace Hotel, Buxton, Derbyshire. 100% Hand Made Miniatures*
- *MGM Sutton Coldfield Fair, Sunday 16 July. Town Hall, Sutton Coldfield. 100% Hand Made Miniatures*

Roll On The Summer!

At last, it looks like the weather is being nice to us and that summer is finally here. A pretty busy time for both us and our dolls! There are many pretty flowers to be kept nice, spring cleaning to be done and of course, who could forget the lovely June Weddings!

This month concentrates on this wonderful and creative feature of June.

There is so much involved in a wedding and perhaps some of us have already dabbled in wedding style designs in their miniatures. There is of course the lovely wedding dress but don't forget more lovely flowers, a scrumptious cake and all those gifts! See pages 2 and 3 for more information.

I hope some of you have had chance to have a look at the WADDHAMS website. I would like to know what you think. We have had some interesting response already from people outside the club! I had



an email from three different people to say they had discovered the website and had created a link on their website so anyone can come and have a look. This will get us some wider coverage. The website Buttercup Miniatures has mentioned us, Hazel Dowd, the lady who brings us Minis 4 All has also placed a link on all three of her websites. News travels fast!

Hazel also sent me details of her weekend workshops in February next year, I have included details on page 2.

Michelle

WADDHAMS Meeting—May



May meeting was all about renewing subscriptions and lots of you had your cash ready! Please could I have anybody else's renewals as soon as possible, I will come around with membership forms again this month.

Membership Cards have been produced for those who were here last month—don't forget these can be produced for discounts from Little Treasures on the

Bridgnorth Road and Double M Showrooms on the Bilston Road, both in Wolverhampton. If you lose or misplace your card at any time, let me know and I can issue a copy.

To confirm also that we are planning this year's Fair for the 12th November but are still trying to work out the fees as the hire of the room charges have increased over 4 times! The committee will discuss this month.

Finally, keep an eye on our website if you can, I have added a new page titled Club News and any new developments or forthcoming events for the club will appear on here.

Minis 4 All—Weekend Workshops

Hazel Dowd from Minis 4 All is holding another workshop weekend next February following the success of this year's event. The event was covered in this month's Dolls House and Miniature Scene, had 104 attendees and included demonstrations by Angie Scarr among around 16 others and each had a sales table along with others such as Tee Pee. The weekend in-

cluded competitions, raffles and prizes. What a great way to spend a weekend!

Next year's event is penciled in for 16-18th February 2007 at the Quality Hotel, Walsall. Cost is around £135 per person for two nights accommodation and all meals. Workshops are extra so you can tailor the ones to suit you.

Full details and booking information can be found on Hazel's website, www.minis4all.com. While you are there, check out the link to WADDHAMS under Forums—Clubs. We have been viewed 25 times last I looked!

June Weddings....Flowers



Flowers have been used in weddings as a way of showing love and well wishes. The earliest recorded use of flowers at weddings dates back to the Ancient Greeks, flowers and plants were used were used to make a crown for the bride to wear and were considered a gift of nature. Originally, the

bride's bouquet was made from herbs and garlic thought to have magical powers to ward off evil. Different herbs had different meanings; sage meant wisdom while Dill would indicate lust! Still today, the flowers we use in bouquets have different meanings and some are quite

unfitting. The popular carnation means innocence (white) and Chrysanthemum means love and truth but a Marigold represents jealousy and Evening Primrose indicates inconsistency. So choose your flowers carefully!

Weddings Through the Ages

Medieval Weddings

During Medieval times, laws regarding marriage changed and women were no longer allowed to be bartered, sold or exchanged for goods of any kind. If a couple wanted to get married, a priestly blessing was required first. It was also illegal for secret wedding ceremonies to be held. A wedding was arranged in many cases, and contracts were even drawn up listing the terms and rights of all parties involved. Weddings among royalty and aristocracy were often arranged when the bride and groom were only ten or twelve years old. These weddings were more about property and inheritance than love.

Victorian Weddings

As soon as a woman finished school (around the age of seventeen or eighteen), she would “come out” or make her debut. This was a very important and exciting time as she had been groomed for marriage all of her life. New clothes and accessories would be purchased so she would look her best and impress any potential suitors.

Men, of course, viewed courtship as more business than pleasure. Land, money, and the family business were all carefully researched since what belonged to the woman would be turned over to the man upon marrying. The upper classes would usually meet at social engagements such as parties. The lower classes would meet through church and church sponsored functions.

If a couple enjoyed each other’s company and shared a similar lifestyle and social standing they might become engaged. Love was generally not an issue as marriage was still considered a business transaction. Since women were allowed a certain amount of independence in choosing their suitors, they did at least have some say in the matter and in many cases didn’t marry unless they were a little fond of each other

Tudor Weddings

Very few men or women of nobility were allowed to choose their partner. Marriages were arranged for political, riches, land or status reasons. The idea of marrying for love was bizarre and foolish.

There was no legal age for marriage and the usual age was around 14. As women were only expected to live until 30, this was classed as middle age!

The Tudor concept of marriage fit into what they believed was the divine order. God ruled the universe, the King ruled the country, and a husband ruled his family.

Elizabethan Weddings

During Elizabethan times, weddings began to more represent weddings we attend today. At an Elizabethan wedding ceremony one could expect to see bridesmaids, wedding rings, and the exchange of wedding vows. Women were even beginning to carry herbs or flowers.

While these were happy, fairy tale occasions, marriages were still mostly arranged. Even though the Happy Couple often didn’t meet until their wedding day, the well-to-do groom was often presented with a picture of his betrothed beforehand so he would know what she looked like.



Tudor

The Greeks invented the Wedding Cake by breaking one over the Bride’s head and eating the crumbs for good luck!

The Dress...

Queen Victoria was the first person to popularise the white wedding dress. In 1840 she married Prince Albert in white where the usual colour for the day was blue symbolising purity. (Something blue...) White at this time symbolised wealth. Soon after, women all over Europe and America began to wear glamorous white dresses as a representation of their social status.

During World War II, women got married in their Sunday best as many felt it was inappropriate to be so lavish.

Nowadays, brides choose a wide range of colours and designs although green (considered the Fairies colour) or pink (“Marry in Pink and your fortunes will sink”) are frowned upon. It is considered bad luck to get married in a black dress.



Queen Victoria



WOLVERHAMPTON &
DISTRICT DOLLS HOUSE
AND MINIATURE SOCIETY

WADDHAMS meet on the first Wednesday of every month at:
United Reform Church
Penn Road
Wolverhampton
West Midlands

From 7.30pm–9.30pm
All visitors welcome

Contact Us:

Email: info@waddhams.co.uk

Web: www.waddhams.co.uk

Chair Person:

Kevin McGuire—0787 0787838

Secretary/Treasurer:

Michelle Whitby—0770 3058756

Weddings—Fun Facts....

- In the Sixteenth century, most weddings took place in June because they had their annual bath in May and were still smelling pretty good in June. Not completely though as they still had to carry flowers to mask the odour!
 - The wedding ring is worn on the third finger because it was believed the vein in this finger ran straight to the heart
 - February 10th is World Marriage Day
 - The word honeymoon came from the ancient tradition of the bride's father supplying his new son-in-law with all the "Mead" he could drink in the first month. As Mead was made from honey and the calendar at that time was lunar, the word honeymoon was used to represent this period.
 - Being carried over the threshold came from the belief that new married couples were susceptible to evil spirits. The groom would carry the bride to protect her from the "Ground Monster"
 - Ministers are forbidden to carry out a marriage ceremony if either the bride or groom are drunk
- Married when the year is new, he'll be loving, kind & true,
When February birds do mate, You wed nor dread your fate.
If you wed when March winds blow, joy and sorrow both you'll know.
Marry in April when you can, Joy for Maiden & for Man.
Marry in the month of May, and you'll surely rue the day.
Marry when June roses grow, over land and sea you'll go.
Those who in July do wed, must labour for their daily bread.
Whoever wed in August be, many a change is sure to see
Marry in September's shrine, your living will be rich and fine.
If in October you do marry, love will come but riches tarry.
If you wed in bleak November, only joys will come, remember.
When December snows fall fast, marry and true love will last.
- Married in White, you have chosen right
Married in Grey, you will go far away,
Married in Black, you will wish yourself back,
Married in Red, you will wish yourself dead,
Married in Green, ashamed to be seen,
Married in Blue, you will always be true,
Married in Pearl, you will live in a whirl,
Married in Yellow, ashamed of your fellow,
Married in Brown, you will live in the town,
Married in Pink, you spirit will sink.