



MINIATURE BOOK SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

NO. 93 - July 2013

INCORPORATING THE MINIATURE BOOK NEWS

New to Miniature Book Publishing?
Take a look at Australian book artist, Joy Bathie and
her first miniature medieval book, *Quotes for Life*.

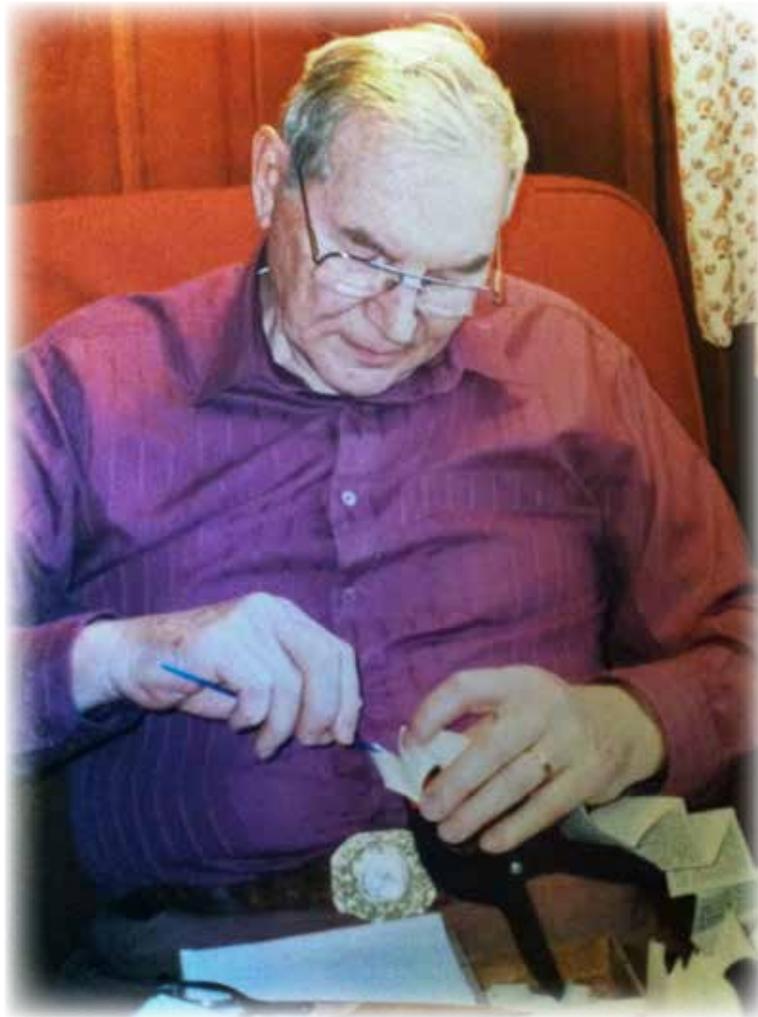


Read Joy's article about her journey into the world
of miniature book-making on page 6.

A Giant in the Small World of Miniature Books

Robert E. Massman

1924 - 2013



Founding Father and Fifth President
of the Miniature Book Society

miniature book publisher, collector, lecturer, author, friend to all

Please read tributes to Bob Massman on pages 8 and 9.

President's Message (Summer 2013)



Mark Palkovic

I am very excited about our 31st Grand Conclave scheduled for August 9-11 in beautiful Vancouver, British Columbia! Our host this year is Jan Kellett, assisted by Jim Brogan; they have planned a remarkable program for us. The Conclave hotel is the beautiful Holiday Inn on West Broadway, close to transportation connections. Master printmaker Peter Braune will give a presentation and workshop as part of the Conclave. There will be a Treasure Trail on Granville Island to explore the marvelous variety of artists' studios and shops there. On Saturday evening we will have our auction and dessert buffet.

The Book Fair will take place on Sunday, followed by the Awards Banquet in the evening. On Monday, there will be an optional city tour of Vancouver, which will include Gastown, Chinatown, Vancouver Harbor and the Olympic Cauldron (from the 2010 Winter Olympics), Stanley Park and English Bay. Vancouver is a fascinating city, one which Conclave attendees will not soon forget! Included in the optional tour are the Vancouver Art Gallery and the impressive Vancouver Public Library.

The members of the Awards Committee have been named: Cherry Williams (chair), Joan Boring, Melinda Brown and Julian Edison. Tony Firman has been hard at work assembling the entries and preparing the catalog for the annual MBS exhibition/competition, along with the assistance of Barb and Ray Williamson. The judges will render their decisions soon; the award-winning books will be announced at the Conclave in Vancouver. A debt of gratitude is owed to these members who have so ably agreed to serve the MBS.

Included with this issue of the MBS Newsletter is a ballot for you to cast your vote for the members of the Board of Governors for 2014. The new members of the board for 2014 will be announced at the Conclave. Thanks go to the members of the Nominating Committee, Fr. Joe Curran (chair), Neale Albert, Twyla Racz and Jarmila Sobota.

I look forward to seeing you in Vancouver!

Editor's Note

The world of miniature books has lost a great advocate and friend, Bob Massman, who passed away recently. Bob was truly the grandfather of the Miniature Book Society and will be greatly missed. Bob's passing increases my desire to see new faces making and collecting miniature books. Take a look at the article by Australian, Joy Bathie. Joy is new to miniature book publishing and details her passionate adventure into the world of tiny. Promote the love of miniature books: subscribe to the Miniature Book Yahoo Group at miniaturebooks@yahoogroups.com; post to the Miniature Book Society Facebook page; check out www.mbs.org; and, most importantly, come to this year's Grand Conclave in Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada!

The 2013 MBS Grand Conclave XXXI will be held at the Holiday Inn on West Broadway, Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada Friday, August 9, 2013 – Sunday, August 11, 2013

As some of you will know, this is the 30th Anniversary of the founding of the Miniature Book Society. With your help, we want to celebrate a wonderful 30 years of friendship, scholarship and plain old-fashioned fun with our MBS members.

Accessible by train, boat and plane, Vancouver is Canada's largest west coast city and for the 2010 Winter Olympics there was a massive upgrade to public transit, so getting around is easy and inexpensive. It's a beautiful city situated on a promontory surrounded by miles of accessible shoreline, acres of public parks and oodles of interesting places to see and things to do. In recent years, it has consistently been voted one of the top cities in the world in which to live.

HOTEL ARRANGEMENTS: We have chosen the Holiday Inn on West Broadway, which had an extensive refit recently with all new everything except the bricks and mortar. It is near to the Canada Line which links to the Vancouver International Airport and the downtown core and it is right on bus routes. It is also just a few blocks from the south shore of False Creek and Stamps Landing. Here you can board an Aquabus to several destinations including Granville Island and the north shore. And yes, in-room Wi-Fi is included in the very reasonable room rate of CA\$146.00 per night (standard room, single or double, upgrades available). Amenities include pool, fitness centre, sauna, etc. There are lots of restaurants, cafes and shops in the area. Please call 1-604-879-0511 to book your room. **Reservations MUST be made by July 9** to qualify for the discounted group rate and you must identify yourself as a member of the Miniature Book Society. <http://www.holidayinn.com/hotels/us/en/vancouver/yvr/bw/hoteldetail>

CONCLAVE REGISTRATION: Registration fee is **\$275 per person** and includes three buffet breakfasts, Friday buffet dinner, Saturday dessert buffet, Sunday awards banquet, keepsakes, goodie bags and most importantly, the sparkling company of your miniature book friends. For the registration form, go to www.mbs.org/conclave.html.

~ CONCLAVE PROGRAM ~

(a detailed packet of additional information will be emailed or snail mailed to all attendees by July 9)

Thursday, August 8: (Pre-Conclave):

We will be arranging to meet early arrivers for dinner (at your own expense) at a local restaurant.

Friday, August 9:

The Board will meet in the morning and registration will be in the afternoon. Buffet dinner along with a Silent Auction and a Book Swap in the evening.

Saturday, August 10:

Breakfast buffet and membership meeting in the morning. After the meeting, master printmaker Peter Braune will give a presentation, including an overview of artists' printmaking. He is a man of great skill and experience having worked with some of the most prestigious printmakers in North America. He will give some insight into both the traditional (in use for centuries) and newer methods to create illustrations and images for all applications, including books.

On Saturday afternoon, we have planned a Treasure Trail on Granville Island, a fascinating mix of artisans' studios and shops. As an option, attendees can attend a workshop offered by Peter Braune to gain hands-on experience of a type of printmaking that is especially suited for beginners, Drypoint.

For this, you will need to bring an image or two the size of the plate you will use. You will learn how to incise a drypoint plate, ink and wipe the plate, damp the paper and print the plate on an intaglio press. There is a limit of 15 places for this workshop, and we are asking for a materials fee of \$10. More details later for participants. Most cities and towns of any size will have a Print Studio where one can go for an hour or day, and take classes or simply use the presses to print your plates. Please email Jan if you have any queries on this.

Dessert buffet and auction in the evening.

Sunday, August 11:

Buffet breakfast, Book Fair and Awards Banquet. Free time to explore Vancouver. After the Awards Dinner, we hope to bring you something special to celebrate our 30th Anniversary.

Monday, August 12:

Buffet breakfast. Vancouver City Tour is an optional bus tour, with commentary. The bus will take up to 24 people and will give an overview of the city.

ITINERARY

10:00 am: Pick up from the Conclave hotel. Tour through Gastown, Chinatown, Vancouver Harbour and the Olympic Cauldron, Stanley Park (with scenic stops at the Totem Poles and Prospect Point), and English Bay.

12:00 pm:

Visit to the Vancouver Art Gallery, and an opportunity for lunch (on your own). The Gallery entrance fee is included in the tour price. The Gallery restaurant is reputedly very good, with an outdoor patio, and the Gallery is right downtown. This will be a 1 hour 45 minute stop. If anyone wishes to remain downtown, and explore the area they can leave the bus at this point, and find their own way back to the hotel. Just as long as we know that they won't be coming back with us on the bus!

1:45 pm:

Depart Vancouver Art Gallery, tour past the main Vancouver Public Library, an amazing Colosseum - like building, on the way back to the hotel.

2:00 pm:

Drop off back at the Holiday Inn on West Broadway.

DEADLINES

Conclave Registration: July 9; mail payment and registration form to Jim Brogan, 53 Dreahook Road, Branchburg NJ 08876.

Holiday Inn Hotel Reservations: July 9; see contact info above; reservations MUST be made by this date to qualify for the discounted group rate.

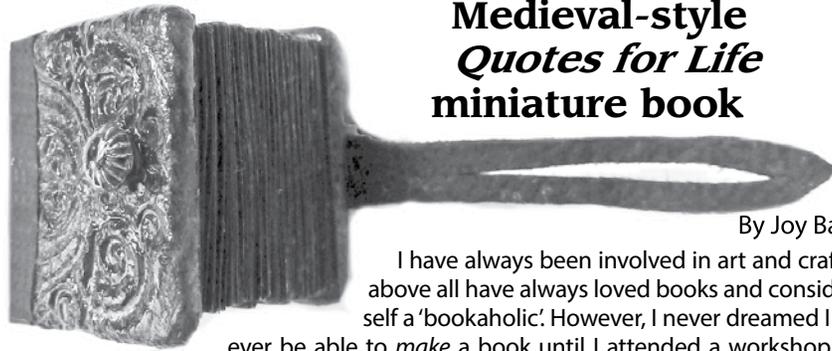
Auction Items: July 9; proceeds benefit MBS; please mail items to Jan Becker, 1700 Dix Road, Middletown OH 45042.

Silent Auction Items: July 25; proceeds split between MBS and donor; please mail items to Karen Nyman, 702 Rosecrans Street, San Diego CA 92106-3013.

Keepsake Items: July 25; we welcome all items for the keepsake bag; mail to Kathy King, 402 York Avenue, Delaware OH 43015.

Questions? Contact Jan Kellett at jan.kellett@shaw.ca or by phone at 250 738-0075 or **Jim Brogan** at Jbrogan1@verizon.net or by phone at 908 526-0166.

Medieval-style *Quotes for Life* miniature book



By Joy Bathie

I have always been involved in art and crafts, but above all have always loved books and consider myself a 'bookaholic'. However, I never dreamed I would ever be able to *make* a book until I attended a workshop at the

State Library of New South Wales in Sydney several years ago where, to my delight, I created a rather professional-looking photograph album. Not long afterwards I began creating 'artists books'. I love colour and texture and found these books to be a great means of artistic expression. I began with the usual range of book sizes, but then gradually began to reduce the size until I made several small artists books, measuring 4" x 4". I still enjoy working with this size, but I could not resist the challenge to create a much smaller book.

In mid-2012 I began working on my first miniature book, measuring 9/16" high x 7/16" wide x 3/16" deep; it is titled "My Country", with each page containing one line from the much-loved second verse of an Australian poem by Dorothea Mackellar. I was so delighted with the result

that I began planning another miniature book – this time slightly larger, and definitely thicker. A couple of years earlier I had made a 4" x 4" book of quotations designed in a medieval style; it has richly coloured hand-painted and gilded medieval borders, with the page colours blending through the book so they have continuity. I decided that the new miniature book was to be a smaller version of this. The original pages were scanned and reduced, then printed on my inkjet printer, after a great deal of angst and experimentation – being a self-taught computer and Photoshop player it took a long time for me to work out how to do this!

The little book measures 3/4" high x 3/4" wide x 5/8" deep, with a medieval-style cover of embossed faux leather, which I created from layers of bathroom tissue

which was embossed and padded, then painted, stained with walnut ink, and sealed with several layers of shellac. The spine is covered with black kangaroo leather, whilst a strap of kangaroo leather wraps around the fore-edge and slips over a tiny brass bead to act as a closure. The 98 pages in the book (including title page, colophon etc.), were perfect-bound, as I felt that sewn-in signatures would become far too bulky at the spine. Each page contains a motivational or inspirational quotation printed in Olde English Gothic text. I then purchased a small hinged wooden box decorated with beads and other embellishments, which were removed. In their place a textured design was embossed into impasto medium on the lid, then aged and rusted to make the box appear to have been buried and lost for centuries. The interior is painted black and lined with padded black velvet, with a niche cradling the little book.

My next project is to create another miniature medieval styled book containing details of my family history.

[Editor's note: Joy's miniature book will be featured in a North Light Arts and Crafts book, *Incite: Dreams Realized*, release date - September 2013. Author Joy Bathie's email address is jvar@bigpond.com.]

Miniature Books from The Fleece Press

By Stephen Byrne

I first came across the Fleece Press whilst visiting my friend the late Mel Kavin following the Conclave in Rutland. On looking through his collection of miniature books I happened upon one with the title 'Yan Tyan Tethera'. To many people those words might mean little, but to a Yorkshireman such as myself, they are reminiscent of an old way the shepherds used to count their sheep. On further inspection I found that the Fleece Press, publisher of the book, was based about six miles from my home, so on returning to England I set about finding the place in order to buy a copy of the book. I had no luck, as the Press had moved recently. My next step was to search the Internet, and I found that the Press had moved even nearer to where I lived – to the next village in fact. I went to see Simon Lawrence, owner of the Fleece Press, and asked to buy a copy. All of them were sold. We got talking, and Simon said he was publishing another miniature book, 'The Whole Benefits That Paper Brings'. For the 'special' edition of the book he wanted some miniature paper making frames made. I said I would try and make one, which proved interesting, but I succeeded and was asked to make one hundred. That paid for my trip to Conclave the following year.

Simon has published nine miniature books so far, all of them to a very high specification, several of them in letterpress, and the latest one, (*John Swarbrick's List of Wharfedale Flies*) including two tied fishing flies. The 'specials' of that book also come with tied examples of all thirty flies, for which I made a composite box in oak to house the book on one side and the flies on the other.

Below is a list of miniature books from The Fleece Press with a little information about each. The books are not easy to come by, but well worth collecting for their quality in both printing and subject. I am fortunate to possess copies of each book, and prize them amongst my favourite miniature books.

The Fleece Press Guide to the Art of Wood Engraving by George Tute, published in Woolley, in 1986. As the title suggests, a small book about wood engraving, containing 9 original wood block prints by such artists as Joan Hassall and Monica Poole.

Yan Tyan Tethera – Counting Sheep-Woolley 1987. As mentioned above, an ancient method of counting sheep. With illustrations by Kathleen Lindsley of sheep-related pub signs she designed for a local brewery.

Stanley Morison Man of Letters by Beatrice Ward, Woolley, 1988. A copy of the obituary of Stanley Morison in the Sunday Times, October 15th 1967.

A Guide to the Hand Press by Ward Ritchie, Netherton, 1989. As the title suggests, a small book about the hand press, including some exquisite engravings by Anthony Christmas.

The Art of Binding Books by Angela James, Netherton 1991. A wonderful small book about bookbinding, including engravings by Anthony Christmas.

In Praise of John Baskerville by F. E. Pardoe, Netherton, 1994. A short biography of Baskerville, type-founder, printer and publisher. With engravings by Anthony Christmas.

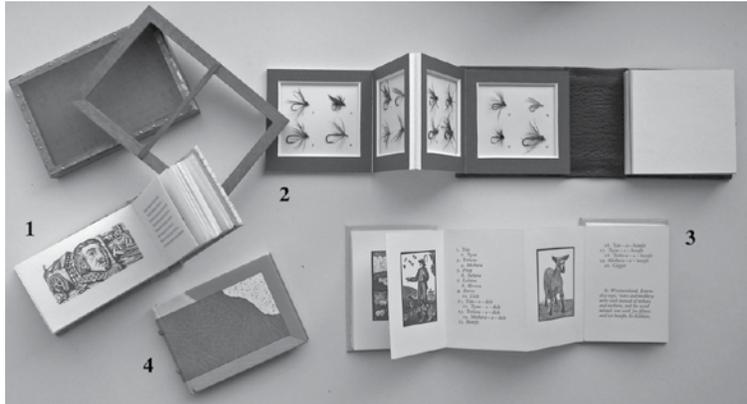
The Country Life, by Kathleen Lindsley, Wakefield, 1997. A wonderful selection of twenty tiny blocks cut by Kathleen Lindsley, intended to be enlarged as pub signs for a local brewery. It was intended to publish five small volumes of similar signs, but the project never came to fruition, unfortunately. Five of the blocks are featured in 'Yan Tyan Tethera'.

The Whole Benefits that Paper Brings, by Thomas Churchyard. Denby Dale, 2002. A poem written in 1588 extolling the benefits of paper, and describing its manufacture in the first English paper mill. The book contains ten fine engravings by Anthony Christmas.

(Continued on page 8)

John Swarbrick's List of Wharfedale Flies, introduced by Leslie Magee, Upper Denby, 2009. As mentioned above, a reprint of Swarbrick's list of trout fishing flies peculiar to the river Wharfe in Yorkshire, first published in 1807. A wonderful miniature book with superb photographs of each of the flies, and including two actual examples within the front and back boards. As mentioned above, the 'specials' contain tied examples of all thirty flies mentioned in the book.

Those are the current miniature books from the Fleece Press. Talking to Simon recently he did express thoughts about another one, but he has several other books in the process of planning for publication, so we will have to wait and see what transpires.



- 1 *The Whole Benefits That Paper Brings*, with the paper-making frame.
- 2 A selection of the flies from *John Swarbrick's List of Wharfedale Flies*.
- 3 *Yan Tyan Tethera - Counting Sheep*.
- 4 Angela James' binding of her book *The Art of Binding Books*.

Bob Massman - A Giant in the Little World of Miniature Books



It was with a heavy heart that we learned by email from across the Atlantic about the death of our dear friend Bob Massmann.

Bob was a giant in our little world of miniature books. More than an expert in the field of Bibliography he was also a wonderful and most generous friend to many of us. I have much cause to remember both Bob and Eloise for their warm-hearted hospitality and friendship in 1985 when I travelled in the U.S. on a Churchill Travelling Fellowship. This wonderful couple, not only gave me a warm welcome to their home but drove me all the way to New York to catch my flight to Los Angeles. If that was not enough they then met up with me at the Burbank Conclave and drove me up the West Coast to San Francisco and many

stops in between. Now that is more than friendship! It was like being treated as Royalty!!!!

Bob first wrote to me when I was a mere novice in the world of the tiny tomes and introduced me to so many collectors and enthusiasts that I have simply forgotten how many. His knowledge and encouragement to all was legendary and we owe this great man a real debt of gratitude.

It was through Bob that I first contacted Miriam Irwin of the Mosaic Press in Cincinnati, an encounter that led to the first Conclave in Tipp City in 1983. So I honestly think we can say that Bob is the grandfather of our Society.

Rest well old friend and thank you, we shall all miss your friendship, happy smile, good humour, kind heart and generous advice. Our love to Eloise and the Massmann family, we hold you in the Light at this difficult time.

Ian Macdonald (& Helen)
The Gleniffer Press
Scotland

Robert E. Massmann 1924-2013

The fifth president of the Miniature Book Society, Inc., Robert E. Massmann, died April 9, 2013 at New Britain, Ct. Bob has been one of the central figures in the miniature book world for many years. When Miriam Irwin decided to invite some of the most prominent publishers to meet Ian MacDonald at her farm in Tipp City, Ohio in 1983, of course Bob was included. As one of the founders of the M.B.S., Bob helped to shape and guide the group from its start.

The only aspect of mini books Bob did not get involved with was fine printing. He assembled one of the largest and broadest collections in the United States numbering over 10,000 items. His vast store of knowledge was always available to those with a question. Often Bob could supply the answer with an example from his own collection. He wrote many articles and gave many lectures on the world of mini books. He loved to share and make new friends. His delight was to teach and demonstrate skills passed down through the ages from one bookbinder or artist to another.

A vast correspondence kept Bob in touch with friends around the world. His autobiography was published last year by the M.B.S. and a copy given to each member of the society. Bob Massmann was a living treasure to those who love books and a great friend to countless people. While he will be greatly missed, his contributions to scholarship, the M.B.S. and all those he knew will keep his memory alive for years to come.

Rev. Joseph L. Curran

MINIATURE BOOK NEWS

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NEW SMALLEST FROM JAPAN

The race to the smallest continues unabated. On March 13, according to the *Japan Times*, The Toppan Printing Company announced that "it has made the world's tiniest book, measuring 0.75 by 0.75 mm, using its ultrafine printing technologies."

Toppan, one of the world's three or four largest printing companies, headquartered in Tokyo, made the announcement on March 13, 2013, although the book was produced in 2012. The news release unearthed media articles around the world. Here is the article from *The Telegraph* of London:

EVEN PUTTING ON YOUR READING GLASSES MIGHT NOT HELP WITH THIS ONE.

Japan has created what it is claiming is the smallest ever printed book, with pages measuring 0.75 millimetres (0.03 inches) which are impossible to read with the naked eye.

The 22-page micro-book, entitled *Shiki no Kusabana* (flowers of seasons), contains names and monochrome illustrations of Japanese flowers such as the cherry and the plum. Toppan Printing, who have been making micro books since 1964, said letters just 0.01 mm wide were created using the same technology as money printers use to prevent forgery.

The book is on display at Toppan's Printing Museum in Tokyo, and is on sale, together with a magnifying glass and a larger copy, for 29,400 yen (£205).

Toppan said it would be applying to *Guinness World Records* to claim the title of world's smallest book, presently held by a 0.9 mm, 30-page Russian volume called *Chameleon*, created by Siberian craftsman Anatoliy Konenko in 1996.

We were able to obtain some additional details about this remarkable achievement from the Toppan Company itself, answering our questions:

1) Photograph image of the book along side a needle, and with its case is shown here:



2) Details about the book itself, size, text, etc.

•The book is extremely small with a height and width of 0.75 millimeters and 22 pages.

It presents twelve flowers found during the four seasons in Japan with sections for each of Spring, Summer, Autumn and Winter, and the pages feature pictures of flowers together with the corresponding names. There are four types of characters used in this book. These are Japanese hiragana and katakana characters, Chinese characters, and Roman characters. On four of the book's pages, extremely small hidden text is printed within the picture. The width of the lines of this text is just 10 microns (one micron is one-thousandth of a millimeter). This is probably the smallest text that has been printed. Please refer to the design data shown below.

Details of the micro book

Title: Flowers of the four seasons

Number of pages: 22

Size: 0.75mm × 0.75mm

Date of manufacture:

December 2012

Manufacturer:

Toppan Printing Co., Ltd.

Cover: Sheepskin

Paper: Oak GC Bright

Printing method: Intaglio printing

Binding: Accordion fold for main body

Casing-in for cover

3) Information about the method and technique it took to produce this book.

This micro book was created by employing the ultrafine prepress and printing techniques for securities and electronics products developed by Toppan Printing Co., Ltd.

4) Toppan expects to produce about 250 copies. The micro book is priced at 29,400 yen (about \$300) but is sold only at the Tokyo Printing Museum. Unfortunately the Museum does not honor mail orders.

マイクロブック『四季の草花』デザイン



		四季の草花	Flowers of the four seasons
春 SPRING	うめ UME	つくし TSUKUSHI	さくら SAKURA
夏 SUMMER	あじさい AJISAI	ゆり YURI	ひまわり HIMAWARI
秋 AUTUMN	もみじ MOMIJI	きく KIKU	コスモス KOSUMOSU
冬 WINTER	さざんか SAZANKA	すいせん SUISEN	ふくじゅそう FUKUJUSO
©2012 Printing Museum, Tokyo	TOPPAN		

Pages of Flowers of the Four seasons.

GUINNESS WORLD RECORDS

With the exception of the Bible and Koran, the world's all-time best selling book is *Guinness World Records*, according to the *Guinness World Records* book itself. GWR reports that since 1955, its founding year, global sales in some 37 languages have exceeded 100 million copies, as of October 2003.

GWR deals with extremes, which many people love to read about: the most/the least, highest/lowest, largest/smallest, etc. on various elements of animal, vegetable, and mineral. In order to be recognized in GWR, there is a lengthy procedure to make a claim and prove it.

While we have been unable to locate a copy of the GWR for 1955, its first year, we believe that the smallest books at that time were the four volumes produced in Munich in 1952 by Waldmann and Pfitzner. The titles were: *The Lord's Prayer*, *I Love You*, *Oath of Freedom*, and *The Olympic Oath*. These books measure 5 x 5 mm.

Smallest books have long been in GWR's sights. For example, 1963 is the earliest GWR record that we know about for the smallest book. It states that "The smallest book in the world is a handwritten one--- *Poems by Edgar Guest*. It was written by Burt Randle in 1962. It is less than 1/8 of an inch square."

The GWR entry went on to say that "The smallest book printed in moveable type is *The Lord's Prayer* in seven versions and six languages, distributed in November 1958 by the International Gutenberg Society. Copies are bound in full gold-blocked leather and the area of one cover is 0.44 of a sq. inch or 16.85 mm. square."

From 1964 smaller books were produced by the Toppan Printing Company of Tokyo. Others were produced in Leipzig, Novi Sad, Yugoslavia and Paisley, Scotland. These books did not make it to GWR because no one submitted a formal claim.

In 1969, GWR repeated the Burt Randle and *Lord's Prayer*, citation and added: "An edition of 150 copies of *The Ruba'iyat of Omar Khayyam* by Edward FitzGerald was published in 1956 in Massachusetts, and weighed a total of 0.34 of an ounce." No size dimensions were given.

We believe the information about *The Lord's Prayer* was incorrect. It was actually produced using a separate steel block for each language, and not set by moveable type.

By 1977 "The smallest book printed with moveable metal type (not by a microphotographic process) is a type catalogue of 3 point Gill Titling ... Wales. It measures 2.9 mm. by 2.9 mm.... and is bound in red calfskin vellum... It was published by Gleniffer Press, Paisley Scotland, in 1975." A photo of the book was shown, but no title was given.

By 1981 the entry was for "The smallest marketed bound printed book with cursive material is one of 15 pages measuring 1/12 X 1/12 X 1/32 of an inch comprising *Three Blind Mice* and produced by Glenniffer Press..."

The most recent battles for the smallest book in GWR have rested with *The Chameleon*, produced in Omsk, Russia in 1996, and measuring 0.9 x 0.9 mm, but not cited in GWR until 2002.

Within a whisker of *The Chameleon*, not yet cited in GWR, came *The Twelve Horary Signs—Chinese Zodiac*. This book was produced by the Toppan Printing Company in Tokyo in 2000, measuring 0.95 x 0.95 mm.

One might think that two books, each less than one millimeter in dimension, had reached the ultimate.

Alas, this is not to be. Toppan of Tokyo has re-entered the fray just this year, but not yet in GWR.

But if you still want the penultimate smallest, you will have to be content with what GWR currently carries as the smallest reproduction of a book, as follows:

"Costing an enormous \$15,000 (around £10,000), the smallest book yet made is a 30 micro-tablet book carved on a pure crystalline silicon page, measuring just 70 micrometres by 100 micrometres. Etched using an ion beam at the Simon Fraser University, Canada, the book is called *Teeny Ted from Turnip Town*. The author of the book is Malcolm Douglas Chaplin and it was published by Robert Chaplin. The book even has its own ISBN reference, ISBN-978-1-894897-17-4, though you will need a scanning electron microscope to read a copy."

MBN 132 in July 2007 carried an article about Chaplin and this "World's first nano-book published as a work of fine art." Here is additional recent information from Chaplin himself:

The world's smallest book 'Teeny Ted From Turnip Town' :

In 2007 I was permitted access to a focused ion beam and scanning electron microscope at Simon Fraser University. In my time working with this equipment I designed and published an original work on a microchip, as an array of 30 tablets. The tablets contain the text of 'Teeny Ted From Turnip Town' complete with an ISBN. In 2012 I received a Guinness World Record confirming my creation of the smallest book yet made.

To give you a sense of scale, the array of tablets you see on the surface of this chip would all fit on the cross section of a human hair !

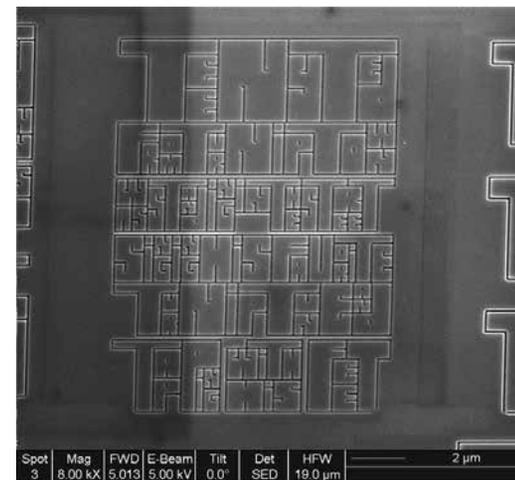
Re: THE GUINNESS WORLD RECORD, and how I got the idea to do this project. This year I received my Guinness World Record Certificate in the mail. 'Teeny Ted From Turnip Town' is cited as the smallest book yet made and listed as "the smallest reproduction of a printed book". Since I only produced the one original microchip, I got the idea to make an actual large print version for people to read without a scanning electron microscope.

Re: 'Teeny Ted From Turnip Town' '

Teeny Ted is a wild rhyme by Malcolm Douglas Chaplin. It tells the tale of Teeny Ted and his triumph at the turnip contest at the annual county fair. The typography of the tablets looks like ancient cuneiform because I used the ion beam to carve the space surrounding each letter. Here are some sample tablets carved with a line resolution of 42 nanometers. A nanometer is one millionth of a millimeter.

The Typeface of 'Teeny Ted From Turnip Town' is 'Puzzle' which presents an entertaining challenge! The Solutions are printed under each tablet.

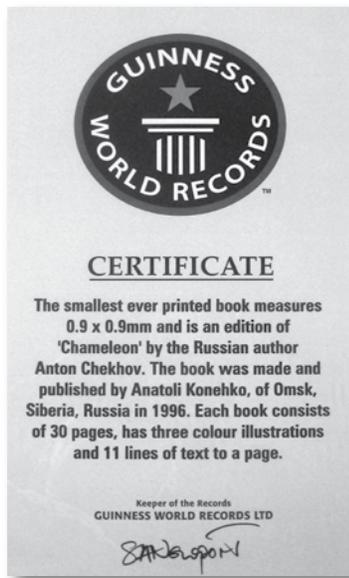
Meanwhile, the 2013 GWR cites not the SMALLEST BOOK per se, but turned their attention to the LARGEST COLLECTION of miniature books. This activity is cited, with a photograph of two books, as a fete of Jozsef Tari, of Hungary. The text reads: "Jozsef Tari owns 4,500 miniature books, including one that measures only 0.10 in. (2.75mm) high and 0.07 in (1.75 mm) wide --- almost the same size as the "H" in "Hungary" in this sentence. Jozsef, a printer by trade, has been collecting



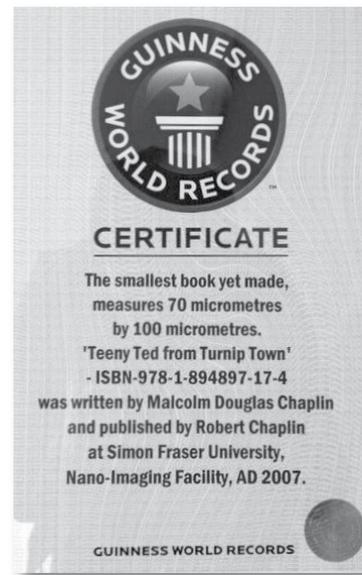
A typical tablet page

miniature books since 1972 and has made some of his own miniature books. He has a special bookcase for his collection --- each shelf is about half the height of a matchbook."

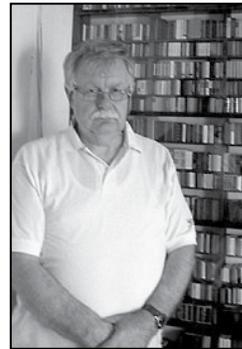
Of course, we know of at least one, possibly two or three others, that have more than 4,500, but they are not claimed. Tari was written about and pictured in MBN 147 (July, 2012).



1996



2007



So where do we go from here? The new smallest book seems to be the 2013 publication from Japan. The largest private collection of miniature books according to GWR is in Hungary.

Will Russia now want to come forward with another entry for the smallest?

Stay tuned!!

WHAT IS A BOOK?

The accompanying articles about the Toppan Company's latest tiny book and Robert Chaplin's nano micro tablet in the article on Guinness World Records lead to the contemporary question of what exactly is a book.

Is a Babylonian clay tablet a book? What about a scroll, writings on papyrus, a hornbook, a Chinese bamboo book, a silicon chip, a nano micro tablet, an e-book, a codex?

In a real sense, they are all books, in that they are all writing systems on some material. Wikipedia's definition: "A book is a set of written, printed, illustrated, or blank sheets, made of ink, paper, parchment, or other materials, usually fastened together to hinge at one side."

The codex form is the familiar shape and construction of the book. Wikipedia continued: "This change (from earlier forms) happened gradually during the 3rd and 4th centuries, and the reasons for adopting the codex form of the book are several: the format is more

economical, as both sides of the writing material can be used; and it is portable, searchable, and easy to conceal. The Christian authors may also have wanted to distinguish their writings from the pagan texts written on scrolls."

But while most of us are accustomed to the codex form, the definition of a book may be in the eyes, or hands, of the beholder. Even *Guinness World Records* isn't quite sure.

VISIT TO NEW YORK PUBLIC LIBRARY (NYPL)

The NYPL is the second largest library in the United States, surpassed by the Library of Congress in Washington, D.C. It has 87 branches and holds 53 million items (books, manuscripts, tapes, discs, prints, photographs and other visual and audio articles and records.)

And among those items are 1550 miniature books! Most of these books are in the Rare Book Room at the Main Library on 40-42 Streets on Fifth Avenue.

Getting to the Rare Book Room is a l-o-o-o-o-ng journey. You first climb the stairs outside Fifth Avenue to enter the main floor. Then you climb 12 steps plus another 32 steps in 2 flights to reach the huge Main Reading Room of the library which has recently been beautifully refurbished. (Of course there is an elevator too). The first part is a large catalogue room housing rows of computers where you look up what you want to find (the old 3 x 5 reference cards are long gone), then write up a request slip and walk it over to the main desk for retrieval.

You can skip this catalogue room if you want to go directly to the Main Reading Rooms, which splits into huge twin North and South sections. Each room houses tons of reference books in many languages on shelves along its sides where you can read and work at the desks with your books or computers.

Now then you walk down the end of the North reading room. This brings you to the entrance of the Brooke Russell Astor Reading Room for Rare Books and Manuscripts. The inscription on the floor says that this room "was named in honor of a lady whose concern for all New Yorkers is as rare and precious as the volumes in this room. Gift of David Rockefeller. Dedicated May, 1993."

The reading room is closed so you will need to be let in the door with a buzzer. Once in, any bags will need to be stored at the counter. The atmosphere is hushed.

Once inside we had a nice chat with Jessica Pigza, curator of rare books. The library has about 1500 miniature books listed, all held in storage boxes in the main branch. You can use the computer in the room to order books from the catalogue, and they will allow 6 books to be brought out at a time. Jessica indicated that major categories are chapbooks and 20th century fine press books, such as Schori, Black Cat, St. Onge and Dawson.

Accessing the catalogue from any computer is easy. The website is catalogue.nypl.org/search. Once logged in you enter miniature books in the search box and hit submit. This brings up the window that says there are 1150 results found. You can bring up this list by **relevance**, **date**, or **title**.



Or, you can search by author, subject, genre, keyword and some other approaches. When you browse the list it quickly becomes evident that a lot of the entries are not for the miniature books we know. In bibliography it is apparent, not just at the NYPL, that there is confusion about miniature books and miniature painting (as in illuminated manuscripts), and other titles that may include the word miniature but are in fact regular sized books not related.

My own guess is that there may be about 1200 books that qualify by our usual definition. Most of the key reference books are present. Then there are a good many entries from the presses of Schori, Black Cat, St. Onge, Hillside, and Dawson for example. There are a number of Hungarian titles and a wide selection of other titles including thumb bibles and some rarer antiquarian items. I did not have enough time on this visit to search, request and inspect some of the books. But all in all the selection at the library, combined with the reference books available, would enable a newcomer to learn much about the subject.



Main reading room, north section.

OLIN LIBRARY DISPLAY CASES

The last issue of MBN (No. 149, March, 2013) carried an article about the Julian I. Edison collection of miniature books that is being gifted to the Olin Library at Washington University in St. Louis.

On April 10, 2013, two specially built display cases for this collection were formally dedicated at the Library. The cases occupy a prominent open space near the Special Collections area. They were built so that the front glass does not open. The books for the displays are placed on the glass shelves from openings at the rear, which is in an adjoining room. The architect said this is unusual construction inside a building such as a library. The cases themselves have a self-



contained and separate humidity and temperature control system, and are lighted with LED light streams on the sides and top, which give off very little heat, but enough that it requires a separate HVAC control system.

Exhibitions of miniature books will be rotated periodically. Below are some photos of the cases with the inaugural display:



BROMER TIP-TOES TO TOKYO

VISIT WITH MINIATURE BOOK ENTHUSIASTS TOKYO, FEBRUARY 20, 2013

GEKISHOU is the Japanese word for enthusiastic! This is exactly the atmosphere created by the twenty Japanese women who joined me at the exhibit of miniature books at the World Antiquarian Book Plaza on February 20, 2013.

By invitation of our colleagues at Yushodo Co. Ltd. Rare Books in Tokyo, Bromer Booksellers sent 100 miniature books for a February exhibition and sale at WABP. Ascending to the third floor on an escalator in the very busy bookshop, Maruzen Nihonbashi Store in downtown Tokyo, we were transported to a quiet place of glass bookcases and rare books. In this room, Yushodo manages the exhibitions and sale of rare books from an international consortium of 23 antiquarian booksellers. Within two of these cases, miniature books from those owned by Bromer Booksellers were arranged with care and with descriptions in English and Japanese. A full-color brochure highlighting many of the books was available, and a Japanese publication followed up the exhibition with an article about miniature books.

At 4pm collectors, artists, and miniature book enthusiasts began arriving. They were eager to see the books and enjoy the show and tell session that lasted more than two hours. One by one, I chose books from the glass cases to place on the center table around which all of us stood. Guests were invited to leaf through and enjoy the books of interest to them. To my delight, a few of the visitors brought miniature books of their own making. They consider themselves to be amateur hobbyists, but their modesty does not do justice to beautifully crafted and gracious small volumes. Several of these miniature book creations were offered as unexpected gifts.

Miniature books will remain a feature of World Antiquarian Book Plaza. Bromer Booksellers will continue to supply examples in what will be a permanent glass case for Lilliputian volumes.

Anne C. Bromer
Bromer Booksellers

ワールド・アンティーク・ブック・プラザ

欧米 豆本 特集

Miniature Book Selection

Sale at
World Antiquarian Book Plaza



ボストンの美術古書の名店 Bromer Booksellers, Inc. からの
約 100 点の豆本を日本橋・丸善 3 階 WABP で期間中販売

海外豆本 2 月 1 日 ~ 2 4 日間展示販売中!



特別なバレンタインの



20 日 16:30 ~ 18:30 にはプロマーご夫妻がプラザ来店予定

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2013 年 2 月 WABP News 号外

Bromers Booksellers, Inc.

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02116。創業1968年。美術古書ビジネスの世界に半世紀近く身を置くプロマー夫妻、アンとデヴィッドが共同経営するプロマー・ブックセラーズは、希少・美本の収集販売を専門としながら、文学、挿画本、美刊本や特装本の様々な秀作のセレクションを運用し、選りすぐりの豆本のコレクションを持つことで知られています。

豆本特集販売のほかにも、プラザでは通常どおり、幅広く1,000冊以上の洋古書を取りそろえて皆さまのご来店をお待ちしております。

ワールド・アンティーク・ブック・プラザ

World Antiquarian Book Plaza

地図

丸善・日本橋店 3 F 年中無休10:00 ~ 20:00



Photos above show Anne Bromer and Japanese collectors at the World Antiquarian Book Plaza.

BRIEF NOTES

Catalogues received:

Miniature Books for Sale: Catalog 43

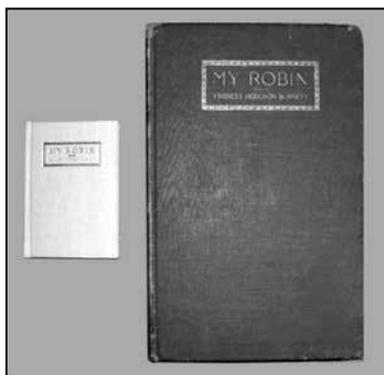
May 1, 2013
Karen Nyman, San Diego, CA
karennyman2@cox.net

Miniature Books for Sale: Catalog 44

July 1, 2013
Karen Nyman, San Diego, CA
karennyman2@cox.net

Check out the **Vancouver MBS Conclave** blog with great travel ideas at <http://dewaldenpress.com/mbs-vancouver-2013/>

Jerry Morris has written a wonderful blog, "**Whence They Came: Don Brady And His Miniature Books**", about the late miniature book publisher Don Brady and his Clearview Press. He features Don's use of "mother books" (term coined by Charlotte Smith) and his process of miniaturizing them. See the link at: <http://bibliophilesinmylibrary.blogspot.com/>. Here is a photo from Jerry's blog illustrating mother books and miniature books.



Miniaturbuchverlag Leipzig has a Facebook page: [Minibuch.de](http://www.facebook.com/Minibuch.de).

Have you read the New York Times article, "Redefining a Little Library" featuring Neale Albert? Here is a link: <http://cityroom.blogs.nytimes.com/2013/04/22/redefining-a-little-library/>

The Elmer G. and Esther K. Beamer Collection of Books of Common Prayer (400 volumes) has been transferred from the Washington National Cathedral to the Bishop Payne Library at the University of Virginia. Esther Beamer was a charter member of MBS and published five miniature books under the Desert Press imprint.

JULY 2013 CHANGEABOUTS

New Members:

Jeanne Bennett
6405 Carmichael Court
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817 559-1933 (h)
fepper@windstream.net
www.fephiddentreasures.com

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annedelman@gmail.com

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Mail payments for ads (in \$ US dollars)

(paypal address minibook@cox.net) to:
Kathy King, Treasurer
402 York Avenue
Delaware, OH 43015

Miniature Book Society Newsletter

A publication of the Miniature Book Society Inc. Number 92

Issued in March, July, November. Items for publication, including advertising material, should be sent to the Editor. Publication deadlines are: February 1, June 1, October 1. Payment for advertising should be made to Miniature Book Society Inc. and sent to the Treasurer.

The Miniature Book Society is an international nonprofit organization founded in 1983 and chartered by the state of Ohio, USA. Its purposes are to sustain interest in all aspects of miniature books; to provide a forum for the exchange of ideas; to serve as a clearinghouse for information about miniature books.

Website: www.mbs.org

Toll-free phone (USA & Canada):
1-877-MBS-1983

Board of Governors for 2012-2013

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Membership in the Society is open to all interested individuals, organizations and institutions. Membership dues in United States dollars: \$40.00 individual/couple for USA members, \$45.00 individual/couple for Canadian members; \$55.00 individual/couple outside North America. Corporate membership: \$50.00 (USA), \$55.00 (Canada), \$65.00 (outside North America).

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Manuscripts, letters and news items are welcomed and are subject to editing due to space and style limitations. Preferably submissions should be made electronically, by e-mail or disk. Attachments in Microsoft Word would be preferred. Articles in the Newsletter do not necessarily express the views of the Board or of the Editor.

Deadline for the next issue: October 1, 2013.

Printed by Alliance Printing & Mailing Services
Middletown, OH

Miniature Books and Money Exhibit



"Miniature Books and Money Exhibition" at University of Virginia Library, Albert and Shirley Small Special Collections Library, April 2013. One hundred miniature books drawn almost entirely from the McGehee Miniature Book Collection.

DORIS V. WELSH MINIATURE BOOK COLLECTION & EPHEMERA



Contact Chris Burrows at
505 341-0312 or chrisb901@comcast.net

Seller is the daughter of Joseph C. Wolf, Genealogist at the Newberry Library and friend of Doris Welsh. Mr. Wolf authored *Heraldry*, one of the 19 Welsh books presented here for sale.

**THE
MICROBIBLIOPHILE©**

A Bimonthly Journal About
Miniature Books and the
Book Arts, since 1977

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Happy Anniversary,

**See you at the
Vancouver Conclave**

**After 49 Years, Selling
over 5,000 Miniature
Books in Collection**

There will also be photos of sale items for signed CHARLES BRAGG etchings & lithographs, Antique (mostly) AMERICAN BEARS from 1905-1960 (A few dozen "foreigners", such as Steiff, Merrythought, Schuco, will also be listed), & Star Trek items, to name a few.

For those of you who are MBS members, please EMAIL to the listing in the directory.

*All others, please utilize email link:
info@myminiaturebooksforsale.com*

or

books@myminiaturebooksforsale.com

An EXCEL file of the miniature book inventory will be emailed to you. Feel free to ask for more photos on miniature books and/or the other collections. I reserve the right to not sell some items. The Excel list is updated monthly. Only the latest list with prices will be honored. To request list or correspond, PLEASE indicate "miniature books" on subject line. Personal checks accepted from MBS members, in US dollars. Paypal is accepted (with 3.9% of total to cover fees).

**For Sale: Collection of
Aunt Laura Miniature Books
and Bookcase**

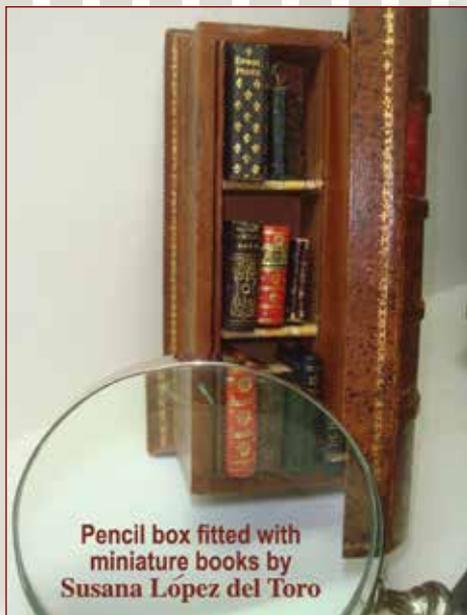


*Faithful Sheep
Little Katy and
Her Mother
Little Comfort
Little Comfort
A Talk with the
Little Folks
Fanny at School
Fanny's Fair
Fanny's -Birth-Day*

These collectible miniature books (1863 - 1866) and bookcase were given to Mr. O'Neill's late wife in 1930 by her grandmother. If you are interested in this collection and have questions, please contact:



Hank O'Neill
Phone: 336-447-4192
Email: happybuddha@triad.rr.com



**Pencil box fitted with
miniature books by
Susana López del Toro**