



NEWSLETTER

Autumn 2012

News from ELF Miniatures

It's been a busy summer for ELF Miniatures – but not so busy that we couldn't enjoy our 'home' Olympics and Paralympics! After a crowded Miniatura in September, we're looking forward to Kensington Dolls House Festival at the end of November and working hard to make sure we can meet our customers' Christmas demands.

Have you been promising yourself one of our designer chairs? Since our last Newsletter we have sold out of even more of these great miniatures, so, if you want one, please don't delay too long!

Not sure what to buy your miniature loving friends for Christmas? Why not buy [ELF Christmas gift vouchers](#) – from £5.00.

New items from Elizabeth

In contrast to the commercial kitchen appliances featured in the Summer 2012 Newsletter, many of ELF's new items this time are on the small side:



We have some [fridge decorations](#) to make your dolls house fridge as lively as your full sized fridge! For just £1.45 you get a set of two postcards, child's drawing, shopping list and two reminder notes, plus multi coloured "magnets". Four spare magnets provided so you can add your own cards and notes. Either glue them, or use gripwax to stick them to your fridge or notice board.

Two new bathroom taps at a very economical price of less than £1 each, wall mounted (50p) or base mounted (75p):

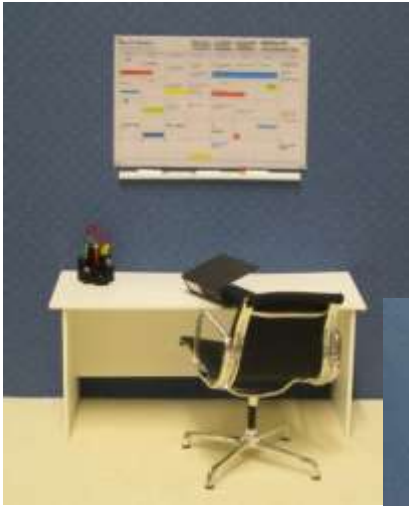


Some art for your kitchen:

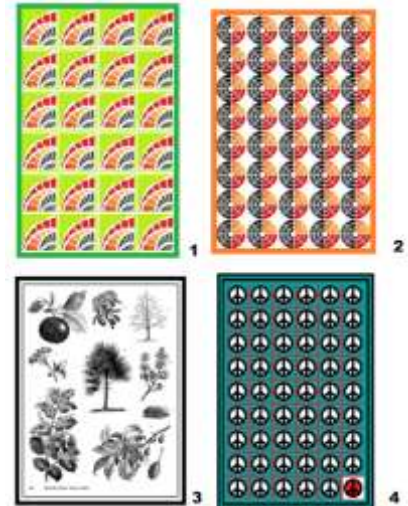


Also available in blue or pink, in two sizes, a [topical poster for your kitchen wall](#) or choose a colourful [picture of vegetables](#)





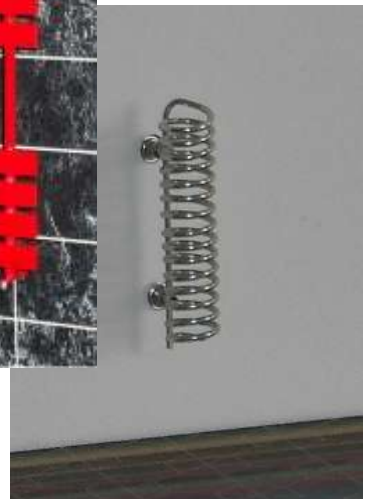
And some accessories for your office walls – a [wall planner](#) and [whiteboard](#), complete with pen rack or some [posters](#).



To bring light to your kitchen, how about a [floating island](#) with concealed LED lighting. This is available as a kit in different sizes.

The lighting can be purchased separately in strips of 3, 6 or 9 lights, together with jointing kits. These are ideal for adding concealed lighting to any room or room box. They can also be used to add down-lighters to kitchen units (add a simple "pelmet" to conceal them) or other wall mounted units.

Finally – for the real designer touch, look at our new range of designer radiators:



Featuring this month – hall and downstairs loo



Our hall is furnished with an ELF sideboard, shoe rack and clothes stand. It is accessorised with wall art, rug and a mirror. The man is putting on his [wellies](#) ready to take the dog for a walk while 'Jo' is going out to do some shopping. The [handbag](#) on the clothes stand is one of several available from ELF. Our website features

several breeds of [dog](#) (from the small - pug and Chihuahua – to the large – greyhound and boxer).

For the downstairs loo we used our compact china pedestal basin and china loo. The [loo roll holder and towel ring](#) are part of our set of four chrome towel rings – use the two larger ones in the bathroom. The [loo brush](#) and [stainless steel soap dispenser](#) are from ELF's own range. We accessorized the room with loo paper, bleach and cleaning products, arranged on [chrome and glass shelves](#). The splash-back behind the basin is made of [mosaic tiles](#) – these white tiles come in 2 sizes and we have other wall tiles available. The floor tiles are from our extensive range of [hard flooring](#).



New items from the ELF Store



Baby bouncers added to our range of designer baby wares!

Made by Sarah Abbiss these [baby bouncers](#) show her usual great attention to detail.

Vehicles for 1/12th, 1/16th and 1/24th scales

We have silver Lambretta scooters in 1/12th scale, together with other scooters and motorbikes. For the 'greener' dolls house there is a pedal cycle. It comes in white but you can paint it.



The 1/24th (1/2 scale) collectors can go for a really luxurious option - a bright yellow [Lamborghini](#) – for only £13!



1/16th enthusiasts are not forgotten – choose from a range of [motorbikes](#) (£3.70) and [scooters](#) (£8.00). A great way of bringing interest to the outside of your house.



Continuing our expansion of **retro items**, we have added a top-loading washing machine and corned beef tin to our range.

Please ask if there is anything you would like that we don't already stock. We can't guarantee to find it for you, but we'll try!

READERS HOUSES

We are delighted to feature Kath Cryer's dolls houses in this issue. Kath says: "My interest in the dollshouse hobby began when I was ill a few years ago and unable to get out of the house hardly at all. I was having treatment and needed a new direction in my life..... Because I couldn't work at that time I thought my life was over but with the help I was receiving, I realised it needn't be paid employment that I had to do but a hobby or interest that I enjoyed could be just as beneficial in my recovery.

I was advised to make a list of what I liked doing when I was well - there were lots! I had always done handicrafts (I don't think there is anything I haven't had a go at over the years) I had a 'need' to be creative..... So after making this list I thought about how I enjoyed my creativity, how I loved neatness and how I loved designing things. I also remembered my fascination by small and miniature things and the model villages that I had visited and such like...

After visiting a few stately homes and seeing the dolls houses displayed there, in particular the National Trust property with a display of beautiful, miniature room boxes, I began thinking about dolls houses. Could this be the new interest I needed?

I had loved the dolls house made by Dad when I was small so I started looking in the local dolls house shop window and one day ventured in! I began to realize that this is what I would love to do. I then bought my first mini property and went on to even work in the shop - The Miniature Scene in York! I've not looked back since.....six mini properties later!

This wonderful hobby encompasses many of my handicraft skills gained over the years and has given me so much. It helps to keep me well and to relax. Through it I have made new friends and I've rediscovered a side of my life which continues to enrich, motivate and inspire me and given me hope for the future again".

COMPARE AND CONTRAST! – COMPLEMENTING OUR FEATURE ON THE HALL AND DOWNSTAIRS LOO, KATH SHOWS US THE HALLWAYS OF THREE DIFFERENT HOUSES, OF DIFFERENT PERIODS. A LITTLE BIT OF INTERIOR DESIGN HISTORY...

Firstly Victorian...

This is the Jubilee House (a Sid Cooke house) set in the late Victorian era. Kath embroidered the stair carpet and rug herself.





Then the 1950s. This is the Mountfield Dollshouse (DHE House) now called 'Fairfield Gardens), Kath says "Set in about 1959 when I was growing up...."

This demonstrates how older pieces of furniture still found a place in a later period. The woodblock flooring brings the look right into the 1950s.

The last photo is from Kath's Lakeview house, her current project. The loo, basin and tap, laundry basket, ironing board, steps and vacuum cleaner came from ELF. We really like the use of the rugs, mirror and wallpaper to bring the hallway together.

