

WHEN TOYS WERE FUN

REVISIT THE HAPPY DAYS OF CHILDHOOD COLLECTING

Bryan Apps

"When play was left to the child's imagination"

In this fascinating and highly illustrated book the author appeals to the child in us all by recalling the toys and games of our past. From dolls and prams to model locomotives and tin plate toys, the reader is taken back to a pre-electronic age when the imagination was the main ingredient of childhood play.

Most of what is included here comes directly from the author's own collection, or from historic sources provided by toy makers, many of whom no longer exist. Once familiar names abound alongside those we know today: Bing, Hornby, Minic, Marklin, Tri-ang, Scalextric, Lesney, Meccano and Corgi. Hundreds of toys are illustrated along with pages from beautifully produced catalogues of yesteryear including Harrods and Hamleys.

In a fascinating text the author recounts tales from his own childhood and remarkable stories associated with his collecting, buying and selling; the wonderful finds and the bargains, along with the ones that got away.

This book will appeal to everyone who enjoys recalling their childhood days and will hold great interest for collectors too.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Bryan Apps has been an Anglican priest in the Diocese of Winchester for nearly 50 years. His passion for collecting toys and games has remained with him since a boy, although serious collecting only began later in life. This he combined with a number of world record attempts using toys including the record for longest continuous running of a model locomotive. This present work follows on from his book *When Motoring Racing Was Fun*, published by Halsgrove in 2009, in which his passion for motor racing is revealed through his paintings of racing cars and drivers from the earliest days of the sport, which in turn has led to lasting friendships with many of the most famous racing drivers from before and after the Second World War. A new book *Silverstone Shadows* is also to be published in 2010.

HALSGROVE CATALOGUE

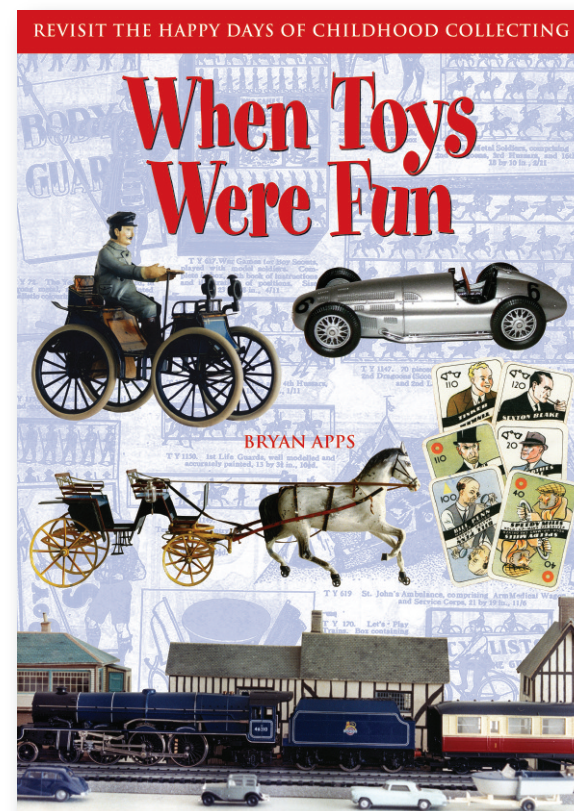
The full Halsgrove catalogue
is available free or visit
www.halsgrove.com
for regional and category
listings of available titles.

Trade sales:

Andrew Stirling – Mobile 07971 572468
andrews@halsgrove.com

Halsgrove Publishing
Halsgrove House,
Ryelands Industrial Estate,
Bagley Road, Wellington,
Somerset TA21 9PZ
Tel: 01823 653777
Fax: 01823 216796
www.halsgrove.com
e-mail: sales@halsgrove.com

HALSGROVE TITLE INFORMATION



Format: Hardback, 144 pages, 297x210mm
including over 200 photographs and illustrations

Price: £19.99

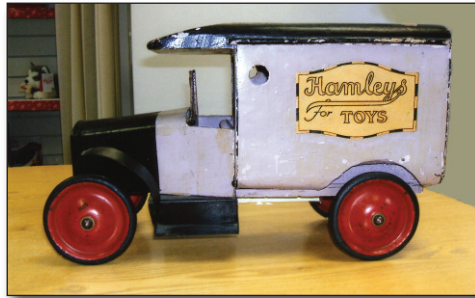
ISBN: 978 0 85704 040 4

Imprint: Halsgrove

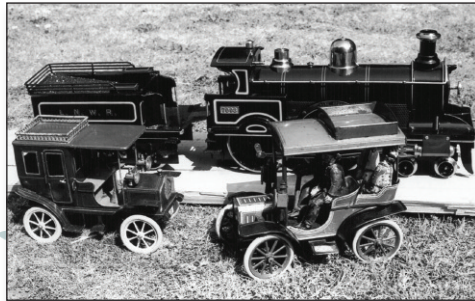
Published: October 2010



Great Books from your Local Bookseller



Early large-scale toy Hamleys Lorry by Tri-ang.



The author's son with his father's Dinky Toys, 1968.

Left: A live-steam Bing locomotive with clockwork cars by Marklin and Carette.



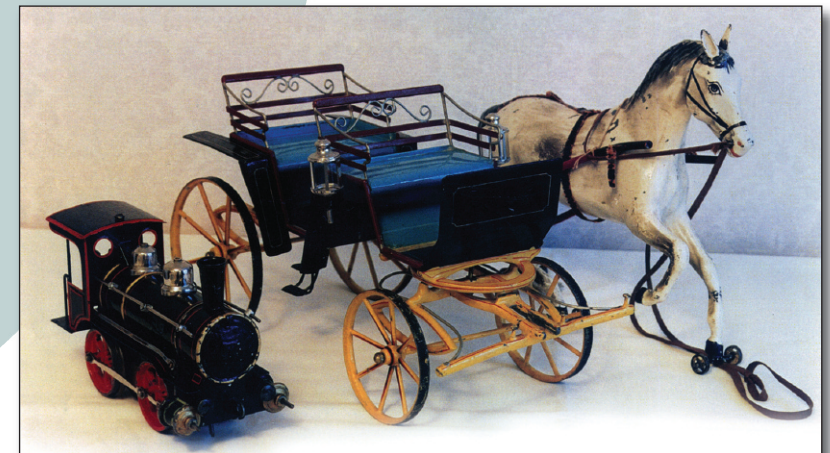
An early doll's house, dolls and a Noah's ark.



The author with his Hornby train and Scalextric car layout.



Example of a double-page spread.



A Marklin horse and carriage with a gauge II Marklin loco.