



LOCKS & KEYS



Issue 11

The Newsletter for lock collectors

March 2000

All whimsy were

This first issue of the new century was intended to be an eclectic collection of whimsical pieces, at the suggestion of a reader. Various items have been received and not yet found space, so here are some oddments. I've even managed to fit in extra pages for this issue.

A chance meeting with a man whose father worked on travelling post offices led to an article.

Another chance meeting with an antiquarian uncollected with locks led to the assembly of material on Viking padlocks. There is, waiting in the wings, more material, on Chinese and Japanese padlocks, and on Viking padlocks.

As a schoolboy in the 1950's, I looked into a muddy hole in the middle of York, where archaeologists on a rescue dig were delaying the foundations of a new shop development. Few then contemplated that the Jorvik Viking Centre would become one of Britain's most successful archaeology visitor attractions, second only to Stone Henge.

I still look forward to receiving descriptions of your favourite locks, dear Readers (*wistfully*).

"Locks & Keys" needs more subscribers. If you know any other collectors, please ask them to subscribe to their own copies!

"Locks & Keys" welcomes contributions, preferably with uncoloured illustrations on separate sheets. Unfortunately, colour photographs tend to be too dark to reproduce well. PC disks with files in Word2, Works3, Write, or saved as .rtf can be used.

Enoch Pinson Ltd

The company was founded in 1876 in Newhall Street, but it is thought that it existed long before this date. In 1878 they were at 95 Newhall Street and sold goods to J Hodson (*The Lock Museum has a copy of an invoice.*) In 1888 they were at Dale Works.

Enoch Pinson (1840-1900) lived at 61 New Road Willenhall (In 1999 a dentist's surgery). Enoch was the first person to be buried in Bentley cemetery. (*Horace Davies*)

Between 1895 and 1901 a number of patents (including 12361, 16064, 24546) were taken out by E Pinson and also F W Pinson trading as E Pinson.

The greater proportion of their output is the manufacturer of brass pin tumbler padlocks.

In 1976 the company was run by Mr Dear.

Taken over for a short period by Mr Jordan and his son, who lived at Cheltenham.

Taken over by Delaphena Honing Ltd of Cheltenham in October 1989, and became a division of Security Engineers plc who also owned SECUREFAST.

As the works of PINSON and SECUREFAST were next to each other, they were combined into one manufacturing unit although continuing to sell under both the SECUREFAST and PINSON names.

Jim Evans

[This item relates to the padlock puzzle on p5. Ed]

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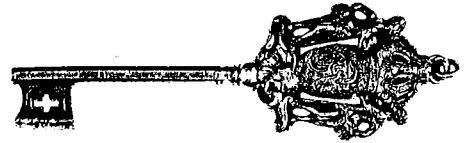
9 *Making a Viking padlock*

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HANNS SCHELL COLLECTION
 ÖSTERREICHISCHES MUSEUM
 FÜR SCHLOSS - SCHLÜSSEL - KÄSTCHEN
 KASSETTEN UND EISENKUNSTGUSS
 G R A Z



HANNS SCHELL COLLECTION

Europe's largest museum of locks, keys, cases, mini boxes and objects in cast iron.

Europe's largest lock Museum, the „HANNS SCHELL COLLECTION“, presents the continuous development of the lock and key in more than 1.000 m² exhibition hall. The earliest relics can be traced back to Egyptian times and have maintained their condition over the centuries up to the Industrial period.

Graz, the capitol of Styria, not only well known for being the great old town center of Europe, but also recognized for its international Museums such as the Joanneum and the Regional Armory, has been enriched by the HANNS SCHELL COLLECTION, a purely private Museum.

Foreign visitors were able to enjoy approximately 9.000 exhibits spanning a period of over two millennia. The collection surveys the development of „locking mechanisms“ ranging from Celtic and Roman keys to masterpieces dating from the recent past. The primary focus of the collection is on Austria and southern Germany.

600 receptacles alone from the 9th century to the beginning of the 20th century complete the Collection. Especially worth mentioning are the Minne boxes, communion trays, book cases, war and municipal money boxes, offertory boxes and cabinets.

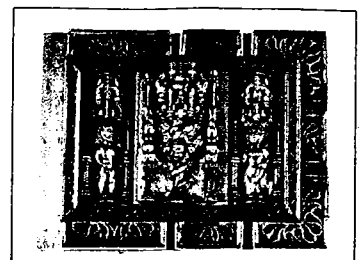
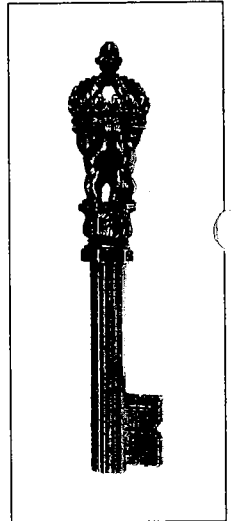
Masterpieces in decorative steel cutting techniques, works from the famous Embriachi factory near Venice, cases crafted in the Boulle-technique, the world famous Michl and Conrad Man(n) mini boxes from Nürnberg and Augsburg, the pistols, coffin and widower's key, the world renowned case, cut in chiselled iron (origin: Alphonse de Rothschild) and Limoges émail champlevé reliquaries from the 12th century.

As far as locks and keys, as well as receptacles are concerned, they are not only highlights in quality, but also in technology and the materials used in creating them.

Museum hours: Monday - Friday from 8.00 to 12.30 p.m.
 Tuesday from 8.00 to 4.00 p.m.

Telephone number: ++43 (0)316-71565638

Address: Wienerstraße 10
 A-8020 Graz
 Austria



In the post

We owe our present system of Royal Mail to King Charles I. He always needed money, but Parliament was unwilling to vote him taxes. He sought imaginative non-tax forms of income.

One was selling baronetcies (minor peerages) to wealthy citizens. Another was opening access to the Royal Mail to non-official mail in 1635, as a commercial business. It was a commercial success.

Post was, however, still expensive, and little used by ordinary citizens. From the beginning of the nineteenth century street numbering was compulsory, and businesses complied, but few houses were numbered until the middle of the century. The Duke of Wellington acquired Apsley House as his London home opposite Hyde Park at the western edge of London in 1820, and was quick to number it Number One, London. This is address of it still.

Mail could be handed to postboys (also called bellmen, who lasted into the 1850's) in urban streets, who carried letter bags. The recipient was required to pay the post charge, but often refused. Postmaster Rowland Hill was a good organiser, and good at accepting credit for other's ideas. A Dundee bookseller named James Chalmers suggested using pre-paid labels instead of letters being hand-stamped at the post office. Hill introduced these in 1840, and they were soon made more convenient by being coated with gum. Even better, Hill introduced a reasonably inexpensive flat rate regardless of distance - only weight mattered. The invention of a machine to make envelopes made mail easier to handle.

House numbering was enforced, and letter slots were cut in front doors. (See the 1849 public notice from the Postmaster General.) Early envelopes were smaller than today's Post Office Preferred sizes, so slots were small. Often the word *Letters* was cast onto the covering flap. Cast-iron was most common, but brass was also used.

A post office Surveyor at St Helier on Jersey, named Anthony Trollope, suggested adopting the French idea of a letter box. He soon became a man of different letters, as a successful author, but his idea was adopted by Hill in 1852. Pre-paid letters could be dropped into any letter box. (Shown is the second erected in London.)

Various designs were tried, often ordered locally, but by 1859 one proved more successful. A cast-iron cylinder with a top and bottom of larger diameter was robust and easy to manoeuvre by rolling. (This lesson was forgotten when in 1968, a square steel box was tried for the sake of a change; it did not stay in production long.)

From the beginning, Chubb locks were used, as the *Illustrated London News* was pleased to report. Some of the early ones were dead, but most are latches. Some

are masterkeyed within a locality, but most are not. The early locks were 5 lever detector block locks with barrel and curtain. Smaller locks are used on wall boxes.

Each box carries the royal cipher of the reigning monarch, usually cast on the door. In 1952 King George VI died and his daughter Elizabeth became Queen in her own right. She took the title Queen Elizabeth II. There had been no previous Queen Elizabeth of the United Kingdom of Great Britain, but there had been a Queen Elizabeth of England, with a long and famous reign. Avoiding confusion was sensible.

The first of the new monarch's pillar boxes was installed on an Edinburgh housing estate in 1952. Most of the residents just wished to post their mail in peace, but it was not safe to do so. Criminals repeatedly bombed the box, claiming that there had not been a previous Queen Elizabeth of Scotland, so there could not be a Second Queen Elizabeth of Scotland. This was as true as the fact that there had not previously been a Queen Elizabeth of the United Kingdom. But attacks continued, and eventually the criminals were allowed to win. That box was replaced with an old George VI one. Most Elizabethan letter boxes intended for north Britain do not have the royal cipher on them, and have the Scottish crown.

Letter box locks and keys are normally sent to Chubb for repair, or are scrapped by the Post Office. However, some redundant boxes are sold by Furnace End Fires, 2 Yew Tree Cottages, Church Road, Shustoke, Birmingham B46 2JX, usually complete with lock and key. There exists a Letter Box Study Group.

For many years, mail was sorted in travelling post offices on overnight trains. Having continual changes of shift-working staff manning these, much use was made of change key locks. Faster machine sorting made possible more use of short haul air transport from the early 1970's, obviating most of the need for travelling post offices.

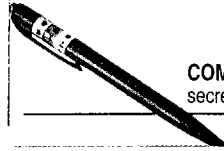
The Chatwood change key lock shown is 8 lever with the Invincible pivoting bolt stump (similar to Hobbs' Protector) visible at the top of the picture. This lock is 6 3/16 x 2 5/8 x 1 1/8" and was made in 1906.

The lock must be unlocked with the key last used to lock it, and is normally key-retaining. However, inserting and turning a changekey in the back of the lock disengages the wheels from the levers and allows the key to be removed. Another key can now be inserted and turned to unlock; the changekey can then be turned and removed. The lock now only responds to the new key. Chatwood also made keys with removable lever steps, which could be used with this type of lock.

R Phillips, Jim Brunton

In the post

- 1 Postboy or Bellman, early nineteenth century; this one worked for William Dockwra's Penny Post, which was soon closed down by the Postmaster General, who, however, took over the idea of Bellmen.
- 2 Postboy at the second letter box erected in a London street. The first was identical, with lengthy instructions too low to read and often mud-spattered. The term Postman did not appear until the 1870's.
- 3 Chubb pillar box lock, this one made in 1875.
- 4 Chatwood change key lock, this one made in 1906.
- 5 Postmaster General's public notice issued in 1849.



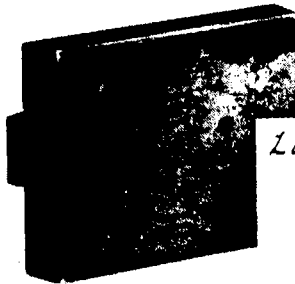
COMBINATION PEN 14cm Can be written with only if the secret number is known. © A413 - £ .85

01986 782536

1



2

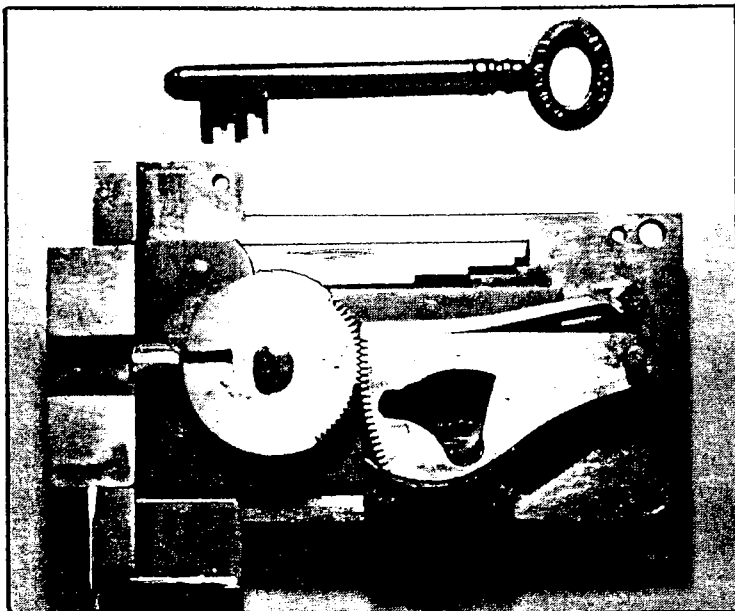


Lock No. 708461
Post Pillar Lock
February 1875



3

4



5



By Command of the Postmaster General.

NOTICE to the PUBLIC.

Rapid Delivery of Letters.

GENERAL POST OFFICE
May 1849.

The Postmaster General is desirous of calling attention to the greater rapidity of delivery which would obviously be consequent on the general adoption of **Street-door Letter Boxes, or Slits**, in private dwelling houses, and indeed wherever the Postman is at present kept waiting.

He hopes that householders will not object to the means by which, at a very moderate expense, they may secure so desirable an advantage to themselves, to their neighbours, and to the Public Service.

A Pinson and Parkes (et al.) padlock puzzle

Another little puzzle turned up some time ago with the finding of a round brass English padlock with Union markings (J Parkes, fig.1). Only then did it click that there is a set of these all alike except for company names or symbols.

Besides the Union, there is an Anglo-American (fig.2), one bearing an anchor symbol (Enoch Pinson, fig.3), and a Walsa (=Walsall, fig.4). These are all marked with the same patent number: 267,348. This patent was granted to one of the Pinsons in 1926. The example marked Walsa shows up in the 1930 catalogue of the Walsall Lock & Cart Gear Co.

It's not ordinary to find the same lock marked with so many different company names. The more usual thing is to see logo locks, where a company makes locks of a single design on contract, and marks them with several end-user company names. In this instance, looks like

either a single company absorbed all the others and continued to use their names or that the lock design was licenced to several other makers. Either way is unusual.

Figures 1-4 were taken from drawings in the Padlock Quarterly. Incidentally, the decorative band around the circumference of the faces of these locks is a fret. Probably the best known and widely used design is called the Greek Key pattern. This is the simplest form. The origins are prehistoric, and we'll come back to them sometime.

Don Jackson and Jon Millington
Editor's footnote:

I acquired a Pinson lock from my Grandfather (i.e. purchased before 1939). It is silver colour. I cannot determine if it is white brass, nickel-plated; or some other base metal, nickel-plated. The diameter is 1 1/4".

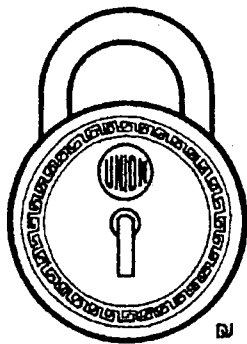


Figure 1



Figure 2

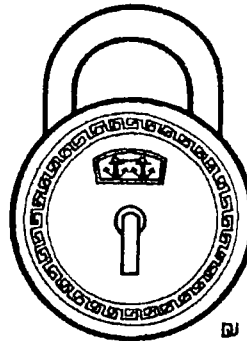


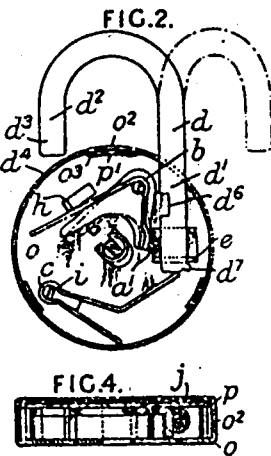
Figure 3



Figure 4

267,348. Pinson, F. W. April 28, 1926.

Locks, cases for; padlocks. — A padlock casing comprises a key-hole plate *o* surrounded by a flange *o*² and a plate *p* carrying the mechanism of the lock movement, the plate *p* having a series of lateral tongues *p*¹ adapted to be engaged between projections *o*³ on the flange, the casing being completed by a back-plate *j* which is placed over the movement plate and secured in position, preferably by spinning or turning the edge of the flange



*o*³ over the plate *j*. The casing is described as employed for a shackle *d* that slides and turns. The shackle *c* and the posts *h*, *i* for the tumbler and shackle springs *b*, *c* respectively are formed by piercing tongues out of the plate *p* and bending them out of the plane. The mechanism of the lock movement is mounted on the plate *p* before the casing parts are assembled. The shackle comprises a long leg *d*¹ which serves as a sliding pivot, and a shorter leg *d*², the end *d*³ of which engages a hole *d*⁴ when the shackle is locked. The leg *d*¹ is provided with a notch *d*⁴ engaged by the head *d*⁵ of the tumbler, the lower extremity of the shackle being formed with a projection *d*⁷ that serves as a stop when the shackle is released from the tumbler by a key and shot into its released position by the spring *c*.

Questions from readers

Write in to "Locks & Keys" with your questions about locks. Somebody will surely be able to supply answers. The Editor will be pleased to print a composite answer to questions. When replying, please mention the number of the question.



There are no questions or answers in this issue.

Chastity belts

Whilst driving along over Christmas, I caught part of the last 'News Quiz' of the year on Radio 4. Instead of covering the last week, as usual, it ranged over the last ten centuries.

In the twelfth century, chastity belts appeared (true — they were not known before the Crusades). There were various jokes which I cannot remember verbatim.

One knight rode away to the Crusade entrusting his estate manager with his wife's key, 'in case he did not return'. The next morning the knight saw his manager riding fast in pursuit of the army. "Sir, you left me the wrong key" he said! A panelist joked about the locksmiths' perks, and the prices they could charge for callouts to emergency openings. One panelist invited another to 'do your wax impression'. There was an ad from the *Orléans Times*: 'one careful lady owner' — thanks to the lads of the Orléans Fire Brigade for that one. Snippets about chastity belts appear in the press occasionally. They were sometimes used in the past, to protect women, rather than prevent unfaithfulness, and also to protect corpses from dissectors.

There are several in the Cluny Museum in Paris (see pictures opposite). I saw in 1970 a mediaeval belt with a small ball padlock, stored in a box lined with blue plush. From memory it belonged to the Wellcome Institute for the History of Medicine. This famous library and collection of medical artefacts is now called the Wellcome Trust, and associated with University College London.

Contemporary illustrations often show an integral lock of disproportionate size; actual artefacts surviving usually use a padlock.

An Essex company in the early 1970's made some as novelties, which were sold with small cheap warded padlocks. (See right.)

PHILLIPS, Peter Historical locks. *Security surveyor*, 2 (6), March 1972, pp65-69. This article describes several chastity belts and their locks from the author's collection, and from museums in Paris and Sweden. There are several literary instances of their uses quoted from English and French sources; four plates.

R Phillips



From days of old when knights were bold

IT'S NOT every girl who still trusts in the solid virtues of a cast-iron chastity belt. The exception is lovely Sharon Kenny, who has found an up-to-date use for this notorious mediaeval gadget.

"They make perfect steering-wheel locks," laughed 19-year-old Sharon, of Ingrebourne Road, Rainham, "but I pity the poor women who had to wear them."

PADLOCKS

But don't look for your chastity belt in motor accessory stores. Sharon, who makes her acting debut next month in Rainham Dramatic Society's production of "Women of Twilight", found hers in a Brentwood antique shop.

Mr. Robin Hugessen, director of the Halstead, Essex, firm which makes the belts, is surprised by the demand for them.

"We are turning out 500 a week," he said. "People are using them as padlocks or just novelty ornaments."

He added that orders had been received from countries all over the world. Including the Virgin Islands.

cutting from Hornchurch
Echo 30/9/71

OBLIGING police got to work with files today and cut through two chains and three padlocks . . . so that bride Mrs. Arabella Augustin could be freed from a chastity belt.

Juanilo, Mrs. Augustin's husband of one month *Express* 23/1/70 —

ordered out of his home with the in-laws at Santa Clara, California, this week after admitting he had another wife in the Philippines. He went all right . . . leaving Arabella trussed up safely in the belt, and with the keys to the lock in his pocket.

RECORD 11/1/99

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21st Century chastity belt

WIVES who fear their husbands will stray on long trips abroad can rest assured thanks to a new chastity belt.

Nevada inventor Frank Miller has designed the CB-2000 lightweight plastic belt with optional brass padlock.

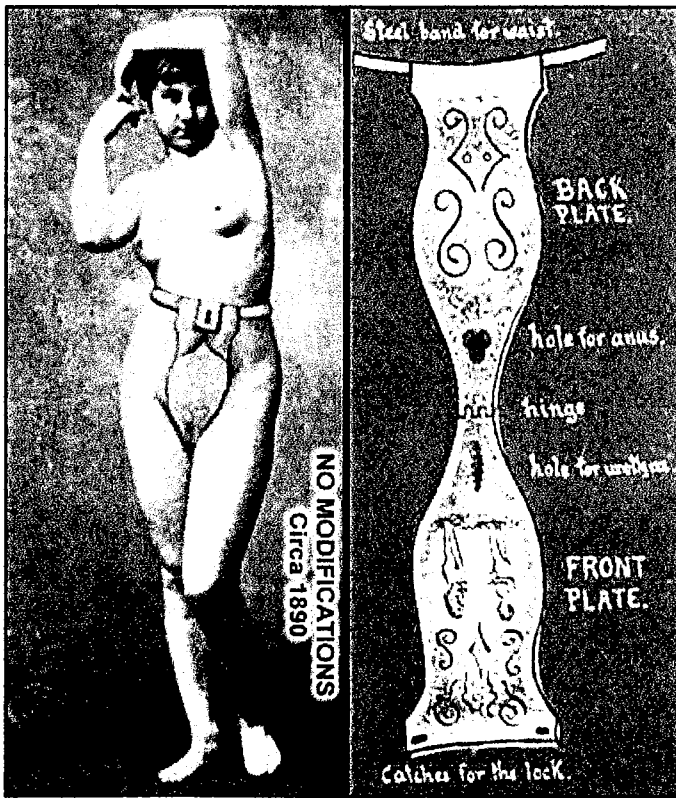
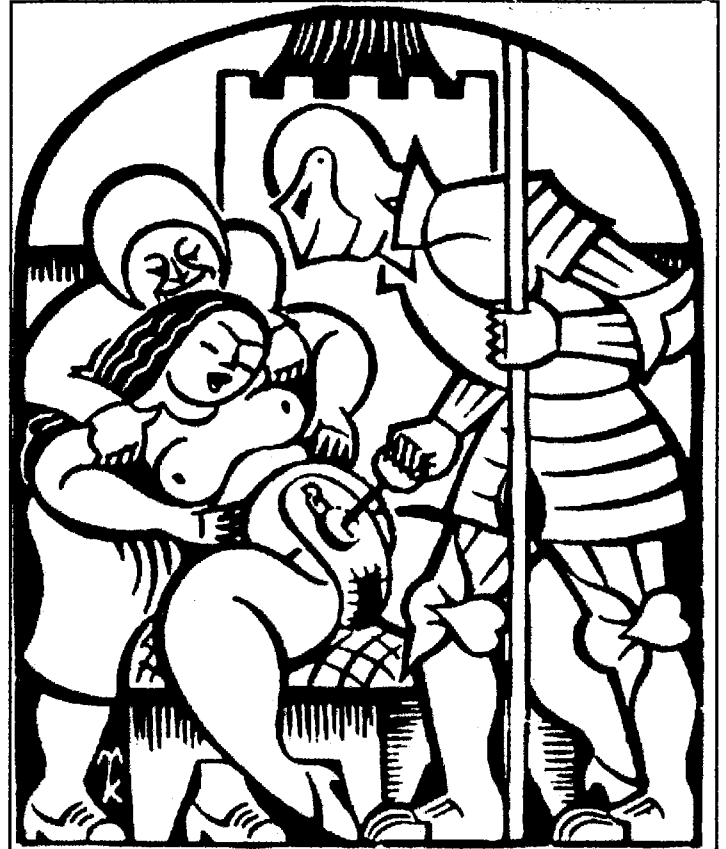
The belt is the first guaranteed not to set airport security alarms jangling like the old steel versions.

Promotional literature describes it as "a must for the frequent flyer".

Nearly 60 per cent of men will have an affair at some stage in their lives.

Illustrations from the Cluny Museum, Paris.

The photograph shows a mediæval belt being modelled about 1890; there are no original padlocks with this. The mediæval woodcut and the nineteenth century bookplate both show mid- to late-fifteenth century armour. The woodcut shows a round padlock with an oversized key.



1928 quiz book

In the chapter on Dance, I found the question: 'Why are the Yale Blues so called?' Answer: 'From a Yale key, owing to the intricate variations.'

Safe drinking

This amber glass bitter bottle was found in Britain and is quite valuable. It presumably dates from sometime before the Great War. Also it presumably comes from New Jersey rather than Kent, but I have no further information.

Richard Hopkins

Prunk Kassetten

The coupon at the bottom of this page is for a book published by the Hanns Schell Collection. *Prunk Kassetten: eight centuries of European masterpieces*, by Ewald Berger, is a book of masterpiece caskets and chests. The magnificent one illustrated here is only one of many. Many examples are described, and techniques explained. The book is in German and English, hardbound in cloth with dustjacket, 336 pages, 500 colour illustrations, 31cm., published 1998. The price is DM148.

Worst heists

On the Isle of Bute two desperadoes attempted to rob the local bank. Unfortunately, it had a revolving door in which one of the robbers got caught on entry to the building.

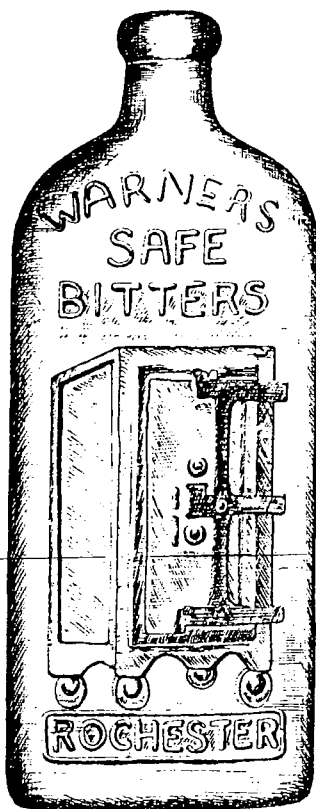
He was rescued by a staff member. Ungratefully, he then pulled a gun and demanded £5,000 from the young female teller. He explained that he needed it to go round the world. He invited her to accompany him but she refused both him and the £5,000. So he asked for £500 to get him to London instead, and when she still wouldn't, he dropped the price to £0.50. When that was not forthcoming he said he would shoot her. 'Go ahead,' she shrugged.

Meanwhile his companion managed to grab £600 but, sadly, on their way out they pushed the revolving door the wrong way and were both caught.

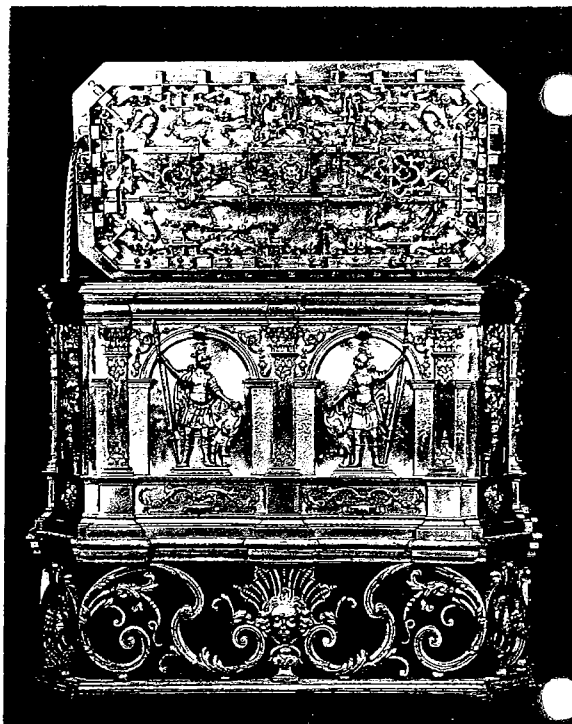
There was also the Glasgow thief who stole £2,000 from a bank in Milngavie and escaped on a bike. As he was completely bloated at the time, he fell off. Two workmen helped him back on and were given £200 each. After their full description — and full refund of the money — the man was arrested in a pub. The bike was propped against the door.

BURNIE, J *Scotland the worst*, Canongate, 1995, p63.

Masterpiece!



Warner's Safe Bitters. Price guide number: 80.



Casket of cut steel and parcel-gilt, the interior lock having 26 bolts; German, 1733. Formerly in the Rothschild Collection. (This reproduction does scant justice to the original.)

Warner's Safe Bitters

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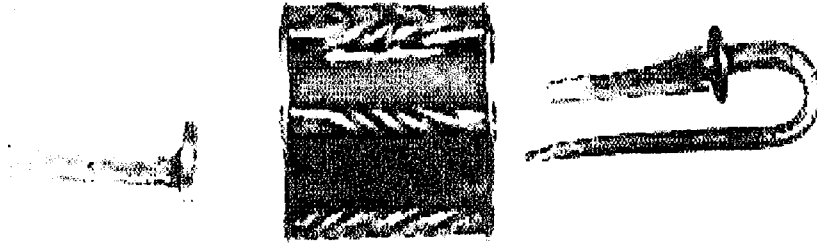
Unterschrift:

Bitte schicken Sie Ihre
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HANNS SCHELL
COLLECTION
WIENERSTRASSE 10
A-8020 GRAZ

Making a replica Viking padlock and key

This lock design is based on an original discovered during the York dig in England. In period (1000 AD) it was made of forged wrought iron. I have discovered that any stiff material, (even cardboard and straws) can produce this lock, with brass being my favourite. If you wish to change the lock's size you must design the lock around the shackle. The overall size is dependent on the length and width of the loop of the shackle. If it is 1 inch long and 1/2 inch wide you shall have a very small lock. If it is 9 inches long and 2 inches wide, your lock will be nearly the size of your fist. This one is the general size of the one found at York.



A picture of a good re-creation of the lock from England made from forged iron.

them. Then forge it flat. Bend 4 inches of 1/2 inch wide steel strapping (found on packing crates) in half over the flattened end of the shackle to make the prongs. Clamp in a vice so it does not move. Drill 2 holes through both pieces, 1/4 inch from the end (as in the diagram). Rivet the pieces together. Grind or file the sides so that they are parallel.

Bend the 1/4 inch rod over a mandrel (an old broom handle works fine). Leave enough distance from the flattened section to give the height of shackle

desired. This is a personal judgement and need not be more than an inch or so. The distance will be from just past the flattened part to the top of the loop.

Note: The tail of the shackle must extend through the body of the lock by at least 1/2 inch or it will be difficult to close properly.

Tools required are:

- Hammer
- Drill and bits
- Files
- Hacksaw
- Ruler and pencil
- Emery paper (wet/dry)
- Mandrel e.g. short length of 1" broom handle

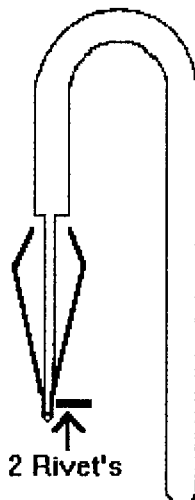
Optional tools:
Jewellers saw and blades

The materials used are:

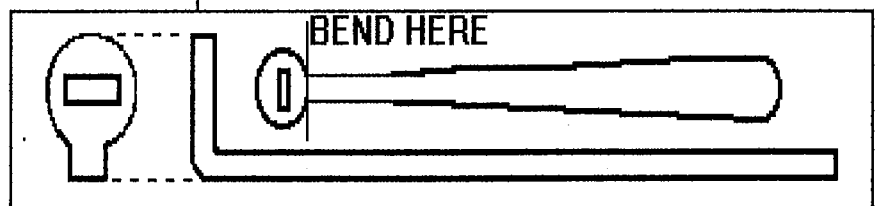
- 1/4 inch bronze welding rod about three feet
- 1/8 inch rivet material (copper wire or welding rod) 14 pieces 1 cm. long.
- One foot or so of used 1/2 inch steel strapping from a lumber yard or warehouse etc..
- Any width as it cuts easily with metal shears.
- 18 gauge plate or heavier 10 cm. x 25 cm.

First: make the shackle

Flatten one end of the 1/4 inch rod for 1 1/2 inches, either by filing 1/16 inch off each side or by forging. I used my wood stove to anneal the metal. Do this by heating the metal until red, then place it in cool water as this makes non-iron metals softer and takes the tension out of

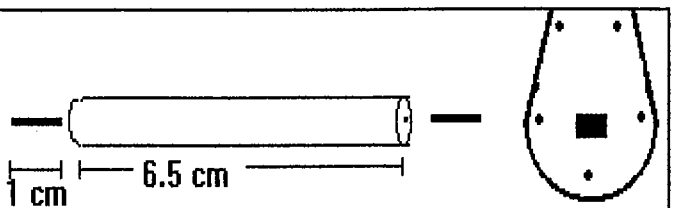


Second: Make the key



Bend your key blank over in a vice by clamping the head (part with the slot) and hammer the handle until you achieve a 90° bend. Cut and size the keyhole to match the end of the shackle. This is done similar to the top-plate slot. If the shackle rod is 1/4 inch then you will need a 1/2 inch key end. The key should be as thick as possible at the head end, because if it goes past the prongs you will have to break the shackle to fix it.

Third: The posts

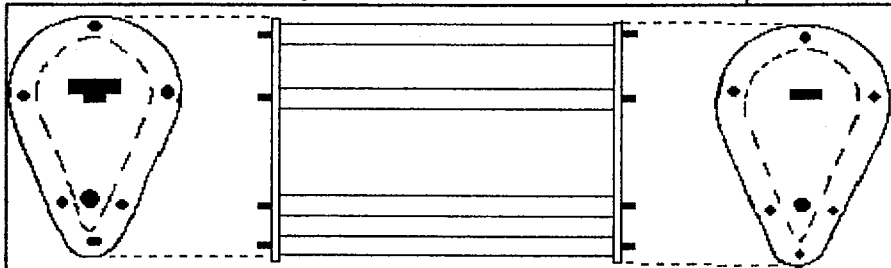


Rods can be made by cutting 6 x 1/4 inch bronze welding rods the same size as the body width (6.5 cm.), then you would drill a hole the same size as your rivet material in each end. Then place a pin (rivet-to-be) in the end of the rod and pass it through the end plate.

Peen over this rivet. All should be prepared to be peened at the same time.

Another method is a nail with a shorter piece of copper brake pipe slipped over it. The nail passes through the end plates and is peened over as the rivet. Peen carefully as the nail could bend. The copper brake pipe is used to hide the nail.

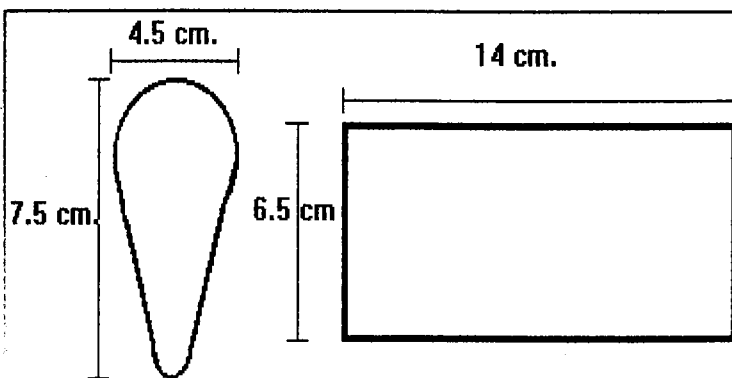
Fourth: The body flats, both ends and sides



The material throughout can be any stiff stock. Recycled brass door kick-plates work well, or cold rolled steel.

The body is a flat rectangle that is bent in half lengthways around the mandrel (or 1 inch broom handle) in a tear-drop shape to match the shape of the end pieces. You will notice the body is smaller than the end pieces because the diameters of the posts are going to go out to the edge of the end pieces. Leave a millimetre all the way around so the post edge does not hang out. Use a hacksaw to cut the flat end plates. Clamp the end plates together and file together to ensure the end-plates are the same.

You must drill all the holes through both plates at one sitting. Mark the holes to be drilled and drill while both plates are clamped together. This will line up the holes exactly. Once you drill two holes put two of the rivets in and the holes will line up better for the rest. One



large 1/4 inch hole (for the tail of the shackle) and 6 x 1/8 inch smaller holes to match the size of the rivet pins.

Insert the long round tail of the shackle into the 1/4 inch hole of one of the plates. This plate then becomes the top plate. Ensure that the top plate and the shackle's tail are 90° to each other. Mark a rectangle where the spring-end meets the top plate. It must be on the centre line of the plate. Make this rectangle just big enough to

admit the prong end of the shackle but not the following round part. One could silver solder a washer here to make sure that the shackle does not go too far into the body since this makes it impossible to remove the key if the key goes past the prongs. Either saw this out with a jeweller's saw or drill smaller holes and file into shape. Ensure it is just big enough.

The bottom plate requires the key to be finished. Place the key upside down and backwards on the spring part of the shackle. Place the shackle (as you did on the top plate) into the bottom plate on the centre line. Mark the width of the key-end touching the bottom plate. Mark where the back and sides of the key lie. Remove the key and shackle and finish marking according to the diagram. Ensure the holes are just large enough. I have changed the shape of the key hole. It is now upside from the original, as I find it is easier to line up the key and shackle this way. Also the shackle can be wider. You may change this if you wish.

Assembly:

Take the top and bottom plates and rivet 5 of the 6 posts in. Do this by alternating top and bottom rivets. The exception is the post at the widest round portion of the bottom. Slide the body in and then rivet in the last post. Put the shackle in. Then try the key!

Credits and further information:

I would like to thank His Lordship Daniel of Stafford Pele for getting me started and his help in writing this down. Pia RoxBorough for finding my mistakes. Also the Society For Creative Anachronism for giving me the dream. The Shire of Lyndhaven for supplying me with moral support.

Hall, Richard *The Viking dig: the excavations at York*. ISBN 0-370-30821-2 paperback

Archaeological Resource Centre, St. Saviourgate, York YO1 2NN

These people have a paper model pattern of a lock by John G. Watt that is very good .

Shire of Lyndhaven:

<http://www.bestware.net/wendysweb/lyndhaven/lyndpage.htm>

SCA East: <http://www.eastkingdom.org/>

Ancient Metallurgy Research Group:

<http://www.brad.ac.uk/acad/archsci/subject/amrg/amrginfo.html>

Comments?: please email to: dwilson@nbnet.nb.ca

D Wilson

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[Please mark your lock with date and your name. Ed.]

Key reward tags for sale or swop**Tony Beck**

COMPANY	ADDRESS	REWARD
Alliance Key Registries Limited	Leeds, 14 East Parade	ns
British Key & Property Registry Ltd	Glasgow, 19 Newton Place, Charing Cross	5/-
ditto	Glasgow, 192 Hope Street	5/-
ditto	ditto - but return to 64 Finsbury Pavement, London	5/-
British Key & Property Registry & Accident Assurance Association	Hope Street, Glasgow	5/-
Carlyle Club	London, W. 211 Piccadilly (for year 1914-15)	5/-
Crusader Insurance Co Limited	Reigate, Surrey	£1
Alexander Duckham & Co Ltd	London, Cannon Street EC4	5/-
Dunnes Key Registrations	Sutton Coldfield, 240 Highbridge Road	5/-
Dunnes Insurance Co.	Birmingham, 92 College Row, Perry Barr	5/-
Heydale Key Registration Co Ltd	Rochdale, P.O.Box 18	£5
Key Registry (Newcastle)	Newcastle, 10 Neville Street	ns
ditto	Newcastle, 90 Grey Street	ns
Liverpool Insurance Society Ltd	London, 40/44 Holborn Viaduct	5/-
ditto	Liverpool, 27/30 The Temple Dale Street	5/-
Liverpool Mutual Insurance Society	Liverpool 27 The Temple, Dale Street	5/-
ditto	Liverpool, 40/44 Holborn Viaduct	5/-
Mutual Property Life & General Insurance Co. Ltd	London SW1 15 Whitehall	5/-
Mutual Property Insurance Co. Ltd	London SW1 15 Whitehall	5/-
ditto	London, 16/20 Charing Cross	5/-
ditto	London, 159/161 Gt Portland Street	5/-
Mutual Pprty Invstmnt & Accident Co Ltd	Manchester, 41 Corporation Street	5/-
M. Myers & Son, Patent tag	Disc slides to reveal owners name behind	ns
National Safe Deposit Co Ltd	London EC4, 1 Queen Victoria Street	2/6
Northern Key Registration Co	Leeds, 13 Queens Square	5/- & 10/-
Paragon Key & Property Registry	Nottingham, 11 Houndsgate	5/-
Royal Key & Property Registry	Newcastle on Tyne, Queen Street	5/-
Scottish National Key Registry & Assurance Association Ltd	Edinburgh - oval design stamped "Hull"	5/-
ditto	Edinburgh - rectangular shape	5/-
Scottish & National (United) Key Registry Association	Edinburgh (stamped "Sheffield")	5/-
Shadow Key Tag Co	(Birmingham) Telephone: 021 551 7838	ns
Singleton & Cole Limited	Advertises "Eventide" Smoking Mixture	5/-
Union Accident Insurance Co	London, EC 116 Newgate Street	5/-
United Motor Finance Corporation Ltd	Slough, Bucks	5/-
Universal Key Registry Asnce Association	Swansea	5/-
Warnford Court Branch (of what?): oval sterling silver design	Brighton area? Telephone: Met. 2960; City 8096; Reading 2732; Hove 2244	ns
Yorkshire Key Registration Co	Leeds, Merrion Street	5/-
ditto	Leeds, 15 Queens Square	5/-
ditto	Leeds, 13 Queens Square	5/-
Number: "6293" only, on disc front	Plymouth Central Police Station rear	5/-
Number: "61" only, on reverse	- take to nearest Police Station	

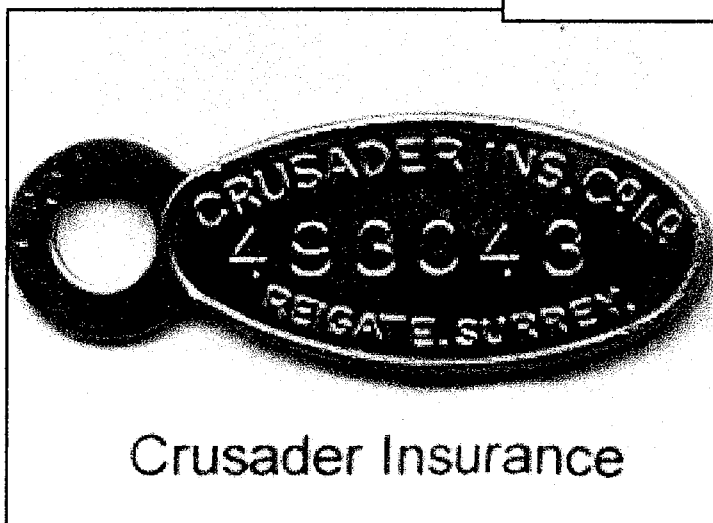
Pictures of some of these are on the next page

Various key tags

Much enlarged pictures of some of Tony Beck's key tags.



Duckham's Oil
Tag No. D8716
(Rear)



Crusader Insurance



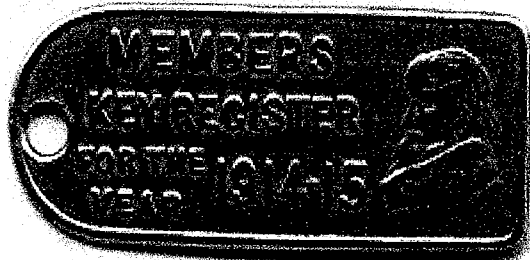
Key Registry (Newcastle)



The Paragon Key &
Property Registry

If any reader has any key tag not listed above, for swop or sale, I would be interested to know. Additionally, if any reader has any knowledge about the history of these tags, I would like to know — e.g. how they started, when and by whom, to what extent are they now used, when did the various companies start and cease trading. I have an old key ring issued by *Hat and renovation Co., Arcade, Lord St Liverpool*, offering a 'reward' for its return. Presumably this key ring marking might have led eventually to the disc tag.

R A Beck 19 Lawrence Avenue Chaddesden DERBY DE21 4RD



The Carlyle Club
211, Piccadilly



Singleton & Cole Ltd