



**Sale Preview: 15th December 2011
Fine Furniture, pictures, jewellery and toys**

The festive season is almost upon us and anybody who is looking for an unusual and unique Christmas present need look no further than Chorley's 15th December sale.

For the boys that never grew up, Lot 10 includes several first editions of Ian Fleming's James Bond books. These highly collectable volumes have their original dust jackets with the striking designs by Richard Chopping and have an estimate of £500-800 for the group.



A more modest outlay of just £120-150 could secure Lot 28, a silhouette of John Millbank, the Cheltenham Muffin Man, providing the perfect present for a local historian or muffin lover. The Muffin man was a 19th Century street vendor; at only 3 feet high, he wore a beaver hat, and sold his wares from a basket. Something of a local celebrity at the time, it is no surprise that

Cheltenham Museum and Art Gallery have several portraits of him in their collection.

Many people believe that industrial scale wind turbines are an ugly waste of money; Chorley's are pleased to offer an alternative in Lot 270, a Dutch silver model of a windmill. This is altogether more attractive and buyers should not need to rely on subsidies with the estimate of just £400-600.



In addition to these interesting items, the December auction also includes a collection of 17th Century needlework pictures, a large selection of jewellery including many Art Deco diamond pieces, silver, some fine Georgian and later furniture and the wonderful collection of miniature scale model boats described below. **TJF**



Bassett-Lowke Waterline Ship Models

To many, the name Bassett-Lowke conjures childhood memories of steam and clockwork trains and rolling-stock packed as Christmas presents under the Christmas tree. These models, now highly sought after by adults too, command exceptional prices in salerooms. Less well-known are the beautifully crafted models of ships also produced by Bassett-Lowke and Chorley's are thrilled to be offering a collection of 1/1200 scale ship models in their December sale.

These models were collected by Charles Rodney Segrave and his wife Joan Beryl on the many cruises they made around the world between the First and Second World Wars. Unlike his half brother, Sir Henry de Hane Segrave (1896-1930), Charles Segrave obviously enjoyed the more sedate cruise than breaking land and water speed records.



The delightful and very detailed models, hand crafted from wood, were supplied to the Steamship Companies by Bassett-Lowke and the lots offered for sale include models from the Canadian Pacific Railway and Steamship Company, the Pacific Steam Navigation Company, The Norddeutsche Lloyd and Hamburg Sud-Amerika Line, The Union Castle Line and The Pacific and Orient Line. These romantically named companies were provided with models such as the Empress of Britain, estimated to achieve £200, the Empress of Japan, at a similar price, the Bremen is expected to achieve upwards of £300, the Empress of Russia £200 and the Queen Mary may well steam away at a price of £250.

Some of the smaller, equally well modelled ships were purchased on ferries between England and France and on many of cruises the Segraves made around Beryl's homeland of Australia. These lots can be purchased today for around £60-£80 a piece. The condition of all the Lots is exceptional and the boats are presented for sale in their Bassett-Lowke boxes; many of the models and boxes still bear their original hand written labels.

Charles Segrave had other toys in his collection which are included in this sale: groups of early Dinky Toys, again in good condition, will be offered together with a fascinating Wiking sectional model harbour complete with trains, barges, battleships, cranes and numerous other accessories; although of very small scale it is expected to cause a wave of interest from both the Continent and at home and this toy for a boy could still be purchased in time for this Christmas at around £400-600. **SRC**



November sale review

Chorley's two day sale in November proved an enormous success with a sold rate of over 85% and a premium inclusive total in excess of £500,000. With 80 lots reaching hammer prices in excess of £1000, Chorley's continue to confirm their dominance of the Cotswold auction scene.



Dresden cup
£11,000

Notable successes included an early piece of Dresden silver of unusual design, the exterior modelled to resemble the bark of a pine tree which sold for £11,000 and a three-strand natural pearl necklace which was fiercely contested to £11,000.



Moon flask
£55,000

The Oriental section of 100 works of art was always expected to provide the highest value lots and did not disappoint with a large celadon crackle glazed moon flask of the Qianlong/Jiaqing period at £55,000, a jade koro and cover at £21,000 and the final lot in the sale, a spinach green jade vase with Qianlong mark which realised £25,000.

However, despite these jaw-dropping prices, the most memorable section of the auction was a sensational collection of shagreen boxes.

Good things come in small packages...

The fantastic private collection of shagreen necessaires and etuis which proved the highlight of our November sale is exactly the type that would once have been sold in London but which firms like Chorley's now excel at handling. Clients feel they get more personal attention from the auctioneers and, thanks to the power of the internet, London prices can be achieved at a fraction of the cost.



Etui
£6,600



Etui
£7,500

This collection totalled just over £80,000 hammer with a number of highlights including £6,600 for Lot 328, a George III chest etui, which was complete with over thirty items including inkwells, scent bottles, and brushes. Lot 330, a

necessaire, was a little more exuberant in style with gold and gilt metal decoration including leaf mouldings to the corners of the case. The push button mechanism was set with a diamond and the interior fitted with gold topped inkwells and a variety of small implements, and once again the completeness and quality saw frenzied bidding take it to £7,500.

From the same collection came a fine group of miniature silver including a pair of candlesticks, Lot 192, just 2¼in high made by George Manjoy in 1702, which realised £2,200. A gold gem set and enamel seal, Lot 342, in the form of a turban headed Nubian sold for £5,200 against very strong international competition. This collection was put together by a connoisseur with a great eye and I hope the buyers are as happy with their purchases as we were in cataloguing the collection. **JH**



Seal
£5,200

2011: Review of the Year

During the past twelve months, we have been able to extend our selling space, upgrade the display areas, refine our website and greatly improve our printed and online catalogues.

We have sold over 6,500 lots, almost 20% of them to online bidders, and have reached record totals. Among the highlights of our year have been:

- record price for a Chinese work of art: £340,000 for a pair of relief carved ivory, hardstone and bronze panels
- £55,000 for a Chinese ge type ceramic vase
- £80,000 for a set of eight Anglo-Chinese chairs

We have achieved record prices for paintings, clocks, furniture and in many other specialist fields, and had the privilege of dealing with several single-owner collections that have sold very well, proving again that we are a provincial auction house with a truly international reach. Over 85% of the lots we offered were sold successfully against reserve, comparing very favourably with the major London rooms where the success rate is often below 60%.

We would like to thank all our buyers and sellers very much for making 2011 an enjoyable and successful year.

The Directors and Staff of Chorley's



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY:

Next Auctions

15th December 2011
2nd February 2012

Valuation Days

9th December, 13th January, 17th February
Phone 01452 344499 for an appointment