

Chapter 27: Items Purchased

This chapter briefly reviews things grandad reported buying, from when his diaries started until 1938, the year before the second world war started.¹

Quite a number of the entries during this period refer to buying books or other reading materials. During the first world war, grandad bought copies of "*The Great War*"² and had them bound. He also noted that Olive bought the same magazine and she also had her copies bound. In August 1914, grandad noted buying his first copy of the "*War*"³ for 2d.



Selection of World War One magazines bound and unbound
Top left – bound volume of The War Illustrated
Top right – bound volume of The Great War
Above left – selection of unbound editions of The War Illustrated
Above right – single edition of The Great War

¹ Although I recorded these items since I started reviewing the diaries, I did not initially write separate chapters on these. However, I did this for the late sixties and found it quite interesting and wondered why I had not done so for earlier periods! An opportunity presented itself in this chapter which I had initially set aside for material on mining between the wars. But, I had very little material from the diaries on mining. Initially, I thought I had something about a mining accident involving John Smith but, it turns out, this was a road traffic accident (see [Chapter 18](#)). Faced with otherwise having to delete the chapter and renumber everything, I opted to create this chapter! I decided it made sense to include material from the years of the first world war here. For most of the other time periods, I have a chapter covering a mix of issues and I have added material on items purchased into those.

² While I was initially unsure which publication this was, I think it was the one entitled "*The Great War: The Standard History of the All-Europe Conflict*" by [Herbert Wrigley Wilson](#) and [John Alexander Hamerton](#). It came out in weekly editions which could be bound together.

³ Again a little challenging to identify the precise magazine. But, I think it may have been "*The War Illustrated*" by [William Berry](#).

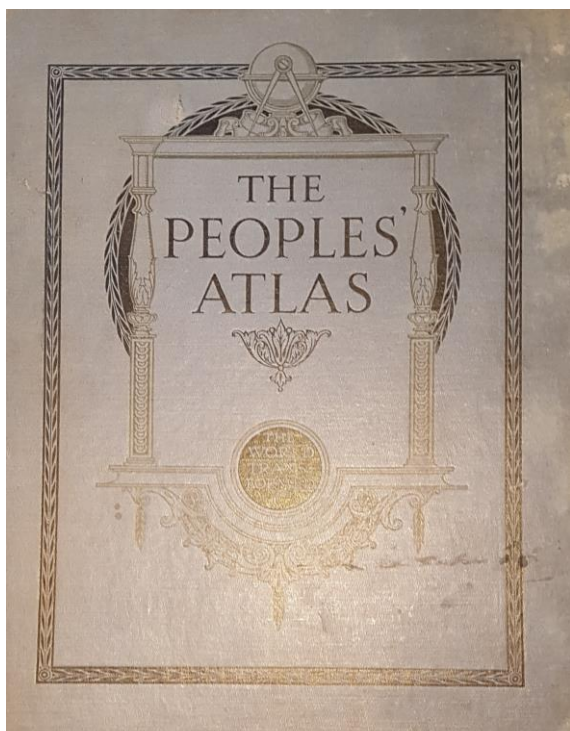
In April 1917, grandad bought the book "[King Solomon's Mines](#)" for one shilling. In September 1917, three volumes of history books⁴ came and a further three came the next day. A few days later, grandad sent a cheque for £5 14 0 to London and I presume it was for these books. In May 1918, Cyril bought grandad four [Collins classics](#) from Boots. The total cost was six shillings, that is one and six each which grandad noted was the "war price".⁵ In July 1918, grandad had 16 volumes of [Everyman's Library](#) come at a cost of 2/3 each. In May 1919, grandad sent a cheque for £6 6 0 to Chambers for an [encyclopaedia](#) and, in June 1919, he sent to London for four books at two shillings each. In August 1919, he bought a volume of [The Sketch](#) for three and six. In September 1919, he bought the book Fortuna Chance⁶ from Tryner's⁷ for five shillings and, that month, he bought another book for two shillings. In November of that year, he bought another six books from Tryner's at two shillings each. In January 1920, Eva bought grandad a [People's Atlas](#)⁸ for 9/10. In February 1920, grandad sent to [Foyles](#) in London for [Webster's New International Dictionary](#) for £3. On 26 February 1921, he bought a pair of books for 26 shillings.



Above – copy of "The Sketch" from May 1913

Below left – "The People's Atlas"

Below – advert for Webster's dictionary from 1915



"Weights only 7 lbs!"

The INDIA-PAPER Edition of
**WEBSTER'S
 NEW INTERNATIONAL**
 The Merriam Webster

It is a real pleasure to use *The Supreme Authority* in this new and convenient edition. A delighted purchaser writes: "The volume is so flexible, so portable, so agreeable, so readable that looking up a word has lost all its terror." 2½ inches of shelf room hold this wonderfully compact storehouse of authentic information. Only half as thick, only half as heavy as the Regular Edition. Printed on expensive, thin, strong, opaque, India Paper.

Puzzling War Words
 as Landsturm, Contraband, Batum, Belligerent, Blockade, Flanders, Moratorium, Transylvania and thousands of others are clearly defined or located in the *New International*.

The One Standard Authority
 It is the Standard of the Federal and State Courts. The Standard of the Government Printing Office.

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⁴ I am not sure entirely what these history books were and whether they were war history books.

⁵ While I have not found very clear references, I think price controls were in place during the first world war to ensure that prices were not inflated and profiteering was avoided. Presumably, these price controls applied to books.

⁶ A [book](#) by James Prior. Apparently, it was set in Sherwood Forest.

⁷ The 1928 and 1941 Kelly Directories have Edwin Tryner confectioner at 19 Kingsway. Based on discussion on the [Kirkby Living Memory Facebook Group](#), his name was Edwin Abel Tryner. In the 1911 census, he was listed as a herbalist and, in the 1939 Register, as running a poultry farm and small holding. In the 1921 census, he was listed as a general shopkeeper with his son, Arthur, listed as a shop assistant (Toffee H and Herbalist). A possible explanation is that the shop started off as a herbalist and general store but, by 1928, had become a more-focused confectioner.

⁸ This focused on describing the world as it was immediately after the first world war.

In June 1917, grandad bought a bookcase from his brother Cyril for two shillings. In October 1918, grandad sent to The [Furniture and Fine Art Depositories](#) in London for bookcases for himself and Cyril. His cost £14 14 0 and Cyril's £11 15 0.⁹ It seems that at least grandad's bookcase was damaged in transit as the railway company paid him £1 for a claim of damages relating to the bookcase.

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Diploma of Honour and



Gold Medals, Paris Exhibition, 1912.

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to H.M. the King of Spain.

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IMPORTANT NOTICE—Special attention is drawn to the fact that we have **NO BRANCH DEPOSITORIES** **WHATEVER**, neither is anyone entitled to represent themselves as being connected with us in any way.

Advert from *The Sketch* in 1913

During this period, grandad bought, or had bought for him, a number of musical items. In October 1915, his mother bought him a concertina¹⁰ from Nottingham but, on the 30th, he himself bought an English concertina¹¹ for two guineas. In January 1918, it appears he bought another concertina as he sent a cheque for a concertina to Vickers¹² in London. The new baritone concertina cost £7 8 6 and he was allowed 17/6 for his old one. He also bought a set of wrist straps for three shillings so the total cost was £6 14 0. Also that month, he sent for an Edeophone concertina¹³ and enclosed a cheque for £6 3 6. The concertina should have been £17 but it was £12 10 plus 10% in the sale. On the 26th, he sent a further cheque for £1 11 3 for the Edeophone making a total cost of £15 8 9. He noted that the new cost was £17 plus 10%.¹⁴ In February 1918, he sent a postal order to Vickers for 7/6 to cover a tutor and some music. Also that month, he bought some music "*Selections from William Tell*" from Minnie and he bought a music stand from Kirk's¹⁵ for 5/6. In September 1919, Olive bought him a book of sacred songs and solos from Nottingham for six shillings. In December 1919, he sent for a Chellaphone¹⁶ for 1/6. It came on the 20th but he lost it on the 29th and sent for a replacement on the 30th at a cost of three shillings.¹⁷ In December 1920, he bought a clarinet for £6 10 and a case for 8/6. In October 1922, he bought what he described as a "*jazz flagelette*" for 13/6. I assume he is referring to a [flageolet](#). In January 1923, he bought a violin for which the price was £5 15 6. He also got a bow priced at 17/6 and a case priced at £1 2 6. The total price should have been £7 15 6 but he paid £6 12 6. In February 1928, he bought a mandolin.

There were several purchases during this period related to bikes and motorbikes.¹⁸ In October 1914, grandad noted getting his bike back from Williams¹⁹ for which he was charged one and six. In October 1919, grandad bought Eva's bike for £2 and, the same month, he bought a cycle lamp for 3/6. In December 1922, he got his bike²⁰ back from Raleigh. It cost him 37/6. On 27 January 1933, he bought a tyre from Halfords in Mansfield for 2/9. Other people also bought bikes during this period. In March

⁹ I am not sure why there was a difference in price. Perhaps, it related to size or type.

¹⁰ His experiences of buying and playing the concertina are summarised in [Chapter 4](#).

¹¹ I don't know if the one his mother bought him had been English but I presume this was not the case.

¹² I have not found details of them. I did find details of a London music dealer called [Horace Vickers Rees](#) but I don't know if he was connected.

¹³ See [Chapter 4](#).

¹⁴ I am not sure I can make sense of all these entries or get the numbers to add up. It seems he got one concertina from London only to decide he wanted to upgrade it to an Edeophone. So, he paid the difference. It may have been secondhand and he gave the cost of a new one for comparison.

¹⁵ The Kelly Directory for 1899 describes James Kirk as running a music warehouse. He is also listed in the 1911 census as a music dealer with a son, also called James, living in Low Moor Road. It seems that the senior James Kirk died in 1921 and the younger James did not take on the music business. In the 1921 census, he was listed as a coal miner.

¹⁶ See [Chapter 20](#).

¹⁷ I don't know why the price had doubled. Perhaps the first one was on offer?

¹⁸ For more details on motorbikes see [Chapter 18](#). It was not always clear if grandad was referring to a motorbike or a bicycle.

¹⁹ I have not found details of this shop. In the 1928 Kelly Directory, there was a William Williams at 34 Byron Street but he was a boot repairer. Is it possible that he also repaired bikes?

²⁰ This is an example of where he could be referring to his motorbike or his bicycle.

1911 THE ASTORIAN. ADVERTISEMENTS.—SUPPLEMENT. NOVEMBER 1911.

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THE "EASTING" SLOGAN & THE SCREENS.

THE screens that enable the passengers to travel in comfort throughout the most inclement weather conditions.

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654 The Advertisement Index is on the Second Page Preceding the Classified Advertisements.

1914, grandad noted that Leonard²¹ had a bike²² for one shilling. In April 1914, Leonard got a new seat for his bike for 1/6.²³ In March 1915, Len²⁴ bought a tandem for £5 15 0. In May 1922, grandad went with Olive to Nottingham to buy Leonard a bike for £5. In addition to the family buying various motorbikes²⁵, in April 1922, grandad bought a Raleigh 3HP combination speedometer.²⁶ In September 1922, grandad went to Nottingham and had an [Easting](#) windscreen fitted at Raleighs for £3 5 0. In August 1927, he noted getting the motorbike back from Raleighs for which he paid £2. In March 1928, he went to Mansfield after tea and bought an electric lamp for the "motor". In March 1929, he went to Nottingham and bought a new needle for the carburettor. In August 1929, he took the motorbike to Greensmiths to have the big end taken up and decoked. This cost 18/6. In June 1930, he went to Nottingham and bought an inlet bell for the motor carburettor²⁷ and, that same month, he noted paying £18 for a "motor licence".²⁸ In September 1931, he sold the motorbike and sidecar.²⁵

Grandad did not record all the clothes he bought but he did record some of the more significant purchases and also some items people bought for him. In particular, his sister Eva bought him various items including a new tie for a shilling in April 1914²⁹, a pair of gloves for 10/6 in January 1919 and a rubber collar from Mansfield for a shilling in September 1919.³⁰ Eva's husband, Arthur, bought grandad a felt hat for 21 shillings in February 1920. Grandad bought himself some items from Morley's³¹ including a coat, in September 1917, for 27/6 and, in March 1918, two sets of overalls.³² In April 1920, he bought a raincoat from his brother Jim for £4 5 0. In May 1922, he noted getting a suit and it looks like he got it from Crowe's³³ and he bought another new suit in May 1927. He bought new coats or overcoats in November 1923 for 55 shillings, in January 1925 for £4 1 6, in June 1928 from Nottingham for 55 shillings and in October 1936 for 50 shillings.

Sears, Roebuck and Co. 1919

MENS COLLARS

Men's Rubber Collars

BOYS' COLLARS | BOYS' RUBBER COLLARS | MEN'S RUBBER CUFFS

328 Sears, Roebuck and Co.

OldMagazineArticles.com

Top left – 1923 cutting advertising Easting windscreens

Above right - this is a selection of the cotton and rubber shirt collars available in the Sears, Roebuck and Co catalogue of 1919. This article was provided by OldMagazineArticles.com

²¹ I am not entirely sure if this was grandad's brother or nephew but probably the latter.

²² Initially, I thought this might have said "kite" but, as he got a new seat for his bike in April, it probably says "bike" although the price, of one shilling, might be more in favour of a kite.

²³ I suspect the bike was secondhand and they were refurbishing it.

²⁴ This probably does refer to grandad's brother.

²⁵ See [Chapter 18](#).

²⁶ I don't know exactly what that was. He also wrote "1,950" and I am not sure what that meant. Could it have been the mileage reading when he bought it?

²⁷ I am not entirely sure what this was.

²⁸ I don't know for sure whether this was a driving licence or a licence for the vehicle. I think the latter is more likely.

²⁹ Grandad also noted buying himself a new tie for the same price in July of that year.

³⁰ Grandad sometimes bought Eva items. For example, he bought her a fur for £1 1 6 in November 1919.

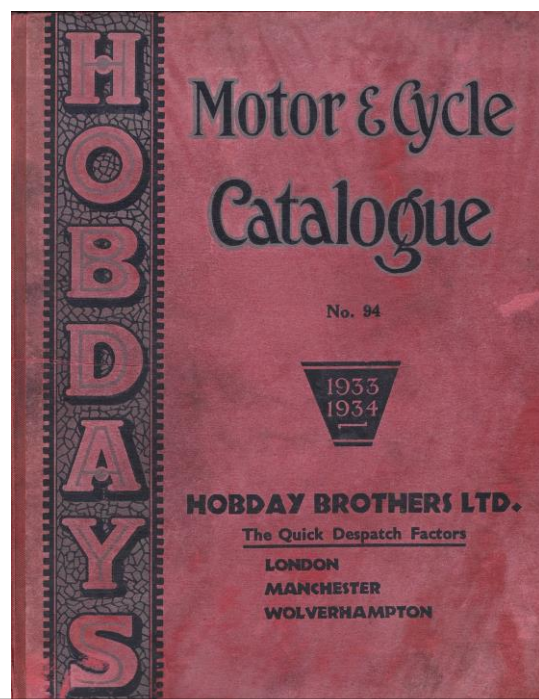
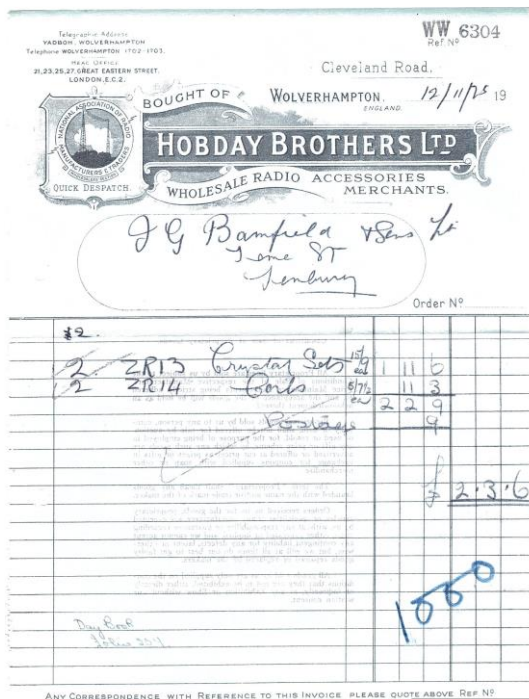
³¹ According to the 1928 Kelly directory, Charles Morley was a clothier based at 24 Lowmoor Road.

³² One set cost 3/11 and the other 5/11.

³³ Although the entry is not completely clear.

Grandad sometimes noted items of clothing that other people bought. In April 1914, he noted that Tom³⁴ had a new pair of boots for 12/6. In August 1915, he noted that his mother bought a topcoat in Mansfield for 25 shillings. In February 1928, grandma and grandad went into Nottingham and she bought a raincoat for 27/6.

Grandad was interested in clocks and watches and noted a number of these, and items related to them, that he bought during this period. In June 1914, grandad had a walk to the market and bought a one shilling watch chain from Simmons.³⁵ In June 1915, grandad had a glass put in his watch at Cupits.³⁶ This cost ninepence. In December 1915, he bought an alarm clock from Wightmans³⁷ for 4/11. In May 1918, he started wearing Joe's gold watch for which he had given Eva £3.³⁸ In September 1918, Eva collected his watch for him. It had been repaired at a cost of three and six. In November 1919, grandad got his alarm clock back from being cleaned. It had cost him two and six. In April 1920, he bought a gold Albert (£6 15 0)³⁹ and locket (£1 8 0). In June 1920, he bought a watch case for a shilling.⁴⁰ In December 1921, he bought an alarm clock from [Gamages](#).⁴¹ In November 1926, he and grandma went to Nottingham to buy a clock for grandad's birthday at a cost of £1. But, on the 20th, grandma took it back and exchanged it for another one for which she paid another 17 shillings. In December 1926, grandad bought a [400 day clock](#) for 52 shillings. In July 1936, grandad bought an electric clock for 29/6 less 20%. In June 1938, he bought an electric clock for the kitchen for 12/11. In November 1938, grandad had an electric clock from Hobdays⁴² for 16/8.



Left – Hobdays receipt from 1925 Right – Hobdays catalogue 1933-4

³⁴ Who worked with grandad.

³⁵ I found details of a watchmaker called William Henry Simmons at 17 Station Street in the 1928 Kelly Directory. In the 1911 census, he was listed as a watchmaker and jeweller but at 19 Station Street. In the 1901 census, he was at 80 Station Street.

³⁶ In 1899 Kelly's Directory, Levi Cupit was listed as a china dealer. By 1928, the listing was for Ernest A Cupit at 57 Lowmoor Road. He was still a china dealer. There is a photo of the shop in the book "Kirkby & District: A Second Selection" by Frank Ashley, Sylvia Sinfield and Gerald Lee (p96).

³⁷ They had a shop on the corner of Station Street and Ellis. There are more details and a photo from a postcard in the piece I wrote describing a (virtual) [walk up and down Station Street](#). There is a very similar postcard in David Ottewell's book "Kirkby-in-Ashfield and Annesley on Old Picture Postcards" (#32). In 1899 Kelly's Directory, William Wightman was listed as watchmaker and Post Office. By 1928, there was a listing for a jeweller and motor cycle agent at 41 Station Street..

³⁸ See [Chapter 10](#).

³⁹ I am not sure if this is the one I have or if that was with Joe's watch when grandad got it from Eva.

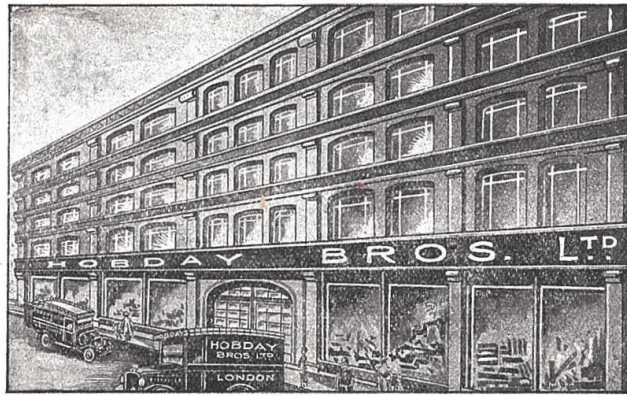
⁴⁰ I have this case with Joe's/grandad's watch in it.

⁴¹ I assume this was the well-known London store. Apparently, they had a successful mail-order business.

⁴² Initially, I thought this was Holdays and could find no details of them. However, based on comments on [Kirkby Living Memory Facebook Group](#), it appears that it was Hobdays, a wholesale supplier from Wolverhampton but also with bases in London and Manchester.

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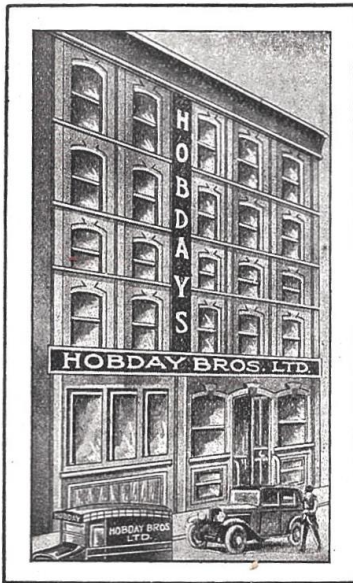
Cycle Section

HOBDAY BROS LTD

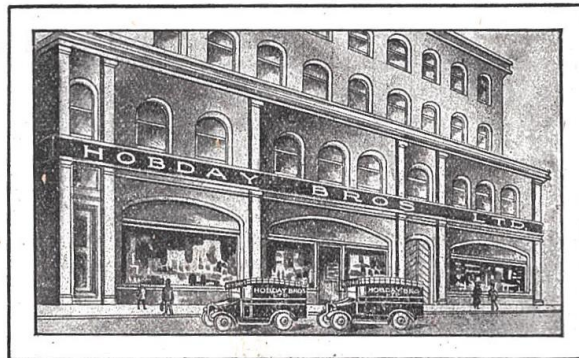
FREE VAN DELIVERIES



IN 39 COUNTIES.



MANCHESTER BRANCH.



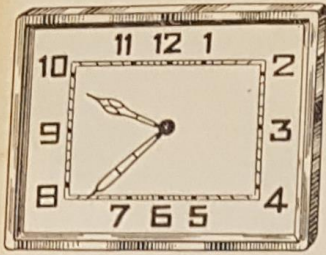
WOLVERHAMPTON BRANCH

Hobdays had bases in London, Manchester and Wolverhampton as illustrated on the front of the cycle section of the 1933/4 catalogue

Side Line Section

20

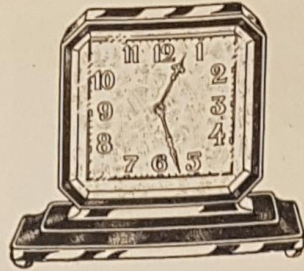
HOBDAY BROTHERS LIMITED



ART METAL CLOCK.*

Well-made 30-hour Timepiece. Nickel-plated front and rim. Dull polish back. Fitted with good quality movement. Size, 6" x 4 1/2".

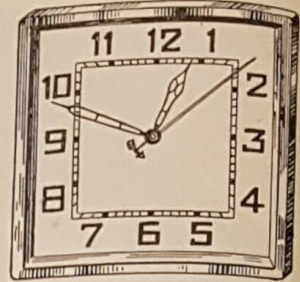
No. S720 C600 each 8/6



ART MODEL CLOCK.*

Superior Fancy Clock. Highly finished, fitted good quality movement. 4 1/2" high on 4 1/2" base. Beautifully finished gold figures and hands on pearl dial. Frame and base in artistic gilt and shell combination.

No. S2335 C1000 each 24/-



ART METAL CLOCK.*

Alarm Clock. Nicely designed. Nickel-plated front and rim. Dull polish back. Superior movement and loud alarm. Size, 5" x 5" x 5".

No. S721 C806 each 12/-



THE REPEATER ALARM CLOCK.*

Well-made metal case. With large clear-sounding back bell. Will keep on ringing at intervals until stopped. Thoroughly reliable movement. Black luminous dial and hands. Height 5 1/2". A real good clock at popular price.

No. S1318 C703 each 10/6



MIDGET CLOCK.*

Midget nickelled timepiece, 2 1/2" front. A useful and reliable, though inexpensive timekeeper.

No. S2336 C203 each 3/-



ONE-DAY TIME FANCY CLOCK.*

One-day Timepiece, brass movements, white dial, oblong wooden case with fancy front. Width, 8". Height, 4 1/2".

No. S1351 C400 each 6/-



PENDULUM CLOCK WITH ALARM.*

One-day Pendulum Clock with Alarm. Brass movements, white enamelled dial, polished wooden case. Height, 13". Width, 7 1/2".

No. S1374 C1100 each 15/6



THE "MINNIE" CRUMB SWEEPER.*

Rotary Crumb Sweeper, in best Antique Brass. Built like a carpet sweeper. Geared for high speed. Very effective and practical. A most welcome present in every home. Size, 5 1/2" x 3", without handle. Length of handle, 4".

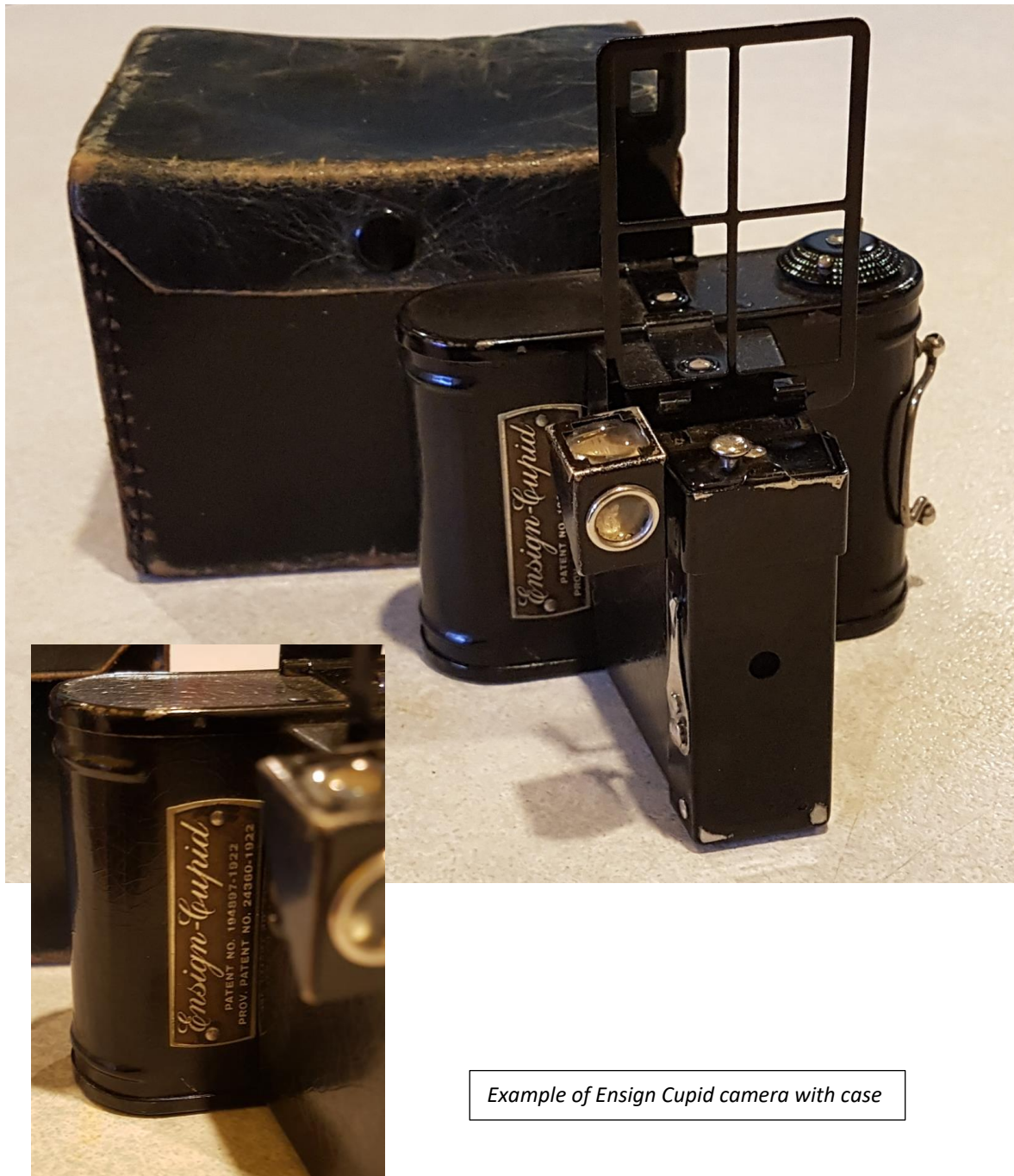
No. S2337 C600 each 8/6

QUICK DESPATCH FROM ALL OUR DEPOTS.

Have you realised that **SIDE LINES** provide a welcome addition to your trade?

The catalogue also had a "side line" section which included this page of clocks although I am not sure which, if any, of these grandad bought.

Grandad was also interested in cameras. In August 1924, he went to Sheffield and he bought a “reflex” for nine guineas. I assume he meant some kind of [camera](#). Whatever it was, he sent it back in September. I think he must have got another one after that as, in May 1925, he and grandma went to Sheffield and they “exchanged camera”.⁴³ In August 1927, grandma bought grandad a camera for £4 15 0. The next day, she “fetched” him a film tank and a case for the camera. In August 1929, grandad bought an autotimer for his camera for five and six. In March 1936, he had an [Ensign Cupid](#) camera come from Gamages. In July 1938, he had a direct viewfinder fitted to the camera at a cost of six and six. He also sometimes bought other people camera-related items. For example, in July 1922, grandad bought Leonard a camera for £2.



Example of Ensign Cupid camera with case

⁴³ While they were in Sheffield, they also bought a bag.

He was also interested in radios and, at this time, he was involved in making home-made radios or wirelesses.⁴⁴ In September 1930, he made a load speaker unit. He noted the cost as five shillings and one shilling for a cone. In November 1932, he bought an [eliminator](#) for Tommy's⁴⁵ wireless. In December 1932, grandad bought Len's wireless from him. This cost £5 plus £3 4 0 for the speaker. On the 14th, he had Len's wireless cabinet for £3 5 0 and, in March, Len had a new cabinet for £5 15 0. In May 1933, grandad had a new resistance put in the wireless and, in October, he sold the wireless for £11. On the 20th, he had a new wireless but, on the 31st, Arthur took it back. In April 1934, grandad collected a wireless from Stanton Hill.

Grandad and others also bought items for babies and children during this period. In January 1918, Joe bought a baby carriage for £7 8 0. In February 1918, Joe and Eva bought the baby's crib. In June 1918, grandad's mother bought baby a swing from Mansfield for seven and six. On the 24th, Henry Parkin, grandad's father, bought a pushchair from Newcombes for one guinea. In July 1918, grandad bought "baby"⁴⁶ a teddy bear from Moore's.⁴⁷ The price was 25 shillings but it was £1 in the sale. In April 1919, Eva and Olive went to Nottingham and bought a pushchair for ten guineas.⁴⁸ In September 1920, grandad bought Olive⁴⁹ a doll's carriage for £3 17 6 and, in November 1922, he bought Basil a motor car for 67/6. In September 1932, grandad went to Nottingham after tea and bought a yoyo.⁵⁰ In August 1938, grandma and Olive took mum to Nottingham and they bought her a speedboat for nine and six.⁵¹



Top right – 1919 postcard featuring girl with a doll's pram
Above – example of 1930s yoyo

Sometimes, grandad noted buying toiletries and the like. In February 1914, he bought toilet perfume⁵² and toothpaste for 6d each. He noted that Albert Robinson came in as he came back from Mansfield and he brought the toothpaste. In May 1914, he noted buying a tube of "tooth stuff". In July 1914, he noted walking to the market and buying three tablets of soap for 6d. In October 1917, he bought a toothbrush. In September 1919, Eva bought him a "[Valet](#)" safety razor for one guinea. In October 1919, he and John sent to London for a safety haircutting machine at a cost of one guinea. But when it came, grandad returned it and got his money back.

⁴⁴ See [Chapter 19](#).

⁴⁵ I think this might refer to Thomas Holmes – see [Chapter 29](#).

⁴⁶ Grandad's niece Olive.

⁴⁷ I have not found details of them.

⁴⁸ I don't know why Eva and Olive bought a pushchair only a few months after their father had done so nor why theirs cost ten times what he paid. I am assuming both were for Eva's daughter, Olive as Olive's son Leonard would have been ten at this point. I also don't really have a sense of what these pushchairs were like. I imagine they were [very different](#) from the pushchairs we have now.

⁴⁹ I assume this was for his niece not his sister.

⁵⁰ I am not sure who this was for. It could have been for himself.

⁵¹ This was a month before her fourth birthday so could have been for that.

⁵² At least that is what it could be although the second letter looks like a.

Pram and Nursery Section 79



THE "H.B." MODEL 72 BABY CARRIAGE.

Body of best birch plywood with moulded decoration on side panels. Well painted and varnished. Size, 30½" × 17" × 18" deep. Mounted on flexible Cee springs. Firmly upholstered. Leather-lined hood. Nickel-plated tubular joints. Black enamelled ¼" tubular levers with cross handle. Centre board. Storm apron. 10" × 10" tangent spoke wheels. 5/8" white ribbed cushion tyres. Colours: Navy Blue, Nigger Brown, Steel Grey.

No. C3803 each £2 14 0
S2709



THE "H.B." MODEL 74 BABY CARRIAGE.

Body of best birch plywood with raised decoration on side panels. Size, 30½" long × 17" wide × 18" deep. Coil spring chassis with centre cross springs to prevent any side sway. Enamelled tubular levers with celluloid cross handle. Nickel-plated celluloid-covered joints. Crockett's upholstery and hood covering. Lace round and protectors on hood. Centre board. Storm apron, and one pair of mudguards. 10" × 10" tangent spoke ball-bearing wheels, 7/8" white ribbed cushion tyres. Colours: Navy Blue, Brown or Grey.

No. C6100 each £3 10 0
S2716



THE "H.B." MODEL 57 BABY CARRIAGE.

Well-built body with smart decorated side panels (32" long × 17" wide × 18½" deep overall). Mounted on shallow strap Cee springs. Leather-lined hood, with 12" celluloid-covered joints. Nickel-plated tubular levers, with celluloid cross handle. Piped upholstery. Loose seats. Lace front and protectors on hood. Leather-lined storm apron. Rustproof trip brake. Mudguards. 10" × 10" tangent spoke wheels. 7/8" ribbed cushion tyres. Colours: Navy Blue, Hazel Brown, Steel Grey.

No. C6803 each £4 13 6
S2703



THE "H.B." MODEL 75 BABY CARRIAGE.

Handsome crescent-shaped body with moulded side-panel. 33" long × 18" × 17" deep. Leather-lined hood with nickel-plated pump handle joints, with celluloid covering. Enamelled tubular levers with celluloid cross handle, cranked Cee springs, piped upholstery. Loose seats and cushions. Leather-lined storm apron. Chromium-plated fittings where plated. Vertical action trip brake. Two pairs of mudguards. 10" × 10" tangent spoke ball-bearing wheels. 7/8" white ribbed cushion tyres. Colours: Navy Blue, Hazel Brown or Steel Grey.

No. C9000 each £6 3 0
S2717

Examples of prams in the 1930s from the Hobdays catalogue 1933-4



THE "H.B." MODEL 66 STEEL FOLDING PUSH CAR.

All-steel frame. Tubular handle. Stove-enamelled. Leather-cloth seat, and back padded on stout 3-ply boards. Adjustable back. 6" x 6" wheels, 1/4" ribbed rubber tyres.

No. S2609 C803 each 11/-



THE "H.B." MODEL 67 STEEL FOLDING PUSH CAR.

All-steel frame. Stove-enamelled. Tubular handle. Leather-cloth seat, and back padded on stout 3-ply boards. Padded head rest and adjustable back. 7" x 7" tangent spoke wheels. 1/4" white ribbed tyres.

No. S2610 C1200 each 17/6



THE "H.B." MODEL 70 STEEL FOLDING BABY PUSH CHAIR.

A perfectly draught-proof car with three-position adjustable leg rest with rigid padded upholstery. Bed gives 34" of length, including reclining back. All tubular handle, with 13" white ivory handle grip, 30" high. Strong pivotal action chassis with coil springs. Upholstery screwed motor fashion to side arms, and cannot tear away in use. 8" x 8" tangent spoke wheels, 1/4" white ribbed tyres.

No. S2702 C1800 each 24/-



THE "H.B." MODEL 59 STEEL FOLDING BABY CARRIAGE.

Bed Seat Body.

Beautifully sprung with four 1 1/4" diameter compression springs. Tubular handle. White celluloid hand grip. Body in best quality leather cloth with rigid back and seat, adjustable for child to sit or lie flat. Safety body strap. Large detachable leather-lined hood. Chassis nicely enamelled black. Hood and body fittings, etc., nickel-plated. 10" x 10" tangent spoke wheels, 3/8" white ribbed cushion tyres. Complete with storm apron.

No. S2670 C4509 each 61/6

THE "H.B." MODEL 60 STEEL FOLDING BABY CARRIAGE.

Child Facing Model. (Same specification as S2670.)

No. S2671 C4509 each 61/6



THE "H.B." MODEL 64 STEEL FOLDING BABY CARRIAGE.

All-steel chassis, with tubular handle. Finished stove black enamel. Upholstered throughout in leather cloth. Padded seat and back. Foot rests adjustable to form sitting or flat bed position, forming a bed 29" long when required. Complete with hood, apron, and storm flap. Patent springing to back wheels. 7" x 7" tangent spoke wheels. 1/4" ribbed tyres.

No. S2677 C2106 each 31/-



THE "H.B." MODEL 71 STEEL FOLDING BABY CARRIAGE.

To Sit or Recline. A perfect Bed Seat Car. All-steel frame. Stove enamelled. Fitted with strong coil springs. All tubular handle. Suitable for sitting or reclining. Draught-proof, roomy body, with lift-up foot rest, making 28" on bed. Draught-proof, detachable hood, leather lined. Leather-lined storm apron. 8" x 8" tangent spoke wheels. 1/4" white ribbed tyres.

No. S2705 C2500 each 34/-



Vintage Valet razor with blades and strop in Bakelite box

During this period, grandad's health was not good and he bought a wide range of home remedies.⁵³ This was before the National Health Service was formed so he also had to pay to see a doctor. In January 1918, he noted getting a bill of one guinea from Dr Nisbet for some certificates he had provided. In April 1918, he noted buying a magneto machine.⁵⁴ He got this from E Higham⁵⁵ for fifteen shillings. In May 1918, Cyril bought him Regelax⁵⁴ for 2/9 from Boots in Nottingham and, in April 1919, grandad himself bought a big bottle of Clarke's mixture for 11/6⁵⁶ from Smith's.⁵⁷ By the end of the first world war, he already had some false teeth, despite only being in his twenties. These needed some repairs during this period and, on at least one occasion, these repairs were carried out by Fentons.⁵⁸

Grandad sometimes noted presents that he bought for grandma, especially in the late 20s in the run up to when they got married in 1930. These presents were often bought in the run up to Christmas or around the time of grandma's birthday in May. For example, in May 1926, grandad bought grandma a pair of bronze figures for two guineas. In November 1927, he bought her an umbrella for 12/6 and, in December 1928, he bought her a tablecloth. In May 1929, he bought her a pair of candlesticks for 15 shillings and, in December 1929, he bought her a barometer⁵⁹ for 14/6. In July 1927, grandad bought grandma an engagement ring and, in February 1930, he bought her a wedding ring at the same time as buying suits etc.⁶⁰ In October 1921, he bought a wedding present for Billy Clover. He noted the price (19/11) but not what it was!

Particularly after they were married, grandma and grandad did buy items for their home. For example, in July 1930, grandma paid grandad's father £12 10 0 for the front room suite. In October 1930, grandad noted going to Rigley's⁶¹ and buying a suite and table and, in January 1933, grandad got a hall stand from them for £4 10 0. In February 1933, grandma and grandad had a new tablecloth for £1 10 0. In March 1938, grandad bought a water heater. The price was £5 but he got a £1 discount so paid £4. In April 1938, after tea, he went to Pearsons and bought a primus stove for 17/6.

| 31 Days | MAY | 1926 |
|---------|--|------|
| SUN. | 1 st Sunday after Easter | 2 |
| MON. | | 3 |
| TUES. | General Strike | 4 |
| WED. | | 5 |
| THUR. | | 6 |
| FRI. | | 7 |
| SAT. | Bought Ethel a Pair of Bronze 19 Figures | 8 |

☾ Last Quarter, 3.13 a.m.

Grandad's diary entries for the first week of 1926. It includes note of the two bronzes he bought for grandma's birthday and also of the general strike – see [Chapter 25](#)

⁵³ See [Chapter 9](#) and [Chapter 23](#).

⁵⁴ See [Chapter 9](#).

⁵⁵ Initially, I was not sure if this was an individual or a trader. I found no details of the latter. I then found details of Ephraim Higham who was a coal miner living in Edward Street at this time. He was the older brother of Annie- Marie Higham who married grandad's older brother James.

⁵⁶ See [Chapter 23](#).

⁵⁷ There were a number of traders by this name in Kirkby at this time so it may be difficult to establish exactly who he bought this from.

⁵⁸ According to the 1928 Kelly's Directory, Thomas H Fenton was a dentist on Kingsway.

⁵⁹ I suspect this was a case of grandad buying a present that he would have liked to have received himself! As far as I know, grandma was never particularly interested in barometers but grandad was.

⁶⁰ See [Chapter 16](#).

⁶¹ In the 1928 Kelly Directory, there is an entry for Rigley's upholsterers in Wollaton Street in Nottingham.

In June 1938, grandma and granddad bought mum two goldfish. They cost 4d each. In July 1938, they bought her two budgies for 12/6. That same month, they bought two more for 6/6. In November 1938, they bought a bird cage for 4/11 plus 6d for the chain.

Granddad had already started buying tools at this time but I suspect the majority of them were for work. In February 1920, he bought five knives for the "*finisher off*" for 15 shillings and, in August 1927, he had the press repaired at a cost of £2 10 0. In April 1933, Frank Newcombe put up new stairs in the shop at a cost of £2 12 6.⁶² In November 1927, grandma bought granddad a steel plane for 18/6. I assume this was a birthday present and was for him personally, not for the shop. In May 1928, granddad went to Mansfield and bought a keyhole saw for 2/7 and, in December 1928, he had a new vice. In June 1929, he bought an electric motor from Jones⁶³ in Nottingham for £7.

Granddad and others bought a wide range of other items during this period including new glasses, a telescope, a lawnmower, torches⁶⁴, a torch case⁶⁵, a miniature billiard table⁶⁶, pencils⁶⁷, a cup⁶⁸, a gold locket⁶⁹, a candle lamp, a silver purse⁷⁰, a locket⁷¹, a chain and compass⁷², and a box of chocolates.⁷³

Granddad did sometimes sell things. For example, in March 1914, he sold someone⁷⁴ his golf club⁷⁵ for a shilling. In August 1915, he sold his fretwork⁷⁶ outfit to Albert for 3/6.

⁶² See [Chapter 13](#).

⁶³ In the 1928 Kelly directory, there is a Jones and Co located in Pembridge Place, Mount Street. They are described as trimmings manufacturer. I am not entirely sure what this was.

⁶⁴ In November 1917, granddad bought a flashlight from Smiths (see footnote 57) for four shillings and sold it to the shop. He bought another torch for six shillings later that month. In October 1918, Cyril bought granddad a battery for his torch at a cost of one and six. Granddad got a new battery for it for one and nine in December 1918.

⁶⁵ From Joe.

⁶⁶ For Leonard for 25/-.

⁶⁷ In June 1918, Cyril bought granddad a pencil from Nottingham for 3d. In December 1927, granddad went to Nottingham and he noted that his mother bought him a pencil for five shillings.

⁶⁸ Eva bought him this in December 1918 for three and six.

⁶⁹ Olive bought this for granddad in May 1918 from Wightmans for 16/-.

⁷⁰ Granddad bought this for Eva for 22/6.

⁷¹ For Eva for 27 shillings.

⁷² For Leonard for 14 shillings. I am not absolutely sure of the second word.

⁷³ For two shillings.

⁷⁴ He did write the name but I have been unable to decipher this.

⁷⁵ I don't know quite what to make of this. As far as I know, granddad did not play golf!

⁷⁶ At least I think that is what it says. It is not very clear.