

### First Monday Toy Auction

#### Monday 5th August 2024 at 6:00pm

*Highlights include:*

- Great collection of 1-gauge locomotives including live steam, also rolling stock, track and accessories, from LGB, Aristo-Craft, Bachmann, Accucraft and others
- American O-gauge from Lionel and Marx
- Tinplate toys from the UK, USA, Europe and Japan
- Diecast vehicles from Micro Models, French Dinky and Matchbox Yesteryears
- 1:18 & 1:24 scale cars from Franklin Mint, Bburago, Motor Max and others
- Meccano sets, parts and magazines
- Stationary steam engines



Featured item: Lot 195  
Louis Marx & Co. "Marx Merry-makers" 1930s tinplate clockwork Mouse Band

We have some lovely things on offer this month.

First up, an excellent selection of **1-gauge**, mostly from the collection of **Jim & Jennifer Walker**, who accumulated some remarkable garden railway models over the years. Many of these and are no longer available from the manufacturers, so you'll have trouble finding them elsewhere. They are all in good condition and quite a few have clearly never been run. It's a great opportunity for all the garden railway enthusiasts, and there is more of this collection to come in the next few months.

The 1-gauge selection includes several **live steam** locomotives, and we have a few other live steam items, including Mamod vehicles and stationary engines.

Also in trains, we have a large range of **Lionel O-gauge** for the American modellers, also a few from **Marx**. And if you look carefully, you'll see a couple of Standard Gauge items, too.

There's a nice group of **tinplate toys**, including Tri-ang, Minic, several Japanese brands, and Marx, notably our featured item, the "**Marx Merry-makers**", which is complete and in working order. We don't see this one often and it is very collectable, as well as being a lot of fun.

**Meccano** makes a return this month, with a great variety of parts, motors, sets, and magazines. There's also a little Ezy-Bilt and Bayko, and some construction and engineering books.

We haven't forgotten the auto enthusiasts. We have a superb collection of **French Dinky** cars, trucks and buses; also a good range of the ever-popular **Micro Models**; some very nice **Matchbox Models of Yesteryear**; and large scale models including **Franklin Mint**.

So we hope there's something for everyone, a good mix of valuable collectables and fun things!

The auction starts at 6:00pm next Monday, August 5th, in our Auction Rooms at The Gearin in Katoomba. All are welcome to attend. There is plenty of parking and refreshments are available.

If you can't join us in person, you can participate by sending us absentee bids before the auction, or bidding live online at [invaluable.com](http://invaluable.com).

The lots can be viewed in our Auction Rooms on Saturday 3rd and Monday 5th August, from 10:00am to 4:00pm.

If you have any questions, please call us on (02) 4787 7974 or send us an email.

## THIS MONTH'S NEWS FROM TPA

### The Walker Collection

Our selection of garden railway items in this auction is just the start of the **Jim & Jennifer Walker** collection.

Jim and Jennifer retired earlier this year, after closing down their **Turon Technology Museum**, an award-winning display of steam engines and related machines spanning 100 years of technological development. They also closed their celebrated garden railway, and we have received the bulk of their collection. So there is much more to come, and we will be seeing lots of 1-gauge in our auctions over the next few months.

Sadly, Jim passed away two weeks ago. He leaves a great legacy of his life-long love of trains, engines, and all things mechanical. We extend our thoughts and deepest sympathies to Jennifer.

### Monster Comic Collection

This is big news! We have recently acquired an enormous collection of **comic books**, which we are offering for sale by silent auction.

There are over **140,000** comics ranging from the 1930s up to recent years, including famous titles from Marvel and DC Comics. These are ex-shop stock from Sydney's *Comic Kingdom*, which is no longer in business, and almost all issues are in very good to excellent condition.

We are selling this collection as a single lot by silent auction. Bidding will open soon, so keep an eye on our website.

The auction will close on **Monday 7th October**, when this collection will appear as Lot 1 in our First Monday Toy Auction, so we will accept final bids from the floor and online.

The comics are housed in a commercial storage facility in Sydney and may be viewed by appointment. But they are neatly packed away in 744 cartons, so viewing of a particular comic will not be possible.

This amazing selection of comics is ideal for the serious collector or dealer. If you're interested, call us on **(02) 4787 7974**. Full details will be published on our website very soon.

### **Vale Spike**

It is with great sadness that we report the loss of our wonderful little dog, Spike, who has been an important member of the TPA team for many years. She passed away peacefully and gently at home. Spike brought so much love and joy to all those who knew her, and she is very much missed. At around 18 years of age, she had a full and happy life, and we have many memories to cherish. We have received much sympathy and support from our friends, and we thank you.

### **Other Furry Friends**

Not long ago, we had an unexpected visit from the RSPCA, who seem to think there is something wrong with allowing **guinea pigs** to roam free-range instead of keeping them in a cage. We were raided without warning by an RSPCA trooper, who declared that one of the animals was ill and seized it and took it away. To this day, we still haven't been told what they thought was wrong with it.

Last week, the story hit the local paper, including photos of a perplexed Keith and some very comfortable and healthy looking guinea pigs. It may not be a big story, but the actions of the RSPCA left us feeling unfairly treated.

As far as we can see, our guinea pigs are very happy in their big back yard. They have plenty of space and shelter, and they are healthy and well-fed, with staff and friends bringing them fruit and vegetables regularly. We hope the RSPCA realises this and will leave us alone.

### **Keith's Trivia**

Here is this month's batch of obscure questions from our Trivia Master, Keith.

1. What voltage do the Sydney light rail trams operate on?
2. What aircraft was known as a "Pembroke"?
3. Where did America's "Route 66" start and finish?
4. Who came first: Felix the Cat or Mickey Mouse?

Here are the answers to last month's questions:

1. "Private varnish" is a term used for a privately owned railroad car, usually in the USA.
2. "WAAF" stands for Women's Auxiliary Air Force.
3. The first commercially available UK 4-wheel drive with independent four-wheel suspension was the Austin Gipsy.
4. The precious load carried across the Atlantic Ocean by the French warship "Isere" was the Statue of Liberty.

### **Chilly Weather**

Up here in the **Beautiful Blue Mountains**, it's been pretty nippy lately and we've had a little bit of snow with more expected. So it's a great time to rug up and visit Katoomba, where you'll find restaurants and bars with log fires and mulled wine, amongst other wintry delights.

It's warm inside at **Trains, Planes and Automobiles**, so do drop in to see our great selection of toys and collectables. Our shop is open on Mondays, Fridays and Saturdays, from 10:00am to 4:00pm. And remember, it's auction viewing this Saturday.

Why not make a weekend of it and stay with us at The Gearin? We have special rates for our auction customers and you're always welcome.

From the team at  
Trains, Planes & Automobiles.



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