



Welcome to the



The British Toy Makers Guild
British Designer Makers representing British Toymakers since 1955



Founded in 1956 to promote and encourage excellence in toymaking.

Representing makers of the best British toys for children, adults and collectors

Automata – Dolls – Dolls Houses & Miniatures – Games & Puzzles – Hobby & Rocking Horses – Nursery & Educational Toys – Puppets – Wooden Toys – Crafts and lots more ...

The British Toymakers Guild

Katie Whiting, Manor Farm, Fangfoss, York. YO41 5JH

Tel: 0845 4747905

(Calls cost 5p per call plus 5p per minute after 60 seconds)

e-mail: info@toymakersguild.co.uk

www.toymakersguild.co.uk



What is the British Toymakers Guild?

The British Toymakers Guild was founded in 1956 by a group of toy maker enthusiasts in the London area.

Today the Guild is run *by* craft toymakers *for* craft toymakers. The Committee and management are all working craftspeople and are therefore fully aware of all the requirements of its members.

By joining the British Toymakers Guild you will be joining a group of craftspeople who are proud to display the Guild logo on the toys they make, and from a commercial viewpoint are increasingly sought after as makers of some of the best toys currently available.

Guild Publications

(Cheques payable to British Toymakers Guild)

BTG Book of Toys - £4.99 (+ £1 post)

The Toymaker – Back issues of our journal, £1.50 per issue.



Guarantee of quality

The Guild has always insisted that its members' work meets its criteria of quality. This means that it has remained a select body, with a reputation amongst the buying public as the representative organisation for the creators of well-designed and well-made toys, gifts and miniatures.

All Encompassing

The Guild's name does not mean that it is solely concerned with toys for children. The strength of the Guild is that it represents equally the interests of craftspeople who make all manner of hand-crafted toys, gifts, miniatures, automata and collectors' items.



National Recognition

The British Toymakers Guild is recognised at Government and professional level by amongst others the Department of Trade and Industry, British Standards Institute, British Toy and Hobby Association and the British Association of Toy Retailers. It also maintains contact with the Bethnal Green Museum of Childhood as well as a number of other guilds and similar organisations.



The Aims of the British Toymakers Guild

(as ratified at the 1994 A.G.M)

To promote and encourage excellence in the design and manufacture of products made by Guild Members.



To promote and encourage toymaking as a craft across the UK and internationally.



To bring to the attention of the public and trade buyers the existence and objectives of the Guild and the work of its Members by all appropriate means at home and abroad.



To encourage communication and networking within the Guild through the Newsletter and other occasional publications on matters that are of interest in connection with craft and related business activities.



Benefits of Joining the British Toymakers Guild

The Guild Logo

As a Member you will be entitled to display the Guild's logo on all your products and literature, informing your customers that your work is among the best of its kind and that it meets the exacting Standards of the British Toymakers Guild.

Networking

The Guild operates as an effective network at various levels. If someone is looking for a maker of a particular type of product we are able to put them in contact with our members. We aim to resolve any members queries or problems ourselves and we can't help we will usually "know a person who can". We are a pro-active group, but we also listen to our members and are always ready to respond to requests.

New Website

Our new website was launched in December 2014 and benefits from the most up to date search engine optimisation technology plus usability for members and associates.



How to Join the British Toymakers Guild

Below are details of the three different entry categories within the British Toymakers Guild. Once you have decided the category that is appropriate for you, please complete the relevant application form and return to the Guild Office. If you require any further information do please call us.

Members

Membership of the British Toymakers Guild is aimed specifically at the craftsperson and toy designer.

In order to be considered for acceptance as a Member we need to see at least two photographs of your work, plus links to your website, where appropriate, and your background. A sample of your work may be requested.

Selection Criteria

Full details of the Guild's selection criteria are found on the Membership application form.

Safety Note

The Guild is not a legislative body. Therefore before considering an item for selection, the Selection Panel must be satisfied that the item in question conforms to the requirements of EN71 (BS5665) where applicable for toys intended for children below the age of 14.

Associates

This level of entry is appropriate for everyone who is involved in the world

of contemporary traditional toys, though not necessarily the maker. It is aimed at retailers, museums, teachers, institutions and suppliers that work with toys, and of course anybody who wishes to give practical support to the Guild. Associates membership is a way of keeping abreast of what is happening in the world of hand-crafted toys, gifts, miniatures and collectibles.

We also find that some toymakers choose to join the Guild as Associates prior to submitting their work for full Membership once they feel sufficiently confident that it will meet the required criteria.

Associates receive the quarterly journal, a descriptive entry in the Electronic Directory. Associates are welcome to attend and address Committee Meetings and the Annual General Meeting but may not vote.

Friends of the BTG

This recently established level of membership is intended to provide contact between the Guild and the many people who simply love traditional toys.

Friends receive the quarterly journal. Friends are welcome to attend and address Committee Meetings and the Annual General Meeting but may not vote.

Annual Subscription Rates

Members	£95.00
Associates	£60.00
Friends	£20.00



APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

Please complete this form in BLOCK CAPITALS and send it together with two photographs of your work, links to your website if appropriate, and some background information on the maker (see over for full details of the Selection Criteria).

Once your submission has been passed by the Selection Committee you will be asked for the annual subscription.

Subscriptions run from 1st January for 12 months pro rata. Therefore if you join Guild in June for example, you will pay six months i.e. £48.00 for that year.

I/We wish to apply for Membership of the British Toymakers Guild and agree to be bound by the Constitution of the Guild.

DATE OF APPLICATION:

TITLE: Mr/Mrs/Ms/Title:

NAME: SURNAME:.....

NAME OF BUSINESS:

ADDRESS:

.....

..... POSTCODE:

TELEPHONE: (Business) (Home)

WEB: E-MAIL:

Description of range of products:

.....Price Range

Does your product need to comply with EN71? Is it intended for children of 14 years and under?
Please see Selection Criteria overleaf. YES / NO (please delete)

Please give a brief account of the steps you have taken to ensure your products comply with the relevant Toy Safety regulations e.g. contents of toy safety dossiers, and any product testing services used and sign the statement. Please use additional paper as necessary.

.....

.....

.....Signed

If you wish to add further information on your product, your business or yourself, please write this on a separate piece of paper and attach to this application form. Please note that this is not compulsory but such information may be of help to the Selection Committee.

Katie Whiting, Manor House, Fangfoss, York. YO41 5JH

Tel: 0845 474 7905 (Calls cost 5ppc plus 5ppm after 60 seconds)
e-mail: info@toymakersguild.co.uk



The British Toy Makers Guild
British Designer Makers representing British Toymakers since 1955



SELECTION CRITERIA FOR MEMBERSHIP

Membership of the British Toymakers Guild is aimed specifically at the craftsperson and toy designer. In order to be considered for acceptance as a Member we need to see at least two photographs of your work, links to your website if appropriate, and a profile of the maker. Following consideration by the Membership Committee a request may be made for a physical sample of your work.

If you are accepted to the Guild you will be sent a welcome letter and invoice for subscription. Once your subscription has been paid we will send you your Membership Certificate, access details for updating your profile on the BTG Website, a BTG lapel badge, the last two copies of The Toymaker and details of any discounts available to members from suppliers.



Selection Criteria: Acceptance for Membership of the British Toymakers Guild is quite an achievement. The selection guidelines consider two essential criteria:

Craftsmanship: The skill used in manufacture and the excellence of the finished article.

Design: The aesthetic, visual and/or graphic quality of the item(s) and the choice and use of appropriate materials for the construction of the item(s) with regard to suitability for the end-use.

In order that the Guild's decision is not entirely "objective" we encourage members of the Selection Panel to register their personal consideration of the items under review. We also take note of the quality and proportion of bought-in components and the price of the item, although this should not affect our final decision.

Safety Note: *The British Toymakers Guild is not a legislative body. Therefore before considering an item for selection, the Selection Panel must be satisfied that the item in question conforms to the requirements of BS EN72 where the Toy Safety Directive is applicable.*

Please post initial application to:

British Toymakers Guild
Katie Whiting, Manor House, Fangfoss, York. YO41 5JH
Tel: 0845 474 7905 (Calls cost 5ppc plus 5ppm after 60 seconds)
e-mail: info@toymakersguild.co.uk