

★ KING & COUNTRY ★

# COLLECTOR



A Quarterly Look at Our World in Miniature

THE RETURN OF THE FOX

**PLUS** BARBARIANS AT THE GATES  
AND MUCH, MUCH MORE...

# A View From The Trenches...

**E**GYPT and NORTH AFRICA play a major role in this season's "COLLECTOR". We return to the "Land of the Pharaohs" for a visit to see one of that ancient country's most famous and colourful rulers - *Cleopatra*.

Collectors of this series have been requesting some female figures to add to their scenes and displays. Who better than the beautiful and bewitching "Queen of the Nile" and several other great feminine pieces to "fill the bill".

From ancient Egypt to the sands of the Western Desert during the dark days of World War Two is a fairly big leap... However, our latest "AFRIKA KORPS" additions do just that.

It's 1942 and Erwin Rommel and his men are almost at the gates of Alexandria. Four brand-new sets (including one of our rare "Strictly Limited" pieces) will be available in March 2006 - we preview them here.

Out of Africa and into Northern Europe during the days of the Roman Empire for our next feature... "The Barbarians".

No less than 12 new releases of really outstanding individual figures based on the tribes that fought Rome... Celts, Britons, Gauls and Huns. Finally we have an enemy to fight our Roman Legions!

Meanwhile we're not forgetting our collectors across the pond.

Look out for more American Revolutionary War fighting men... Woodland Indians... British Red Coats and... for the first time a whole big batch of green coated Continental Marines in terrific action poses.

As usual there's a few other surprises but I'll let you discover those for yourself. In the meantime relax, sit back and enjoy...

Best wishes to one and all and HAPPY COLLECTING!

*Andy C. Neilson*

Andy C. Neilson  
Co-founder & Creative Director  
King & Country

Original illustrations  
for Celts, Britons and  
Gauls by Albert Racinet.



A line sketch  
for an Afrika  
Korps officer.

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Headquarters Room 2301, No. 3 Lockhart  
Road, Hong Kong Tel: (852) 2861 3450  
Fax: (852) 2861 3806 Shop 362, Pacific  
Place, Queensway, Hong Kong Tel: (852)  
2525 8603

Email: sales@kingandcountry.com  
Website: www.kingandcountry.com



# CLEOPATRA

## QUEEN OF QUEENS

AE19

THE LEGENDARY CLEOPATRA has fascinated historians and Egyptologists for over 2000 years.

Fabled as much for her beauty as well as her cunning Cleopatra still casts her spell even today.

Countless books and films have attempted to portray her tempestuous life and tumultuous times perhaps none better than the 1962 epic starring Elizabeth Taylor.

AE20



that he too would succumb to the many and varied charms of this "Temptress of the Nile".

Four years after they met and following Caesar's assassination the wily Cleopatra transferred her loyalties and affections to his deputy Mark Antony. He in turn became her champion and together they ruled Egypt and large parts of the Near East. This lasted until the accession to power of Augustus, soon to become Rome's first true Roman Emperor.

Following the pair's defeat at the Battle of Actium in 30 B.C. Mark Antony and Cleopatra committed suicide.

### THE COURT OF CLEOPATRA

Let us, however, return to happier times...

AE20 shows Cleopatra herself on her splendid solid gold throne. By her side the court chamberlain providing an introduction to her palace entertainers. Next to the Queen a small table holds a jug of fine wine and a bowl of fresh fruit.

Surveying the scene through watchful eyes is AE19 our "Nubian Slave" - sworn to loyalty, these Nubians formed a powerful Praetorian Guard only answerable to the Queen herself.

AE21 "Banquet Guests" - a rich Egyptian nobleman takes his ease... a cup of wine in hand and his favourite concubine sitting nearby.

AE22 Another Royal guest has his wine cup refilled by a comely palace maid. Additional amphoras of wine are also included.

AE22



AE23 "Egyptian Dancing Girls" Two delightful young ladies, unencumbered by too many clothes entertain the Royal gathering.

AE24 "Court Musicians" Providing the dance music are three other young ladies (fully clothed this time) playing traditional Ancient Egyptian instruments... they also sing!

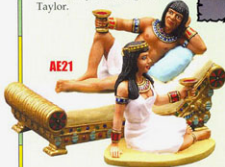
### THE CONTINUING JOURNEY...

All of these new sets add an extra dimension of colour and spectacle to K&C's Ancient Egyptian series. Come with us on a journey back thousands of years to one of the cradles of our civilization... the land of the Nile.

AE23



AE21



This is the period that King & Country has chosen to represent with our latest "Ancient Egypt" releases.

Here is Cleopatra resplendent on her golden throne about to welcome Julius Caesar.

Caesar of course was in Egypt to pursue the hapless Pompey, his rival for supremacy in Rome. Little did he suspect

AE24



# BARBARIANS

## ENEMIES OF ROME.

**I**n Ancient Rome **BARBARIAN** was a term of abuse. An insult. The Romans used it to describe all those living outside its imperial borders. These *Barbarians* were seen as wild savages to be subdued at best and feared at worst... The very term "*barbarian*" is derived from the Latin word for beard or unshaven... "*barba*".

Even today our image of the ancient *Celts... Britons... Gauls... and Huns* is heavily influenced by the word pictures drawn by ancient Roman historians.

These *Barbarians* are viewed as the very antithesis of Roman civilization... the "*Destroyers*". The nightmare vision usually portrayed shows an anarchic, savage warrior society hellbent on rape... pillage... and terror!

The real picture which has emerged in recent times shows that many of these ancient tribal societies had just as many "codes of honour and behaviour" as the Romans did. They also had very structured hierarchies and ways of life that they felt were being usurped and threatened by the never ending encroachment of Rome and her legions. Many of the conquered peoples of the known world at that time were content to bend the knee and bow the head to the power of Caesar.

Others however were not... this is their story...



seen in military miniatures outside of the very expensive figures that originate from Russia.



Twelve individual pieces including one 2-figure set provide a wealth of detail that complements our existing Roman Legionary figures.

At last these Romans have a worthy enemy...

### ENTER THE DRAGON...

#### EMPIRE BUILDING

As the power of Rome grew it constantly had to expand its borders and that inevitably led it into almost constant war with the tribes and peoples who refused to accept its rule.

These *Celts, Britons, Gauls and Huns* seldom took on the might of the Roman legions in open, set piece battles.

They had learned that hard lesson many years before. Now they preferred the surprise attack on a lonely outpost... the fatal ambush in the middle of a dark forest... the sudden assault on a Roman settlement - true guerrilla warfare.

King & Country's latest release fills a large void that has existed since the retirement of our first *Celts, Britons and Gauls* several years ago.

These exciting new figures have a colour and dynamism seldom

King & Country's new "*Barbarians*" are up and running and... looking for a fight!

**BAR001 "A Mounted Chieftain"** who bears more than a passing resemblance to *Sean Connery* - perhaps he is a distant Celtic relative. This mounted warrior carries the traditional flowing dragon snake banner and has decorated his horse with several severed heads!

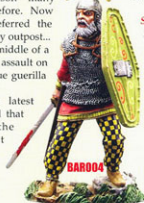
**BAR002 "Attacking with Axe"** A running tribesman shield in one hand... long cruel axe held aloft and ready to strike a fatal blow.

**BAR003 "Attacking with Sword and Shield"** Posed ready for battle and looking for a victim.

**BAR004 "Fighting Chief"** Wearing a captured Roman Auxiliary's chain mail vest this Gallic Chieftain has already dispatched at least one of his Roman enemies.

**BAR005 "Charge!"** This warrior rushes forward, his long lance at the ready.

**BAR006 "Gruesome Trophies"** Another tribesman attacks - his shield and





banner adorned with the heads of his fallen enemies.

**BAR007 "Slashing Warrior"**. About to strike a blow this Hun warrior has a captured Roman dagger on his belt.

**BAR008 "Running Warrior"**. With sword and shield yet another warrior rushes into the attack.

**BAR009 "Wolfshood"**. Over his captured Roman helmet this German warrior has draped his wolf pelt complete with wolfshood.

**BAR010 "Hacking Warrior"**. With his richly decorated shield and colourful helmet, this particular tribesman makes a striking impression.

**BAR011 "Barbarian Trumpeter"**. With this strange looking instrument an ancient warrior could signal his comrades as well as instil fear in his enemies.

**BAR007**

**BAR006**

after it disappears in continental warfare. Caesar was especially impressed by their use in battle: "The chariots of the Britons begin the fighting by charging over the battlefield. From them they hurl javelins, although the noise of the wheels and chariot teams are enough to throw any enemy into panic. The charioteers are very skilled. They can drive their teams down very steep slopes without losing control. Some warriors can run along the chariot pole, stand on the yoke and then dart back into the chariot." Roman historian Tacitus describes a battle against the German auxiliaries employed by the Romans. "The fighting began with exchanges of missiles," he wrote, "the Britons showing both steadiness and skill in parrying our javelins with their huge swords or catching them on their little shields, while they themselves rained volleys on us." But when the Britons clash with the German auxiliaries, it is a different story. "These old soldiers (the Germans) had been well drilled in sword-fighting, while

the enemy were awkward at it, with their small shields and unwieldy swords, especially as the later had no points and were quite unsuitable for cut and thrust at close quarters."

Beyond the Celts of northern England lived another kind of barbarian people - the Picts. These are generally regarded as non-Celtic tribesmen, perhaps related to the original inhabitants of Britain who were themselves displaced by invading waves of Celts. There is little evidence of this, however, and they may well just have been a Caledonii. From the evidence of other countries invaded by superior cultures, it is more than likely that the conquering Celts annihilated all the indigenous peoples, hunting them down as Westerners did in North America or Australia. The Picts' Latin name was inspired by the practice of covering their bodies in tattoos and they do appear to have devised a form of warfare different to that south of Hadrian's Wall. In this, long spears were used in a form of phalanx incorporating other warriors armed with swords and shields. The use of long spears or pikes is distinct to this part of Britain and appears later in Scottish warfare in the Middle Ages where a pike formation is known as the schiltrons

**BAR012**

**BAR012 "No Mercy"**. An unlucky Roman Legionary has fallen alive into the hands of this warrior... he is about to meet his Gods! Look back at these ancient battles and all of these fearsome warriors and tremble...

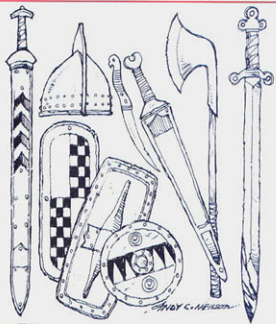
**BAR008**

## BRITAIN Versus THE ROMANS

Ancient Britain was the final Celtic bastion to fall to the Roman conquerors. An expeditionary campaign by Caesar was followed by a more thorough invasion by the Emperor Claudius in 43 AD. Just as with Gaul, it was the struggles between the Celtic tribes that proved the excuse for Roman intervention and the Romans continued to dominate Britain by understanding this

**BAR009**

## WARRIORS & WEAPONS



**O**UT OF THE CLEAR blue desert skies the Stukas descended like vultures on the long khaki line of withdrawing British vehicles. Bombs detached themselves from the bellies and wings of the German divebombers and, after an all-too-short interval, exploded with deadly accuracy along the length of the British column. On the ground the soldiers made a feeble attempt with rifles and machine guns to ward off the enemy attack.

As quickly as the assault began it ended... one by one the Stukas departed. Pillars of thick, black greasy smoke rose up to the



His second 'Pincer' moved inland away from the coast capturing vast petrol dumps at *Msus* and *Meclhi* before swinging up and back onto the coastal plain at *Gazala* - just 40 miles west of *Tobruk*.

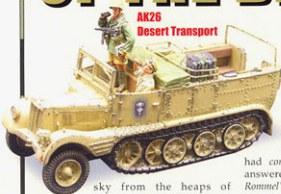
The third 'Pincer' was sent on a wide outflanking move to the south before again moving north to link up with the Axis forces moving on *Derna*. Their task was to cut off and trap British units trying to escape *Cyrenaica*.

#### CELEBRITY CAPTURES

On the evening of 6 April 1941 the Germans caught their most eminent prisoners-of-war so far: *General O'Connor*, commanding all British troops in Egypt and *Lt. General Philip Neame V.C.* one of his most senior officers.

By 11 April *Rommel's* forces had

# "WHO'S AFRAID OF THE BIG BAD FOX?"



With the Italians retreating in Libya, Hitler needed an outstanding general to reverse the fortunes of war back in the Axis favour. In Erwin Rommel, soon to be nicknamed 'The Desert Fox', he found his man...

sky from the heaps of charred and twisted metal now stretched along the desert coastal road... It was April 1, 1941 - "April Fools Day".

The British had been fooled - and not for the last time - by the man who came to be known as *'The Desert Fox'*.

Lt. General *Erwin Rommel*, in command of the newly created *Deutsches Afrika Korps*, had been ordered to begin his counter offensive against the British only when all his forces were up to full strength.

The impulsive and daring *Rommel* decided to seize the initiative with a surprise blow on the already over-stretched British, and it succeeded - brilliantly!!

*Rommel* had arrived in North Africa a scant few months before and came under the nominal control of *General Garibaldi*, the Italian C in C for that Theatre of Operations. In reality however he

had complete operational command and answered only to Hitler in Berlin. *Rommel's* initial orders were for him to recapture only the eastern part of Libya which the British had so dramatically taken at the beginning of 1941.

#### "EXPECT THE UNEXPECTED!"

Making unpredictable moves came naturally to *Erwin Rommel*. On March 24, just weeks after arriving, he launched his first bold assault with his own German 5th Light Division supported by Italian motorized infantry. Dividing his troops into three 'pincers' he sent one to capture the coastal town of *El Agheila* and then to pursue the retreating British through *Benghazi* and on to *Barce* and *Derna*.

taken *Bardia*... four days later *Sollum*... he bypassed *Tobruk* to push forward to *Egypt* and the *Suez Canal*.

It seemed as if nothing and no one could halt this relentless advance. Only *Tobruk*, now behind the German frontline, held out. There, men of the 9th Australian Division under the strong command of *General Leslie Morshead* dug in and made every shell and bullet count. As *Morshead* said at the time, "There will be no *Dunkirk* here!" He went on, "if we get out we'll fight our way out... there will be no surrender and no retreat".

#### ONLY THE FIRST BATTLE...

Over the next two years *Rommel* and his *Afrika Korps* (made up of German and Italians) fought countless battles large





**AK28**  
**Questioning The Prisoner**

and small up and down the coastal plain of North Africa. The reputation and respect he and his men garnered from

their Allied foes is unequalled in the annals of modern warfare. Even the Afrika Korps' own 'battle hymn' the popular German song 'Lili Marlene' was adopted by their staunchest enemy... Britain's own Eighth Army.

Today, more than 60 years after the Desert campaign, the few remaining Afrika Korps veterans are still warmly welcomed as honoured guests at the gatherings of the dwindling band of elderly Eighth Army soldiers.

King & Country, with this latest release, is proud to honor the reputation and the respect the Afrika Korps and its leader Erwin Rommel so richly deserve.



Above: The famous 'palm tree and swastika' - symbol of the Afrika Korps.

## "Out of Afrika#3"

**E**RWIN ROMMEL'S Afrika Korps has been a firm favourite of King & Country collectors for many years. Back in the late 1990's we produced several infantry sets depicting this famous German unit. At the time these were basically 'repaints' of our existing German WW2 soldiers in desert colours.

by King & Country 'Desert Rats' and proudly added to their collections.

Now, comes our third batch of AK releases - and what a batch!

### AFRIKA KORPS VICTORIOUS

This third release shows Rommel at the very peak of his battlefield success. The time is mid 1942... the place... somewhere in the Western Desert...

**AK26 "Desert Transport"**. A 3-ton SdKfz11 halftrack has ground to a halt.



**AK29**  
**Rommel's GREIF**

It was not until 2002 that we returned to the desert to refight the North African campaign. This time however it was with original, brand-new upgraded figures and fighting vehicles. We also released British and Australian troops and vehicles to provided a powerful 'enemy'.

### ICE COLD IN ALEX

Eighteen months later, after the initial excitement about the first batch of Afrika Korps had died down, we released our second...

Five more sets of AK troops and vehicles (including the now retired AK24 - the SdKfz222) were warmly greeted

The vehicle commander stands up, binos in hand to scan the almost featureless landscape. By his side his AK driver takes the opportunity to gulp a mouthful of precious water.

### AK27 "The F18 Field Howitzer"

This 10.5cm piece provided the mainstay of the German artillery. Our model comes with a 5-man gun crew in action.

### AK28 "Questioning The Prisoner"

Here, two AK officers interrogate a recently captured British officer of The Royal Horse Artillery. Watching the scene is an Afrika Korps Panzer Grenadier - rifle slung.

**AK29 "Rommel's GREIF"**. This "Strictly Limited" SdKfz250/3 halftrack (just 750 are being produced) shows "The Desert Fox" himself leaning out of his vehicle to see what's going on. Seated next to him is one of his radio operators. Also featured with the set is a standing, saluting AK sergeant.

This particular halftrack is in Rommel's own personal "GREIF" (Griffin) markings... painted on both sides.



Original concept sketch for Rommel figure.



*From the Halls of Montezuma to the shores of Tripoli... This is where the legend begins...*

# Revolutionary Marines & Others

**THE UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS** is older than the Republic itself by a year. It's as familiar to most Americans as the Stars 'n' Stripes. The Marines have come to symbolize, more than any other part of the US Armed Forces, discipline... valour... patriotism and military virtue.

Their characteristics distinguish them from rest of the American military, provoking a mixture of emotions that encompass reverence... envy... and disdain. These are shared by all military elites since the time of ancient Rome.

The Marines are, as they claim, looking for a few good men - and it has ever been thus...

## EARLY BEGINNINGS

The *United States Marine Corps* was created on 10 November 1775 when the Continental Congress passed a resolution to raise 'two Battalions of Marines' for service on board ship. Serving on land and sea, these *Continental Marines* well acquitted themselves in a number of operations including the first amphibious raid on the Bahamas as well as another on mainland Britain during the Revolutionary War.

These operations were under the command of a *Captain Samuel Nicholas*, later promoted to Major, who is considered to be the Corps' first Commandant.

For their uniforms these early Marines were garbed in green coats with white facings. They were not specifically designed for the Marines... they came from stocks of pre-war uniforms originally intended for a volunteer Company of Philadelphia Militia. Not for the first - or the last time would the Marines be provided for with the 'leftovers and cast offs' of others.

These first green clad



Marines were, at the end of the American War of Independence in 1783, disbanded only to be reformed in 1798.

However, it's these early *Continental Marines* that make up King & Country's latest Revolutionary War release.

## "CHARGE YOUR MUSKETS!"

Eight individual Marine figures form up this group - five riflemen... one youthful drummer boy and two officers - one representing *Captain Samuel Nicholas* himself.

**AR45 Marine Standing Firing** - Levelling his musket this "leatherneck" takes careful aim.

**AR46 Marine Priming Musket** - Biting off the paper wad of his cartridge containing the ball and powder.

**AR47 Marine Standing Ready** - Bayonet fixed.. eyes staring straight ahead this Marine prepares to "repel all boarders".

**AR48 Marine Presenting Arms** - Musket held front and centre this Marine provides the traditional "honours" salute.

**AR49 Captain Samuel Nicholas** - in command of these Continental Marines

**AR50 Marine Drummer Boy** - whether 'marking time' or 'beating retreat', this young Marine is an essential part of any collection.

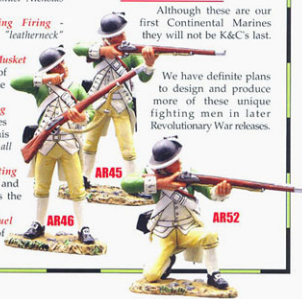
**AR51 Marine Flag Bearer** - No regimental banner had been awarded at this stage. This Marine officer carries one of the many different Revolutionary Flags of the period.

**AR52 Marine Kneeling Firing** - Musket in the shoulder... sighting along the barrel at a target in front.

## IN THE FUTURE

Although these are our first Continental Marines they will not be K&C's last.

We have definite plans to design and produce more of these unique fighting men in later Revolutionary War releases.



AR51





AR47

# Redmen & Redcoats

**A**s you can see our latest Revolutionary War releases, don't just stop with these new Continental Marines, there's a lot more besides...

We've got three all-new very colourful 'Woodland Indians' - including one magnificent mounted figure... BR51.

There are also three very useful and eagerly awaited additions to our 'Redcoat' Regiment.

## "SPOILS OF WAR"

You could not find a better description of our new Indians... and how they appear.

**BR51 "Victory is ours!"** - This mounted warrior, resplendent in his British Officers' coat, has certainly done well in the battle.

Seated on a captured horse he has taken several American muskets, cartridge boxes, canteens, blankets and even... an early

American battle flag.

**BR52 "Let's see if this fits..."** - Nearby another warrior tries on the tunic of one of his Continental Army victims. A prized American sabre is thrust into the ground next to him.

**BR53 "This gun is mine!"** - The third warrior bends down to pick up a discarded musket and cartridge box.

All three of these individual pieces can work singly or together to make an interesting and unusual vignette.

## BULLETS... BLOOD...AND COLD STEEL

These three new reinforcements provide perfect additions for our forces of the Crown.

BR51



BR48 "Redcoat Standing Firing"

- His 'Brown Bess' held steady and firm this 'Tommy Atkins' takes careful aim.

**BR49 "Charge!"** - Many contemporary reports mention that the 'Colonials' feared a bayonet charge more than anything else the British Army could do to them. Here, our 'Redcoat' eagerly rushes forward to provide the enemy with a taste of good 'Sheffield' steel.

**BR50 "A well-aimed shot"** - A marksman's bullet or just a lucky shot... whatever. This son of the Regiment will never see Albion's shore again!

BR50



BR52

## "BROWN BESS"

The standard weapon of the British infantryman was the smoothbore flintlock musket, known as 'Brown Bess', which had been in use since 1717. Its weight 6 lb (14 lb) had a barrel either 106 cm or 117 cm long (42 in. or 46 in.), and fired a round lead

ball weighing roughly an ounce, made up, with its charge of powder, into a stout paper cartridge. With its sporting stock, well-shaped brass furniture and lock which had the reputation of misfiring less often than any military firearm, it was eminently suited to the close-order, short-range, volley firing of the day.

Although twelve separate motions were required to prime and load flintlock muskets, a well-trained soldier could load and fire five times a minute. Nevertheless this type of weapon had one very serious drawback: its efficiency was largely dependent on the weather. A high wind might blow the priming out of the pan, or a rainstorm might wash it out, or dampen it so that it would not ignite.

BR49



BR48

Perhaps because of this unreliability officers trained in the school of European battle placed extra reliance on the bayonet. For this reason British Redcoats preferred to fire a volley and then charge the enemy.

## EMBLEM OF LOYALTY

The coat of arms of the British Royal House features a lion and a unicorn and the symbols of England, Scotland, Wales, and Ireland.



**K**ING & COUNTRY'S HEADQUARTERS are located on Hong Kong Island in the heart of the Wanchai District - once infamous as the redlight haunt of sailors on shore leave and soldiers on R 'n' R from the Vietnam War.

Today Wanchai is the home to many successful businesses and corporations who have their offices and headquarters there among the forest of skyscrapers and high rises. That's where you'll find King & Country.

K&C can be found on the 23rd floor of No. 3 Lockhart Road. It's a fairly new building that overlooks Hong Kong's spectacular harbour. One of the great joys



# WELCOME TO... KING & COUNTRY

**IF ANY K&C collector ever pays a visit to King & Country's headquarters right here in Hong Kong they're in for a pleasant surprise...**

of just such a location is to be able to look out and see a never ending cavalcade of cross-harbour ferries... cruise liners... cargo barges... and very occasionally... a real Chinese junk in full sail.

Anyway, once the elevator doors open and deposit a visitor at our entrance way on the 23rd floor they are confronted by a 6 foot 6 inch hand-carved Scottish Highlander in full Regimental uniform standing guard. Obviously our visitor has

come to the right place.

Looking through our glass doors you can see King & Country's mini museum and show room in all its glory. Shelf upon shelf of miniature figures, buildings and fighting vehicles from both past and present production. You might also see some future releases waiting to be launched.

After you've entered this large room you can see for yourself the growth and development of King & Country over the past two decades. Go around the wall mounted displays and you can literally trace the continuing effort to improve and upgrade the product.

Look into any one of the big free standing dioramas and explore the incredible variety and scope of what K&C has done and is doing in the world of military and civilian miniatures.

Once we've dragged you away from our Museum/ Showroom we'll take you into 'main office'. There, in a large open plan area are our sales, marketing and administration team - all eight of them and all female.

At King & Country we've always believed that it's not just enough to produce a great product. A company



Andy in his "Den"



Guarding K&C's front door

Angel and Shirley  
checking out some  
production samples



needs to be able to distribute that product safely and efficiently all over the world to thousands of K&C collectors and dozens of international dealers.

That's why we've invested in a top quality team of hard-working and highly professional Hong Kong born and bred staff. With a business like ours that deals with collectors and dealers from all over the world and at the same time handles our production in mainland China it's vitally important to have the best... and we've got them!

Of course having the team is one thing... having the right product is another.

### THE CREATIVE GROUP

The other very important group of people in King & Country are "The Creatives" or to borrow a great Walt Disney term "The Imagineers". Let's take you past main office... through our kitchen area and into "The Studio". Like all artists work places it's not particularly tidy but it's chock-full of talent and ideas. Among all the little pots of paint and brushes there are piles of reference books and magazines... plastic models... painted and unpainted figures and fighting vehicles and, of course, a computer.

Here we have the 'Three Musketeers' - Ah Cheong... Sammy... and Gordon. All of them are creatively gifted in many ways but each also has additional specialties - Ah Cheong is a superb figure and tank painter. He's also an award winning artist and

armour warfare enthusiast (particularly World War Two).

Sammy is also an extremely talented 'master painter' but in addition is our 'in house' graphic and computer wizard. Together with K&C's Co-Founder and Creative Director Andy C. Neilson, he and Andy design and create all of K&C's Advertising and Promotional Material as well as the company's distinctive packaging.

The 'Third Musketeer', Gordon specializes in Shop Display plus designing and building K&C's dramatic dioramas that show off their products.

All three men also contribute ideas and suggestions for future K&C products as do other members of staff at regular 'brain-storming' sessions held throughout the year.

### ANDY'S DEN...

Step out of 'the Studio' back through 'main office', past the conference room and head for the room in the corner - Andy's area.

Although he tries to keep it tidy... he's fighting a losing battle. Too many books...



much, much more. When you sit in Andy's room and look around it's easy to see that this thing is not just a business... it's a raging passion for him. He eats, sleeps, drinks King & Country and this room of his is quite literally "the belly of the beast".

His desk is awash with sketch pads, (where he first illustrates some of his figure ideas) some model figures and a model of a Spitfire (his favourite aircraft).

Even the office airspace above his head is occupied - a trio of more British Spitfires chase down a lone German 'Stuka' divebomber.

Squeezed onto his desk is a PC which, if turned on, is usually showing one or other of the popular toy soldier forums. It pays, Andy believes, to listen to what your collectors are saying as well



models... samples... magazines... airplanes... ships... you name it he seems to have it!

Andy, is of course, the aforementioned Co-Founder and Creative Director of King & Country. He along with his partner Laura McAllister began K&C in 1984 as 'just a wee hobby side line'.

Well in just over 22 years K&C has grown to become the pre-eminent 'name' in the hobby and business of designing and making toy soldiers and

as seeing what your competitors are up to.

Behind him are even more bookshelves packed and stacked with all kinds of reference material on everything from medieval knights to more modern military vehicles, uniforms and weapons. There's even a World War One British Service Revolver (unloaded Andy assures me) and a number of WW2 steel helmets.

All too soon though it's time to bid King & Country a fond farewell but remember you are always welcome. If you ever come to Hong Kong call us up and arrange a personal visit... we'd love to see you.



Tammi and Joanne  
'sweating' over a hot computer



## CHINESE WEDDING BELLS ARE RINGING



HK148



NO ISSUE OF "COLLECTOR" is ever fully complete without a trip down to the "Streets of Old Hong Kong" and this issue is no exception...

HK148 "The Bride & Groom" - shows a newly-married Chinese couple in a traditional Victorian-style pose of the seated husband and the standing spouse.

Actually even before the advent of photography this 'pose' was the one adopted in most Chinese paintings of the same era.

Both figures are dressed in the manner and style of late 19th Century China.

HK147 "The Photographer" - Capturing the above scene as well as countless others in and around turn-of-the-century Hong Kong is our working photographer - magnesium flash at the ready and under the cloth cover trying to focus on the image.



## FROM BONAPARTE TO BOSNIA...

Dressed in his parade uniform of white tunic with blue facings this standing figure makes an impressive addition to any "Napoleonic" collection.

CF008 A non commissioned officer of the 13th SS Mountain Division "Handschar". This unit, made up of Bosnian Muslims, was formed in Yugoslavia in 1942 to fight against Tito and his partisans.

Although the Division wore regular German uniforms they were distinguished by their headgear -- the traditional Moslem "Faz" either in field gray or maroon red. In addition on their left sleeve, under the SS eagle, they wore a

cloth arm shield adorned with the Bosnian red and white checker board pattern.

This NCO is armed with an MP40 Schmeisser machine pistol.

Please note: These two "exclusives" are only available to Collectors' Club Members and in production for a limited time.

Arm shield specially designed for the volunteer Waffen SS Division recruited in Bosnia and Croatia in Yugoslavia.



CF007



DUE FOR RELEASE this coming April are K&C's two latest "Collectors Club" figures... and they could not be more different!

CF007 "Empress Dragoon Bugler" shows a beautifully detailed dismounted trumpeter of the Emperor's own "Dragons de l'Imperatrice".

Two "Handschar" Troopers, wearing their distinctive collar patches. The name "Handschar" is derived from Arabic and means 'scimitar'.



CF008

