



Welcome to the Buttercup Miniatures April newsletter, with a special welcome to all our new subscribers!

**Featured in the newsletter this month:**

1. General News
2. Web shop news
3. 10% discount voucher (only available to e-mail newsletter subscribers)
4. How it all began (a short history of Buttercup Miniatures)
5. Articles in magazines

**1. General news**

First of all we would like to wish all readers a very Happy Easter.

**Easter closing**

**Please note:** the office will be closed on **Friday 10<sup>th</sup> April 2009** and **Monday 13<sup>th</sup> April 2009**, the web shop will be open as normal. If you have a query during this period please email us as phones will not be answered.

This year we celebrate our 10<sup>th</sup> Birthday. We were going to put all our pattern prices back to those in 1999, but as we haven't actually ever increased the prices in those 10 years, we decided to give all current newsletter subscribers a 10% discount voucher for the web shop (valid for one year and which can be used up to TEN times before it expires). **This offer was only available to e-mail newsletter subscribers as of 1<sup>st</sup> April 2009.**

As readers in the UK will know Royal Mail are once again putting up their prices in April. Our postage charges will NOT change as the postage and packing cost mainly covers the fixed costs of an order - cost of clearing payment through the bank, printing, padded bags/boxes, sticky tape, ....well.... relatively little goes towards the actual postage costs.

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**2. Web Shop News**

We have recently reorganised the web shop so individual items should be a lot easier to find. We would of course welcome your comments on any other improvements that you feel could be made.

There are several new offers on our web shop this month including Easter items.

For full details visit our web shop at: [http://store.buttercupminiatures.co.uk/offers-this-month/cat\\_70.html](http://store.buttercupminiatures.co.uk/offers-this-month/cat_70.html)

**New patterns on web shop:**

**CP 47** Crochet Ladies Circular Shawl (may also be used as a frilly tablecloth) **£ 1.50**

**FP 140** Ladies knitted shift dress c. 1965-66 **£ 3.00**

Full details of all the new items can be found on our web shop at <http://store.buttercupminiatures.co.uk/>

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### 3. 10% discount voucher

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### 4. How it all began – the story of Buttercup Miniatures

This is a short history of Buttercup Miniatures that celebrates 10 years this year; a longer more comprehensive history will be available on the Buttercup Miniatures [Blog](#)

The roots of Buttercup Miniatures started in 1999 with a dolls house as a birthday present. Unable to furnish and accessorise in the Edwardian style due to the scarce availability of items to buy, Frances who was adept at knitting and crochet, decided to design her own miniature clothing. Much research was undertaken as it was decided early on that the house was going to be authentic to the period, a replica in miniature.

A local dolls house shop owner expressed an interest in some of the clothes she made and Buttercup Miniatures was born! It soon became apparent that supplying ready-made items in commercial quantities was not possible and designing knitting patterns became the focus of the business. A spell of attending dolls house fairs followed but the specialised nature of the products meant the right people were not being reached via the fairs. So after a chance meeting with a web designer in 2002 Buttercup Miniatures went live on the 'net with a simple web site to be followed in 2004 with the first web shop.

The business continued to grow and in 2006 Buttercup Miniatures bought a successful needle making business that had previously supplied us with needles. This year also saw the introduction of the first 1/24<sup>th</sup> scale items.

Some of our customers over the last 10 years have become worldwide personal friends and we look forward to making new friends in the future.

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### 5. Articles in magazines

Frances has another short article in the Artisans in Miniature magazine this month (this time it is a change from knitting or crochet and is an article on the history of Hot Cross buns and Simnel cakes). There is also a 1/12<sup>th</sup> scale crochet pattern in the magazine detailing how to make an Easter basket. This magazine is free and can be found on the Artisans in Miniature [web site](#).

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If anyone you know would like to subscribe to the newsletter please ask him or her to subscribe via our main web site or to send us an [e-mail](#) requesting a subscription to the newsletter.

Frances  
<http://www.buttercupminiatures.co.uk>

Please consider the environment before printing this.