

Shelley model birds

- The first known example of a china bird comes from 1904 a miniature Goose (number 63 9cm). But the crested miniatures were not really model birds that came about first with the small china series illustrated here. Twelve of these were registered in 1915. The series developed to Number 27, and there are still some numbers to be found. Sizes are in the range 5cm to 7cm high.
- The large birds don't have Registered Design Numbers. They were labelled with the slightly academic title "Bird Studies". Distinctions between "pre-war" and post-war" (i.e. WWII) are often made, partly because either a different mix must have been used in the later period creating a smaller model. Sizes are in the range 10cm to 20cm high.
- The choice of birds to model goes beyond those originating in England. The majority of the figurines are exotic species from all parts of the world. For example the small series included number 25 "Cock Of Rock" or Turaco.
- We don't know whether bird decoration appeared in the pattern books, and there are interesting variants in the colourways to be found on models.
- This collection amounts to 80. If you have any examples not included here, please send details and images to information@shelley.co.uk

Chris Watkins 2019

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Chris Davenport (1994) Shelley Twitching, Shelley Magazine, 32: 12-13

Chris Davenport (1994) Shelley Twitching II, Shelley Magazine, 34: 4

Chris Davenport (1996) Shelley Twitching III, Shelley Magazine, 41: 4

Bryan Goodlad (1998) "We're Twitching Again" Shelley Magazine 49: 4

Helene Elder (2000) More Shelley Birds for the Aviary, Shelley Magazine, 56: 15, 16

Mannie Banner (2001) lovebird/parrot Shelley Magazine 59: 17

Curt Leiser (2001)"Newsletter "Going to the Birds?". NSCC, 12:2, 1-10

Tony Kent (2007) "Birds of a Feather" ASCC Shelley Newsletter, 21:4, 1-4

Tony Kent and David Deller (2012) "Shelley Birds" Shelley Magazine, 103, 18-20

Steve Palmer (2016) "Dawn Chorus" talk at Annual Weekend

Large series: 14 models, 40 variants Scale 50%



01 Lovebird or Budgie 19cmh

02 Blue Macaw 20cmh

03 Parrot 20cmh



04 Jay Prewar 20cmh









05 Eagle 18cmh



06 Green Woodpecker 19cmh



06 Spotted Woodpecker 19cmh



07 Kingfisher 20cmh



08 Toucan 20cmh



11 Wild Duck 12cmh



12 Pockard Duck 12cmh



13 Bull Finch 13cmh







14 Pied Flycatcher 10cmh?



15 Woodlark 10cmh?



? Meadowlark 10cmh?



? Wheat Ear 11cmh



? Green Bunting 11cmh



16 Cole Tit 10cmh

17 Blue Tit 10cmh



U- Kingfisher 21cmh



U- Kingfisher ?cmH

05 Paraqueet 7cmh

24 models, 40 examples



06 Prairie Hen 6cmh?





18 Paraqueet ?cmh





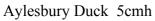
22 Canvas Back Duck 5cmh



Crested Miniature Birds

5 models, 7 examples Scale 100%









27 Canary? 7cmh



miniature 384 Penguin 10cmh