

Is this the smallest violin you have seen?



[dropcap style="font-size: 60px; color: #DC943C;"] T
[/dropcap]his tiny violin was carved from either ivory or bone or something similar and was made by my late uncle, Ron Goodall, more than 50 years ago.

He lived in the former piano shop at 222 Timor St – featured this week in Places/My Place – and would use pieces of old piano and other materials to make this folk art.

It is in four separate parts, including a miniature scroll top, that have been glued together and finished with four ‘cat gut’ violin strings.

The piece was originally displayed on the end of a toothpick attached to a cork and kept in a glass vial.

I doubt it has played a note, but it is one of my most treasured possessions.



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[signed, Fletcher Jones](#)

Shaking up the atomic age



[dropcap style="font-size: 60px; color: #A02F2F;"] A
[/dropcap]nd this week in Mum's Drawer we have some little bombs...

Well, the 1950s was a time full of admiration for the atomic bomb and what better way to 'celebrate' (?) such an achievement than to have a pair of small salt-and-pepper bombs on your kitchen table?

These little bakelite gems were most likely an engagement gift.

By the way, did you know that bakelite is made from formaldehyde and phenol and its formal name is polyoxybenzylmethyleneglycolanhydride?

Keep that one in mind when next playing Scrabble.



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What is a tray cloth?

George Swinton & Sons		PTY LTD			
GEORGE SWINTON FURNISHINGS PTY. LTD. Reg. Office: TIMOR STREET, WARRNAMBOOL					
STATEMENT for Month FEB 59		MRS. W. ALTMANN 66 NICHOLSON STREET WARRNAMBOOL.			
		● DRAPERS, HOME FURNISHERS ● FINE CHINA SPECIALISTS			
		TELEPHONE 8151			
DETAILS OF ACCOUNT RENDERED					
MEMO		OUTSTANDING 3 MONTHS & OVER	OUTSTANDING 2 MONTHS	OUTSTANDING 1 MONTH	BALANCE
DATE	REF.	PARTICULARS	DEBIT	CREDIT	
24		2 TRAY CLOTHS	1 10 0		
		1 TRAY CLOTH	11 6		
		1 CLOTH	3 11		2 5 5*
		<i>Paid 4/8/59</i>			
Interest charged on Overdue Accounts.		TERMS—STRICTLY 30 DAYS.		Last Amount Shown in this column is the sum due	

My mother kept everything...and I mean everything. This used to be a source of great embarrassment, but now I am grateful.

Each week, I will upload something from Mum's drawer – bits and pieces from Warrnambool's past.

This week is a receipt from George Swinton and Sons Furnishings, which still forms part of the Swinton's complex in Timor St, Warrnambool.

I am not sure, however, if they still sell tray cloths.

Does anyone remember what a tray cloth was used for?