

Children's toys and board games

Weekly Times Column

By Warren Joel

The variety of collectable items never ceases to amaze me. And this week's subject is no exception. So what are we actually looking for in children's toys and games? At the pinnacle of this area of collecting will be the early mechanical or battery operated tin toys. These were manufactured in many parts of the world but the Japanese and German models are the most sought after. An example of this might be a "made in Japan" tin robot still in the box in good condition and working. Depending on the model and the rarity we could be talking several thousands of dollars.

Now the very nature of a child's toy means that it has probably been used and more often, abused. To get anything like a decent value it really must be in as close to "as new" condition as possible. Do any of you remember getting the early dinky or matchbox toy cars for Christmas all those years ago? As a child the first thing you did was tear open the Christmas wrapping, rip open the box and start playing with your new car. If you were especially good and looked after your toys the car may have some value, but three quarters of the value was in the matching box that was generally thrown out with the wrapping.

Other items to look for in this area may be an original board game, but again it is all about condition and completeness. If your kids are like mine I have no hope of finding anything close to a collectable in this area!

Next week: Clocks

Free Valuation for Weekly Times readers.

Byjoel will do a free valuation of your collectables via email. If you send a photo and description of your item to valuations@byjoel.com.au I will access the item and respond.

Warren Joel

Warren is a third generation auctioneer and valuer specialising in Art, Antiques and Collectables, accredited by the Commonwealth in 2002 different areas of collectables.

www.byjoel.com.au