

Kitchen collectables
Weekly Times Column
By Warren Joel

There are many collectable items in every day use hiding in your kitchen. With the many hundreds of hours spent in the kitchen every year preparing food, we have several areas of collecting covered.

The most valuable, from a collectors' point of view will be that lovely old set of copper sauce pans, or for that matter any of the antique copper in the kitchen. If you are lucky enough to have the set of old graduated sauce pans, from that tiny little one that would only hold a couple of table spoons to the larger pot they are collectable. The big old copper preserving pan or the big old frypan are all collectable. One only need to look at the price for the new copper today to work out why there is a strong market.

The other collectable areas may be sitting on the book shelves. Now I'm not going to even try to value your grandmother's recipe book. That definitely falls into the "price less" category, but a good clean copy of our 50 or 100 year old cook book, say Mrs Beeton's, is collectable.

If you have any of those early mechanical devices used around food, like the apple peeler, they are always collectable. Now we are not talking thousands of dollars but not all collectables need to be in that range. When it comes to the early electrical appliances they need to be in almost unused condition. I noticed in the kitchen appliance shop today many of the items are very retro in design, so your 1940's electric mixer will be collectable.

Other items that you might keep an eye out for are the antique glass rolling pins, or for that matter any 100 year old glass, even the depression moulded glass for the 1920's. The same simple rules apply when collecting in this area: they need to be in good condition, rare, and have survived to the 21st century.

Next week: Pianos.

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.

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