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# Research Note: 18002

Section	I: Figurines
Title	How to identify the Fakes
Description	Following a discussion on this topic in the Facebook Group recently a lot of useful information was mentioned. This research note captures that information for future reference.
Further Detail	All useful snippets of information are captured below, including images shared between members.

#### 22-Jan-18 17:18 Mark Stevens:

Can anybody advise. I have several sets of band figures that I'm selling on eBay and do not wish to be giving false information

The plaster ones there are so many different I've put them as one box.

- The Carlton black I'm sure are genuine and
- The white Carlton I'm sure are fake

It's the wade set. Are they genuine, I've contacted many different people and look at many references. Many different opinions. Need some wise person to clear this up

In addition, I have two boxes which I'm told are wade boxes but they advertise 'eight' different figures on the side and as far as I'm aware they only did 5. Are these Carlton boxes?

I'm going bald enough as it is without pulling my hair out over this

Thanks

Mark



## [Close up of above figures]:













ZANNY GARBETT: It's all in the eyes, I suspect these are fake I'm afraid but Jer will be able to confirm and give further details I'm sure.

MARK STEVENS: That's great its really wanting to get to the bottom of it so as not to be one of those ebayers that just doesn't care and clearly try to sell fake as genuine. If already up dated the listings with a reference to fake

SUE TYLER: My Wade gollies. They have Robertson on the front of the base.



MARK STEVENS: Reply. Hate to say this but I think they are the same as what I have. I've messaged Jeremy who I think knows all in this. Be good to get to the bottom of it

SUE TYLER: Yes they do look the same. I bought them as Wade about 10 years ago

**JEREMY LIDDIARD:** Mark Stevens: Sorry Sue Tyler but I believe these are fake - see the photo of a genuine one and the comments I added to a previous post.

MARK STEVENS: Thanks for clearing that up. So I have two fake sets and two genuine trumpet boxes

JEREMY LIDDIARD: I suppose I should say that I don't actually have any evidence that they're fake, It's simply that that they haven't been made in the same way as Wade originally made them. So I guess it's possible that Wade had a surplus of unfinished figurines and they or someone else decided to finish them off in a non-original way.

SUE TYLER: That's the story I have heard before. Surplus stock when the factory closed down finished by someone else. Oh well I like mine and not intending to sell so no problem really.

JOE MILLS: That could make sense. I don't know how desirable that makes them if so.

GRAHAM WALKER: Hello. I have a whole set of plaster and variations. I do have a full set of eight with a black base and the word Robertson on the bottom. They came in strong brown boxes and I also have the application form. There were a set going the rounds in the early 90's with white bases that are fake. I must admit to not having seen the white box shown. I do have a Coalport Farewell Golly with the number 618, much larger and very nice.

MARK STEVENS: I have one of these boxes as well. Has trumpet Portugal on its lid

SUE TYLER: These are supposedly manufactured by Wade and have a heavier feel to them than the others you mention. They were quite rare. I am beginning to fear mine are fake or heavily restored.

JOE MILLS: I'd say both sets are fake based on the s shapes on the double bass. But as I said before Jeremy is the man to help here.

JEREMY LIDDIARD: Despite mentioning 8 different designs, I believe the printed white box is a genuine Wade box. If complete, it should contain a tube of corrugated cardboard to protect the figurine. The Carltonware boxes were simply folded brown corrugated cardboard, with the only external markings being the design of the figurine stamped on the outside.

JOE MILLS: added the picture on right --->



MARK STEVENS: yes boxes have the tube inside as you describe. I did hear that when Wade lost the contract as such that they made deliberate changes. Grasping at straws could this not be the case with these

JEREMY LIDDIARD: [to Joe Mills] they look like Carltonware boxes.

JEREMY LIDDIARD: [to Mark Stevens] that is possible

### 22-Jan-18 23:58 Mark Stevens:

To further discussions

The three trumpeters below are what I have. Two were in what we have discovered are original boxes

There is a difference between the three that I can see. Colour variation and mainly the finish to the back of the heads

All Fake? One Fake? Two Fake? All real? ????











SUE TYLER: The middle one looks genuine. The other two are not finished to such a high standard but does that make them fakes? Perhaps the standard of production declined or they were seconds finished off by someone else.

COLIN DODDS: I had assorted correspondence try to sort these over the years. The original copies were from Wade themselves and major Wade collectors about 20 years ago. "Wade were used to make some 'home produced' designs in the 1960's as an alternative to the Portuguese pottery models. Wade is believed never to have produced some of the designs. Information from the company in 1988 and 1995 has proved conflicting. Their latest information claims five solid base figurines were tooled for volume production but they also developed a small number of additional figurines as cast prototypes. The five Wade designs [c 62mm high] listed are the ones normally found, but hollow prototype examples are believed to have been made of the guitarist and vocalist. A drummer was not produced. Wade figures may be found with various colour and black rim bases which are rouges believed to be coloured at the whim of painters when Wade was not awarded a permanent contract by Robertson's. "

SUE TYLER: That's interesting Colin. In view of this I think it quite possible that the standard of decoration on the figures declined as Wade tried to mass produce them as cheaply as possible in order to secure a new contract from Robertson's and therefore they could all be genuine Wade.

JEREMY LIDDIARD: The middle one has the original-type eyes.

## JEREMY LIDDIARD [earlier in 2017]:

For future reference, the genuine Wade figures should look like this. Note the details of the transfers on the bass and accordion [on the fake double bass player's instrument, the "S" holes aren't mirror images as they would be on a real instrument and as they are on the genuine Wade item] and how the eyes look and their method of application – transfers not hand painted:



Close up showing EYE detail of genuine Wade Figurines: (transfer applied)



Close up showing EYE detail of FAKE Wade Figurines: (hand painted – often crudely)



Pictures from Keith Harrison:







From Sue Tyler:



The following images show a number of fake figurines which were available on eBay at time of writing (with the possible exception of the Lollipopman – may be a genuine one)



