

Your Letters

The month's postbag includes a trip down memory lane and the Japanese concept of kintsugi

What a joyous trip down memory lane your feature on comics was (*Caper Chase*, October issue). I was a fully paid up member of the Dennis and Gnasher fan club and still have my badge. If you saw someone else wearing a badge you always said "Ding" (meaning "Dennis Is Never Good") to which the reply should be "Dong" meaning "Dennis Owns Naughty Gnasher". Happy times.
J Hubbard, Doncaster



Our star letter receives a copy of *Bulgari Treasures of Rome* by Vincent Meylan worth £55. Write to us at *Antique Collecting*, Sandy Lane, Old Martlesham, Woodbridge, Suffolk, IP12 4SD or email magazine@accartbooks.com



Above right Will the ubiquitous flat pack signal the end of antiques?

Left The Gnasher badge was part of the fan club

Below left Memories of Dennis and Gnasher, image courtesy of *Beano*

Below right *Kintsugi* celebrates decay



As I helped my daughter move into a new flat last week I was struck by how little of her possessions would ever survive long enough to qualify as antique. Her small London apartment did not lend itself to furniture other than that of the pale, flatpack variety. Her access to digital information meant there were no books, and the walls were barely large enough to hang anything but a couple of prints. In 100 years' time will our material culture be so small as to not exist?
David Reid, Putney, by email

While I love the BBC's *The Repair Shop* I would like to remind readers of the Japanese concept of *kintsugi* and ceramics introduced to be by my son-in-law.

The idea is porcelain is delicate and, as such, will be broken. Rather than worrying about breakages, *kintsugi* celebrates them by sealing cracks with gold or silver lacquer. The result can be even more beautiful than the original. Rather than abhor decay, we should celebrate it as a part of life. If only we could apply it in every area of life – including ageing!

GF Lucson, by email



Correction: In last month's magazine we stated BADA was formed in 1991. In fact BADA Friends was formed in 1991 and BADA was created in 1918.

Answers to the quiz on page 44

Q1 (d) 11th-century Greek church summoning-'bell'. **Q2** (c) They prevented the officer being garrotted. **Q3** (b) Bean slicer. **Q4** (b) Coupled steering handlebars and (c) Diagonal strengthening. **Q5** (c) Hat. **Q6** (a) and (d) It appeared flat when viewed from the side and rounded from the front or back. **Q7** (d) A nickname for a skilled glassworker who moved from manufacturer to manufacturer. **Q8** (d) Whipsnade opened in 1931. There were earlier 'zoo' cards, but not, of course, of Whipsnade. **Q9** (a) It turned out to be a financial elephant for the car maker. **Q10** (b) Immortality which was also associated with the phoenix. The cock is associated with vigilance and Peter's denial of Christ. The goldfinch the Crown of Thorns, and the raven with man's salvation, when associated with Elijah.

Carriage clock = a corgi clacker (a)
Scrimshaw = raw schism (b)
Gainsborough = our aging hobs (c)
Expressionism = mixes ropiness (d)