

Freda G.Doughty

1895 – 1972



In the early 1930s Royal Worcester was on the brink of ruin. But a rescue package was at hand and Charles Dyson Perrins bought the company, supplementing the worker's wages out of his own pocket until the business was out of danger. A new group of modellers— nearly all of them women – were brought in to enliven Royal Worcester's range. One of the Director's of Royal Worcester was staying with Freda's cousin and on seeing examples of Freda's work he asked her to make something to submit to Worcester. Her first four models of children were an immediate success and led to a long and fruitful partnership.

It was Freda's children that really saved the day and brought Royal Worcester into the market of affordable figurines. A little girl in a long dress called 'Grandmother's Dress' and her partner 'Boy with a Parakeet' were so enduringly popular that many factory workers still claim that, in the tricky years of the 1950s, this girl and boy almost single-handedly kept the factory open

Freda designed over 100 models, most of which were very popular. Her figures were modelled from children who used to play in the garden of her home in Kent that she shared with her elder sister Dorothy. In later years the two sisters moved to a cottage near Falmouth. Freda died in 1972.

| Shape No. | Name | Description | Series | Intro. | Finish |
|-----------|---------------------------------|---|-------------------------|--------|---------|
| 2912 | Michael | boy crawling | | 1931 | by 1957 |
| 2913 | Tommy | boy, arms behind back | | 1931 | by 1957 |
| 2914 | Mischief | child sitting | | 1931 | by 1957 |
| 2915 | Joan | toddler | | 1931 | by 1957 |
| 2924 | Fortune Teller (Mother Machree) | seated old woman, modelled on old lady living in Severn St. | | 1931 | by 1957 |
| 3008 | Sea Breeze | girl with seagulls | | 1931 | by 1957 |
| 3012 | Spring | girl holding lamb | | 1931 | 1955 |
| 3014 | My Favourite | girl kneeling with rabbits | | 1931 | 1970's |
| 3066 | Egypt | Boy wearing fez holding mouth organ, striped smock | Children of the Nations | 1934 | 1970's |
| 3067 | Italy | Girl sitting, selling flowers | Children of the Nations | 1934 | 1970's |
| 3068 | Burma | Dark skinned boy | Children of the Nations | 1934 | 1970's |

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|------|------------------------|---|-------------------------|--------------|--------------|
| 3069 | Greece | Boy dancing wearing white pleated skirt, felt hat | Children of the Nations | 1934 | 1970's |
| 3070 | Spain | Girl holding a parasol | Children of the Nations | 1934 | 1970's |
| 3071 | India | Dark skinned boy playing pipe | Children of the Nations | 1934 | 1970's |
| 3072 | Japan | Seated girl wearing Kimono | Children of the Nations | 1934 | 1970's |
| 3073 | China | Seated boy with chopsticks | Children of the Nations | 1934 | 1970's |
| 3074 | Holland | Girl wearing clogs & white hat | Children of the Nations | 1934 | 1970's |
| 3075 | England | Girl holding daisies | Children of the Nations | 1934 | 1970's |
| 3076 | Woodland Dance | Girl kneeling with animals | | 1934 | 1970's |
| 3081 | Grandmother's Dress | girl in long dress & cap (small version 1983-88) | | 1935 | by 1980 |
| 3082 | The First Cuckoo | girl holding flowers in her dress | | 1935 | early 1960's |
| 3083 | Sunshine | seated girl with flowers in her lap | | 1935 | late50's |
| 3084 | The Dandelion | seated boy with white rabbit | | 1935 | late 50's |
| 3087 | Parquet Boy | boy with bird on shoulder (small version 1983-88) | | 1935 | by 1980 |
| 3103 | Wales | girl in black hat holding daffodils | Children of the Nations | 1935 | 1970's |
| 3104 | Scotland | girl in kilt & sporran | Children of the Nations | 1935 | 1970's |
| 3106 | Duchess's Dress | girl in wide long skirt 2 sizes | | 1935 | 1957 |
| 3149 | The Sister | boy & big sister | | 1936 | 1950's |
| 3150 | Two babies | boy & puppy | | 1936 | 1950's |
| 3151 | The Water Baby | naked youth on rock | | 1936 | 1955 |
| 3160 | Bubbles | girl holding glass bubble | | 1936 | |
| 3178 | Ireland | girl in green striped dress | Children of the Nations | 1936 | 1970's |
| 3224 | The Bridesmaid | girl walking down steps | | 1938 | 1955 |
| 3225 | Dancing Waves | girl with arms outstretched | | 1938 | 1958 |
| 3226 | Only Me | young girl in short dress | | 1938 | 1970's |
| 3256 | Sunday's child | boy sitting on sandcastle (small version Sunshine Days 1983-88) | Days of the Week | 1938 1991 | 1985 2002 |
| 3257 | Monday's child (Susie) | girl with long dress & wide sash (small version, Birthday Girl | Days of the Week | 1938 | 1985 |

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|------|------------------------------------|--|--------------------|--------------|---------------|
| | | 1983-88) | | 1991 | 2002 |
| 3258 | Tuesday's child (Red Shoes) | Ballerina on one leg (Small version Ballet Dancer 1983 - 88) | Days of the Week | 1938 1991 | 1985 2002 |
| 3259 | Wednesday's child | girl crying over broken teddy | Days of the Week | 1938 1991 | 1985 2002 |
| 3260 | Thursday's child (Smilin' Thro) | Boy holding a staff | Days of the Week | 1938 1991 | 1985 2002 |
| 3261 | Friday 's child (My Pet) | boy feeding kitten (Small version Old Friends 1983 - 88) | Days of the Week | 1938 1991 | 1985 2002 |
| 3262 | Saturday's child | girl knitting sat on steps (small version, Katie 1983 -88) | Days of the Week | 1938 1991 | 1985 2002 |
| 3270 | Playmates | girl & dog | | 1938 | late 50's |
| 3301 | Miss Muffet | girl & spider | Nursery Rhymes | 1940 | 1980 |
| 3302 | Babes in the Wood | boy & girl | Nursery Rhymes | 1040 | 1980 |
| 3303 | Poly put the kettle on | girl holding a kettle | Nursery Rhymes | 1940 | 1980 |
| 3304 | Goosie Gander | boy & goose | Nursery Rhymes | 1940 | 1980 |
| 3305 | Little Jack Horner | boy on stool | Nursery Rhymes | 1940 | 1980 |
| 3306 | Little boy blue | boy lying against a sheep | Nursery Rhymes | 1940 | 1980 |
| 3359 | The Bow (Masquerade) | Boy bowing | | 1941 | 1970's |
| 3360 | The Curtsey (Masquerade) | Girl curtseying | | 1941 | 1970's |
| 3380 | Sitting Child | naked infant | | 1942 | early 50's |
| 3381 | Crawling Child | naked infant | | 1942 | early 50's |
| 3416 | April | girl & lamb (small version, Springtime 1983-8) | Months of the Year | 1947 | 1983 |
| 3417 | October | boy and two squirrels (small version, Woodland Walk 1983- 8) | Months of the Year | 1947 | 1983 |
| 3418 | November (Fantails) | boy with doves (small version, Peace 1983-88) | Months of the Year | 1947 | 1983 |
| 3433 | Johnnie (Farmer's Boy) | boy with ducklings | | 1947 | 1980's |
| 3435 | Happy Days | boy riding a pony | | 1948 | 1955 |
| | | girl paddling (small version, At | | | |

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|------|-------------------|--|---------------------|----------------|----------------|
| 3440 | July | the Seaside 1983-88) | Months of the Year | 1949 | 1983 |
| 3441 | August | naked girl sitting on a rock (small version, Little Mermaid 1983-88) | Months of the Year | 1949 | 1983 |
| 3452 | January | boy sliding on ice, (small version, The Slide 1983-88) | Months of the Year | 1949 | 1983 |
| 3453 | February | boy in raincoat & wellingtons (small version, The Fisherman 1983 - 88) | Months of the Year | 1949 | 1983 |
| 3454 | March | girl running hat in hand | Months of the Year | 1949 | 1983 |
| 3455 | May | girl kneeling | Months of the Year | 1949 | 1983 |
| 3456 | June | boy with dog, playing mouth organ | Months of the Year | 1949 | 1983 |
| 3457 | September (Snowy) | boy and kitten (small version, Christopher 1983-88) | Months of the Year | 1949 | 1983 |
| 3458 | December | girl playing snowballs (Small version, Snowball 1983-88) | Months of the Year | 1949 | 1983 |
| 3518 | Sunday's child | girl holding a windmill (small version, Let's Run 1983-8) | Days of the Week | 1954 1991 | 1985 2002 |
| 3519 | Monday's child | boy holding 2 puppies (small version, Threes Company 1983-88) | Days of the Week | 1954 1991 | 1985 2002 |
| 3521 | Wednesday's child | boy holding broken teddy (small version Poor Teddy 1983-8) | Days of the Week | 1954 1991 | 1985 2002 |
| 3522 | Thursday's child | girl with satchel (small version, Home Time, 1983-88) | Days of the Week | 1954 1991 | 1985 2002 |
| 3523 | Friday's child | girl with bird on knee (small version, Tea Time, 1983-88) | Days of the Week | 1954 1991 | 1985 2002 |
| 3524 | Saturday's child | boy digging (small version, The Gardener, 1983-88) | Days of the Week | 1954 1991 | 1985 2002 |
| 3534 | Tuesday's child | boy skating (small version, Skating 1983-88) | Days of the Week | 1954 1991 | 1985 2002 |
| 3546 | Spring Morning | lady in hat, basket in left hand (2 sizes) | | 1955 c.1980 | 1960's 1985 |
| 3547 | Summer's Day | lady in hat, basket in front (2 sizes) | | 1955 c.1980 | 1958 1985 |
| 3569 | The Seamstress | lady with stole & scissors | | 1956 | c.1960's |
| 3608 | Alice | girl kneeling | Alice in Wonderland | 1957 | c.1960's |
| 3609 | Cheshire Cat | with a wide grin | Alice in Wonderland | 1957 | c.1960's |
| 3610 | Mock Turtle | Cow's head with turtle shell | Alice in Wonderland | 1957 | c.1960's |

| | | | | | |
|------|----------------------------|---|---------------------|------|---------------|
| 3611 | White Rabbit | dressed rabbit holding gloves | Alice in Wonderland | 1957 | c.1960's |
| 3612 | The Duchess | squat woman | Alice in Wonderland | 1957 | c.1960's |
| 3613 | The Dodo | bird | Alice in Wonderland | 1957 | c.1960's |
| 3614 | Father William | man sitting on stool | Alice in Wonderland | 1957 | c.1960's |
| 3615 | Long haired cat | sitting upright | | 1957 | 1970's |
| 3616 | Short haired cat | sitting upright | | 1957 | 1970's |
| 3629 | First Dance | girl with wide skirt & fringed shawl | | 1957 | c.1980 |
| 3630 | Sweet Anne | girl in long skirt, hands held in front | | 1957 | c.1980 |
| 3655 | Surprise | girl in wide skirt with sash | | 1958 | c.1960 |
| 3656 | Mayflower | boy in naval costume, tricorne hat & telescope | | 1958 | 1963 |
| 3679 | Falconer | boy in Elizabethan costume, hawk on his arm | | 1958 | short release |
| 3683 | Holly Plate | Christmas plate with modelled holly border | | 1958 | short release |
| 3698 | Invitation | lady in frilled dress holding envelope | | 1960 | short release |
| 3699 | Red Ribbons | lady in frilled dress | | 1960 | short release |
| 3720 | Will you? Won't you? | lady in frilled dress holding sugar tongs | | 1961 | short release |
| 3761 | Mayflower | simplified version of 3656 with no hat or telescope | | 1963 | short release |
| 4154 | Katie | girl sitting on steps knitting | Worcester children | 1982 | 1985 |
| 4155 | Little Grandmother's Dress | girl in long dress with mob cap | Worcester Children | 1982 | 1985 |
| 4156 | Christopher | boy with white cat | Worcester Children | 1982 | 1985 |
| 4157 | Woodland Walk | boy with squirrel | Worcester Children | 1982 | 1985 |
| 4158 | Three's Company | boy holding two puppies | Worcester Children | 1982 | 1985 |
| 4159 | Hometime | girl with satchel | Worcester Children | 1982 | 1985 |
| 4160 | Tea Time | girl sitting with bird on her knee | Worcester Children | 1982 | 1985 |
| 4161 | Let's Run | girl with windmill | Worcester Children | 1982 | 1985 |
| 4163 | Little Parakeet boy | boy with parakeet on his right arm | Worcester Children | 1982 | 1985 |

| | | | | | |
|------|----------------|---|--------------------|------|----------|
| 4164 | Sunshine Days | boy sitting with ball in left hand | Worcester Children | 1982 | 1985 |
| 4165 | Fisherman | boy in raincoat and sou' wester | Worcester Children | 1982 | 1985 |
| 4166 | Snowball | girl in hooded coat throwing snowballs | Worcester Children | 1982 | 1985 |
| 4167 | Peace | girl with two white doves | Worcester Children | 1982 | 1985 |
| 4168 | Springtime | girl with lamb | Worcester Children | 1982 | 1985 |
| 4188 | Ballerina | girl balanced on one point | Worcester Children | 1982 | 1985 |
| 4189 | The slide | boy sliding on ice, arms out | Worcester Children | 1982 | 1985 |
| 4190 | At the Seaside | girl splashing in waves | Worcester Children | 1982 | 1985 |
| 4191 | Little Mermaid | nude girl sits on rock looking into water | Worcester Children | 1982 | 1985 |
| 4192 | Gardiner | boy digging | Worcester Children | 1982 | 1985 |
| 4193 | Old Friends | boy holding kitten and bowl | Worcester Children | 1982 | 1985 |
| 4194 | Birthday girl | girl with long dress, blue sash and bow | Worcester Children | 1982 | 1985 |
| 4195 | Poor teddy | child holding broken teddy | Worcester Children | 1982 | 1985 |
| 4199 | Skating | boy skating | Worcester Children | 1982 | few made |

The Months of the Year



A series of 14 figures of children introduced between 1947 and 1949. They proved so popular that they remained in production until 1983

(Here shown from January top left to December bottom right)

The Days of the Week

A series of 14 figures of children, with one boy and one girl representing each day of the week. The original seven figures were introduced in 1938. They proved so popular that a further

seven figures were added to the range in 1954. The series was produced until 1985. In 1991 the Days of the Week were re-introduced again in paler colours, they were discontinued in December 2002. In January 2004 a small scale version of the series was introduced and was available for about 2 years, followed by a much cheaper version that was produced abroad.(The factory stamp includes the country of origin)

The Worcester Children

A series of small versions of Freda Doughty's figures of children were introduced in 1983. These were simplified versions of the original models and reduced in size and the new name was printed in black on the bottom. They are generally decorated in pale pastel colours. They were not successful and were discontinued at the end of 1985. A few were sold from the factory shops in 1986 and 1987.



Marks and dating.

The earliest examples usually have the name of the model inscribed by hand on the base in pink or lilac. They also have a standard Royal Worcester mark printed in black. Date codes on the mark were only used until the late 1950's. Dating of models that were made in the 1960s, 1970s and 1980s is very difficult, but any model with the letter R in a circle as part of the Royal Worcester factory mark was made after 1956.

During the 1970s the name of the model was printed in black under the factory mark.

For details of later factory marks see [Royal Worcester factory marks](#)

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