

SA1211371

Victorian taxidermy - A delightful and very small case containing a Gouldian finch by W. C. Shelbrooke of Bridgnorth

Price

Sold

Item Reference: SA1211371

Date of manufacture: 1900

Dimensions

Height = 23 cm (9.1")

Width = 18 cm (7.1")

Depth = 11.5 cm (4.5")

Description

In typical ebonised case, with polished beading. Circa 1900. Unlabelled. Just 23cm High x 18cm Wide & 11.5 cm Deep. The Gouldian finch (*Chloebia gouldiae*), also known as the Gould's finch or the rainbow finch, is a colourful passerine native to northern Australia. The Gouldian finch was described by British ornithologist John Gould in 1844 as *Amadina gouldiae*, in honour of his deceased wife Elizabeth. William Charles Shelbrooke (1860-1939), Taxidermist & Furrier, 12 & 65 Friar's Street, Bridgnorth, Shropshire. Shelbrooke was an apprentice of Peter Spicer & Sons, Leamington and his work often carries a watercolour back drop (as with this example) in a similar vein to Spicers. The following is an extract from my own book published back in 2001 'A Record of Spicer's' that covered the history of this famous Leamington Spa taxidermy firm. "Peter Spicer had two notable apprentices who went on to run their own successful businesses, and whose style and similarity can be seen here, Quatremaine of Stratford upon Avon, and W. Shelbrooke of Bridgnorth, whose label describes him as being "of late with Peter Spicer, Leamington". A further example of Shelbrooke's work (stoat) can be ...

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