

R.D. Gallant Fishers - Izaak Walton

Charles Noke created Royal Doulton's "The Gallant Fishers" series to celebrate the writings of Izaak Walton. The first edition of Izaak Walton's "The Complete Angler" was published in 1653. It is the quintessential English sporting classic. A serious discussion on freshwater angling endowed with verse, song and vignettes penned by others. Izaak Walton produced five editions of "The Complete Angler"; the initial publication contained 13 chapters, the fifth and Walton's final edition in 1676 contained twenty one chapters. "The Complete Angler" was a Seventeenth Century variety show based around angling, akin to the format of Television shows today such as "Top Gear" and Football shows on every code imaginable in as many languages as conceivable. As this series was drawn by Charles Noke, one could conclude that it was a topic that was dear to this great talents own heart. I must acknowledge the assistance Mary of "The Marjorie Jones Memorial Collection" in the creation of this fact file in particular.

Royal Doulton Gallant Fishers - Izaak Walton

Royal Doulton Gallant Fishers Spittoon / Cuspidor; D2312 production era 1905 to 1910

Royal Doulton introduced the Gallant Fishers series in 1905 and it was in production right up until the 1950's. This series was made on a multitude of shapes with over its 50 years of production and with 16 unique characters that appear with 14 different quotations the range and variety is almost limitless. Royal Doulton Gallant Fishers Jugs (shape name unknown); D.2704

Gallant Fishers was produced under ten pattern numbers; nine "D" prefixed number for earthen ware and one "E" prefixed number for Bone China. D2312 issued circa 1905

D2420 " " 1905

D2517 " " 1906 D2704 " " 1965 D3169 " " 1909 D3680 " " 1913 D5497D " " 1905 D

" 1905 The Borders Royal Doulton Gallant Fishers Jedo Plate: D2420 date coded November 1905

Gallant Fishers was produced with two distinctive borders. The Jedo border is an elaborate brocade affair that harps back to the Victorian Era. It is most often found on rack plates, but I have also seen it bowls.

The background is airbrushed in green to give the scene depth, a foreground, the horizon and then a line of shrubbery. Most of the Jedo rack plates I have had are dated coded to 1906 and have the pattern number D2420. There is also a Doulton Burslem Jedo makers' mark. Royal Doulton Gallant Fishers Plate - Willow Border D2704; date coded for June 1930

By far the most common border is the Willow Tree border. This appears to come in two styles a dark colour or in a light green. The pattern comes on three grounds, the Jedo ground, a plain cream ground and a cream ground shaded with green up from the base.

Doulton Burslem Jedo makers' mark; the plate this was taken from was date coded November 1906. As far as I was aware this mark was not used after 1902, it would seem that we still have more to discover.

Royal Doulton produced a special Isaac Walton Ware back stamp for Gallant Fishers. There are two variations of this mark. The earliest is the mark above. This appears on items produced from 1905. The example below with the "Made In England" above and "England" below is later and would date to the early 1930's. All the rack plates that we are aware of with the light green willow border (pattern D2704) have this mark; and on those examples that are dated they all date between 1930 and 1933.

This Tab Handle Bonbon Dish (shape 8051B) is an example of a little known variation to Gallant Fishers. Note how the bright colours of the Fisherman's clothes are and the gold rim strip. On all the examples of this particular variation we have been able to identify the pattern number it is D5497D. Example of D5497D with date codes were manufactured in 1949.

This collage shows six colour variations of character 1, the three examples at the top are the standard variations, while the three at the bottom are the 1949 variation. The Quotations

There are 14 different quotes that either appear on their own or together. 1. "The jealous trout that now did lie use at a well dissembled fly." 2. "There stood my friend with patient skill tending of his trembling quill." 3. "Of recreation this is none so free is fishing is alone" 4. "All other pastimes do no less, than mind and body both possess." 5. "My hand alone my work can do, so I can fish and study too." 6. "And when the timorous trout I wait to take, and he devours my bait." 7. "I care not I to fish in seas, resh rivers best my mind do please" 8. "But yet though while I fish I fast, I make good fortune my repast" 9. "Friend who is more welcome to my dish, than to my angle was my fish" 10. "Where in a brook with a hook, r a lake fish we take" 11. "None do here, use to swear, oaths do fray. Fish away" 12. "Perch or Pike, Roach or Dace, WE do chase" 13. "Oh the gallant fishers life is the best of any" 14. "Behold the fisherman, he riseth up early" Royal Doulton Gallant Fishers Jug; D2312 The Characters As Defined by Louise Irvine 1. Man with wooden leg 2. Front view of man with one hand in pocket, the other holding the rod vertical 3. Profile of man in spectacles grasping a fish 4. Profile of man in spectacles with rod under left arm and hand in pocket 5. Profile of man in spectacles examining his rod and line 6. Profile of man in pointed hat with rod over right shoulder and bag in hand 7. Profile of man with head facing outwards and rod over right shoulder 8. Profile of man with large flat hat and rod over left shoulder 9. Profile of man with pointed hat and rod over left shoulder 10. Profile of man in short cape and rod over left shoulder 11. Back view with rod over left shoulder

12. Profile of man with rod under right arm examining his hook

13. Three quarter view man with cane and rod over left shoulder

Previously Unnamed Scenes Named by Mary of Majorie Jones Memorial Collection 14. "Profile man with pointed hat, wide sloping brim and rod over left shoulder"; 15. "Profile man with head facing outwards with large flat hat and rod over left shoulder"; 16. "Profile man with head facing forwards, hat tipped back and rod over right shoulder";