

Roman Atsik

Best Six 2025



Exceptional bronze corkscrew by German artist Gilbert Kruft. It shows a female body with a head of a lion lying on a tree. The piece is massive measuring 21.5 cm x 17 cm and weighing 1,056 grams. Ref. World Class Corkscrews p. 156



German flask, marked on the bottom 4 in 1, Patent applied for. The flask includes a corkscrew and a collapsible cup.



Nakamura patent multitool June 20, 1950. Marked Olympic Fine Steel Tin Cutter. Ref. O'Leary Corkscrews p. 156



Double lever marked REG. U.S. Pat. PEND. DETROIT on one side and B. BRO. CO. 8062 LUMPKIN on the other. Ref. World Class Corkscrews p. 251



A cast iron two finger pull in pig form marked GOBERG GESGESCH on the shank. Produced in Germany by Hugo Berger. Early 20 th century. Ref. Figural Corkscrews p. 100



Hagenauer Tennis player serving with a hinged worm. With original leather pouch. Marked Made in Austria. C. 1931-1939. Ref. Austrian Figural Corkscrew Design p. 37

JOSE BARELLA BEST 6 2025
I WISH EVERYONE HAPPY 2026

IRISH CORKSCREWS FROM THE 18th CENTURY



TOP LEFT Very large (170mm high) cellarman type straight pull corkscrew with 4 fingers flat oval handle and decorative shank. Presentation piece marked SINGLETON for Richard Singleton. Bearing the Inscription DRINK AND DRIVE CARE A WAY and MAURICE LEEP WARREN Esq. Date is not legible. Last quarter of 18th century.

TOP CENTER Narrow brass barrel corkscrew. The predecessor of Thomason's narrow barrel. Marked on the button T. READ MAKER IMPROVED COAXER for this second version of the Thomas Read coaxer. Wide Ivory handle typical for Read's corkscrews.

TOP RIGHT All steel corkscrew with 8 windows barrel. The top hole is threaded to allow the sheath to work as a handle. Marked SINGLETON.

BOTTOM LEFT Irish "tire bouchon a cage" with tall 4 windows barrel and sheath. The U shape steel handle marked GLEGG for Thomas Glegg that worked in Dublin in the last quarter of the 18th century

BOTTOM CENTER Brass barrel corkscrew with 2 galleries of 4 windows. A cross bar is fixed at the bottom of the shank. It glides between 2 steel bars inside each side of the brass barrel. Wide turned wood handle with brush. Marked I Read for John Read. Late 18th century.

BOTTOM RIGHT All bronze 2 flat pillars corkscrew. Like the SINGLETON corkscrew, it has threaded top hole to allow the sheath to work as a handle. Like the John Read corkscrew, it has a cross bar that glides between 2 bronze bars inside each pillar. A very smart combination of corkscrews made by well-known makers. The maker did not mark it for an obvious reason. Late 18th century.



BEST SIX (plus eight)

2025 Reinhold Berndt

Flacon Corkscrews with handles of Galalith

I was fortunate to acquire the miniature corkscrews shown here. These are flacon corkscrews manufactured around 1930 by Georg Hermann Usbeck in Steinbach-Hallenberg (Thuringia).

The handles are made of galalith, an early casein-based plastic. Some of the eight folding bow corkscrews are marked with the imprint D.R.G.M.

All miniature corkscrews are mounted on cardboard, from which the pieces were sold individually in household goods stores. Such display cards are very rare to find. This card comes from the estate of the Usbeck family (Monopol) in Marburg/Germany.





Tire-bouchon en T, avec protège mèche pivotant non marqué.

Tire- bouchon 4 doigts avec griffe, pour saisir le haut du bouchon...Germany ???

Petit diable sympa marqué sur la cuisse gauche Rd891055.

Buste de femme suédoise marqué Rumer 1923.

Ancien couteau belge, marqué Rousseaux Anvers, avec 2 TB pour droitier et gaucher.

Rolls Royce "Spirit of Ectasy" , le petit modèle en argent a grandi...

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Tommy Campnell Best Six for 2025



1.



2.



3.



4.



5.



6.

1. American Walker Stag handle with Mokume-Gane decorative metal accents by Joseph Heinrichs. Marked "STERLING AND OTHER METALS". Mokume-Gane is a laminated metal design created 300 years ago in Japan. Joseph Heinrichs was a silversmith in New York City (1897) and is a celebrated American Art & Crafts Movement metalsmith.



2. English pressed horn handle corkscrew. One side shows hunters with dogs and the other side shows people on horseback with running hounds.



3. Ivory handle with Sterling overlay. Marked STERLING. January 5, 1886 Thiery & Crosel mire US Patent number 333,697 for their "Article of jewelry and method of ornamenting the same."



4. Japanese Beer advertising corkscrew. Marked SAPPORO BEER and ASAHI BEER. I have other example with both English and Japanese text, but this is the first I've acquired with different beer name advertising on the same handle.



5. Japanese can opener with corkscrew. There is a swan logo but no company name. No patent information has been found. A photo of the same piece with heavy rust exists deep in Google image archives, so I've been chasing an example for several years. Very happy to acquire this clean example.



6. Japanese combination opener and corkscrew. Marked "COMBI". Heavy cast opener with a delicate tapered wire worm. 1976 Japanese patents 025061 and 025062 Kouichi Nomura. See Bull "Corkscrew Patents of Japan" p.100

Best 6 de 2025
Jacky Corbel (Rebel-TB)



Tire-bouchon Club
France



Tire-bouchon Ivrognes
Danemark



Canif Tire-bouchon Pradel Jeanne d'Arc + nageuse
France



Tire-bouchon Garcia
Espagne?



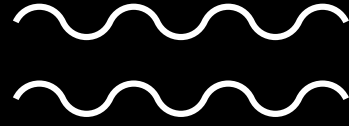
Tire-bouchon Tonneau
Espagne



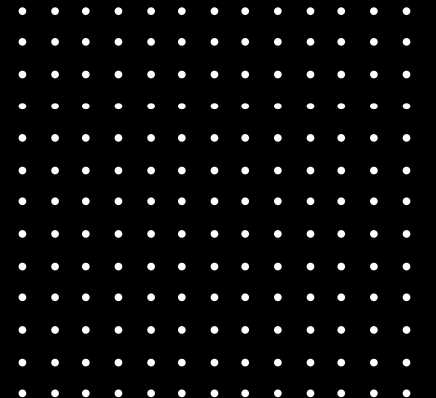
Tire-bouchon Viktoria (Allemagne)

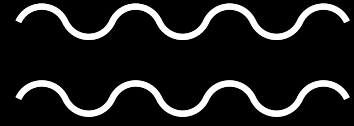


Bonne Année 1926 !
Happy New Year !
Buon Anno a tutti !



**BOB & SUE GILBRIDE'S
2025 BEST SIX**





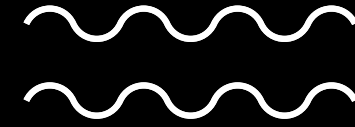
#1. Sperry Patent 1878 May 28

May 28, 1878 U. S. Patent No. 204,339

Single lever corkscrew
with replaceable worm.

Marked PATD May 28 1878



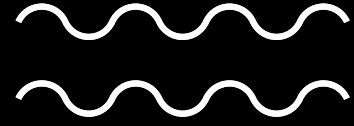


#2. Clough Patent 1881 June 7

June 7, 1881 U. S. Patent No. 242,602
Advertising Wire Corkscrew embossed
JACOBS', ATLANTA.

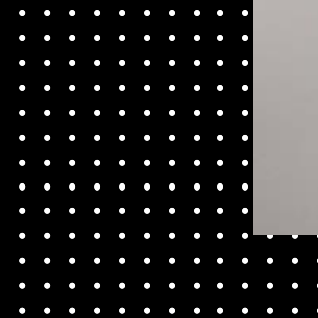
Coca-Cola originated in 1886 when pharmacist John Pemberton first sold the drink at Jacobs' Pharmacy. Asa G. Candler became an investor in 1887, later buying the formula from Pemberton and building the brand. In 1919, Candler sold Coca-Cola to a group of investors, marking the beginning of the modern company



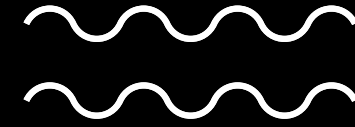


#3. NYLIN Variant

A variant to the 1909 Erik Nylin combination tool. This variant is unmarked and contains several different tools. Foremost a corkscrew and also includes knife sharpening steel, tack puller, tack hammer, screwdriver and can opener



#4. Hachmann Patent 1916 AUG 15

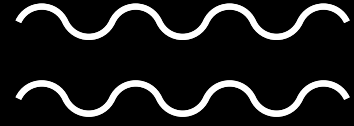


August 15, 1916 U. S. Patent No. 1,194,838
CULINARY IMPLEMENT. Marked BRIDGE
CUTLERY CO./ST. LOUIS U.S.A./PAT. AUG. 15,
1916

Movable blade marked, ICE SHAVER moves to
corrugated edge to form a MEAT TENDERER,
directly below TENDERER is a marked CAP
LIFTER, top of curved blade marked,
MINCING EDGE, slightly curved section of
blade is marked, CLEAVER, and most
importantly to me anyway, is a Clough 1900
patent wire corkscrew which stores in the
wood handle.

Patent drawing does not depict a corkscrew.



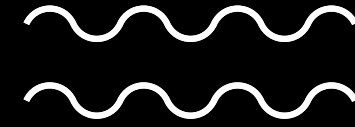


#5. K. D. & S. CO. CHICAGO

American Combination tool- Consisting of Meat Cleaver, Tenderizer, Ice Chipper, Cap Lifter and Clough 1900 patent wire corkscrew in wood handle.

Marked K.D.& S CO/ CHICAGO/ PAT APPLIED FOR above handle, also marked PAT. APPLIED, above the cutting edge of the cleaver. It locks in 2 different positions by pushing the button which depresses the flat spring on the other side. The patent for this tool has not been identified, if in fact it exists.





#6. NAPIER Bar Tool

Napier wood handle bar tool with muddler, heart shaped corkscrew cap lifter and silver plated collar marked NAPIER and PAT. APP. FOR The art deco style and block letters of the NAPIER NAME date this piece to the 1920's to mid 1940's

The Napier Company named after its president, James H. Napier, who led the company from 1920 to 1960. But the company's history can be tracked back to 1875 when it was founded as Whitney and Rice in Attleboro, Mass., manufacturing silver products. The firm changed hands and name in 1882 and became Carpenter and Bliss and shortly thereafter, E.A. Bliss and Co., Inc. After rapid expansion in the late 1880s the company moved to Meriden, CT in 1890. After WWI, the firm shifted emphasis from silver products to production of modern jewelry. James Napier became president in 1920 and the company adopted the name Napier In 1922.



BEST 6 P. HOEFER 2025 ROTARY PULL CORKSCREWS (EASERS)



1



2



3



4



5



6



3

1. SAMUEL HENSHALL; PAT: NO: 2061 24. Aug. 1795 Marked:
OBSTANDO PROMOVES SOHO PATENT
early version with thin baluster and original wire worm(2")
2. EDWARD THOMASON, 1802. Copy of the coaxer invented by
Thomas Read, Dublin.
3. Large button – 1,5“- for quard size bottles.
Marked: HEDGES & BUTLER WINE MERCHANTS 155,
REGENT STREET LONDON
Founded 1667 in London, since 1837 Royal Warrant.
4. ROBERT JONES & SON BIRMINGHAM REGISTERED NO
423
8th OCTOBER 1840. Monogramm VR with crown (Queen
Victoria)
5. WILLIAM DRAY, Birmingham. Universal Dovetailed Fastening
– interchangeable helix. Reg. 14. Mai 1847 NO 1065
6. WILLIAM ROBERT MAUD Second Patent NO. 10211,
23. Mai 1895
Marked: MAUD'S PATENTS Produced by G. F. HIPKINS

IAN HUNTER Best 6 2025

CELLARMAN CORKSCREWS

I've found myself collecting cellarman corkscrews. The first 50 were easy. It's becoming more interesting now... Additions welcome!



1) English Registered 4 finger pull

1878 Registered Design No 318634 of Frederick Sutherland trading as Coney & Co.

The registered feature is the ornamental brass band covering the connection of the worm to the bent wire handle. Wire is copper washed. It was advertised by Coney in 1878 as the "Lightning Worm". An example had not been reported at the time of Ellis Registrations (2007) p57. English collector, the late Wally Mellors, found this example and it appears in WCC p337

Diamond Registration mark for 15 February ("G") 1878 ("D")



2) Sims & Law Cellarman

An English Cellarman with radial fluted button marked SIMS & LAW PATENT around the shank. The same markings, in the same style, are found on a well-known hook extractor patented in Britain in 1868 (Wallis p289) by James Law. In the patent, Law is described as a dental instrument maker in Edinburgh so patenting the extractor would not have been a big step. I've found no record of Sims, nothing further on Law and no idea how this very different corkscrew fits in. A mystery.

This corkscrew was acquired by Frank Ellis in the Christie's sale of the Herbert Miles collection in September 1998. It is listed as Screwbase EBi370.



Cellarman with the patented extractor

3) R.Jones English Cellarman

Marked R JONES in the shank, this peaked handle is usually found on 18th century pieces (eg WCC p21). However this example is steel with well preserved nickel plating, indicating late 19th century manufacture (before the end of Robert Jones production about 1900). Note that the marking "R Jones & Son" signifies a post 1840 production but the plain "R.Jones" marking continued to be used into the late 19th Century on simple Jones corkscrews such as this. (see Ellis Registrations p302)



With a common "R.JONES" cellarman

4) English Registration with detachable handle

The handle was a registered design of Berkeley of Birmingham in 1904. The base of the handle is stamped: Rd No 444795. The speed worm is detached by unscrewing the nut, releasing the worm from its square socket. Sold as part of a 5 piece tool set. All steel. Ellis Registrations p103



5) Austrian Patent with detachable worm and serrated button.

Patented in Austria and Germany in 1882 by Raoul Koeller. The nut, incorporating a serrated gripping button, locks the worm to a groove in the shank. All brass. WCC p 290



6) English 3 finger with lever hole.

Copper-washed steel with a lever hole for Lund style levers. Late 19th Century.

From Frank Ellis's collection and shown as Screwbase TLx630



BILL JAREMA - BEST 6 FOR 2025



1. Unmarked decorative Victorian silver gilt monogrammed (JCM?) chatelaine with 4 chains containing a cylindrical pencil case, a bow corkscrew and button hook plus an attached seal, a locket & a cherub inscribed seal, and a book mark. It comes in a leather case with the name and address "J J Flint, Ochiltree, Linlithgow " on a label affixed to the back. A chatelaine is a decorative hook or clasp that attaches to a belt or waistband and has multiple chains which hold useful household items and tools such as scissors, keys, sewing kits, pencils and corkscrews (for medicine bottles). It was usually worn by the mistress or lady of the house who had responsibility for the management of that household (the word chatelaine comes from French for "lady of the castle") . For very rich households, the chatelaine would be made from precious metals and often elaborately decorated with gems, enamel or repousse work reflecting the wearer's status. English, mid to late 19thC.



2. A Georgian flat top double folding iron corkscrew with pipe tamper ends and wire worm. Sometimes the top of the handle is ribbed with parallel ridges that act as a striker for igniting matches. English circa 1800.

marked 12 on the underside of the handle and again on the underside of the frame, bladed worm. There are no ball bearings to assist in the turning of the handle. The number 12 could relate to a size measurement of the corkscrew or to its production number. I can't find this model in any of the corkscrew books but it is too well constructed to have been made or put together in someone's back shed. It may well be a prototype that never made it to full production.





4. A Thomason mid 19thC. turned bone handle corkscrew with a decorative impressed bronze barrel generally referred to as Gothic Windows , wire worm. There are three varieties of windows; this one is the "Cathedral Windows " variety (World-Class Corkscrews, p119). After Thomason's 1802 patent expired, many manufacturers began to make corkscrews using the Thomason mechanism but under their own badge, eg. Dowler and Heeley. The Gothic Window type corkscrews typically don't have a manufacturer's mark on them so the maker is not known.

5. An Edwin Cotterill's British Reg. Des. No. 1950, 12 Oct. 1842 corkscrew with a wire worm and a badge marked "EDWIN COTTERILL'S PATENT SELF-ADJUSTING". It has a perpetual type mechanism enclosed in the barrel and a plate with two spikes to grab the cork when the worm is fully inserted. These hold the cork whilst the worm is removed by turning the handle anticlockwise. Turning the handle clockwise produces both up and down movement due to a clutch mechanism that disengages the worm on the "up" part of the sequence. Surprisingly, Cotterill never took out a patent for this mechanism even though it's implied in the badge.



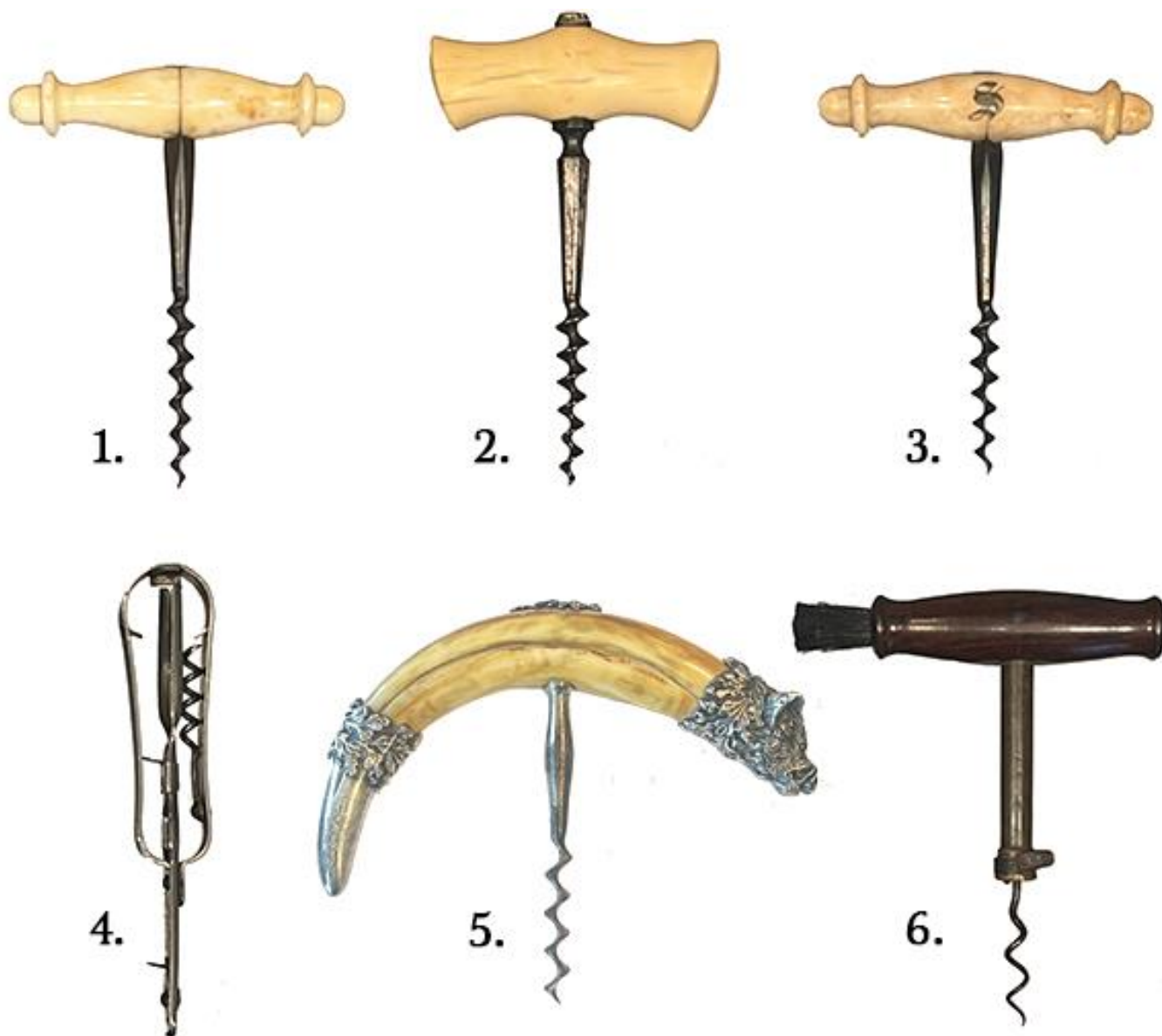
6. A "LUND'S PATENT 57 CORNHILL" bronze-barrelled King's Screw with three spring bottle grips separately marked "LUND PATENTEE LONDON" with a crown above "LUND". Wire worm. There are some variations of the markings on the bottle grips. These can be: "THE QUEEN'S PATENT GRANTED TO T. LUND LONDON", "QUEEN'S PATENT GRANTED TO T. LUND LONDON MANUFACTURED BY THE PATENTEE" or "LUND'S PATENT 57 CORNHILL LONDON". The markings on my corkscrew appear to be less common. Lund obtained patent no. 7761 for the bottle grips in 1838.

Mike Lacinski: *Mis seis mejores sacacorchos (argentinos) para 2025 /*
My six best corkscrews (Argentinian) for 2025



1. Top left. A Columbus/split frame by any other name not German but copied from. Marked Industria Argentina Gaumen M.Reg. Gaumen seems to have been a manufacturer of some size as the name appears often on different Argentinian corkscrews.
2. Middle top. This time not Germany but Italy as this double lever type is copied from the "Eterno". Marked Industria Argentina Gaumen Marca Registrada. Cap lifter on top of the handle. There seem to be many of these with a number of different manufacture's names.
3. Top right. Again, a German bell type frame. Marked Gaumen Ind Arg MR. It has a small cap lifter on reverse side of the bell.
4. Bottom left. A wooden housed prong puller. The marking on the stem at the top is Industria Arentina and what looks like El Infalible, in which case in English that would be the infallible which I suppose makes sense.
5. Middle bottom. Like a waiter's friend in design but not so. The swivel piece is there to protect the double helix worm. Marked Graffigna (wine brand) with grapes and glass. On the reverse marked Centenario which is one of the wines they produce even today.
6. Bottom right. A typical Argentinian Champagne easer marked Champagne Monitor, this being an Argentinian Champagne brand. On the reverse is what appears to be the brand's monogram.

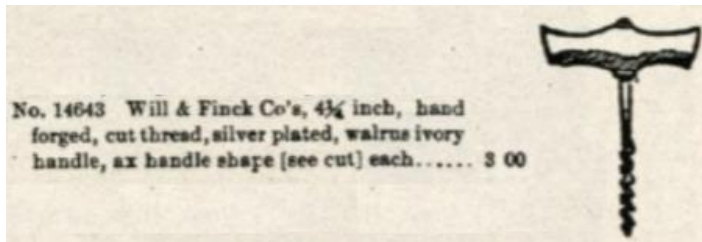
All of these items are difficult to age but I suspect from the 1920s to 1950s.



Best Six 2025 ~ Josef & Sue L'Africain

1. Michael Price turned walrus ivory handle direct pull, marked on the shank M. PRICE.

2. Will & Finck direct pull corkscrew marked on the shank, WILL & FINCK. In the Will & Finck catalog this piece is described as follows:



“No. 14643 Will & Finck Co’s 4 ¼ inch hand forged, cut thread, silver plated, walrus ivory handle, ax handle shape [see cut] each..... 3 00”

3. Michael Price turned walrus ivory handle direct pull, marked on the shank M. PRICE, with a monogram on the handle of S.

4. William H. Arnold’s patent #1,250,413 for a “Combination Can-Opener.” Marked on the handle OPENZIT, PAT 5-5-14 12-17-17, WILL H. ARNOLD, OAKLAND, CAL., the patent date on the



handle is incorrect, and was awarded on December 18, 1917. The May 5, 1914, date is for patent #1,095,389 for a Can-Opening Instrument (O’Leary, 1996, p. 133).

5. Boar’s tusk with Sterling Boar’s head endcap with ruby eyes. Marked with the maker’s mark for Metallurgic Art Company and STERLING. The tail piece is marked monogrammed H.W.B., and 1899. Atop the handle, there is a Sterling figure of the Die Schützenliesl—also used as the logo for Blatz brewing



6. 1867 William H. Van Gieson’s patented “Improved Cork-Screw.” It is marked under the “Spring-Catch” PATENT (O’Leary, 1996, p. 35).

6 PRÉFÉRÉS 2025



1 : Ma première sélection est réservée à un tire-bouchon à poignée moulée en bronze dont le fabricant reste inconnu. Les pampres et les grappes de raisin servent de décor. Il est monté avec une belle mèche rapide, un montage plutôt rare pour ce type de tire-bouchon.

2 : La deuxième sélection est un tire-bouchon anglais du fabricant HEELEY & SONS, il est appelé King screw. Il possède une cloche pleine en bronze qui abrite un système à crémaillère avec une poignée latérale. La cloche est décorée de l'emblème du Royaume-Uni, une licorne et un lion avec la devise "HONI SOIT QUI MAL Y PENCE". La poignée supérieure est en ébène équipée d'une brosse (absente) et d'un anneau afin de passer une châtelaine.

3 : La troisième sélection est un tire-bouchon à hélice italien en bronze. L'ailette de forme rectangulaire est vissée sur une tige filetée qui se termine par une mèche archimédienne. L'hélice est montée libre sur la tige filetée. La cage cylindrique est ajourée de deux trous circulaires afin de pincer le bouchon pour le retirer (sans marquage).

4 : La quatrième sélection est un tire-bouchon dit "moulin à café" italien de petite taille. Le bouton de la manivelle est en os tourné. La cloche est ajourée des quatre as : pique, coeur, carreau et trèfle. La mèche comme beaucoup de tire-bouchons italiens est dite archimédienne (marquage RB).

5 : La cinquième sélection est un petit tire-bouchon de poche de la fin du 19ème siècle. L'étui en forme de mollet est en buis, il se visse sur la tige pour le transport permettant ainsi une protection efficace contre une mèche acérée.

6 : Et enfin la dernière, un tire-bouchon simple français à poignée métal marqué des initiales T et D dont le fabricant reste inconnu, peut-être Toulon ou Thinet Dufeu ? Il peut être classé dans les tire-bouchons dénommés eyebrow. La poignée permet d'y glisser un doigt, deux petites ailettes situées sur les côtés sont profilées pour accueillir deux doigts supplémentaires.

Best 6, 2025 – W. Meadows

#1 – An unusual variant of the G. Theodor Fischer 1902 DRGM.



I know that collectors call this locking mechanism a “crab piece”. But it is a dog clutch. The dog clutch’s main feature was that it could not slip in either direction. (The glass plate in your microwave sits on a dog



clutch.) In the original patent there was just a single piece dog clutch. Left to its own devices, when you start to turn the handle clockwise to screw the worm into the cork, it would run down the raising shaft, locking up the clutch. This prevents you from turning the worm into the cork unless you hold the nut with a finger of the same hand you were using to turn the handle. Not a very clever

mechanism.

Ferd Peters’ book *Mechanical Corkscrews* shows a French version on p. 137 with a two-part dog clutch. Reinhold Berndt believes that it was most probably modified and made in Thuringia, for the French market.

In this later version, the fix was a two-piece dog clutch with a leather washer in the upper nut. Screwing the two nuts together compresses the washer, gripping the clutch to the shaft. I said “gripping, not clamping”. Naturally you would grip it up close to the handle, so that you could actually turn the worm into the cork, before the dog clutch latches up! An elegant and expensive fix, but still not an easy corkscrew to deal with.

#2 - A silver Art Deco dog (1920 > 1930) with three crowns in an oval for Swedish



imported silver mark. “S” for silver, “835S” for 83.5% silver. “JF” for Franz Johann jr. made in Schwäbisch Gmünd, Germany for the Swedish market. Very unusual, but to the best of my knowledge, the only example found, so far.





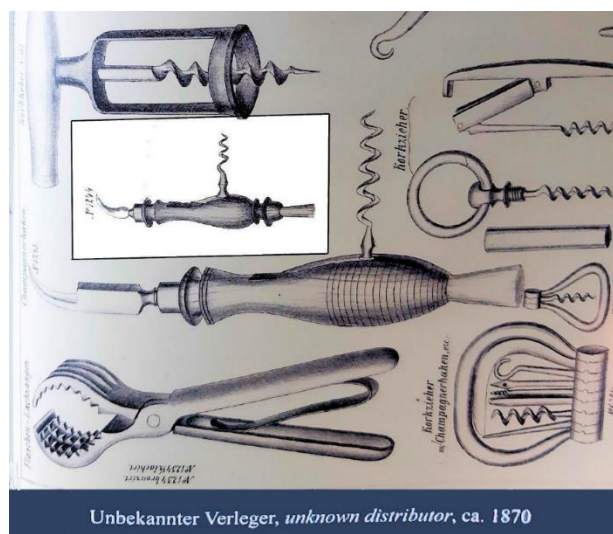
#3 - A near mint British smokers' tool from the late 1700s including a fire steel and a very rare whistle.

#4 – A two-pillar corkscrew from around 1803. To the best of my knowledge only three examples are known. Made by John Rotton, cutler to his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, the heir apparent was later King George IV.

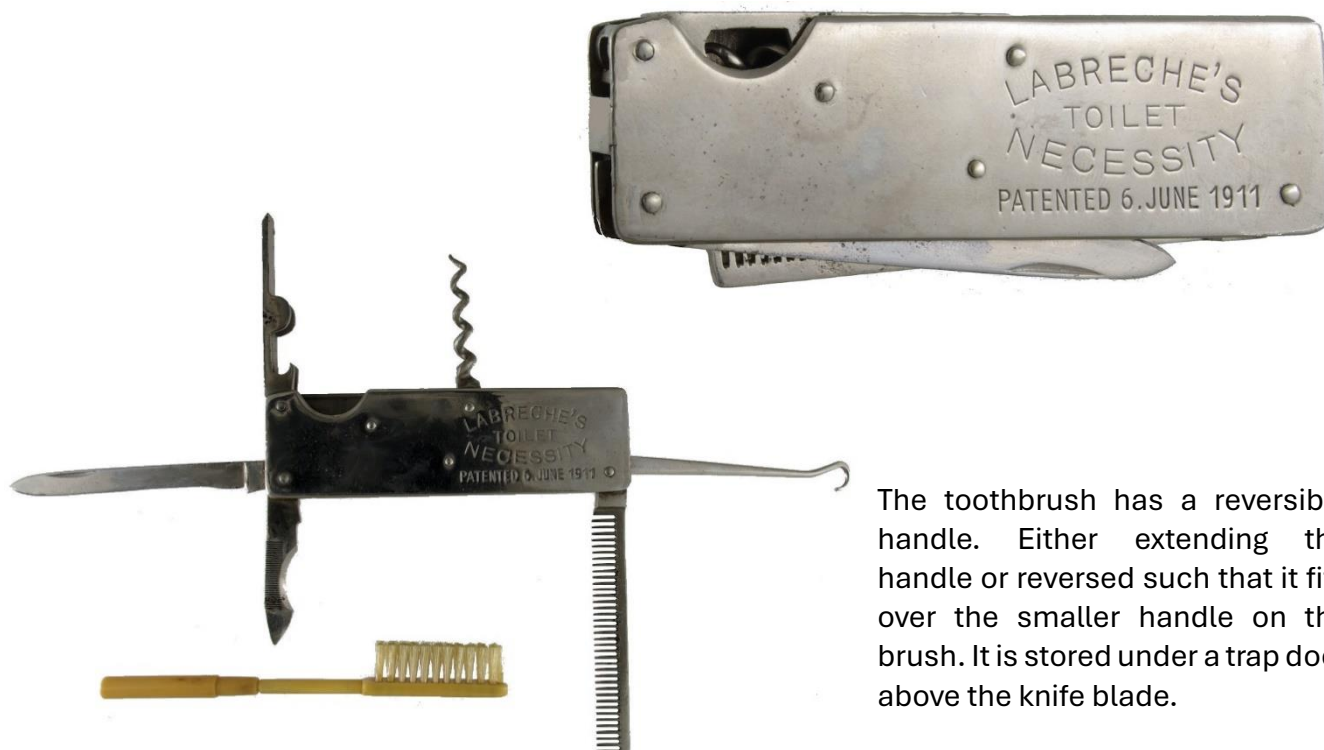
A complex mechanism is hidden inside the right-hand pillar, as per my recent *Worme* article.



#5 – A miniature Champagne knife & corkscrew. 11cm long. To the best of my knowledge, the only one known.



#6 – A very rare Canadian patent #133,584, 06-06 1911- by Joseph Charles Augustus Labreche - Joliette, Quebec, Canada. To date, I am aware of only three Canadian patented tools containing corkscrews ever being found. This is one of two of these found to date.



The toothbrush has a reversible handle. Either extending the handle or reversed such that it fits over the smaller handle on the brush. It is stored under a trap door above the knife blade.

STEPHEN PAUL'S BEST SIX



From the left:

Narrow barrel Thomason fully marked "Thomasons Patent Ne Plus Ultra".

Bone handled Henshall corkscrew fully marked "Obstando Promoves Soho Patent" large bottle version.

Three pillar Twigg marked on each pillar "G. Twigg's Patent".

Van Gieson direct pressure corkscrew marked "Patent" just under the lock release catch.

G Smythe's Hootch Owl.

Heeley patent "The Empire" - plated version, fully marked.

Best Six 2025 – Barry Taylor



1. A Hagenauer figural golf caddy with folding corkscrew. Marked "wHw" & "Made in Vienna". The corkscrew is shown below with the matching bottle opener. The corkscrew was a nice addition to the collection this year. The bottle opener was found over fifteen years ago at the Brimfield, MA. Antique Market. (Ref. Austrian Figural Corkscrew Design – Sal Robinson & Wayne Meadows, Pages 38 & 48.)

2. A pocket knife with double pivoting split shank worm. Carl W. Tillmanns, U.S. Patent # 1,701,467, dated February 5, 1929. Assigned to the Remington Arms Company Inc. The knife contains a master blade, pen blade & caplifter. The master blade is marked "Remington Trade Mark" and the two blade tangs are marked "Remington UMC." The mother of pearl knife scales are marked on one side "WHITE ROCK, BEN HERR." H.M. Colver formed the White Rock Company in 1871 to sell bottled water from the White Rock Spring in Wakeesha, WI. The water was believed to have special medicinal powers. In 1952 the company was purchased by Morgan Beverages. White Rock is still family owed and operated by the descendants of Alfred Morgan.



3. Walter Dickson's U.S. Patent # 115,585, dated June 6, 1871. This is the harder to find example of the Dixon ratchet with a blade attachment which contains a hammer, ice pick, screw driver & cord cutter. The handle is marked "W. Dickson, Pat Aug. 2. 1870." This refers to his earlier patent # 106,036 for the ratchet mechanism. The blade is marked "PAT. June 6, 71" which refers to the handle attachment. (Ref. Corkscrews – Fred O'Leary. Pages 36 & 37)



4. An 18th Century brass single finger ring corkscrew with a seal plate and brass sheath. This example has an incised design on the shoulders of the seal plate. The corkscrew has a wire worm and measures 6.8 cm in length in the closed position. (Please see pictures below for more details.)



5. A Meissen bottle stopper with corkscrew shaft. This piece is beautifully molded and painted. It features a woman in a linen bonnet with a pink band and ruffled fringe. Bonnets of this type are called "Mob Caps." These were worn by older women in the 18th & early 19th century. The base of the head is marked with the blue Meissen crossed swords trade mark.
6. An 18th Century single finger ring corkscrew with a spiral cut sheath with a brazed seam. The finger ring is diamond faceted with a nicely turned shaft and a wire worm. It measures 8.2 cm in length in the closed position. (Please see picture for additional details.)



Best six 2025 from François Touzin

I have been lucky to find during 2025 a few miniatures corkscrews which I present below.



1- Swedish miniature corkscrew from around 1830 / 40 made by skilled prisoners incarcerated in the Marstrand prison on the west coast of Sweden. The prisoners made all sort of artcrafts that later were sold to visitors including these tiny corkscrews. Very few survived. Bone handle, Archimedean worm. 3.5cm / 1.5g

2- Miniature corkscrew, probably part of a traveling set. Most likely of English origin, ivory handle and grooved worm. Mid 19th century. 4.5cm / 3.5g

3- Tiny five tool knife, mother of pearl scales. Such articles were made by apprentices to pass their « master test ». They could not really be used. English origin, mid to late 19th century. 2.2cm / 1.7g

4- An English friction hinge bow with steel faceted handle, bladed worm, late 18th century. 2.7cm / 1.7g

5- A Swedish tiny two tool knife, mother of pearl scales. Such articles were made by apprentices to pass their « master test ». They could not really be used. Late 18th century. 2.2cm / 1.1g

6- James Edwards WILSON'S 1877 double helix patented corkscrew marked « S. PATT » on the shank with a bell. Ivory handle. See Fletcher WALLIS'S « British Corkscrew Patents page 78 » 4.1cm / 4.6g

François Touzin

Wishing you all a very happy and healthy New Year 2026

Best Six 2025 Guy Vankeerberghen

1



2



3



4

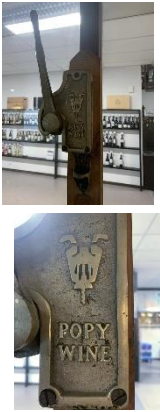
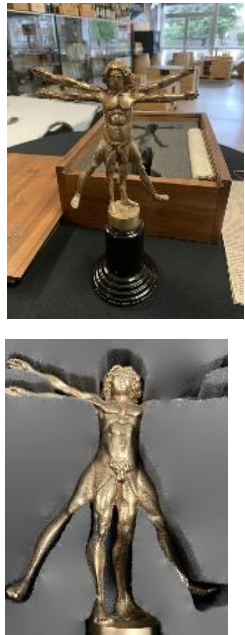


5



6



1 	POPY Wine Wall-mounted corkscrew (Spain) with the inscription POPY WINE With an image of a 2-lever corkscrew POPY Wine Tire-bouchon mural (Espagne) avec l'inscription POPY WINE. Avec l'image d'un tire-bouchon à deux leviers.
2 	VITRUVIO One of the limited and registered edition of 250 pieces. Piece is entirely handcrafted: the marble, casting, molding, and detailing. Likewise, each Vitruvio has a different combination of metals, making the texture, color, and patina unique for each one. The only manufactured part of the Vitruvio is the “ARCHIMEDES”-type corkscrew, supplied by the Italian manufacturer Ghidini & Cipriano.. VITRUVIO Une édition limitée et enregistrée de 250 pièces. Pièce entièrement fabriquée à la main : marbre, moulage, finitions et détails. De même, chaque Vitruvio présente une combinaison différente de métaux, ce qui rend la texture, la couleur et la patine uniques pour chaque pièce. La seule partie fabriquée du Vitruvio est le tire-bouchon de type « ARCHIMÈDE », fourni par le fabricant italien Ghidini & Cipriano.
3 	CHRISTOFLE Silver-plated Christofle Origin: Paris, France Silversmith: Orfèvrerie Christofle Year: 1980–1990 Hallmarks: Maker’s mark, Christofle, OC. CHRISTOFLE Christofle argenté Origine : Paris, France Orfèvre : Orfèvrerie Christofle Année : 1980-1990 Poinçons : Poinçon du fabricant, Christofle, OC..

4



FIGURAL MONKEY

Upright model monkey with red eyes

SINGE FIGURATIF

Singe debout aux yeux rouges

5



LINDEMANS ZIG ZAG

A recent copy of a zig-zag.
Released by the Belgian brewery LINDEMANS
Inscription: "LINDEMANS ANNO 1822" advertising
Authentic Lambic Brewery

LINDEMANS ZIG ZAG

Copie récente d'un zig-zag.
Commercialisé par la brasserie belge LINDEMANS.
Inscription : « LINDEMANS ANNO 1822 » publicitaire
Authentic Lambic Brewery

6



SOMMELIER

Italian yellow-coloured Sommelier

SOMMELIER

Sommelier italien de couleur jaune

FRENCH BEST SIX 2025 – Norman Wright



Marked BRUNEAX BREVETE SGDG
Bull et al *World Class Corkscrews* P 303



Marked PRESTO BREVETE
Peters *History of Pocket Corkscrews* P107



Marked Eloi
box marked HARRODS LONDON



Marked Boue 1888
Bull et al *World Class Corkscrews* P194



Marked BECHON BECHON 116
Galalith scales
Peters *History of Pocket Corkscrews* P202



Roundlet with hole in end
Non-sliding worm
Peters *History of Pocket Corkscrews* P129