

Dubarry Perfumery Co.

History of the Company

Madame Marie Jean du Barry (1741-93), mistress of Louis XV was guillotined at the height of the French Revolution. Confusingly for powder compact collectors, her name was revived by two companies seeking to re-create the image of luxury that surrounded the French court before so many lost their heads. The American firm Richard Hudnut used “Du Barry” as a brand name, but this feature will focus on the English company “Dubarry”, which in North America and outside the British Commonwealth marketed its products by the name “Dalcrose”. In particular, I will look at the variety of compacts Dubarry sold to complement its range of scented powders.

Madeleine Marsh in the Miller’s Guide *Perfume Bottles* (p. 29) states that Dubarry was established in 1916, as the perfume and cosmetics division of Standard Tablet and Pill Company Ltd. Juliette Edwards in her 2002 re-print of *Compacts* (p.109) has found “Dubarry” associated with the name Goldstone Laboratories, Hove from advertisements of 1942 and 1944. I have attempted to find the connection between the Standard Tablet and Pill Co., Goldstone Laboratories and a factory that bears the name “Dubarry Perfumery Co. Ltd”, which still stands facing Hove railway station. Sadly the perfumery is closed and the building is now converted into flats and small commercial units.

A comprehensively researched local history, the *Encyclopaedia of Hove and Portslade* and a newspaper article about the factory in the *Brighton Standard*, 29th August, 1951 tell us that the Standard Tablet Company was established in 1901 by Harry William Kilby Pears, son of a retail chemist, at Western Road, Hove, but soon moved to premises near to Hove station. Although I have been unable to confirm Madeleine Marsh’s date for the establishment of Dubarry, the local reference material states that Standard Tablet Co. started out with a limited range of toiletries until launching Dubarry as a brand during World War 1, so named as a “compliment to our French wartime allies”. The Standard Tablet Company went into liquidation in 1923, but Mr. Pears emerged as Managing Director of the new Dubarry Perfumery Co. formed in 1923 as a concern on its own. The name Goldstone Laboratories Manufacturing Chemist was given in a 1930-31 street directory as sharing the same address, 2 Hove Park Villas and telephone number as both the Standard Tablet Co. and the Dubarry Perfumery Co. Although the Standard Tablet Co. went into liquidation in 1923, it continued as a trading name.

The Dubarry Perfumery Co. owned the freehold of the large site by Hove station and an application for a fire certificate in 1926 for four buildings on this site suggests that these were likely to have been built 1925-26. Plans for an extended factory were approved in 1930, although I do not know when it was completed. The architect, a certain E. Wallis Long, designed this factory extension in the art deco style and his plans include a large mosaic panel, which runs along the south façade. White lettering on green reads, “Dubarry Perfumery Co. Dubarry’s Shalimar Complexion Cream for loveliness that lasts. Shalimar Manicure Preparations. Dubarry’s Silkashave soap for a luxurious shave. Perfumes and Toilet luxuries. Dubarry’s Crème Shalimar for dainty soft white hands. Flower scented bath crystals”. During World War II, the top floor of the factory was given over to war work, but Dubarry’s production continued highly profitably and the *Brighton Standard* article celebrates the factory in 1951 with its “300 to 400 employees”. Photographs show machines making bath-cubes and wrapping soap. The factory had its own box-making department and a printing works with colour presses producing labels, a 28 page catalogue and “exquisite pictures on those artistic gift boxes”. However, there is no indication that powder compact cases were made there. By 1962 the company came under new ownership still keeping the Dubarry name and in 1964 moved from Hove to Hampshire. I recall Dubarry talc and scent from my teenage years in the 1960s, but think the company may have slipped “down-market” continuing until the late 1960s or early 1970s with gift sets of scent, soap and bath cubes until it went into liquidation in 1982.

81 Brompton Road

Dubarry products sometimes give the address of a London shop at 81 Brompton Road. Since Harrods was the major retailer on the Brompton Road at 87-135, Dubarry was in a prime location. Searches in Post Office London Directories reveal that the perfumer remained at 81 Brompton Road for twenty years from 1917 until 1937, after which number 81 became “Maison Robert de Paris – ladies tailors”. Between 1917-20 street directories for Brompton Road list the shop as “Dubarry & Co. Perfumers”, but I have also seen on eBay an old advertisement dated 1917 showing the company using a French style of name, “Dubarry et Cie Parfumeurs, 81 Brompton Road” and I have adverts from 1919, which also refer to “Dubarry et Cie”. Attempting to date Dubarry products by whether an English or a French style of name is used is difficult. Certainly from 1920 until 1933 the company frequently adopted this French style and street directories list the shop as “Dubarry et Cie” following by either “Perfumers” or the French “Parfumeurs”. After 1933 the shop is listed simply as “Dubarry Perfumer”. This information may assist with dating some Dubarry products. Most obviously, any product with 81 Brompton Road on its label or packaging pre-dates 1937. However, not all labels give the London address and a product without this address is not necessarily of a later date.

Dubarry Products

Although in its later years Dubarry may have marketed a lower-priced product without the cachet of the French perfume houses and couturiers, its early perfume presentations were of the highest quality. I have no way of knowing the quality of the perfume itself, the “juice”, and whether its ingredients compared in refinement with those used in classic French perfumery – jasmine from the foot of the Esterel mountains, roses and lavender from Grasse – but some Dubarry bottles dating from 1917 and just after World War 1 were designed by Julien Viard and manufactured by Parisian glassworks, Depinoix. These names are now highly sought-after by perfume bottle collectors. Viard created for Dubarry some beautiful, figurative stoppers for its 1917 scent “A Garden of Kama” and around 1919 for “Blue Lagoon”, “A Toi” and “Fantome d’Orient”. These exquisite bottles were presented in high quality, rigid cases.

Advertising at this time, as can be seen from a few examples shown in these pages, was often in full colour, reproducing original art-work and portraying a wide range of perfumed beauty products, soaps, powders and bath salts. The company prided itself on its decorative packaging and illustrated customer brochures.



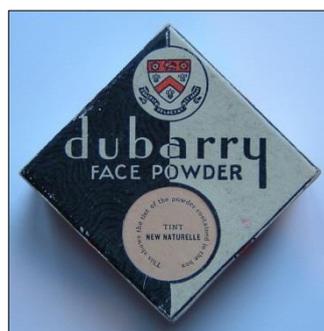
Dubarry pewter brilliantine tin. Marked “Shalimar Brilliantine Dubarry” on side and “Made in France on base”. Slight pink tint on fuchsia. Lovely *art nouveau* design. 70mm/2 ¾ in. square. Date unknown, but possibly 1920s.

Dubarry art deco style plastic powder bowl.

Left hand version has a flower basket image moulded in plastic and applied to a foil backing under a domed plastic cover. “Dubarry” in script moulded into base. Green puff. No powder. With striped Dubarry box.

Right hand pink bowl has decorative insert taken from a portrait miniature. Likely to be mid-late 1930s.

Cardboard powder box with window showing shade of powder. Described in a *Woman & Home* feature for Christmas 1936 as “one of these new boxes of powder”.



From the Brighton Standard article of 1951 we learn that clear glass bottles were the only manufactured articles imported into the Hove factory. These bottles were then given an attractive satin finish in the factory. By this time six perfumes were regarded as “special favourites on the market”, namely *The Heart of the Rose*, *A Bunch of Violets*, *Golden Morn*, *The Blue Lagoon*, *Romance* – “a recent fragrance” and “more recently still”, *Dancing Time*. These last two were made with “fascinating little statuettes”. Madelaine Marsh in her *Miller’s Perfume Bottles*, p. 43 pictures the presentation of *Dancing Time* with its ivory coloured dancing couple. Another perfume, *Greetings*, was mentioned by the Brighton Standard as introduced as a “Festival of Britain perfume in handbag size”. As noted above, there is no reference to powder compacts in the 1951 article. From the information available, it is clear that Dubarry imported some unusual compact cases. Most, however, were marked as made in England and while some are believed to have been made by Hussey Dawson & Co, Birmingham, at present we can only speculate about which company might have manufactured others. Hussey Dawson are known to have been manufacturing compacts from 1930. Dr. Mike Ashton notes that Dubarry compacts known as “Crystal Powdrettes” use a stronger type of hinge patented by Jarrett, Rainsford and Laughton in 1930, in order to support the heavy lid.

Later, in the 1930s, Jarrett, Rainsford and Laughton became known as manufacturers of Stratton compacts.

Powders and “Powdrettes”

Dubarry used the name “Powdrette” to describe its compacts for compressed powder. An advertisement for Christmas 1919, confirms that the brand name “Powdrette” was in use at this time. Solid powder was made for export to India in “dainty aluminium boxes for the better preservation of the contents” and these boxes were called “Powdrettes”. They were described as, “The ideal portable face powder” and the advertisement shows a box with a lift off lid and a puff with a pleated back and cord loop. They differ from the more familiar brass and gold-tone “Powdrettes” with hinged lids and aluminium godet pans.

Powder godets for refillable compacts marketed by Dubarry were scented and paper inserts underneath the godets list a choice of perfumes: “Eau de Cologne”, “Heart of a Rose”, “Bunch of Violets”, “Lavender”, “Golden Morn” and “Shalimar”. These inserts advise a customer not only to select her shade of powder, for example, “Rachel” or “Naturelle No. 1”, but also her preferred perfume.



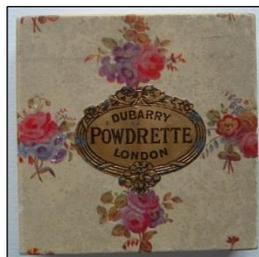
Dubarry plain brass compact with “Powdrette” stamped on lid and “Dubarry” on lower case below catch. Framed, glass mirror, empty godet pan and pleated, purple backed wool puff. Label under godet pan giving details about refills. 38mm/1 ½ in. dia. and 14mm/½ in deep. Date unknown, but likely to be early-mid 1920s.



Dubarry plain gold-tone compact with “Dubarry rouge” on lower case below catch. Glass mirror, but no contents. 35mm/1⅓ in. dia. x 12mm/½in deep. Date unknown, but likely to be early-mid 1920s



Dubarry gold-tone compact with “Powdrette Dubarry” on a striped lid design and “Powdrette Dubarry” stamped on lower case below catch. Framed, glass mirror, almost full godet of powder and with scarcely used puff. Label under godet pan giving details about refills. 40mm/1½ in dia. and 15mm/½ in deep. Date unknown, but likely to be mid 1920s.



Dubarry “Extensor Powdrette” in gold-tone with circular floral design on lid and a patented mechanism, which enables a godet of face powder to be lifted and extended forward to reveal rouge beneath. “Dubarry’s “Extensor” Powdrette 81 Brompton Rd. London Case made in USA” is stamped on interior of case. Framed glass mirror. Chequered pattern on base. Orange taffeta backed puffs. Box with label “The heart of a rose” on side, referring to perfume of the powder and “Peche” on base, referring to powder colour. 52mm/2 in. dia. 12mm/½ in. deep. Dr. Mike Ashton states that this style of case was first patented in France in 1923, as FR562,490. The “Extensor Powdrette” is likely to have been sold by Dubarry from the early-mid 1920s.

Dubarry “Romney” Series. The Dubarry Perfumery introduced a number of “Old Master” prints on their “Powdrettes”. It was advertised as the “Romney Series” and eight portraits are known to have been advertised. Despite the name “Romney”, with its reference to the 18th century English portrait painter George Romney (1734-1802), not all the images are reproductions of Romney paintings!

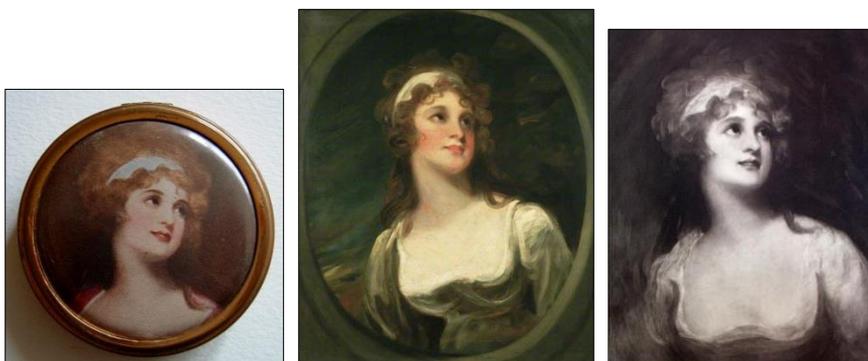
All are gold-tone, 55mm/2 inches in diameter and were sold with a godet of scented solid powder. They were designed to be refillable and instructions about how to obtain a refill are printed on a label underneath the powder godet. The known advertisement was undated, but compacts are likely to date from the late 1920s to early 1930s.



Dubarry gold-tone compact with “Old Master” print of **Lady Elizabeth Mary Leveson-Gower**, Countess Grosvenor (1816) by **Sir Thomas Lawrence** (1769-1830). Daughter of the Duke of Sutherland, on her marriage to the 2nd Marquess of Westminster she became Lady Grosvenor and in 1845 was styled as Marchioness of Westminster. Both families were super-rich; her father and her husband receiving their titles in the 19th century. The portrait is believed to be in a private collection. There are many 19th Century prints of this portrait. “Powdrette Dubarry Naturelle” and stripe pattern on reverse. Glass mirror. Godet pan has a plain base. Label giving details about obtaining a refill is stuck to the compact’s base. 55mm/2in dia.



Dubarry gold-tone compact with “Old Master” print of **Lady Isabella Hamilton** by **George Romney** (1734-1802) (probably painted in 1782). Portrait now thought to be in a private collection, although was reproduced as a mezzo tint in the 18th century. “Powdrette Dubarry Naturelle” in a circle on base and stripe pattern. Glass mirror. Full aluminium godet pan with base impressed with details about refills. Small moiré-backed felt puff. Paper insert giving details about obtaining a refill from “Dubarry, Perfumer, 81 Brompton Road, London SW”. The insert states “Tint Rachel”, which differs from marking on base referring to “Naturelle”. 55mm/2in dia.



Dubarry gold-tone compact with “Old Master” print of **Mrs. Anne Pitt** by **George Romney** (painted c.1790) and in Kenwood House, Hampstead, London. Print is under a celluloid cover. “Powdrette Dubarry Rachel” in a circle on base and stripe pattern. Glass mirror. Full aluminium godet pan with base impressed with details about refills. Moiré-backed felt puff with orange overlapped edge and orange ribbon. Nearly full powder godet with label on base with “Tint Rachel” and information about how to obtain a refill. 55mm/2in dia.



Dubarry gold-tone compact with “Old Master” print by **Sir Thomas Lawrence** and shows the **Calmady children**, although when it was first exhibited at the Royal Academy in 1823 it was titled “Nature”. The little girls are Emily and Laura Anne, who were the children of Charles Calmady of Langdon Court in Devonshire. Thomas Lawrence has been quoted as saying that it was, “*my best picture...one of the few I should wish hereafter to be known by.*” This beautiful picture was reproduced by engraving during the 19th century. It is now in the Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York. Image also used on a Stratton “Princess” compact. “Powdrette Dubarry Rachel” in a circle and stripe pattern on reverse. Glass mirror. Almost full godet of powder with paper insert with information about refills. With puff. 55mm/2in dia.



Dubarry gold-tone compact with “Old Master” print, of **Vignee le Brun and her daughter**, by **Vignee le Brun**, which hangs in The Louvre, Paris. “Powdrette Dubarry” in a circle and stripe pattern on reverse. Glass mirror.



Dubarry gold-tone compact with “Old Master” print of, **Lady Hamilton as an Ambassadress** (1781) by **George Romney**. Gold-tone “Rachel Powdrette” powder compact by Dubarry, diameter 5cm. Base decorated with recurring cable motif, bearing Dubarry “Powdrette” logo in 1.5cm diameter circle on upper left. Inside, circular mirror, held by golden bezel. Circular powder godet, complete with circular puff, no sifter. Leaflet included with following details: Tint - Naturelle, Perfume - Shalimar.



Dubarry gold-tone compact with “Old Master print of **Susanna Edith, Lady Rowley**, painted in 1785 by **John Hoppner** (1758 – 1810). Susanna was the daughter of Admiral, Sir Robert Harland, and this portrait is likely to have been commissioned on the occasion of her marriage in 1785 to William Rowley, son of an admiral, who in 1790 succeeded his father as Baronet of Tendring Hall, Stoke-by-Nayland, Suffolk. Of German parentage, artist John Hoppner was born in Whitechapel, East London. The picture is now in the Detroit Institute of Arts.



Do you have a Dubarry powdrette with this portrait? This fabulous picture depicts **Rosamund Hester Elizabeth Croker**. It was painted in 1827 by **Sir Thomas Lawrence** (1769-1830) and now is in the Albright Knox Art Gallery, Buffalo, New York.



Dubarry Powdrette marked on front edge of base “Pat. No. 237784”, which is a British patent for 1925. The patent number refers to the materials and techniques for making this faux guilloché effect on the lid. A metal coating is applied to one side of a celluloid sheet, which is impressed with a pattern to make a less expensive and harder wearing material for ornamental panels. The compact has a striped base with “Powdrette Rachel Dubarry” in a small circle. 10mm/3/8in deep. Mid 1920s - early 1930s.

The company to which the above patent is granted, Joseph Gloster Ltd., Birmingham, made fancy metal goods, and a Google search reveals a silver corkscrew (1915), a Christening mug (1925) and a guilloché enamel and silver cigarette case in art deco style (1937) all by this maker for sale by antique dealers. I have not yet discovered whether the company made this compact case as well as the decorative insert for the lid, but it is possible the company worked in base metal as well as precious metals.



Dubarry bright gold-tone compact with a transfer-printed paint enamelled woman’s head and shoulders in the art deco style. She is either swimming in the sea nude or is an art deco representation of Venus rising from the waves. Striped base with a plain circle. Framed glass mirror. The case is unmarked, but compact has an empty gold-tone powder godet and a stiff paper insert with information about obtaining refills. This is larger than most “Powdrettes”. 63mm/2 1/2 in. Date unknown.

“Crystal Powdrettes”

Dubarry produced several designs with heavy glass lids, some of which are marked “Crystal powdrette Dubarry” on the front edge of the base. These unusual compacts have designs created as an intaglio on the reverse of a domed glass lid giving a relief effect, with a foil, faux guilloche backing. Mike Ashton believes that the majority of these “Crystal Powdrettes” use a stronger type of hinge patented by Jarrett, Rainsford and Laughton in 1930, in order to support the heavy lid. One of the most beautiful of these intaglio-styles uses an image shown on an advertisement for Dubarry’s crème “Shalimar” dated 1919. The advert depicts words from the “Kashmiri Love Lyric”, a popular Edwardian parlour ballad by Amy Woodforde-Finden, set to music in 1902 by Laurence Hope: “*Pale hands I loved beside the Shalimar, Pale hands, pink tipped, like Lotus buds that float, On those cool waters where we used to dwell.*” A painting by a certain G.M. Hudson adorns this delicately coloured advertisement for Dubarry’s “Crème Shalimar for beautiful hands”. The lovers are envisaged beside the rivulets or canals in the gardens of Shalimar in Kashmir, Northern India, which were created by Emperor Shah Jahan, who also commissioned the Taj Mahal. Dubarry used the brand name “Shalimar” on a variety of products as well as hand cream, including soap, a powder box for loose powder, lipstick and brilliantine. Dubarry’s use of the name “Shalimar” pre-dates the “oriental” Guerlain perfume “Shalimar”, which was created in 1925 and is still on sale. Guerlain’s promotional literature describes the gardens of Shalimar as the inspiration for its “sensual, provocative” perfume, whose bottle “evokes the fountains in the Shalimar gardens”.

Both Dubarry and Guerlain felt customers would be drawn to such images of sensuous Eastern exoticism.

The Times of India Illustrated Weekly. CHRISTMAS NUMBER, 1919.

DUBARRY'S MANICURE PREPARATIONS.

CRÈME SHALIMAR - The fascinating beauty of carefully tended hands is easily acquired by its regular use. It imparts a delicate whiteness and indescribable softness to the skin. Price in collapsible tubes 1/3. In glass Jars 2/9. In beautiful Aluminium Jars 3/6 each.

Other famous Dubarry Preparations for the hands are:

“GLINTA” NAIL POLISHING POWDER
Imparts to the nails an exquisite shell like polish, very quickly produced and of remarkable durability.
Price 1/- per box.

“GLINTA” POLISHING PASTE
Has exactly similar properties to the above powder. It is specially recommended where the nails are brittle.
Price 1/9 per pot.

ROSA-GLINTA NAIL TINTING FLUID.
The liquid is used after polishing in order to give the nails a beautiful shell-pink tint.
Price 1/6 per bottle.

GLINTA NAIL CLEANSING FLUID.
Essential for quickly removing stains from the nails and hands.
Price 1/6 per bottle.

GLINTA CUTICLE CREAM.
This preparation has a wonderful effect in softening the cuticle enabling it to be easily pushed back to show the half moons. It is strongly recommended where the cuticle has a tendency to become dry



SAVON SHALIMAR.
For ladies who value the appearance of the hands nothing is of greater importance than the use of an absolutely pure soap prepared specially for the purpose. Ordinary soap is loaded with alkali, resin, and other impurities which tend to roughen, redden, and harden the skin. Savon Shalimar is made from the purest ingredients obtainable, and its wonderful emollient properties render it pre-eminently adapted for washing the hands.
Price 4/- per box of three tablets.

LIQUID POWDER DUBARRY.
Especially useful for applying to the hands and arms for whitening the skin. Since it does not rub off easily like ordinary powder, it is excellent for application to the face and neck, for the evening toilet a slight touch of Dubarry's Couleur de Rose to the cheeks completing the charm.
Price 2/6 & 4/6 per bottle.

ORANGE WOOD STICKS FOR MANICURE.
Finest quality in bundles of 10.
1/- per bundle.

EMERY BOARDS.
Short or long.
Per bundle 1/-.

DUBARRY'S “NILODOR.”
This is a most remarkable preparation for keeping the hands cool and dry

“Pale hands I loved beside the Shalimar
Pale hands, pink tipped, like lotus buds that float
On those cool waters where we used to dwell.”
Kashmiri Song: Indian Love Lyrics.

POLISHING PADS, NAIL

*Pale hands I loved beside the Shalimar,
Where are you now? Who lies beneath your spell?
Whom do you lead on Rapture's roadway, far,
Before you agonise them in farewell?
Pale hands I loved beside the Shalimar,
Where are you now? Where are you now?*

*Pale hands, pink tipped, like Lotus buds that float
On those cool waters where we used to dwell,
I would have rather felt you round my throat
Crushing out life, than waving me farewell!
Pale hands I loved beside the Shalimar,
Where are you now? Where lies your spell?*



Dubarry "Powdrette" with a spring clip for a pressed powder godet. Gold coloured flower basket on green faux guilloche enamel background under glass dome. Gilt base engraved in four segments with "Dubarry Powdrette London" in a circle in centre of the lid. Framed glass mirror. No powder or puff, but paper insert giving details of where to buy refills. Push in catch. 50mm/2in dia. x 10mm/3/8 deep. Early 1930s.



Dubarry "Powdrette" with highly detailed, silver coloured image from the "Shalimar" advertisement, created as an intaglio beneath a glass dome giving a relief effect, with a foil, faux guilloche backing. Gold-tone compact with "Crystal powdrette Dubarry" stamped on front edge of base. Decorative striped base with "Powdrette naturelle Dubarry" in circle. Framed mirror and almost full godet of powder and a label beneath stating that it is scented with "Shalimar". Wool puff with beige backing edged in pink stitching with an orange ribbon loop. 50mm/2in dia. x 10mm/3/8 deep. This design was also produced with the image in gold effect and with ochre, blue or pink foil backgrounds. Early 1930s.



Dubarry "Powdrette" marked on front edge of base "Crystal Powdrette Dubarry". A foil background with a beautiful image of Cupid with a Butterfly, which was shown also on a Dubarry powder box advertised in 1925. Framed mirror and insert about powder refills. "Powdrette Naturelle Dubarry" in circle on striped base. 55mm/2in x 10mm/3/8 deep. Early 1930s.



Dubarry "Powdrette" with colourful flower bowl either painted or enamelled giving a relief effect under domed glass. Backed by yellow fabric, possibly silk. Decorative, striped base with "Powdrette Dubarry" in circle. Framed mirror. Half-used powder godet and worn, wool puff with beige backing, pink edging and orange ribbon loop. 55mm/2in x 10mm/3/8 deep. Early 1930s.

Dubarry "Powdrette" style, but unmarked. Flower basket motif either painted or enamelled and applied to silver-tone background, which is shinier than my photo has captured, under a domed glass cover. Wavy circles on base. Framed glass mirror. Godet pan with some powder remaining and pressed into the base, "Refills for this box are supplied complete with puff Price 1/3 Made in England by Dubarry 81 Brompton Road London S.W. You must clearly specify refill pattern "N.S." and state tint required." Used beige moiré-backed puff. 55mm/2in x 12mm deep.



CUPID by Antoine Denis Chaudet. Cupid with a Butterfly which he has enticed with a flower/rose. Symbolically the butterfly represents Psyche or the Soul which Cupid has promised love (the flower). Once the butterfly has landed next to the flower it is entrapped and held fast by Cupid holding its wings. This statue is in the Louvre.



Dubarry "Powdrette" with highly detailed, white image of Harlequin and Columbine against a "Wedgwood" blue background, created as an intaglio beneath a glass dome giving a relief effect. This image was shown on an advertisement for Dubarry perfumes in 1919. Gold-tone compact with "Crystal powdrette Dubarry" stamped on front edge of base. Decorative striped base with "Powdrette naturelle Dubarry" in circle. Framed mirror. 50mm/2in dia. x 10mm/3/8 in. deep. Early 1930s.

A BOTTLE OF ONE OF
DUBARRY'S EXCLUSIVE PERFUMES
WILL BE A TREASURED POSSESSION, BRINGING EVERY DAY FRAGRANT MEMORIES OF THE DONOR

HOWEVER FAR ONE MAY BE SEPARATED BY TIME OR SPACE FROM THE FLOWER FARMS OF GRASSE OR AN ENGLISH GARDEN IN JUNE ALL THEIR SWEET ODOURS MAY BE RECALLED FOR THE VERY SOULS OF THE FLOWERS ARE PRESERVED IMPERISHABLY WITHIN THE CRYSTAL WALLS OF A BOTTLE OF DUBARRY'S PERFUME.

ONE OF THE MOST FAMOUS IS
PARFUM "CHANSON SANS PAROLES"

"And soon shall blow the warm west winds of spring,
To set the schoolboys in a tune,
The vales shall laugh in flowers,
The woods grow merry green
with leaping buds,
And violets and wild flowers
sway
Against the throbbing heart of
May." —WHITTIER.

An exquisite girlish perfume: its dainty, sweet simplicity of fragrance making it always attractive and delightful, and by an association of ideas endowing its user with an added charm.

Parfum "Chanson sans Paroles," regarded by many enthusiastic admirers as a Dubarry *chef d'œuvre*, is an exquisite essence, having a certain subtle charm of which one never tires, and this has caused its wild adaption as "my own" among so many discriminating women.

PRICES:
IN EXQUISITELY MODELLED CRYSTAL BOTTLES,
7/-, 21/-, 31/6 & 46/6

DUBARRY'S REFERENCE
"THE HEART OF A ROSE"

THE REAL FRAGRANCE OF THE RED ROSE IN ALL ITS DEWY FRESHNESS.

ONE OF THE PERFUMES THAT ESTABLISHED THE DUBARRY REPUTATION.

A leader of Society has described it as—
"The Dainty Englishwoman's Ideal Perfume."

PRICES IN CRYSTAL BOTTLES,
7/-, 14/6, 21/-, 31/6

THREE NEW PERFUMES OF SUBTLE CHARM.

"Entre Nous"
"Qu'importe Demain"
"A Toi."

WRITE FOR DUBARRY'S EXQUISITELY ILLUSTRATED COMPLETE PRICE LIST WHICH WILL BE SENT FREE OF CHARGE ON APPLICATION.

IT CONTAINS A FULL DESCRIPTION OF THE SEVENTY DUBARRY'S FAMOUS PERFUMES, SOAPS, BATH DUSTING POWDERS, FACE POWDERS, PREPARATIONS, TOILET ARTICLES.

ANOTHER FAMOUS ONE IS
PARFUM "ENTRE NOUS"

"From fabled Jassim buds that keep
Their odours to themselves all day,
But when the sunlight does away
Let their delicious secret out."

A perfect floral perfume in which predominate the fascinating sweetness and delicate freshness of the Jassim.

Parfum "Entre Nous" possesses to the fullest extent that indefinable something which governs a woman's preference in the intensely personal matter of a favourite perfume.

PRICES:
IN BEAUTIFUL CRYSTAL BOTTLES,
7/-, 16/3, 31/6 & 46/6

PARFUM "QU'IMPORTE DEMAIN"

A fascinating perfume of individuality and distinction.

PRICES:
7/-, 17/6, 30/- & 45/-

PARFUM "A TOI."

The blended fragrance of a few lovely floral favourites in which the scent of the Lily of the Valley predominates.

PRICES:
7/-, 15/6, 30/- & 45/-

M. Michel FOKINE, directeur chorégraphique des Ballets Russes, et Mme Vera FOKINA

dan
"LE CARNAVAL"

The Times of India Christmas 1919
Advertisement depicting Harlequin and Columbine from an illustration signed Georgia Lyon 24.8.10

Russian dancers Michel Fokine and Vera Fokina, who were celebrated dancers with the *Ballets Russe* in the early years of the 20th century. The ballet is *Carnaval*, premiered in 1910 and it was performed to music from Schumann's piano suite of the same name.



"THE BLUE LAGOON",
Box of Compressed Bath Salts.

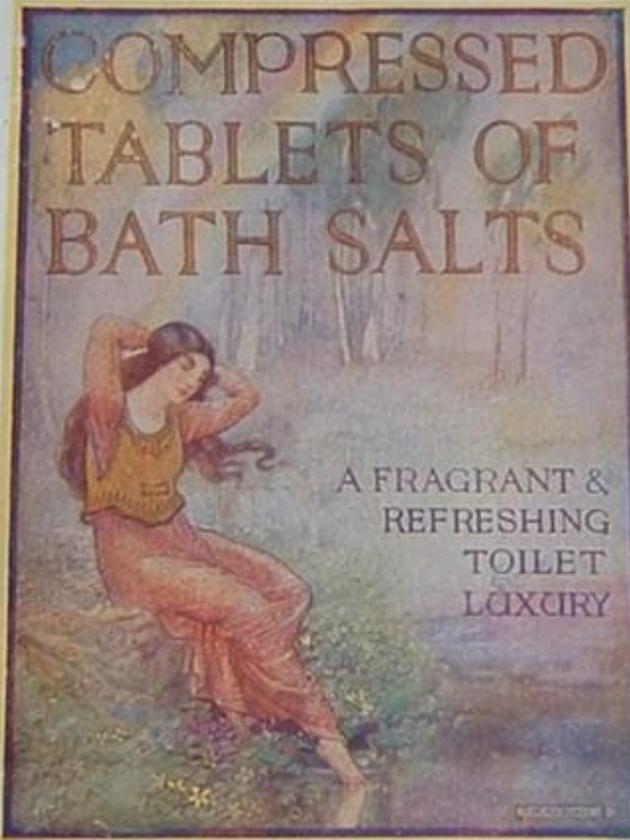
- A TOI
Of lovely characteristic fragrance
- A BUNCH OF VIOLETS
Violet with the leaf as well as the flower odour
- APRÈS L'HIVER
A cool sweet fragrance of mountain flowers
- APRÈS LA PLUIE
The refreshing odour of a garden after a summer shower
- ARCADIE
A perfume with a soft lingering fragrance
- C'EST LE JOUR
A delightful & fresh exhilarating scent
- CHANSON SANS PAROLES
A perfect flower perfume
- COMME À VINGT ANS
A perfume for the time "when the heart is young"
- EAU DE COLOGNE
Most refreshing; one of the liqueur
- ELDORADO
A wealth of lovely odour
- ENTRE NOUS
A perfume of haunting mystery
- FANTÔME D'ORIENT
A perfume of "The golden prince of great Hassan Al-masoud"
- FLEUR JETÉE
A floral perfume of exquisite charm
- GARDEN OF KAMA
A perfume of exquisite loveliness
- GOLDEN MORN
The fragrance and the freshness of the dawn
- IDÉAL
A subtle and fascinating perfume
- INTERMEZZO
A harmony of sweet odours
- JOURNÉE DE PRINTEMPS
A light and dainty odour with the freshness of spring

DUBARRY'S

TABLETS OF COMPRESSED BATH SALTS

A NECESSITY FOR THE DAINTY WOMAN'S TOILET.

OBTAINABLE IN THE UNDERMENTIONED FAMOUS DUBARRY ODOURS.



"THE HEART OF A ROSE",
Box of Compressed Bath Salts.

- JOURS PASSÉS
A perfume of individuality and refinement
- LAVENDER BOUQUET
An old time favourite
- L'HEURE DIVINE
A perfume of surpassing loveliness
- NIGHT OF JUNE
The mingled sweetness of the jasmine, the yew and the honey-suckle
- NUIT DE MAI
The fragrance of the breath of spring
- PERSEPHONE
The essence of a thousand flowers
- PLUIE DE FLEURS
A new perfume "of intoxicating loveliness"
- QU'IMPORTE DEMAIN
A perfume suggestion of the joy of life
- RAVANA
The scent of the world of fashion
- RITOURNELLE
A perfume which suggests a melody
- ROMADOR
The dainty Parisienne favourite
- ROSE GERANIUM
Of delightful richness
- SOUS D'AUTRES CIEUX
A soft, luminous, romantic perfume of distinctive individuality
- SOUVIENS-TOI
Awakens a host of fragrant memories
- THE BLUE LAGOON
A ideal essence of the perfume's art
- THE HEART OF A ROSE
Possessing the wealth of odour of the red rose
- THE PIPES OF PAN
Reminiscence of a woodland glade
- UN RÊVE D'AUTREFOIS
Recalling the sweet scenes of long ago
- VERBENA
Delightfully refreshing and exhilarating
- VISION DE LINDE
Suggesting the mystic glamour of the east

INVIGORATING, REFRESHING, BEAUTIFYING.
THEY MAKE THE BATH WATER AS SOFT AS RAIN AND GIVE OFF A WEALTH OF LOVELY FRAGRANCE

Price 4/6 per box.

Boxes may contain all of one odour or if Assorted Boxes are ordered each box will contain TWELVE DIFFERENT ODOURS.

THE INDIAN OR CEYLON POSTAGE ON ONE DOZEN BOXES IS 2/ INCLUDING PACKING.

ORDERS WITH REMITTANCES SHOULD BE SENT DIRECT TO THE MANUFACTURERS.

UNTIL INDIAN DEALERS & STORES ARE ABLE TO OBTAIN SUPPLIES.



"ARCADIE",
Box of Compressed Bath Salts.



"ASSORTED ODOURS",
Box of Compressed Bath Salts.

Dubarry & Cie. Parfumeurs.

81, Brompton Road, LONDON. S.W.

THE FINISHING TOUCH



POWDRETTE DUBARRY

THE IDEAL PORTABLE FACE POWDER

A dainty necessity to be carried in every hand-bag. Lighter than Thistle-down, finer than Gossamer, soft enough, silky enough, clinging enough, to appeal irresistibly to the most critical.

Supplied in all tints: IVOIRE, NATURELLE, RACHEL, RACHEL FONCÉ Etc.

DUBARRY ET CIE *Parfumeurs.*

81 Brompton Road, London. S. W. 1.

A BOTTLE OF ONE OF
EXCLUSIVE DUBARRY'S PERFUMES

WILL BE A TREASURED POSSESSION, BRINGING EVERY DAY FRAGRANT MEMORIES OF THE DONOR

HOWEVER FAR ONE MAY BE SEPARATED BY TIME OR SPACE FROM THE FLOWER FARMS OF GRASSE OR AN ENGLISH GARDEN IN JUNE ALL THEIR SWEET ODOURS MAY BE RECALLED FOR THE VERY SOULS OF THE FLOWERS ARE PRESERVED IMPERISHABLY WITHIN THE CRYSTAL WALLS OF A BOTTLE OF DUBARRY'S PERFUME.

ONE OF THE MOST FAMOUS IS
PARFUM "CHANSON SANS PAROLES"

"And soon shall blow the warm west winds of spring,
 To set the unbound rills in tune,
 The vales shall laugh in flowers,
 The woods grow misty green
 with leaning buds,
 And violets and wind flowers
 sway
 Against the throbbing heart of
 May." —WHITTIER.

An exquisite girlish perfume; its dainty, sweet simplicity of fragrance making it always attractive and delightful, and by an association of ideas endowing its user with an added charm.

Parfum "Chanson sans Paroles," regarded by many enthusiastic admirers as a Dubarry *chef d'œuvre*, is an exquisite essence, having a certain subtle charm of which one never tires, and this has caused its wide adoption as "my own" among so many discriminating women.

PRICES:
 IN EXQUISITELY MODELLED CRYSTAL BOTTLES,
 7/-, 21/-, 31/6 & 46/6

DUBARRY'S PERFUME
"THE HEART OF A ROSE"

THE REAL FRAGRANCE OF THE RED ROSE IN ALL ITS DEWY FRESHNESS.

ONE OF THE PERFUMES THAT ESTABLISHED THE DUBARRY REPUTATION.

A leader of Society has described it as—

"The Dainty Englishwoman's Ideal Perfume."

PRICES IN CRYSTAL BOTTLES,
 7/-, 14/6, 21/-, 31/6



ANOTHER FAVOURITE IS

PARFUM "ENTRE NOUS"

"From timid Jaxmin buds that keep
 Their odours to themselves all day,
 But when the sunlight dies away
 Let their delicious secret out."

A perfect floral perfume in which predominate the fascinating sweetness and delicate freshness of the Jaxmin.

Parfum "Entre Nous" possesses to the fullest extent that indefinable something which governs a woman's preference in the intensely personal matter of a favourite perfume.

PRICES:
 IN BEAUTIFUL CRYSTAL BOTTLES,
 7/-, 16/3, 31/6 & 46/6

PARFUM "QU'IMPORTE DEMAIN."

A fascinating perfume of individuality and distinction.

PRICES:
 7/-, 17/6, 30/- & 45/-

PARFUM "A TOI."

The blended fragrance of a few lovely floral favourites in which the scent of the Lily of the Valley predominates.

PRICES:
 7/-, 15/6, 30/- & 45/-

WRITE FOR DUBARRY'S EXQUISITELY ILLUSTRATED COMPLETE PRICE LIST WHICH WILL BE SENT FREE OF CHARGE ON APPLICATION.
 IT CONTAINS A FULL DESCRIPTION OF THE SEVENTY DUBARRY'S FAMOUS PERFUMES, SOAPS, BATH DUSTING POWDERS, FACE POWDERS, PREPARATIONS AND OTHER TOILET ARTICLES.



Dubarry "Powdrette" with highly detailed, white image cameo of a Grecian style head against a blue background, probably moulded plastic. Gold-tone compact with "Dubarry Powdrette London" in circle on base which has a segmented pattern. Framed mirror. With partially used powder godet, but or puff. Some wear to gilt, but lid is in very good condition. 50mm/2in dia. x 10mm/³/₈ deep
Also, available with beige or green backgrounds. Early 1930s.



Dubarry gold-tone compact with hard celluloid cover over bronze foil, which I think should be a marble effect, but is badly discoloured. "Powdrette Dubarry Naturelle" and stripe pattern on reverse. Gold-tone in reasonable condition and good glass mirror. No godet clip. Godet pan with some powder remaining and pressed into the base, "Refills for this box are supplied complete with puff Price 1/3 Made in England by Dubarry 81 Brompton Road London S.W. You must clearly specify refill pattern "N.S." and state tint required." Well used, but pretty wool puff with pleated gauze backing. 55mm/2in dia. x 10mm/³/₈ in deep. Late 1920s-early 1930s.



Dubarry gold-tone compact with hard celluloid cover over an orange marbled effect plastic. "Powdrette Dubarry Naturelle" in a circle on base with a stripe pattern. Some With framed, glass mirror. Godet pan contains solid powder. 50mm/2in dia. x 10mm/³/₈ in. deep. Late 1920s-early 1930s.



Dubarry "Powdrette". Silver-tone, envelope-shaped with a crest like a seal on the folds of a letter. Metal mirror. "Dubarry" on striped base and "Made in France" on base. Full aluminium godet pan and beige moiré puff. Label below godet pan states, "Tint Rachel Perfumed "A Bunch of Violets" "Refills for this box are supplied complete with puff Price: 1/3. Dubarry et Cie London S.W. You must clearly specify refill pattern "N.S." A Bunch of Violets and state tint required". This name style "Dubarry et Cie was adopted from 1917 until c. 1933. This compact is in excellent condition with original box with label on base "Retail price 2/6". 53mm/2¹/₈ in. sq. Date unknown, but likely to be early 1930s.



Dubarry hexagonal chrome powdrette with engine turned lid and base. Dubarry crest on lid. "Dubarry Powdrette" stamped below hinge inside and "Made in England" above hinge outside. With powder godet, pale turquoise puff and paper insert about obtaining a refill. 55mm/2 1/4 in. dia. Mike Ashton indicates a date circa 1933.



Dubarry engine-turned nickel plated compact with bright chrome or nickel interior. Dubarry crest on lid and fancy-striped base with “Dubarry” in block letters on the right-hand corner. “Made in England” on the outer lid above hinge. Powder godet with tissue insert and paper insert giving information about shade and scent of the godet. Used wool puff with peach-coloured moiré backing. Framed glass mirror. 54mm/2¹/₈ in. Early 1930s.

The outer case of this compact is of identical construction to the “*Dubarry’s “Always Handy” Loose Powder Box*” shown below. It is also very similar to the hexagonal “*Powdrette*”.



Dubarry gold-tone compressed powder compact, in the style of a “*Powdrette*”. Striped design, engine-turned lid and base with a Dubarry crest on top right-hand corner or lid and “Dubarry” in block letters on base. Matt gold-tone interior with “Made in England” above hinge. Glass mirror. Powder godet embossed with details about how to buy a refill. Used beige felt puff with moiré backing. Paper insert giving name of powder as “*Rachel*” and scent “*The Heart of a Rose*”. Brown felt pouch. 54mm/2¹/₈ in. Early 1930s likely, although Mike Ashton indicates c.1929.

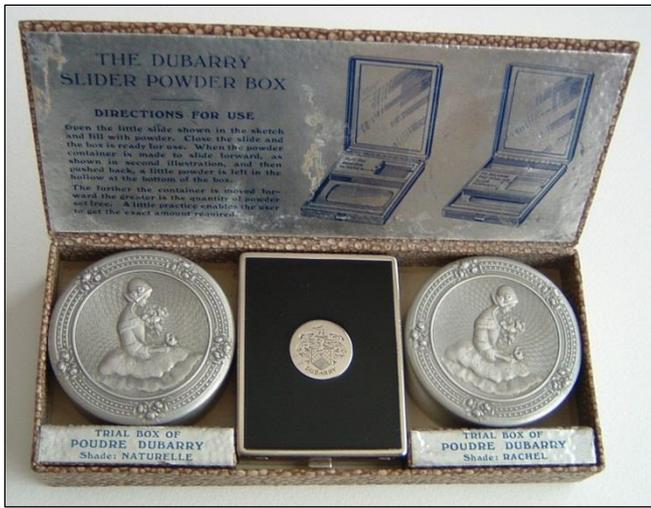
Construction of case identical to nickel coloured square compact, but godet fits tight.



Compacts for loose powder



Dubarry silver-tone compact for loose powder. Lovely art deco engine-turned design on lid and striped pattern on base with “Dubarry” in block letters. Inner lid marked, “*Dubarry’s “Always Handy” Loose Powder Box Dubarry 81 Brompton Rd. London*”. Felt seal around powder well. No sifter, but probably did not have one. No puff. Glass mirror. Construction of case identical to nickel coloured and gold-tone square compacts for solid powder. 54mm/2¹/₈ in. Circa 1930.



Dubarry "Slider Powder Box" with a black enamelled lid with chrome crest with "Dubarry" in a presentation box with aluminium boxes containing samples of powder. Diamond and herringbone patterned chrome base to compact. Chrome interior. Mirrored lid and unusual sliding mechanism for dispensing powder. A small sliding hatch on the right-hand side with "Dubarry London. Slide to open to fill with powder. Made in U.S.A." On left-hand side, instructions to "Slide forward to release sufficient powder for use". Powder is then released onto a recessed plate at the front of the compact. This is marked, "Pat. No. 1836,722, which is an American Patent for 1931. Laura Mueller in her *Collectors Encyclopedia of Compacts, Carryalls and Powder Boxes*" Vol. 2, p.74 points out that Prince Matchabelli, Max Factor and Markoff used the same case. BCCS member Jan Hynes shows this Prince Matchabelli in blue, with a gold crown instead of a crest, on her website www.janhynes.co.uk. I have seen this slider compact on eBay marked "D'Orsay Parfumeur Paris" on the crest with "d'Orsay" beside the sliding hatch. Another fascinating example of this case can be found with the cartouche bearing the name "Martha Washington". This is signed in script above the catch "Martha Washington - by Anre" and the puffs are also signed.



Dubarry black enamelled, bolster-shaped compact with an elliptical side profile and a chrome crest with "Dubarry". Black enamelled base. Mirrored lid and unusual sliding mechanism for dispensing powder. A small sliding hatch on the right-hand side with "Dubarry London. Slide to open to fill with powder. Made in U.S.A." On left-hand side, instructions to "Slide forward to release sufficient powder for use". Powder is then released onto a recessed plate at the front of the compact. This is marked, "Pat. No. 1,836,722, an American Patent for 1931. 58mm/2 1/4 in.



Dubarry Foil compact with celluloid overlay. Gold foil is unfaded, although looks more silver in my photo. Enamelled sun rays. These styles have a black celluloid back, which sometimes comes unglued and lifts on the edges. "Baby-Jack" is printed on the hinge on mirror frame and "Made in England" on lower part of hinge. Chrome interior with a polished metallic mirrored interior lid and a fine mesh sifter. 57mm/2 1/4 in. dia. Juliette Edwards has pointed out that the construction, including hinge and celluloid back is identical to a Gwenda, so this would have been made by Hussey Dawson & Co., Birmingham. A Gwenda of this construction is marked "Gwenda" on hinge, instead of "Baby-Jack". "Baby-Jack" implies that it is a smaller version of a large "flap-jack" compact.



From the information available, there are three different poses of the ballerina design and one pose, as shown, of a fairy *en pointe*. BCCS member Mary T. believes that these compacts were made in six different colours: yellow, green, red, blue, blackberry and purple. It is likely that each design was made in all six colours.



Dubarry Enamelled lid with Dubarry flower basket motif in silver and enamel. This example is missing its stones. Engine-turned nickel-plated base with "Dubarry" in right-hand corner. Chrome interior, but no inner lid and framed glass mirror. Stamped "Made in England" below the hinge on the inside. Velour-edged, sifter with a metal frame. 70mm/2 3/4 in. square. 4mm³/8 in. deep. Mike Ashton suggests in *Face Facts*, Autumn 2002, that "Velour covered metal-framed sifters emanated from Germany and Austria in 1932 and were usually employed without an inner lid, just as inner lids were employed without sifters during this period. This sifter design seems to have ceased in orthodox shaped cases circa 1936..." He comments that pre-war stock may have been used with some companies in the post-war years. Juliette has two advertisements, which show a compact likely to be this style. The first advert is from *The Queen* 3rd Dec. 1936 and shows a boxed set with "The new Dubarry flapjack and handbag-size bottle of perfume". The second advert is a Christmas edition of *Woman and Home*, 1936 and describes, "The Dubarry Christmas Gift Box (No. 8) price 8s. 3d., contains one of these new boxes of powder and a charming flap-jack in coloured enamel, which a dainty basket of flowers in marcasite in the centre." This compact was also made with turquoise blue enamel. n.b. Although both advertisements describe this compact as a "flap-jack", the picture clearly shows a square compact.



Dubarry "Vani-Jack Loose Powder Vanity Box". Engine-turned art deco design on lid with "Dubarry" crest. "Vani-Jack Loose powder box" and "Dubarry 81 Brompton Road, London" on inner lid. Felt seal in powder well. No sifter. Framed glass mirror. Engine-turned nickel-plated striped base with "Dubarry" in right-hand corner. This compact is of similar construction to red enamelled "flap jack", but with one long hinge (like the "Always Handy Box") which differs from the "flap-jack". 70mm/2 5/8 in. square. c. 1936.



Dubarry “Vani-Jack Loose Powder Vanity Box”. Engine-turned art deco design on lid with applied enamel and marcasite plaque of a flower basket. “Vani-Jack Loose powder box” and “Dubarry 81 Brompton Road, London” on inner lid. Felt seal in powder well. Framed glass mirror. I do not think this compact is designed to have a sifter. No puff. Engine-turned nickel-plated striped base with “Dubarry” in right-hand corner. “Made in England” above the hinge. This compact is of similar construction to the red enamelled “flap jack” and the other “Vani-Jack” shown, but its hinge is of the same design as the red enamelled compact and not the long hinge of the “Vani-Jack”.



Dubarry Ivory enamelled lid with enamelled floral plaque. Engine-turned silver-tone base with “Dubarry” in right-hand corner. Chrome interior, no inner lid and with a framed glass mirror. Stamped “Made in England” below the hinge on the inside. Ribbon-edged sifter with a metal frame. 70mm/2⁷/₈ in square. 4mm/¹/₈in. deep. Probably 1936.



Dubarry gold-tone “convertible” compact with satin finish lid and circular striped pattern in bright finish. Silver-tone flower basket motif with marcasites. Base in a bright finish, grooved pattern, stamped “Dubarry” and with a hole to enable a powder godet to be easily removed. Framed glass mirror and a card edged, white sifter. Pink satin puff. Black felt pouch and a pink box with the letters “iF” and a fleur de lys. 69mm/2 ⁵/₈ in. dia. I think this is a later English Dubarry compact, probably dating from the 1950s or even early 1960s and quite unlike other Dubarry compacts in my collection.

Acknowledgments

I would like to thank Juliette Edwards and Mike Ashton for sharing their research. Also, the late Mary B. for assisting me with art historical research. Ballet expert, Jennie B., told me about the picture of “Carnaval”. The majority of the compacts and all the advertisements pictured are from my own collection, but reference is made to some advertisements from Juliette’s archive. I’d also like to thank Jan H., Robert N. and Juliette for pictures of compacts and powder boxes from their collections. Information about the Dubarry factory and the Brompton Road shop were obtained with help from librarians at Brighton and Hove and Kensington Central libraries respectively. At Convention 2014, Janine B. curated an exhibition on Compacts, Powder Boxes & Scented Products from Early Perfumeries, which included some Dubarry bath cubes, face cream and perfume bottles and packaging, which are not featured here.

I have expanded and updated my original features from *Face Facts* June 2004 Issue 27; Sept. 2004 Issue 28 and Spring 2005 Issue 29. The Dubarry “Romney” series was featured in Issue 63 May 2014 and Issue 64 Aug/Sept. 2014. I took the following photos of the factory adjacent to Hove station, when first researching Dubarry in summer 2004. At that time, the factory was in the process of renovation and conversion into “art deco loft style apartments”.
Jenny Duncan – Face Facts editor. July 2015.

