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A ENGLISH LEAD GARDEN FOUNTAIN

by H. Crowther

the shallow dish with a lobed edge and tapered spout held aloft by a trio of dolphins, the fish with entwined tails forming the triform base,

DIMENSIONS: 92cm (36 $\frac{3}{4}$ ") High, 65cm (25 $\frac{1}{2}$ ") Wide, 65cm (25 $\frac{1}{2}$ ") in Diameter, (73cm high excluding spout)

STOCK CODE: 49127



HISTORY

The base is a salvaged example of Crowthers' work and is a rather good model that is no longer in production. The dish has been replaced and is newly cast in the same foundry as the old base.

H Crowther Ltd was founded in a small workshop in Chiswick, South West London in 1908. Henry Crowther was self-taught and was a key figure in reviving a venerable tradition of English figurative and decorative architectural leadwork that had all but disappeared in Victorian times.

The famous lead-foundries of Hyde Park Road that had seen the work of Van Nost and John Cheere, among many others, in a late 18th Century heyday had then declined and disappeared by the time of The Great Exhibition. With the rise of the Decorative Cast-Iron foundries –

Coalbrookdale in Shropshire, Carron in Falkirk and Val d'Osne near Paris lead-casting was perhaps considered a bit old-hat and couldn't compete.

By Edwardian times though Crowthers found an enthusiastic market and brought back old designs and introduced new models – the small foundry also found themselves increasingly in-demand for restoration work for the Great Houses that needed repairs to their Georgian statues – Castle Howard and Chatsworth being prime examples.

Henry Crowther passed these restoration and casting skills to his son Jim and grandson Paul.