

For Immediate Release

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**PLEASE LOOK AFTER THIS BEAR. THANK YOU.
CHRISTIES AUCTIONS BEARS LOOKING FOR GOOD HOMES**



*Lot 211
A Steiff Teddy Bear, found in a skip
Estimate: £4,000-6,000*

*Lot 28
A Steiff teddy bear, circa 1909 - This bear was found abandoned on a skip, which was later delivered to a rubbish tip, where he was rescued.
Estimate: £2,000-3,000*

**Teddy Bears
4 July 2006, 2pm
Christie's South Kensington**

South Kensington – The second of Christie's South Kensington's bi-annual teddy bear sales will take place on Tuesday 4th July 2006. Featuring over 200 lots with estimates ranging from £100 to £6,000, all the favourite teddy bear makers are represented, from Steiff, Chiltern and Farnell to a broad range of affordable cuddlies. This is the perfect opportunity for teddy bear enthusiasts to add to their collection with a slice of teddy bear history.

The stars this summer are two bears with rags to riches tales. These two early Steiffs, both dating from the 1900s were found abandoned on skips, and despite their age and treatment they are both in tremendous condition and hope to go good homes. Estimated at £4,000-6,000 (Lot 211) and £2,000-3,000 (lot 28) they are expected to realize a combined total of £9,000.

There is also a wide selection of bears that are accompanied by photographs of them with their original owners. These range from 1910 to 1950 and add a very special dimension to the history of the individual bear. One example is Lot 105, a large Steiff bear on wheels (estimate £500-700) which comes with two generations of history. The original owner, Olive Parker, is pictured in 1912 riding on the bear, and the current owner is pictured in 1956 when the bear was presented to him as a gift.

The sale also includes a much loved original Sooty bear puppet from 1954 (estimate £800-1,200) which was presented by Henry Corbett to a fellow magician's daughter.

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Images available on request
Visit Christie's at www.christies.com

Notes for Editors:

Opening hours at Christie's South Kensington:

- Monday 9am – 7.30pm
- Tuesday to Friday 9am to 5pm
- Saturday and Sunday 10am to 4pm

The weekend openings will be throughout the year except for bank holidays

Christie's is the market leader in Teddy Bear sales and is the only auction house to hold sales devoted entirely to Teddy Bears. Since Christie's Teddy Bear sales were introduced 12 years ago, the demand for bears has increased exponentially in view of the never-ending popularity of these soft toys. Christie's set the world auction record for a Teddy Bear when "Teddy Girl," a cinnamon Steiff teddy bear sold for £110,000 in December 1994. Christie's holds two sales a year in London devoted to teddy bears and soft toys.