

The author's completed bust.



The Duke of Wellington

Malcolm Cuming paints a classic 1:9 scale bust of "Old Nosey" himself!

He led his forces to many victories culminating in the Battle of Waterloo where he defeated Napoleon Bonaparte in June 1815.

It goes without saying that 'The Duke of Wellington' is one of the most noted Field Marshalls in our history. This is just a short insight into his life otherwise it would take up the whole magazine!

Arthur Wellesley was born on 1st May 1769 into a wealthy Anglo-Irish family, his father being The 1st Earl of Mornington, his mother Anne was the daughter of the 1st Viscount of Dungannon. He attended various schools as the family moved to different locations, and in 1781 to 1784 he attended Eton. He wasn't happy there and found it very lonely. Following the death of his father he and his mother moved to Brussels where they stayed until his early 20s. His mother was very concerned as Arthur had become very idle. A short time later Arthur had enrolled in the French Royal Academy of Equitation in Angers. Here he became a good horseman and learned French, something that



The bust before priming.

would become beneficial later on. He progressed well and, on returning to England in 1786, he surprised his mother with his attitude and his improvement.

In 1787 Wellington was commissioned as an ensign in the British Army serving in Ireland to two successive Lord Lieutenants. He was also a Member of Parliament in the Irish House of Commons. By 1796 he had risen to the rank of Colonel, where he saw action in the Netherlands and India, although he is more known for his role in the Peninsular and Napoleonic Wars where he held the rank of Field Marshal. He led his forces to many victories culminating in the Battle of Waterloo where he defeated Napoleon Bonaparte in June 1815.

Following the war Wellington served as the Prime Minister on two occasions, and a leading figure in the Houses of Parliament until his retirement. He remained Commander in Chief of the British Army until his death in September 1852 aged 83.

What's in the box?

This bust of the Duke of Wellington was first released by David Grieve way back in 1998, but to look at it you'd think it was a new release as the quality and detail matches those of recent manufacture. I think you'd all agree that David has caught the likeness of the Duke extremely well, which goes to show why he still has a huge following with modellers. He has produced many such high-quality models over the years and thankfully today the bust is still available through CGS Military Figures.