

## FASCINATING FIND

### BED WARMERS



Bed warmers have been around for centuries, initially holding hot coals. The later hot water bottles were just that, a metal, ceramic or glass bottle full of hot water wrapped in cloth.

This stoneware hottie was made by Hoffman's in Bendigo, Victoria, in the early 1900s. It measures 11 inches by 4 1/2 inches, (270 mm x 110mm) and has a flat side to help prevent it rolling away.

The widespread use of vulcanised rubber eventually led to rubber hot water bottles, which were popular for almost a century. Modern leakproof alternatives include bags of grain or gel heated in a microwave oven.