

# Design by Somers

There have been a number of articles about pewter and Brazil, and all in some way or another have featured the Somers' pewter business. This is partly because my first introduction to Brazilian pewter came through the then Lord Mayor of London, the late Alderman Sir John Stuttard, following his Mayorial trip to Brazil and his meeting there with the late John Somers, Gregory's father. You can follow the story through the four articles, and I have provided links to each of them at the end of this article (*Pewter in London and*

*in Brazil: a Mayoral Connection; Pewter in Brazil - a journey from, possibly, Englefields to São Joao del Rei); Pewter in Brazil/3; and A Brazilian Far From Home).*



Above. Glassware: pewter feet; cutlery: pewter handles. Below, more pewter handles



I then found myself, quite coincidentally, in Tiradentes last year. Tiradentes is in the state of Minas Gerais, the (gold) mining state of Brazil. I managed to get to meet the legendary Gregory Somers. Following that meeting in Tiradentes and, subsequently, São Joao del Rey last year, Gregory promised to let me have photographs of the latest *Design by Somers* offerings and, patience being rewarded, here they are.



Above, handles in decorated pewter; to the right, a close up of the pewter bases

Displayed/launched at the trade show in São Paulo earlier this year, they have been an instant success, such that *Design by Somers* are struggling to meet the orders that have come in.

I asked Gregory about the trade show, and why he had chosen Sao Paolo. He replied that he had been very pleased with the results of the show. "São Paulo is the financial capital of this country at the moment."

As to the designs, he said: "We like to do something different, and are always experimenting".

There is much more about John Somers, and pewter in Brazil, on the Internet; here, set out below, is a connection to get you started. Look also on the Instagram account, [la\\_table\\_de\\_giselle](#), where you will see a number of pictures of novelties by Design by Somers. I have cut and pasted a few examples for this article.



## Alan Williams

Photos: Thanks to Gregory Somers/Design by Somers

Pewter in Brazil: <http://www.thepewterer.org.uk/home/the-pewterer-volume-4-1>

Pewter in Brazil/2: <https://sites.google.com/a/thepewterer.org.uk/thepewterer/volume-5-3>

Pewter in Brazil/3: <https://sites.google.com/a/thepewterer.org.uk/thepewterer/the-pewterer-vol-9-4-dec-2018>

Peter in Brazil/4: <https://sites.google.com/a/thepewterer.org.uk/thepewterer/the-pewterer>

More about John Somers and pewter in Brazil:

<https://www.google.com/search?client=firefox-b-d&q=pewter+in+brazil>

Instagram: [la\\_table\\_de\\_giselle](#)

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