

CARLTON WARE NEWSLETTER #44

From
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This beautiful pedestal **REVO** bowl in the rare **Nightingale** pattern (number **3562**) was recently seen for sale on eBay. Obviously, it brought to mind the title of the song "A Nightingale Sang in Berkeley Square". This is very appropriate for us at the moment as we will be spending the next 3½ months in London. We leave Calgary on Christmas evening and arrive in London on Boxing Day and will be staying until April 8, 2009.

Initially we will be spending the balance of the Christmas and New Year's holidays with family in the Gatwick area but will be renting a flat in London from the beginning of January. However, that will just be our base as we intend to do quite a bit of traveling around the country, as well as taking a trip or two onto the Continent. Of course, Carlton Ware will figure into most of our plans!

In the mean time, we recently heard from Canadian reader **Anne in Ontario**, (a fellow Brit) who wrote to us on November 5: "*Happy Guy Fawkes night; no bonfires or fireworks for us tonight! I was changing my china around today and washing some of it, when I thought about taking some pictures of the items I have with the different back stamps. The first picture is of pieces I have with the **Ribbon** mark in blue, brown and maroon (c1890 – c1893).*"



"The second picture has the early **Crown** mark in blue (c1894 - c1926). At the end of this period they must have started using different colour backstamps as the blue lustre cream jug has the blue mark but the sugar has a black backstamp.



"The pieces in the third picture all have the later **Crown** mark in black (c1920 - c1926), with the exception of the flower trio; the cup & saucer have the **Crown** mark but the plate has the later **Script** mark (c1926 – c1987). Interesting to see how the colours are so much brighter in these later wares."



Carlton Ware
MADE IN ENGLAND
"TRADE MARK"



Thank you **Anne** for sending in the pictures of your early pieces; it is a most interesting study of items and their related backstamps. It looks like you also have a good collection of **BUTTERCUP**, nicely displayed in the cabinet! Thanks also to **Harvey** at **Carlton Ware World** for providing the pictures of the backstamps.



Also in November we heard from **Jay in Maryland, USA**: "A web search of "Carlton Ware **2881**" brought up your Newsletter #3 and the article on the **MIKADO** biscuit barrel. The picture of the markings on the bottom of the piece in the article (right) is so different to the markings on our piece (left) that I am confused. Was the **MIKADO** pattern made over a long period of time? Can the date of production be nailed

down? This is our first experience with Carlton Ware. Last week my son **TJ** bought this piece at an estate sale. It is 7½" tall (including lid) and 3" in diameter. There seems to be nothing wrong with it except that the gold on the very tip of the lid is worn off and the lid is somewhat dirty. Is there a safe way to clean it without damaging the gold? Any information you might have would be appreciated."



We wrote back to **Jay** saying: "Many thanks for your email and the pictures of your **MIKADO** Covered Vase. This pattern was probably in production for the best part of the 1920s and 1930s. It was produced in several different colourways and the **2881** pattern number is for the Black & Terracotta colourway. The differences between the backstamps on your piece and the piece featured in Newsletter #3 are relatively minor. As discussed in the article, the paintress had used the wrong pattern number (3881) on the biscuit barrel. The **Script** backstamp was first put into use in 1926, dating your piece subsequent to that date. The factory produced items to order and the **0/2626** number on the biscuit barrel is the order number. It is difficult to read on your piece but we would guess that the order number is **0/1469**. The other painted marks on both pieces are marks put on by the paintresses to identify their work as they were paid by piecework. The impressed number **244** on your piece is the shape number. As for cleaning, just warm soapy water is the best way to remove grime. It should not hurt the gilding – it is repeated handling and dusting that has caused any wear over the years."

Finally, we received the following email from **Jill in Burlington, Ontario**: "Can you tell me anything about this Carlton Ware vase which I purchased last week at a White Elephant sale for \$2.00. The pattern number looks to be 1168 - it is matt black and 10" tall. I am not a collector (yet). I didn't know anything about Carlton Ware until I brought the vase home and started researching on the internet. I sent photos to another Carlton Ware website I found and received the following answer. "Hi - This is a very rare Persian / Pagoda pattern from the 1920s. Worth £1000 to £2000. What a find!" "



We wrote back to **Jill**: "Many thanks for your email and the pictures of your beautiful vase. Unfortunately, the pattern number that you are using does not tie in with anything in our records. The pattern is **MIKADO** and the blue **Crown** backstamp dates it from the 1894 - 1926 period. We will send your pictures along to **Harvey Pettit** at **Carlton Ware World** to see what he can tell us about the pattern number. You certainly have done well with this purchase; however, the response from the other website is somewhat off the mark. Their initial comment that the pattern is a "very rare Persian / Pagoda pattern" is a conflict in itself. Pagodas are Oriental and were not built in Persia, as far as we are aware. As to value - again, we are sorry to say that they are way off the mark. Although this is an uncommon colourway for this pattern, its value would be more in the \$200 - \$300 (£100 - £150) range; still a good return on your \$2 investment! I wish we had White Elephant sales like that in Calgary! We hope you do decide to become a Carlton Ware collector - you will find it very enjoyable and hopefully rewarding. However, bargains like the one you found are not common, unfortunately!"

And here's what **Harvey** had to say on the subject: "The pattern number on the **MIKADO** vase is either **2363** or **2370**, both variants having a black ground and decorated similarly, but not exactly. With the clue from the guessed indistinct number - 1168 - it must be **2363**. The vase shape is an early one for which no records survive - it may have been referred to on the works by a name, rather than a number."



That brings us back to the subject of vase shape numbers. In Newsletter 42, we showed examples of 24 vase shapes and asked readers to send us pictures of additional vases and their respective impressed number. It is unfortunate that the beautiful shape above does not have an impressed number, but here are 11 more that do.

Shown here on the left is shape number **147** and on the right number **778**.





Shape 1154



Shape 1156



Shape 1232



Shape 1640



Shape 1641



Shape 1642



Shape 1675



Shape 1694



Shape 2089

In our last two Newsletters we have looked at the various shapes of vases and jugs and shown examples along with their impressed factory numbers. Now we want to look at a variety of shapes that can collectively be called "lidded pots". There seems to be confusion in this particular area as to what can be described as a Ginger Jar as opposed to a Lidded Vase. With help from **Dave Forgan**, who has provided several of the following pictures, and with concurrence from **Harvey Pettit** at **Carlton Ware World**, "lidded pots" can generally be categorized into 4 shapes:

Ginger Jars have lids with no finial (other than a Death Mask on some **TUT** examples)

Temple Jars have lids with a lion or foo dog finial

Covered Vases have lids with a rounded or pointed finial

Slender Ginger Jars have lids with no finial (other than a Death Mask on some **TUT** examples)

GINGER JARS

Shape 125



3332 DRAGON & CLOUD
2711 TUT with Death Mask finial
3050 TURKISH



3453 Awakening
3353 JAZZ
4216 STAR FLOWER

TEMPLE JARS

Shape 129



**2686 TUT (front)
3026 TEMPLE
2686 TUT (reverse)**

Shape 130

Shape 153

Shape 130



**2071 ROCKERY & PHEASANT
3143 PARADISE BIRD & TREE with CLOUD
3522 APPLE BLOSSOM**

Note the taller and more slender neck on shape 130 compared with the squatter and broader version on shape 153

COVERED VASES

Shape 166

Shape 243

Shape 244

Shape 166



2928 TEMPLE

2884 PERSIAN

2936 CHINESE TEA GARDEN

3265 FOREST TREE

Shape 311



2969 Moonlight Cameo

3566 Geometrica

3948 FLOWER & FALLING LEAF



3774 BELL

4642 EASTERN SPLENDOUR

3449 Prickly Pansy

Shape 437



3890 SKETCHING BIRD



3997 Forest Night

SLENDER GINGER JAR



2711 TUT with Death Mask finial

In Newsletter 41 we showed you pictures of all our Carlton Ware lamps (plus some other lamps) and asked readers to send us pictures of their lamps. **Dave Forgan** sent a picture of a lamp in his collection in the very desirable **Mandarins Chatting** pattern.



The lamp base measures 6½” high and has an open base showing the backstamp and pattern number. This is an unusual colourway and has the pattern number **3675A**. The shape is very similar to the Covered Vase number **437** shown above.

And just in time for Christmas, this **STAG** lamp base was for sale on eBay earlier this month.



We know it's not Rudolf or his pals but, nevertheless, it seems like a pretty seasonal scene! The listing stated that the hole for the wire (3rd picture) was smooth and painted on the interior, so was no doubt done in the factory. The light fixture sat in the top of the ginger jar (shape **125**) and was secured by a wood and cork fitting. **STAG** is a seldom seen **Handcraft** pattern, number **3359**.



Finally, we delight in showing you the most recent addition to our lamp collection. This time it is a brand new lamp with a Mirano glass base and a cloth shade. We found this lamp while shopping in a Nordic furniture store, where we were looking for some sectional furniture and a teak room divider for our 60s family room.

We still haven't found the furniture!



Acknowledgements:

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Thanks also to **Dave Forgan** and **The Cochrane & Pettit Archive of Carlton Ware** for pictures and information on pattern names and numbers.

A merry Christmas to you all and maybe we will see some of you while we are in the U.K. for the next 3½ months. And a Happy New Year!

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