

CARLTON WARE NEWSLETTER #55

from

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January 2011

We are now into our second month in the U.K. and on January 9 we attended the Antiques & Collectors fair at the Three Counties Showground in Great Malvern, Worcestershire, one of the shows now organized by Helen Martin. After several weeks of bad weather and cancelled events, there must have been a pent up demand for a show as the public was out in full force. The fair is held in a nice building with plenty of free parking close by and the entry price of £2.50 for the public is good value, considering we paid more than that for parking in such cities as Bath and Gloucester, just to visit their very disappointing antique centres!

The crowd inside, with strollers and dogs in tow, made it difficult to get close to some of the tables but we saw what we needed to see and that included a few tables with some interesting Carlton Ware. The first piece we saw was a nice Handcraft tobacco jar in the **SHAMROCK pattern, number 3235**. It had a Sterling silver rim on the lid, which is unusual as most pieces made with silver are plated. The silver was hallmarked for London 1934, a good guide for the date of manufacture of this piece. It was priced at £345.



Next we saw a lovely Ice Bucket shaped vase in the **PERSIAN pattern, number 2882**. The large piece was beautifully enameled with the pattern fully represented on both sides. The price on this piece was £295.

On another table was a pair of rarely seen **GENOA** vases, a pattern in gilt only on the Powder Blue ground, **pattern number 2591**. The vendor also had a vase in the **PARROTS pattern, number 3017**, on the





matt black ground. He was keen to sell and the **GENOA** pair, priced at £270, was offered to us for £210 and the **PARROTS** vase, priced at £250, was offered at £180. We declined both offers. However, we did leave the show with one purchase, a large 16 x 11 inch platter in the Clarice Cliff **CORAL FIRS** pattern.

As we are driving around the various towns and villages, searching for Carlton Ware, we are also on the lookout for pubs for a nice lunch. Early in the month, while we were driving through Oxfordshire, we found a 16th century pub, The Falkland Arms, in the tiny village of Great Tew.



Once inside, we were fascinated to see that the ceiling was covered with old jugs. We took a seat and ordered our drinks and lunch and when Jerry looked above his head, he noticed that he was sitting underneath a Carlton Ware jug!

Naturally we had to take a picture of it and then searched around for more Carlton Ware. However, we didn't find another piece, but there were hundreds of jugs to look at!





Next day, still in Oxfordshire, we stopped at the Yarnton Antiques Centre at the Yarnton Nurseries. This was a busy place, more like a general market than a garden centre, but the antiques centre was a good size, full of cabinets and booths. There was a lot to look at and we found two pieces of Cornish Kitchen Ware that we collect. We also saw a Carlton Ware coffee set in the **FLORAL SPRAY** pattern. It was missing the milk jug but at just £22 it seemed like a bargain.

On the other side of Oxford in the town of Tetsworth is a very nice antique centre and restaurant at The Swan, housed in an historic grade II Elizabethan coaching inn. Here we found more Cornish Kitchen Ware to buy but were most surprised to find one room full of art deco furniture, glass and pottery. Along side some outstanding Shelley China and Crown Devon was a very large Lustrine ginger jar. It was beautifully decorated in an unusual pattern of eagles swooping on a sleeping deer and measured an impressive 15 inches high! We thought it was fairly priced at £1,100 and were very tempted to buy it, but were concerned about the cost of shipping it back to Canada.



A couple of days later we were in Worcester and, of course, stopped by to look at the beautiful cathedral. Quite close to the cathedral we found a very nice small shop called Bygones of Worcester. Of course, most of the stock on display was Royal Worcester, and there were some outstanding pieces to view. However, before entering the shop, we had noticed a pair of Carlton Ware vases on display in one of the windows. We asked to have a look at them and were also

shown a large jardinière in a different pattern. They were not a garniture, otherwise we might have bought all three pieces; however, we did buy the pair of 9½" Cloisonné Ware vases.



On January 15, the David & Sharon Serpell collection of Carlton Ware was sold by Fieldings Auctioneers of Stourbridge, West Midlands. Of the 50 lots for sale, 36 sold, for a 72% sales ratio. 16 lots sold below estimate; 12 lots sold for the estimate and 8 lots sold above estimate. Here are the results (please note – a 21% buyer's premium, including VAT, is added to the hammer price):

- Lot 263 15cm Mandarin Tree vase – estimate £200 - £300 – sold £190**
- Lot 264 30cm Babylon dish – estimate £250 - £300 – sold £370**
- Lot 265 18cm Babylon ginger jar – estimate £250 - £300 – sold £300**
- Lot 266 14cm Dragonfly ginger jar (no cover) – estimate £50 - £80 – unsold
- Lot 267 20cm Sketching Bird vase (restored) – estimate £200 - £300 – sold £180**
- Lot 268 16cm Spider Web dish – estimate £40 - £60 – unsold
- Lot 269 11cm Bell potpourri (no cover) – estimate £150 - £200 – sold £130**
- Lot 270 15cm Secretary Bird vase – estimate £300 - £400 – sold £400**
- Lot 271 14cm Mandarins Chatting vase – estimate £300 - £400 – sold £360**
- Lot 272 16cm Moonlight Cameo biscuit barrel (restored) – estimate £100 - £150 – sold £70**
- Lot 273 12cm Hollyhocks vase – estimate £250 - £350 – unsold
- Lot 274 6cm Awakening trinket box – estimate £150 - £200 – sold £260**
- Lot 275 34cm Moonlight Cameo gondola bowl – estimate £300 - £500 – unsold
- Lot 276 26cm Garden dish – estimate £120 - £150 – sold £110**
- Lot 277 11cm Hollyhocks dish – estimate £80 - £120 – sold £120**
- Lot 278 20cm Rabbits at Dusk vase – estimate £300 - £500 – sold £300**
- Lot 279 17cm Rabbits at Dusk jug – estimate £250 - £350 – unsold
- Lot 280 24cm Summer Flowers posy bowl – estimate £150 - £180 – unsold
- Lot 281 17cm Persian Rose – estimate £150 - £200 – sold £135**
- Lot 282 6cm Summer Flowers – estimate £80 - £120 – sold £75**
- Lot 283 24cm Spring posy bowl – estimate £80 - £120 – unsold
- Lot 284 17cm Spangled Tree jug – estimate £150 - £200 – sold £130**
- Lot 285 18cm Ducks vase – estimate £120 - £150 – sold £110**
- Lot 286 8cm Dragonfly vase – estimate £40 - £60 – sold £42**
- Lot 287 7cm Garden Gate vase – estimate £40 - £60 – sold £38**
- Lot 288 a pair of Tubelined Tree dishes – estimate £60 - £80 – sold £65**
- Lot 289 11cm Fantasia vase – estimate £120 - £150 – sold £160**
- Lot 290 32cm Devils Copse dish – estimate £300 - £500 – sold £290**
- Lot 291 6cm Chinese Figures trinket pot – estimate £40 - £60 – sold £38**
- Lot 292 11cm Persian Garden preserve pot – estimate £150 - £200 – sold £160**
- Lot 293 Floral Comets demitasse – estimate £100 - £150 – sold £190**
- Lot 294 13cm Dragon & Cloud vase – estimate £100 - £150 – unsold
- Lot 295 15cm Scimitar powder bowl – estimate £500 - £800 – sold £860**
- Lot 296 18cm Bell vase – estimate £400 - £600 – sold £1,000**
- Lot 297 Paradise Bird & Tree demitasse – estimate £80 - £120 – sold £75**
- Lot 298 16cm Dragonfly ginger jar – estimate £80 - £120 - unsold
- Lot 299 12cm Lace Cap Hydrangea vase – estimate £150 - £200 – sold £180**
- Lot 300 28cm Crested Bird and Waterlily dish – estimate £300 - £400 – sold £370**
- Lot 301 13cm Spider Web cigarette box – estimate £60 - £80 – sold £55**
- Lot 302 17cm Egyptian Fan jug – estimate £400 - £600 – sold £1,250**
- Lot 303 15cm Bell ashtray – estimate £60 - £80 – sold £75**
- Lot 304 21cm Dragonfly bowl – estimate £100 - £150 – unsold
- Lot 305 Eclipse demitasse – estimate £50 - £60 – unsold
- Lot 306 18cm Bell bowl – estimate £200 - £300 – sold £500**
- Lot 307 15cm Sketching Bird candlestick – estimate £120 - £150 – sold £120**
- Lot 308 15cm Sketching Bird ashtray – estimate £120 - £150 – sold £110**
- Lot 309 Wild Ducks demitasse – estimate £40 - £60 – sold £38**
- Lot 310 31cm Spider Web bowl – estimate £120 - £150 – unsold
- Lot 311 23cm Babylon vase – estimate £200 - £300 – unsold
- Lot 312 3 pieces of Rouge Royale – estimate £30 - £50 – unsold

On Saturday, January 22, we attended the second day of the Shepton Mallet show in Somerset. Once again, it was very busy, and we had to park in a field far away from where the show was being held. Once into the first building, it was shoulder to shoulder at some booths, so it was slow going getting around. It wasn't until we reached the fourth building that we found any decent Carlton Ware that, ironically, turned out to be 5 pieces sold the previous Saturday at the Fieldings sale. None of the pieces were priced but our curiosity made us ask for the prices. As it turned out, it seemed the dealer was happy to make a reasonably small profit for a quick turnover. But she didn't turn them over to us!



Another stall had a lovely pair of large Vert Royale vases; one in the **SPIDER WEB** pattern and the other in **DRAGONFLY**. As nice as they were, we felt the price of £600 each was rather high. They also had other pieces of Carlton Ware from different periods, as well as Crown Devon and Clarice Cliff.



Further along in the same building, we came across a lovely VELOX bowl in the **DIAMOND** pattern, priced at £1,100. On inspection, we noticed a sticker on the base indicating the piece had come from the Kosniowski Collection.

Next we saw a nice collection of 5 pieces of the 1950s **ORBIT** pattern that, we thought, were very reasonably priced; one of the coffee pots being priced at £28.



Finally we came across a stall with a beautiful display of Floral Embossed. We stood and admired the various patterns for a while and, when the dealer was free, introduced ourselves and she introduced herself as Dawn, the Carlton Ware Lady!



It was a pleasure to see such a clean and sparkling show of so many patterns and we were delighted to find a pair of **ANEMONE** jugs, the small and medium sizes in the set of 3, as we had been commissioned to find this pair by our friends, David & Mabel, in Panama.

Before we leave Shepton, we should show you a pair of vases that we bought there. Not Carlton Ware this time but their close competitor, Wilton Ware. We saw this pair on a table and knew from the shape that they were not from the Copeland Street factory but the pattern was very similar to the FISH & SEAWEED pattern. The quality of the 8.5" pair was outstanding and so we just had to buy them! Along with these, we also bought some more Cornish Kitchen Ware and some Royal Doulton cups and saucers and felt that we had had a very successful day out!



The month ended as it began with us attending another antiques event at the Three Counties Showground near Great Malvern; this time the Flea & Collectors Fair on January 30. As has been common with all shows recently, it was very well attended and the weather was reasonable enough to encourage lots of outside traders to set up their pitches. We had

things to pick up at this show; some more Royal Doulton cups & saucers and the pair of **ANEMONE** jugs that we had seen at Shepton Mallet. After walking around all the interior stalls and some of the outside pitches, that was all we left with.



Overall, we were very pleased with all that we had found in January. February is starting off with some big shows, including Newark and Alexandra Palace, so we are hoping for continued success.

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