

CARLTON WARE NEWSLETTER #59

from

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Well, look who came all the way from Australia to visit us in Calgary last October! Bruce Nichol, of Nicholnack, www.nicholnack.com.au, stopped in for an afternoon visit! Bruce is the webmaster of the free website Art In Pottery that has excellent pattern information on Carlton Ware, Royal Doulton and Australian Pottery.

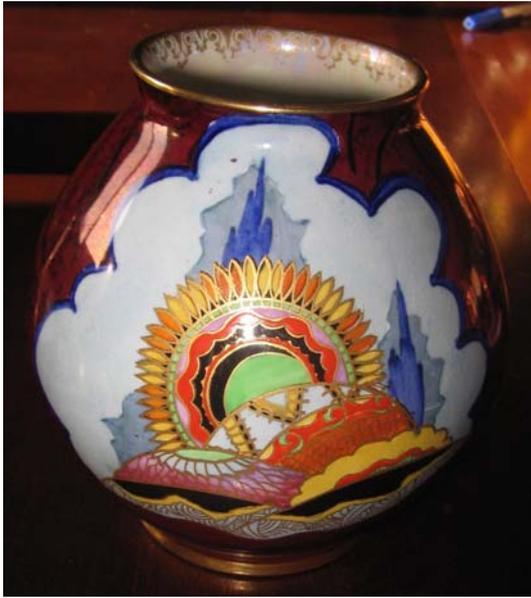
Actually, we cannot take credit for Bruce's visit – by co-incidence, his brother also lives in Calgary! So Bruce and family were on a long holiday in Canada, the U.S.A. and Hawaii. It was great to finally meet Bruce after all the years of emailing and phoning and, no sooner had he got through the door, than the conversation was straight onto pottery! Like us, Bruce has an interest in other factories and we enjoyed showing him our collections of Beswick, Poole and Doulton as well as Carlton Ware.



Bruce is an archivist of pottery and enjoys handling the pots, especially unusual shapes or colourways that he has not seen before. One item in particular caught his eye; an art deco cruet in a geometric shape and pattern. There is a Carlton Ware label on the base of the tray which shows the pattern name as **FUTURIST CRUET**.

We also talked with Bruce about some very unusual pieces of Carlton Ware that had recently been listed on eBay by Canadian sellers.





Firstly, there were two lots listed from here in Alberta in the **Awakening** pattern on the rarely seen Ruby Lustre colourway, pattern number 3497. The lots were a 4¼ inch vase, shape 463, and a pair of candlesticks. The vase was perfect and sold for \$999 (£621); one of the candlesticks had some minor

damage and sold for \$157.50 (£98). Bruce was happy though; the lots were sold to a buddy of his in Melbourne and so he would get to see them when he got home!



The second unusual item was an even rarer Handcraft pattern, **Cloud Flower** 3568, also known as **Nightingale Garden**, due to its similarity to the floral element from **Nightingale** 3562. There was a small chip on the top rim of the 5 inch vase, shape



number 467, but that did not stop it from selling for the amazing price of \$495 (£309). Not to be outdone by Canada, Bruce pointed out that there was a vase in the same pattern listed on eBay Australia and listed for delivery only in Australia. The 7 inch vase, shape 457, was in perfect condition and sold for AU\$660 (£425).





Back in the summer, we had an email from Maya Hirschman, the Curator of Regional History at the Museum London, Ontario, regarding a Canadian Confederation Jug in the museum's collection. We are always interested to hear about this piece, in part so we can record the name of the owner against one of the 350 produced. Maya informed us that the jug in their collection was number 24.

We wrote back to Maya, thanking her for the information, and asked whether the jug was currently on display or just part of the museum's archived collection. Maya replied: "As a matter of fact, it is on display currently through February 17, 2013, right in the Centre Gallery, which is right off the museum's main entrance. The exhibition in which it's included is called "Wonderwall: a Cabinet of Curiosities". The idea is that it not only displays some of the more curious museum artifacts among the more commonplace, but that within the exhibit there are collections within collections, all telling a little piece of London (Ontario) and Canadian history. The jug was perfect because it features a collection of Canadian symbols."

We are most grateful to Maya for telling us about this exhibition and pleased to see this rarely seen piece of Carlton Ware on public display. If you have one of these jugs in your collection, we would be most interested to hear what issue number has been assigned to your piece.

Earlier in the summer, there was a birthday in the house! Hard as we try, it is not always possible to come up with just the right piece of Carlton Ware for every special occasion, I am sure you know the problem! Anyway, as luck would have it, one of our local shops came up with the perfect piece. A lovely example of the **Bluebell** pattern, sometimes called **Hedgerow**. This 10¾ inch plate is in a matte blue ground, pattern number 3875.



We had not previously seen this colourway of the **Bluebell** pattern but since this particular *special occasion*, two other pieces have appeared on eBay.

On December 10, we left Calgary for our usual winter away from ice and snow. This year we flew down to Argentina and we will be staying in Buenos Aires until late April. In our next Newsletter, we will tell you all about this wonderful city. But briefly, here is a look at a couple of pieces we have already purchased, plus some (not particularly good) pictures of pieces we have seen in shop cabinets.



PARADISE BIRD & TREE tea caddy, pattern 3155
NEW CHINESE BIRD & CLOUD 11" vase, pattern 3320, shape 441



PARROTS 10" ginger jar, pattern 3095, shape 125
DELPHINIUM 14" temple jar, pattern 3273, shape 153
PEACH BLOSSOM 13" ginger jar, pattern 2030, shape 125
Cubist Butterfly 6" ginger jar, pattern 3190, shape 125

The **PARROTS** ginger jar is in a deep purple colourway; unusual for this pattern. Like us, you may have previously seen this piece, as well as the **Cubist Butterfly** ginger jar (unfortunately missing its lid) on eBay. These pieces were all

in one shop. It's like taking a step back in time here in Buenos Aires. The antique business is just what it used to be like in the U.K. back in the 1990s and earlier.

Finally, here's a glimpse of the stalls around Plaza Dorego, part of the Sunday antique market in the San Telmo district. Those folk that appear not to be looking at the merchandise are probably watching the tango dancers!



More next month!

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