

Dacorum and Chiltern Potters Guild Newsletter 13

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TREASURER

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CALENDAR

Sunday, 8th May (all day) - Pitstone. Open day at Pitstone Green Farm Museum. Help is required for the Guild brick-making and flower pot throwing demonstration. Contact Pauline Ashley on Radlett 4268 if you wish to help, or just turn up.

Saturday, 14th May, 11.00 a.m. onwards - Stoke Poges. Mildred Slatter, a member of the C.P.A., and a fellow of the Society of Designer Craftsmen has agreed to be our hostess on this occasion. She trained at Reading University and the Central School. Mildred has exhibited widely in this country and makes stoneware and porcelain. A Raku kiln will be fired on this occasion and glazes will be available but bring your own biscuit pots. The clay body used should have some refractory material in to make it more 'open'. This will ensure that the pot survives the thermal shock encountered in the firing. Mildred has agreed to help with any problems - throwing, glazing and so on - so make it a day. Bring food, wine and most important of all WOOD for the kiln.

Wednesday, 25th May, 7.30 for 8.00 p.m. - Celebrity Demonstrator, Slab Pottery - West Marshall at Chorley Wood Arts Centre, Colly Lane, off Common Road, Chorleywood.

WEST MARSHALL is a quiet, reserved inexorable force. With devastating logic and directness he does "what Wests gotta do". After one week at Harrow in the Dress Design Department he decided that a mistake had been made! He joined the Pottery Course. No humbug employed by Public Administration has ever got the better of him for their own advantage and convenience. Vatmen, Taxmen, College Principals without principles, rates valuers and other territorial rip off merchants roll like ninepins before his immaculate steadfastness. Behind the apparently still person there is a crisp and agile mind and a wry humour that can startle the unwary. His pots express this. After completing his pottery and lithography course, and doing the necessary year for his teaching chit demanded by the empire builders of education he emigrated to Canada selling Wedgwood door to door rather successfully in his role of quiet Englishman. Returning in 1968 and finding Harrow now had a proper pottery course for real potters he did the final year of it and then started his Whittington Pottery at Stoke Ferry in Norfolk. His work is live and true and

there is nothing slapdash about it. His workshop is a model of order and every tool he makes and uses (and he invents a great number) is as beautifully conceived as his pots. While Council Member of the C.P.A. he asked for a greater professionalism from membership besides the encouragement of experimentation. He is an all round potter making both domestic and individual work.

18th, 19th, 25th and 26th June - Garston. An opportunity to construct a continental kick wheel for about £30. With technical guidance and the use of modern workshop facilities. The project to take place at Francis Combe School on Saturday and Sunday 18th and 19th June and Saturday and Sunday 25th and 26th June. If you are interested please come to a meeting on Friday, 20th May at Francis Combe School, Horseshoe Lane, at 8.00 p.m.

Friday, 1st July, 7.00 p.m. onwards - John Nutgen open day.
John Nutgen, Glasyers, Piggots Hill, Nr. High Wycombe, Bucks.
From A413 at Great Missenden turn onto A4128 through Prestwood; at bottom of Cryer's Hill turn right through village of Hughenden Valley. Continue approximately 2 miles on to North Dean. At turning called Piggots Hill turn right. House is first on left at top of hill.

John has invited members of the Guild to visit him during the first of his wood-fired kiln. Some tantalising views of John's kiln appeared in the T.V. programme 'In the Making' when his father's work on stained glass was the subject.

Saturday, 16th July - Chipperfield. Summer Garden Party to be held at Little Winch (full address on cover). This is to be organised on similar lines to previous years.

Tuesday, 20th September. Practical Meeting. Possible topics being ~~Big Ware~~, Mould Making, Slip Decorating.

Monday, 10th October. Annual General Meeting.

Monday 31st October. Re-run of the quiz meeting.

Thursday, 24th November. David Burch on Indian Pottery.

Friday, 9th December. Christmas party.

SEND FOR MAIL ORDER LIST OF SELECTED TITLES

Northfield Studio Tring Hertfordshire

PQ Books
Specialists in
ceramic literature