



DACORUM AND CHILTERN POTTERS GUILD



IN THIS ISSUE:

Guild Programme Updates

Pitstone ; next meeting 7th May

Guild Exhibition; OPENING PARTY will
be On 30th April

Soda Firing opportunity with

PETER STARKEY

POTCRAWL; THE DETAILS

ANTONIA SALMON ; with us on 11th May



www.thedcpg.org.uk
NEWSLETTER
SUMMER 2007
£1.50

ABOUT THE GUILD & THE NEWSLETTER

www.thedcpg.org.uk

Membership of the Guild is open to anyone having an interest in pottery and sculpture & offers the members many opportunities each year to see the top potters and sculptors demonstrating their skills. In addition, an annual Open Day is held with demonstrations. Exhibitions, visits and workshops are also organised at various times.

Membership Rates: Family £21.00

Single £17.50

Student £9.00

Send your cheque, made payable to D.C.P.G., to Digby Stott, "Broomfield", 36 Box Lane, Boxmoor, Herts., HP3 0DJ tel: 01442 404122. (If joining after March, please phone for a reduced introductory rate).

The Dacorum & Chiltern Potters Guild Newsletter is published quarterly in February, May, August and November, being distributed free to all members of the Guild, other craft groups & organisations. Contributions to the Newsletter are always welcome (s.a.e. please with any items to be returned). Opinions expressed in items published do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the Committee or Guild members as a whole; nor is the Guild responsible for the content of individual advertisements printed in the Newsletter.

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<u>Copy dates</u>	<u>Publication dates</u>
(latest receipt of material for typing)	
6 th January	February
6 th April	May
6 th July	August
5 th October	November

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FRONT COVER PHOTOGRAPH

Sculpture by Antonia Salmon, who will be demonstrating for us on Friday 11th May 2007.

CONTENTS

- 2 Editorial
- 2 Pitstone – Helen Vernon & Ruby Sharp.
- 2 Future Guild events Ros McGuirk
- 3 Pot crawl Dorley Fieldhouse
- 4 Meeting with Peter Starkey, and Soda firing Workshop Ros McGuirk
- 5 Other forthcoming events Ros McGuirk
- 5 Chairmans Notebook, including Membership News Mervyn Fitzwilliam
- 5 Paul Rowbottom talk & demonstration Ros McGuirk
- 7 Longdean School teaching event Mervyn Fitzwilliam
- 7 Forthcoming Workshops
- 8 Committee & Helpers Lists

EDITORIAL

We had some difficulties with our programme dates during recent months. Initially programme changes meant that some of the outline programme dates in the Membership Card were not correct. This was due to the necessity to swap some demonstrators attendance dates, because of personal circumstances. In addition the date for the Kochavet Bendavid meeting was unfortunately shown as 20th March, instead of 20th April in the spring Newsletter. Also, the first Pitstone meeting was on Bank Holiday Monday 9th April, not 17th as shown.

John Powell keeps the programme information on the guild website up to date, so, if in doubt you can always refer to that. Alternatively ring Ros McGuirk (Number in Committee list).

Mervyn Fitzwilliam

Pitstone

The Pitstone Green Museum will be open on the following days in 2007;

- Bank Holiday Monday 7th May
- Sunday 10th June
- Sunday 8th July
- Sunday 12th August
- Bank Holiday Monday 27th August
- Sunday 9th September

On these open days at the museum site, *The Dacorum & Chiltern Potters Guild* aims to organise activities and demonstrations to:-
Give the public opportunities to "have a go"

Promote the work of the potter

Give DCPG members the opportunity to learn, get involved and improve skills.

Advertise DCPG

Raise funds to pay the rent for the premises.

Can you come on one of the above days?

Bring some pots and try out some Raku techniques

Have a go on the Treadle wheel

Help "youngsters" of all ages to work in clay

Help the public with Raku firing

Demonstrate a ceramic skill that you have acquired

Have some fun

Eat some homemade cakes from the Café !

Contact one of your new Pitstone organisers

Ruby Sharp

Helen Vernon

01494 728 364

01908 648 655

rubyssharp@furniture.fsnet.co.uk

strawberry.fair@virgin.net

& finally, Pots & sculptures are always wanted for the Pitstone activity, either bisque or finished ware. Please remember this when turning out your studio or shed.

Pitstone Green Museum is a rural museum 3 miles east of Tring housed in the buildings of an 1831 Farm opposite the Pitstone village green on Vicarage Road Pitstone, Map reference 165 936 157. The Museum contains a wealth of fascinating exhibits including those relating to rural life, local trades and professions, engines and farm machinery, a large Crossley gas engine, a science and vintage radio room, 2 model railways and a full size section of a World War 11 Lancaster Bomber. Additional entertainment is always available and may consist of Tractor rides, Crafts, Country Dancing.

Future Guild Events

Guild evening meetings are held at the Methodist Church Hall, Kings Langley, starting promptly at 8.00 pm., unless otherwise stated.

Admission is free to members £3 for visitors.

Guild Programme

Guild Exhibition 30 April-12May

DCPG Members Annual Exhibition. at Watford Girls' School.

Setting up @ 10.00 am on 30th April

The Private View Party for the Members Annual Exhibition will be held on Monday 30th April from 7-9pm, in the Visual Arts Centre at Watford Grammar

School for Girls. With about 20 members taking part, including five newcomers and one who took part in the inaugural meeting, it promises to be an excellent show. As access to the general public is restricted to the hours of after-school activities, it will be really important that we make full use of this private view.

The venue is situated just off the ring road on the south side of the town centre. Follow the signs for the hospital and come off on a slip road on the left. This becomes Vicarage Road. Ladys Close is first left and leads to the main school entrance. The main area of car parking is further on down Vicarage Road, on the left beside the school sports complex. The modern Arts Block lies to the right of the old building.

Bring your friends and family....See you there
Ros McGuirk 13 The Park, St. Albans, Herts, AL1 4RU
 Email: ros@iclway.co.uk
 (phone 01727 834 326)

Fri 11 May Antonia Salmon.

Antonia produces finely burnished and smoke fired sculptural forms. She is a very accomplished artist in clay, whose work is found in galleries and collections around the world. Antonia works in a very calm and careful way to produce her beautifully balanced sculptures.

Saturday 2nd & Sunday 3rd June POTCRAWL

Murray & Dorley Fieldhouse have put a great deal of work into organising this multi-faceted trip for us, including visits, hotel bookings & an evening at the theatre, in a tightly packed weekend programme.

Planned Itinerary :

SATURDAY 2nd June

8.30 am:

Coach leaves from Northfield Studio. This is Murray & Dorley's home. Cars will be left parked at their residence for the weekend. If you are able to share a car please do so, since this will help with car parking. Please bring a packed lunch with you, & please ensure you are ready to leave very promptly.

10.00 am:

Comfort stop at Woodstock, & if time allows, visit Tona Gallery in the high street. Potters featured should include Nicola Theakston, Trevor Price, Roger Lewis & Sue Hanna. Or coffee is possible at local shops.

10.30 am:

Travel 3 miles to Tackley, visit Dylan & Jane Bowen, who met at Camberwell School of Art, where they met & trained. They later were apprenticed to Clive Bowen in Devon.

11.00am:

10 miles to Hook Norton Pottery. Russell Collins originally intended to be a minister of the church, but was seduced by Pottery when at the Bishop

Otter College in Chichester. After a brief period teaching geography, he attended the Harrow course, in the heyday with Victor Margrie & Mick Casson. Russel & his family have a large farm premises, Pottery & showroom. We will eat our packed lunch whilst with Russell, at the conclusion of our visit.

12.00 pm:

Visit the Roll Right Stones .

Travel next to Whichford Pottery. The new octagon showroom will be exhibiting the traditional large scale Terracotta, made by Jim Keeling & staff, also, scraffito Earthenware decorated by Dominique Keeling.

The Whichford staff do not work Saturdays, but Andy Gill will be running an adult Pottery Workshop in the morning & it is hoped that he will stay on & give us a demonstration.

Jim Keeling became interested in Pottery as a result of reading Archaeology at Cambridge. He acquired his skills at Wrecclesham Pottery in Surrey. He is the author of two books on Terracotta Gardening.

At Whichford they make large pots for the National Trust, Hampton Court Palace and the Royal Horticultural Society.

4.00 pm:

Leave Whichford for the Glebe Hotel at Barford, near Stratford on Avon. After registration leave for Stratford to be at leisure to visit the Montpellier Gallery , although time will be short, since the Gallery closes at 5.30 pm.

6.00 pm:

Dinner, either at the Dirty Duck, which is very close to the theatre, or at a place chosen by individuals to suit themselves. The Dinner Menu at the Dirty Duck will cost between £11 & £18 for a two course meal. A vegetarian dish is available if required. It will be essential to book our meals in advance if we make a block booking, so everyone would then need to choose from the menu beforehand.

7.15 pm:

Meet at the Swan Theatre for a performance of Macbeth, starting at 7.30 pm.

SUNDAY 3rd June

9.00 am

Coach leaves Barford.

10.00 am:

Arrive at Shipston on Stour to visit the "Where I fell in love Gallery"

This is a gallery run by Bruno, a french chef, and was originally a restaurant, until he became taken by Pottery – he fell in love – and called it "where I fell in love Gallery". He may now have to change it as his girl friend has left him; unless he falls in love again!

When we visited there was a wonderful display of high quality work from many well known Potters,

including a Lucie Rie for £10,000, and a Bernard Leach for £7,000, plus Pottery from La Bourne etc.

10.30 am:

Leave Shipston on Stour.

11.00 am:

Visit Liz Teall at Salford Mill Pottery.

Liz makes masked ware using slips in Earthenware. She studied at Bournemouth College of Art, with David Ballantyne, Peter Studely & Adrian Lewis - Evans as Tutors. Adrian Lewis Evans took up Pottery after visiting Pendley Manor on a management course from Vauxhall. Liz Teall is currently exhibiting some of her work at Chipping Norton Town Hall as part of the Oxfordshire Art week festival

12.00 pm:

Leave for lunch at The Windmill Carvery near Burford, £14.95 for a 3 course lunch & coffee. Vegetarian food also available. We must have exact numbers for this meal beforehand, since we will be charged for the number of meals we book.

Return to Chipping Norton to the Exhibition in the Town Hall. Four Potters & other artists are exhibiting, & since it is the last day, they intend to be there. Liz Teall (already mentioned) Neil Ions, who will be showing oil paintings & prints plus his ocarinas & figurative ceramics. Kate Hopkins-Searle: making life size shoes, highly detailed & coloured, as featured in the current Ceramic Review. Selma Stagg: Glazed porcelain Jewellery using metal, beads & pearls.

3.00pm:

Set off for Aston Pottery. This is a pottery that now supplies 200 shops in Britain, Europe & America. The whole production takes place on this one site. They have a tea room & close at 4.30 pm.

4.30 pm:

Visit Cotswold Woolen Weavers at Filkins. A traditional working Mill in 18 buildings. They have a coffee shop & close at 6.00pm.

5.30 pm:

Possible visit to Lechlade if time to see wonderful exhibition of bygones in 3 connected terraced houses.

Set off for Northfield Studio. Drinks & refreshments will be offered on arrival.

Dorley Fieldhouse

If you think you will want to join this weekend visit, please phone Murray or Dorley on 01442 851 229 STRAIGHT AWAY, since there is only room for one or two more people. (Editor)

Fri 8 June A 'summer special' meeting with Peter Starkey. talk and demonstration by a specialist in salt and soda-fired pots. Peter is the retired head of ceramics at Cardiff and will stay on to run a weekend workshop at Northfield Studio, as follows;

Soda firing Workshop with Peter Starkey

At Northfields Studio on Sat 9th June, with firing on Sun 10th June

Starts at 9am Sat, and runs to aprox. 5pm.

To reduce the cost, we have restructured this workshop. The Saturday only will be run as a workshop with Peter Starkey. We will fire the kiln the following day, but although all are welcome to join in, participation in this will be optional. The event will now cost only £40 for all participants, and that will include the workshop on the Saturday and the cost of the firing on the Sunday. .

All wishing to take part should contact Ros by Fri 11th May, and send a cheque made payable to 'DCPG'.

Currently we have six names for this weekend, which should give the use of two kiln shelves each. Should more join us, we will drop the cost by refund, to compensate for less space.

Participants should bring some biscuit fired pots, equivalent to approx 8 large mugs, or small bowls. It is advisable to use a well grogged, stoneware clay. Avoid clays that are pink when bisqued, as these tend to give disappointing results in soda.

Also bring a few extra clothes (+ waterproofs if wet), lunch and drinks.

Glazes and slips will be provided.

NB. Please let me know if you are able to help prepare the kiln and site on Sat. 19th May.

If you are interested, please contact Ros asap on 01727 834326, or ros.mcguirk@gmail.com (note new email address - old service crashed and addresses lost)**. Cheques to be sent to Ros at 13 The Park, St. Albans, Herts. AL1 4RU

30 Jun-1 July A group from the Guild are going to Aberystwyth. Anyone who wishes to make a late booking will have to wait for returned tickets, and should contact Ros, and also check www.internationalceramicsfestival.org Please note that those who have already booked will receive their tickets shortly.

Potters Open Day

This event will take place at Longdean School, on Saturday 10th November 2007.

Our demonstrators this year will be Nic Collins & Josie Walters.

The committee have agreed to make this a FREE EVENT FOR ALL GUILD MEMBERS.

We hope to have the same catering arrangements as last year, but this and most of the details are yet to be agreed.

If any Guild member wishes to support the Centre by exhibiting work, selling pots, helping or booking tickets for the 13th May, please contact the Queens Park Art Centre. For further information or bookings the Centre can be contacted on:

01296 424332/4312729 (24 hrs)

Fax: 01296 337363

e-mail www.qpr.org

Joy Wills

19-20 May Clay Art Wales 2007 A selling fair with +70 UK +overseas potters, demos, firings, workshops etc. www.clayart.org.uk

25-27 May Scottish Potfest. Agricultural Centre, Perth. www.potfest.co.uk

1-3 June Potfest in the Peaks. Bakewell Agricultural Centre www.potfest.co.uk

23-24 June 'Earth and Fire'. Rufford. www.ruffordceramiccentre.org.uk

24th June

Doug Jones: Open Day: 11.00 am, tea, cakes & a marvellous piece of the river Chess, in a garden setting. Phone 01923 770 913 for details.

29 Jun-1 July Aberystwyth. 2007
(see guild events).

19-20th July Art - in - Action at Waterperry House, Wheatley, Oxon. This is the 30th year of this event, and approximately 26 Potters will be showing their work in the Ceramics Tent, with many of them demonstrating how they make their pieces. See www.artinaction.org.uk

27-29 July potfest in the Park. Penrith. www.potfest.co.uk

3-5 Aug Potfest in the Pens Penrith. www.potfest.co.uk

Many more may be found at www.studiopottery.co.uk.

3 to 5th August Art in Clay at Hatfield house
140 Potters from the U.K. plus 20 from Europe.
Tickets £7 adult, £6.50 seniors £3.50 children 5 to 15 years. 2 & 3 day tickets available.

Guild members will be given £1 discount on ticket price if they produce their membership card when buying their ticket.

CHAIRMAN'S NOTEBOOK

The write-up about Helen Johannessen in our spring issue was in fact written by Ros McGuirk and not Helen Vernon (although Helen did

Other Events

30th April- 25th May 2007

POTTERY FESTIVAL

THE QUEENS PARK ART CENTRE.

Queens Park, Aylesbury, Bucks.

Throughout May a Pottery Festival is to take place at the Queens Park Art Centre. On Sunday 13th May '07 from 10.00-4.00 p.m. there will be a full day of seminars, exhibitions, raku firing and sale of pots. Ceramicist Gordon Cook along with the ever-popular Paul Priest. will be there. As well as activities for children, there will be an introduction to 'throwing' and 'hand-building' for visitors to take part in during the day.

From Monday 30th April to Friday 25th May there will be an ongoing exhibition of ceramics held in the Main Gallery, Subway Gallery and coffee bar.

Guild members are invited to exhibit their work in one of the galleries if they wish. The fee will be £10.00 plus 15% commission on sales. *Helpers on the day will be able to exhibit their work free of charge.* Sales stalls will also be available for the day on Sunday 13th May at a fee of £15 per table.

There will be no commission charged for sales.

The Queens Park Art Centre and Limelight Theatre is a registered charity and offers a good range of workshops, music and drama for the community. Guild member Heather Paul together with Queens Park staff, tutors and volunteers have worked extremely hard to raise funds to buy and refurbish the Centre, so far they have managed to raise £50,000 in organised events.

write quite a lot in that issue, so her name was added in error).

Membership News

New Members

Maria Bourne, of Kents Hill, Milton Keynes is a semi-retired Teacher. She is specifically interested in earthenware, either thrown or Hand Built.

Jane Bunting is from Markyate, and is a Business Analyst. Jane is interested in virtually all types of ceramic work.

Amel Gembidge lives in Holly Drive, Berkhamsted. Amel has not told us what her particular interests are in ceramics, but whatever they are we are delighted to welcome her.

Jane O'Sullivan, of Fields End, Hemel Hempstead is an accountant when not involved in Pottery. Jane gives her pottery interests as Throwing, Hand Building, Decorating, Porcelain, Stoneware, Earthenware

Liz Williams, from St.Albans, is very new to Ceramics, and still learning the basics. Liz heard about the Pot Crawl from a friend: Sue Lines (who also recently joined the Guild) and is keen to join us for that event.

Liz is interested in both hand building & throwing, and is also interested in Raku.

We are always glad to have new members joining the guild, and hope you will all enjoy the events, meetings and workshops which we arrange.

Guild Library

At our most recent meeting, I was dismayed to find that virtually all of the recent library copies (last 3 to 5 years) of the ceramic review have been borrowed without any record, and not returned. We had an almost complete collection of these magazines, as a research source for guild members. Please help us by returning any that have been borrowed.

The Box Moor Conker Festival

Will be held on Blackbirds Moor on 14th October 2007.

We have again been welcomed to this event by the Box Moor Trust this year.

Last year we had 3 Pottery wheels set up and gave simple throwing lessons to all who wanted to have a go. We also sold various ceramics, on commission, primarily some of the ceramic sheep from the collection of Ruth & Harry Karnac. In all, we raised a total of £247 for the Hospice of St. Francis, a grand effort..

So, how about it? Would you like to help at this year's event and possibly sell some of your work on commission? If so, give me a ring on 01442 242 332.

Mervyn Fitzwilliam

Paul Rowbottom's talk and demonstration Friday 9th March

Paul trained in sculpture and works in both ceramics and sculpture. He introduced us to the range of his output with one of his water features made of a large metal disc resting over a dish. The material used was a ferrous resin. Paul explained the technique of metal spinning. He likes solving technical problems and often experiments with quite different methods on the way to a solution. A photo of a beautiful white bench was revealed to be a polystyrene model that was scanned into a computer which then cut out the real thing.

There were photos of places that influenced his work, such as the Strasbourg Art School with its fine tiled murals, the Pit Rivers Museum in Oxford, Heraklion Museum in Crete and potters at work in Morocco. He also threw in useful tips, such as the use of boiling water to release a plaster mould. Most impressive of all, though, was the stunning fireplace he built based on classical Egyptian architecture. I also found much to admire in the projects he has run in various schools in the area, usually based on tiled murals made by the children themselves.

After the break we were treated to a demo on tile making. This was also a really useful technique for anyone using slabs. The materials required included a block of well grogged clay, plaster board, cloth, a double-wired harp, and a rolling pin. A slab of clay about one inch thick was cut from the base of the block of clay, using the harp (strung with guitar strings), and placed carefully on a plaster-board. Further slabs would be stacked up on top of this, interleaved with plaster board. When completed the whole stack could be covered in cling film and left for several days. This ensures even drying, and they can be left until you are ready for the next stage. Then the slabs are rolled a little to a uniform thickness and cut into tiles. Paul usually prefers to cut around a wooden former, though tile cutters can also be used. Throughout the making, the clay should be handled as lightly as possible, to avoid distortion.

Paul then showed us how he makes a thick coil in the hand, a trick he learned on a trip to Zambia, where he also learned the African system of coiling. The coil was placed against two pieces of wood to hold it in place, while a former, that could be cut out of a bank card, was pulled along its length several times, and 'hey presto' there is a shaped coil like a piece of coving, or picture frame, that

can the be cut into small chunks to make the feet for large planters.

Paul then went on to show how he makes the moulds for his large square planters. He did this with an enormous block made from three bags of clay placed on a board. The block was roughly shaped by patting it with his new antique butter patter. (This patter is about the size of a cricket bat, and the action was closer to battering than pattering!)

To shape the block accurately, a clay wire and a former are required. The former was made from two pieces of plywood screwed to opposite sides of a board, and the plywood shapes had been cut to mirror one another. The clay block simply had to be placed between the two shaped pieces, and then cut with the wire being pulled up the shapes. The block was then turned 90 degrees, and the process repeated until the four sides were cut. Any roughness in the surface of the clay did not matter at this stage. The block was then ready to be cast in plaster.

It was a pity that it was not possible to demonstrate this part of the process, but Paul described how a two-piece mould about one and a half inches thick could be made by using walls only 8 inches high, and then pushing the plaster up and over the rest as the plaster is setting. He went on to describe how plaster can also be spun! This intriguing and informative meeting came to a close soon after. Thanks to Paul for making it so interesting.

Ros McGuirk

Longdean School Friday 23rd February 2007

The committee did extend an invitation to interested teachers & students at Longdean to join us at our Open Day. The students who did attend were our helpers on sound and lighting, and their efforts were greatly appreciated. By way of thanks to the school, for allowing us to use their excellent hall for our Potters Open Day, we held a teaching session for 24 students, at the school.

We arrived at Longdean School at 8.30 am sharp to sign in for our morning with the B.Tech. students.

As planned, we had four groups of about six students each, with each group being with us for one hour. The timing was:

8.50 to 9.50 –first group

9.55 to 10.55 – second group

Break

11.20 to 12.20 - third group

12.25 to 1.25 – fourth group

Lunch

The students were B.Tech. 14 to 15 years olds and the work that was produced will be assessed as part of the curriculum.

Ruth Brown was supervising hand building, using rolled out & cut clay shapes, textured and pressed into a plaster mould to produce finished pots.

Ros McGuirk was equipped with a tile cutter and texturing materials. The outline plan being to help each student to produce six tiles, texture the surface and then use those tiles to produce a cubic box.

I brought a portable electric wheel along, with the idea of giving brief lessons in producing a small cylinder & then converting it to a small bowl. The plan was that this would be a basic throwing lesson, with each student making a simple pot. This throwing activity was intended as an "add on" for any students with enough time or interest to do it.

In the event the students all worked hard & really seemed to enjoy what they did. We all crammed a lot into each one hour session, with each student completing either their slabbed bowl, or six tiles, plus completing a questionnaire about the guild. In addition they almost all found enough time to throw a small bowl as planned.

And, yes, we were tired by lunch time, but catching the light of understanding in the eyes of a student, or obvious pleasure at a success certainly makes it a worthwhile experience for me.

The feedback from Ross Collins & Joanne VanVegal was very positive indeed, so I hope we will be able to have a similar class next year. My thanks to Ruth Brown & Ros McGuirk for their support.

Mervyn Fitzwilliam

WORKSHOPS

Paul Bainbridge gave us a most interesting talk on sculpture on 16th February, with a detailed explanation of the processes used to produce astonishingly lifelike pieces for Madame Tussauds. Paul has offered us two workshop dates, being either 20/21st October or 27/28th October. If we have 10 to 12 attendees the costs will be relatively modest. Initial thoughts are that we would use the Rudolph Steiner School Pottery Studio at Kings Langley as a venue.

Our workshop organiser Helen Vernon will be tying up the details for us, but please give her a ring if you have any suggestions or questions about this or future Workshops. strawberry.fair@virgin.net or phone 01908 648 655.

Membership Directory

You can add your name to the membership directory by writing to Jan Kent (address in Committee List). If you have an email address please include that information.

Mervyn Fitzwilliam

COMMITTEE HELPERS

We are very grateful to any members who help with guild activities, and especially to our members who help us on a regular basis. Other members sometimes need to contact these helpers, so phone numbers are given below;

Event bookings; Jane Kilvington has now left the guild, so the position of booking secretary is vacant.

Tina Hall (Pitstone & Catering)	01442 826 223
John Powell (Website)	01494 774 398
Helen Vernon (Workshops)	01908 648 655

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Murray Fieldhouse (President)	01442-851 229
Northfields Studio, Tring, Herts. HP23 5QW	
Mervyn Fitzwilliam (Chairman & Newsletter)	
"Longfield", Bulstrode Lane, Felden, Hemel Hempstead, Herts. HP3 0BP	
	01442-242332
Jan Kent (Treasurer/Pitstone Organiser)	01908-674 051
48 Coleshill Place, Bradwell Common, Milton Keynes, Bucks. MK13 8DP	
John Beckley (Secretary)	01923-822 659
44 Wolsey Road, Northwood, Mdx. HA6 2EN	
Digby Stott (Membership)	01442-404 122
"Broomfield", 36 Box Lane, Boxmoor, Herts, HP3 0DJ	
Joy Wills (Open Day Organiser)	01296-481 015
21 Tindal Road, Aylesbury, Bucks. HP20 1HT	
Ros McGuirk (Programme Organiser & Vice-Chairman)	
13 The Park, St. Albans, Herts. AL1 4RU	
	01727-834 326
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Nic Collins is hosting an exhibition and weekend of demonstrations and slide talks at his home and pottery in Devon

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NICOLAS ROUSSEAU - FRANCE
MARKUS RUSCH - GERMANY
ROB BARRON - AUSTRALIA

please e-mail for further details

Nic Collins
The Barn Pottery
North Bovey Road
Moretonhampstead/Devon
TQ138PQ
Tel. 01647 441198
e-mail nic.collins4@btinternet.com
www.nic-collins.co.uk

Profile

We have quite a few new or newish members, and I hope that we can give them an introduction to the other guild members by this method.

Maria Bourne has written this profile for us, so I hope others will follow (editor):

The first time I made some pottery, was in 1966. I loved it and I have been hooked ever since. The summer of 1967 I spent in the South of France at a pottery. I learned a lot and enjoyed it very much.

Over the years I attended a number of art and pottery classes, but pursuing a career and bringing up the children took first place.

When the children had left home, I had more time on my hands and I became more serious about making pots again. Three years ago I attended a course at Kate Radford's studio in Kensworth. I also took part in a course at Brunel University

called "Surface Development and Glazing" with Brian Usher. This gave me more confidence in making and experimenting with my own glazes. I bought a new wheel, a pug mill and a kiln.

Now I go to work two days a week and I divide the rest of my time between two grandchildren and my pottery. I work mainly in stoneware but I also make earthenware pieces. I make mostly jugs, vases, bowls, plates, clocks and castles.

Some of my clocks and bowls are inlaid with glass. The glaze I use for this contains real glass so I am recycling. Most of the glass is from car windscreens and wine and beer bottles. It all has to be smashed into small pieces. Blue glass is hard to obtain. I like to experiment with textures and glazes.

I sold a few a few pieces to Japan, to Holland and to friends. Other pieces I give away as Christmas presents. I also sold some work at the Bedford Museum and at The Open Studio organized by the Bedfordshire Artist Network. You can see some of my work at their website www.artsnetbeds.org.uk. Recently I joined DCPG. I have been asked to do a demonstration at Edlesborough Primary School and work with years 4 & 5 as part of their Art Week.

I work in part of our garage and sometimes in the shed. I have just one dream left. This is to own a cottage in France, or anywhere with enough space for a studio.

MAYBE..... ONE DAY.....

Maria Bourne

Stan Romer Award

The committee have agreed that this year the subject for this award will be Picasso.

For those who do not know, this award is presented each year by John Romer, the son of a founder guild member, in memory of the late Stan Romer. In addition to the trophy, there is a financial incentive; first prize £85, second prize £35 and third prize £20.

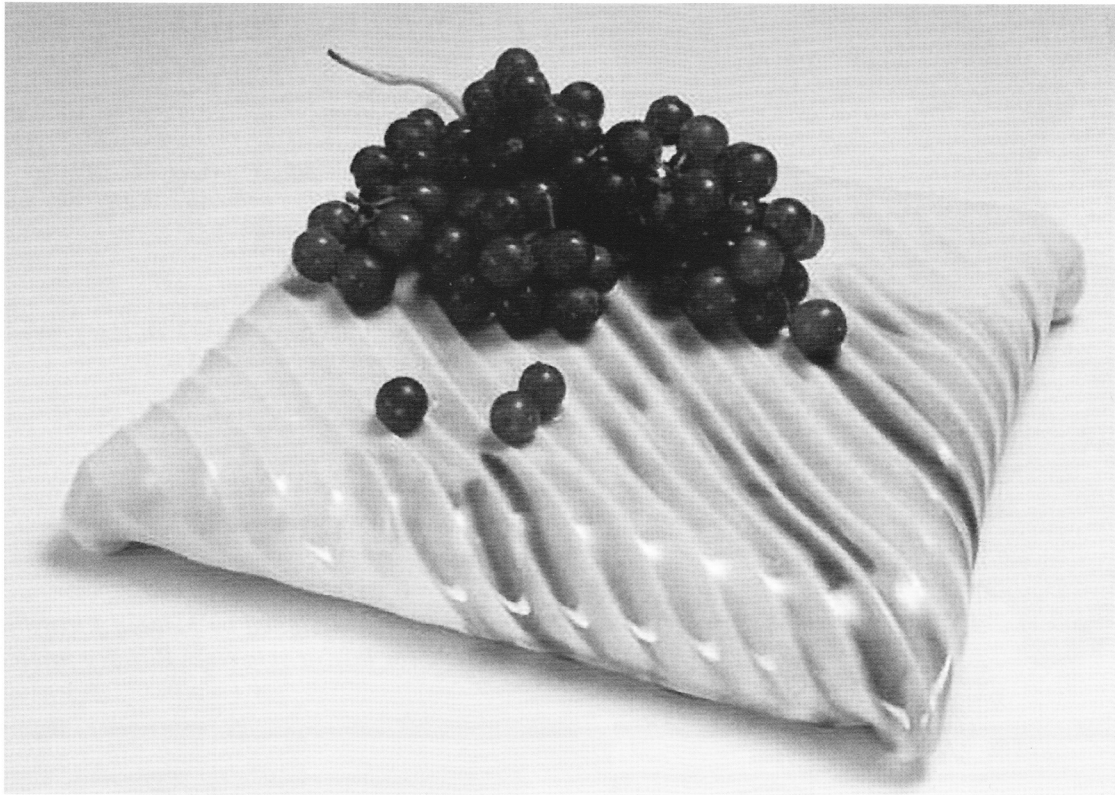
The competition is open to all DCPG guild members and will take place at our AGM in October.

So; the piece of work, in the theme indicated, can be made by any ceramic method, glazed, decorated or not. It must be the work of the entrant, and it MUST be made this year. Previous work may not be submitted.

An application form will be in the next Newsletter, but you can start work right now, so on you go!

Editor

The photograph below is of a piece of work by Kochevet Bendavid, who gave us a very interesting slide show & demonstration on 20th April
The piece is called "still offering" & is made in Limoges Porcelain



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June 2007

4/5/6 *Ceramics Studio Days (Making) per day £15
14/15 *Ceramics Studio Days (Finishing) per day £15

NB materials charged as used on these days: these are untutored sessions

16/17 Precious Metal Clays Rebecca Skeels £120

Precious metal clay can be moulded just like clay, but when fired is 99.9% solid silver

16/17 Portrait & Costume Painting Martin Henley £105

July 2007

14/15 Big Pots and Bowls Laura Peacock £90
(September 5th - Finishing day for this course £15)

October 2007

13/14 Calligraphy for Cards & Invitations Tim Noad £tbc

13/14 Dichroic Glass Jewellery Lucy Perkins £tbc

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