and apply Newsletter. July.



Almost the Arthur Ball Show! Please send any articles for the July newsletter by June 30th to:

Pauline O'Dell, 35 Pondfield Crescent, St. Albans, Herts AL4 9PE

GUILD EVENTS

Summer event

Saturday 13th July 11am - 6pm at Tony and Marilyn Plessner's
'Little Winch'
Chipperfield
Kings Langley WD4 9BZ
Tel: Kings Langley 64414

An all-day event this year; so to cover our increased costs we shall have to make a charge of £1.

Karin Hessenberg will lead a workshop on sawdust firing and stencil decoration. See below.

Bring picnic food and drink, please.

IF YOU ARE COMING, PLEASE RING TONY BY FRUMY JULY 12+4. SEE MAP AT BUCK OF NEWSLETTER.

OTHER EVENTS

Ceramics with landscapes

 $\frac{17\,\text{th}-29\,\text{th June}}{10\,\text{am}\,-\,5\,\text{pm}} \qquad \text{at The Cow Byre, (Nr Ruislip Library)} \\ \overline{\text{Sundays}\,\,2-5\,\text{pm}} \qquad \text{Bury Street, Ruislip.}$

An exhibition of pots by Marigold Austen (a long-time Guild member)

KARIN HESSENBERG

A Sawdust Firing Workshop. July 13th. 11am.

This daylong workshop will be held at Tony and Marilyn Plessner's - many thanks to them for their generosity.

During the day it should be possible to fire three or four pots for each participant. This is a reasonable number allowing plenty of opportunity to experiment with effects in the sawdust.

Please bring some prepared pots. Karin recommends the following clays for the best results:

porcelain, red earthenware, white earthenware, white stoneware and T-material.

Pots should have been biscuited to 980°C, and it is best that they be burnished.

Karin will also give a demonstration of stencil decoration and there will be a chance for everyone to have a go. So bring:

rolling pin, knife, scissors, cloth or newspapers for rolling the clay on.

Karin will also show some slides.

Like our previous Summer events, this one will also be a picnic; so bring food and wine — for rain or shine. It should be an enjoyable day.

MEMBERSHIP LISTS

Potters suppliers have asked for our membership list to use for their circulation of information and publicity.

Does anyone have any objection to this? Names will be removed before the list is sent if necessary.

A POTTY LETTER FROM ARTHUR

Dear Pauline,

How big a pot do you need to go over a human head and rest on the person's shoulder?

A friend of yours, Sean, rang over the Bank Holiday weekend to ask if I was Arthur Ball - I got full marks for the right answer to that, but when he went on to say that he wanted a 'green pot' to go over his head, I wondered whether he wanted a pickle jar or was about to join the Conservative government.

You may know that I have a number of green pots which I use for hanging baskets and which are about the size of a waste paper basket. I suggested that he came over to see me, preferably with some cash, and I would try to help him.

It turned out that he wanted a 'green pot' not a green pot, to use in a play he was directing. It appears that three monks got tight one evening and eventually they have a problem with one monk who has gotten (as they say in America) a pot fastened on his nut. You can now see why he wanted a green pot. But, the one I made him 'while -U -wait' was only one of eight which he needed by Tuesday. Eight!

Your friend Sean is a nice chap, and he invited Margaret and myself to the reception of Russian players (which reminded us of the Mosque story, particularly as the Mayor of Watford was in attendance).

The happy ending comes when I tell you that I might get a trip to Russia as the Company pot and pan maker. More of that later.

The pictures show some of the pots I made in order to get the size correct - the remainder I used for hanging baskets.

Incidentally, if anyone is interested in a few tips on making hanging baskets they will be welcome to come over - ring first: 07072 60471.

Perhaps I could tell you that I find 16lbs of clay enough to throw a pot about 10" at the bottom, about 11" high and about 10" at the entrance with the maximum diameter near 13/14".

I poke 3 holes 1/2" diameter on the periphery about 2" down for hanging purposes and only 4 small holes in the bottom for drainage. I make 4/5 holes in the body for planting hanging lobelia.

I glaze them green because I have a hundredweight which I bought in a junk shop. Come over if you're interested - I might be in!

Arthur Ball.



LIZ PALFFY at the Medici Galleries, with several painters.

She started making pots by chance at adult evening classes. Ten years ago she set up her own studios. She now works with ash glazes and oxides, especially cobalt and copper. The majority of her work at this exhibition was bowls in varying sizes ranging in price from #55 -#260. The stoneware ones were in opaque greys, often depicting fish or patterns, whilst her porcelain bowls were in shiny turquoises or maroons.

LIBERTY'S exhibition of the Victorian Arts and Crafts movement and some Art Nouveau,

featured elegant, light looking furniture in complete contrast to the heavy, overdecorated pottery. Griffin handles and candlesticks seem to be a grotesque speciality. The prices ranged from £100-1000.

A man called C.H. BRANNAN had a close connection with Liberty's for 50 years (up until 1939). Eventually Liberty's own design team sent patterns to Brannan to reproduce and so created the particular style known as 'Liberty Brannan'.

NEW MEMBERS SHOW at the contemporary Ceramics Shop.

It is always interesting to see the work of the new members. This year I was particularly struck by the large stoneware platters and vases made by John Calver in gorgeous shiny maroons and mauves, vaguely suggesting leafy twigs. I would love to know how he got such wonderful colours.

Roger Cockram produced stoneware bowls with nice matt grey, pink and blue glazes - and lobsters, whilst a pleasantly rounded bottle had a life-like frog climbing up it.

Mill Green Museum, Hatfield Tune 16th.

Among the many attractions this nuseum has to ofer, Arthur Ball will be making pots from 2-5 pm on Sunday, June 16th.

If you've very good, Arthur may invite you to see his hanging bartes.

20 at time of going to Press!

