



TEA TIME TALKS ARE BACK EVERY WEDNESDAY IN JUNE

at the **Coldwater Canadiana Heritage Museum**

Explore the wonderful world of 19th and 20th century **ceramics and glass**. A different topic will be presented each week, with examples from the Museum and private collections. Bring your own pieces to share.

Enjoy an authentic **Devon Tea** afterwards, served on fine vintage china.

Explore the Woodrow homestead and seasonal exhibits. Enter a free draw to win a special prize. **Bring a friend and make it tea for two!**

**Practically Canadian -
Medalta Pottery**

June 5

**From ski hills to kilns:
Blue Mountain Pottery**

June 12

**Opalescent Glass
Brought to Light**

June 19

**Shamrocks on the
Shannon – Belleek
Porcelain Revealed**

June 26

Talk & Tea \$ 10

Talk: 1:30 p.m.

Tea served @ 2:00 p.m.

**COLDWATER CANADIANA
HERITAGE MUSEUM**

1474 Woodrow Road @ Hwy 12

Coldwater, ON LOK 1E0

coldwatermuseum.com

Coldwater Canadiana Heritage Museum - 2019 Tea Time Talks Abstracts

Tea Time Talks – every Wednesday afternoon in June, 1:30 -2:00 p.m., followed by Devon Tea; \$10 pp

Explore the wonderful world of 19th and 20th century ceramics and glass presented in an informal ½ hour “show and tell” format by museum volunteers, collectors and special guests. If the weather is favourable, we gather in our spacious museum gazebo; if not, we move indoors to the cozy Fireplace Room in the Woodrow homestead cabin. Participants are encouraged to bring examples from their own collections to share. A handout summary of each talk will be provided. Enjoy an authentic Devon Tea afterwards, served on fine vintage china.

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### **Practically Canadian – Medalta Pottery - June 5**

Beginning in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century, the vast clay mines of southern Alberta and the availability of cheap natural gas allowed the Medalta Potteries in Medicine Hat to produce large quantities and varieties of everyday ceramic objects. These were “useful” pieces which virtually every household needed, in many different shapes, sizes and glazes: crocks, bean pots, bowls, hot water bottles, bricks, etc. Decorative ceramics were also made and souvenir pieces are still sought after by collectors. A brief summary of this historic clay district, including its rise and fall will be presented, supplemented by a variety of examples.

### **From ski hills to kilns – Blue Mountain Pottery – June 12**

The title of this talk fits the real-life story of this well-known Collingwood business as its co-founder was also an accomplished local ski instructor. Now closed, Blue Mountain Pottery occupies an important place in Canadian ceramic history. Its appeal continues to the present day as an avid collector base is still going strong. Our talk will include a brief history of the pottery, innovations, and products. **Special guest and former BMP employee Jim Shropshire** will provide insights and anecdotes related to the work he did there as a production worker and mould maker from 1965 to 1974.

### **Opalescent Glass Brought to Light – June 19**

Join collector **Helen Gourlay** for a fascinating introduction to opalescent glass. Makers, colours and patterns will be discussed and supplemented by examples from Helen’s amazing personal collection as well as a few from the museum. Reference books will be available for consultation.

### **Shamrocks on the Shannon – Belleek Pottery Revealed – June 26**

While researching the ceramic wares sold by a 19<sup>th</sup> century Toronto china merchant, an interesting link to the Belleek Pottery in Ireland was discovered. In Canada, Toronto’s China Hall was the first to sell this unique porcelain ware, characterized by its delicate translucency and moulded shamrocks. We’ll explore this historical pottery and its wares, along with the Irish-born merchant who first offered it to his fashionable King Street clientele. BYOB! (Belleek)