ANTIQUE OF THE MONTH -

There's more to Sloanes than rangers and the square. The proof is served up on this pretty porcelain plate



MADE IN CHELSEA

You might not normally associate a London borough with ladybirds and melons but the decoration of this 'Hans Sloane' plate is inspired by the Chelsea Physic Garden. Such wares were produced in 1755 by the Chelsea porcelain factory and were named after the botanist and collector Hans Sloane. He was the landlord of the garden in Sloane Square (which took his name) and his 50,000 books and 21,000 zoological specimens formed the basis of the British Museum. He's also the inventor of hot chocolate as we know it, after he added milk to cocoa on a trip to Jamaica. Not that you would use this exquisite plate for the accompanying biscuits, mind.

Four 'Hans Sloane' plates, priced from £5,000 to £15,500, will be exhibited by WW Warner Antiques at the BADA Antiques & Fine Art Fair, The Duke of York Square, Chelsea, London, SW3 4LY from 13th-19th March. 020 7589 6108; bada-antiques-fair.co.uk