

Blakemar Briars

Manufacturing the finest quality briar pipes since 1890



Pipe Brochure

2017 Edition

The Blakemar Briar

In 1874 Thomas Richard Martin started a five year apprenticeship with meerschaum pipe maker John Friedrich in London's Soho. In the 1880's he learned the briar pipe trade with Loewe's of London before returning in 1890 to his home village of Blakesley, where he proceeded to establish a reputation for the highest quality handmade briar pipes.

In due course he passed his skills on to his son Richard (Dick), who from the 1930's built on his father's reputation; improving and modernising the manufacturing processes; in 1961 moving the business to Litchborough when larger premises became available. In 1986 Dick officially retired and handed over the reins to his nephew Michael, in training since the 1970's and so the tradition continues.

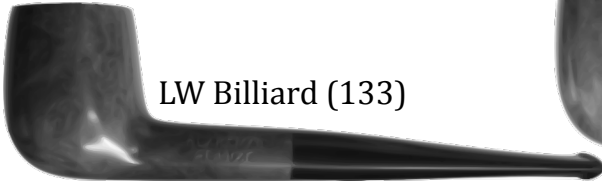
Sadly, Dick passed away in January 2003, at the age of 84, right up until the end he was still helping out in the factory, keeping his hand in and offering advice and encouragement. Mike has continued the policy of conservative evolution, introducing new shapes and encompassing new technologies, like the 9mm filters particularly favoured in continental Europe and now, of course, joining the online community.

The pipes, however, remain essentially the same as they have been since 1890 - a joy to behold and a delight to smoke.

Briar pipes are not made from rose briar, as might be expected, but from a shrub, the White Heath, *Erica Arborea*. This plant only matures sufficiently for pipe making in Mediterranean countries from whence it is imported. The name briar, as applied to pipes, comes from the French 'bruyere' which means heath root.

The machinery used to make pipes has changed over the years, treadle lathes and overhead shafts giving way to electric motors and modern dust extraction plants; but the traditional skills handed down over the generations are still used today; the skills of turning, sanding and polishing, the 'feel' for a good piece of briar.

Pipes



LW Billiard (133)



Small Billiard (142)



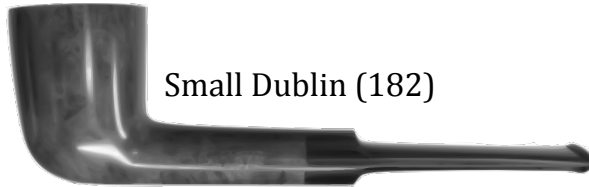
Medium Billiard (152)



Large Billiard (163)



XL Billiard (173)



Small Dublin (182)



Large Dublin (193)



Small Lovat (222)



Large Lovat (232)



Small Bulldog (273)



Large Bulldog (282)

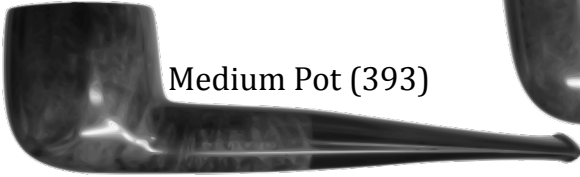
Pipes



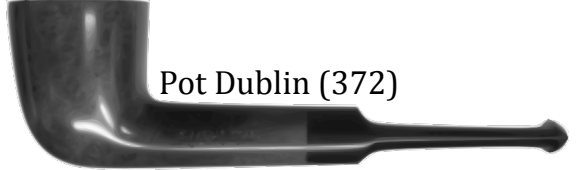
Large Apple (303)



Medium Apple (293)



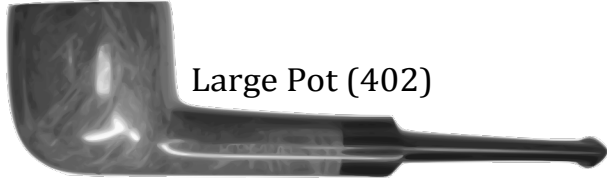
Medium Pot (393)



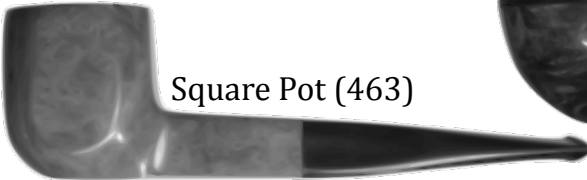
Pot Dublin (372)



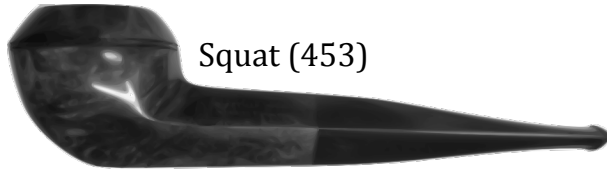
Long Flat (443)



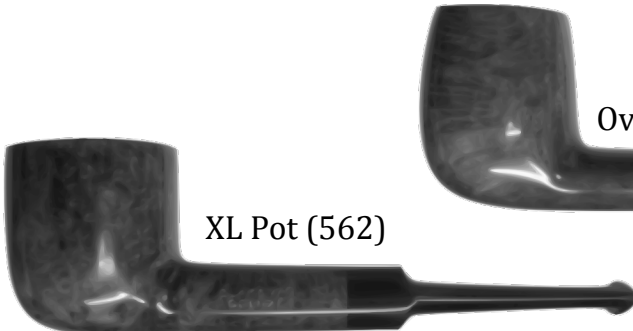
Large Pot (402)



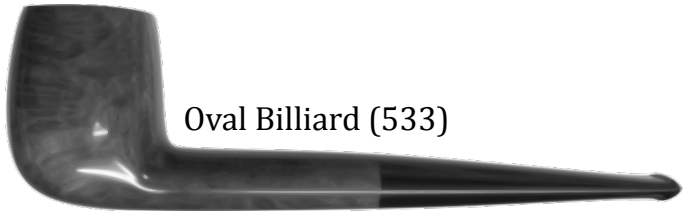
Square Pot (463)



Squat (453)



XL Pot (562)



Oval Billiard (533)


Pipes

A smoking pipe with a wide, shallow bowl and a long, straight stem.

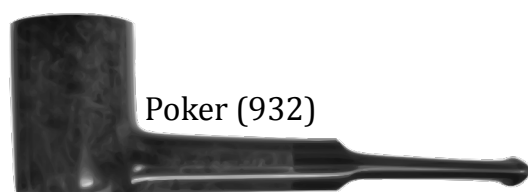
Lantern (912)

A smoking pipe with a deep, square bowl and a long, straight stem.


Square Billiard (582)

A smoking pipe with a deep, rounded bowl and a long, straight stem.


Cutty (993)

A smoking pipe with a deep, rounded bowl and a long, straight stem.


Poker (932)

A smoking pipe with a deep, rounded bowl and a long, straight stem.

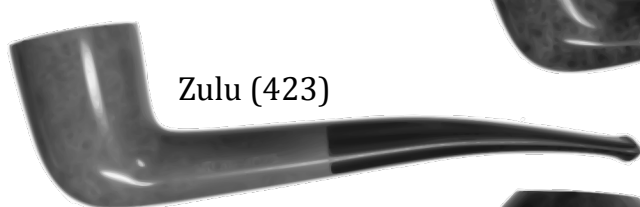
Small Prince (323)

A smoking pipe with a deep, rounded bowl and a long, straight stem.

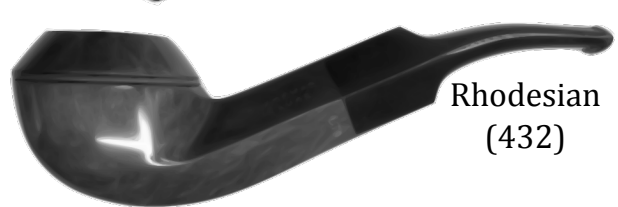
Large Prince (343)

A smoking pipe with a deep, rounded bowl and a long, straight stem.

Small Zulu (412)

A smoking pipe with a deep, rounded bowl and a long, straight stem.

Zulu (423)

A smoking pipe with a deep, rounded bowl and a long, straight stem.

Rhodesian
(432)

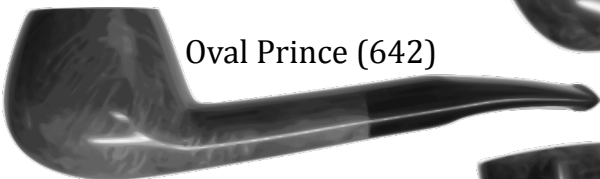
A smoking pipe with a deep, rounded bowl and a long, straight stem.

Mendip Bent (552)

Pipes



Pear (602)



Oval Prince (642)



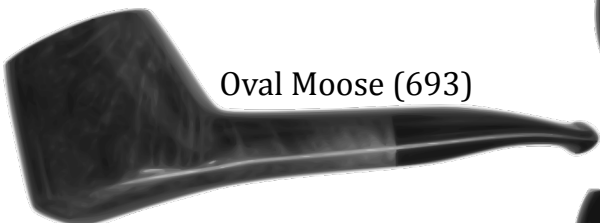
Woodstock (653)



Large Zulu (673)



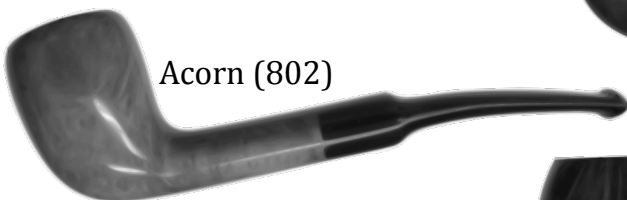
Hippo (692)



Oval Moose (693)



Torpedo (783)



Acorn (802)



Cambrian Bent
(892)



Cairngorm
(953)

Pipes



Small Bent
(243)



LW Bent
(213)



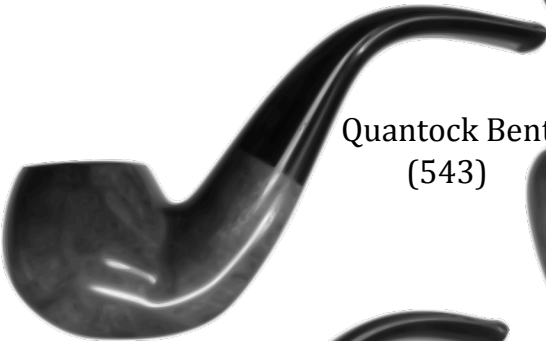
Large Bent
(263)



Medium Bent
(253)



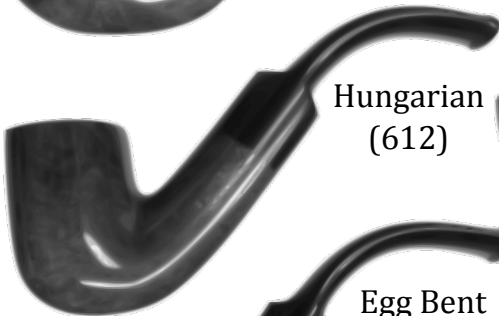
Chiltern Bent
(472)



Quantock Bent
(543)



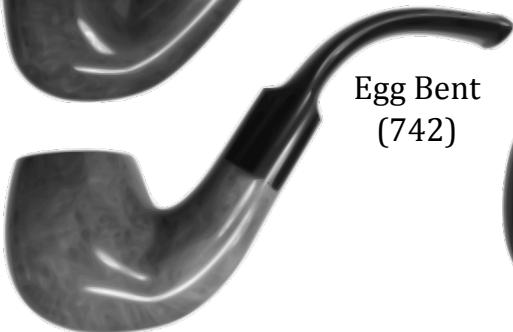
Top Bent
(592)



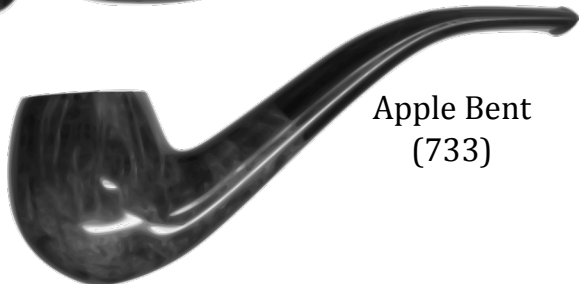
Hungarian
(612)



Artist Bent
(622)



Egg Bent
(742)

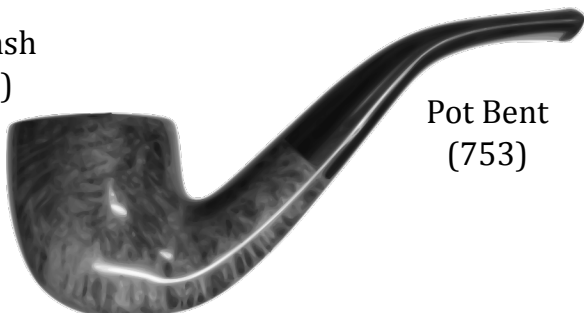


Apple Bent
(733)

Pipes



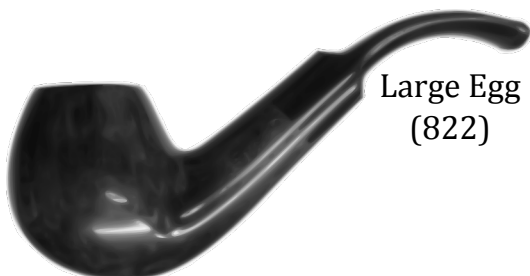
Calabash
(773)



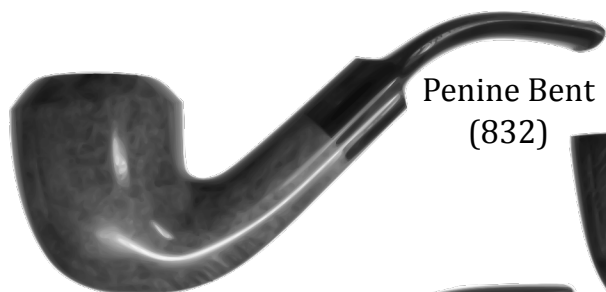
Pot Bent
(753)



Author
(812)



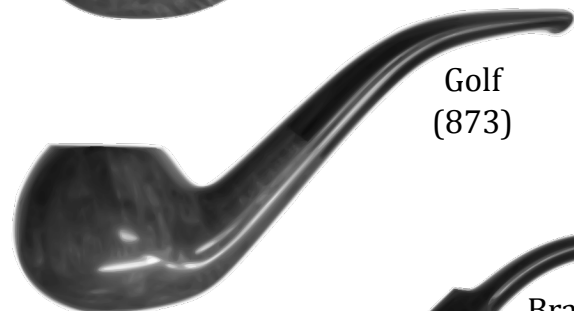
Large Egg
(822)



Penine Bent
(832)



Malvern Bent
(852)



Golf
(873)



Vest Pocket
(882)



Brandy
(922)

A little about the pipe ranges available

Aristocrat - Medium quality pipes in walnut colour, smooth & rustic finish with most shapes usually available.

De Luxe - The De Luxe range is grade 'XA', regarded as very fine. Available in smooth French Red Natural or with a rustic finish in black, plum or walnut, all shapes usually available.

Champion - Our range of sandblasted pipes in a variety of colours.

Litchbryere - Grade 'A', the highest grade given to a Blakemar Briar. These pipes are flawless & beautiful. Smooth finish in natural or antique. Because of the high quality of this range, availability is sometimes limited.

Straight Grain - When a Litchbryere has had its initial staining & it can be seen to have an exceptionally beautiful straight grain throughout, it's withdrawn & upgraded to become a Straight Grain. It then receives a special polish treatment to further enhance its beauty. Less than 1% of pipes will reach this level.

Hand Made - Pipes in this category have been hand crafted by Mike Billington of Blakemar Briars. Each pipe is unique and no two will be the same.

One-Off Specials - This range includes a variety of 'one-off' pipes that are not standard stock items. These pipes are unique and once sold may not be available again in the future. Usually these pipes consist of custom shapes, colours or finishes.

9mm Filter - For some time now we have been making pipes to take 9mm filters, usually to order, sometimes making an extra one or two for stock.

New Pipes - King's Imperial

These pipes are the same quality briar as the Aristocrat range - only bigger.

Finished in either smooth walnut or black rustic.

Available while stocks last.



Name: Billiard

Range: King's Imperial

Price: £39.60



Name: Bulldog

Range: King's Imperial

Price: £39.60



Name: Egg Bent

Range: King's Imperial

Price: £39.60



Name: Calabash

Range: King's Imperial

Price: £39.60



Name: Cherrywood

Range: King's Imperial

Price: £39.60



Name: Squat

Range: King's Imperial

Price: £39.60

For a complete selection of pipes currently available, visit our website:

www.blakemar.co.uk

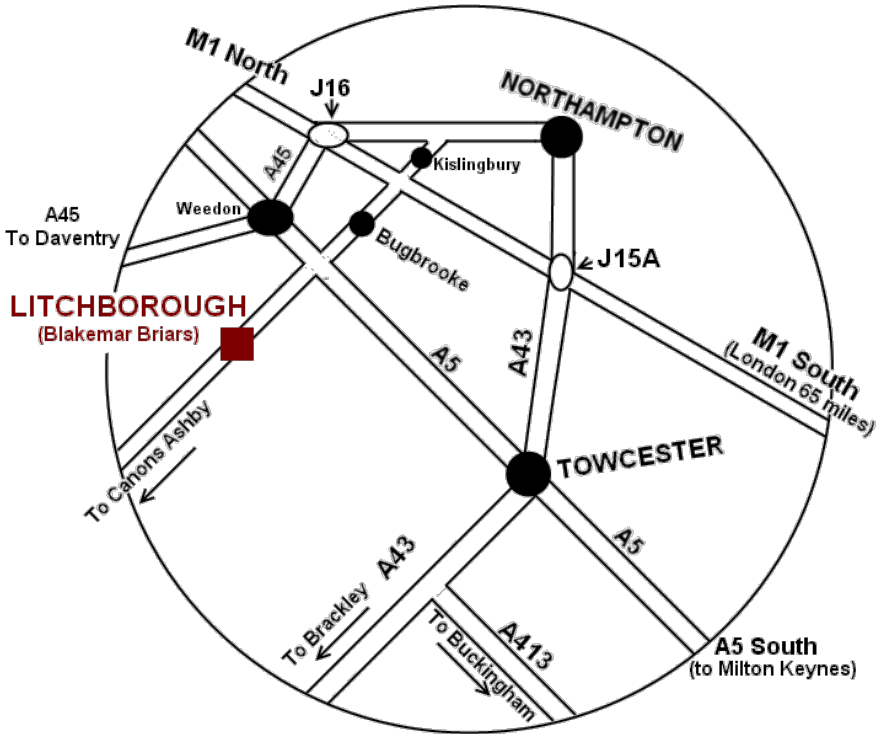
Selecting a Shape

Overleaf are some of the shapes available, each is shown with the stem fitted as standard. Each shape is represented by a three digit number; first two digits defining the bowl shape and size - the last digit denoting the stem type:- 2 for a saddle stem, 3 for a tapered stem, 8 for a dental stem and 9 for a churchwarden stem are some of the options available.

Colours

These pictures show some of the colours available in the various ranges. (Please make allowances for any variations due to the printing process.)





Customers are welcome to visit our showroom and select from our large display of pipes including a full range of qualities and shapes as detailed in this brochure. Special shapes can be made to order and pipe repairs may sometimes be done while you wait, preferably by appointment.

BLAKEMAR BRIARS

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More information about us and our products is available on the internet.

For colour pictures, current prices and direct ordering visit:

www.blakemar.co.uk