Welcome
Welcome to the very first issue of the Recorder News, designed to keep everyone in touch with progress in publishing The Transferware Recorder. When the first volume was published back in 2013 it was always intended to be a series of reference books, designed to appeal to all serious collectors of transferware. The second volume followed in 2015 and the third is well underway (see alongside). All of these have concentrated on recording British views, Dick Henrywood’s own main interest, but plans are afoot for a fourth volume on a completely different topic, so watch this space!

Join the Mailing List
This newsletter will be sent out by email occasionally to any collector who is interested in keeping in touch with Recorder developments. If you are reading this and would like to be added to the circulation list, just send your details, including email address of course, to:
recorder@transferprintedpottery.com

The Dictionary of Blue and White Printed Pottery
The inspiration for The Transferware Recorder developed over many years following the success of The Dictionary of Blue and White Printed Pottery. This was the brainchild of Bill Coysh along with John Steel from the Antique Collectors’ Club and Bill insisted on Dick Henrywood joining as co-author. The result was published in 1982 and the book had to be reprinted after only a few months. Its continuing popularity led to a second volume, released in 1989, and the title remained in print almost continuously until last year. With total sales well in excess of 33,000 copies it just shows how popular blue and white (in Britain) and transferware (in America) has become. Look after those treasured copies. You might not be able to replace them!

For those of you too young to know or too old to remember, the Dictionary was awarded the Library Association’s McColvin Medal for 1982, given for an outstanding reference book. John Steel accompanied Bill and Dick to the award ceremony in London, where they were presented with genuine silver-gilt medals. The award for the previous year went to The New Grove Dictionary of Music and Musicians (multiple volumes). Prestigious company!

Number Three
Plans for Number Three are virtually finalised and the series to be included will almost certainly be:
“Beauties of England and Wales”
“Belle Vue”
Bluebell Border (Adams)
Bristol and River Thames
“British Scenery”
“British Views”
Cambridge Colleges
“Castles”
“Diorama”
“English Cities”
Floral City
Flower Medallion Border
Freesia Border
“Metropolitan Scenery”
Welsh Scenes
Wood’s Floral Border
This list is largely unchanged except for the last-minute addition of Enoch Wood’s “English Cities” series, largely due to a huge amount of help from two enthusiastic American collectors.

The contents will mirror those in the previous volumes: all known views listed, along with the items on which they are found; references to illustrations elsewhere; and, wherever possible, identification of the source print used for the view; all extensively illustrated in colour. We are still missing a few images so please have a look at the list of those needed on our website: www.transferprintedpottery.com

As before, a significant number of views will be identified for the very first time in print. This new volume should be much the same size as the previous two, and it is hoped to get it published before the end of the year. If you join our mailing list you will get further details of its publication nearer the time. Keep in touch!

New Discovery!
Despite all the effort put into assembling the information contained in the Recorder, it is inevitable that new discoveries will turn up. Here is an addition to the views listed in the Elkins & Co. “Irish Scenery” series (TR1). Like nearly all the others, there is nothing remotely Irish about it, being the well known view of the Rookery in Surrey, copied, as usual, from an engraving in John Preston Neale’s Views of the Seats. This example is a small platter, 26.5cm long, and has the usual printed mark with series title and maker’s name, but this time with the addition of an impressed eagle symbol, used by the later Elkins and/or Knight partnerships. You may be interested to know that this is the ninth time The Rookery appears on transferware. Clearly a very popular view, and there may be more yet! This image shown by courtesy of Richard Halliday (see www.bluetransferware.com).

If you ever come across something not listed in the Recorder, please let us know, with as much detail as you can manage and an image if at all possible.
Jugs and mugs were often made for use in pubs, inns and hotels and the most interesting examples bear the establishment’s name. Those also with the publican’s name are more desirable. Such jugs are more common in the mid-19th century and the example shown here is quite typical, of relatively utilitarian quality printed with an uninspiring romantic scene. The interest lies in the inscription. The Three Tuns was in Wroughton, not far from Swindon, in Wiltshire, and it survived as a hotel until 2010. It was eventually converted into a Morrisons convenience store in 2014. The jug sold for £120 plus premium at the Chippenham Auction Rooms in May 2016.

Mark Time
Every so often an interesting mark turns up and this one was noted recently in a local antique centre. The plate itself is relatively uninspiring, the floral pattern usually being marked “Portland Basket” with maker’s initials for either John & William Ridgway or William Ridgway alone after the brothers had separated. Marks for Du Croz have been recorded before, notably on armorial plates made by Hicks, Meigh & Johnson for the Salters’ Company, one of the London trade guilds (see Coysh & Henrywood 1, pages 117-8 and 320), but other examples are also known including pieces made to commemorate the creation of the Free Port of Cadiz in 1829. Another similar “Portland Basket” plate has been noted with the moulded rim tastefully picked out with gilding. John Cotterill Du Croz was later in partnership with William Millidge, and he would be a good subject for further research.

Auction Watch
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The first two issues are currently available with the third in preparation. Don’t have both volumes? Shame on you! Prices are:
UK: One copy £17.95
Two copies £33.40
Ireland: One copy £22 or €30
Europe: Two copies £41 or €55
N.America: One copy $38 (US)
Two copies $68 (US)
Australia: One copy £26
Two copies £48

These prices all include shipping. We apologise for the high overseas prices but they are all dictated by very high shipping costs, out of our control.
The appropriate amount should be sent via Paypal to:
recorder@transferprintedpottery.com
Please remember to state which volume(s) you require.

Dates for your Diary
Sunday 19 June 2016: Friends of Blue AGM at Sharpe’s Pottery Museum, Swadlincote. Speakers are Alan Tomlinson and Dick Henrywood (www.fob.org.uk)
Sunday 23 to Wednesday 26 October 2016: Transferware Collectors’ Club Annual Meeting in Charlottesville, Virginia (www.transcollectorsclub.org)