Welcome

Time for Number Seven of this Recorder News. So much seems to emerge these days that it is difficult to decide what to include in each issue. It would be very easy to turn this into a monthly outing and to expand it to more pages but priority goes to the main Transferware Recorder. This time we have another two new discoveries, two more interesting marks, and a rather fine comport in our auction report. We also have news of progress with Number Four and an appeal, yet again, for help with images. We hope you continue to enjoy these newsletters and welcome feedback. Contributions, particularly anything not found in the Recorder with relevant detail and images if at all possible, would be gratefully received.

Future Issues

While current effort is concentrated on Number Four, thoughts continually stray to possible subjects for future issues. One possibility is views of Europe but other suggestions would be more than welcome.

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 would like to be added to the circulation list, just send your details, including email address of course, to: recorder@transferprintedpottery.com. Back numbers can be sent on request or downloaded from the website: www.transferprintedpottery.com

Facebook

Just a quick reminder that Dick Henrywood now has a page set up on Facebook. All you social media enthusiasts might like to have a look. None of that personal stuff though, just interesting pots, mostly transferware. New friends welcome, of course! Recent topics include Jeremy Thorpe, Cambridge potlids, series by Elijah Jones, John Meir and John Ridgway, and ugly jugs – don’t ask! Always worth a look.

Dates for your Diary

Sunday 25 June 2017: Friends of Blue Annual Meeting in Woodstock, Oxfordshire (www.fob.org.uk). Dick Henrywood will be one of the speakers.

Progress with Number Four

We are pleased to report steady progress in assembling chapters for Number Four of The Transferware Recorder, concentrating this time on selected patterns from literature. However, we are still being hampered by difficulties in finding suitable images and the lengthy list of wants in the previous Recorder News was not as productive as we would have liked. So please dig out your copy and have another look to see if you can possibly help.

The good news is that the Rogers and Pountney “The Drama” series will probably now be included, following significant help from a couple of collectors. Just for a change we show here one of the rare examples printed in brick red. We can also reveal that something has turned up in black, but you will have to wait for the book to find out more about that!

Examples of Davenport’s “Scott’s Illustrations” series are still needed and we would be keen to find an image of any example printed in two colours. And for any tile collectors, we still need help with images for the Minton Aesop’s Fables series (particularly any larger 8 inch tiles or any wares other than tiles) and the Thomas Boote Scenes from Dickens series (tiles or teapot stands all welcome, one of the latter shown here with “Barnaby Rudge Discovers His Father”).

Perhaps the main appeal here should be for images of Clews’ Doctor Syntax series and the Brameld “Don Quixote” series. They are both quite lengthy series and some of you must have interesting pieces. Please help.

New Discoveries

A couple of new discoveries for this issue, one a completely new view, the other a previously unrecorded item. The first is a small plate in the “Diorama” series (covered in detail in TR3), this one decorated with a view identifiable as Fulham Church in Middlesex. This is the second time a view in the series has been found marked purely with the series title “Diorama” with no view title. Fortunately the source print was easy to find.

The second discovery is a well-and-tree platter in the uncommon Tulip Border series (covered in detail in TR1). The view shown is Pope’s House in Twickenham, previously only recorded on a flat platter. This example turned up at Tamlyns Auction Rooms in Bridgwater and sold for a total of only £51. It just goes to show how unpredictable auctions can be.
Mark Time

A couple of interesting marks have emerged in the last few weeks. The first is from a plate in the Briggs Views series (covered in Recorder One), this one printed with the view of “Cardiff Castle” but with a typical but previously unrecorded “with compliments” mark (illustrated courtesy of Alan Williams) featuring an address at 152 Bute Street, Treherbert — the twentieth shop to have given away these plates. Extensive early marketing!

The second is another example of the Stevenson’s Acorn and Oak Leaf Border series mark including maker’s initials RSW (illustrated courtesy of Ed Rigoulot). This is only the third example with any form of maker’s mark to emerge and there is still no report of any impressed “STEVenson” mark. Any offers, anyone?

Auction Watch

Special order pieces are always of interest and here we have a rather fine comport made for the Clifton Grand Hotel in Bristol. The hotel is illustrated with its name on a drape beneath and a dove flying above. The comport appeared at Clevedon Salerooms earlier this month where it was tentatively attributed to the Pountney firm at the Bristol Pottery. This would seem to be entirely sensible in view of the local subject and the fact that it had emerged locally. However, blue and white afficionados will recognise the border from Ridgway’s Eastern Port pattern, and the appearance of a Bristol retailer’s mark (for S. Alloway) would seem unnecessary if it was locally ordered. Clearly worthy of further research, the comport sold for a total of £398, seemingly little affected by a few relatively small condition issues ("minor nibbles" etc). We are grateful for the auctioneers’ help with images. They can be contacted through their website: www.clevedon-salerooms.com

North America

Readers in North America are reminded that The Transferware Recorder is now stocked by the Winterthur Museum bookstore. Shipping should be much cheaper and delivery much quicker. The bookstore can be contacted on: 302-888-4707

The Winterthur Museum should need little introduction for our American cousins at least, and the endorsement implied by stocking the Recorder must be significant in ceramics circles.