



Recorder News



Issue 25

Transferware news from Reynardine Publishing

July 2020

Welcome

A warm welcome to yet another *Recorder News*, Issue 25 so our silver jubilee and a very special bumper issue to treat you all, double the usual size. The auction houses have leapt back into action following the coronavirus lockdown, and there are several interesting results. Are prices beginning to recover just a little bit? We also have news of an unrecorded manufacturer, several new items, new shapes, new images, and yet another interesting retailer's mark. Will it ever stop?! As usual, feedback would be welcome and we would always be happy to hear news, views, or grumbles, all of which should be sent to the usual *Recorder* email address:

recorder@transferprintedpottery.com

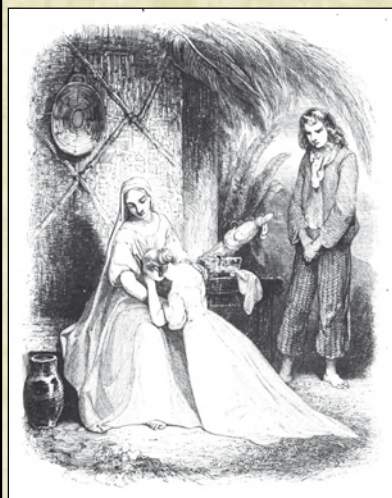
Join the Mailing List

If you would like to be added to the circulation list for this *Recorder News*, for which there is no charge, just send your details, including email address to:

recorder@transferprintedpottery.com

New Discovery

William Smith & Co's "Paul and Virginia" series was featured in Volume Four of *The Transferware Recorder* where eleven scenes were illustrated, all alongside their matching source prints. It always seemed likely that another scene would exist, eleven being a rather odd number, and we can now record a missing twelfth scene titled "Virginia Flys [sic] to Her Mother for Refuge". It is shown here, alongside the original source print, on a typical daisy-bordered children's plate and we are indebted to Connie Rogers for the image copied from the TCC database. Can anyone now produce a thirteenth pattern to confound us?



New Manufacturer

In the last issue of this *Recorder News* we showed an ornate jug printed in red with a pattern titled "Archers" but with unidentified maker's initials B & P (the mark repeated below). Since then, Andrew Pye has risen to the challenge and his research identifies the maker almost certainly as a previously unrecorded partnership of Buxton & Pearson of Burslem. The firm appears to have been in business between November 1831 and January 1833 so was really short-lived. Ambrose Pearson was a china and earthenware dealer in Liverpool, and when the partnership was dissolved the business was carried on by John Pearson, of Burslem, so he was presumably the practical potter. Another example of the "Archers" jug has also emerged with the pattern printed in black but washed overall in pink lustre. This decorative technique was used for a time in the late 1830s and 1840s, particularly by the Everard firms of Longton in Staffordshire, but also by Davenport of Longport, William Smith & Co. of Stockton, and probably others. This jug is shown courtesy of Shaun King Antiques.



New Item



We always wanted to feature "The Drama" series in the literature volume of *The Transferware Recorder* but a lack of suitable images was a major problem. Fortunately a private collector emerged at the last moment to allow us access for photography, and we also managed to trace the unusual source of the non-Shakespeare scenes so the resulting chapter was particularly satisfying. This drainer showing "Love's Labour's Lost, Act 4, Scene 1" could have been made by either Rogers or Pountney & Goldney, the lack of a border hindering attribution, but the scene has not been recorded on a drainer before anyway, only a Rogers platter. This example was offered by Hansons Auctioneers back in May with staining and a chip to the edge. It sold for a total of £28.60 against an estimate of £50-80. The auctioneers can be contacted through their website:

www.hansonsauctioneers.co.uk

Auction Watch



These two fine Ralph Hall platters were part of a small collection of blue and white offered by Kingham & Orme of Evesham back at the end of May. The smaller 33cm example (above), from the “Select Views” series with “Boughton House, Northamptonshire”, sold for a mid-estimate bid of £200 (total of £255.20). The larger 38cm example (below), from the “Picturesque Scenery” series with “St. Woolston’s, Kildare, Ireland” failed to sell against a slightly higher estimate of £220-250. Both of these would have been expected to fetch something like double these prices ten or fifteen years ago. The auctioneers can be contacted via their website:

www.kinghamandorme.com



Pattern Numbers

Seven years ago Dick Henrywood assembled a short list of the pattern numbers used by William Smith & Co. of Stockton for one of his “Henrywood’s Highlights” columns for the TCC. That list is now inevitably way out of date and readers might like to know that it has been extensively revised. The extended list, which covers 52 of Smith’s numbered patterns (and includes several which are not known to have been numbered) can be found on the website www.reynardine.co.uk. Select the “Research” tab, top right. You will also find three other articles covering pattern numbers, those used by the Goodwin firms of Longton, by the Everard firms, also of Longton, and a preliminary list of wares found with pattern numbers from other manufacturers. All the articles are extensively illustrated, although there are some gaps and Dick would be delighted to hear of any additions. Contributions via our usual email address please: recorder@transferprintedpottery.com.

New Item



The chapter on John & Robert Godwin’s “Pickwick” series in TR4 relied on close-ups from a large mug for two of the scenes, but this two-handled mug shows both. They are “First Appearance of Mr. Sam Weller” (above) and “Mr. Pickwick Addresses the Club” (below). The mug is a new item in the list for the latter scene. Both images shown courtesy of Connie Rogers.



New Shape



Pickle dishes come in a variety of forms but this is the first time we have seen this lobed shape with two handles. Nothing similar appears in Richard Halliday’s comprehensive *Blue-Printed Pickle Dishes and Milseys*. This example (shown courtesy of John Melhuish) is from the “Antique Scenery” series known to be by Zachariah Boyle, so the shape might be helpful in identifying other patterns from this uncommon maker. The view is, of course, just a clip from a larger transfer and it is actually part of the scene recorded as Unidentified Scene B in Volume One of *The Transferware Recorder*.

Auction Watch

A small collection of blue transferware appeared in one of Woolley & Wallis's regular quality ceramics sales in Salisbury last month, including several platters with a couple of perennial favourites. The Grazing Rabbits well-and-tree platter shown right had only minor faults and sold for a hammer price of £400 (total £520) against a pre-sale estimate of £100-200. The Durham Ox platter shown below appeared to be in fairly good condition and reached £1500 (total £1950) against an estimate of £600-1000. Around 20 years ago auctioneers were competing to get high prices for this pattern, and hammer prices approaching £5,000 were the target. The third platter here, below right, shows the "Mosque of Sultan Achmet" from the Ottoman Empire series, attributed to Ridgway. Again in fairly good condition, this one sold for £280 (total £364) against an estimate of £200-300. The auctioneers can be contacted via their website:

www.woolleyandwallis.co.uk



New Discovery

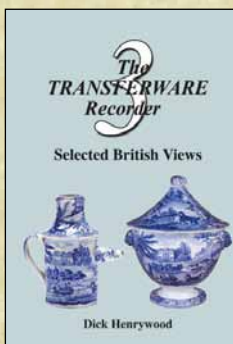
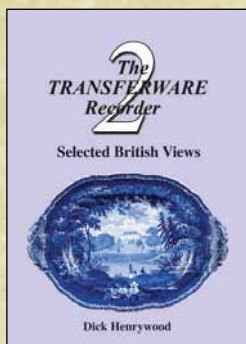
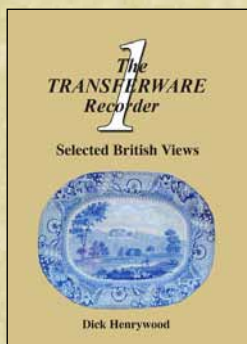


The Light Blue Rose Border series made by Griffiths, Beardmore & Birks was covered in TR1 with some items bearing a mock-Minton mark titled "British Views" considered to be part of the series. Here is another such piece, a dessert plate with an unrecorded view pirated from the Blue Rose Border series by Wedgwood. The scene with a sailing boat in front of a walled building is unidentified and we would love any suggestions. Along with the previously unrecorded views of "Fountain Abbey" and "Sufton Court" (Issues 12 and 19 of *Recorder News*), it brings to fifteen the number of views in this uncommon series. Are there any others out there?

New Shape



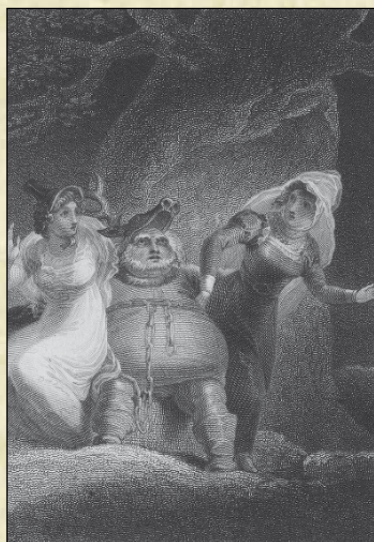
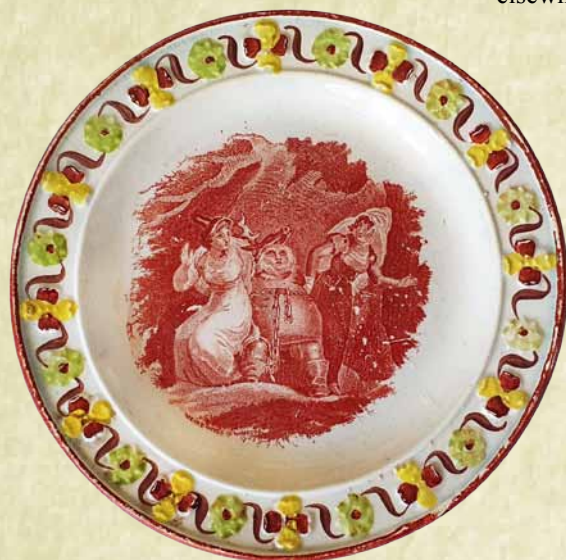
Andrew Stevenson's Rose Border series has featured here a couple of times before (*Recorder News* Issues 8 and 24) but this time we have a real cracker! This footed hexagonal bowl is printed with a titled main view of "Wanted House, Essex" [sic] in the base and vignette views identified as "Redgrave Hall" and Tendring Hall, Suffolk on the outer sides. These two prints also feature on the outer sides of the series' vegetable dish. The hexagonal shape is unusual and was uncommon when this piece was made. Oddly enough, a stand in the same shape was illustrated in Volume Two of *The Transferware Recorder*, and that may well have been made to take this bowl. There will inevitably be some discussion as to the purpose of such a piece, but it would look good in anybody's collection. Possibly intended for fruit on a sideboard but other uses could spring to mind. Perhaps we should run a competition for the most amusing suggestion?



New Discovery

It is always good to be able to report something completely new, and the Tegg's Shakespeare series recorded in Volume Four of *The Transferware Recorder* was previously unrecorded at the time. Since then a single new scene emerged, from King Henry VI, reported in Issue 21 of this *Recorder News*. Now we have an unexpected new item in the form of a child's

plate, printed overglaze in red with a titled scene from the "Merry Wives of Windsor" (shown courtesy of Cuno Koopstra). Unusually, no act or scene numbers are shown and there is no quote from the play, but once again the image is copied from one of Tegg's prints after John Thurston (below). There has now also been an exciting find in the form of a complete tea set, with several new scenes, but news of that will be reported in detail elsewhere!



Mark Time

Retailer's or importer's marks feature fairly regularly in this section and here we have another which is easily misunderstood. The plate with one of a range of horse hunting scenes bears a printed mark for Kannreuther & Co. of Birmingham. This has been mistaken for a maker's mark, but Kannreuther & Co. were merchants who traded in hardwares and other items. They and their predecessors Kannreuther, Frauer & Co. clearly had a fair amount of export business with Romania, Greece, Cyprus and neighbouring countries since pots with marks for both firms turn up quite frequently in that area. The earlier partnership was dissolved on 31 December 1874. Another possibility for further research?



Volume One

Published October 2013
176 pages. 579 illustrations.
ISBN 978-0-9926581-0-6

Volume Two

Published June 2015
176 pages. 594 illustrations.
ISBN 978-0-9926581-1-3

Volume Three

Published October 2016
184 pages. 596 illustrations.
ISBN 978-0-9926581-2-0

Volume Four

Published March 2018
208 pages. 710 illustrations.
ISBN 978-0-9926581-3-7

The Transferware Recorder

All four volumes of *The Transferware Recorder* are currently available, although stocks of Volume One are getting low. The contents of each volume together with downloadable copies of all issues of this *Recorder News* can be found on the website:

www.transferprintedpottery.com

Don't have all four volumes? Don't panic! Worldwide shipping is available but please email for a price quote for whatever combination of volumes you require. Exchange rates are currently favourable too. Other enquiries should also be addressed to:

recorder@transferprintedpottery.com

Dates for your Diary

July 2020: Friends of Blue AGM, Spode Museum Heritage Trust Centre, Stoke-on-Trent. **Postponed to Autumn. New date to be announced.**

www.fob.org.uk

October 2020: Transferware Collectors' Club Annual Meeting in Wilmington, Delaware. **Postponed to 2021 but 2020 Virtual Meeting being planned. Check with website.**

www.transcollectorsclub.org

Research

Dick Henrywood has set up a research page on the web to feature topics that are under investigation and towards which others may be able to contribute. At the time of writing there are four sections on numbered patterns (see earlier in this issue) but other contributions on pottery subjects would be very welcome. Any budding authors out there with pet topics? Go to the website:

www.reynardine.co.uk

and click on the Research tab, top left.