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Comments from the Chair

It seems rather strange to be writing this, my last Chat after all these years. Life has been really hectic recently with Potfest in the Pens, and now OXO looming on the horizon. It was good to see so many NPA members showing at Penrith, and selling!

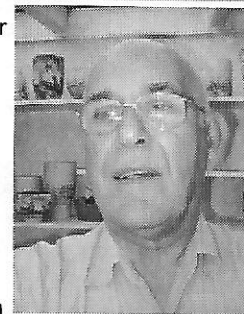
The Cliffe Castle exhibition was well received and sold quite well, so thanks to Jan for all her efforts.

The AGM will be held at the Platform Gallery on the 24th September, so we look forward to seeing as many of you as possible at that. I am stepping down from the Chair then and Maureen is also. Brian Holland has offered to take the chair but we will need a membership secretary. If you would like to step forward and join the committee please offer your services. The committee meets around five times a year and newcomers are not thrown in the deep end. We have a great organisation and new blood is essential for NPA's continued growth and development.

Finally I would like to thank all the committee for their support and energy during my years as Chair, my job was made so much easier because of them, and I wish The NPA every success in the coming years.

Happy potting.

Pete Clough



Editors Comment

Time marches on—where has the summer disappeared? I have been helping on making courses and had a couple of weeks holiday in North Wales and am now rushing to get the newsletter out (did I have a holiday?). It was good to meet so many members at the International Ceramics Festival at Aberystwyth and exhibiting at Rufford. Jim Robisons 30th gallery anniversary with the North Wales Potters showing, was a good afternoon and yet again it was good to see so many NPA members exhibiting at the Holmfirth Art Week.

I thoroughly enjoyed the weekend at Aberystwyth. Highlights for me were the African women and their handbuilt pots along with Gustav Perez and his thrown and altered forms. There were also stunning demonstrations by Sven Bayer and Matsuzaki Ken and the precision handbuilding of Hans and Birgitte Borjeson. It was an action packed weekend with wonderful demonstrations by all the guests and I came back fired with enthusiasm and full of new ideas and techniques to try to incorporate into my ceramics.

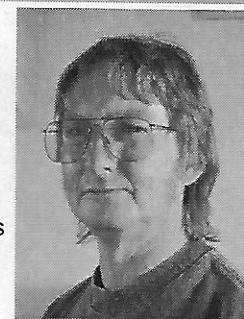
It was good to see several mentions for NPA members in the last Ceramic Review—Mary Chappelhow, Mike Eden, Jill Ford, Liz Bowe and Catherine Boyne-Whitelegg.

Congratulations also go to Mike and Vicki Eden who have become fellows of the CPA.

There is still lots to look forward to before winter sets in. The AGM and demo at Platform Gallery, the David Frith and Brendan Hesmondhalgh demonstration at Harrogate, the OXO Tower exhibition and for me Ceramica Cymru in South Wales.

Thanks go to Pete Clough for his stewardship of the NPA and to Maureen and Eric Smith whose hard work has successfully seen the membership of the NPA increase over the last three years. In September we need to elect a new Chair and Membership Secretary. I hope you will be considering nominations for these posts and bring them to the AGM at Clitheroe. Look forward to seeing you there.

Stop Press: See the article in Ceramic Review re the OXO Tower exhibition.



The Northern Potters AGM will be held

At the Platform Gallery
In the Education room,

10am to 11am

Sat 24th September.

Platform Gallery
Station Road, Clitheroe,
Lancashire, BB7 2JT.

Agenda:

1. Apologies.
2. Minutes of last AGM 2002.
3. Matters arising.
4. Chairs Report.
5. Treasurers Report.
6. Membership Secretaries Report.
7. Election and Re-election of committee members.
8. A.O.B.

If there are any additional items members wish to be included at the AGM please inform the Chair two weeks prior

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Deadline For Next Issue

All material for the **August—September issue** to be with Ian Marsh **by the 20th September.**

Text and images can be e-mailed (marshiepots@aol.com), sent by CD or by long hand with photographs to 35 Meltham Road, Marsden, Huddersfield, HD7 6JZ

Exhibitions

My thanks to Lesley Anne Greene, Liz Holt, David Abbey and staff for helping to take down the exhibition at Cliffe Castle. As an NPA member for many years, Lesley Anne had some of the most interesting and funniest stories to tell, especially about her escapades during our last exhibition at Cliffe Castle. This made for an enjoyable day and one in which we could all become more acquainted with each other.

I gather that our sales were good and I am eagerly awaiting sales records from Cliffe Castle.

Next Exhibition

Our next selected exhibition is scheduled for Spring 2006 at the Biscuit Factory, Newcastle. If you want to look the venue up on the internet the address is www.thebiscuitfactory.com This is a most excellent selling venue and one where some of our members already exhibit on a regular basis. George Ormerod has agreed to be our representative at selection and I am hoping that other members local to the area will also volunteer as 'helpers for a day' leading up to and after the exhibition. If anyone is interested, please contact me a.s.a.p.

Exhibitions Officer

I will be stepping down as exhibitions officer in the winter of 06. If anyone would like to learn more about my role, please contact me on:

Tel. 01204 674901. Mob. 07720 666 123. E jan@jsceramica.co.uk

It has been my pleasure to work with such professional people as Peter Clough and Maureen Smith; both are resigning from their positions within the committee at our AGM in September. I wish them all the very best with future endeavours.

Jan.

Letters

Dear Ian,

I wondered if you would publish this open letter please in the next newsletter.

I have written to the Director of York Art Gallery as I am concerned about the lack of pottery on display in the Yorkshire Museum & the Art Gallery.

The Milner-White Studio Pottery Collection has recently been seriously reduced, only a few pieces are now on display, tucked beneath the stairway, in the Art Gallery. I believe that the small percentage of The Ismay Collection, that currently is on display (about 3%?), is shortly to be taken out the Yorkshire Museum & although a temporary exhibition is to be shown in the Art Gallery (in conjunction with Scarborough & Wakefield), no large scale permanent exhibition is to be housed.

York has two of the best collections in the world of Studio Pottery, I think it should be given a more dedicated space. Indeed I think that York should be shouting from the roof tops what marvellous work we have & should be a centre for Ceramic excellence.

Catherine Boyne-Whitelegg

York Open Air Art Exhibition Report

York Open Air Art Exhibition Saturday 2nd July & Sunday 3rd July 2005



Just fourteen brave souls faced the Yorkshire public for our bi-annual event in Parliament Street, York this year. The sunshine as usual didn't disappoint us, it shone from 9.00 am onwards on both days (we are usually this lucky!)

York city centre is always busy and even if you don't sell well on the actual days, you can't beat this kind of exposure for so little outlay. Everyone sees your work as they walk through the town. You're not "hidden" in a craft marquee or in a sometimes intimidating gallery space. There's a minimum charge for tables and we donate 10% of our sales to the Lord Mayor of York's annual charities.

Elizabeth Bailey

In my experience when potters get together something really lovely happens! We laugh, we swap notes, we discuss recipes (both glazes and food) and this camaraderie at this event is no different.

This year, however, was tinged with sadness as our co-ordinator for many years, Caroline Till, regrettably died suddenly in February. Caroline's husband Ian and her good friend Heather put together a posthumous display of Caroline's work with its distinctive "Albert's Pottery" stamp. All the proceeds from sales on their stall went to the charity Hope & Homes for Children, one of Caroline's favourite good causes. They raised over £300 which must have made everyone proud.



Jo Cook & Sue Wolfe



Our next Open Air Art Exhibition event is planned for next April – why not join us?

Andrea Cundell
NPA Co-ordinator York Open Art

Jo Cook & Sue Wolfe

Lesley Anne Green wins award at Harrogate

Earlier in the year Lesley Anne Green took part in the Harrogate British Craft Trade Fair and the following is an extract from the press release. Well done Lesley. IM

8TH APRIL 2005

"LOCAL DESIGNER TAKES HONOURS AT PREMIER GIFT AND DESIGN FAIR"

Lesley Anne Green who lives in Ilkley won 'highly commended' in the prestigious Newcomers Award, sponsored by The Craftsman Magazine at this year's British Craft Trade Fair (bctf).

The judges had to consider the design and craftsmanship of the exhibitors' work along with the potential and viability of the product range to commercial buyers.

Lesley won the 'highly commended' for her unique, individually hand built figurative ceramic sculptures, depicting animals with attitude and humour. Much of her work is inspired by ancient Egyptian artefacts.

Over 450 exhibitors attended the fair.

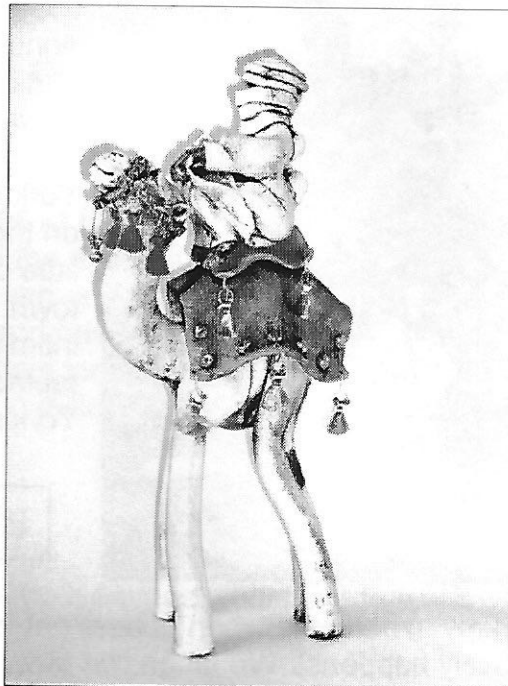
Lesley said 'I was very surprised and absolutely thrilled to win highly commended in the Newcomers Award and my work will be featured in the Craftsman Magazine as a result.'

This is Lesley's first venture into a major trade fair and the judges all felt that she has a very promising future ahead of her.

Lesley can be contacted on 01943 431823.

The British Craft Trade Fair is a design led trade fair that was established in 1981 and is staged annually at The Great Yorkshire Showground Harrogate in April.

Further information available on www.bctf.co.uk



NPA Public Liability Insurance

We the NPA have been able to arrange Public Liability cover at £2m which will expire on 6th June 2006.

Cover includes as follows:

- A maximum of 15 events in a year.
- Stands at exhibitions and sales.
- Events with an attendance of up to 250 max.
- (if it is anticipated this figure is likely to be exceeded, contact William Johnson, Hon Treasurer)

Cover excludes as follows:

- Any height work in excess of 2.5m.
- Any sub contractor or venue staff.
- Stands during erection or dismantling.

All stands must be clearly identified as belonging to members of NPA who should wear appropriate name badges. All dates and times of events in the name of NPA must be advised to the committee (individual and private sales will not be covered). Members should check if public liability is provided by the venue but if not and they are required to provide confirmation of cover, contact Hon Treasurer as soon as possible.

It is important to remember that any insurance is only worthwhile in the event of a claim and whilst the policy contains a long list of exclusions all members should take care to avoid any risks to the public and also any negligence being attributable to NPA. Any occurrence likely to be the subject of a claim should be advised to Hon Treasurer as soon as possible with as much detail as possible.

If you need any more details, please contact William Johnson (preferably by e-mail).

Northern Fire—OXO Gallery

Northern Fire
the.gallery@OXO
6 – 23 October

October sees the opening of the first London-based exhibition of members of the Northern Potters Association, and will hopefully mark the beginning of many other ventures outside of our usual catchment areas.

The exhibitors are:

Ann Bates
Roger Bell
Maggi Berkowitz
Steph Black
Alison Campbell
Peter Clough
Isabel Denyer
Jill Ford
Alison Graham
Karin Hessenberg
Brian Holland
Dennis Kilgallon
Mandy Long
Ian Marsh
Fiona Mazza

Carol Metcalfe
Lucy Oldroyd
Bob Park
Helen Plaxton
John Rivers
Jan Scott
Simon Shaw
Shirley Sheppard
Babs Taylor
Ken Taylor
Marj Taylor
Sarah Villeneuve
Penny Withers
Barbara Wood

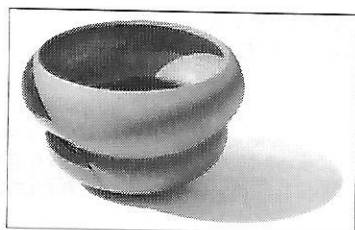
The exhibition will be hosted by the.gallery@OXO, a superb venue situated on the South Bank. the.gallery@OXO will act as a stylish and contemporary backdrop for the diverse range of work from the twenty-nine participating members. Work in the exhibition ranges from the sculptural, the decorative and the highly functional.

Formed to promote the work of North-based potters this will be an excellent opportunity to showcase the diversity and excellence of northern pottery and northern potters to an audience that falls outside of our traditional geographical area of activity.

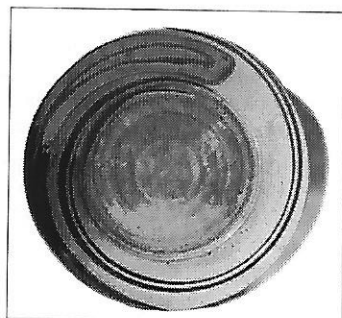
The exhibition runs from the 6 – 23 October. The exhibition preview is on the 6 October at 6.30pm and all members of the NPA are warmly invited to attend.

Award for NPA members Mike and Vicki Eden

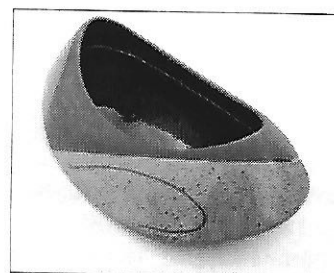
Not only were Mike and Vicki Eden honoured with fellowship status by the Craft Potters Association but Mike also received the Conran Foundation Award. The Conran Foundation award was in memory of Donald Potter for 'work which combined the best of traditional qualities with a modern sensibility'. Donald Potter taught Terence Conran at Bryanston School, (he also taught Richard Batterham and Mike Dodd). The award was presented by Sir Christopher Frayling, rector of the RCA and Chairman of the Arts Council at Ceramic Art 2005 on May 7th at the Royal College of Art.



Large double round bowl



Large platter 45cm



Large rocking bowl

Adverts and Exhibitions

Weekend Handbuilding Course with Ian Howie,
3-4 September, Ellerton Priory, near York.

Ian Howie will run a 2-day handbuilding course for the Ellerton Church Preservation Trust. The cost is £20 per person. The course will cover fundamental techniques such as coiling, pinching and slabbing.

Some work will be fired for each participant.

To book, contact Phil Thomas on 01904 630097,
email york@enterprise.net.

from 10th August to 11th September
Ceramic pieces for house and garden
by Sue Bartholomew and Abigail Jacobs

from 17th September to 27th October
From the Autumn kiln, mugs, jugs, bowls, plates and platters - shape and colour, to use and enjoy
by John Calver

Exhibitions to be held at:
Stokoe House Ceramics Gallery
Market Place
Alston
Cumbria
CA9 3HS
Tel. 01434 382137
Open daily 10.00am to 5.00pm

5+ Contemporary Ceramics are looking for new members to join their co-operative.

Opened in June 2003, 5+ Contemporary Ceramics is a small co-operative gallery in Ambleside in the Lake District. It predominately shows the work of its members and holds regular exhibitions of 2D and 3D work and is currently looking for new members.

The gallery is staffed on a rota, so new members must be able to commit to one day in ten.

For more details, contact:

5+ Contemporary Ceramics,
Dixons Court, 101 Lake Rd, Ambleside, Cumbria,
LA22 0DB;

phone: 015394 33821

email: fiveplus@onetel.com;

website: www.fiveplus.org.uk

Thanks, Ruth Charlton

For sale

Electric-kiln from Newcastle Staffs
6kw temp 1250° Supply 230v
internal measurements 18 in x 18in x15in
£150 buyer collect ring 01286831402 Chris Griffith or
Sue Morgan 01758614761

CRAFT POTTERY CHARITABLE TRUST

Annual Grant Scheme

The closing date for the Trust grant scheme is 15th December 2005.

The scheme is open to all ceramicists, whether members of the CPA or not.

Guidelines for applicants are available from
lizgale@interalpha.co.uk

Or send a stamped addressed A4 envelope to

Liz Gale
Secretary to the Craft Pottery Charitable Trust
Taplands Farm Cottage
Webbs Green
Soberton
Southampton SO32 3PY

For Sale

Gas Kiln (Reduction Kiln) R7091 - Podmore
Was £1,100 when new - £500 ono
Size: 22" w, 26" d, 35" high
See Page 59 PotteryCrafts Catalogue

Electric Wheel - Model Alsager 8385
Multi speed, foot pedal operated, 14" head (We think this could be replaced with a bigger one if necessary).
New 1998 cost £683 £300 ono

Frame size 29" x 29" + 15" (seat)

Overall length 42", height to top of frame 38"
featured in PotteryCrafts Catalogue

Contacts: Dawn Carvey 01325 378453
dawn@traditionalandscrumptious.co.uk or
Colin Gill 01759 305493

Scarborough Art Gallery

Scarborough Art Gallery will be hosting an exhibition of ceramics from the Ismay Collection from September '05 to January '06. The guest curator is Lars Tharp.

An education programme will accompany the exhibition, and anyone willing to offer talks and / or demonstrations should contact Dawn Brooks - dawnbrooks56@yahoo.co.uk for more details.

EXHIBITION PLINTHS

As Members may be aware the NPA has a stock of plinths and display tables which are now stored with GHS at Tingley Bar in Leeds. A full list of what is available can be obtained from William Johnson (Hon. Treasurer). If any member wishes to consider borrowing them they must first contact William and arrange to collect them during working hours and return them accordingly. They may need a coat of white emulsion paint before use.

Progression '05

An Exhibition of Ceramics, Fine Art, Jewellery and Textiles
by Lancashire Designers

Featuring the work of Lancashire Ceramicists:

Nadia Bowie
Brenda Fee
Lorraine Preisner

At

Chipping Gallery, The Old Post Office
20 Talbot Road, Chipping, Lancashire

Exhibition Dates: 6th - 31st August 2005

Opening Times: 9am – 5.30pm
[Closed: 1 – 2pm]

Preview Night – Friday 5th August 2005 – All welcome
Wine and Nibbles

**For further information contact Nadia Bowie
01772 615 811**

For Sale Wenger Electric Kiln

240 Volts, Phase 1, 5 KW, Isolator, Energy Regulator
Firing Temperature up to 1200 C

Complete with metal stand, kiln shelving and props

Internal size:

Width: 13 in [33cms], Height: 13 ½ in [35cms],
Depth: 20 ½ in [51cms]

Overall Height of kiln with stand – 56in [142cms]

Price - £375

Also free with Kiln—Kick wheel with plastic tray
Wheel head approx: 15in [38cms]

For images and more details contact:
nadiabowie@btinternet.com

By phone: Preston, Lancashire - 01772 615 811

Can you help?

I am interested to find someone who has hands-on experience doing paint brush decoration and calligraphy on tin glazed pots. My particular problem is that I find the brush drags on the dusty surface and impedes smooth brushwork. I have tried spraying hair spray on the surface of the glaze to make it less absorbent -but with minimal success.

If I could visit such a person and spend one or two days learning from them I would hope to solve these practical problems -which never seem to be quite covered in books.

I would agree a price for their time & expertise.
I live in the East Midlands.

Many thanks Finola Delamere

www.finspottery.co.uk

NPA News

Events

You will have noticed that Liz has been busy organising two one day events in September and October. Liz has organised them away from the busy summer months when there are a plethora of fairs, demos and holidays and we hope you will support her hard work by attending these events. A question raised by the committee—would local potters be prepared to put up people coming a distance, for the night? If you think you could then let us know.

Celebration

Barbara Wood reminded us that in 2007 it will be the 30th anniversary of the NPA. We are hoping to produce articles looking back over the 30 years. If you are one of the original members or indeed more recent member and have any material, anecdotes, images (with dates and info) relating to the NPA and its activities over the past 30 years, then we would like to hear from you. Please contact Penny Phillips (tel. no. 01904 797598 or e-mail: pp@lee-phillips.demon.co.uk) if you think you can help. Penny writes: "Calling all Northern Potter members. My volunteer work with the Yorkshire Museums Trust has revealed W. Ismays long history as a Northern Potter member as well as a rich history of the group in his collection of papers and photographs. I have volunteered to try and collect and archive any northern potter material i.e. festival material, old shows and exhibitions of northern potters work also any pictures. It would ultimately be great to be able to have a history of the group over the years to coincide with its anniversary in 2007. If you have any material please send it to the following address or even better bring it to the next annual meeting so I can pick it up in my car. Many thanks."

Success

As a result of the NPA stand at ClayArt in Denbigh, North Wales we received ten new members—well done to Jan, Barbara and Norman

Rufford—A new experience

I have just finished a Foundation Degree in Contemporary Design at Harrogate College and was delighted to be given the opportunity to take part in 'Earth and Fire' as one of the six potters selected to represent the work of the Associate Members of CPA on their stand.

I love pots. Earth and Fire is a celebration of an incredible diversity of pots and is about much more than just selling. Working Potters, perhaps habitually spending solitary hours in their studios, suddenly have a reservoir of kindred spirits with whom they can talk – and boy do they talk! In every café, on every walkway the overheard conversations are about glazes, firing problems, dunting, crazing, throwing, carbon trapping, different clays, design issues, tools, building kilns, and so on and so on – you could learn a lot by developing an efficient eavesdropping technique. It is great fun, it is also enormously stimulating and for me humbling – the quality of the work is breathtaking and the diversity exciting.

We arrived on the Friday evening and the six of us attempted to show the work of all to the best advantage, a not entirely easy job on an 8x4 foot stand with such a variety of work—but I think we eventually achieved an admirable result. We had sculptural work, traditional slipware, Oriental inspired large bowls and teapots, lithium glazed columns, my porcelain tableware and hand built, stretched raw forms. A mix which achieved the aim of showing the range of the work undertaken by members of the CPA.

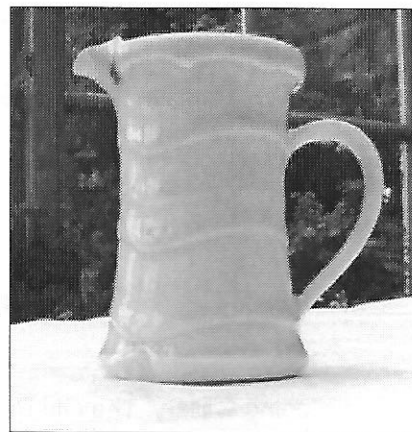
Flaming June let us down on Saturday – the weather was cold and drizzling, and after a night's camping never has a hot strong coffee been more welcome. However Rufford Park has the character to overcome dull weather – beautiful parkland trees are silhouetted against the tranquil brickwork of the old monastic buildings and the people still came. I quickly realised that most were very well informed, many being amateur potters or involved with ceramics in some other way and even if there was no sale it was fun to talk. Sunday was a brighter day and even more people came, as a group we were beginning to bond and we began to relax and enjoy the experience. One became adept at spotting those who were just looking, those who were determined to walk round the whole show before committing themselves to a sale, those who simply wanted to talk and the genuine buyer. Our stall attracted a lot of attention, there was a lot of interest in the CPA and pots were sold.

For me it was a very positive experience - I drove back to Yorkshire with ideas buzzing round my head, technical hints from other potters and a clearer idea of the realities of marketing one's work.

Isobel Dallas

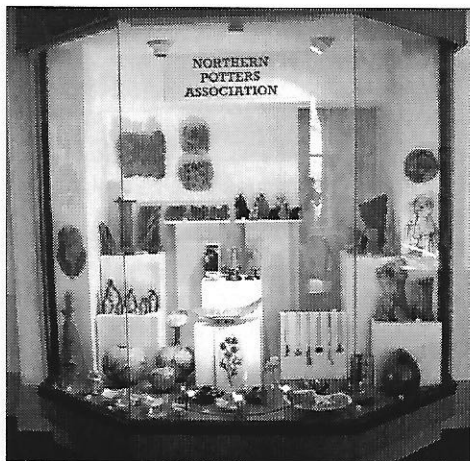
Farleigh House, Hollins Lane, Hampsthwaite, Harrogate, HG3 2EG

T:01423 770974 E: dallas@farleighhouse.fsnet.co.uk W: www.isobeldallas.co.uk



Jug by Isobel Dallas

NPA Yorkshire Region at Darlington



The Darlington Exhibition was a tremendous success for our first of such. Many of the exhibitors sold pieces and we had very positive feedback from viewers. The good quality of the pieces on display and the affordability was commented upon on numerous occasions. All those who purchased pieces wished to be put on a mailing list for future exhibitions and sales. Many



thanks to those who contributed pieces, I found it a struggle to fill the cabinet but any more would have been too much. Thanks also to Carol Metcalf for doing the groundwork enabling us to display at the centre.

The glass cabinet will be removed upon refurbishment and the gallery space made larger. After such a positive successful event we hope to have a 6 week selling exhibition in 2006. AJ

New Books

Artists' Guide To Selling Work	Annabelle Ruston	9.99	BI
Alternative Kilns	Ian Gregory	14.99	BI
British Studio Potters' Marks	Yates-Owen & Fournier	40.00	BI
Hans Coper	Tony Birks	17.95	Ma
Ruth Duckworth	Jo Laurion	30.00	LH
Electric Kiln Ceramics	Richard Zakin	29.99	D&C
Making Marks	Robin Hopper	27.99	D&C
Matsuzaki Ken		10.00	Ru
Mouldmaking & Casting	Nick Brooks	19.95	Cr
The Practice of Stoneware Glazes	Daniel de Montmollin	26.00	
The Surface Texture Book	Cat Martin	16.95	TH
The Traditional Ceramics of South East Asia	Mick Shippen	35.00	BI
Ceramics Ireland (magazine 2 issues per year)		4.00	
Keramik Magazin (magazine English language from Germany)			
New Ceramics (magazine English language from Germany)			
La Revue de la Ceramique et du Verre (magazine in French 6 issues per year)		8.50	

ROGER BELL, DEXTERITY

Book Review

ELECTRIC KILN CERAMICS

Publ Krause

Richard Zakin

£29.99

This is the 3rd Edition of Richard Zakin's book suggesting that a lot of people have found it useful and continue to do so. While for practical reasons more potters use electric kilns than any other firing method, it is the area with fewest specialist books available. Format and content is similar to other general pottery books such as Birks 'Pottery', Kenny 'Complete Book of Pottery Making', Mattison 'The Complete potter' etc. But without the special aspects of firing with gas, wood, oil or whatever it makes for easier use. No problem of checking out a particular glaze illustrated only to find a reducing atmosphere is required.

The chapter headings tell it all:- Clay & Clay Bodies; Ceramic Surfaces; Glazes; Creating Imagery; Loading & Firing; Structural Aspects of the Electric Kiln;..... There are plenty of images of work to illustrate the options available and in addition to the chapter 'A Portfolio of Work', several chapters have short sections on relevant potters. There is a worthwhile section on recipes for clay, slips, engobes and glazes from low to high fire (cone 06 to 10).

Although this is an American book, materials quoted are with few exceptions standard products available under the same name everywhere. The dreaded Gerstley Borate is discussed but not include in recipes. A useful book for the library for those firing by electricity.

GUSTAVO PEREZ

Those of you who saw Gustavo at Aberystwyth or know his work from magazines may be interested in the book on his work published in Mexico (Spanish text, beautiful photos). I have arranged to import some copies. No price known as yet. If you are interested get in touch.

Roger Bell

Welcome To New Members

Name	Address	Tel. No.	E-mail
Stephen Brown	46 Bewick Court, Princess Square, Newcastle, Northumbria NE1 8EG	0191 261 4084	brown.s@mail.com
Barbara Chadwick	3 Mayfield Road, Timperley, Altrincham, Cheshire WA15 7TB	0161 980 2111	
Samuel Dales	1 Southfield Houses, Kenwick Road., Louth, Lincs LN11 8NW	01597 605419	sam.dales@btinternet.com
Jeremy Grahame	13 Tostig Close, Stamford Bridge, York, N Yorks YO41 1PB	01759 373001	
Clive Nicholls	7 de Grey Court, York, N.Yorks YO30 6AZ	01904 612182	
Simon Shaw	3 South Villas, New Brighton, Merseyside CH45 5EF	0151 638 4994	shawboyd@btopenworld.com
Gaye Townley	2 Pecklewell Terrace, Maryport, Cumbria CA15 7QJ	01900 813568	CAGCATO@HOTMAIL.COM
Josie Tweddle	10 Meadow Close, Netherton, Maryport, Cumbria CA15 7AS	01900 313918	
Pauline Yarwood	Riverbank, 4 Starnthwaite Cottages, Crossthwaite, Kendal, Cumbria LA8 8HZ	015395 68603	paulineyarwood@btinternet.com
Ann Young	76 Woodlands Road, Handforth, Cheshire SK9 3AU	01625 523031	

A warm welcome is extended to our new members. We look forward to seeing you and your work at future events.

Celebrating Ceramics—a trio of exhibitions for Yorkshire

York, Scarborough and Wakefield Art Galleries

Three Yorkshire art galleries have joined forces to present a trio of exhibitions celebrating the vast ceramics collection of York Museums Trust. The exhibitions will take place at York, Scarborough and Wakefield Art Galleries in autumn 2005 and will showcase just a fraction of the 13,000 pieces in York Museums Trust's world-class collection, which ranges from prehistoric pots to the outstanding WA Ismay and Milner-White collections of 20th century studio pottery.

Ceramics expert and independent consultant Lars Tharp, best known for his appearances on the BBC's *Antiques Roadshow*, has worked with the Trust in selecting three individual groups of ceramics, using a different theme for each venue. Both specialists and general visitors should find something to enjoy in each show, which take in varying themes including design, technique, history and collecting.

The Celebrating Ceramics exhibitions have been funded by Esmée Fairbairn Foundation's Regional Museums Initiative (RMI), which supports museums in providing appealing and important exhibition programmes across the country. Under the RMI, nine exhibitions will take place at fifteen venues between 2004 and 2007. The initiative aims to support museums to play an enhanced role in the cultural life of their region and to ensure an increased and enthusiastic public. It is particularly interested in collaborations between museums, and projects that tour.

The *Celebrating Ceramics* exhibitions are:

Fired Up – Celebrating Ceramics from York's Collection, at York Art Gallery, from 17 September, 2005, until 15 January, 2006

Fireplace – Celebrating Ceramics from York's Collection, at Scarborough Art Gallery, from 24 September 2005, until 8 January, 2006

WA Ismay – A Passion for Pots – Celebrating Ceramics from York's Collection, at Wakefield Art Gallery, from 30 September, 2005, until 4 January, 2006

Fired Up – Celebrating Ceramics from York's Collection – at York Art Gallery

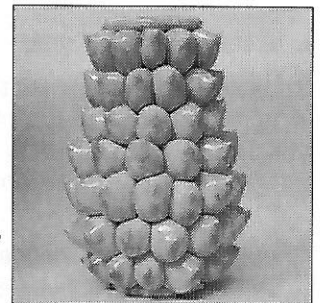
Hands slithering, opening, pulling, pushing, kneading and beating, and through the fusion of Earth, Fire, Air and Water, Pots are born.

From clay in the ground to the plate on the table, from the potter's wheel to kiln, to shop and finally to the client's table, shelf or pantry, the journey of a pot is a complex and often exciting process.

Celebrating their remarkable ceramic collections (totalling some 13,000 pieces), York Museums Trust's curators - along with independent consultant, Lars Tharp - have selected over 200 pots illustrating how, from prehistory to present, potters have responded with imagination, skill and practicality to the almost infinite opportunities and demands Man has made of humble clay for every situation.

Iron-age storage jars rub shoulders with classical Roman urns; 20th Century studio pitchers and flagons range alongside medieval drinking vessels; wares covering four centuries of tea and coffee drinking are served up together; ornaments for worship or admiration, toys and cult objects, sculpture and funerary figures – the ceramic range is vast, touching all stages of human existence. The exhibits are grouped in non-chronological clusters, groups united by a common theme of function, appearance or purpose.

To reinforce their physical metamorphosis, the pots are accompanied by archive film of all stages of their journey: craftsmen and factories at work as well as footage of contemporary potters talking about their favourite pieces in the exhibition, reminding us of the very physical processes which, over thousands of years, have brought these objects into the world.



Kate Malone

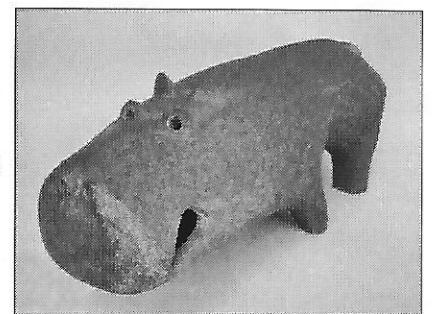
Fireplace - Celebrating Ceramics from York's Collection - at Scarborough Art Gallery

Home is where the Hearth is. For thousands of years the fireplace has glowed, moving from Stone Age encampment to the centre of the modern house. And above it The Mantelpiece, once an altar to the domestic gods, and today still crammed with objects and offerings central to our lives: the clock, a family photograph, our invitations... and our *art*. And above these (often ceramic) valuables, a mirror or a painting, reflecting the owners themselves.

Ceramics consultant Lars Tharp creates twelve distinctive fireplaces, grouping pictures from Scarborough Art Gallery with pottery drawn from the ceramic collections within York's museums and art gallery. The result is a zany series of domestic fireplace *tableaux* ranging from late Victorian to the Present, from Aesthetic to Minimalist. Among the sets: classical vases rubbing shoulders with Frank Brangwyn's vision of Rome and John Atkinson Grimshaw's haunted nocturne hovering over a China Maniac's horde.

Fireplace combines historical recreation with recreational history, from the House Beautiful to the merely whimsical.

During the exhibition viewers will be asked to submit photos of their own Fireplace/mantelpiece: these will be logged in and displayed (anonymously) on a special Exhibition Mantelpiece Notice Board. In early December Lars will award a prize to his



Rosemary Wren



yorkmuseumstrust
www.york.trust.museum

favourite Mantelpiece Photograph, the winner is asked to recreate their winning set as a final installation within the *Fireplace Exhibition* as its flames flicker through Christmas into the New Year.

WA Ismay - A Passion for Pots - Celebrating Ceramics from York's Collection at Wakefield Art Gallery



Sven Bayer Plate

Collectors are the first to admit it: collecting is a disease - and often an expensive one. Nevertheless, for forty years, and while working on a librarian's modest salary, Bill Ismay amassed the largest collection of studio ceramics in Britain— all housed in his home, a terraced house in Wakefield.

But what is it like to be in the grip of the Collecting Passion? -To be surrounded by the objects of your desire?

In *WA Ismay - A Passion for Pots* at Wakefield Art Gallery we recreate the home of the late WA Ismay, as it had become towards the end of his lifetime.

From the 1950s Bill Ismay acquired the works of rising studio potters, many of whom are today ranked as the Ceramic Stars of the 20th Century: Bernard Leach (and family), William Staite Murray, Hamada, Coper, Rie, Cardew are just some of the names represented in this extraordinary firmament. An outwardly-shy man,

Ismay became one of the most familiar players upon the stage of his chosen theme. But as his collection of pots grew, the space of his terraced house shrank about him, confining him to a corner of the kitchen table where he ate meals, prepared numerous contributions to *Ceramic Review* and responded to letters:

...a crisis position has been reached...where some of the pots are literally inaccessible as a result of continuous packings and then returning after months or years [WA Ismay, 1987]

Numbering some three and a half thousand pieces, and representing the work of over 500 potters (many becoming personal friends) this extraordinary collector generously bequeathed his lifetime's passion to the Yorkshire Museum, now part of York Museums Trust. In a *WA Ismay - A Passion for Pots* we pay tribute to a remarkable collector, we take you beyond the terrace and into the mental landscape of collecting,

recreating the physical sensation - the excitement and the claustrophobia - of Being a Collector.



Hans Coper

NOTES

1. York Art Gallery, Exhibition Square, opens from 10am until 5pm, Monday to Sunday, and admission is free. For more visitor information, telephone 01904 687687.

Scarborough Art Gallery, The Crescent, opens from 11am until 4pm, Tuesday to Sunday. Admission is £2.50 adults, £1.50 for concessions, £6 for family pass. For more visitor information, telephone 01723 374753.

Wakefield Art Gallery, Wentworth Terrace is open 10.30am – 4.30pm, Tuesday to Saturday, 2pm – 4.30pm, Sundays. Admission is free. For more visitor information, telephone 01924 305796.

2. York Museums Trust was established in August 2002 to manage York Art Gallery, York Castle Museum, Yorkshire Museum & Gardens and York St Mary's. All of the Trust's collections are Designated Collections – officially recognised for their national importance – and they include archaeology, decorative arts and social history, from which the ceramics for *Celebrating Ceramics* have been chosen.

3. The WA Ismay Collection was donated to the Yorkshire Museum by the late Bill Ismay, who built up a vast collection of ceramics in his Victorian terraced house in Wakefield. He was awarded the MBE in 1982 for his contribution to the world of ceramics.

The Milner-White Collection of twentieth century studio pottery was built up by the Very Reverend Eric Milner-White, who was Dean of York from 1941 until his death in 1963, and who had close links with York Art Gallery. His collection included works by many artists, but particularly concentrated on the works of Bernard Leach, Shoji Hamada and William Staite Murray.

4. The museums funded under the Esmée Fairbairn Foundation's Regional Museums Initiative (RMI) to date are: Brighton Museum and Art Gallery, The Holburne Museum, Bath, a consortium of museums led by Gallery Oldham, Norwich Castle Museum, Pallant House Gallery (Chichester), Sheffield Galleries & Museums, The Whitworth Art Gallery (Manchester) and York Museums Trust. A grant was made to the Royal Albert Memorial Museum (Exeter) to research its collection.

For more information, images or interviews, please contact Janet Hewison, Media Co-ordinator, York Museums Trust, telephone 01904 687670 or email janet.hewison@ymt.org.uk

Events Calendar 2005

Ceramica Cymru 9-11th September

NPA AGM + demonstration by Ashley Howard and Martin Lungley, Platform Gallery, Clitheroe—24th September

NPA OXO Tower Exhibition 6-24th October (Preview evening 6th October 6.00 to 8.30pm)

NPA one day event: David Frith and Brendan Hesmondhalgh, Harrogate College—29th October

Do you know of any other events, local or national? Let me know and I will include them in future.

NPA/Platform Gallery—Clitheroe



Platform Gallery
Station Road, Clitheroe,
Lancashire, BB7 2JT.
Tel. 01200 443071
Fax 01200 414556
e-mail platform.gallery@ribblevalley.gov.uk

The Platform Gallery invites the Northern Potters to the launch of :

Full Circle

An exhibition of thrown ceramics by Ashley Howard and Martin Lungley

Join us for refreshments and meet the artists on

Saturday 24 September 1pm – 3pm

10% off all purchases from 'Full Circle' (excluding catalogue) for all Northern Potters on the day.

Plus:

Throwing demonstration and talk

Join Martin and Ashley for a pre-launch talk about the exhibition and demonstration of their throwing techniques.

Both potters will be making examples of their work, using the potter's wheel, while discussing the influences and inspiration that has informed their careers.

11am – 1pm in the Platform Gallery Education room,

Sat 24th September.

Booking essential – tickets £5 and places limited!

Please call 01200 443071 to book.

Full Circle

Thrown ceramics by Ashley Howard and Martin Lungley

24 September – 29 October 2005

After touring to London, Kent and Reykjavik, *Full Circle*, a wonderful exhibition of domestic ceramics, comes to the award winning Platform Gallery in Clitheroe, Lancashire.

The exhibition features work in stoneware and porcelain by two of the UK's most interesting arrivals on the domestic pottery scene: Ashley Howard and Martin Lungley. Both have been working with ceramics for 20 years, having studied on the highly regarded Design/Ceramics Course at Kent institute of Art and Design in the 1980's. Lungley spent several years making garden ceramics, whilst Howard combined teaching with making studio pots. However, both felt a need to take a fresh look at clay and embarked on the MA at the Royal College of Art, Lungley in 1999 and Howard in 2001. The course led the two potters to rethink their working methods and materials, and *Full Circle* bears the fruits of this time.

The use of the wheel is central to both Howard and Lungley's work. Howard works mainly in porcelain and stoneware, and work varies from lidded jars and mugs to large font-like bowls. The action of throwing is obvious in the fluid, rippled and gouged surfaces, either simply glazed or decorated vigorously with vibrant enamel colours. Lungley works solely in porcelain, again concentrating on the domestic vessel. Fluid celadon glazes pool seductively in the pressed and incised textures on bowls and vase forms, whilst the creamy glazed tea sets allow the forms to speak for themselves.

What is most evident is the enjoyment both potters get from throwing – fresh, vibrant, fluid and tactile are all words that spring to mind when viewing the work. But it is important that the pots are used, as it is by handling and using the mugs, jugs and bowls that this enjoyment, understanding and love of the material is passed on to the user .



Image of Martin Lungley's Vessels



Images of Ashley Howard's tea set

Full Circle sees the beginning of a new stage in the careers of both Howard and Lungley. The exhibition will hopefully encourage a deeper understanding of wheel thrown ceramics and the way that the hand made object can add small but essential pleasure to our everyday lives.

All works will be for sale, with prices starting from £18

For more information and images, please contact:

Grace Whowell, Gallery Co-ordinator, on 01200 443071.

Gallery open Monday—Saturday, 10am—4.30pm. Admission free.

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NPA Demonstration Day

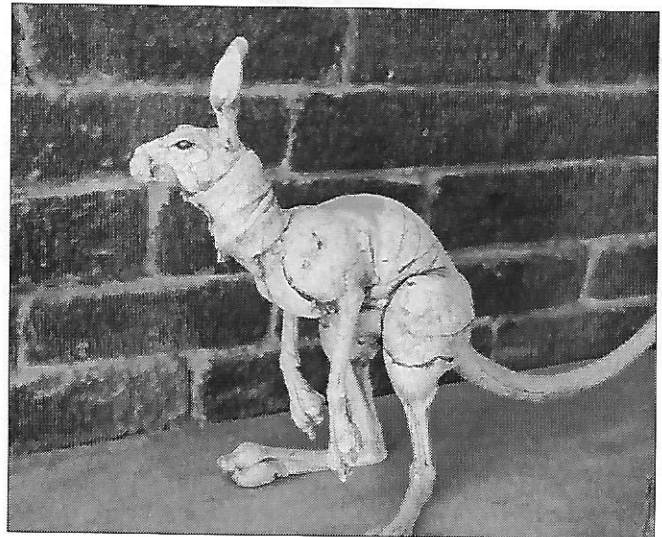
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Will be given to the NPA

Saturday 29th October

**David Frith &
Brendan Hesmondhalgh**
At
Harrogate College



David Frith



Brendan Hesmondhalgh

10am to 4pm in the Lecture Theatre
at Harrogate College, Hornbeam Park, Harrogate

please send a cheque for £10 made payable to the NPA to:
William Johnson, Orchard House, Marston Lane, Moor Monkton, York, YO26 8JL

NPA Regional News

CUMBRIA REGION REPORT

Since the last report several activities have taken place. The Keswick Moot Hall Selling Event (28th May to 3rd June) attracted a lot of visitors but sales were disappointing overall as seems normal in the current environment. Only Bob Park and I shared the task of delivery and collection for the Cliffe Castle exhibition and were grateful to Jan Scott for returning unsold work to us. What an excellent display. Currently underway is the exhibition Bob Park has organised at Keswick Museum (5th to 30th July). Sales seem to be going well and the curator has been keen and efficient.

No progress from Peter Scott Gallery re Peter Lane lecture and slide show.

On a more positive note Mary Chapplehow has offered to host a social gathering at Wetheriggs on Monday 22nd August involving BBQ, a guided tour of the old pottery workings and the shops will be open.

Also we now have a firm date for the Fast-Fire Woodfiring:

SAT 1st OCTOBER AT ALSTON AT SUE SHARP'S POTTERY

Program: 9.00 a.m. Meet & Introduction
a.m. Glaze Pots
10.00 a.m. Load Kiln
10.45 a.m. Light Kiln, Stoke & Prepare Wood
c.3.00 p.m. Kiln reaches temperature

Work will be unloaded on Sunday 2nd. Arrangements will be made to get fired pots to those who cannot attend.

Bring biscuit fired pot(s). Glaze firing will be to 1085 approx. Mike Eden's 'Clear Glaze' will be provided plus some of his coloured glazes and slips. Possibly Raku also.

Cost: £8.50 To pay for glaze materials and wood. Max 15 participants.

Non Cumbria Region members welcome if not fully booked. Let me know if you would like to attend (bell.roger@btinternet.com or 015394 32730).

Roger Bell

Yorkshire Potters Group

BISHOPTHORPE SALE Saturday October 29th &

POPPLETON SALE Saturday 26th & Sunday 27th November.

Meeting to discuss promotion and costs etc to be held at The Johnsons

Moor Monkton on 1st September 2005 at 7pm. Bishopthorpe sale is fully booked but 3 places remaining at Poppleton. Contact Ann ASAP if you wish to take part.

RAKU

A raku firing day is being planned for Saturday 1st October get making pieces to fire using suitable clay (crank is best). Contact Ann to book a place, a charge will be made for glaze, expertise etc. Time and venue to be announced but in the York area, probably The Johnsons.

PAPER CLAY

The workshop with Mal Magson that was cancelled early in the year will be rescheduled for Sept/Oct. Ring Ann to show your interest.

ANN C JOHNSON. TELEPHONE 01904 738541

Electronic Book

The committee has given the go ahead for us to put together the electronic book as mentioned in the last issue of the newsletter. I hope to have the first version ready early in the new year. We hope to include as many members as possible and would like you to e-mail or send by post your data to be included in the book.

What do I need? Four good quality images which represent the range of your work. They can be photographs or preferably digital images. I also need your contact details (those you would want others to know)—address, telephone number, mobile, e-mail and website. Finally an artists statement of no more than 80 words describing your working process and inspiration.

n.b. The NPA reserves the right not to use images or text if it is deemed inappropriate.

CPA News

Saturday 22 October 2005

A day in York with Sebastian Blackie

Sebastian Blackie is well known for his experimental paper kilns. He exhibited last year at Galerie Besson and has pots in the Aberystwyth, Bill Ismay and Anthony Shaw Collections. His new book *Dear Mr Leach...* contains sections on toothpaste and the benefits of boredom, as well as a photo of the author climbing a wall with a rope made of plaited newspaper. This should be a very stimulating and thought-provoking day.

11am – 1pm York City Art Gallery

A visit to a major new exhibition celebrating the Bill Ismay Collection, covering Neolithic pots through to Bill's studio pottery. We will have a special viewing session of pots by Cardew, Coper and Yasuda and an archaeology talk on some fascinating pre-historic funerary vessels from the York area.

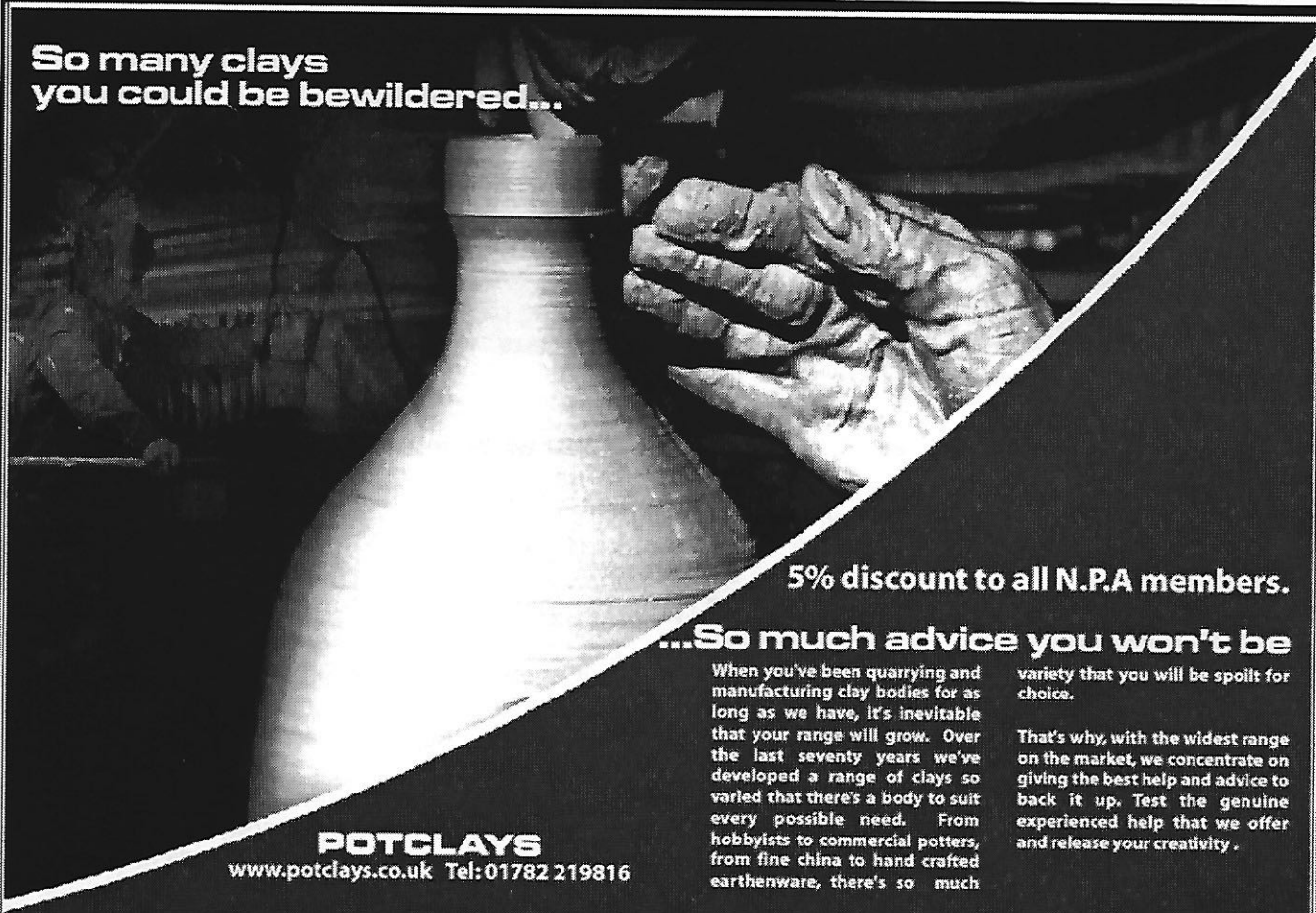
2pm St. John's College

A slide talk followed by discussion, considering the reasons we make pots, as well as the methods we use. Sebastian Blackie will illustrate some of the ways his practice has developed during his career. He will show how work can result from the integration of several quite disparate sources, and how concept and process inform and reflect each other. He will describe some of his innovative methods, including kilns made from paper and his recent firing experiments with materials normally used for cooking, cleaning and DIY.

Tickets: £9 CPA members, £12 non-members, £6 students with proof of status

Send a cheque payable to The CPA and an SAE to:

Isabel Denyer, Wighill House, Wighill, Tadcaster, North Yorkshire, LS24 8BG, Tel. 01937 835632.



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William has requested that you check your standing order for your NPA subscription. It should be for £22. Some members have not upgraded it from £17 to £22.

In the Next Issue:

- News of Future Events
- News from the Regions.

GHS

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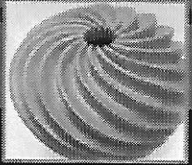
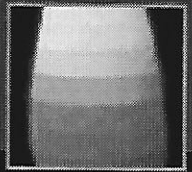
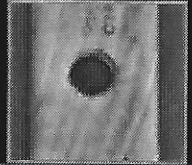
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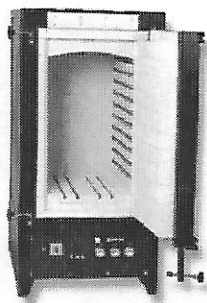
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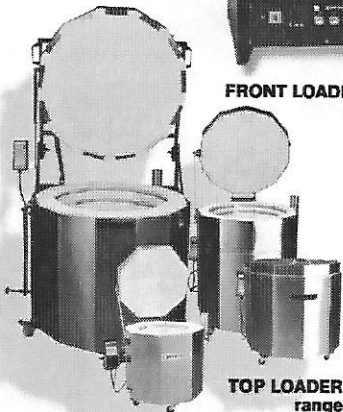
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Contact the membership secretary:

Maureen Smith for further details
18 Riley Close, Bracebridge Heath, Lincoln, LN4 2QS
01522 859 105
E-mail: smithsatbbh@ntlworld.com



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