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members

NPA NEWS

The magazine of the Northern Potters Association



November - December 2011

www.northern-potters.co.uk



In this issue:

A Potter's Moll Writes...., AGM Report, The Anthony Shaw Collection

Editor's Comment

There is sad news to report in this issue, with the death of David Constantine White - please see Jim Robison's words on page 26. Jim is also including a tribute to David in his Christmas Show at Booth House Gallery.

There have been excellent reviews of the 'Urban Traces: Ceramics and the City' at Gallery Oldham, curated by Dinah Winch and NPA member Brigitte Soltau. Both Rene Cryer and Liz Robison enthuse about it, and the images from the show look fascinating. Let's hope that our own exhibition there is as well-received. The opening will take place on Saturday, 19 November, and the show runs until 8 January. Some members are giving demonstrations on the opening afternoon, which will make it very interesting for visitors and fellow potters.

We have deadlines coming up soon for 3 new events - a themed exhibition at Joe Cornish Gallery, Northallerton, in March - April, an exhibition at Rufford Craft Gallery in September - October, and the NPA Group Stand at Earth & Fire. Please read the details on pages 6 and 7, and make sure you get your application forms completed in time.

These are excellent chances to get your work included in one or more of these, and may let you bring your work to a new market. For most of us, showing (and selling) our work is essential to enabling us to continue making, so committee members work hard to find these opportunities. There has already been quite a lot of work invested before we can bring them to you, so please apply! It is so disheartening when a member tells me they didn't know anything about an exhibition which I know we've publicised in the newsletter.

Transformations in Clay, organised by members of NPA-SE, at Sheffield Anglican Cathedral, began with an exhibition of site specific pieces from 1st to 30th November, and will have selling stalls and a full programme of workshops and demonstrations to run from 12th to 26th November. For more details, go to www.transformationsinclay.co.uk.

If you pay your subscription by standing order, and haven't yet changed it to the Co-op Bank, please see (and act on) the reminder on page 4.

Barbara Wood

Your Committee

Barbara Wood Old Mills, Seaton Ross, York, YO42 4NH Tel: 01759 318146 Email: barbara.wood99@btinternet.com	Chair & Newsletter
Alan Birchall Red Lion Cottage, 228 High Road, Chilwell, Nottingham, NG9 5DB Tel: 07709 509985 Email: doc.albirchall@ntlworld.com	Treasurer
Julie Ward 45 Whitestone Dr, York, YO31 9HY Tel: 01904 611895 Email: jgward@hotmail.co.uk	Secretary
Margaret Lawrenson 'Seven Firs', Kemp Rd, Swanland, E.Yorks, HU14 3LZ Tel: 01482 634784 Email: margaret@sevenfirs.karoo.co.uk	Membership
Lesley Nason Barn Croft, Fishpond Lane, Egginton, Derbyshire, DE65 6HJ Tel: 01283 736017 Email: lesley.nason@btopenworld.com	Exhibitions
Sylvia Holmes Chapel Farm, Thixendale, N Yorkshire, YO17 9TG Tel: 01377 288340 Email: sylviajaneholmes@yahoo.co.uk	Coordinator for regional groups
John Cook Email: mr.jccookie@googlemail.com / websitenpa@gmail.com	Website
Helen Walsh York Art Gallery, Exhibition Square, York YO1 7EW Email: helen.walsh@ymt.org.uk	
Su Hudson Email: suhudson@btinternet.com	
Rene Cryer Email: mail@renecryer.co.uk	
Marianne von Tucka Email: Marianne.vontucka@btinternet.com	
Carol Metcalfe Email: carol4npa@yahoo.co.uk	

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Cover :

James Hake - **Large Nuka Bottle**,
thrown, stoneware, h 45cm

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Next Issue

To contribute to the next issue of NPA News, send your articles, comments and / or images to
Barbara Wood
by 4 January 2012

You can write an article about a gallery / exhibition / place of interest you have visited, about your own ceramic work, or that of someone you admire. Don't be shy about promoting yourself!

Please send between 300 and 1000 words, and send them as an email attachment, or on a cd, or in longhand. Email attachments are easiest for me to include, but I will re-type if absolutely necessary! High resolution (big jpeg files) digital images are preferred, as these give the best quality for printing, but I can scan photos. Low resolution (small files) digital images are the worst - they may be fine for websites, but don't have enough detail for a printed magazine. Send your text as a .doc file (or equivalent) - if it's a jpeg, or a pdf, it's not easy for me to edit it as necessary.

Make sure you have permission to use any images you send. Some galleries / artists will allow you to take photographs of their work for your own reference, but not for publication. If you are asked to include a copyright statement please send it to me and I will use it (e.g. all images provided by York Museums Trust include something like 'courtesy of John Maltby / York Museums Trust').

Text and images can be e-mailed to npanews@btinternet.com, sent on CD or in long hand with photographs to Old Mills, Seaton Ross, YORK, YO42 4NH.

Membership Payments - reminder

As we mentioned in the last issue, NPA has changed its bank account from Yorkshire Bank plc to The Co-operative Bank.

As a result of this switch it becomes necessary for ALL members who pay by Standing Order to change their mandates with their own banks.

If you pay your membership fees by Standing Order please contact your bank to change the receiving NPA bank details. **Please retain the same date your payment is made and make sure you cancel your existing standing order, e.g. if your payment is due in February, ask for the new mandate to start in February.**



NORTHERN
POTTERS
ASSOCIATION

From existing bank : Yorkshire Bank plc
Sort code: 05 07 17
Account number: 35683010

To new bank : **The Co-operative Bank**
Sort code: 08 92 99
For the account of: Northern Potters Association
Account number: 65488052

Many members will be able to make this switch by using either telephone or internet banking.

If you have any queries on this, please contact

Alan Birchall, Treasurer

e-mail: doc.albirchall@ntlworld.com

Thank you to those who have already made the change.

New Books - Roger Bell

Ruthin Craft Centre Publications	
Nancy & Gordon Baldwin	7.50
Dave Binns	7.50
Collecting Contemporary Ceramics	12.00
Ruth Duckworth	12.00
Matsuzaki Ken	10.00
Norman Makinson	5.00
Slip	3.00
Sutton Taylor 'Lustre'	10.00
Welsh Table	4.50

Book Review - Roger Bell

NANCY & GORDON BALDWIN

Publ: Ruthin Craft Centre

Ed Philip Hughes

£7.50

Ruthin Craft Centre in Denbighshire has for many years put on exhibitions of real quality across all the crafts including glass, textiles, jewellery, wood, metal and, of course, ceramics. Most are accompanied by excellent publications of 20 to 150 pages, priced from £3 to £15. Past publications include Michael Casson, Ruth Duckworth, Claire Curneen, Craig Mitchell and Walter Keeler. Early next year they are producing another show of Catrin Howell's work.

This volume of 40 pages celebrates the exhibition of work by Nancy & Gordon Baldwin. The husband and wife team both studied pottery at the Central School of Arts & Crafts but while Gordon set to work as a ceramic sculptor, Nancy previously concentrated on painting. These new pots were hand-built by Gordon, then modelled, carved and painted (in glaze) with figures by Nancy.

Like most ceramics books the Ruthin publications are not widely available. It is worth consulting the website (www.ruthincraftcentre.org.uk). My experience of the shop has been of excellent service and the centre is well worth a visit if you are in the area.

Gordon Baldwin at York Art Gallery - press release

The first major UK touring exhibition on one of the country's most significant ceramic artists will open at York Art Gallery next year.

Gordon Baldwin: Objects for a Landscape will showcase more than 100 works, giving a rich and exciting insight into the history of British constructed clay over the last 50 years.

The exhibition, which opens on February 11 2012, will include new, never seen before work by Baldwin as well as featuring related drawings, collages and other 2D works by the artist.

The exhibition is preceded by a second supporting exhibition, *Excitations*, Baldwin's choice of ceramics from the York Art Gallery collection by artists whose styles and techniques have inspired him. This exhibition, which opened in October, acts as an introduction to the art of Baldwin and will then complement the main show when it opens in February.

Helen Walsh, assistant curator of decorative arts, said: "Gordon Baldwin, OBE, is regarded as the UK's most distinguished living sculptural potter, who for the last 50 years has been making the most radical and exciting work in clay. He has been highly influential as both a teacher and an artist and is seen as a key post-war artist who moved ceramics onto a sculptural platform away from its more traditional functional concerns.

"*Objects for a Landscape* will include many works on display to the public for the first time since they were made allowing an in-depth look at some of Baldwin's most significant work. Meanwhile *Excitations* will offer a unique look into the artists, styles and techniques which have influenced Baldwin throughout his career."

Excitations: October 15 2011 – Autumn 2012

The exhibition features 35 works by artists chosen by Baldwin because of the influence they had on him when he was a student, when they helped bring about the moment he gave up painting in favour of working primarily in clay.

The choices are varied, ranging from medieval jugs to Japanese works to modernist pieces. Artists chosen include Bernard Leach, Hans Coper, Sam Haile and Pablo Picasso.

Helen Walsh, assistant curator of decorative arts, said: "We were excited to offer Gordon the opportunity to select his own exhibition using our collection and are delighted with the results. It offers an intriguing insight into this important artist and his sources of inspiration."

Gordon designed the exhibition around his time as a student and decided to limit himself to the key artists and types of pots he came across during that period. The objects are supported by photographic images, some taken by Gordon and others showing him during his student days.

Exhibitions and Events - Lesley Nason

CALL FOR APPLICATIONS Rufford Gallery, Nottinghamshire www.ruffordcraftcentre.org.uk

This will be the venue for an NPA selected exhibition running from 16 September 2012 until 21 October 2012.

Rufford has a long history of staging high quality ceramic exhibitions and is host to the international ceramics fair Earth & Fire. NPA also has a history of holding very successful group exhibitions at this venue.

If you intend applying for selection then please make sure that you submit 6 clear images of your work, along with your application form, illustrating the style of ceramics you produce. If possible please send your images by email or on a disc in a jpg format.

We are aiming to hold the selection for the exhibition in January 2012, therefore **the deadline for receiving your applications will be Friday 23rd December 2011.**

(unfortunately, any applications received after this date cannot be included for selection)

To apply, email for an application form – lesley.nason@btopenworld.com, or phone 01283 736017.

Earth & Fire 2012 – NPA Group Stand

NPA have been offered a group stand at Earth & Fire, Rufford, 22 – 24 June 2012. This will be shared by 3 selected members, with a small promotional area for NPA, so £65 (a quarter of the fee) will be paid by each participant. This is a good opportunity for members who do not have the amount of work (or perhaps confidence) necessary for a full stand, but would like to participate in such a prestigious event. A short list of applicants will be made for NPA by an independent selection panel, and the final participants are chosen by the event organisers

To apply, email for an application form – lesley.nason@btopenworld.com, or phone 01283 736017

The deadline for completed application forms is 18 November 2011.

invitation



Gallery Oldham would like to invite you to celebrate the opening of our new exhibition
Northern Potters

Saturday 19 November 2011, from 1pm

This selected exhibition is a showcase for the Northern Potters Association, including functional, sculptural and decorative ceramics, all of which are for sale

Gallery Oldham

Cultural Quarter, Greaves Street,
Oldham, OL1 1AL, Tel: 0161 770 4653
www.galleryoldham.org.uk
open Mon - Sat 10am - 5pm
Sun 10am - 4pm Free admission



Joe Cornish Gallery - exhibition opportunity - Barbara Wood

NPA exhibition - 10 March - 25 April 2012

We have been offered an opportunity to hold a small, selected exhibition at Joe Cornish Galleries, Register House, Zetland Street, Northallerton, DL6 1NA. It will be themed on the natural world, landscape and the environment, so if your work is in keeping with this theme, please think about applying. For more information about the gallery, see www.joecornishgallery.co.uk.

The following brief has been provided by the gallery:

Established over 10 years ago the Joe Cornish Gallery has grown in reputation and scale and for the last 5 years has been located at Register House, the beautiful, grade 2 listed, former North Riding Registry building in the centre of Northallerton.

Joe Cornish Gallery occupies the ground floor and houses a permanent collection of Joe Cornish's photographic prints, the gallery is also host to temporary solo and group exhibitions by highly-regarded photographers, painters and makers from the surrounding area and further afield in the UK. In addition, the first and second floor rooms of Register House are leased as gallery space to other photographers and creative industry organisations and are open to the public

The artistic emphasis in the temporary exhibition programme is on responses to the natural world, landscape (rural and urban) and the environment. Joe Cornish Gallery is also interested in artists and makers whose work references or includes natural materials and found objects.

The proposed exhibition space for the Northern Potters Association temporary exhibition is the House Gallery at Joe Cornish Gallery. This gallery comprises 2 connected rooms on the ground floor which have a combined floor space of approximately 400 ft²/37 m². The space can accommodate several medium to large free-standing, ceramic pieces and many smaller pieces which can be shown in display cases or on low tables and tree stump stands. In addition (as all Joe Cornish prints will be removed from the House Gallery walls for the duration of the Northern Potters Association exhibition) Joe Cornish Gallery welcomes wall mounted ceramic pieces to complement the free-standing work.

To ensure that selected artists have time to make the work, the selection will take place in late November, so the closing date for applications is **24 November**.

For an application form, please contact Barbara Wood - barbara.wood99@btinternet.com, or 01759 318146. You will need up to 6 high resolution images of the type of work you wish to exhibit. If necessary, you can submit photos, but please do not send low resolution printouts of digital images. Full details are included on the application form.

In accordance with a decision made at the recent AGM, exhibition application fees for unsuccessful applicants will be returned to them, so if your work is not selected there will be no charge for applying. We hope this will encourage more members to apply.

AGM Report - Barbara Wood

The recent AGM, at York Art Gallery, was well attended, although it clashed with the opening of NPA-SE's exhibition at Thoresby, so perhaps that reduced the number of members present from that area. After 'the usual' reports on the association's activities in the previous year, we proceeded to discuss the topic of NPA finances.

There had been significant email contact concerning the use of NPA funds, and 5 proposals were put to the meeting. These were:

- 1: **Allocate funds for regions to organise exhibitions, talks, educational programme.** Need system of accountability but region makes own decisions re activities. If the region doesn't use the allocated funds they would be returned to NPA (*this implies an actual handing over of an amount of money to the individual regional coordinators, presumably into their own bank accounts*)
- 2: **£500 - £1000 per year is ring fenced for each region to organise and promote ceramics in the form of one or two non or partially self-financing projects without a committee decision.** Once a project has been designed by the regional group the treasurer releases money without recourse to a full committee meeting. The regional coordinator is responsible for justifying and recording the expenditure to the treasurer for the financial year. If a region doesn't spend its money it could roll over for one year only. Review the policy after two years.
- 3: **Hold an annual NPA event without selection paid for by NPA,** e.g. a marquee at Harrogate Flower Show.
- 4: **Ring fence an amount and the regional coordinators as a committee decide between themselves which projects to support.**
- 5: **Each year, 6 one day educational events be funded by NPA for the benefit of members, one held in each of the regions.** These could be organised either by the NPA committee or by the regional groups, but would be free of charge to members.

Each of these proposals was discussed in some detail, and then put to a vote. Only item 5 was seconded, in a revised form, as follows:

Each year, each regional group be encouraged to organise an educational event for the benefit of all members, to be funded by NPA. This will be subject to a fully costed proposal being submitted and approved by NPA committee.

This item was voted on and accepted by those present.

There was also a discussion on whether an amount should be specified for spending on these events, but as this might affect the type of event planned, no amount was agreed. It is for each regional group, via its coordinator, to propose the event, and the committee will need to take an overview on the individual merits of each proposal.

Comment

There is some merit to most of these proposals, but members seem to be overlooking the current position - that regional events should be organised with a view to being self financing, but where this is not possible, the committee will consider supporting them from NPA funds. A realistic budget must be prepared before the event is publicised and submitted to committee, the event must be open to all members, and the NPA regional logo must be included on publicity material.

If the event is not an educational one for members, there should be some wider benefit in promoting ceramics to the public (such as some of the events organised for National Ceramics Week, which had no commercial aspect for participants). There is a clear distinction between benefitting many members by enhancing their skills and knowledge, and subsidising their individual commercial viability by paying some of their business costs!

So, if you have a good idea for a regional event, contact your coordinator and help make it happen. If you know of a venue to host either an exhibition or a talk/demonstration, or can recommend an entertaining speaker get in touch. And if you're still not happy with what NPA is doing, join the committee and participate in making changes.

Diary

10 - 13 November	Philadelphia Museum of Art Craft Show - includes member Hannah McAndrew - pmacraftshow.org
18 November	Deadline for applications for NPA Group Stand, Earth & Fire - see page 6
19 November - 8 January	NPA Selected Exhibition - Gallery Oldham
19 - 20 November	Art in Clay , Farnham - includes members Steph Black, George Ormerod, Annie Peaker, David Wright - farnham.artinclay.co.uk
19 - 20 November	Art and Clay - exhibition at the Athenaeum, Leasgill, LA7 7EX, including members Nigel Edmondson, James Hake, and John Kershaw - see page 19
19 - 20 November	Pots in Poppleton , selling event by NPA-E, Tithe Barn, Poppleton, YO26 6NT - see page 17
20 November - 31 December	Jim and Friends - exhibition by Jim Robison, friends and former students www.boothhousegallery.co.uk - see page 12
24 November	Deadline for applications for NPA exhibition at Joe Cornish Gallery - see page 7
28 November - 11 December	James Faulkner exhibition - Gallery at St Martin's, Lincoln - www.jamesfaulkner.co.uk
until 31 November	Transformations in Clay , exhibition, workshops, demonstrations, Sheffield Anglican Cathedral, www.transformationsinclay.co.uk (open evening 11 November)
23 December	Deadline for applications for NPA exhibition at Rufford - see page 6
until 31 December	Hedgerows and Horizons - exhibition of paintings and ceramics by Liz Churton and NPA member Barbara Wood, see page 12
until 31 December	Hannah McAndrew at Crown Gallery, Carlisle, crowngallery.net
until 31 December	Hannah McAndrew at Larks Gallery, Ballater, larksgallery.com
31 January 2012	Deadline for applications for Out of the Earth III - see page 24

Please send me details of events you think members would like to hear about - Ed

A Potter's Moll Writes - Liz Robison

Mulling over events of the summer as course students arrive in ones and twos to collect fired work, my mind goes back to an evening in July as we sat in the studio discussing the week ahead and what the students hope to achieve. Jim was describing the equipment available and showing what could be done with it. When he mentioned the extruder and showed examples of extruded pots and rims, one student asked, 'But isn't that cheating?'

It is an intriguing thought but actually extruding is only *one method* of achieving an effect which can be used from toothpaste to sewer pipes, and before the week was out the student was using extrusion as well as pinching, coiling and slabbing.

Some of the pots produced are almost inevitably Jim 'look-alikes' since the students have chosen this course because they like the ceramics he makes and/or they want to explore new techniques. Then in the future they can adapt what they have learnt to their own techniques.

Our friend, Ann Young, who came for the tenth time this year, always comes with a firm idea of what she wants to make, whereas another student came with no experience whatsoever and yet achieved excellent results and declared himself thoroughly satisfied. He was also very helpful to other students in a 'technician' sort of way.

Ian Marsh who filled this role for many years has gone to live in Gwynedd and has become a North Wales potter – look out for his work at the shop in Conwy or at Oriel Ynys Mon at Llangefni on Anglesey.



Della Robbia plate



Stephen Dixon's 'Fortress'

I have written before about my favourite municipal exhibition space, Gallery Oldham. This time we went to see Urban Traces – Ceramics and the City, curated by Dinah Winch and Brigitte Soltau. The gallery has a growing collection of historic as well as contemporary pieces and on show were pieces by Gordon Baldwin, Ian Gregory and Martin Smith.

Stephen Dixon's piece 'Fortress' was striking: made when he was working with Kosovan refugees, the cosy inner terrace circled by defensive, graffiti-scrawled wall seemed to reflect some of the attitudes towards what people consider to be outsiders. Ken Eastman's piece 'Place' was intriguing as it explored references to architecture while the space *within* remains inaccessible.

Rebecca Appleby's clay 'boulders' are given surface treatment with reference to urban materials and to graffiti, scratching and scuffing. The pieces are very fluid in form while the surface decoration has firm underlying structure.

At Gallery Oldham there is a policy whereby visitors can handle and touch some pieces so it was amusing and rewarding to see some exhibits labelled: 'Please touch'. This enabled me to appreciate a piece of David Binns' work more than I ever have before. It is a two-piece kiln-cast standing form in copper stained porcelain, re-cycled glass and mineral aggregates: very tactile and eye-catching.

Alice Mara exhibited three 'Urns': very accomplished pieces called 'City Block', 'Urban Flats' and 'Council Flats'. The amount of detail in the decoration is amazing. The exhibition ran until 6 November.

In another room there was a multi-media exhibition called: Forget-me-not – The Language of Flowers. One piece was a large and very beautiful plate from the Della Robbia pottery which operated in my home town, Birkenhead. As a youngster I spent ages in the Williamson Art Gallery gazing at the huge glass cases of their elegant, opulent pieces.

The Friends of the Cooper Gallery in Barnsley have an annual fund-raising raffle and this year the first prize is one of Jim's vases. Unlike most organisations who approach us for contributions, this group offered a fee of about half the retail value of the pot which seems commendable to me. We went over there this week so Jim could be photographed with the piece and some of the Friends for publicity in the Barnsley Chronicle, no less. You have to admire the people who volunteer to raise money for galleries and theatres, especially in these times of austerity.

As a small business it is always important to 'put yourself about a bit'. We were recently one port of call for HOST (Huddersfield Open Studios Trail) which gives people a chance to see behind the scenes or in some cases, 'have a go', and if there are several venues in the area perhaps visitors may check out other studios which are not usually open to the public.

We display work at three local pubs/restaurants – Jim's and other potters and painters. This contributes to their décor and to our sales, either directly or later and of course if gallery visitors ask for advice on where to eat we direct them to the ones we know: mutually beneficial.

When I was in our local bank the other day the following conversation took place:

Bank Clerk: I haven't seen him for a while. Is he alright?'

Me: Yes he's fine. He's busy working.'

Bank Clerk: I suppose with a job like that he'll never give up. Ah well, love, it keeps him from under your feet.'



Rebecca Appleby's 'boulder'

NPA Website

The new, improved NPA website is now up and running - www.northern-potters.co.uk.
Please go and check your own details, and if there are any problems get in touch with **John Cook** - websitenpa@gmail.com

If you have not yet sent in your details (and that applies to more than half the members!), please send John up to 4 images, the contact details that you want listed (name, phone, email, website - we will not include geographical addresses) and a statement of up to 100 words about you / your work.

Also, remember to send details of events you are participating in to npanews@btinternet.com. They can be put on the website straightaway, and will go in the newsletter diary if the timing is right. If you send an image of a poster or flier, that will also be put on the website.

Committee Changes

During the last year, Liz Collinson, Dave Horsfall, Colette Hennigan and Babs Taylor have all left the committee due to other pressures and priorities. They are all missed, as every member has a contribution to make to our association.

We are fortunate that Carol Metcalfe has re-joined, and Marianne von Tucka joined the committee at the AGM. They have not taken on any specific roles at present, but perhaps, once they're settled in, they may decide which tasks they would like to be involved in. Carol was newsletter editor before me, so already has a great deal of knowledge of how we operate, and Marianne has been a willing helper setting up and taking down exhibitions (and makes the best gooseberry jelly I've ever tasted - that should be worth another jar!).

Hedgerows and Horizons

An exhibition of paintings and ceramics by Liz Churton and Barbara Wood

from 26 October to 31 December
Gallery Beyond,
The Barn,
Nunnington,
YO62 5US

open Monday, Wednesday - Saturday, 10am - 4pm,
other times by appointment



Booth House Gallery and Pottery

An invitation to our
'Jim and Friends'
Christmas Exhibition:

Work by **Jim Robison, Friends and former Students**
Plus a tribute to David Constantine White

Opening:

Sunday 20 November 2011, 12 - 4pm
Gallery open every Sat, Sun 12 - 4pm:
Mid week please ring to check times

The show continues through December
All very welcome

Booth House Gallery and Pottery, 3 Booth House Lane
Holmfirth, Huddersfield, HD9 2QT
Tel: 01484 685270 www.boothhousegallery.co.uk
contact: jim.robison@boothhousegallery.co.uk

The Joy of Food - Anne Turner

Lund Gallery, Easingwold, North Yorkshire
25 September - 6 November

The preview of the 'Joy of Food' exhibition at the Lund Gallery took place on Sunday 25th September. I wasn't quite sure what to expect, but the show more than lived up to my expectations.

The Lund is a beautifully designed showing space and for this exhibition was furnished with dining and tea tables, sporting decorative glass, cutlery and lace. Nothing matched, but this just added to the interest of the show. The 'tea party' theme served to tie together the variety of potters' and other craft makers' work, providing an imaginative setting. It was exciting to see such a variety of well-known potters' work under one roof in Yorkshire, including that of Jack Doherty, Walter Keeler, Lisa Hammond, Clive Bowen, Margaret Curtis and Isa Denyer.

It is difficult to pick out work from individual makers, but I will mention some as they serve to illustrate the variety and quality of work shown. The 'dinner table' was set with places that featured plates, dishes and large and small bowls. Contrasting in style were the Japanese – inspired and monochrome pieces, thrown and altered, by Kaori Tatebayashi and the precisely – thrown speckled orange glaze plates and dishes by Isa Denyer.

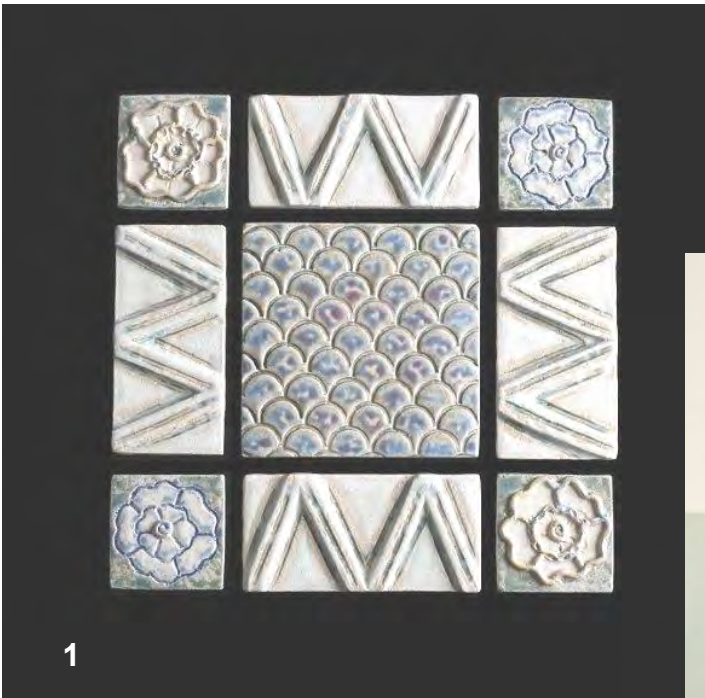
On a dresser were Walter Keeler's trademark blue salt-glazed pots, contrasting with Sandy Brown's vibrantly-coloured work and Margaret Curtis's exquisite tiny red teabowls. The 'tea table' was so realistically set with cupcakes on decorative cake stands that one visitor commented in surprise that I was actually eating a cupcake! This table had an air of the surreal about it with vintage plates by Lou Rota, printed with beetles, cockroaches and other creepy-crawlies. I found the beady eyes of a jackdaw on the wall rather disconcerting!

All in all this was an exhibition well worth visiting. It was especially so for me as I was at last able to purchase that long - coveted Jack Doherty pot. It's the one on a single shelf on the left, with a red dot on it!



Members' Gallery

Let me have images of your latest work for inclusion in the members' gallery - Ed





1. Ann Bates - **Tiles**, earthstone clay, 5 x 5 cm to 10 x 10cm., glazed, fired to 1250°C
2. Maggie Barnes - coloured and patterned porcelain
3. Alan Ball - handbuilt matt black pot
4. David Wright - **Bottle** - anagama fired, natural ash glaze with shell impression
5. Catherine Phipps Titcombe - **Modus Operandi Combinations No 2** - stoneware, concrete and reclaimed wood, 52cm x 46cm
6. Shirley Sheppard - **Woman is the Landscape** - stoneware Svend Beyer Base clay with porcelain, terra cotta and crack impregnations, wood fired to 1280°C

The Anthony Shaw Collection comes to York

One of the most important private collections of British studio ceramics is coming to York on long term loan. The Anthony Shaw collection has been amassed over 40 years and features key works by some of the biggest names in British studio ceramic art, such as Gordon Baldwin, Lucie Rie, Gillian Lowndes, Ewen Henderson and Sara Radstone.

The collection, containing about 800 works, will complement York Art Gallery's existing British studio ceramic collection which now totals more than 4,000 works.

Janet Barnes, chief executive of York Museums Trust said: "This is a truly outstanding collection of contemporary sculptural ceramics which features some of the most significant works from the last 40 years.

"We are thrilled that Anthony Shaw has given us his personal collection on long term loan. Combined with the gallery's Milner-White, WA Ismay and Henry Rothschild collections it will give us the most complete collection of British studio ceramics, detailing the incredibly different styles, techniques and ideas that have been expressed by British ceramists over the last 100 years,"

Anthony Shaw said: "I have decided to give my collection to York Art Gallery as they are interested in displaying objects in ways that enable them to have their own voice. The way many museums show ceramics according to material or date, is totally alien to me and in opposition to the intentions of the artists who made them."

The collections at York are another reason for Anthony Shaw's collection to find a home here. He appreciates the fact that Milner-White was also a collector of paintings saying "looking back now I realise I was looking for paintings in another form".

He says Henry Rothschild had a major influence on what he collected, recalling that Henry sold him his first pot and encouraged him to surround himself with art in all its forms.

Anthony Shaw also has fond memories of WA Ismay, whom he often met at the exhibition private views- they would occasionally vie for the same pieces.

The collection will come to York Art Gallery initially on loan for 15 years. It had previously been on display in the collector's house in Chelsea, London, where Anthony Shaw had invited different artists, curators, writers and critics to curate exhibitions. The pieces in the

collection reflect his own personal taste and concentrate on the work of his favourite artists Gordon Baldwin, Ewen Henderson, Gillian Lowndes, Sara Radstone and Bryan Illsley.

It also features smaller numbers of pieces by other artists including Hans Coper, Ian Godfrey, Jim Malone and Val Barry. In addition to this, there is a large collection of more than 500 buttons by Lucie Rie and 100 works of art in other mediums.

The collection is the perfect partner to the gallery's WA Ismay collection as it contains work made from the 1960s right up to the present day. However, its strength is in the sculptural works Anthony Shaw loves, whereas WA Ismay was more interested in collecting functional pots.

The Anthony Shaw collection is now in York and being catalogued and photographed. Some of the works will feature in the exhibition 'Gordon Baldwin: Objects for a Landscape' which will open at York Art Gallery in February 2012. An exhibition of key pieces from the collection will take place after the refurbishment of York Art Gallery in 2014.



Gordon Baldwin - Windswept Bottle, 1984 (courtesy of YMT, Phil Sayer)

Application forms for 2012 are live on the Potfest website. To see what happened this year with images of those who took part in the Park and the Pens see www.potfest.co.uk

Christmas decorations ... Bowls ... Plates

Pots in Poppleton



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Jim Robison - Course Dates 2012

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www.boothhousegallery.co.uk - jim.robison@virgin.net

NPA member **Hannah McAndrew** is exhibiting at the following venues:

10 - 13 November - Philadelphia Museum of Art Craft Show
pmacraftshow.org

November - December - Crown Gallery, Carlisle
crowngallery.net

November - December - Larks Gallery, Ballater
larksgallery.com

Welcome To New Members

Patricia Amies	Congleton	Cheshire
Rebecca Broad	Middlewich	Cheshire
Anna Brown	Tibthorpe, Driffild	East Yorkshire
Anne Pilkington	Penwortham, Preston	Lancashire
John Scott	Stocksfield	Northumberland
Hilary Simms	Ingbirchworth	South Yorkshire
Judy Taylor	Didsbury	Manchester
Angela Wysocki	Penwortham, Preston	Lancashire

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

Urban Traces Review - Rene Cryer

I have just returned from a visit to Gallery Oldham – initially to see the gallery where Northern Potters will have an exhibition later in the year – and was able to see Urban Traces: Ceramics in the City.

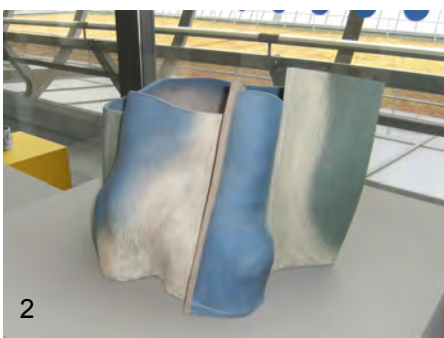
The gallery is a great space, with lots of light and many stands and glass cabinets in which to show work. I was given permission to take photographs to use in the magazine to show the diversity of work at present on display.

I loved the sculptural forms of Ken Eastman (1) and John Higgins (2 and 3). Wall space was taken by a 'structure' called Seasons, by Carolyn Ward. I show the full version and then a detail of it in pictures (4 and 5).

Some of the techniques used by the craftsmen e.g. the copper stained porcelain clay – kiln recycled glass and mineral aggregate – are new to me, and looked like a solid block of very interesting clay! It was done by David Binns and is number (6).



The group of three decorated urns by Rachel Grimshaw was completely different to other work on display (7).



Art and Clay

November brings an opportunity to see an exciting collaboration of 13 painters and ceramicists, exhibiting together for the second time, at the Athenaeum, Leasgill, Heversham, LA7 7EX. All are well-established artists living and working around Morecambe Bay and each brings to their work a unique and personal interpretation of the beauty of the region.

The landscapes of Fiona Clucas, Frances Winder and Libby Edmondson capture the essence of the bay and beyond. More abstract work is presented Philomena Taylor and Tina Balmer while Judy Evans is renowned for her versatility in print, pastel, collage and watercolour.

The potters include Alvin F Irving, who makes both domestic creamware and individual, challenging pieces which reward close scrutiny. There are also four stoneware potters, working in very different styles. John Calver makes highly decorated, brightly coloured domestic ware, often altered while still on the wheel to produce quirky and surprising forms. Nigel Edmondson specialises in majestic, meticulously formed garden pieces, evocative of the Lakeland hills. James Hake is nationally recognised for the luscious glazes that coat his strong minimalist forms, while John Kershaw's textured, dynamic pieces capture the moment of creation on the wheel. For something completely different, Jan Huntley Peace joins the group with her stylish costume jewellery made from porcelain and felt..

The exhibition is open from 10.30 am to 5pm on Saturday and Sunday, 19th/20th of November. Entry is free, and all the artists will be there, providing an opportunity to talk with them about their work.

John Kershaw, James Hake and Nigel Edmondson are all NPA members.

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Roger Lewis at the AGM - Barbara Wood



The talk and demonstration by Roger Lewis, following the AGM, were well worth waiting for. Roger had been recommended after his evening at UCLan, Preston, and we were delighted that he was able to come along last month and entertain the 30 or so people who attended.

Roger and his wife arrived at 9am, and spent 2 hours preparing slabs of clay, all put onto numbered boards, with a 'running list' for what he was going to demonstrate. His wife set up some examples of his finished work, which we were then able to examine closely (and possibly purchase). They then took a well earned break, while we held the AGM.

His slide show took us through his evolution as a maker, from student days at Cardiff College of Art, then Goldsmiths College, then as a lecturer at Bradford and Ilkley Community College, where he taught for more than 25 years. Since 1997 he has been a full time professional maker, and has exhibited in many international galleries and shows.

Throughout this time he has had 'play days', experimenting with pieces of clay, developing and discarding ideas - only holding on to pieces which he sees as having some potential for further work. Fortunately, he recorded the results from these times, and was able to show how a particular shape or fold of clay could be re-visited to become part of a new technique or form.

He then demonstrated some aspect of each type of work that he has produced over the last few decades. It was non-stop for those watching, as he took a sheet of clay, texturing it with various rubber mats/metal grills/plaster slabs and d-i-y implements, then, using paper templates for some, applied a little slip and folded/pressed/cut to produce a double skinned form which could be filled with air (blown in through a straw) to give that unmistakable 'cushioned' effect which is often seen in his work.

Roger's confidence in handling the clay apparently so casually belies the skill which is involved - his years of experience are evident in the finished work - such clean, flawless lines running through each piece, highlighted by the subtle sheen of lustres on a textured stoneware surface.

I don't think I've ever seen such a well planned and informative demo, and I am very grateful to the person who recommended him in the first place (thanks, Dave).

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e: npanews@btinternet.com

MAAC - Forthcoming Events

Visit to Leach Pottery, St Ives, 28 April 2012.

The main visit will be to the Leach Pottery, including tours of:

the old Leach workshops and kilns

the exhibition in The Cube, 'Heart, Head and Hand'

the gallery and shop

the new studio where resident professional potters, degree students, visiting international students and apprentices develop their own work and make the new standard ware

together with a demonstration by lead potter Jack Doherty, or one of the apprentices if Jack is not available and a kiln opening with the opportunity to buy work hot from the kiln

We are hoping to arrange a visit to local potters in their studios later the same day. Nearby and open in April are the Barbara Hepworth Museum and Sculpture Garden and the Tate St Ives. The Tate St Ives holds a large ceramics resource not generally on display. With sufficient interest, we could arrange a group visit on Friday 27 April when a selection of ceramics could be viewed. Cost: £10; students and concessions £7.50

For full booking information please contact Jewels Williams, jewelswilliams@hotmail.co.uk, or ring 01885 488029. If you are interested in visiting the Tate St Ives, please let Jewels know that too.

Behind the Scenes at the Fitzwilliam Museum, Cambridge, December 6, 10am

The Fitzwilliam collection is wide-ranging, covering English slipware (including some splendid Toft plates), maiolica, Iznik, Persian lustre ware, European porcelain, British studio pottery and a lot more besides. The Brit-

ish studio pottery is not on display, so this visit will provide a chance to examine work that is not available to the public, including ceramics by Mick Casson, David Leach, Kate Malone, Martin Smith, Gordon Baldwin and others. Dr. Julia Poole, the retired keeper of applied arts, will explain the pieces to us.

Cost: £10; students and concessions £7.50

To receive full booking information please contact Marshall Colman, marshall@marshallcolman.com, or 01727 839659.

The V&A: The New Ceramic Galleries Explained Wednesday, 25th January 2012

Mr Hilary Young, Senior Ceramics Curator, will introduce small groups to the new galleries, explaining their setting up, purpose and how best to use them.

Of the eleven rooms, three are devoted to ceramics after 1900, labelled: 'studio', 'contemporary' and 'factory'. The temporary exhibition in Room 146 will be showing the ceramics of Ai Weiwei ('Dropping the Urn'). Ceramics also form part of other departments in the museum, notably in Room 44 (China) a display entitled 'Porcelain City: Jingdezhen' including work by Felicity Aylieff and Takeshi Yasuda.

Victoria & Albert Museum, London SW7 2RL

Wednesday, 25 January 2012, 11.30 am or 2.00 pm (please indicate your preference)

Cost: £10; students and concessions £7.50

For full booking information please contact Jane Boughton, jane@boughton.org.uk, or 01494 562991.

MAAC is the Members and Associates Council (of the Craft Potters Association)

NPA Membership

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£22 (if paid by standing order)

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£30 (for overseas members)

Joint membership

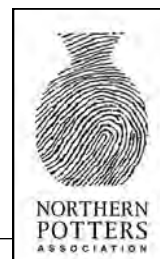
(2 members at one address) £34 (has to be paid by standing order)

Full time student/unwaged £10 (has to be paid by cheque or PO)

(please send evidence of eligibility e.g. photocopy of SU card, UB40 etc.)

You can download a copy of the membership form from our website - northern-potters.co.uk.

If any of your contact details change, remember to let us know



Contact the membership secretary:

Margaret Lawrenson
'Seven Firs', Kemp Rd,
Swanland,
E.Yorks
HU14 3LZ

Tel: 01482 634784

E-mail: margaret@sevenfirs.karoo.co.uk



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James Faulkner is at Gallery at St Martin's.

A sale of work by Lincoln-based ceramic artist James Faulkner



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1000 - 1600 hrs Mon - Sat.

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37b Hungate,
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www.jamesfaulkner.co.uk

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Regional News

North East

Co-ordinator: Geoff Proudlock, 46 Cleveland Terrace, Darlington, DL3 7HA
Email: geoff@gproudlock.plus.com
Tel: 01325 353445



"OUT OF THE EARTH III " exhibition in Durham 2012.

Following our two successful exhibitions, we have been invited back to Crook Hall Gardens to have another outdoor only exhibition. This is planned to start after Easter so there will be no requirement for invigilation, and will run from Sunday 15 April to Monday 21 May. It will again be a selected exhibition (work previously exhibited at Crook Hall gardens should not be submitted). The closing date for applications is 31st January 2012. For application forms and further details please contact Victoria Leeks at toria.leeks@hotmail.com. The Crook Hall website shows photographs of the Hall and Gardens - www.crookhallgardens.co.uk

Another event of interest is the first Henry Rothschild Memorial lecture at the Shipley Art Gallery, Gateshead. It is to be given by Gabriele Koch on Wed. 2nd November at 7 for 7.30. The cost is £3 (pay at the door). NENPA members have been invited to join the friends of the Shipley on this occasion. We are again planning to have a pre-Christmas buffet lunch in December in Durham.

East

Co-ordinator: Lesley Anne Greene
Email: lesleyannegreene@gmail.com
Tel: 01943 431823



Quoting from welcoming words sent to me by one of our members I "took up the baton" (hope I am not expected to run though don't mind dancing with it!) and volunteered for regional co-ordinator in mid September. I hope that all NPA East members have been receiving news emails from me since then. Please note I have recently set up a new email address (see above), which I will be using exclusively for all NPA contact in future. Please do contact me if you have any news, ideas for getting together for social; skill sharing and networking sessions etc. It would be really great to get the ball rolling early on for exhibiting / selling opportunities in our region for 2012 and beyond.

Autumn is, traditionally a busy time for makers preparing for seasonal shows and this is reflected in the recent activity of members in this area with exhibitions and open studios at some exciting venues filling up the days in the coming months. Margaret Lawrenson reports that the exhibition at Beverley Minster in early October went very well with a large number of visitors attending as well as being a "wonderful place to exhibit". Five members exhibited in the first Ilkley Art Trail 8th - 16th October.

James Faulkner is exhibiting at Gallery at St Martins, 37b Hungate, Lincoln LN1 1ET 28 Nov - 11 Dec. Preview 1830 - 2100 hours

12 members are selling and exhibiting at Tithe Barn, Nether Poppleton, York , YO26 6NT - Saturday 19 November, 10 am - 5 pm, Sunday 20 November - 10 am - 4.30 pm Free Admission

South West

Co-ordinator: Clive Weake
Email: clive.weake@gmail.com
Tel: 01625 536388



We are meeting at Sue Hudson's in Middleton, near Oldham on the Friday 11th November between 2.00pm and 5.00pm. Anyone wishing to come along can contact me for directions. We will be meeting at Joy Wild's (Firs Pottery) near Nantwich in March or April 2012.

Also if anyone has a suggestion for an exhibition venue in 2012 I would be happy to organise it.

South East

Co-ordinator: Brian Holland
Email: brian.holland100@virgin.net
Tel: 01909 724781



The NPA South East group is busy as we write with an exhibition at Thoresby and with preparations for a major show in the Cathedral in Sheffield, with events including tea bowl making and a tea ceremony led by two Japanese guests. Other events will include demonstrations and workshops and a trail of site specific work, and stalls of individual displays.

There will be a reception for this event on Friday 11th November 18.30-20.00. ALL WELCOME. The site specific work will be on view from November 1. More details www.transformationsinclay.co.uk

West

Co-ordinator: Dave Harper / Geoff Wilcock
E-mail: dpharper@uclan.ac.uk / ghwilcock@uclan.ac.uk
Tel: 01782 617801 or Tel: 01204 674901



At our last meeting in the 'Bitter Suite' pub Preston the main topic of conversation was Exhibitions past and future. We have had three successful shows in the past year at Arteria Gallery, Lancaster, PR1 Gallery, Preston and the Heritage Centre, Lytham. The last venue had some very encouraging sales reported. Invitations have been received for future exhibitions from Preston and Lytham.

Members are invited to suggest future venues for exhibitions.

The theme of our vessels for this meeting was 'Harvest', well done for the varied and creative submissions.

Christie Brown Lecture Fri 14th Oct

About 40 people attended the lecture at the Storeys Institute, Lancaster. Unfortunately this was the last in the series of lectures due to lack of funding. A big thank you to Liz Collinson and Eryl Fryer for their time and effort in organising these excellent talks by renowned Artists.

Next Meeting Tues 29th Nov 7.15 pm

Venue 'Bitter Suite' Pub Preston. Theme for vessel 'St Andrews Day'

Special Mention

The meeting ended by wishing Dave Harper our regional Co-ordinator Happy Retirement. Dave has retired from UCLAN after 34 years as Ceramics Course leader. Many of our members have been Dave's past students and on behalf of everyone I wish him all the best for the future.

North West

Co-ordinator: Roger Bell, Gale Mount, 11 High Gale, Ambleside, Cumbria, LA22 0BG
Tel: 015394 32730 E-mail: bell.rogier@btinternet.com



The excellent talk by Christie Brown was attended only by Angie Mitchell and myself.

Bob Park has invited NW members to help the rebuild of his wood-fired kiln at his new workshop on the Hutton In The Forest estate.

Welcome to Lesley Anne Greene, new coordinator for the NPA-E region. Please contact your regional coordinator to let them know of any events you'd like to organise, or suggestions for regional group activities.

David Constantine White

Potter

Born 13 April 1948

Died 27 October 2011

Age 63 years.

David Constantine White passed away last month.

Well known Northern Potter, amateur musician and geologist; David was an all-round enthusiast where clay and glazes are concerned. He was also a bit of a historian, especially on Earthenware Country Pottery. He researched Isaac Button, Soil Hill Pottery near Halifax in West Yorkshire and was one of the very few potters I know who enjoyed prospecting, digging, processing and using the local clays.



His Yorkshire workshop in Mytholmroyd, Hebden Bridge, became widely known for its colourful Earthenware. He developed a very personal style, in the Tin Glaze tradition. Inspired by contemporary painting, he used a vast array of oxides and stains to over-paint the base glaze. Adding small amounts of wax resist to his colours enabled him to build up multiple layers of colour in a very rich and painterly way.

He always contributed much to the glaze courses run in my studio and previously to my classes at Bretton Hall College over many years. His enthusiasm was contagious and his knowledge wide ranging. With his survey maps, he would point out where to find clay anywhere in the country and with his frugal eye, born perhaps of necessity, he could always say where to get the very best deal on raw materials in Stoke-on-Trent.

His pots, really colourful paintings, were always among the most popular, and best sellers in our gallery and we always had long chats whenever he delivered pots to the gallery. David was not married and lived alone. Having previously lost his only brother and recently his father, the community of potters and ceramic fairs in the UK and in Europe, provided much of the social as well as economic fabric to his life.

The family of potters has lost a unique and valued member.

Jim Robison

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Lesley Anne Greene - Mouse King
Hand built sculptural piece with additions. Inspired by a trip to Sri Lanka

