



## Your Committee

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## Comments from the Chair

### CHAT FROM THE CHAIR – AUGUST 2006

I hope that all our 334 members are having a wonderful summer and have not all melted. We, of all people, should be used to the heat. We should also of course be used to degrees centigrade, so why does weather temperature still only mean something to me when calibrated in Fahrenheit!?

Yes at the last count we have our largest membership ever. We are planning our next AGM, to be held at York City Galleries in November. This will coincide with an exhibition there of Japanese prints and ceramics, and a talk by the ceramic artist Yo Thom. At the AGM several of the committee posts will be due for re election. Jan Scott who has masterminded, and planned many important and successful exhibitions during her tenure is stepping down, as is the present, highly efficient- what will I do without her?- secretary, Barbara Wood. We are still running without a Vice- Chair, and could certainly do with one to keep the Chair on their toes and work together. Other posts have been extended and revised to increase our potential. We need nominations please. We also need to ratify the revised constitution.

So this is an appeal for the best ever attended AGM, to fully represent the U.K's largest ceramic artists organisation, and to ensure that we remain vital and dynamic! There will be plenty to do and see, so. Please come along.



## Editors Comment

Sorry for the delay in getting this edition of the newsletter to you, but family illness and on-going projects have left me with insufficient time to do this issue justice.

In the last issue I mentioned trying to acquire a claystamp. Several times over the last couple of years I had attempted to make a name stamp to indent the base of my pots. I was never very successful and most of them were large and clumsy looking, so when Jim Robison came back from the States with a very professional looking stamp I decided to investigate obtaining one.

I went onto the website ([www.claystamps.com](http://www.claystamps.com)) which proved to be very friendly. Being primarily aimed at the American market the carriage for the UK was not mentioned. I e-mailed Todd Scholtz who owns the company and enquired about the cost of carriage (9 \$) and whether I could use an existing logo I had been using on my computer documents. Todd is an engraver by profession but also makes some rather good looking pots. I received some prompt replies with some very helpful advice for producing a stamp. I sent the jpeg image of my logo and scanned my signature and sent it as a jpeg. I paid by credit card using their





Advert from literature sent with stamp.

Image of my stamp—it is approximately 1cm by 1cm and has a very nice wooden handle.



system on-line. Everything went very smoothly and I soon received my stamps which I am very pleased with—I just need to make the pots to match!  
 The stamps are made of bevelled brass which leaves a very clear imprint on the clay and is a vast improvement on the scraffito version I had been using.  
 I also notice from the website that he has a bevelling tool for slabs—I will have to have a closer look, anything that makes life easier!

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## Deadline For Next Issue

All material for the **October—November 06 issue** to be with Ian Marsh by the **20th September**.

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

# AGM

## Annual General Meeting

To be held in York, on 19th November, 2006. Full details of the event will be given in the next issue.

### Agenda

Apologies for absence  
Minutes of the last AGM (2005)  
Matters arising (from the minutes)  
Report from the Chair  
Treasurer's report  
Membership Secretary's report  
Revised Constitution  
Election of officers and committee members  
AOB

Any items for inclusion on the agenda must be received by the Secretary at least two weeks before the event.

There is a serious need for new committee members. The committee meets approximately 6 times a year, at a variety of venues. Out of pocket expenses associated with committee membership are paid, but time is given freely! If you would like to volunteer, or nominate another member, or simply want more information, please let me know.

Barbara Wood,  
Secretary, NPA  
barbara.wood@ukonline.co.uk

01759 318146

## Minutes of the last AGM—Sept 05

### Minutes of the NPA AGM held at Clitheroe on Saturday, 24 September 2005

Present: Pete Clough (chair), Eric & Maureen Smith, Penny Phillips, Colette Hennigan, Judith Quinn, Brian Holland, Jan Scott, Liz Bowe, Isobel Dallas (minutes), William Johnson, Jane Smith, Roger Bell, Kay Henderson, Ellen Henderson, Babs Taylor

Apologies for absence: Ian Marsh, Barbara Wood

#### Matters Arising

None.

The minutes from 4 December, 2004, were accepted.

#### Report from the Chair

It has been a busy and good year for the NPA on a number of fronts. In future, more one day events will be organised to extend members' experience of clay. The evening event with Chris Keenan was successful, and an event with David Frith and Brendan Hesmondhalgh is planned for 29 October at Harrogate College. Liz Bowe was thanked for organising these.

Two selected shows will take place each year. The exhibition at Cliffe Castle was a success, with sales totalling £1200. Jan Scott was thanked. An announcement on the spring '06 show is pending.

A promotional stand at ClayArt, Denbigh was well received and gained new members. The exhibition at Oxo Tower in October has involved a large financial and time commitment from everyone involved, and Pete wished everyone well, and hoped it may become an annual event.

The two established regional groups, in Cumbria and Yorkshire seem to be thriving, and enabled activities which could not have been organised centrally to take place.

There have been no calls on the education fund this year, but money is available for members wishing to promote clay work with children.

The newsletter continues to improve, and is our major line of communication. It compares favourably with similar publications, and Ian must be congratulated for his efforts. He is also working on the electronic booklet of members' work, which ties in with the website.

Pete thanked everyone who has helped with the Association.

#### **Treasurer's Report**

The Treasurer's report was not presented, but a financial summary will be included in the newsletter.

Membership has now exceeded 300, with 49.5% paying by standing order. A financial summary of events will be produced for the newsletter, but may be misleading, as Jan Scott's expenditure is all shown there, but not all may relate to events.

There has been more expenditure on the newsletter, but this has been to produce a higher quality publication.

The number of committee meetings has reduced, resulting in lower travelling expenses being claimed by committee members.

There was a financial loss due to cancelling the festival in 2004, but this would have been higher if the event had gone ahead.

The surplus in the bank is largely supported from membership fees, and the Association is financially sound. It is important to keep membership figures up.

#### **Membership Secretary's Report**

In March 2005 there were 293 members, of whom 162 (55.3%) paid by standing order, and 16% were students / unwaged.

There was an influx of members immediately following ClayArt, taking the current total above 300. This shows the importance of having a presence at such events.

Members should be encouraged to display a sign at selling events to show that they are NPA members.

#### **Election and Re-election of Committee Members**

Brian Holland was nominated, seconded and unanimously elected as Chair.

No nominations were made for Vice Chair.

No nominations were made for Membership Secretary. A request for nominations will be put in the newsletter.

Jan Scott and Judith Quinn gave notice that they will stand down next year.

Kay Henderson and Ellen Henderson were elected to join the committee with no specific role initially.

Colette Hennigan expressed a wish to take on a proper role as Education Officer. This is to be discussed with Barbara Heyward.

Norman Brown was nominated, seconded and elected as Exhibitions Assistant.

#### **Any Other Business**

One day events at locations other than Harrogate were suggested, including Cumbria College of Art, Lancaster, Peter Scott Gallery, Farfield Mill, Sedbergh, and YHA, Ambleside.

The taking and collecting of unselected work for exhibitions can be a problem. It was suggested that pre-selection could be by photograph.

A permanent showcase for members' work is being purchased for the Theatre Royal, York. They will take 20% commission on sales.

#### **Addendum**

At the committee meeting on 13 November the following points were agreed:

Penny Phillips was co-opted as Publicity Officer.

Colette Hennigan was co-opted as Education Officer.

Catherine Boyne-Whitelegg was co-opted as Membership Secretary.

Vice Chair is still to be confirmed.

All of these appointments will be put to a vote of the members at the next AGM.

# Changes to the NPA constitution

## Notes on the proposed changes to the constitution

Section numbers, where specified, relate to the revised version as published here.

- 'Pottery' has been changed to 'ceramics' throughout.
- 'Chairman' has been changed to 'Chair' throughout.
- In 3.1, 'apprentice' has been removed, and 'unwaged' inserted.
- In 6.1, 'before implementation' has been added.
- In 6.3, 'and the member has been informed of the situation' has been added.
- Section 7, Exhibitions, has been inserted.
- In 8.1, the sentence beginning 'An alternative cheque book' has been inserted.
- In 8.3, 'year' has been changed to 'financial year'.
- In 9.2, 'year' has been changed to 'financial year'.
- In 9.3, 'twenty percent' has been changed to 'ten percent'.
- Section 10, Regional Groups, has been inserted.
- Minor changes to grammar have been made throughout.

## NORTHERN POTTERS ASSOCIATION CONSTITUTION

Last amended on 29 July 2006

1 **NAME** The name of the Association shall be the Northern Potters Association.

2 **AIMS** The aims of the Association shall be:-

To encourage the exchange of ideas and opinions, and share technical information on and about ceramics.

To promote those activities stimulating a wider and more informed appreciation of ceramics among both the members and the general public.

To support and further the educational and recreational aspects of ceramics.

To pursue policies and activities to the benefit of the members.

3 **MEMBERSHIP**

Membership is open to all persons who by virtue of their interest in ceramics wish to be involved in the Association and its activities. Student or unwaged membership is available at a reduced fee upon production of documentary evidence.

The committee is empowered to award as and when appropriate the distinction of honorary membership. This is to be ratified at the annual general meeting.

The committee is empowered to consider applications for special membership, i.e. group, association or institution affiliation.

Any member may in exceptional circumstances be removed from the membership of the Association by resolution carried by not less than two thirds of the members present and voting at committee. Within twenty eight days the member concerned has the right to appeal to the Chair, who will ask three members to assist in reviewing the matter along with the member concerned and the member's representative.

4 **COMMITTEE**

The affairs and members of the Association shall be guided and informed by a committee. The committee shall meet in formal session at least once a quarter. The committee shall be quorate when one third or more members are present.

The committee shall consist of Chair, Vice Chair, Secretary, Treasurer and not fewer than eight and not more than fourteen other members.

The committee is empowered to co-opt members as and when necessary.

Members of the committee shall be obliged to retire after three years, but are eligible for re-election at the annual general meeting. One third of the committee shall retire annually.

The committee shall be empowered to establish such sub-committees as are deemed essential to the

efficient running of the Association's affairs.

## 5 VOTING

All decisions will be by simple majority, the Chair having a casting vote in split decisions.

## 6 SUBSCRIPTIONS

The amount of the annual subscription shall be determined by the committee and reviewed as deemed necessary. Any changes shall be ratified by the annual general meeting before implementation.

The subscription fee shall be payable in advance for one year from the first day of the month of joining and shall be renewable annually in advance thereafter.

Membership shall be deemed to have lapsed if the subscription remains unpaid one month after payment is due, and the member has been informed of the situation.

## 7 EXHIBITIONS

The Association shall charge a percentage of all sales made at exhibitions. This percentage shall be determined by committee, and reviewed as necessary.

## 8 ACCOUNTS

A banking account shall be kept in the name of the Association into which all monies received shall be paid and from which payments shall be made by cheque signed by the Treasurer. An alternative cheque book will be held by the Chair, who shall be an alternative signatory if and when the need arises.

The financial year shall be deemed to run from 1<sup>st</sup> April to 31<sup>st</sup> March.

An audited financial statement for the preceding financial year shall be submitted to the annual general meeting.

The committee is empowered to pay all or part of any reasonable expenses incurred in the course of the efficient running of the Association's affairs.

An auditor shall be elected annually at the annual general meeting.

## 9 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

An annual general meeting shall be held within nine months of the close of each financial year of the Association at a time and place determined by the committee. All members shall receive notice of and an agenda for the meeting at least twenty one days prior to the event.

The annual general meeting shall:-

Receive the Chair's report;

Receive the Treasurer's report and audited accounts for the preceding financial year;

Elect such committee members as necessary;

Consider and vote upon any resolution duly submitted to the meeting;

Transact any other business deemed appropriate by the Chair of the meeting.

In the event of any sudden emergency or significant change an extraordinary general meeting can be held by written request to the chairman by any member supported by five others. It can be held not sooner than twenty one days and not later than two months from the date of the written request and must be attended by a quorum of ten percent of members.

## 10 REGIONAL GROUPS

Regional Groups may be established as and when the need arises to focus and promote activities of members in specific geographical areas.

For each Regional Group, the members of that group shall appoint a Regional Coordinator. The committee shall approve the appointment.

The Regional Coordinator will initiate setting up a regional working group of no fewer than five members to take decisions on behalf of the group members.

The Regional working group will hold regular open meetings.

The Regional Coordinator and working group will resign after three years, but are eligible for reappointment, and a new working group established.

The parent Association shall deal with all finances. Events should be organised with a view to being self-financing.

All regional groups shall abide by the constitution of the parent Association.

## 11 The membership shall agree to be bound by the constitution.

## North by North Wales

Joint Exhibition of Ceramics by selected and invited members  
of  
North Wales Potters and Northern Potters  
at  
Rufford Craft Centre  
[www.ruffordcraftcentre.org.uk](http://www.ruffordcraftcentre.org.uk)

Tuesday 12th September—Sunday 29th October 2006  
Admission free

**All members are invited to the  
Preview Evening  
on  
Monday 11th September  
7.00pm—9.00pm**

## Adverts and Exhibitions

### **Beginners Ceramics Courses**

Catherine Boyne-Whitelegg (BA Hons)

One-to-one intensive wheel lessons for beginners, both children (7 yrs+) & adults. From 1hr to 1 day sessions (10am-2.45pm or 6-9pm) in fully equipped pottery studio.

Also hand-building sessions.

Tel 01904 701841

email [willardwhitelegg@aol.com](mailto:willardwhitelegg@aol.com)

10 Drome Road, Copmanthorpe, York, YO23 3TG  
[www.gmcgeefoto@hotmail.com](http://www.gmcgeefoto@hotmail.com)

### **Jim Robison**

#### **Ceramics Courses**

17-23 September 2006

#### **Extruder Course**

16-20 October 2006

A few spaces still available

Week long making sessions highlight hand building and surface decoration.

All levels welcome!

Taught by established Sculptor and Potter, Fellow of CPA and Author of 'Large Scale Ceramics'  
You can expect good fun, sound tuition and delicious food in our Pennine home.

Send SAE to Jim & Liz Robison, Booth House Gallery, 3 Booth House Lane, Holmfirth HD9 2QT

Tel: 01484 685270

E-mail: [jim.robison@virgin.net](mailto:jim.robison@virgin.net)

Website: [www.jimrobison.co.uk](http://www.jimrobison.co.uk)

**Platform Gallery**  
Station Road, Clitheroe,  
Lancashire, BB7 2JT,  
Tel. 01200 443071  
Fax 01200 414556

e-mail [platform.gallery@ribblevalley.gov.uk](mailto:platform.gallery@ribblevalley.gov.uk)

### **Magnificent Menagerie**

Exhibition Launch Saturday 5th August 2006,  
12pm – 2pm

Exhibition runs until Saturday 9th September 2006

A group exhibition of fabulous beasts and outrageous animals by makers from across the UK. The exhibition includes work by **Christine Cummings** (ceramic), **John Dilnot** (boxes), **Audrey Douglas** (papier maché), **Brendan Hesmondhalgh** (ceramic), **Andrew D. Hill** (ceramic), **Jeremy James** (ceramic), **Cathy Miles** (metal), **Jeff Soan** (wood), **Melanie Tomlinson** (metal), **Karen Trower** (leather).

Plus jewellery showcase by **Anna De Ville**.

Magnificent Menagerie features work by ten artists from across the UK working in a diverse range of materials, including paper, wood, ceramic, leather and metal. Each artist approaches the work in a very different way, but all are united by their fascination and acute observation of the animal kingdom.

All works will be for sale. The gallery operates the OWN ART interest free art purchase scheme.  
Gallery open Monday – Saturday 10am – 4.30pm.

**15th July - 3rd September 2006**

### **NORTHERN POTTERS in CUMBRIA**

A group exhibition of ceramics by members of the Northern potters Association, living and working in Cumbria

**9th September - 5th November 2006**

### **Domestic Bliss Ceramics by Rob Watson**

Individual pieces vigorously thrown and intuitively decorated in vibrant colours.

Exhibitions held at:  
Stokce House Ceramics Gallery  
Market Place  
Alston  
Cumbria  
CA9 3HS  
tel 01434 382137  
open daily 10.00am - 5.00pm



**yorkshiremuseum&gardens**  
[www.yorkshiremuseum.com](http://www.yorkshiremuseum.com)

**Opening now extended to 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2006**

**Magnificent Pitchers**  
The influence of medieval English pottery jugs  
and pitchers on studio pottery.



**A rare opportunity to see around 100 of York's  
world renowned medieval pots alongside  
contemporary 20<sup>th</sup> century studio pottery from the  
WA Ismay collection.**

The Yorkshire Museum opens daily from 10am – 5pm and is free to York residents with a York card. Admission to non-York residents is £4 for adults, £3 concessions, £2.50 children and £9 for a family ticket (two adults and one child, additional child £2). Members of the Northern Potters Association (NPA) get in free by showing their membership card.

### **Craft Pottery Charitable Trust**

The Trustees invite applications

Annual Grant Scheme

The closing date for the Trust grant scheme is 15th December 2006.

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

Guidelines for applicants are available from [lizgale@interalpha.co.uk](mailto:lizgale@interalpha.co.uk)

Or send a stamped addressed envelope to

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

Well, summer is almost over and on the whole it's been brilliant, weatherwise, though see \* below!

In June we went to Bamsley College to see the Graduate Shows of our Saturday and Sunday Gallery helpers, Mohammed Khokar (Moz) and Laura Stelling. Moz specialised in Ceramics and Laura in Graphic Design. The whole show was totally uplifting – sincere work, pleasant setting, and minders who were willing and eager to talk about their own and others' work.

Moz's ceramics showed a sustained persistence in working with form, and while there was some understandable Jim Robison influence, he had made the style of his slab dishes with extruded feet, completely his own. The other strand of his work reflected his passion for cricket – thrown vases and urns with printed images of the game and details of Test results and names of team-members lettered in gold lustre.

### Lateral thinking

A customer recently commissioned Jim to make a garden sculpture. Jim went to look at her garden, she came here to look at other work – colour, size, texture etc. She saw a piece outside the studio and said that if that had been taller it would have been perfect. Whereupon Jim picked up the other piece of the two-piece sculpture and put it on top of the first piece and, bingo!, she was sold on it. Result: less work for Jim and she is thrilled because she knows that the pot has lived outside for a couple of years which demonstrates its weatherproof qualities.

### Barter

A friend who mended the (new) bathroom ceiling when it fell down a couple of months ago declined cash payment saying his wife would like a garden pot made. They came down to Rufford when we were at Earth and Fire and on seeing one of the planted-up planters in the Orangery, decided that it would be perfect for their requirements. Again, less work for Jim, and satisfaction all round

### A Landlady's View

Our friend, Avril, who kindly does B&B for us during our studio courses informed us that she has come to the conclusion that there are three main types of people who come on courses: people who basically want a hobby holiday, people who want to get to grips with particular skills, and people who want to make something specific, eg wall plaque, garden pot, water feature. I think the mixture of the three may be partly what helps to give the different groups their dynamic.

### Events

We attended Clay Art at Denbigh (very wet, but as always superbly organised and incredibly, the crowds still turned out in their thousands), Earth and Fire at Rufford (idyllic summer weather), and Pottfest in the Park at Penrith (again, lovely summer weather ) but \* the next three days when Jim and Richards Dewar and Godfrey did workshops in an open-sided barn were horribly cold and wet, but despite the weather, there were astonishing achievements all round from students in all three groups. By Thursday, the country 'smiled' again and we took a day off to drive round Bassenthwaite, Crummock Water, Buttermere and Derwentwater. Magic!

At Rufford I was approached by a young lady with a clip board who was administering questionnaires about the event. So I answered her questions – my age went into the last box! Venue: excellent, facilities: excellent, standard of work: excellent etc. Then she said that if I gave her my post code and telephone number, I could be entered in a prize draw. Then she added that the prize was a free ticket to a ceramics demonstration by Jim Robison!

### Body Language

Having been a Potter's Moll for over 30 years I have become accustomed to hearing one side of telephone conversations from Jim to other potters.

Eg : 'Hi, I'm having trouble with my body.'  
'My temperature is all over the place.'  
'My body keeps developing big cracks.'

But recently Jim had a parcel with an accompanying note which read: 'Dear Jim, After you had gone, I found your kidney in a bucket.'

Liz Robison

## New Books

A Visual Language  
The Ceramic Narrative  
The Ceramic Process  
Chinese Pottery & Porcelain  
Eric James Mellon  
Metal Clay Jewellery  
Betty Woodman : Theatres

ROGER BELL, DEXTERITY

Cohen & Anderson	16.99	BI
Matthias Ostermann	30.00	BI
Anton Reijnders	50.00	BI
Sheila Vainker	14.95	TH
Various	7.95	UoC
Louise Duhamel	15.99	D&C
ed Henriques	12.95	TH

## Book Review by Roger Bell

THE CERAMIC NARRATIVE

Publ A & C Black

MATTHIAS OSTERMANN

£30.00

This fascinating book may be considered as a continuation of or follow-up to Ostermann's 'The Ceramic Surface' which is still in print. This volume looked at the great diversity of techniques used to treat the surface of ceramic work mainly viewed through the methods of individual potters. The Ceramic Narrative considers the surface as a place of story telling or statement not 'mere' decoration.

The first six chapters consider representative major historical groups of work – Ancient Greek; The Maya; China, Persia & Japan; European Tin Glaze; European Porcelain; and the 20<sup>th</sup> Century Pioneers. This last chapter contributed by David Whiting. The black & red ware of Greece are well known from museums the world over depicting war and mythology most frequently. The Mayan work often related to gods and the origins of the world, and royal activities. Animal imagery often linked the human and supernatural. Interestingly calligraphic imagery is prominent as in Islamic art. In many parts of the world interpretation of symbols can be very complex. In Chinese mythology fish represent abundance. A plate with fish among water weeds alludes to the parable 'The Joy Of Fish'. Christian narratives were a major source for decoration of European tin glaze but Graeco-Roman mythology is often used also.

The second half of the book concentrates on contemporary narratives, helpfully grouped under headings such as Political & Social Commentary; Personal Visions, Private Stories & Visions; Reshaped Icons & New Idioms etc. Most of the obvious ceramicists are included – Eglin, Perry, Mellon, Scott from UK, Borgeson from Denmark, Takamori & Frey from USA, Muys from Belgium etc. But also numerous others from round the world some familiar others new to me. Ostermann is from Canada but there is no obvious bias to North America or Europe, though surprisingly nothing from South America or most of Africa.

I really enjoyed reviewing The Ceramic Narrative which has a well researched, well written, but not dry text with numerous photos illustrating the ideas being put forward. If you want to delve deeper into any areas of interest there is good list of sources and recommended reading, many of which are currently in print.

Two specific kiln designs are described in detail: the Dancing Fire Wood Kiln and the Saukenec Smokeless Kiln. The former is relatively large, requires a lot of wood and labour and is intended for substantial amounts of work in each firing. The latter is smaller, fires much quicker and has the potential advantage of being practical in a built up area. Both are designed to produce a wide variety of effects in different parts of the kiln through temperature differences and air/ash flow.

One fascinating aspect of the book is the description of the different wood-fire finishes: Tamadare, Yu-Domari, Gomabai etc and how these are obtained by variations of clay, slip, glaze and position in the kiln. The whole book while inspirational is very practical. The chapter on firing describes the stages of increasing temperature, holding heat and cooling, but notably refers all through to 'gathering information', 'record keeping', and 'post-firing debriefing'. To repeat effects and improve results, it is too often forgotten that you need to record how earlier work got its finish.

Though I found it fascinating, it seems odd that a few pages are given over to pit-firing and black-carbon firing. From the way the book has been selling, it is obviously a must for all serious wood-firers but it is also fascinating for anybody with a serious interest in ceramics, whether as maker or collector.

Roger Bell, Dexterity

## New Pottery Exhibitions in York

### New pottery exhibitions in York

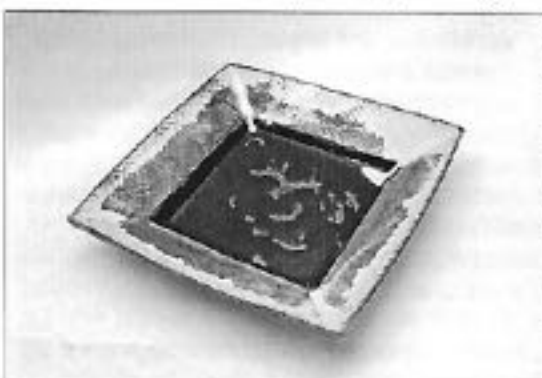
September sees the opening of two new ceramics exhibitions in York. The shows are far apart in themes, but both come from York Museums Trust's extensive collections and feature pieces from the Milner-White collection and previously unseen pieces from the WA Ismay collection of 20th century studio ceramics.

### Art in Life: Japanese Ceramics and Prints

This exhibition brings together 20th century studio pots by Japanese artists and 19th century Ukiyo-e prints, reflecting the Japanese way of life and the notion of beauty inspired by nature.

Cataloguing work on the York Art Gallery's print collection has uncovered a large number of previously unseen 19th century Japanese ukiyo-e prints, whilst ongoing cataloguing of the WA Ismay collection has brought to light a small but significant presence of pots by Japanese potters. This exhibition brings together the two collections for the first time.

The exhibition includes prints by Hiroshige amongst others, whilst potters featuring include Shoji Hamada and Shiro Tsujimura to name a few.



*Shoji Hamada ; Dish ; about 1951*

### Ceramic Safari

Aimed at children and the young at heart, Ceramic Safari invites visitors on a journey through the weird and wonderful examples of ceramic creatures in our collections. Rosemary Wren's cheery hippo stands next to a proud Tang camel, whilst our 18th century slipware owl sits happily alongside an owl jug by Mary Wandrausch.



*Rosemary Wren ; Fox ; 1971*

A menagerie of creatures from jungle, garden, farmyard and the sea, covering over 2000 years of ceramic production are displayed in true natural history style amidst undergrowth and shrubbery.

'Ceramic Safari' runs from the 16th September 2006 until late 2007 in the Balcony Gallery at the Yorkshire Museum. (Thanks to WA Ismay, entrance to the Yorkshire Museum is free to member of the NPA when pots from his collection are on display)

Helen Walsh  
Assistant Curator of Decorative Arts  
York Museums Trust

Copyright of York Museums Trust



*Hasoda Yeishi ; Rat with dish of grapes ; about 1780-1800*

## Regions

### CUMBRIA REGION REPORT

The 'Naked Raku' firing at Bob Park's pottery and gallery went well with tuition and guidance from Jenny Eaton. Everybody got at least one reasonable piece through and one or two pieces were quite stunning, though Ashraf Hannah can relax for a while.

The Keswick Museum exhibition looked splendid and has now finished. Sales were up on last year and payments made promptly. Hopefully it will become an annual event. The exhibition at Stokoe House, Alston has started. For those who have not visited it is in a lovely old building in a very attractive town (the highest in England). With the added attractions of a steam railway, old mine workings and museum nearby plus wild walking country. Syl & Ray Macro will make you welcome.

The summer lull is upon us as we concentrate on Potfests at Hutton In The Forest and Penrith Pens, holidays and making stock for Xmas shows. Expect details soon of a social event. The historic slipware exhibition at Blackwell arts and crafts house near Bowness on Windermere is worth a visit.

Members outside Cumbria who would like to be kept in touch should email me.

Roger Bell. bell.rogier@btinternet.com 015394 32730

### Yorkshire Region

#### PETE CLOUGH'S DECORATING DAY

To be held on Saturday September 30th from 10am to 3pm at Orchard House, Marston Lane, Moor Monkton, York. Pete will cover - On-Clay, Slip, Resist and Brushwork. If participants wish him to cover other techniques then please let Ann know your interest when booking. Limited number of places available, booking only with cheque for £12 to Ann Johnson.

#### POPPLINGTON CHRISTMAS SALE

This 2 day sale has been very popular in the past and will be held on Saturday 25th and Sunday 26th November 10am to 4 pm daily. The cost for the 2 days is £30 and the number of spaces is limited to 14. In order to reserve a place cheques should be sent to Ann asap. Only payment will secure a place on a first come first served basis. A meeting to discuss the day will be held on Thursday 14th September at 7pm at Orchard House. All correspondence should be sent to Ann Johnson, Orchard House, Marston Lane, Moor Monkton, York YO26 8JL. Tel 01904 738541 or e mail ann.johnson@moormonkton.com

PLEASE MAKE CHEQUES PAYABLE TO NPA

## Welcome To New Members

Name	Address	Tel. No.	E-mail
Marie Kershaw	1st Floor Flat, 75 Clifton Drive, Ansdell, Lytham St Annes, Lancs KY8 1BZ	01253 736103	mkershaw1waitrose.com
Stephen Beaton	141 Constable Road, Sheffield, S.Yorks S14 1BG	01142648 340	stevebeaton5@hotmail.com
Chris Bridgman	Flat 7 38 Lea Road, Heaton Moor, Stockport, Cheshire SK4 4JU	07958 285 470	kitbridgman@hotmail.com
Margaret Lawrenson	"Seven Firs", Kemp Road, Swanland, E. Yorks HU14 3LZ	01482 634704	margaret@sevenfirs.karoo.co.uk
Debbie Loane	C/o Land Gallery, Aine Road, Easingwold, N Yorks YO61 3DA	01347 822081	info@landgallery.co.uk
Mike Maddocks	51 Hirstgate, Mexborough, S.Yorks S64 0LW	079 665 08193	mike.maddocks@blueyonder.co.uk
Kery Masley	11 Elmfield Terrace, Halifax, W Yorks HX1 3EB	01422 346741	nienzi@btinternet.com
Eric Moss	119 West End Avenue, Harrogate, N Yorks HG2 9BU	01423 525807	eric@mosszz.freemove.co.uk
Gillian Nicholas	The Pottery Wheel, Blakemere Craft Centre, Northwich GW8 2EB	01606 301 269	gillian@potterywheel.wanadoo.co.uk
Frances Norton	16 Littlemoor Gardens, Pudsey, W. Yorks LS28 8AS	01132 568836	francesnorton@hotmail.com
Anne Roaveley	178 Beverley Road, Hessle, E. Yorks HU13 9AT	01482 644135	
David Rogerson	3 Oldfield Avenue, Endike Lane, Hull, E. Yorks HU6 7UN	01482 802651	pottery@oldfield.karoo.co.uk
Sheila Spencer	Wood Edge, Baggerwood Road, Thurgoland, Sheffield, S.Yorks S35 7AX	0114 288 5830	
Jack Spires	26 Wentworth Road, York, N Yorks YO24 1DG	01904 633732	bracespirescpfj@aol.com
Sylvia Holmes	Chapel Farm, Thixendale, N.Yorks YO17 9TG	01377 288340	tylviaholmes@yahoo.co.uk
Jackie Tilston	29 Christleton Avenue, Heaton Chapel, Stockport, Cheshire SK4 5EQ	0161 432 5235	jackie.tilston@btinternet.com
Caroline Welbourn	14 Westwood Road, Beverley, E. Yorks HU17 8EJ	01482 862 795	caroline.welbourn@countyside.gov.uk

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

## Time for a Change by Steve Booton

It was 1.35pm, Saturday 25 March 2006, St.Ives Ceramics Gallery on Fish street, St.Ives, Cornwall. An ideal place for a career changing epiphany. Time for a change.

Time to give up what has become the mind numbingly boring career in management that I seem to have drifted into 12 years ago after an accident forced me to give up teaching.

I was in Cornwall for my daughters wedding that weekend and happened to be staying at the Sloop Inn opposite St.Ives Ceramics and popped in to calm my nerves before what turned out to be a beautiful occasion.

What at first appeared to be a small ceramics gallery turned out to be a spacious Tardis of a gallery full of beautifully crafted and well displayed ceramics. I found myself staring at an incredible piece by Shoji Hamada and was transported back to the heady days of my degree course at Wolverhampton Polytechnic at which time I was introduced to work by Hamada, Leach and Casson to name but an illustrious few. I was lucky to meet Mick Casson at his studio in 1979. He was a gracious host and very patient with a group of excitable second year students who must have asked a thousand questions. I bought a jug from what he considered to be a collection of seconds lying outside his studio. It is now a very treasured possession.



**A brief history of ceramics latest prodigal son**

I completed my ceramics degree at Wolverhampton Polytechnic in 1981, under the excellent tutelage of David Pegg and Jeff and Pam Salter and Alan Swale. After obtaining my PGCE in 1982, I opted for a teaching career in Sheffield. Partly due to my then growing family and partly my desire to pass on the delights of clay and design.

My teaching career lasted 14 years until an accident at work resulted in a period of incapacitation and ultimately, a career change and a complete cessation of anything clay related.

During the intervening years all but one of my four children have left for various parts of the globe and I have endured a variety jobs all of which have failed to fill the creative vacuum caused by the need to support my family in the style to which they would like to become accustomed!!!.

### Technical Notes

The pieces are thrown on a kick wheel and fired to 1100 degrees. I have chosen red earthenware for the thrown body as it offers a warm unglazed contrast to the turned Yew lids, stoppers and handles and is complemented by the copper wire.

I occasionally add bands of slip coloured with iron oxide to give a subtle tonal change onto which I scratch lines to give added texture.



However, I digress! Back to shoji Hamada. This was it. Now or Never.

My wife had decided to go back to work after our youngest daughter Calysta starts school in September thus offering the perfect opportunity for us to swap roles and do something I could only dream of for the last 12 years, retire and go back to my chosen vocation. After what, on consideration, seemed to be very short space and time I have emptied our brick built garden shed, added a power supply acquired a small top loading electric kiln and kick wheel (god bless EBay) and produced my first firing of pots (photos attached).

This has been an exhilarating period of time but I now face the task of getting my work seen and displayed. I have a series of craft fairs booked throughout my area but would welcome any advice on approaching galleries and getting my work exhibited.



## Natural Companions @ Turnstone Gallery



Rod Bailey



Fran Tristram

A warm welcome is extended to members of the  
Northern Potters Association to

### **Natural Companions**

An exhibition of new work by NPA member, Fran Tristram and paintings by her  
husband, Rod Bailey at the

**Turnstone Gallery,**  
Sandsend, Nr Whitby, Yorks

Opening Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> September 2006, 2.30 – 8.30pm

Exhibition continues until 29<sup>th</sup> October 2006  
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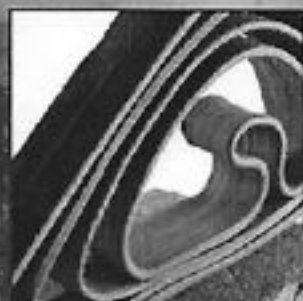
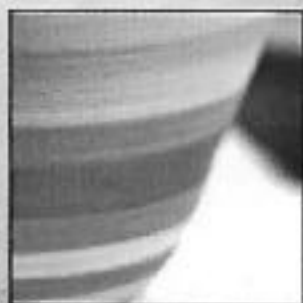
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# MAAC—Forthcoming Events

## Forthcoming Events

**16 September 2006 1.30pm for 2.00pm start**  
**Euston Friends Meeting House**  
**'Gallery Owners Event'**

Joanna Bird, Tim Boone and Steven Dee will each be giving their view of selling ceramics whether from a conventional gallery or via the website – the 'how, what and why' of selling your work. Tickets will cost £10.00 for CPA /LP members, £12.00 for non-members and £8.00 for students. For details and tickets please send a s.a.e. to Stanley Field, 4 Arlington Road, Richmond, Surrey TW10 7BY Tel: 020 8940 1069

**28-29 October 2006**  
**Oxford Ceramics Fair**

**St Edward's School, Woodstock Road, Oxford**

An Associate Members stand has been organised for eight members to exhibit their work. Don't forget to visit the stand. You can obtain more general information by visiting the website [www.oxfordsc.co.uk](http://www.oxfordsc.co.uk) or by contacting Michael Jones, 17 Selbourne Road, Dudley, West Midlands, DY2 8LQ Tel: 01384 255 867 e-mail: [mike\\_a\\_jonze@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:mike_a_jonze@yahoo.co.uk)

## Applications for 2007 events

**21<sup>st</sup> October 2006**

**Earth and Fire Rufford 23-24 June 2007**

**Rufford Country Park, Nr Ollerton, Newark, Nottinghamshire**

Please send your applications now if you would like to participate in next year's Earth and Fire at Rufford. This is a prestigious international ceramics fair and MAAC will be selecting six members to exhibit on their stand. Please send stamped addressed envelope with your application form, slides and booking fee (see flyer) before 21<sup>st</sup> October 2006 to Michael Jones, 17 Selbourne Road, Dudley, West Midlands, DY2 8LQ Tel: 01384 255 867 e-mail: [mike\\_a\\_jonze@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:mike_a_jonze@yahoo.co.uk)

**19-20 May 2007**

**Clay Art Wales**

**The Courtyard and Walled Garden of the the Old Coach House, Llanrhaedr Hall, Denbigh, North Wales**

Put this date in your diaries for next year. After our successful participation at this year's Clay Art Wales MAAC has been invited to organise an Associate members stand for 2007 and will be asking you to send in your applications very shortly. Details from Michael Jones, 17 Selbourne Road, Dudley, West Midlands, DY2 8LQ Tel: 01384 255 867 e-mail: [mike\\_a\\_jonze@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:mike_a_jonze@yahoo.co.uk)

## Talk and Walk Events

Talk and Walk events have been devised by the MAAC Committee to ensure that CPA Members get the full benefit of interaction with the speaker. They are run to coincide with exhibitions held in *Contemporary Ceramics*. Starting at 2 o'clock there is a talk and slide presentation. The speaker and the audience then walk to *Contemporary Ceramics* in Marshall Street for the Private View, to enjoy the exhibition, a glass of wine and the chance to talk further with the speaker and learn more about their techniques. Where the speaker has recently published a book, this will be available for sale, so you can ask the author to sign your copy.

**Apologies** to anyone who had tickets for Lisa Hammond's Talk and Walk in June. This event had to be cancelled at the last moment as Lisa was very seriously ill. She hopes to be able to contribute to the Talk and Walk programme next year.

**Margaret Frith**

**'40 Years On'**

**Sunday 24th September 2006 at 2.00p.m.**

Margaret Frith is to have an exhibition of her recent work at Contemporary Ceramics at the end of September. She will be giving a short talk about her work at 2.00p.m followed by the walk to Contemporary Ceramics in Marshall Street for the Private View.

**Booking is essential for these events.**

**Ticket costs CPA/LP Members £8 Non-members £10 Students £4. Please include s.a.e and enquire for details from Don Hudson at**

**Town Mill Pottery, Town Mill, Mill Lane, Lyme Regis, Dorset, DT7 3PU Tel: 01297 444 633**

## Events Calendar 2005/2006

- East Riding Open Studios - 7 & 8 October 2006
- Huddersfield Open Studios Trail—17, 18, 19 November


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

## Electronic Book

### Wanted—Your images and text for the Electronic Book.

The good thing about the electronic book is that it can easily be updated, so continue to send your info to [marshiepots@aol.com](mailto:marshiepots@aol.com). I have 42 single images, most obtained from the website but do not have contact details or extra images. I will try to contact individuals over the next couple of months.

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.



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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.

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£10 (has to be paid by cheque or PO)  
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Contact the membership secretary:

Catherine Boyne-Whitelegg  
10 Drome Road, Copmanthorpe, York YO23 3TG  
Tel: 01904 701841



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