

Issue February—March 03

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Editors Comment

*A Happy New Year to fellow
potters and readers*

I was going through my diary putting in the dates for ceramic events and I was surprised at how packed the year is becoming. There is certainly plenty of opportunity for exhibiting and selling ceramics. I am particularly looking forward to attending the International Ceramics Festival at Aberystwyth for the first time, about which I have heard so much. The trouble is that with so many festivals and exhibitions to visit I am afraid my visa will get some hammer and I will get some earache from my wife as to where any more pots will fit into the house—still I am sure there is room for one or two more!



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Deadline For Next Issue

All material for the **April—May 2003 issue** to be with Ian Marsh by the **20th March**.

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

Website News

Thank you to all who have contributed to the website. Unfortunately my computer crashed at the beginning of January and I lost all information on it. Could whoever sent photographs by email round about Christmas please forward them again. Also can everyone please carry on sending in their pictures for inclusion on the website, and for those who have already contributed, remember to update with new pictures when you have them. As with the newsletter the website is only as good as you make it.

Judith



Reply to the review of the Ceramic Review website in the last issue.

Dear Ian

Congratulations on your appointment as editor of NPA News. It is always good to receive the latest issue, to read about events across the country and the way that potters share ideas and organise activities.

Thank you for mentioning the new Ceramic Review web site in the December issue of NPA News. With potters in mind, we have spent over six months developing the site, and continue to do so, trying to combine providing a service with information as well as the opportunity to order subscriptions, single copies and publications on line. Consulting the research facility detailing over thirty years of Ceramic Review is free, so if you have access to back issues of the magazine you can check the references. Otherwise photocopies of articles mentioned can be supplied at modest cost. Unfortunately, try as we might, we could not make back issues available on the web at a reasonable price. Maybe in the future.

I note you are developing your web site, and look forward to visiting it.

Ceramic Review does welcome contributions from around the country, and if you or any readers of NPA News have suggestions or want to make a contribution please contact me.

All best wishes for the New Year.

Emmanuel Cooper
Editor

Welcome To New Members

Name	Address	Tel. No.	E-mail
Roma Bromley	Wenlock Edge, Woolton Park, Liverpool, L25 6DU	0151 426 2290	roma2@liverpool.ac.uk
Nicky Davies	405 Uttoxeter Rd, Blythe Bridge, Stoke on Trent, Staffs, ST11 9NT	01782 395898	
David Platt	Hollybank, Ladyhall, Nr Millom, Cumbria, LA18 5HR	01229 716083	
Sophie Thomson	236 Windsor Ave, Gateshead, Tyne & Wear, NE8 4PA	0191 4213931	mscole@ukonline.co.uk

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

Members Adverts

I am sending this e-mail in the hope that you can pass the information below to a young aspiring pottery student. The cost of all items sold together would be £600 - buyer arranges transport.

Retired potter with studio pottery equipment for sale. Prefer to sell as a job lot to someone just starting in the craft. Alsager wheel with attachments, St Thomas' body clay, High Temperature bricks for building oil, gas or electric kiln, plus all the usual items to be found in a working pottery.

Having enjoyed potting for many, many years, would genuinely like to give someone a start by selling all the items at a give away price.

Many thanks

Clive Butterworth

Can You Help?

York Open Air Art Exhibition

Caroline Till who helps organise the York Open Air Art Exhibition would like to appeal for a potter to join her on the organising committee. There are four informal meetings a year which last for about an hour each. The members are there to support the Council Staff, and to put forward ideas and improvements. The council staff do all the hard work!

Contact Caroline Till if you can help:

21 Hamilton Way, Acomb, York, YO24 4LE.

Tel. No. 01904 794171

E-mail: ctill@madasafish.com

Stop Press

New ceramics gallery opening early February at Blakemere Craft Centre, Sandi Way, Northwich, Cheshire. Work on Sale or return, 35% commission. Contact: Jill 01606 590912

Exhibitions

Platform Gallery, Station Road, Clitheroe, Lancashire, BB7 2JT
01200 443071

17th January – 1st March 2003

"Storytelling; the artist's tale"

Showing the value of storytelling in contemporary craft. A selected group of artists who use text and stories within their artwork.

International Ceramics Festival 2003

Aberystwyth Arts Centre, SY23 3DE

4,5,6th July 2003

Tickets available from December

www.internationalceramicsfestival.co.uk

The Craft Centre & Design Gallery, City Art Gallery, The Headrow, Leeds LS1 3AB

0113 247 8241

1st February—30th April

Ceramic Showcase—Joanna Sancha

Groups of hand built ceramic objects using a range of clays and surface finishes.

Booth House Gallery, 3 Booth House Lane, Holmfirth, HD9 2QT
01484 685270

Ceramics by Peter Ilsley, Sally Shrimpton, Sylvia Bailey, Jim Robison

Paintings and prints by Peter Rees, Dawn Holmes

Photographs by Caroline Dilks

Shepherds Crooks and Walking Sticks by Stuart Clayton

The Bowes Museum, Barnard Castle, Co. Durham, DL12 8NP
01833 690606

www.bowesmuseum.org.uk

Beneath the Surface: Philomena Prestell, new work.

Events Calendar

March 12-15 NCECA 2003: 37 Annual Conference, San Diego, USA

April 6-8: British Craft Trade Fair. Hall 1, Great Yorkshire Showground, Harrogate. 01273 833844
www.bctf.co.uk

24-25 May: ClayArt, Denbigh.

13-15 June: Scottish Potfest in the Pens, Perth

28-29 June: Earth and Fire, Rufford

4-6 July: International Ceramics Festival, Aberystwyth

6-13 July: Holmfirth Art Week, Holmfirth

18 July: Art in Action

25-27 July: Potfest in the Park, Penrith

1-3 August: Art in Clay, Hatfield.

8-10 August: Potfest in the Pens, Penrith.

5-6 September: South West Potfest, Fromme

Ian Howie

I've got a **residency at Rufford Craft Centre** next year.

It's 18 Aug to 28 Sept 2003. I'm planning to do two things. Firstly to have some time away from production throwing at Coxwold Pottery to try out new and larger shapes. Secondly to use the 2 wood kilns to incorporate ashing effects into the gas fired stoneware I've been doing. I'm planning to fire the big anagama kiln once and the smaller conventional kiln 2 or 3 times over the 6 weeks. The anagama firing will be open to a fairly small group of people wanting to help fire the kiln with some of their own pots in - details later.
www.ianhowie.co.uk

New Gallery opening in Derbyshire

Melbourne Contemporary Arts is located in Melbourne Hall Visitors Centre, close to the Tea Rooms and is owned and run by N.P.A. member Jane Adams and her partner Philip Harris.

The Gallery will feature the work of emerging and recently graduated ceramists and potters alongside that of more established artists.

A permanent exhibition of Jane's work will feature her figurative animal pieces as well as her new range of vessels.

The Gallery will also feature Philip's black and white photography together with textiles, print, innovative reclaimed wood furniture, studio glass and original 2D work in all media.

Various themed exhibitions will be staged throughout the year and any N.P.A. members interested in exhibiting should contact the Gallery.



Melbourne Contemporary Arts Open 11am - 4pm Thurs - Sun
Melbourne Hall Visitors Centre Please telephone first if travelling a long distance.
Church Square, Melbourne, Derbyshire, DE73 1EN,
Tel: 01332 865333
email: mcarts@virgin.net

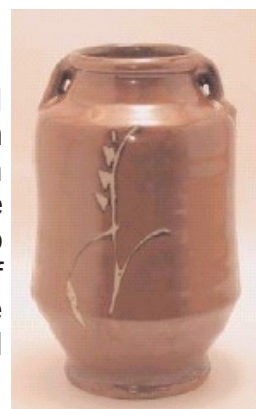
The Oakwood Gallery

4 Church Street, Edwinstowe, Notts NG21 9QA Tel. No. 01623 823 665
E-mail: oakwood.gallery@virgin.net Website: www.oakwoodceramics.co.uk

Mike Dodd

March 28th - 25th April

A solo show by Mike Dodd. This influential potters work is always in demand and a one man show is not to be missed. Illustrated is a waisted vase with lugged handles to the shoulder, glazed in a kaki glaze over a grey celadon with wax resist brush work, typical of Mike's style. The private view will be on, Saturday March 28th at 2.00pm, when Mike will be in attendance to answer any of you questions regarding his work. Following the success of Mike's teabowls at our well received Totally Teabowl exhibition in 2002 we look forward to seeing more examples as part of this exhibition. We will dedicate a newsletter to Mike in the near future.



Opportunities and News

York Open Air Art Exhibition 2003

All Welcome!

The City of York is offering Four days again this year.

Saturday 26th and Sunday 27th APRIL

closing date for application 17th March.

Saturday 5th July and Sunday 6th JULY

closing date for application 12th May.

(you may attend any or all of the four days)

This is a selling exhibition held in Parliament Street, the main Central Square in York.

The Exhibition is purely fine art and ceramics. The ceramics exhibited are from members of Northern Potters Association and all members are free to apply. Ceramicists will be supplied with a trestle table, and artists with screens. The only cost to the exhibitors is 10% of any sales, which are given to the Lord Mayors Charities.

All arrangements on the day will be in place including -- Administration of exhibitors -- Banners -- Bands--Screens -
- Tables etc.

FREE CAR PARKING available on all days this year!

Potters are welcome to demonstrate - Hand build - or bring a wheel - BUT please contact me first so suitable arrangements can be made.

If you would like two tables please apply separately for each table, also if you wish to attend both weekends please send two S.A.E. as the forms are available from different dates.

For Application forms please send a large S.A.E. to:
Caroline Till. 21 Hamilton Way, Acomb, York YO24 4LE.
Any Questions? Tel 01904 794171. Email: ctill@madasafish.com



RAKU WORKSHOPS

Two Workshops run by Brian Holland, at his studio at **Persistence Works, Brown St., Sheffield**. Consisting of three Saturday sessions, from 11.0 am. to 4.00 pm. £25 per session, including materials and firing costs,

1st, 8th, 15th, March:

Exploring clays, looking at kilns, glazes and firing techniques, making and firing work.

29th March, 5th and 12th April:

PAPER CLAY: Mixing paper clay, exploring possibilities, working with paper clay slabs, firing etc.

Contact 01909 724781 or e-mail brianholland@lineone.net or at his studio tel. no. 0114 2494175

A CHANCE FOR NPA MEMBERS TO EXHIBIT AT THE GALLERY IN THE OXO TOWER, ON THE SOUTHBANK, near to the TATE MODERN, LONDON.

Cost for three weeks is £5,000, which might seem a lot of money, BUT IF 30 OF US GET SELECTED THAT IS ONLY £150 EACH FOR A CHANCE TO SHOW AT SUCH A PRESTIGIOUS SIGHT.

This cost includes all publicity and a preview, press coverage etc, and no commission.

Members would have to be prepared to staff the venue for a few days.

If interested please forward names to Brian Holland 01909 724781 or e-mail [**brianholland@lineone.net**](mailto:brianholland@lineone.net)

You are invited to join
York Art Workers Association

on Monday 7th April

for an illustrated talk by the celebrated potter **Alan Caiger-Smith**.

Details from Peter Dick, Coxwold Pottery 01347 868344

East meets West meets East

Japanese Potter to visit Hong Kong 21 March 2003

Yo Thom who is the apprentice to Lisa Hammond has been invited to work at King George V School In Hong Kong. KGV as it is affectionately known, is a part of the English Schools Foundation and follows a British Curriculum.

Yo, who is a graduate of the Kent Institute of Art and Design, will be working with students making vessels in clay and paper that illustrate Japanese Folk tales. Yo's has been working on her own interpretations of the tales and the coming together of students and artists looks likely to be a rewarding experience for both parties. Yo will also be exhibiting her work in Hong Kong and taking part in a day workshop for parents and friends at the school. A film is being made of her working in England on the project and then the second part will be filmed in Hong Kong. You will be able to get daily updates from our web site www.kgv.edu.hk in the art department folder.

Fred Croft, Head of Art

See Ceramic Review issue 195 for more information about Yo.

Urgent Very Short Notice

**To all NPA members friends and family.
A day out is imminent.**

NPA OPEN STUDIO DAY SUNDAY 23rd FEBRUARY

Jim Robison, David Roberts and Brendan Hesmondhalgh

**Are all to be opening their studios, workshops and galleries, to
Northern Potters between 11am and 4pm.**



Jim Robison



David Roberts



Brendan Hesmondhalgh

Jim, David and Brendan are three impressive potters each with a different style and approach, willing and able to talk pots with you.

There will be one short interval between 1pm and 2.30pm, when the potters will be having lunch at the Fleece Pub, Holme just a few minutes drive over the hill, along with committee members. All are welcome to join in, as we would enjoy meeting members in person and anyone else you wish to bring along.

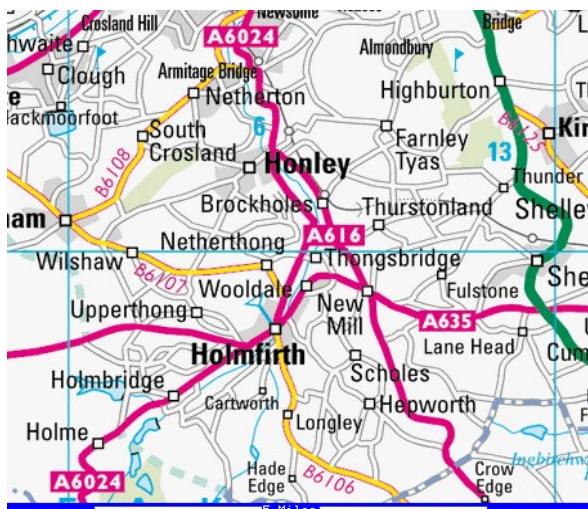
The Fleece serves food and refreshments enabling you to make of the day what you wish (it is advisable to book in advance 01484 683499). Food and drinks are also served in Brendan's Sculpture Lounge.

We are sure this is just the kind of day to cheer up a Sunday in February.

Come along and join in!

A good day out is inevitable and necessary
Fine potters, good discussions and food if you wish to treat
yourself to lunch.

The small town of Holmfirth also has a lot more to offer you if you wish to explore



further with plenty of parking. Holmfirth offers you interesting shops and cafes set in
a beautiful Pennine village.

Holmfirth is easy to reach either from the M62 or the M1.

**1. Brendan Hesmondhalgh
Sculpture Lounge
11 Upperbridge
Holmfirth**

Parking in the town centre

**2. David Roberts
Cressfield House
44 Upperthong Lane
Holmfirth**

The Hulme Mural Project

The Hulme Mural Project

Four months have passed since the Hulme Mural was unveiled to the world, and it feels like it's always been there! Though the dry sunny days of September when it was installed have long gone, and the wall is subject to a daily onslaught of wind and rain, the mural shines through, and cheers up both staff and students who work and study at the Hulme Adult Learning Centre. Most days, complimentary comments still reach us in the pottery, and the project somehow still feels 'alive', even though we have all moved on now to other things.

I suppose that's the nature of a long term piece of work, that the involvement is so intense, it becomes part of you. Its also the



Detail from a panel.

nature of public art, and community art, that public ownership combined with meaningful issues can result in art work that has a powerful presence.

As the opening day publicity proclaimed: 'An 84 foot wall, two tonnes of clay, two and a half years, many pairs of hands... ' it was a big project! Discussion had started way back in September 1999, when Hulme Centre students, like everyone else, were talking about the new millennium, and ways of marking the transition. In the pottery, we decided to make something lasting for our



Detail from a panel.

local community... A plaque? A sculpture? Why not an 84 foot mural! I blame Jim Robison's book "Large Scale Ceramics" for taking our ambitions from the sensible to the ludicrous!

But the group – all adult education pottery students – were determined, and so the process began. We planned, discussed, researched, designed. We took ourselves off to Jim Robison's workshop to pick his brains, and harness his unflinching support for the project!

We tested methods, tried out clays, bought new equipment. We begged, borrowed and fundraised nearly £20,000. We laughed,



Detail from a panel.



Brigitte and students working on a panel.

cried, argued, and supported each other. And slowly but surely, working for just one day a week for over two years, our idea became a reality. For the final summer, work speeded up, with a real deadline to make. And luckily for us, 'Jim Robison Ceramics' turned into "Giant Mural Installers Extraordinaire", and our enormous, heavy, ceramic jigsaw was firmly stuck to the wall.

The sun shone, the crowds came, Johnny

Vegas was funny and none of it dropped off! September 30th 2002 will always be a day to remember. The video of the whole project is nearing completion, and will be available for sale. We have post cards, and reduced price t-shirts also for sale! We are happy to talk to people about the project. Looking back, there are many things we'd do differently. We all learnt a lot, and people have different memories of the best and worst bits. The one thing we all agree on, is the importance of teamwork, the need for real commitment to the project, and support for each other. We struggled to get it right at times, but without it, you'd never carry a project like this through to the end.

Brigitte Soltau, Ceramics Tutor
Hulme Adult Learning Centre
Stretford Road
Hulme
Manchester M15 5FQ
Tel: 0161 254 7349/7355



One of the fourteen foot panels.

Summary of Committee Meeting

Summary of NPA committee meeting held on 25.01.03

Julia O'Dell was welcomed as Secretary.

Future festival locations were discussed. Responses are awaited from various venues. Member opinion is sought regarding the inclusion of workshops in these events.

Discussions also took place regarding the possibility of establishing an NPA workshop & exhibition centre in the north. A feasibility study is to be undertaken.

An NPA selected exhibition will be held at Tullie House, Carlisle from 22.11.03 to 11.01.04. Future exhibition locations were discussed including a combined CPA/NPA event.

Updated images of members work was requested for the web site and publicity.

Requests have been received from schools in the north to deliver ceramic workshops. The committee debated funding and other issues related to this type of event. *

A workshop open day has been arranged on 23.02.03. Jim Robison, David Roberts & Brendan Hesmondhalgh will be expecting visitors!

It was noted that membership had declined (From 299 to 259).

The next committee meeting will be held on Saturday 22ND March. If members have any matters they wish to raise please contact the relevant committee member.

Julia O'Dell

* Education Policy

Sarah Villenau and Barabara Heywood are in the process of revamping the NPA Education Policy. If you have any thoughts or comments concerning this issue then they would like to hear from you.

CPA Events

MAAC - Future Events for 2003

Saturday, 15th March 2003

Teaparty - Teapots Ancient & Modern

At the Crafts Council, 44a Pentonville Road, London N1 9BY at 2pm Emmanuel Cooper will give a slide talk about one of his passions – the Teapot. His slide talk is to link with the exciting exhibition of contemporary (modern) "Teapots" at Contemporary Ceramics, Craft Potters Shop & Gallery in Marshall Street London W! running from 11/03/03 until 24/03/03. He will illuminate the history of this singular piece of British household equipment. Don't miss it. Tickets at £12 for non-members, £8 for members and £4 for students from Elizabeth Smith – tel: 01398 331 442. Booking is essential.

Saturday, 12th April 2003

Ceramics in the City

Bristol Museum and Art Gallery, Queen's Road, Bristol BS8 1RL at 2p.m.

Karin Walton, Curator of Applied Arts will give a talk and tour in the ceramics galleries, introducing the Bristol Collections. This will include a visit to the storerooms to see and handle ceramic items not normally viewed by the general public. An opportunity not often available! Must book now.

Further information and tickets from Elizabeth Smith, Millhead House, Bampton, Devon EX16 9LP Tel/Fax: 01398 331 442 Tickets CPA/WPA/SWP Members £6 Non-members £9 Students £3

Saturday May 31st 2003

New Discoveries in Chinese Ceramics

Crafts Council, 44a Pentonville Road, London N1 9BY at 2pm

Nigel Wood will give a slide talk about the many recent discoveries in Chinese ceramics over the period 2000-2002. Nigel has attended four conferences in China during this period and made a number of kiln-site visits including the excavation of kilns producing Ru ware and Guan ware, and studies of Neolithic black 'eggshell' wares. Also he has new information on the origins of Chinese 'dragon' and mantou kilns, and the techniques used to make the spectacular 18th C. 'robin's egg' glazes. This should prove to be a fascinating afternoon. Booking is essential.

Further information and tickets from Elizabeth Smith, Millhead House, Bampton, Devon EX16 9LP Tel/Fax: 01398 331 442 Tickets CPA/LP Members £8 Non-members £12 Students £4

29th May – 2nd June 2003

French Connection

An opportunity to spend a weekend in Avesac in Brittany where Richard Dewar lives and works visiting his and other local workshops and a local French potters market not to mention sampling local food wine and hospitality.

Further details and booking form from Elizabeth Smith, Millhead House, Bampton, Devon EX16 9LP Tel/Fax: 01398 331 442

1st, 2nd & 3rd August 2003

Hatfield House – Associates Exhibition Stand

The Craft Potters Association has booked a stand at Art in Clay at Hatfield House for Associate Members to exhibit and sell their work at this exciting selling fair in August 2003. Details of the exhibitors will be included next time.

Talk and Walks

Phil Rogers

17th May 2003 at 2pm

On Saturday 17th May Phil Rogers will give a slide talk at the University of Westminster, Regent Street, London at 2pm. This will coincide with his exhibition at Contemporary Ceramics, Marshall Street. After his slide show we will be able to walk down to see his exhibition and ask him all those technical questions which we all love to do!

New Books

Leslie Dierks GMC	Creative Clay Jewellery	£14.95
Michael Flynn A & C Black	Ceramic Animals Due mid 2003	?
Frank Giorgini GMC	Handmade Tiles	£16.95
Ian Gregory A & C Black	Nature In Clay Due mid 2003	?
L. Jackson & K. Malone A & C Black	Kate Malone (A Book of Pots) Due May 2003	£35.00
Paul Mathieson A & C Black	Sexpots (Eroticism in Ceramics) Due mid 2003	£30.00
John Plowman A & C Black	The Manual of Sculpture Techniques Due Feb 2003	£14.99
Suzanne Tourtillot GMC	500 Teapots Due Mar 2003	£16.95
Patricia Waller GMC	Hobby Ceramics Nov 2003	£12.95
Doug Wensley Crowood	Pottery (The Essential Manual) Available	£25.00

STONEWARE – Richard Dewar

Publ A & C Black £12.99

The latest in the Ceramics Handbooks series is as always aimed at the student or established potter wanting to work in a new area. Dewars' own work in saltglaze is probably known to most of you from galleries and shows such as Potfest, although he lives and works in France.

As always in the series the technical side is comprehensively covered in the first three sections. 'Terminology & Materials' covers clays, basic materials, slips and glazes. 'Firings & Kilns' covers quartz transformation and vitrification, kiln atmospheres and the various fuels and firing methods. The third part covers special effects – celadons, copper reds, ash, crystalline and vapour glazes.

The second half of the book takes over 20 'High Flyers amongst the High Firers' to develop and illustrate the previous information. He cleverly uses the work of disparate makers to show a wide range of making methods, firing cycles, glaze and kiln types. Each potter gets 3 pages to include photos of typical work and sufficient information on methodology, recipes etc to be of practical use, plus comments on motivation and inspiration.

The piece on Pascal Geoffroy from France illustrates the value of this approach. He uses 3 Shino glazes (recipes provide) plus Tenmoku in various combinations to achieve some beautiful surface colours and patterns. Monika Debus from Germany uses stoneware clay, porcelain slip and then paints with mixed oxides. She single fires in a reduced atmosphere to only 1140C, introducing dry salt at top temperature. Is this stoneware? Also included are previous Northern Potters demonstrators Hans & Birgitte Borjeson, Brian Gartside and Nic Collins.

Recommended.

Roger Bell, Dexterity

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Winton House, 2 Winton Approach
Watford Road, Croxley Green
Rickmansworth, Herts WD3 3TL

Tel: 01923 800006 Fax: 01923 245544

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