

Northern Potters Association

www.northern-potters.org.uk



Jim Robison display at the NPA exhibition—Lund Gallery, Easingwold

Issue August—September 07

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Chat from the Chair

I hope that people are enjoying their summer and ceramics as much as I am having the good fortune to do. I have just had two wonderful weekends, the first in Devon at Nic Collin's place where he organised a symposium of wood firers and Woodfiring with guest demonstrators- Svend Bayer, Chuck Schwartz, Rob Barron, Markus Rusch, and Nicolas Rousseau. (More about this in the next issue). The second weekend at Hatfield I enjoyed the privilege of giving people the opportunity of having a go on the wheel and meeting so many people interested in what we do. The next thing on my own ceramic calendar will be an anagama firing at Rufford in 2 weeks time, then being part of the ART and ARCHITECTURE TRAIL in Wirksworth, a Derbyshire market town. After this it will be time for NORTHERN FIRE 2 at Oxo. Clay keeps us busy! I hope that your timetables are equally busy and most of all as enjoyable. Let us know about events that you have attended and/or participated in.



Clayaway.

Editors Comment

The weather may have been awful over the last couple of months but I have been cheered up by my travels to various pottery events.

The NPA exhibition at the Lund Gallery as described by others in this newsletter was a most enjoyable day. Debbie and Steve were most welcoming and I met a few more NPA members who had just been names on labels previously. I thought there was a good range and standard of work and it was encouraging to see several members exhibiting for the first time.



As always Holmfirth Art Week was well represented by NPA members and many of those contributed to the raising of funds for the Macmillan Cancer Support (it is anticipated they will raise approx £35,000). I spent two days demonstrating and always enjoy talking about and explaining the making of ceramics, in these days of mass production I always feel we need to get across to the public that we are making an individual piece of work that takes skill and artistic interpretation.

I went to the International Ceramics Festival thinking that there was not a great deal to interest me from a hand building point of view. Well it turned out to be a really good weekend and I came away buzzing with ideas and fired up with enthusiasm. I met loads of NPA members who all seemed to be having a wonderful weekend. As always the food and beer was excellent (although they ran out of real ale early on the Saturday evening!). I particularly enjoyed watching Richard Dewar and Françoise Dufayard, both of whom had an element of humour as they demonstrated and worked. I don't throw but it was enthralling to see Bill Van Gelder throwing such wonderful forms with such



Françoise Dufayard at her workstation.

ease, and I have to remind myself that he has been working for a good many years to reach such a level of competence. I particularly liked being able to watch the potters at work throughout the weekend and to engage them in conversation. Another highlight was the mingama kiln fired by Akira Yoshida—such a simple idea and easy to fire in your back garden—I will definitely have a go at building and firing one this winter. I came away wishing I could have seen several more demonstrations or slide shows. Several Colleges were promoting their ceramic courses, but the one which impressed most was Newcastle College. Martin Lungley and his students were there all weekend until late each evening making pots and appeared to be in their element—it was an impressive display and had a continuous ring of onlookers. I know if I was choosing a course it would have been theirs—it was good to see ceramics in action rather than some slick computer display.



Martin Lungley in discussion with one of his students at Aberystwyth

I particularly enjoyed the CPA exhibition, *The Pot, The Vessel, The Object* to celebrate the 50 years of showing and promoting ceramics. I thought the exhibition was quite stunning; to see such a collection and range of ceramics in one place, although I did wonder how they chose the participants; I could think of several outstanding potters whose work was not on show. It will be

coming to the north in October and will be in the Design Centre, Bradford (1st October—9th November) - it is worth going to see - I hope to go and see it again.

This year I managed to get up to visit Potfest in the Park organised by Christine and Geoff Cox and I say thank you to them for providing us with a wonderful day out. I am sure that many of us forget all the hard work by them and their team that makes everything go smoothly. It is a few years since I had been and had forgotten what a wonderful setting it takes place in. It was refreshing to see many potters whose work was new to me and to see how many potters work has developed over the past few years. We had promised ourselves that we would not buy any pots but yes you guessed, we succumbed to a mug and small dish from a potter (Ian Rylatt) based near Aberystwyth who had some refreshingly different forms.



Denis Killganon at Potfest in the Park

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Deadline For Next Issue

All material for the **October—November 07 issue** to be with Ian Marsh by the **20th September**.

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

Exhibitions and Events

Lund Gallery

The NPA exhibition at Lund Gallery started with a very successful weekend, despite some heavy rain showers. The private view was well attended, and at times we had to make use of the overflow overflow car park!

The exhibition includes a wide range of exciting work by 28 members, including 6 who are exhibiting with NPA for the first time. Functional, sculptural and decorative pieces are all present in different and interesting ways, often with a wit that brings a smile to the face of the observer. The price range is equally broad, with something accessible to every pocket. If you haven't visited yet, try and do so – the exhibition runs until 27 August, open Thursday – Sunday and Bank Holiday Monday. Check the website for more information - www.lundgallery.co.uk



Isa Denyer introduced Jim Robison's talk, which was entertaining and informative, although the sun happened to be shining at the time, making it difficult to see the projector screen. Sales were brisk, and at the end of the first week I was already asking some members for replacement stock.

Many thanks are due to Debbie and Steve for offering us the venue – although not quite two years old, the gallery has built a reputation as a well organised, friendly space, showing a range of high quality work at its best. It is equally popular with artists and customers - let's hope we are invited back in a few years' time.

As is becoming usual, Helen Walsh was a great help in setting up the exhibition, and even did an extended stint on the washing up at the private view – thank you Helen.

Platform Gallery

The next NPA exhibition will be at Platform Gallery, Clitheroe, early in 2008. This is a gallery we have not visited for a few years (2002, I think), and is another excellent space with an experienced team, well equipped to display our work to its best advantage.

As many of us get involved with a pre-Christmas selling event frenzy, and then fall into a state of near hibernation until the ice melts from the workshop window, the selection for this will be comparatively early.

Your application form is included with this newsletter, and must be returned to me by 1 October at the latest. This should give selected artists the opportunity to make stock and put it somewhere safe, ready for delivery in January. The provisional exhibition dates are 19 January to 8 March, 2008.

Selection will again be from images, (preferably high resolution digital) rather than actual pieces of work. The images should provide a clear indication of the type of work to be submitted, not necessarily the actual pieces. It is important that the images are good descriptive shots which help the selectors comprehend the nature / construction of the work, not the arty publicity shots you might choose to put on a brochure cover. An image with an uncluttered background, with the full form in view will make it easier to understand how the piece works.

If you produce two different ranges of work, and would like both to be considered, send up to 3 images of each. The selectors may specify which type of work should be included.

NPA cabinet at the Theatre Royal, York

After an initial flurry of phone calls (3 on the first day), there was a low response to the request for work to be displayed in the Theatre Royal. It is disappointing that more members do not take advantage of this outlet. The cabinet was purchased with NPA funds, and the display is maintained on a voluntary basis, for the benefit of the membership.

This month the display includes work by Grene Collins, Michelle Freemantle, Catherine Boyne-Whitelegg and Jeremy Grahame. As mentioned in the last issue I am hoping to compile a programme of exhibitors for the next year, so if you haven't contacted me already, and are willing to submit work, please let me know – tel. 01759 318146 or email barbara.wood@ukonline.co.uk

Eric Mellon

Eric Mellon

When I was advised at a NPA committee meeting that Eric Mellon had been invited to give a talk to the Association I was thrilled. Formerly when I was researching for my dissertation on W.A. Ismay (Collector of Studio Pottery) in 2002, I put an advert in *Ceramic Review* & Margaret O'Rourke (Ceramicist) kindly volunteered information on him & told me the person I should contact about Bill (W A Ismay) was Eric Mellon. This I readily did & he kindly invited me to stay at his home in Bognor Regis to discuss Bill & let me look at some of his letters.

I could only return his kind hospitality & after a number of phone calls between Eric, myself & Helen Walsh, the Assistant Curator of the Ismay Studio Pottery collection at The Yorkshire Museum Trust, said that he would be welcome to stay with me during his stay.



I arranged to pick him up from York Station the day before his talk. Eric once seen is not forgotten. His long hair & beard give the appearance of a man who has been immersed in the Arts all his life. Trained at the Central School of Arts & Crafts in London in the 1940's he says he was one of the last generation who was fully taught in all the disciplines i.e. anatomical structure, classical studies etc. Alongside drawing & painting he studied wood engraving, lithography, etching, sculpture, composition as well as advertisement designs. He founded, with five others, the artistic Hillesden Community & met & married the artist Martina Thomas.

Eric, after working in earthenware for a number of years, was introduced in 1958 to stoneware by Rosemary Wren & has worked in the high temperatures 1280° to 1320° ever since. Initially using an electric kiln & only when he was left a legacy, by a friend, 15 years ago converting to a gas kiln. His routine being that he warms the pots by putting on the gas to a low temperature during the day & upon retiring to bed, switches it off (in case of accidents overnight). The temperature has dropped considerably, but is still warm enough to re-fire next day & get to temperature the same day. Eric generally only throws his pots once a year, so for a three week frenzied period the pots are formed by initially carefully weighing the clay & then thrown on the wheel, which is situated in a room within his chalet bungalow. Once fired it takes him the remainder of the year to decorate the stoneware pots in his own sensitive way with themes of love & tenderness - figurative drawings of classical mythology, the circus or dreams, amongst others. Latterly his pots are completed by pouring on his ash glaze.

Eric early in his career established (contrary to Bernard Leach's opinion) that the washing of the ash after the initial burning of the tree or bush washed away some of the vital ingredients: namely potassium.



In recent years he has solved the problem of an excess of calcium in ash glaze. This excess leads to bleeding within the oxides, which are painted on after bisque firing & then the ash glaze poured over. Happy chance for Eric that Carol Metcalfe, a PhD student at the University of Sunderland contacted him early in her research studies. A farmer's wife, Carol wanted to use waste material from crops from the farm within her glazes & had the resources at the University to analyse the ashes produced. Frequent posting of ashes between North Yorkshire & Bognor Regis ensued & later a weeks residency, testing the different glazes, fully established Eric's belief that ashes high in potassium are best to ensure stability of the oxides below the ash glaze. Also Carol was able to confirm his theory that, on the whole, the higher the tree or bush the more calcium resulted.

Felines. 1997 Cherry ash tile, 20cm x 10



Decorating Stoneware – Ash Glazes & The Art of the Brush

Eric & Carols talk at York Art Gallery on the 16th June about the results of the Ash glaze tests & his entertaining talk on composition, held a small but knowledgeable audience captivated. Eric discourse on the vital importance of sketching & drawing before he paints onto his pots was witty & acerbic, with his one liner put downs (Grayson Perry beware!); the essential golden rectangle within his composition & also the way he prunes his trees & bushes to make up his glazes were ably complemented by Carols fascinating research results.

Eric's book `Decorating Stoneware – Ash Glazes & The Art of the Brush` can be purchased in either paperback (£25) or limited edition hardback (£30), by

contacting Eric direct at 5 Parkfield Avenue, Bognor Regis PO21 3BW.
Catherine Boyne-Whitelegg

A Potter's Moll Writes...Some Summer? Musings

Earth and Fire at Rufford also had the other two elements, air and water, thrown in liberally this year. We were fairly lucky with the weather on Saturday, but on Sunday it was a deluge. However, I think that the people who come to play football and have picnics and who then wander round the stalls saying 'What's that in aid of?' stayed away, but the real punters still came, even though there were huge parking problems because of water-logged grass. Tents were allowed in the camping field but no wheeled vehicles, so the caravans and camper vans found an area of hard standing near the main gate where piles of logs are stored. Jim woke on Saturday morning saying he had dreamt he was in Canada!



Wendy Lawrence at Rufford

The Rufford staff were unflappable and deserve huge praise for their help and organisation. We all know Peter and Barry, but there is also Helen and many others. We were helped magnificently by a lovely lad called Joe, who is an art student and part-time gallery assistant at Rufford, who hefted box after box of pots to help us get set up on Friday night.

There was a huge variety of work on show – something for everyone and we enjoyed seeing the extensive variety of work from Europe.

Judy Adam, one of the selectors, wrote in the catalogue that if there were two potters with similar work she chose the one who had not shown at Rufford before. I think this helped give the festival a fresh boost.

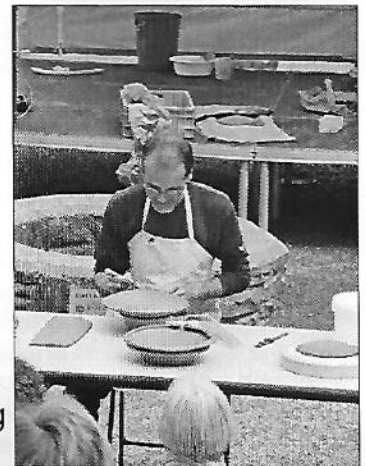
We were lucky to have a very good spot in the courtyard, among the swallows and sparrows, and we were pleased to see ex-students, ex-colleagues, old and new customers and people who would be coming to our studio on courses later in the summer.

I must mention the Trade stand people; they are always so helpful and obliging – Potclays posted an item they did not have in stock at Rufford and Alan Ault from Valentines was here delivering the next batch of clay a few days after we got home.

Another unsung hero/ine is Linda Lambert of A&C Black publishers. She edited the ceramics books written by many of the exhibitors and she loyally turns up each year to see how her ex-clients/friends are doing.

On a sombre note, there needs to be a lot of discussion and thrashing out of CPA problems if the chuntering from almost every stall holder after the AGM is anything to go by.

After Rufford came the NPA 30th anniversary exhibition at Debbie Loane's beautiful Lund Gallery, near Easingwold. Seeing another gallery at work – advertising, display, sales etc makes one appreciate the debt potters owe to galleries that promote and sell their work. Jim gave the world's worst slide lecture because the sun, which had hardly been seen for days, came out and shone through a barn skylight directly on the screen so you couldn't see a thing. On the way out someone commented that at least the narrative held together.



Emile Barnes Raber at Rufford

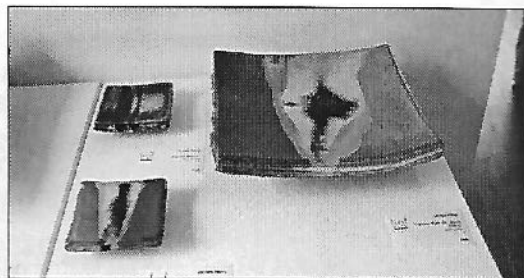


Margaret Lawrenson jugs

The quality of work here was high. I liked (and bought one of) Margaret Lawrenson's tall graceful jugs. I was also taken with Ian Marsh's new glazes. Claude Frere-Smith's four pieces left one wanting to see more, and Peter Clough's landscape pieces are quietly appealing. James Hake is another potter whose work is growing on me – I particularly liked the ripple edges of his slabs and his use of colour. The garden area makes a perfect setting for outdoor pieces, and here I especially liked Karin Hassenberg's work.



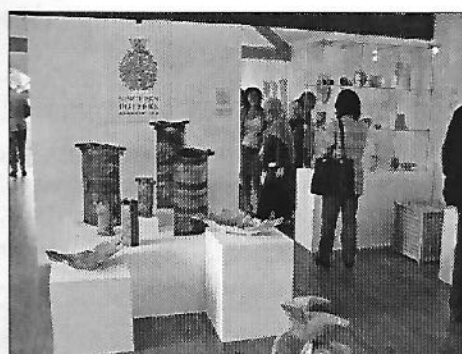
Karin Hassenberg garden sculpture



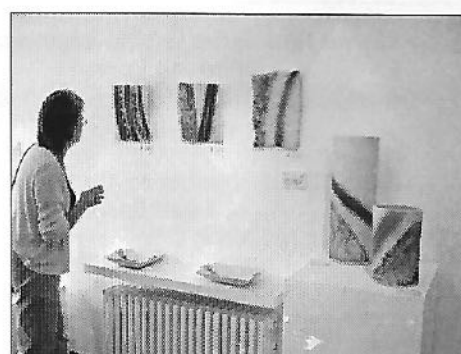
James Hake dishes



Claude-Frere Smith bowl



Jim Robison display



Ian Marsh wall plaques and vases

At Rufford we were visited by June Lloyd-Jones, widow of David, and two of her daughters and their families. They had been to Jane Hamlyn's open day. They invited us for a meal after the Lund Gallery opening and we had a lovely time – Ruth King is June's daughter-in-law. David Lloyd Jones, as well as being a wonderful potter, was very kind and encouraging to Jim in his early years in England and it is nice to have stayed in touch with the family over all these years. June gave Jim some of David's glaze recipes a while ago and by great good fortune Jim recently tested them on some small vases, so he was able to pick one off the stall and give it to June, who proudly had it full of roses as the centrepiece of the dining table when we had our meal.

Currently we are in the throes of a studio course for seven enthusiasts. Two are returnees, one from Moscow. I am grabbing a few minutes to write this in between preparing their supper of bacon, onion and potato casserole with courgette fritters, followed by English apple cake and cream – hungry potters will eat anything and everything!

Finally, a week or so ago Jim's horoscope in our local paper said: 'You need to take more care with your appearance. You have been living life in the fast lane and this is beginning to show.' Hope he heeds the advice!

Liz Robison

This article has also appeared in the CPA newsletter.

Opportunity

The Brewery Arts Centre is sending out a call for entries for 'Concept', our annual Designer Maker Selling Event hosted in December.

Would be of any interest to you or to your customers/artists, who may want to take part.

Dan Jones
Marketing Assistant Kendal Brewery Arts Centre
01539 722833 ext 219
dan.jones@breweryarts.co.uk

Sale

We are disposing of our pottery after injury prevents further fun.

A kiln, clay, glazes: poa (and a wheel, £240 shown here).

Andy and Maeve Lowings
Stamford Lincs
tel 01733 253068



**From 1st August to 16th September 2007
Fired to Cone 13**

Domestic ware vitrified in the white heat of the kiln
by **John Calver**

**From 22nd September to 4th November 2007
Fired Earth**

High fired stoneware in Chinese and Japanese flambe glazes
by **David Fry**

**Exhibitions to be held at:
Stokoe House Ceramics Gallery**

Market Place
Alston
Cumbria
CA9 3HS

Tel 01434 382137
Open daily 10.00 - 5.00

Bay Potters Exhibition

**It is at Hawkshead Brewery, Stavely, Cumbria
on Friday 16th Nov to Sun 18th Nov.**

Sue Bartholomew, Nigel Edmondson, John Kershaw, Angie Mitchell, Jane Smith, Karen Woof and Roger Bell from NPA will be taking part.

Well after much trauma & hard work, I now have a brand new website!

I'd appreciate if you could take a look at it -and pass it on to anyone who you think might be interested in ceramics or the pottery parties I hold for children or the workshops I run for adults.

Also -as I now have full control over content and updates - let me know of any errors/ideas for improvement.

Best Wishes Finola
www.finspottery.co.uk

Jim Robison

Ceramics Courses

26-31 Aug 2007

Extruder and die making Course

15-19 October 2007

Book Early! Limited spaces 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

Website: www.jimrobison.co.uk

York Artworkers Association Programme 2007

Meetings are held at Jacob's Well, Trinity Lane, Micklegate, at 7.30pm on Mondays unless otherwise stated.
Admission: members £2, non-members £3.

**8 October—Elizabeth Fritsch CBE, Ceramicist
(Tempest Anderson Hall, Museum Gardens in association with York Museums Trust)**

12 November—Andrew Anderson, Architect and Artist

4 December A.G.M.—William Pye, Sculptor

Membership and programme enquires to:
Isabel Denyer, 01937 835632

Summer Ceramics, Holme on Spalding Moor - 8th September 2007 - contact Els.Tompkins@suerydercare.org for details and application

Welcome To New Members

Name	Address	Tel. No.	E-mail
Norma Nield	40 Grange Avenue, Cheadle Hulme, Stockport, Cheshire SK8 5JP	0161 486 0166	ajnield@talktalk.net
Julie Butterworth	56 Walton Park, Pannal, Harrogate, North Yorkshire HG3 1EJ	01423 870515	buttsannal@hotmail.com
Pollie & Garry Uttley	Field Cottages, Scarcliffe Grange, Chesterfield, Derbyshire S44 6TJ	01246 824797	polliegarry@yahoo.co.uk
Liz Collinson	Bonded Warehouse, 20A St George's Quay, Lancaster, Lancashire LA1 1RB	01524 62228	ceramic@lizc.info
Francis Taylor	6 Wingfield Villas, Littleborough, Lancs OL15 9EP	01706 838416	fmt@talktalk.net
Linda Bulleyment	17 Manygates Crescent, Wakefield, W Yorkshire WF1 5QD	01924 210851	
Sara-Jane Palmer	Ravenside, Humshaugh, Hexham, Northumberland NE46 4AA	01434 689577	sjpalmerceramics@tiscali.co.uk
Sharon Cooke	21 Rotherham Road, Wath Upon Dearne, Rotherham, South Yorkshire S63 6AD	07721 727 911	cooke-s@hotmail.co.uk
Nuala Poe	Catherine House Farm, Cragg Vale, Hebden Bridge, West Yorkshire HX75 5TU	01422 886344	nualapoe57@hotmail.com
Clare Farley	The Mains Barn, Newton, Cumbria CA11 0AY	01768 899013	klarefarley@hotmail.co.uk
Stella Mari Worden	14 Queens Drive, Fulwood, Preston, Lancs PR2 9YJ	01772 498025	worden811@btinternet.com

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

**NEWS RELEASE
SUMMER CERAMICS
September 8th 2007**

What a good idea it was to postpone Summer Ceramics this year! Barbara Wood and Els Tompkins from Sue Ryder Care had a sixth sense about the weather and predict an Indian Scorching Summer for September!! This is just a little reminder that Summer Ceramics at Holme Hall 8th September and because there had to be a postponement the suggested donation to enter the show is reduced to £25.00 for 2007.

For those new to this event it is a fundraising event for Sue Ryder Care held in the beautiful setting of Holme Hall Neurological Care Centre, Holme Upon Spalding Moor, East Yorkshire. Summer Ceramics has been well supported by members of the Northern Potters Association for the past 3 years and will grow year on year. The stands are housed in the gardens under cover of large marquee style gazebos and the individual space is approximately 3m x3m. Full details are available from Els Tompkins els.tompkins@suerydercare.org or phone 01430 861684. Ceramicist Barbara Wood, who has been invaluable giving of her time and considerable expertise to help with the project is also on hand to answer any query you might have from the artist perspective and can be e mailed barbara.wood@ukonline.co.uk or phone 01759 318146.

You are invited to show your work at this event by sending your application form, available from Els as soon as possible. Students are welcome to show as a group for just one donation. Criteria for showing is that the work must have been produced by you either as a professional, student or hobby ceramicist. Sue Ryder Care is a leading registered healthcare charity providing both hospice and neurological care across the UK in 15 centres as well as caring for people in their own homes. The charity also supports several healthcare projects overseas, mainly in Eastern Europe.

For further information about the Sue Ryder Care please visit the website at www.suerydercare.org. Sue Ryder Care, Holme Hall, New Road, Holme on Spalding Moor, York, YO43 4BS 01430 860904

New Exhibition for Rivington Potters

The exhibition runs from
Friday August 24 until Sunday October 7.

For opening times at Astley Hall
phone. 01257 515927

For more information contact
Babs Taylor on 07974 699141

**'A Universal Language'
By
Maggie Angus Berkowitz.**

1st – 30th September,
Brantwood, Coniston, Cumbria, LA21 8AD

An exciting influential and informative exhibition of
Ceramic Tile Murals and Pictures portraying the
special significance of Maggie's life's work to date.
Maggies Website: www.maggieberkowitz.co.uk

www.brantwood.org.uk
e.enquires@brantwood.org.uk



Images from Aberystwyth

Regions

CUMBRIA REGION REPORT

Our annual exhibition organised by Mary Chapplehow at Keswick Museum looks good and continues to 30th August 2007. The 10 contributors are: Sue Bartholomew, Roger Bell, Mary Chapplehow, Ruth Charlton, Joan Hardie, Hannah McAndrew, Jackie Oglesby, Bob Park, Roma Short & Steve Valentine.

On July 2nd a productive and very enjoyable raku day was held at Angie Mitchell's house at Arnside, completed most pleasantly by a pub meal. Still on the raku theme, we are all getting more serious and have arranged 2 days tuition from John Wheeldon at the end of September. It will be held at Bob Park's pottery and gallery at Greystoke Ghyll near Penrith.

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

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

North East Northern Potters.

By the time this Newsletter reaches you the first North East NPA exhibition "Oriental Inspirations" will be well under way at the Oriental Museum in Durham.

Our last group meeting visited Newcastle College on June 10th. We looked round the well equipped Ceramics Department and as our visit coincided with the end of year shows we also looked at work the students had produced through the year.

Anyone interested in taking courses at Newcastle College, several of our members are already doing Foundation Degrees, contact the College for further information.

Tel. 0191 2004000

Email: enquiries@ncl-coll.ac.uk

www.newcastlecollege.co.uk

Next year is the anniversary of the handover of Hong Kong to China. To mark this the Oriental Museum will be holding a special event called "China Breaks" and we have been invited to put on an exhibition to coincide with this event. Register your interest in taking part in this exhibition by emailing me at the address below.

Steph Jamieson

Email: jamieson@c-pac.net

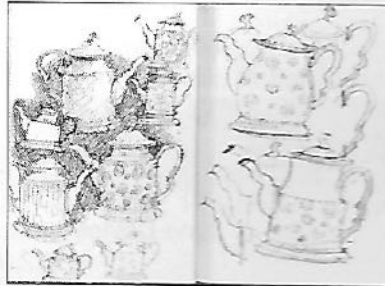
Firing Thoughts

Firing Thoughts

"...drawing onto clay is firing thoughts into ceramic" Eric James Mellon, 1991

This thought by Eric James Mellon is the source of inspiration for an exhibition exploring the relationship between ceramics and drawing, which uncovers the often hidden world of artist's sketchbooks. Rarely seen or exhibited, sketches and drawings by potters, show them exploring ideas and developing their work to the stage before making.

Including some of the most important potters of the 20th century and some contemporary work from the 21st century, Felicity Aylieff, Claire Curneen, Ewen Henderson, Stephen Dixon, Walter Keeler, Jim Malone, Tavs Jorgensen Alex McErlain and James Tower are amongst the featured artists. York Museums Trust has also loaned several pieces from the WA Ismay collection to the exhibition, including the famous 80th birthday bowl made for WA Ismay by Eric James Mellon.



“Firing Thoughts” started at the Peter Scott Gallery, Lancaster University in January 2007, before moving to Manchester Metropolitan University Special Collections in the Sir Kenneth Green Library in May 2007. The exhibition runs until the 20th October 2007. Further information on the exhibition can be found at www.firingthoughts.co.uk

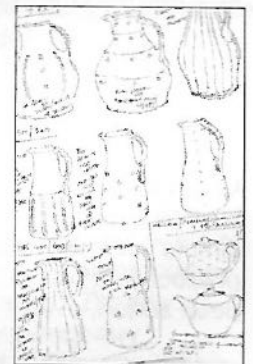
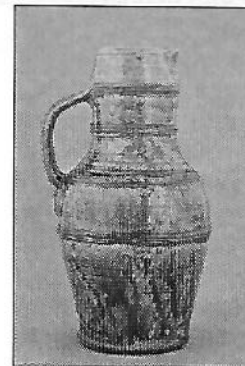
A full-colour 54 page catalogue has been produced and a video interview with some of the makers runs alongside the exhibits.

Firing Thoughts Conference – Special Offer!

On Wednesday 17th October 2007, a major one day conference has been organised to further explore the themes contained in the exhibition. An impressive programme of speakers has been arranged, with some coming all the way from the USA to speak-

- Susan Halls - The importance of drawing to the maker
- Felicity Aylieff - Drawing and making in China
- Kyra Cane - A personal passion
- Sharon Blakey - Making drawing
- Tavs Jorgensen - Electronic Drawing
- Simon Ford – The drawings of William Staite Murray
- Emmanuel Cooper – Bernard Leach, artist and designer

Rob Kessler – Closely observed drawing



The cost of tickets is £45, but Members of the NPA have been offered the opportunity to attend for the reduced rate of £20. Any members interested in taking up this fantastic offer should contact-

Veronica Walker

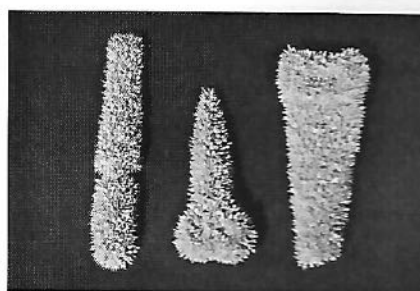
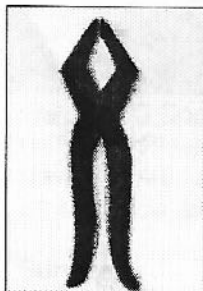
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New Books

500 Animals In Clay
A Glaze of Colour
A Visual Language

Joe Bova 16.99 GMC
Jane Davies 12.99 GMC
Cohen & Anderson 16.99 BI

ROGER BELL, DEXTERITY

Book Review

A GLAZE OF COLOUR
Publ: Watson-Guption

Jane Davies
£12.99

At first glance, you think 'not another book on glazing', yet on closer inspection it differs, very positively, from other books currently available. No long lists of glaze recipes with tile samples showing minimal differences in texture or colour. This book is about decorating ceramics and how to create effects without taking you into technical complexities. It is suitable for the beginner and aimed, primarily, at those wishing to decorate bisqueware and will retain their interest as methods and techniques are extended. It is a vast improvement on the usual 'how to' books.

Starting with biscuited pots, there are introductory explanations of underglaze colours, clear glazes and the basic processes of wax resist, application of glaze by dipping or brushing, and cleaning before loading and firing the kiln. Perhaps the spray gun might have been given a mention here.

The second chapter is on 'Colour, Form & Design'. Starting with the basics of primary and secondary colours, tints and shades, saturation and warm/cool, it continues with mixing by layering and gradation. 'Form' relates design to shape and 'Design' describes the use of pattern, line and visual texture.

Chapter three goes into significant detail on underglaze methods – including marbling, transfer methods, stamping, spattering etc. The last chapter is on coloured glazes and postfiring techniques and appendices give simple information on kilns and firing. Illustrations are bright, clear and relevant. One small criticism – being a US production it lists US and Canadian suppliers. A list of UK and European suppliers could, or rather should, have been added, even if only as a loose sheet. At £12.99 it is very reasonably priced.

Roger Bell

Please note that I have ceased selling books, though I will continue magazines for those with subscriptions. Some stock remains and is available at half retail price (bell.roger@btinternet.com for a list). At the Potfests in Pens and Shrewsbury I will have a stall selling my pots but will be happy to bring books ordered in good time for collection.

Events Calendar 2005/2006

- Summer Ceramics, Holme on Spalding Moor - 8 September 2007 - contact Els.Tompkins@suerydercare.org for details and application
- Potfest South West, Fromme 21,22 Sept 2007
- See www.potfest.co.uk for more details

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

MAAC—Forthcoming Events

Applications for 2008 events

22nd October 2007

Earth and Fire Rufford 21-22 June 2008

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, digital images and booking fee (see flyer) before 22nd October 2007 to Michael Jones, 17 Selbourne Road, Dudley, West Midlands, DY2 8LQ Tel: 01384 255 867 e-mail: mike_a_jonze@yahoo.co.uk

Oxford Ceramics Fair

27th 28th October 2007

Oxford Ceramics Fair

Don't forget to visit the Associates Stand at the Oxford Ceramics Fair.. Details from Michael Jones, 17 Selbourne Road, Dudley, West Midlands, DY2 8LQ Tel: 01384 255 867 e-mail: mike_a_jonze@yahoo.co.uk

'Making It – The Vessel'

Saturday November 17th 2007

University of Westminster, Harrow Campus, Watford Road, Northwick Park, Harrow HA1 3TP

Don't miss this one – put the date in your diaries now. This will be a whole day at the Harrow Campus with three well known makers giving us of their best. Chris Keenan, Richard Godfrey and Sasha Wardell will be giving us slide lectures and demonstrations of their different ways of making ceramic pieces. So..... Throwing, Handbuilding and Mould Making – what more could you want? Full details can be obtained from John Masterton 15 Maylins Drive, Sawbridgeworth, Herts CM21 9HG Tel: 01279 723 229 email: john@jmasterton.freemove.co.uk

Talk and Walk Events

Talk and Walk events were 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 the Private View of exhibitions held in Contemporary Ceramics. Starting at 3.00pm there is a talk and slide presentation at the Soho Family Centre, 60, Broadwick Street, London. The speaker and the audience then walk next door, round the corner 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.

Jack Doherty Sunday 23rd September 2007

Jack will show us slides and talk to us about his most recent work. He will talk about his inspirations and his firing techniques – how the softness of porcelain clay contributes to the quality of the finished surface

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

Panel of Experts

The MAAC Committee are setting up a list of experts who would be able to offer advice in all areas, not just technical. Please let us know if you have any questions for our new problem page, which will be published in CPA News. Write now, right now.

Email: Linda_bloomfield@yahoo.com or snail mail to Linda Bloomfield, 21 Flanchford Road, London W12 9ND

Survey

Your MAAC committee has decided to conduct a survey to better inform them about the membership of CPA. It will help them to direct its efforts to organising events that you the membership want. So please make sure you read and complete the enclosed questionnaire in the CPA newsletter– your views are very important to us and will be kept strictly confidential. When you have completed it please send to our chairman – Stanley Field 4 Arlington Road, Richmond, Surrey, TW10 7BY Tel: 0208 940 1069



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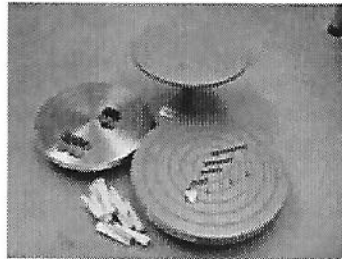
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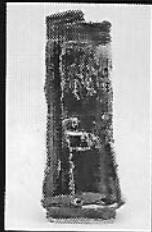
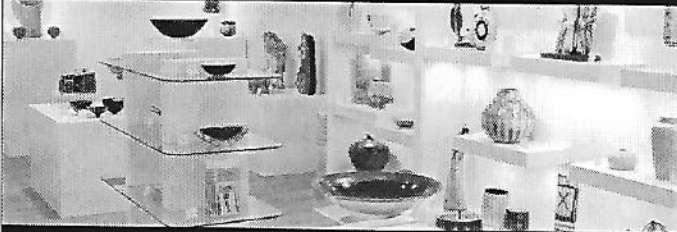
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Please could members check their bank account name on their standing order is the same as the name and address the newsletter is sent to. Some standing orders come through with only the business name and not necessarily the name of the potter. It could result in you not receiving your newsletter!

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Subscription Rates:

Individual £22 (if paid by standing order)
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Contact the membership secretary:

Catherine Boyne-Whitelegg
10 Drome Road, Copmanthorpe, York YO23 3TG
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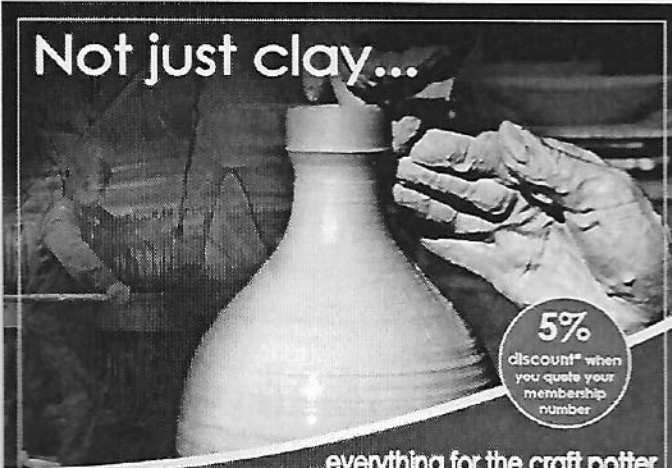
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