

Recorder News



Issue 22

Transferware news from Reynardine Publishing

January 2020

Welcome

Having survived all the Brexit and Trump antics of 2019 (albeit almost certainly with with more to come), we would like to wish readers a very happy, peaceful and prosperous New Year. There have been lots of interesting transferware topics in the last twelve months and in this issue we can add a couple of new discoveries, some informative marks, a nicely marked toy plate, and a view of the Staffordshire Potteries which hopefully will never be recreated. We also hang our heads in shame with an apology and hope we will not be reported to the Press Complaints Commission. Nevertheless, we would always be happy to hear your news, views, or new brickbats, all of which should be sent to the usual Recorder email address:

recorder@transferprintedpottery.com

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recorder@transferprintedpottery.com

Mystery Object

Red faces all round! When we illustrated this very small bowl from the Riley Large Scroll Border series in our last issue, we chose images which didn't really show that it was elliptical in shape, not circular. Hence, several readers suggested, quite reasonably, that it was a soap dish from a washstand set. It would actually be too small for that, but we are embarassed to have to admit that an identical piece has aready been illustrated in The Transferware Recorder. Have a look at the chapter on the series in Volume One, where you will find a complete pickle set, the tray fitted with four segment pickle dishes and our mystery object nestling in the centre. However hard we try, mistakes do tend to slip through. Sorry!



Scenes From Dickens

T. & R. Boote's series of Scenes from Dickens was covered in TR4. It would seem likely that most if not all of the scenes were printed on both tiles and teapot stands so the lists of recorded items for each scene are probably incomplete. We can now confirm that "The Shadow in the Little Parlor" does exist on a stand (illustrated here) as well as a tile. In the introduction to the series we mentioned the title "Summer Time" which appears on several items, and we can confirm that it relates to a floral pattern from which the border was copied to frame the Dickens scenes. A typical plate is shown here.







New Discoveries





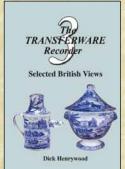
We have commented before that sauceboats can be uncommon and are often difficult to find when trying to record all the items which made up a dinner service. So when Enoch Wood's "English Cities" series was assembled for Volume Three, it is perhaps not surprising that the sauceboat was missing. Fortunately we can now correct that with an



unrecorded view of Gloucester. A good example is illustrated here along with the matching source print, from Britton's *Pictureque Views of the English Cities*, as usual. This piece has the impressed mark "WOOD" but no title mark. And also from the same series, we have a new item for the third view of "Oxford", shown here on a tureen cover. This does bear a title mark but is one of those examples where the mark is simplified to just a foliage cartouche. We are indebted to Scott Hanson for help with images.









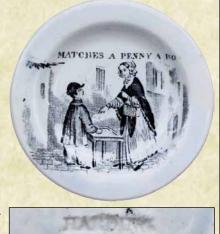
Ephemera



When space permits we thought we might occasionally feature interesting items of ephemera, kicking off with a postcard from the inter-war years. This scene in the Potteries, "Firing a Potter's Oven", is one of a series of similar cards, another titled "When Stoke Stokes". We never cease to be amazed at the quality and beauty of pots made in such filthy conditions. The casualties, of course, were the workers and we count our blessings that we live in more enlightened times.

Toy Plates

We tend to concentrate on items related to *The Transferware Recorder* volumes in this news sheet but the subjects covered so far are restricted to British views and Literature. Branching out into other areas is never far from our minds and here is a nice little toy plate seen in the Hungerford Arcade recently. It is one of a series of street cries made by Joseph Harding, this one printed in black and titled "Matches a Penny a Box". Examples were also printed in blue and other titles include "Pots and Pans to Mend", "Toys Two Pence Each", "Windows to Glaze", and "Wooden Bowls and Spoons". Can anyone produce images or add any other titles? It would also be interesting to hear of similar toy plates from other potters. Any offers?



Volume One

Published October 2013 176 pages. 579 illustrations. ISBN 978-0-9926581-0-6

Volume Two

Published June 2015 176 pages. 594 illustrations. ISBN 978-0-9926581-1-3

Volume Three

Published October 2016 184 pages. 596 illustrations. ISBN 978-0-9926581-2-0

Volume Four

Published March 2018 208 pages. 710 illustrations. ISBN 978-0-9926581-3-7

The Transferware Recorder

All four volumes of *The Transferware Recorder* are currently available, although stocks of Volume One are getting low. The contents of each volume together with downloadable copies of all issues of this *Recorder News* can be found on the website:

www.transferprintedpottery.com

Don't have all four volumes? Don't panic! Worldwide shipping is available but please email for a price quote for whatever combination of volumes you require. Exchange rates are currently favouable too. Other enquiries should also be addressed to:

recorder@transferprintedpottery.com

Date for your Diary

Sunday 5 July 2020: Friends of Blue AGM, Spode Museum Heritage Trust Centre, Stoke-on-Trent.

www.fob.org.uk

Mark Time 1

In our last issue we noted that Staffordshire potters often used trade names for their pottery bodies. In that case we went on to describe a particular mark with an unusual trade name of "Real Felspar China" but some very common names are found, usually with no real chance of attribution. A good example turned up recently on eBay with the name "Improved Stone China" appearing on a standard Willow pattern platter, but in this case there was also a very clear impressed mark for Elkin, Knight & Co. Examples like these are worthy of record, since they may help in the attribution of other patterns which bear the printed mark but nothing impressed. Are there other examples with this printed mark?





Mark Time 2

In TR4's coverage of John & Robert Godwin's series based on the novels of Sir Walter Scott, two jugs printed in purple and roughly picked out in colours were illustrated with patterns titled "Guy Mannering" and "The Monastery". It was noted that neither mark had the maker's initials and there could be a possibility that they were made by some other potter. Another example of the "Guy Mannering" jug has now emerged, printed in brown rather than purple, but with the initials J & RG clearly included in the mark. Why the initials are not always present remains an unanswered question.





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