



Recorder News



Issue 29

Transferware news from Reynardine Publishing

March 2021

Welcome

With everybody's lives still affected by the COVID-19 pandemic, we hope this 29th issue of our *Recorder News* will provide just a smidgeon of light relief. We have an eclectic mix of items again: more on the donkey, a couple of new discoveries including a brand new source print, yet another Birmingham merchant's mark, and interesting shapes in the form of a dog bowl and a charger. The subject of chargers, in particular, might provide stimulus for discussion? Once again we would like to thank the various contributors of images and hope more will be forthcoming. As usual, feedback would be welcome and we would always be happy to hear news, views, or contributions, all of which should be sent to the usual *Recorder* email address:

recorder@transferprintedpottery.com

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If you would like to be added to the circulation list for this *Recorder News*, for which there is no charge, just send your details, including email address to:

recorder@transferprintedpottery.com

New Discovery



One of the frustrations in assembling volumes of *The Transferware Recorder* is the difficulty of finding usable images, even where the item concerned is quite well known. An excellent example is the view of "Caernarvon Castle" in the Herculaneum Cherub Medallion Border series. Despite the fact that it appears on a relatively common plate, we failed to locate a suitable image so it went unillustrated in Volume One. It is only now, at last, that we can rectify that omission but as a bonus on an unrecorded item, a circular tureen stand



(shown here courtesy of David Blakeman). With eight years having elapsed since our original volume was published, we decided to have another quick look for the source print and rather unexpectedly found it in a previously unconsidered source book, John Hassel's *The Beauties of Antiquity or Remnants of Feudal Splendour and Monastic Times* (1810). Sadly, it does not seem to contain any other views used by Herculaneum so they probably copied a loose print rather than having access to a complete book. But still an exciting find.

New Discovery



A favourable touch of serendipity has turned up this rather sweet little jug, just over 8cm tall, printed in black on either side with a scene titled "King Henry 5". It does not seem to be part of Tegg's Shakespeare series but must be a scene from the play. It is believed to show the king kneeling in prayer before his famous victory at the Battle of Agincourt but a search for a matching source print has proved unsuccessful to date. The jug is unmarked and the maker is unknown, but presumably made in Staffordshire. It probably predates 1820 (image credit Michael Grana).

Update

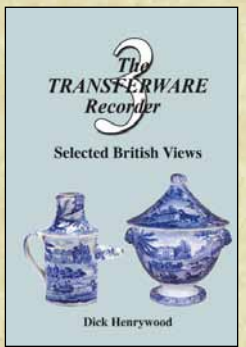
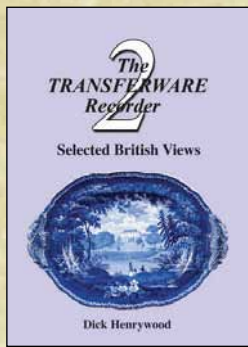
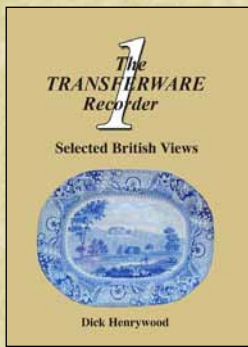
It has been pointed out that the small plate printed with the so-called Malmsbury Donkey scene in our last issue should actually be attributed to Reed & Taylor of Mexborough. The initials in the mark are unclear but would be R&T, not R&J. The pattern is one of a series of rural vignettes found on teawares and jugs, printed also in blue. A breakfast cup and saucer (shown here courtesy Richard Maskell) features a loaded hay cart on the saucer and what looks like a greyhound and fox on the cup. Other examples including a teapot can be seen in John Griffin's excellent reference book *The Yorkshire Potteries*.



New Item

Items which missed being recorded in series lists published in *The Transferware Recorder* keep turning up. Reprints to update the lists would be impractical on the basis of cost, and part of the *raison d'être* for this *Recorder News* is to report such new finds. "Alton Abbey, Staffordshire" in the Rileys' Large Scroll Border series is shown here on a circular stand (courtesy Dennis Rolander) to supplement the 10-sided stand recorded and illustrated in TR1.





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

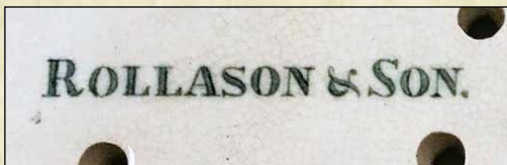
Volume Four
Published March 2018
208 pages. 710 illustrations.
ISBN 978-0-9926581-3-7

The Transferware Recorder

All four volumes of *The Transferware Recorder* are currently available. 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
Worldwide shipping is available but please email for a price quote for whatever combination of volumes you require. Other enquiries, along with potential contributions to this *Recorder News* should also be addressed to:
recorder@transferprintedpottery.com

Mark Time

Yet again, for the fourth time, this feature has unearthed an uncommon mark for a Birmingham based merchant. A small circular drainer (shown here once again by courtesy of David Blakeman) is printed only with a rather undistinguished romantic scene and border but the interest lies in its clear printed mark for Rollason & Son. The Rollason firm had a long history, with Mary Rollason & Son at 108 Steel House Lane, Birmingham in the 1820s, succeeded by Thomas Rollason in the mid-1830s, shortly followed by G.T. Rollason & Co. Thomas Rollason, junior then appeared at 24 Union Street but by 1845 new premises at 10 New Street were advertised under the style Rollason & Son. This would be the period of our drainer. The mark was mentioned on a different pattern in FOB Bulletin 80 back in 1993 but no other references are known. More research is needed.



Auction Report



A few items almost always tend to fare well in auction sales, and footbaths, cheese cradles and dog bowls all spring to mind. This Ridgway dog bowl in the "Humphrey's Clock" series turned up at Hannam's in Selborne last month but it failed to sell against an estimate of £400-600. Perhaps that was just a trifle punchy these days, implying a take-away cost of over £500 with 27.6% buyer's premium added. We have commented before about the wide range of pots produced in this series, and a similar dog bowl can be seen in Volume Four of *The Transferware Recorder*, albeit decorated with different scenes whereas this example has just one repeated five times. Hannam's can be contacted through their website:
www.hannamsauctioneers.com

Dates for your Diary

The worldwide pandemic has led to the cancellation of most physical meetings, several being replaced or supplemented by online lectures. This Dates feature will be resumed when possible.

Chargers

What is a charger? Our *Chambers Dictionary* defines it as "a flat dish capable of holding a large joint of meat, a platter". There is no mention of shape, although most collectors would probably add "circular". Transferware chargers do not seem to be particularly common, but our records do include marked examples by Copeland & Garrett, Davenport, the Don Pottery, C.J. Mason & Co., William Smith & Co., and Wedgwood, all major firms, but no doubt they were made by others too. This example is by Wedgwood in the Blue Rose Border series and is a huge 42cm in diameter. We have never been able to identify the scene, so any suggestions would be very welcome.

