Welcome
Back to normality this time following the previous silver jubilee bumper issue. Normal maybe, but we have still managed to unearth a fine selection of new items and discoveries, a matching source print, another merchant’s mark, and an attractive jug from a rare maker. As usual, feedback would be welcome and we would always be happy to hear news, views, or grumbles, all of which should be sent to the usual Recorder email address: recorder@transferprintedpottery.com

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Date for your Diary
Thursday 8 October 2020: Transferware Collectors’ Club virtual Annual Meeting. For further details see their website: www.transcollectorsclub.org

New Discovery
The “Diorama” series has always exuded a little bit of mystery. The mixture of British views and transport subjects allied to a difficulty in attribution has intrigued several collectors. The listings in The Transferware Recorder (Volume Three) were always likely to be incomplete and we can now add the missing vegetable dish (courtesy Maynard Langford and Len Kling). This rather impressive hexagonal dish has the same view in the base and on the cover, and while it was listed as Unidentified Scene C in the Recorder, it is now thought to show Warwick Castle. The difficulty has been the bridge in the foreground which is a ruin in all contemporary prints. Perhaps it was “rebuilt” by the pottery engraver! Now we need to find the tureens from the series. Any offers?

New Image
We have commented before how sauceboats can prove elusive and here’s another good example. The listings for the Pineapple Border series in Volume One of The Transferware Recorder do include the sauceboat, with a view of “Lumley Castle, Durham”, but no image was available. Now, thanks to Richard Halliday, we can plug that gap. One interesting thing about this example is the sheet pattern around the foot where the series border might be expected. Perhaps this sheet pattern could be a pointer to other, currently unattributed products from the intriguing John Meir pottery? Another point is that nearly all the views in this series feature figures and/or animals in the foreground which do not appear in the original source prints. It is likely that they were also copied from prints, but trying to find them might not be so easy. A project for a budding detective, we think!

New Item
William Smith & Co’s “Paul and Virginia” series was mentioned last time with the discovery of a previously unrecorded twelfth scene. Normally found on children’s plates with one of two different moulded borders, here is a much smaller plate, only 4.5in in diameter, with just a plain rim (courtesy Peter Walker). The scene is “Discovered by Fidelio” and it bears an uncommon “Stafford Pottery, South Stockton” impressed mark.

New Item
Sauceboats are never easy to find and ladles can be equally elusive. Most dinner services would have had both large and small ladles for the soup and sauce tureens but not many would have been made and they are inevitably rather susceptible to breakage. Neither ladle was listed in the attractive “British Views” series (covered in TR3) but now we can show the sauce ladle. As might be expected it is decorated with a clip from one of the larger views, in this case Unidentified Scene L. Can anyone share images of any other ladles?
New Discovery

We have had new items in the “Old England” series a couple of times before, but here we have a real find – two views for the price of one! This vegetable dish and cover is titled “Newstead Abbey” on the base but has a different view on the cover. A degree of excitement evolved when the second view was found to show Newstead too, albeit from a different viewpoint. Further research yielded the matching print to be one of the attractive vignettes issued by the Harwood firm, a previously unrecorded source for the series.

Mark Time

The mark for Kannreuther & Co. of Birmingham in our last issue prompts us to show another merchant’s mark, this time for a firm called Weiss Brothers. The wash jug shown here with a typical romantic pattern from the mid-19th century was offered by Golding, Young & Mawer last month but the mark is known on other patterns. We have not yet been able to trace the firm, but perhaps a reader might be able to help? The auctioneers can be contacted via their website: www.goldingyoung.com

Unrecorded Pattern

An attractive little jug from the early-1830s decorated with an unrecorded pattern titled “Brunswick”. A printed cartouche mark also features the maker’s initials “M & T” which must refer to Machin & Thomas. Little is known of the partnership and even Thom & Miller’s specialist book on Machin yields little except dates of 1831 to November 1832. They show a commemorative jug and matching mug.