



Recorder News



Issue 24

Transferware news from Reynardine Publishing

May 2020

Welcome

The scheduling of this issue was originally in doubt with your editor away travelling, but the virus crisis brought a premature (and rather fraught) return from India so we can maintain our two-monthly target. Several interesting items this time, ranging from black humour, through a couple of good marks (one a puzzle), a look at hospitals, and updates to the Rose Border series, to a claimant for the smallest miniature piece of transferware. As usual, feedback would be welcome and we would always be happy to hear your news, views, or complaints, all of which should be sent to the usual *Recorder* email address:

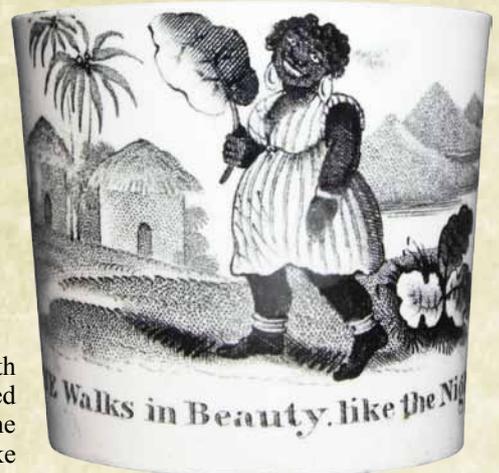
recorder@transferprintedpottery.com

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recorder@transferprintedpottery.com

New Discovery



In our last issue we reported a mug with a previously unrecorded literature-related pattern, and here we have another. This one features a quote “She Walks in Beauty, like the Night” from Byron’s *Hebrew Melodies* but allied to a rather non-PC image of a grinning black girl wielding a palm frond? The subject of black humour excites much adverse comment these days, but we have to recognise its existence in history. The interest of this mug lies in its early date,

which a documentary label attached gives as 1830. Comic postcards with black humour were fairly common in the 20th century but the mug predates those by nearly a century. Can anyone suggest any similarly early printed examples?

Rose Border series

It is always good to record new items and here we have not one but a set of six custard cups in Andrew Stevenson’s Rose Border series. The view is “Euston Hall” in Suffolk and while a custard cup was listed in Volume Two of *The Transferware Recorder*, the book failed to mention that it was a cup with a handle whereas these new examples are handleless (although the inverted bell shape is the same). A set of cups like this must be a very rare survivor. Many collectors think that custard cups must be teacups so assume other teawares will exist, but they are actually dessert wares so part of dinner services.

We have also come across a previously unrecorded view in the series, found on the outer sides of a deep dish, the interior printed with the known view of “Kidbrook, Sussex”.



All except one of the views in the series are copied from engravings in Cromwell’s *Excursions* series of volumes so we had high hopes of identifying this new scene but it was not to be. We will plough through *The Beauties of England & Wales*, but in the meantime can anyone help with naming the house or even turn up the source print? We know the image is not brilliant but note the figures in the foreground which might help. (Images credit John Watson)

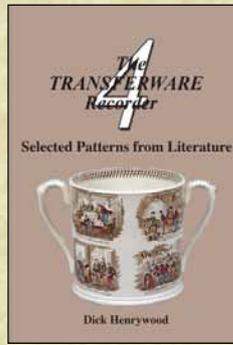
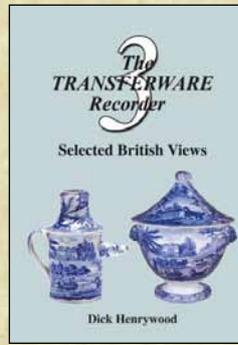
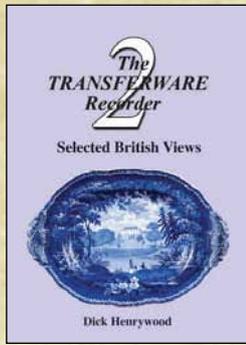
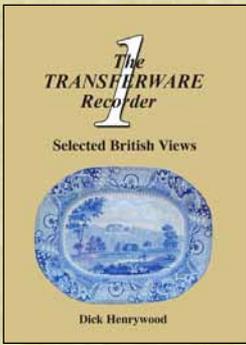


Auction Watch



Chinoiserie wares do not feature often in this *Recorder News* but we can’t resist either an unusual shape or a nice clear mark. Here we have both together – a divided dish, possibly best described as an *hors d’oeuvres* dish, by Chetham & Woolley with a fine impressed mark. This piece featured in the Pugh-Thomas sale at Lawrences, Crewkerne, back in 2016 but it was unsold (together with a matching but unmarked drainer) against an estimate of £100-150.





Volume One
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Volume Two
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Volume Three
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Volume Four
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208 pages. 710 illustrations.
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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 favourable too. Other enquiries should also be addressed to: recorder@transferprintedpottery.com

Mark Time

Back in Issue 15 we featured half a dozen ornate jugs from the 1830s and Richard Clements has brought our attention to another good example which recently appeared on eBay. The interest in this case lies in the mark – a scroll cartouche with the pattern title “ARCHERS” and a common trade name “Stone China”, all above the maker’s initials B & P. Despite searching, we have been unable to trace a potter with these initials active in the relevant period: nothing in Godden’s *Encyclopaedia of Marks* and nothing in the directories in *Staffordshire Potters*. There must be someone who can solve this conundrum?

In Sickness

It seems impossible to assemble this issue without acknowledging in some way the coronavirus pandemic currently sweeping the world. Perhaps the most appropriate pattern is “Virginia Attending the Sick Poor” from William Smith’s “Paul and Virginia” series (covered in TR4) but we have unearthed a couple of hospitals too: “The Hospital Near Poissy, France” from Ralph Hall’s “Select Views” series (for a future TR possibly?) and the “Royal Hospital, Regent’s Park” from Enoch Wood’s “London Views” series (covered in TR2). Our records extend to eighteen patterns featuring hospitals so a good potential collecting theme for a medic, perhaps?

Dates for your Diary

Sunday 5 July 2020: Friends of Blue AGM, Spode Museum Heritage Trust Centre, Stoke-on-Trent. **Postponed until the Autumn. New date to be announced.**
www.fob.org.uk

Thursday 15 to Sunday 18 October 2020: Transferware Collectors’ Club Annual Meeting in Wilmington, Delaware. **Postponed to 2021.**
www.transcollectorsclub.org

The Smallest?

Is this the smallest piece of transferware? A miniature marked Spode toilet box, sadly missing its cover, only 5.8cm long (2.3in). Would it have been made for a doll’s house? Can anyone produce anything smaller?