



Recorder News



Number 6

Transferware news from Reynardine Publishing

April 2017

Welcome

Time still flies! It seems only yesterday that we sent out Number Five of this *Recorder News* but here we have Number Six, continuing our two-monthly schedule. This time we have more new discoveries, a further auction report, and a particularly puzzling mark column. We also have news of a brand new facebook page which should appeal to transferware enthusiasts. We hope you enjoy these ramblings and would love to hear your feedback. Contributions, particularly anything not found in the *Recorder* would be very welcome, with relevant detail and an image if at all possible. There are four extra pages to this issue appealing for images for the next *Transferware Recorder*. Please help if you can.

Join the Mailing List

This newsletter will be sent out by email occasionally to any collector who is interested in keeping in touch with *Recorder* developments. If you are reading this and would like to be added to the circulation list, just send your details, including email address of course, to:

recorder@transferprintedpottery.com

Wood's Floral Border series

Just for once this is not a completely new discovery but an interesting platter in Wood's Floral Border series turned up at Quinn's Auction Galleries, Louisa, Virginia, last month. The platter bears a scene which was illustrated in Number Three of *The Transferware Recorder* (page 164). The scene itself remains unidentified and while it does seem to be rather Italianate in character all other identified scenes in the series are British so a foreign view would be unexpected. The original platter was printed in black, had a plain rim, and was 38cm long. Here we have the new platter, printed in blue but with a gadrooned edge and significantly larger at 45cm. These later gadrooned wares always tend to be larger.

Although unmarked, the maker is clear since the platter shown before bore a clear impressed mark "WOOD". It seems that impressed marks were abandoned by the Wood firm at some stage, possibly around 1830, when the factory adopted printed title marks featuring the maker's initials EW & S. Thanks to Quinn's Auction Galleries for the image. They can be contacted through their website: www.quinnsauction.com



New Discoveries

For some more new discoveries this time we visit Ralph Stevenson's Acorn and Oak Leaf Border series where new items have emerged. The first is a small platter with the view of "Oxburgh Hall". It is only 19.5cm long so possibly intended as a stand although it would not fit either the sauce tureen or the sauceboat. The view was previously only known on the stand for a pierced basket, but unconfirmed on another small platter, larger than this one, at 26.5cm. We also have not one but two custard cups, both with the untitled view of Rivenhall Place in Essex. The example below left is of covered barrel shape; the other, below right, is of bell shape with a handle. The presence of the latter shape in what would otherwise be a dinner service has sometimes led to an assumption that teawares were also produced. This view was previously only known on the exterior sides of dishes and a basket. We are indebted to Brian Kautz and Dennis Rolander for these images.



The Transferware Recorder

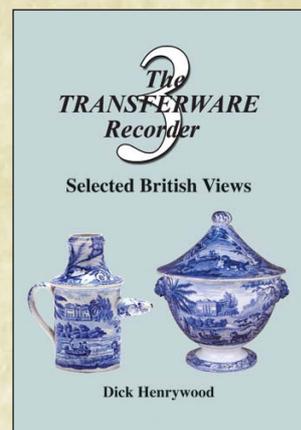
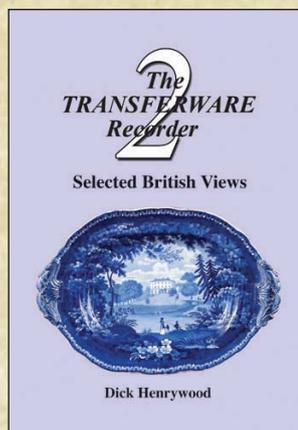
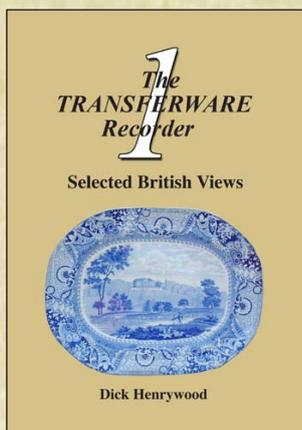
Just a reminder that all three volumes of *The Transferware Recorder* are still available. Details of the contents of each volume together with downloadable copies of all issues of this *Recorder News* are available on the website:

www.transferprintedpottery.com

Don't have all three volumes? Shame on you! Prices are shown here and the appropriate amount should be sent via Paypal to:

recorder@transferprintedpottery.com

Don't forget to state which issue(s) you require.



Mark Time

We never thought we would be running a "Spot the Difference" competition but here we have two marks from plates in John Hall's "Quadrupeds" series, supposedly identical but with one striking mistake. No prize to be won but if you really can't see the problem, you can always email us for the solution! There is a well-known adage in publishing that proof-reading only proves the presence of errors, not their absence. It is quite possible to look at a misprinted word again and again without noticing the error. The eye tends to see what it expects, not necessarily what actually exists. You might not believe the number of times a *Recorder* volume is checked!



Dates for your Diary

Sunday 25 June 2017: Friends of Blue Annual Meeting in Woodstock, Oxfordshire (www.fob.org.uk)

Thursday 19 to Sunday 22 October 2017: Transferware Collectors' Club Annual Meeting in Phoenix, Arizona (www.transcollectorsclub.org)

UK: One copy £17.95
Two copies £33.40

Ireland / Europe: One copy £23.50 or □30
Two copies £44 or □55

N.America: One copy \$38 (US)
Two copies \$68 (US)

Australia/ New Zealand: One copy £27.50
Two copies £50

If you would like extra copies or an odd combination please email for a quote:

recorder@transferprintedpottery.com

Number One

Published October 2013

176 pages. 579 illustrations. Full colour.
ISBN 978-0-9926581-0-6

Number Two

Published June 2015

176 pages. 594 illustrations. Full colour.
ISBN 978-0-9926581-1-3

Number Three

Published October 2016

184 pages. 596 illustrations. Full colour.
ISBN 978-0-9926581-2-0

North America

Readers in North America may like to know that *The Transferware Recorder* is now stocked by the Winterthur Museum bookstore. Shipping should be much cheaper and delivery much quicker. The bookstore can be contacted on:

302-888-4707

The Winterthur Museum should need little introduction for our American cousins at least, and the endorsement implied by stocking the *Recorder* must be significant in ceramics circles.

Facebook

Just a quick note to let you all know that Dick Henrywood now has a page set up on Facebook. All you social media enthusiasts might like to have a look. None of that personal stuff though, just interesting pots, mostly transferware. New friends welcome, of course! Topics covered to date include some rare patterns, lustre plaques, miniature plates, two fine washbowls, Enoch Wood's Castles series, unusual colours, retailers' marks, and much more. Worth a look!

Auction Watch

Rather like London buses it seems that sauceboats and pub jugs emerge in batches. Here we have another fine pub jug decorated with one of the "Genevese" patterns and inscribed "M. LATHAM / FOX INN / HASLINGTON". Apparently Matthew Latham and his family were landlords of the Fox Inn between 1850 and 1874. Several potters made "Genevese" wares but this jug may well be by Minton who were active in the special order market. The jug was sold in March 2017 by Peter Wilson of Nantwich in Cheshire and fetched a total of £81, possibly a rather low result but almost certainly affected by condition issues ("chipped and cracked"). The auctioneers can be contacted through their website:

www.peterwilson.co.uk



Reynardine Publishing, Bow Station, Bow, Crediton, Devon, EX17 6JD, England

email: recorder@transferprintedpottery.com

website: www.transferprintedpottery.com

The TRANSFERWARE Recorder

Selected Patterns from Literature

While the first three volumes of *The Transferware Recorder* have concentrated on British views, the series was never intended to be so specific and, as already announced, Number Four will branch out to cover selected patterns from literature. We are delighted that the publication has been awarded a grant from the Paul & Gladys Richards Foundation through the Transferware Collectors' Club and as a result work is well under way. It has always been an aim that these volumes should be as comprehensively illustrated as possible, and the resulting search for images is always a challenge. In order to meet our aspirations, we would like to appeal to anyone who can help with suitable images. The series most likely to be covered are listed below, with a note as to which images are needed. However, it must be noted that other series may well be added to complete the volume, and we would be thrilled to hear from anyone who can contribute images from any other series related to literature, possibly a favourite collection? Please get in touch. Our email, as usual, is:

recorder@transferprintedpottery.com

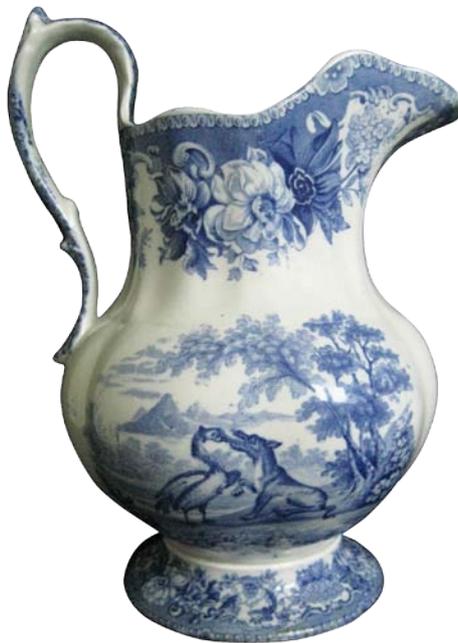
We would also love to hear of any specific interests or suggestions for subjects which might be considered for future volumes.

Dick Henrywood
April 2017



**Aesop's Fables series
(Minton)**

Minton's Aesop's Fables series consists of twelve designs originally made to be block-printed on tiles. Most are a standard size of six inches square but larger eight inch versions were also made. The designs, despite their inappropriate square shape, were also adapted for use on plates and bowls using an art-nouveau style border. I have images of all the smaller tiles but need examples of the larger eight inch tiles and would be particularly interested in any images of the other wares.



**"Aesop's Fables" series
(Spode / Copeland & Garrett)**

I'm not sure whether this series will be included in Number Four so encouragement, along with lots of images, would be very welcome. To whet your appetite (not its original purpose) here is a rather fine wash jug with "The Wolf and the Crane". I know of twenty-six patterns in the series but, strange as it might seem, I only have images of eight of them. Here's a real chance for all you collectors to help.



**"Byron Gallery" series
(Goodwins & Harris)**

I have records of eleven patterns in this series which is distinctive in that the printed marks include not only titles and the maker's initials, but also a quote from the work illustrated. Shown here is an unidentified scene on a dessert plate, but specific images I am missing include:

"Beppo" (platter)

"Hebrew Melodies" (sauce tureen)

"Hebrew Melodies" (different, tea plate)

"The Dream" (sauceboat)

Having said that, other scenes unknown to me almost certainly exist so I would love to hear of any other examples.



**“Byron Gallery” series
(Maker unknown)**

This second “Byron Gallery” series by some unknown maker is not very common, my records extending to only eight scenes. Most examples are in two colours with black or brown centres within blue or green borders, but I have seen one in plain blue and another with a rather striking pink border. Perhaps other colour combinations exist? I only have images of three plates and two platters, and particularly need “Parisina”, “She Walks in Beauty”, and “The Dream”, but would also like to hear of tureens, dishes, and other platters.



**“Classical Antiquities series
(Joseph Clementson)**

A series of titled scenes from the *Iliad* and *Odyssey* which is quite common and found on dinner, tea, and toilet wares in a variety of colours including blue, brown, green, grey, pink, and so-called flow-mulberry. Shapes are angular with plates 12-sided, platters octagonal, and tureens, stands and jugs either hexagonal or octagonal. I have records of eighteen different scenes and images for most of them but particularly need a small platter titled “Ulysses Departing”. Any other interesting shapes or unusual colours could be of interest too.



**Cowper series
(John Meir)**

A fascinating series found on small plates with distinctive moulded borders. I know of only four scenes and am keen to hear of others. Most examples seem to have an impressed mark “MEIR” and some have a distinctive printed “Stone / China” pseudo-seal mark. They all seem to be rural or genre scenes and I particularly need an image of one pattern which shows a gardener (see Tiny Little’s *Staffordshire Blue*, plate 43). Can you help? Meir used the same moulded shape for a few views of country houses which would also be of interest.



**Don Quixote series
(Maker unknown)**

This series was for many years assumed to be by Ralph & James Clews but that attribution has now been discounted. There are some fairly compelling arguments that it was made by Davenport although no marked example has yet emerged. It is a very attractive series of scenes printed in darker blue for the American market and I have had difficulty locating images. The list of those I need is too long to print here so I would be most grateful for any contributions. I have records of twenty-one different scenes so there is lots of scope!



**“Humphrey’s Clock” series
(William Ridgway)**

A series of at least fifteen scenes which was probably introduced by William Ridgway, Son & Co. soon after the Charles Dickens’ stories were published in serial form (1840-41). The series was continued by their successors well into the 20th century. The range of wares is particularly wide, ranging from dinner services to toilet wares, medical wares, and even some specials like the shaving mug (shown here) and dog bowls. I have records of fifteen different scenes but I do need lots of images so is there anything you could offer?



**“Paul and Virginia” series
(William Smith & Co.)**

At least eleven scenes from the famous novel found, as far as I am aware, only on children’s plates with daisy-moulded borders. Two different sizes are found. Examples are marked with the book title and normally with one of Smith’s usual impressed marks including the misleading name Wedgewood (note the extra letter ‘e’). I would love to illustrate all the scenes alongside their source prints but I am very short of images and most scenes could be of interest. Does anyone know of examples on any item other than a plate?



**“Pickwick” series
(John & Robert Godwin)**

At least ten different scenes make up this titled series by John & Robert Godwin. They are all taken from Charles Dickens’ *Pickwick Papers*, and appear on mugs and loving cups of various sizes. Each piece usually has a different scene on either side, but larger loving cups have eight scenes. Wares are usually printed in brown and fairly crudely coloured overglaze, but a few examples are known in plain brown or purple. I have just one example on an ordinary jug, this one printed in black. Any images might be useful.



**Robin Hood series
(Bailey & Ball / Broadhurst)**

A series of at least six scenes produced mainly on jugs of various shapes, mugs and jars, made over several years by Bailey & Ball and their successors Hampson & Broadhurst and J. Broadhurst & Sons. Colours known are blue, black, brown and red, and crude overglaze colouring was often applied. The scenes usually appear in pairs, on either side of the vessel. I need “Robin Hood’s Men Preparing Dinner” [sic] and “Sherwood Forest” but would also like other examples for the different shapes that were produced. Can you help?



**Robinson Crusoe series
(Brownhills Pottery Co.)**

I know of just eight different scenes in this series found on children’s alphabet wares, mostly plates and mugs. The series was registered in 1887 and most pieces bear the appropriate Registered Number mark. The example shown here is unusual, in plain blue – most plates are printed in brown and coloured. I need the plate with “Crusoe Making a Boat” but would also be interested in a few more mugs to illustrate different shapes. Were any other pieces made? Can anyone come up with examples in less common colours?



**Scenes from Dickens series
(T. & R. Boote)**

A lengthy series of at least fifteen different titled scenes from various Dickens’ novels including *Barnaby Rudge*, *Dombey and Son*, *Oliver Twist*, *The Old Curiosity Shop*, and *The Pickwick Papers*. They are found on square tiles and circular teapot stands. Some of the stands are marked with a registration diamond for November 1878 and later tiles have a green-printed maker’s mark. The scene titles are a bit too long to list the ones I need so please let me know what you might have. Any item other than a tile or stand would be of great interest.



**“Scott’s Illustrations” series
(Davenport)**

A surprisingly difficult series to record since there are multiple scenes bearing the same book title, and Davenport’s transferers made lots of mistakes with incorrect marks. The series is most commonly found printed in blue, but brown, green, pink or red, and purple are known, along with a few two-colour examples. Images I need are “Bride of Lammermoor” (platter 17in), “Guy Mannering” (platter 14.5in), “Heart of Midlothian” (platter 11in), and “Old Mortality” (small stand), but I would be interested to hear of any less common pieces.



**Scott’s Novels series
(John & Robert Godwin)**

An uncommon series with my records extending to only seven different patterns, printed in plain blue or green, or in brown or purple clobbered with colours. Examples bear a cartouche mark featuring the title of Scott’s book from which the scene is derived, usually, but not always with the maker’s initials J & RG beneath. The series is found on jugs and dinner wares but I only have images of two jugs and one plate, so there is much work to be done here. Plates, platters, dishes, tureens, other jugs, all very likely to be of interest so please help.

Addendum

The series described above will be or are most likely to be featured in the next volume of *The Transferware Recorder*; Number Four but, depending on space, there are others which could be included. There are three suggestions below, each of which could be featured but requires significant help with images. I would be more than happy to consider any other appropriate series so if you have a favourite you would like to be included here is your opportunity to let me know. A second volume on patterns from literature is likely to be some years away!

Dick Henrywood

recorder@transferprintedpottery.com



Doctor Syntax series
(Clews)

This well-known and extensive series by Ralph & James Clews certainly merits inclusion although it has been covered in some detail before (by David & Linda Arman in *Historical Staffordshire*, 1974). I'm not sure how many new discoveries have been made but I would be happy to include it if there is sufficient interest and enough images would be forthcoming. If anyone has a strong desire to see it featured or more importantly knows of an extensive collection which could be a source for images, please let me know. The wares were clearly produced mostly for the American market, so examples are scarce in England.



“Don Quixote” series
(Brameld)

Like the Clews' Doctor Syntax series this has been covered in some detail before (by Ian Fraser Milne in his *Don Quixote - The Bramelds' Adventure* back in 1997). His work is not widely available so an update would probably be useful. There may be one or two previously unrecorded pieces to be added but with at least nineteen scenes in the series I would need a lot of help with images. Examples are usually impressed “BRAMELD” and relatively few bear the printed series title mark of “Don Quixote” on a shield superimposed on a spear. Is there any enthusiastic collector out there who would be prepared to help?



“The Drama” series
(Rogers / Pountney)

Whether to include either or both of “The Drama” series made by Rogers in Staffordshire and Pountney in Bristol remains unclear. The subject is clearly a branch of literature, albeit drama, but neither series is common and I would have a major problem locating sufficient images to make it worthwhile. There is, of course, a vague chance that someone, somewhere, either has or knows of a surviving dinner service which could be accessed, or just a decent cache of images, but I don't have high hopes. I have seen so few examples over the decades that it seems unlikely. Can anyone prove me wrong?