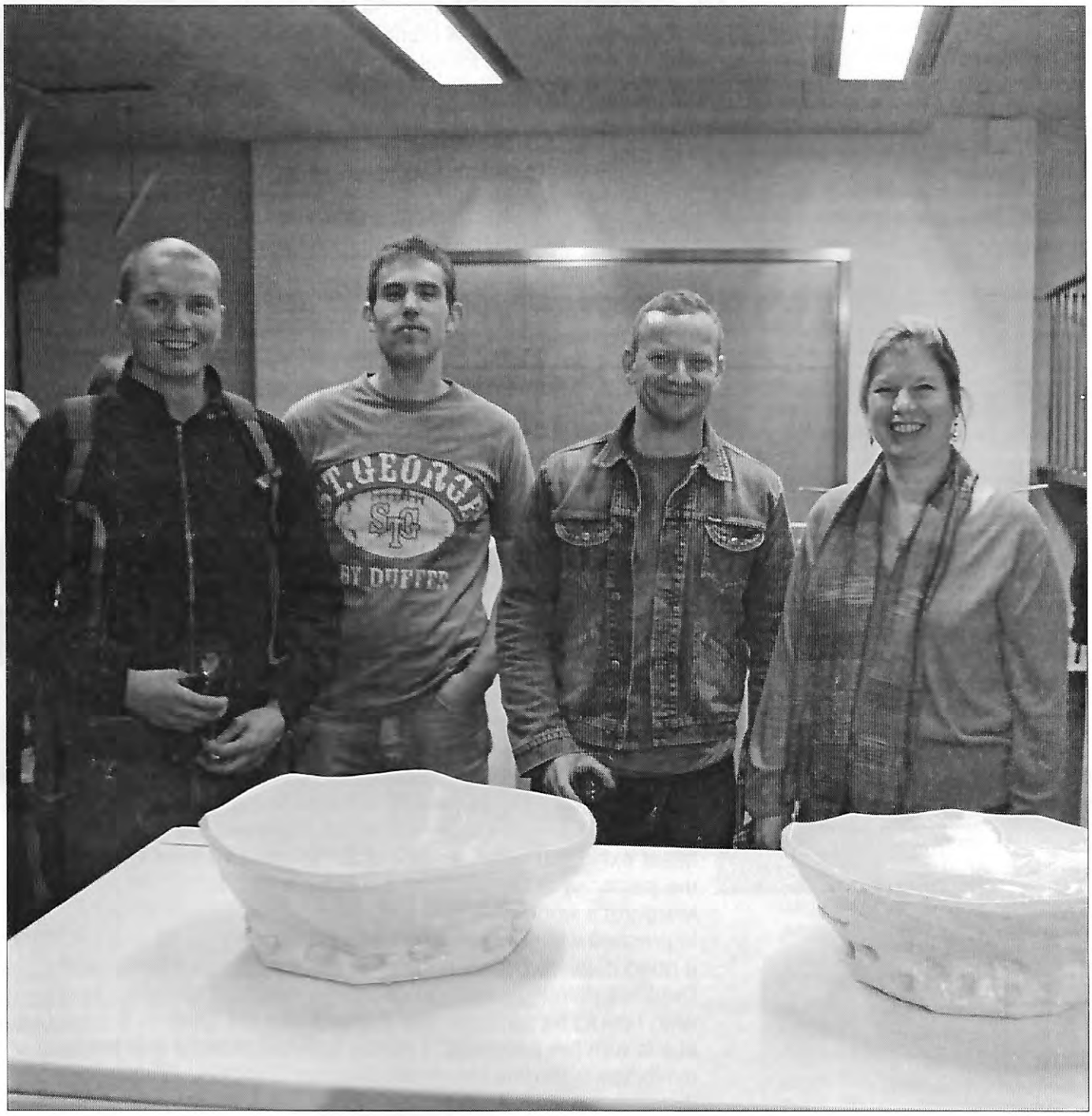
Northern Potters Association

www.northern-potters.org.uk



Martin Lungley (2nd on the right) and colleagues from Newcastle College with his work at the CPA show 'The Pot, The Vessel, The Object' at the Design Centre North, Barnsley

Issue October—November 07

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Chat from the Chair

A beautiful autumn day and I have just returned from Rufford where I spent the afternoon with two colleagues from the Woodfiring society planning our next kiln building. During the week I spent an evening with fellow NPA committee members discussing our ideas for future NPA activities. Clay keeps us busy indirectly as well as directly.

We are hoping to begin a programme extending NPA activities and would welcome members input on ideas and future planning, please write to us through the newsletter. Also if there is anyone out there who wishes to get more involved in this planning then we would welcome you onto the committee. As my own studio is close to Sheffield Hallam University I have been very aware that this last week was freshers week, I hope that there are some new NPA members who will let us know what their hopes and ideas are regarding the NPA.

Clay away clay, clay away.

Editors Comment

I think one of the best things about working with clay is that there is always something new to learn and something new to discover. Having helped Jim Robison with his making courses over the summer I find it inspiring to meet other makers whether they are just starting out or are well established. I have found my own work has been helped by having to solve problems and queries raised by the participants.

I must mention in passing how much I enjoyed the Lund Gallery latest exhibition with the work of Eddie and Margaret Curtis and the paintings of Debbie Loane. I have found some of Eddie and Margaret's work to be very red in the past but I was most impressed with this exhibition—their strong forms seemed to have a good balance between the red and black areas of their work. Debbie's paintings seem to go from strength to strength. I only wish I could be as loose and abstract with the finish of my pots as she is with her paintings. I notice from the website that the next exhibition is Regina Heinz and Carolyn Genders. I particularly like the surfaces as well as the forms of their work; I must find time to go and have a look at the exhibition.

Well done to NPA member Julie Miles for getting a paragraph and picture in the Guardian Saturday magazine.

As you can see from the front cover I went to the private view of the CPA show 'The Pot, The Vessel and The Object' at the Design Centre North in Barnsley. Having enjoyed the show at Aberystwyth I thought I would revisit it and was not disappointed. The show is on until the 10th November (see the Design Centre

website www.designcentrenorth.com). It is good to see some of the top makers of ceramics displaying their work all in one place.

It is so much better visiting an exhibition with like minded people as I was reminded recently when I went to the Bretton Sculpture Park near Wakefield to see the Andy Goldsworthy exhibition with a group of artists from the Huddersfield area. I had been to see the show before and was uncertain as to whether to go again. It coincided with our meeting to discuss the 'Way Forward' and we had been bemoaning the fact when we organise an event we seem to get a poor response from members. This made me conscious that someone had gone to the trouble to organise a trip with a speaker to the Sculpture Park and I was giving it a negative response, so I decided to get off my backside and go. I was so glad that I had had a change of heart. It was good to see other peoples perspective of the exhibition and to hear details of the artist and his work. If you haven't been it is worth calling by, I think the exhibition is quite stunning. It has given me several ideas for starting points for developing ceramic pieces.

Other members of the committee have asked you to consider the document 'The Way Forward', and I would support their wish that you will give it some consideration. It arose out of a meeting which was solely to discuss that topic. We tried to be as positive as possible and each of us in turn described what we wanted to gain by being a member of the NPA. For me it was an encouraging meeting, but if it is to be successful we do need your input.

I am looking forward to the Booth House Gallery Christmas Show (Sunday 18th November), the Huddersfield Open Studios at the end of November and also to trying to develop a new body of work over the winter and generally having a good play with clay.

If you are having a Christmas Show or Open Studio then I hope you have a good time.

Lastly I hope the NPA show is successful at the OXO Tower. I hope the participants have a good time and sell lots of pots. The brochure is most impressive and does the participants and the NPA proud. I almost wish I was taking part, I remember having such a good time at the last event.

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Deadline For Next Issue

All material for the **October—November 07 issue** to be with Ian Marsh **by the 20th November.**

Text and images can be e-mailed (marshiepots@aol.com), sent by CD or by long hand with photographs to 35 Meltham Road, Marsden, Huddersfield, HD7 6JZ

Exhibitions and Events

Lund Gallery
The summer exhibition at Lund Gallery was a great success all round, achieving over £10,000 of sales, which is good for the makers, the gallery and NPA. We received numerous positive comments about the work, and it has already led to another potential opportunity for members (see below). I look forward to seeing another NPA exhibition there in four or five years' time!
My thanks are due to Chiu-I Wu, who helped me pack up the work remaining at the end. It makes a tedious task most enjoyable when there is someone to share it with (especially someone willing to do most of the heavy lifting!).

Platform Gallery, Clitheroe
After a slow start, and an email reminder, we have again had a good response for this exhibition, including some exciting 'new' applicants. The selection will take place on 19 October, and the selectors will be:

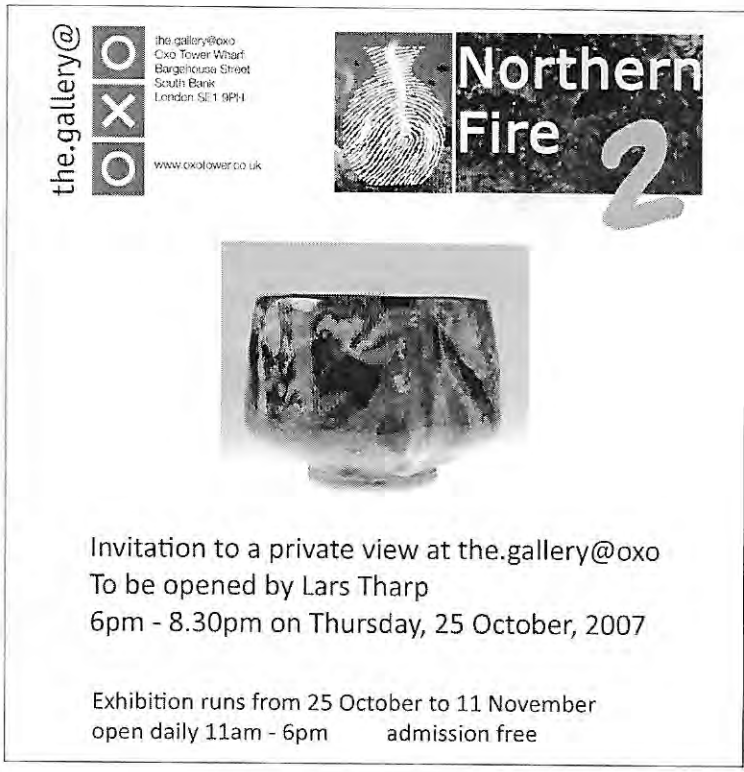
Independent	-	Alex McErlain
Gallery	-	Grace Whowell
NPA	-	Julie Miles

Commission will be split 55% artist, 30% gallery, 15% NPA.

I must make an excuse now to those applicants who don't hear from me immediately after the selection – I will try to inform everyone, but I shall be going down to London to help set up our Northern Fire 2 exhibition at the.gallery@oxo on the Monday following selection, so if there are any last minutes hitches in the preparations for that (like me not having made any pots) there may be a week's delay before I send out the decision letters.

The Gallery, Ripon
New NPA member Daniel Hornsey runs a gallery (descriptively called 'the gallery') at Ripon, offering original paintings, fine art prints, some jewellery, and a small selection of ceramics. Daniel visited our Lund exhibition, was impressed with the standard of work on show, and consequently contacted me to ask about stocking members' work all of the time, with occasional exhibitions by featured artists. We have invited a small number of members to participate in a pilot exhibition running from 3 November to 24 December, and hope that this will lead to us having a permanent outlet for the area. Once this is underway, there will be a normal application and selection process for members who wish to be included in the future.

Northern Fire 2
Our second biennial exhibition opens at the.gallery@oxo, Oxo Tower Wharf, Bargehouse Street, London SE1 9PH on Thursday, 25 October at 11am, and runs daily from 11am to 6pm until 11 November. There will be a private view on the evening of 25 October, from 6 – 8.30pm, with the official opening by Lars Tharp.



AGM – a plea
Once again we have arrived at the time when we make plans for next year, and invite members to volunteer for unpaid, sometimes seemingly unappreciated committee duties. The small number of committee members that we have had recently makes it very difficult to carry out as much as we would like for NPA, while still maintaining our own ceramic businesses (and maybe even a social life). If you think you can help, please contact Carol Metcalfe before the AGM – it's stating the obvious, but the NPA only continues because of those members who are willing to help run it.

Barbara Wood

NPA Annual General Meeting

All members are invited to attend the AGM at 10.30am on Sunday 25th November 2007 at York Art Gallery. The meeting will be followed by a free slipware demonstration event (see details below). A coffee shop is available on site.

Agenda

- Apologies for absence
- Minutes of last AGM 2006
- Matters arising
- Report from the Chair
- Treasurer's report
- Membership Secretary's report
- Election of officers and committee members
- Honorary life memberships
- 'The Way Forward' (see report)
- Any other business

Any other items for inclusion on the agenda must be sent to Carol Metcalfe at least 2 weeks before the event.

Resignations and retiring officers
During the year Sheila Spencer and Robert Bree have resigned.
Ian Marsh is retiring as Newsletter Editor at the AGM.
Carol Metcalfe, who was co-opted as Secretary, does not wish to stand for election to this position.
Election of officers and committee members
Committee members are elected for a 3-year term and are eligible for re-election at the end of that term.

Secretary	No nominations received
Newsletter editor	Carol Metcalfe is willing to stand
Website administrator	Ian Marsh is willing to stand
Regional liaison officer	No nominations received

We also need a number of additional committee members, willing to take a general role, assisting where required.

Rachel Wood and Helen Walsh, who were co-opted onto the committee last year, are willing to stand for election, as are Stephen Plumstead and Margaret Lawrenson
Continuing committee members

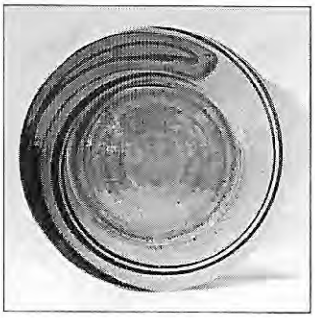
Brian Holland	Chair
Babs Taylor	Vice Chair
William Johnson	Treasurer
Barbara Wood	Exhibitions
Catherine Boyne-Whitelegg	Membership Secretary

Free Demonstration—Spotlight Slipware

A free slipware demonstration by Mike Eden and Paul Young at York Art Gallery on Sunday 25th November

York Museums Trust has developed a new joint project with Manchester Metropolitan University which has been generously funded by MIRIAD (Manchester Institute of Research in Art and Design). "Spotlight" is a series of small displays using York's collections and loans from contemporary makers to explore pottery techniques past and present. The first Spotlight focuses on slipware. Alex McErlain, Head of 3D Design at MMU has worked with us to select the pieces on display and co-author a free leaflet for visitors.
On display are some fantastic examples of 17th-19th century slipware from the Yorkshire Museum's collection, including our Staffordshire owl jug and cup, a Thomas Toft tyg, marbled cradle and one of only four known knife boxes. 20th century pieces from the WA Ismay collection include pieces by Joan Hotchin and Isaac Button, two of the earliest potters he collected.
Brand new work has also been loaned by Mike Eden and Paul Young, contemporary makers both using slipware techniques, but in very different ways. Mike and Paul each chose examples of pottery from York's collection to be displayed alongside their work to show what inspires them.
Our handling collection has been re-done to reflect the slipware theme and visitors now have the opportunity to handle six new pots, including examples of Mike and Paul's work. ....continued over page

©Paul Young - dovecot



©Mike Eden – large plate

york museums trust

Manchester Metropolitan University

york art gallery

MIRIAD

NPA members are invited to attend an afternoon's talk about slipware and a demonstration of slipware techniques by Mike Eden and Paul Young, with Alex McErlain interviewing and assisting. The event will take place after the NPA's AGM, starting at 2pm and finishing at around 4pm.

The event is free but spaces are limited, so please reserve your place in advance by contacting-

Helen Walsh,
Assistant Curator of Decorative Art,
York Art Gallery, Exhibition Square, York, YO1 7EW.
01904 697 971/07793 248 539
helen.walsh@ymt.org.uk

Minutes of the 2006 AGM

Minutes of the NPA AGM held at York on Sunday, 19 November 2006

Present: Pete Clough, Penny Phillips, Colette Hennigan, Judith Quinn, Roger Bell, Brian Holland (chair), Barbara Wood (minutes), William Johnson, Babs Taylor, Peter Humpherson, Lucy Oldroyd, Andrea Cundell, Frances Norton, John Hiscock, Hazel Anderson, Sophie Hamilton, Carol Metcalfe, Sheila Spencer, Helen Plaxton, Catherine Boyne-Whitelegg, Jan Scott (in part)

Apologies for absence: Ian Marsh, Jill Ford, Rachel Wood, Jim Robison, Kris Lambert

Matters Arising
There were no matters arising. The minutes from 24 September, 2005, were accepted.

Report from the Chair
It has been an interesting first year as Chair. In the past the Chair has been responsible for overseeing the organisation of a biennial festival, but lack of support and declining numbers at the previous event suggest this is not what the membership now requires.
The major task for the committee has been to find other things to offer the membership, and to make the NPA a dynamic, must join organisation. Jan Scott's tireless work on the exhibitions programme, Ian Marsh's ever improving newsletter, and Judith Quinn's work on our website go a long way to doing just that. Ian has also been working on the electronic booklet to represent members' work.
In October 2005 members had the opportunity to show at the Oxo Tower gallery in London. Following the success of this we have booked the venues for October 2007, and there is still time for anyone interested to join in with this.
Ann Johnson will continue to organise the display case in the Theatre Royal, York, as an NPA venue.
Brian has begun planning events to mark the 30th Anniversary (Sept 07 – Sept 08) of the NPA, with an exhibition and events beginning at Lund Gallery, moving on to two other venues (to be confirmed). Arts Council funding is being sought.
The further development of the regional groups has initiated a review and revision of the constitution, which will be a later agenda item. Regional finances are dealt with by the committee, and the selection of the coordinator must be approved by the committee.
As the newsletter grows the need has arisen for an assistant to work with Ian.
The NPA continues to be an evolving organisation with an ever growing reputation and an ever growing membership. Brian is in talks with the Arts Council about the possibility of appointing a funded coordinator to help with NPA development. Babs Taylor questioned what such a coordinator would do, and Roger Bell warned that great care should be taken before considering such a development, as there may be a loss of control associated with accepting funding.

Treasurer's Report
A financial statement as at 31 March 2006 was presented, showing a surplus during the year of £446.53.
Income from membership fees is the highest yet at £6447. There was a surplus of £381 on events, and £161 on regional activities. Carol Metcalfe stated that the expenditure on the newsletter (net £2066) was worthwhile, as it is of high quality.
Roger Bell asked whether the newsletter could be distributed by email, to reduce costs, but it was agreed this was not desirable.
Pete Clough questioned the low amount of interest (£154) earned on the £10,000 term deposit. The treasurer said it had only been on deposit for a part of the year.
Public Liability insurance for the Oxo Tower exhibition was £700. This was taken out as the venue required a group insurance

for the event, and the fact that individual potters were insured was not adequate. This situation is likely to continue, as more venues require a hiring fee, rather than just commission on sales.
The audited accounts were accepted.

Membership Secretary's Report
The membership currently stands at 339, with 198 (58%) paying by standing order, and 36 (11%) paying the concessionary rate. 37 complimentary copies of the newsletter are sent out each issue. Members were asked to pay by standing order. 12 – 20 members per month are sent reminders to renew their subscriptions, and about $^1/_3$ of these are sent a second reminder. 1 or 2 memberships lapse per month.

Constitution
The proposed revised constitution had been printed in the August/September issue of the newsletter. The only area of contention was section 10, concerning regional groups. The proposed section was as follows:

'10 **REGIONAL GROUPS**
Regional Groups may be established as and when the need arises to focus and promote activities of members in specific geographical areas.
For each Regional Group, the members of that group shall appoint a Regional Coordinator. The committee shall approve the appointment.
The Regional Coordinator will initiate setting up a regional working group of no fewer than five members to take decisions on behalf of the group members.
The Regional working group will hold regular open meetings.
The Regional Coordinator and working group will resign after three years, but are eligible for reappointment, and a new working group established.
The parent Association shall deal with all finances. Events should be organised with a view to being self-financing.
All regional groups shall abide by the constitution of the parent Association.'

William Johnson tabled the following amendment:

..... *Continued on page 7*

'10 **Regional Groups**
The committee shall be empowered to create Regional groups as and when the need arises in order to focus and promote members activities in separate geographical areas.
For each group a Regional Coordinator shall be appointed and approved by the committee with specified duties and responsibilities as the committee shall from time to time determine necessary.
All Regional activities shall be held in the name of NPA and advertised in the Newsletter as open to any NPA member.'

There was much discussion of the operation of regional groups. Concerns have arisen over the organising of regional exhibitions, and financing events which are poorly supported.
The tabled amendment to the constitution was rejected. The following wording was added to section 10.5 of the proposed constitution: 'Should worthy events be threatened by a shortfall the NPA parent committee will cover any losses.' With this amendment, the constitution was proposed, seconded and carried by all present.

Election and Re-election of Committee Members
Colette Hennigan resigned from the post of Education Officer.
No nominations were made, and as few requests have been made for support from the education fund, the post is in abeyance.

Barbara Wood and Rachel Wood were each proposed and seconded for the post of Exhibitions Officer. Barbara Wood was elected by 10 votes to 4.

Catherine Boyne-Whitelegg was proposed, seconded, and elected as Membership Secretary.

There were no nominations for the post of Publicity Officer.

Sheila Spencer was proposed, seconded and elected as Secretary.

William Johnson will continue as Treasurer.

Babs Taylor was proposed, seconded and elected as Vice Chair.

There were no nominations for Website Administrator. Judith Quinn agreed to continue in this role.

Any Other Business
Judith Quinn suggested that the event accompanying the AGM should be offered free of charge to members.

A Lancashire Regional Group is being set up, with Jan Scott and Dave Harper as joint coordinators.

The need for a Publicity / Promotions Officer was considered, and the Chair decided it should be discussed at committee. Volunteers to be co-opted on to the committee will be discussed at the next meeting.

A report from Ian Marsh, newsletter editor, was read out. In it he thanked all those who had provided material for inclusion, and invited more contributions in future. He suggests that he will continue as editor for one more year only. It is a time consuming role, and some issues are produced late due to other commitments. Income from advertising is minimal, as it is Ian's least favourite job, and perhaps some other committee member could take this task on.

Roger Bell stated that the 30th anniversary exhibition needed a theme, and major galleries should be booked 2 years in advance. He suggested that Brian Holland should contact Scottish Potters.

The Way Forward

The Northern Potters Association was set up to "improve the potters' lot in the North" and aims to support makers and those interested in ceramics, promoting both tradition and innovation in clay.

But, as we enter our 30th year, what does the future hold for the NPA?

The NPA was founded in September 1977, when some sixty potters along with representatives from Arts and Crafts Councils and other bodies, went to the Bowes Museum to discuss ideas and elect a Committee to put them into action. This first committee was drawn from a diverse background, not just practising potters, but educators, gallery staff and arts officers. This gave the NPA its dynamic quality and enabled it to appeal to wide audience.

Since 1977, the NPA has gone from strength to strength, hosting many of events, organising twenty years of potters camps and now has around 340 members from the North of England and around the world. The two men honoured with lifetime memberships of the NPA were WA Ismay and David Lloyd Jones, demonstrating the calibre of our membership. A look back through past newsletters reveals some of the biggest names in late 20th century ceramics attending NPA events- Janet Leach, Patrick Sargent, Ewen Henderson, Mick Casson, David Lloyd Jones and Takeshi Yasuda, to name but a few.

Thirty years on is a good point to re-evaluate our aims as a group and decide upon the course of our future. The committee has come up with the following ideas for how the NPA can move forward-

Mission

The NPA needs to embrace all aspects of clay and be broader in our outlook- exhibitions to sell work are only one part of it
At the moment we seem only to exist to sell pots. In order not to lose sight of our roots, we need to also focus on non-commercial goals
NPA need a stronger presence at national ceramics events, to forge links with open studios for example
We shouldn't be in the position of having money accumulating year on year, we need bold ideas on how to use NPA funds to the benefit of all members
Not all members are potters, if we want to continue to have a wide audience, we need to provide benefits for these members too

Events

There are so many pottery festivals, all offering a similar experience- can the NPA offer something new to distinguish it from the rest? A festival that offers innovation and a platform of opportunity for all members (makers collectors, artists of other media, educators)
We need to offer members from all over more events- more demos, talks, film nights, visits to studios, visits to exhibitions, opportunities for members to meet each other and network. Focus on providing opportunities for members rather than them being self-funding
We need to plan ahead so that everyone knows well in advance (if possible) when things are happening and can attend. Events need to be co-ordinated with other local and national events
Some ideas for new events are- hiring space in a college and running a series of weekend workshops; an annual competition to make an object with the winner getting a prize and all the entries being auctioned afterward; an annual open exhibition

Exhibitions

Is selection off-putting or a way of raising standards? The development of selling exhibitions to promote the NPA, providing members with the opportunity of commercial exposure for their work, was one of the main objectives of the association when it was set up. It's important that we don't loose sight of this and a combination of open exhibitions and selected exhibitions will ensure we continue to strive for high standards and allow all members the opportunity to take part
Should we provide facilities like plinths and a chip and pin machine for members to borrow?

Newsletter

The NPA newsletter has become the backbone of the association thanks to a number of dedicated editors, but it needs to be updated and printed in colour
We need more contribution from members so that it can become a forum for debate, new ideas, information

Website

The website needs to be redeveloped and used more

Members

We need more members to put themselves forward for the committee roles- members are elected at the AGM each year and this ensures that it constantly has new blood, new ideas, new enthusiasms and new energies. Change is a good thing and helps us to continue to be an ever evolving organisation.
Members need to be more active and supportive of the association- we need input from members about what they want from the NPA (eg. Contacts with people and places, ideas for events)

Regional Groups

Regional groups have been successful and should be seen as a positive thing and supported. However, there needs to be feedback to the wider NPA community about what they get up to, the creation of a new committee post, Regional Liaison, will provide this link

These are ideas only and are all up for discussion, please come along to the AGM at York Art Gallery on Sunday 25th November (10.30am) and share with us your thoughts and ideas. If you are unable to attend the AGM, send them to the Secretary Carol Metcalfe and they will be read out at the meeting on your behalf. To quote those late 20th century song-writers "so, tell us what you want, what you really, really want"

Directions to the AGM and Free Demonstration

York Art Gallery is in Exhibition Square, five minutes' from York Minster, next to Bootham Bar, the northern gateway on the city walls.
It is about 15 to 20 minutes' walk from York Railway Station.

The nearest car park is on Marygate, which is five minutes' walk and has 350 spaces. Marygate is off Bootham, the A19, which is the main road into York from the north.

For more car parking information go to www.yorktraffic.info

"Six of the best" by Brian Holland

A symposium on individual wood firers delivered by Nic Collins, Sven Bayer, Robert Barron, Chuck Schwartz, Markus Rusch, and Nicolas Rousseau, held at The Barn Pottery, Moretonhampstead, Devon from Friday 27th July to Sunday29th July.

Rob Barron working on one of his boat forms.

"Firing a kiln fuelled with wood is not comparable with firing pots by any other method. Unpredictable each time, despite the experienced kiln-hands endeavours to control the outcome, the variants are diverse and the Parameters broad. There is much room for error, but this also affords scope for the spectacular." From Doug Fitch's introduction in the catalogue produced for the event.

Back in July I had the good fortune to be invited to attend an "international celebration of wood fired ceramics" at Nic Collins place in Moretonhampstead. The traffic situation meant I missed the Friday evening introductions but after a restful night at the backpackers hostel I was looking forward to the weekend. Anyone who has not visited Nic's BARN POTTERY – preferably on one of his kiln building or big ware throwing courses- is missing out on a real treat. One turns a corner into a field nestling comfortably on the edge of Moretonhampstead between Dartmoor hills. At the bottom of this field is the barn that Nic has converted into studio and residence. Close by are whatever wood burning kilns are being tried and tested. This time there was a low cross draft tunnel kiln neighboured by an Olsen type fast fire which was in operation throughout the weekend. Two marquees had been erected, one set up for demonstrations but also housing an exhibition of the six potters work much of this being sold throughout the weekend. The other tent was set up for slide, film and talks. The pattern of the next two days was to be as follows, in the morning three demonstrations by three of the 6, then in the afternoon slide talks or film with discussion by the other 3 of the six. On the second day roles were reversed so that by the end of the weekend all six had demonstrated and given a talk. The audience was large and critical and inquisitive and knowledgeable. I recognised several fellow makers, also there were collectors and enthusiasts and gallery people. Though I had seen both Nic and Svend demonstrate making their big ware before this time the surrounding conversation was about the relationship of this work to wood firing and their reasons for wood firing. Rob Barron, though he had on display some large thrown jars demonstrated making a long boat form, whilst talking about what happens to these forms over several days in his anagama. Chuck demonstrated making tea-bowls whilst discussing the history of this form and it's reverence in Japan later leading a discussion on such values. Chuck also traced his development as a wood firer and showed a film of Shiro Tsujimura building and firing a kiln on Chucks land.

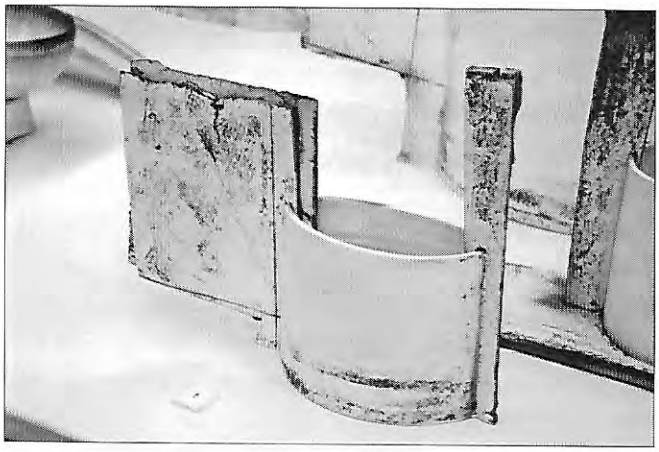
A ground hog kiln at the Barn pottery.

The two younger potters, Nicolas Rousseau (France) and Markus Rusch
(Germany), had both built very ambitious and successful wood firing kilns and discussed the relationship between the making and firing of the work.

The last session of the weekend was given over to a participatory discussion on Woodfiring, the state of ceramics etc and we could all still be there now if we did not have to get on with it! For wood firing is not an abstract process where one sticks one's work in a little box of heat and comes back after all the electronic devices have done their stuff. Wood firing is a fundamental part of the making process demanding full involvement and contributing as much to the works identity as forming the pieces, and becoming a fundamental expression of the maker's identity and sensibilities. I came away renewed in my faith that Woodfiring is the only way forward for me.

Brian Holland

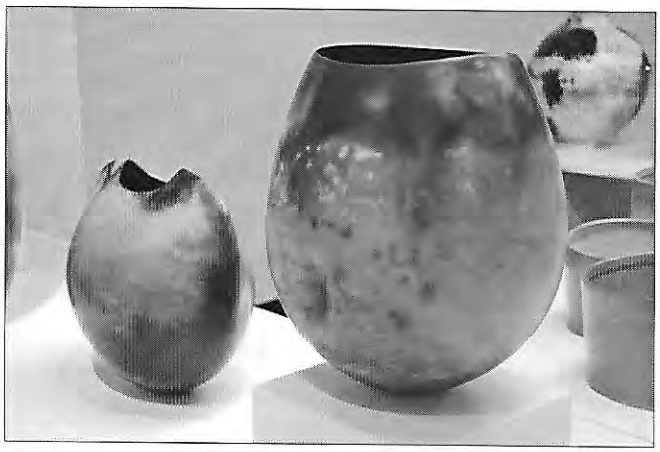
Images from the CPA exhibition—Barnsley



John Higgins

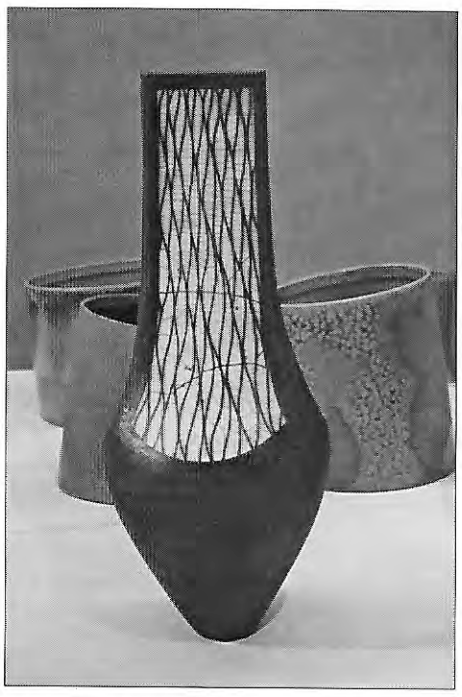
A view of the exhibition

Dave Roberts



Gabriele Koch

Micki Schloessingk



Ashraf Hanna with Jane Hamlyn behind

Pots I particularly liked at the exhibition at the Design Centre North Barnsley—IM

INSPIRED
Fresh from the autumn kiln
work by
Catherine Boyne-Whitelegg
also
Textiles by Petra Bradley & Rebecca Stoner
Paintings by Linda Wormald & Adrienne French
Jewellery by Jo Bagshaw
at
York Cemetery Chapel
off Fulford Road, York YO10 5AJ
Private View - all welcome Fri 23rd Nov 6-9pm
Sat 24th & Sun 25th Nov 10 - 4
Enquiries 01904 701841

BAY POTTERS ANNUAL SHOW

Location: Hawkshead Brewery, Stavely, Cumbria.

Dates:	Friday	16th November	6.30 to 9.00 pm
	Saturday	17th November	10.00 to 5.00 pm
	Sunday	18th November	10.00 to 5.00 pm

Participants:
Sue Bartholomew, Roger Bell, Maggie Berkowitz, Jan Burgess, Ruth Charlton, James Hake, Angie Mitchell, Jane Smith

PETER SCOTT GALLERY

Location: Lancaster University.

Dates: 2nd October till 16th November.

Participants: Roger Bell
John Kershaw
Angie Mitchell
Bob Park

From 22nd Sptember to 4th November 2007
Fired Earth
High fired stoneware in Chinese and Japanese flambe glazes
by **David Fry**

Exhibitions to be held at:
Stokoe House Ceramics Gallery
Market Place
Alston
Cumbria
CA9 3HS
Tel 01434 382137
Open daily 10.00 - 5.00

York Artworkers Association Programme 2007

Meetings are held at Jacob's Well, Trinity Lane, Micklegate, at 7.30pm on Mondays unless otherwise stated.
Admission: members £2, non-members £3.

12 November—Andrew Anderson, Architect and Artist
4 December A.G.M.—William Pye, Sculptor

Membership and programme enquires to:
Isabel Denyer, 01937 835632

Christmas Sale and Open Studio
Dianne Cross
36 Scott Lane
Riddlesden
Keighley
BD20 5BT
01535 606814
e.mail: dianne.cross@blueyonder.co.uk
Saturday, November 24 and Sunday November 25
11 am to 4 pm

Enthusiastic amateur would like to rent a corner in an existing studio, not only to improve my work, but also get help and guidance from a more experienced potter. Possibility of a grant to buy some additional equipment once I've found that corner....
Please contact me either
via Keithgolby@hotmail.co.uk or on 01756 700166 - Skipton

Dianne Cross and Eric Moss
Christmas Sparks
King Street Studio Workshops
King Street
Pateley Bridge HG3 5LE
Friday December 14 10am to 10 pm
Saturday, December 15; Sunday December 16 and Monday December 17 10 am to 5 pm

At the Harris Museum & Art Gallery we are currently working on a re-display of our collection of historic ceramics and glass. As part of this project we are commissioning some AV footage demonstrating various pottery techniques. Where possible, we would like to use local makers. I wonder if it would be possible for someone to give me a ring about demonstrating pottery techniques. Do you know of any potters that work in Preston? We are going to go the Gladstone Museum in Stoke to film footage of more historic techniques, but I wondered whether someone might be happy to be filmed throwing a pot, or doing some hand modeling?

I would be very grateful if you could get in touch to discuss.

Caroline Jordan
Curatorial Assistant, Art

Harris Museum & Art Gallery
Market Square, Preston, PR1 2PP
Tel: 01772 258248
Direct dial: 01772 905411
Fax: 01772 886764
www.harrismuseum.org.uk

While researching pottery artists from the north east of England, I came across the Northern studio potters web site, and I have to say it is wonderful.

I belong to a new pottery forum where artist's, researchers, writers, and collectors can discuss anything related to pottery, there is also a pottery shop where potters or collectors may sell.

It is a free web site, if you or any of your associates would like to join us, you can find us here....http://pottery.yobunny.com/

Volunteer wanted to work on the WA Ismay collection

york museums trust

Do you know want to know more about 20th century studio ceramics?

Do you have your own transport and can you spare a few hours a week?

Do you have basic computer skills?

In 2001, WA Ismay MBE, one of the most prolific collectors of studio ceramics in the second half of the 20th century, died, leaving his collection of almost 3,400 pots and his archive to the Yorkshire Museum (now part of York Museums Trust).

His collection began in the mid-1950s, initially focusing on Yorkshire potters, before expanding to include national and international makers. Earlier purchases include pieces by some of the most influential potters working at the time: Bernard Leach, Shoji Hamada, Michael Cardew, Lucie Rie and Hans Coper. WA Ismay spent his librarian's wages, and later, his pension, on gathering nearly 3,400 works by more than 500 makers, becoming friends with many of the potters in his collection. He often visited them at their studios and was a recognisable figure at pottery exhibitions, wearing his black beret and carrying a magnifying glass. He bought works at these exhibitions or directly from potters when he visited their studio and each work was a special souvenir of the occasion.

The process of cataloguing WA Ismay's pots is almost complete, but there is still much to do on his archive of correspondence, photos, magazines, exhibition invites, catalogues and price lists. Volunteers from the NPA have been extremely valuable in helping us work on the pots in the collection and we would like help with the process of getting archive material sorted and organised, catalogued onto a computer database, numbered and packed to preserve it for future generations.

If you are interested in becoming a volunteer (tea, coffee and occasional biscuit supplied), please contact me at York Art Gallery-

Helen Walsh
Assistant Curator of Decorative Art
York Art Gallery
Exhibition Square
York
YO1 7EW

E- helen.walsh@ymt.org.uk
T- 01904 697 971
M- 07793 248 539

Craft Pottery Charitable Trust

Annual Call for Grant Scheme Applications

The closing date for applications for grants from the Trust for 2008 is 15th December 2007 (decision by March 2008)

Guidelines for making an application are available from

Liz Gale, Trustee and Secretary to the Trust, Taplands Farm Cottage, Webbs Green, Soberton, Southampton SO32 3PY

Please send a stamped addressed envelope

Please do NOT fax your request as this creates additional administrative work

CUMBRIA REGION REPORT

John Wheeldon provided excellent tuition in raku techniques at Bob Park's pottery on Sept 27th/28th. See separate report and pictures.

Watch this space for tuition in paper clay, plaster mould making and slipcasting, and resin mould making and press moulding.

Members outside Cumbria who would like to be kept in touch should email me.

Roger Bell. bell.roger@btinternet.com 015394 32730

RAKU TUITION

On 27th and 28th September 12 of us were at Bob Park's pottery near Penrith for 2 days excellent tuition in Raku processes by John Wheeldon.

The 3 major techniques (normal reduced, copper matte and draw through or 'naked' raku) were covered from glaze recipe and mixing, through to finished pots. John's calm, controlled, methodical approach resulted in very consistent results across most participants work. The reasons for the less successful pieces were generally differing biscuit temperature, clay type or variations in pot thickness. Assessment of the work and the subsequent discussion after each fired batch taught us all techniques and gave us ideas that were often relevant beyond the realms of raku.

The social side also went well. Bob and Denise provided regular tea and coffee and the Jacob's Join lunches could hardly have been bettered. A convivial meal at the Herdwick Inn was enjoyed by most on Thursday.

Two participants were putting the lessons learnt into practice the very next day and we anticipate a number of firings at various locations before temperatures really drop.

In 2008 John will be running 3 day courses in Matlock, Derbyshire on Mach 31st to April 2nd and August 5th to 7th. For details see his website (www.derbyshirearts.co.uk) or get in touch with me.

Roger Bell

North East Northern Potters.

Our first venture as the North East NPA group comes to an end at the Oriental Museum on the 30th September. It appears to have been a successful venture and the Oriental Museum have agreed to invite us back for a larger exhibition in 2009.
Thanks must go to Kris Lambert for all her hard work in organising this exhibition.

Please note that the "Oriental Breaks" Exhibition (see last Newsletter) earmarked for February 2008 has had to be cancelled due to unforeseen programme changes within the Oriental linked to a recent Bowes Museum Initiative. An alternative event, India themed has been negotiated for 2009 and I will let you know more about this later next year.

Final selection for the Dorman Museum in Middlesbrough have now been submitted and we all await the results. This exhibition runs from the 20th Nov to the 16th March so there will be plenty of time to see this work.

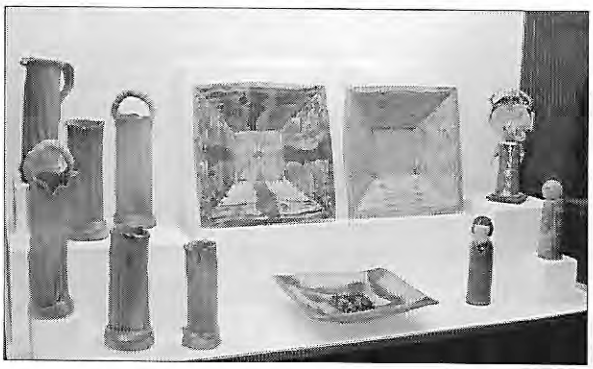
Steph Jamieson Email jamieson@c-pac.net

Oriental Inspirations

The North East branch of the Northern Potters Association held their first exhibition "Oriental Inspirations" in August at the Oriental Museum in Durham City.

The branch considered various venues for their inaugural branch meeting and decided on the exceptional setting of The Oriental Museum in Durham City. The Oriental Museum is Durham University's Asian art and antiquities museum. Its collections cover the civilizations and culture of Asia, Egypt, Islamic North Africa and the Near and Middle East. An appropriate place for all potters to meet!

After their meeting they were invited, by the curator, Craig Barclay, to look round the Museum for inspiration for their first exhibition at the Museum. Judging by the selected work for the exhibition that visit was very obviously worthwhile! The curator and his staff were delighted to be able to identify, almost immediately, where potter's inspiration had come from within the Museum.



The selection of work was trialled, by members providing an application form and images of their work on a CD. Thus alleviating the problem of delivery and collection after selection. The Selection Panel commented that "There are ease/ efficiency/resource advantages of digital image selection. Experienced people can still make informed decisions." Selected work included that of professionals, very enthusiastic amateurs and first time exhibitors alike!

Thanks to all members who took part. Several pieces of work were sold and the preview evening was a huge success.

Yorkshire Regional Group

Christmas Pots in Poppleton

This two-day sale is very popular locally and usually well supported. This year it will be held on Saturday 24th and Sunday 25th November from 10 am to 4.30 pm daily. As in previous years home baking and teas are provided by Acomb WI.

The fee for two days is a very reasonable £30.00. Space is limited to 14 potters. To reserve your space please make your cheque out to "NPA" and send it, with your contact details, as soon as possible to:

Andrea Cundell, 4, Cranbrook Road, Acomb, York YO26 5JA

Social Event

A Christmas meal is planned for one Saturday in December (date to be confirmed) at a real restaurant find – "Sanctuary" in Gillygate, York.

Please contact Penny (01904 797598) or Andrea (01904 797631) for more details.

Welcome To New Members

Name	Address	Tel. No.	E-mail
Simon Smith	Flat 3-31 Huskisson Street, Canning L87 LW	0151 706 0142	simon@ssjsmithceramics.com
Richard A Wilson	1 Keltus Avenue, Crosshills, West Yorks BD20 8AN	01535 636561	rawilson2@tiscali.co.uk
Shirley Peacock	52 Reeth Road, Linthorpe, Middlesbrough, Cleveland TS5 5JX	01642 815943	bobandshirley@peacocksville.freeserve.co.uk
Daniel Hornsey	3 Kirkgate, Ripon, N Yorks HG4 1PA	01765 602878	dan@hornseys.com
Diana Raw	The Grove, Plawsworth, Chester-Le-Street, Co. Durham DH2 3LD	0191 371 0428	diana.csraw@yahoo.co.uk
David Horsfall	7 Partridge Drive, Baxenden, Accrington, Lancashire BB5 2RL	01254 390215	suehorsfall2003@yahoo.co.uk
Janet Convery	48 Leyland Road, Harrogate, N Yorks HG1 4RU	01423 886643	
Hazel Higham	26 Porthill Bank, Newcastle-Under-Lyme, Staffs ST5 0AA	01782 860315	hazelhigham@hotmail.com
Keith Golby	5 Pasture Road, Embsay, North Yorkshire	BD23 6RQ	01756 700166 keithgolby@hotmail.co.uk
Sylvia Wells	3 Stable Court, Londesborough, York, Yorkshire YO43 3LF	01430 873293	tony.wells5@btinternet.com

A warm welcome is extended to our new members. We look forward to seeing you and your work at future events.

New Books

The Art of Polymer Clay	Donna Kato	12.99 GMC
Artful Ways with Polymer Clay	Dotty McMillan	9.99 GMC
The Ceramics Design Course	Quinn	13.95 TH
A Glaze of Colour	Jane Davies	12.99 GMC
Italian Ceramic Art 1900-1950 (Oct 2006)	ed Terraroli	45.00 TH
Eric James Mellon		7.95
Persian Ceramics (9th to 14th Centuries)	Giovanni Curatola	27.50 TH
The Potter's Complete Book of Clay & Glazes	James Chapell	35.00 GMC
Slipcasting	Sasha Wardell	14.99 BI Spode
Transfer Printed Ware 1784 – 1833	Drakard/Holdway	45.00 ACC
Starting to Collect 20th Century Ceramics		14.95 ACC
Wheel Thrown Pottery	Bill van Gilder	12.95 GMC

ROGER BELL, DEXTERITY

Book Review

A GLAZE OF COLOUR — Jane Davies
Publ: Watson-Guptill — £12.99

At first glance, you think 'not another book on glazing', yet on closer inspection it differs, very positively, from other books currently available. No long lists of glaze recipes with tile samples showing minimal differences in texture or colour. This book is about decorating ceramics and how to create effects without taking you into technical complexities. It is suitable for the beginner and aimed, primarily, at those wishing to decorate bisqueware and will retain their interest as methods and techniques are extended. It is a vast improvement on the usual 'how to' books.

Starting with biscuited pots, there are introductory explanations of underglaze colours, clear glazes and the basic processes of wax resist, application of glaze by dipping or brushing, and cleaning before loading and firing the kiln. Perhaps the spray gun might have been given a mention here.

The second chapter is on 'Colour, Form & Design'. Starting with the basics of primary and secondary colours, tints and shades, saturation and warm/cool, it continues with mixing by layering and gradation. 'Form' relates design to shape and 'Design' describes the use of pattern, line and visual texture.

Chapter three goes into significant detail on underglaze methods – including marbling, transfer methods, stamping, spattering etc. The last chapter is on coloured glazes and postfiring techniques and appendices give simple information on kilns and firing .Illustrations are bright, clear and relevant. One small criticism – being a US production it lists US and Canadian suppliers. A list of UK and European suppliers could, or rather should, have been added, even if only as a loose sheet. At £12.99 it is very reasonably priced.

Roger Bell

Events Calendar

- Oxford Ceramics Fair 27, 28 October www.oxfordsc.co.uk
- Huddersfield Open Studios urban weekend 17-19 Nov (www.host07.co.uk)
- Huddersfield Open Studios rural weekend 23-25 Nov
- The Pot the Vessel the Object 1-10-07 to 9-11-07 Design Centre North (www.designcentrenorth.com)
- The Bay Potters 16-18 Nov, Hawkshead Brewery
- Dianne Cross Open Studio 24-25 Nov Keigthley

Do you know of any other events, local or national? Let me know and I will include them in future.

MAAC—Forthcoming Events

Applications for 2008 events

22nd October 2007
Earth and Fire Rufford 21-22 June 2008
Rufford Country Park, Nr Ollerton, Newark, Nottinghamshire
Please send your applications now if you would like to participate in next year's Earth and Fire at Rufford. This is a prestigious international ceramics fair and MAAC will be selecting six members to exhibit on their stand. Please send stamped addressed envelope with your application form, digital images and booking fee (see flyer) before 22nd October 2007 to Michael Jones, 17 Selbourne Road, Dudley, West Midlands, DY2 8LQ Tel: 01384 255 867 e-mail: mike_a_jonze@yahoo.co.uk

Oxford Ceramics Fair

27th 28th October 2007
Oxford Ceramics Fair
Don't forget to visit the Associates Stand at the Oxford Ceramics Fair.. Details from Michael Jones, 17 Selbourne Road, Dudley, West Midlands, DY2 8LQ Tel: 01384 255 867 e-mail: mike_a_jonze@yahoo.co.uk

'Making It – The Vessel'

Saturday November 17th 2007
University of Westminster, Harrow Campus, Watford Road, Northwick Park, Harrow HA1`3TP

Don't miss this one – put the date in your diaries now. This will be a whole day at the Harrow Campus with three well known makers giving us of their best. Chris Keenan, Richard Godfrey and Sasha Wardell will be giving us slide lectures and demonstrations of their different ways of making ceramic pieces. So….. Throwing, Handbuilding and Mould Making – what more could you want? Full details can be obtained from John Masterton 15 Maylins Drive, Sawbridgeworth, Herts CM21 9HG Tel: 01279 723 229 email: john@jmasterton.freeserve.co.uk

Talk and Walk Events

Talk and Walk events were devised by the MAAC Committee to ensure that CPA Members get the full benefit of interaction with the speaker. They are run to coincide with the Private View of exhibitions held in Contemporary Ceramics. Starting at 3.00pm there is a talk and slide presentation at the Soho Family Centre, 60, Broadwick Street, London. The speaker and the audience then walk next door, round the corner to Contemporary Ceramics in Marshall Street for the Private View, to enjoy the exhibition, a glass of wine and the chance to talk further with the speaker and learn more about their techniques. Where the speaker has recently published a book, this will be available for sale, so you can ask the author to sign your copy.

Booking is essential for these events.
Ticket costs CPA/LP Members £8 Non-members £10 Students £4. Please include s.a.e and enquire for details from Don Hudson at
Town Mill Pottery, Town Mill, Mill Lane, Lyme Regis, Dorset, DT7 3PU
Tel: 01297 444 633

Panel of Experts

The MAAC Committee are setting up a list of experts who would be able to offer advice in all areas, not just technical. Please let us know if you have any questions for our new problem page, which will be published in CPA News. Write now, right now.
Email: Linda_bloomfield@yahoo.com or snail mail to Linda Bloomfield, 21 Flanchford Road, London W12 9ND

Survey
Your MAAC committee has decided to conduct a survey to better inform them about the membership of CPA. It will help them to direct its efforts to organising events that you the membership want. So please make sure you read and complete the enclosed questionnaire in the CPA newsletter– your views are very important to us and will be kept strictly confidential. When you have completed it please send to our chairman – Stanley Field 4 Arlington Road, Richmond, Surrey, TW10 7BY Tel: 0208 940 1069

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Contact the membership secretary:

Catherine Boyne-Whitelegg
10 Drome Road, Copmanthorpe, York YO23 3TG
Tel: 01904 701841
willardwhitelegg@aol.com

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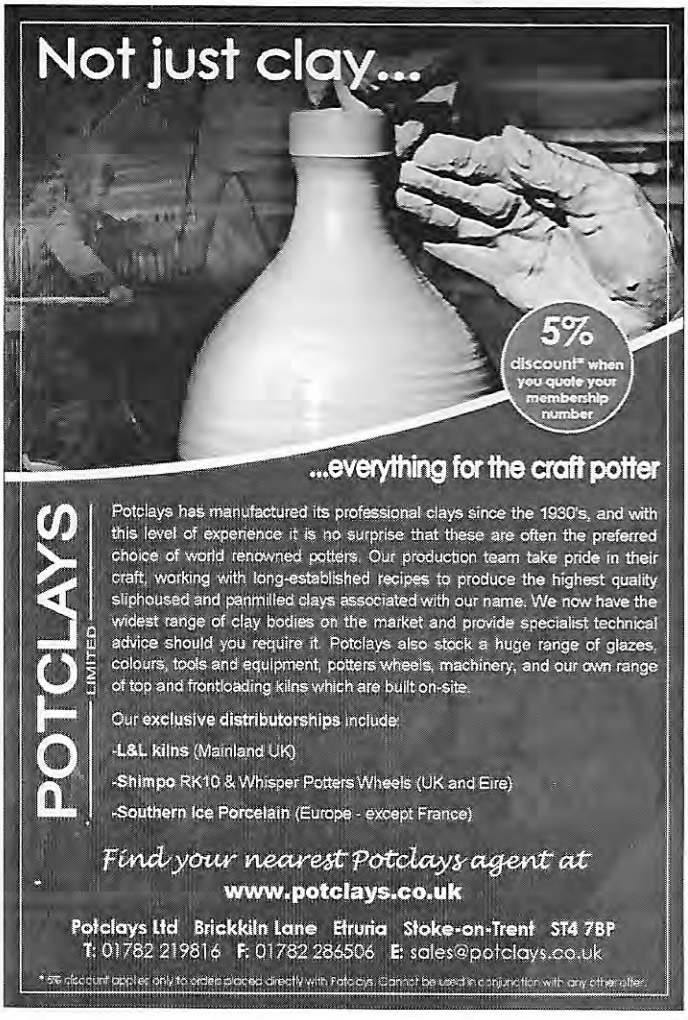

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