

NEWSLETTER

March, 1978.

S.C.P.A. Annual Exhibition

This year's exhibition will be held in the Collins Exhibition Hall, University of Strathclyde. The last handing-in date is the 20th April and not the 28th April as mentioned in a previous Newsletter. I apologise for that lapse of memory and hope no-one finds themselves running a week behind schedule with firings for the exhibition.

There will be a collecting point in Aberdeen, namely the Ceramics Dept. Grays School of Art, Garthdee, which will accept pots for the exhibition on Wednesday 19th April, 9 a.m. - 7.30 p.m.

The collecting point in Edinburgh will be at the house of Janet Munro, 19 Fernielaw Avenue, Edinburgh. Please telephone Janet for details of times (tel. 031-441-2985).

Otherwise please deliver pots for selection at the Collins Exhibition Hall, 17th - 20th April 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. The address and all other information is to be found on the enclosed Exhibition Sheet. I hope all members will make the effort to include work for selection, as the exhibition will be judged as being totally representative of the S.C.P.A. All sorts of clay things will be welcome, not only functional ware.

If there are any queries or problems please let me know.

Afternoon Meeting at Galashiels on 18th February.

There was a poor attendance at this meeting with only 11 potters present to hear a very stimulating talk and slide show by Tony Franks, Ceramics Department, Edinburgh College of Art. His theme was 'Clay things' and he covered a wide selection of contemporary British, European and American non-functional pottery.

There was also a film shown, which was really superfluous, as Tony Franks presented enough visual stimuli for anyone to absorb in one afternoon. The film, which was Swedish and titled 'Bird in my hand' showed a Swedish potter involved in bird forms and large representative naturalistic panels. Although the imagery was rather dated, it held a certain interest.

The particular date chosen for the Borders meeting was one of the worst Saturdays in the winter, therefore it's difficult to assess whether it would be worthwhile to have another meeting in the Borders. It may be necessary to leave Edinburgh as our most southerly meeting point at the moment, as it is fairly accessible from the Borders.

NEWSLETTER (Contd)

Weekend Meeting at Kinfauns Castle, Perth.

17th - 19th March

The weekend meeting, which obviously fulfilled a need for many potters was a definite success. The demonstrators, the kiln-building and firing, the slide shows, the talks, discussions, midnight parties and secret wine gulping before dinner - (the castle was tee-total!) all contributed to a general atmosphere of enthusiasm and involvement.

The Castle itself was well suited to such a weekend meeting, despite the slightly boy scout attitude of the management. Apart from the information and stimulation gained from the actual demonstrating and talks, a weekend meeting was useful for gathering a very large percentage of S.C.P.A. members together for discussion about the S.C.P.A. itself and other organisations relating to pottery and crafts. Many points raised will have to be brought up at the next committee meeting.

It was agreed at a general meeting of members to repeat the weekend next year, and that the date of the A.G.M. in October should be changed to the date of the next weekend meeting, thus overcoming the problem of poor attendance at the A.G.M! The present committee will therefore carry on until March, 1979.

A detailed account of the weekend will be included in the next Newsletter. I have asked several people outside the committee to report on the various happenings which took place, not only to save my own visit, but to get a different angle on the events of the weekend. If anyone has successful photographs taken at Kinfauns, I would be very pleased if you would get in touch with me, so that I can have copies taken.

Altogether 60 people were residentail with 20 day visitors and the demand for places far outstripped those available. We hope to book the whole hotel with its 74 beds for next year.

Future Meetings

Plans are afoot at the moment to have 3 day workshops in the autumn. In Inverness, Aberdeen and Edinburgh.

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I have a letter from Philip Hay who is completing his education at Rudolph Steiner School in July and wishes to train with a potter as an apprentice. He is interested in joinery and also hopes to have Higher passes in English & Geography, and Lower Grade passes in German & Biology. Anyone who can help, contact him at 118 Comiston Drive, Edinburgh, E.H.10.

Looking forward to meeting some of you again at the opening of the exhibition on the 1st May.

Margaret Oliver.