

SOCIETY for CLAY PIPE RESEARCH



NEWSLETTER  
20



October 1988

## Nottingham Conference

**Honorary President:** Adrian Oswald, 10 Lacks Close, Cottenham, Cambridgeshire.

**Editor:** Reg Jackson, 13 Sommerville Road, Bishopston, Bristol BS7 9AD.

**Treasurer:** Philomena Jackson

### Contributors

David Atkinson, 116 Phyllis Avenue, Peacehaven, East Sussex BN9 7RQ.

Paul Cannon, 6 Norton Road, Woodley, Reading, Berkshire RG5 4AH.

Ron Dagnall, 14 Old Lane, Rainford, St. Helens, Lancs. WA11 8JE.

Mick Fordy, 27 Hen Parc Avenue, Upper Killay, Swansea, W. Glamorgan SA2 7HA.

David Higgins, 297 Link Road, Anstey, Leicester LE7 7ED.

Philip Swales, 21 Morland Avenue, Stoneygate, Leicester LE2 2PF.

Colin Tatman, 4 Ravenscroft Road, Beckenham, Kent BR3 4TR.

Eugene Umberger, 267 Oxford Street # 201, Rochester, NY 14607, USA.

The fourth annual conference of the Society took place in Nottingham on 8-9 October. Peter Hammond had organised an excellent venue at the Nottinghamshire Archives Office, located in the historic centre of the city. Our grateful thanks are extended to Peter whose hard work before and during the conference made it a very enjoyable event. About 40 members had come from Sweden, Holland, Belgium and all over Great Britain to attend.

Highlights of the meeting included talks ranging from Arne Akerhagen's 'Small scale production of clay pipes in Sweden 1860-1920' to Ron Dagnall's 'Pipe research in Rainford - past and present' and, finally, Peter Hammond speaking on the Nottingham clay pipe industry. We discovered that Ron Dagnall will go as far as excavating the topsoil of recently refilled graves in Rainford churchyard (with the permission of the deceased's family) in order to recover pipe wasters and further his knowledge of pipe production in the town! The morbid theme was continued when we paid a respectful visit to the nearby St. Mary's churchyard to see the gravestone, made out of fired pipeclay, of a Nottingham pipemaker.

Peter Hammond and Malcolm Green had put on a truly magnificent display of their pipes which included many rare items in excellent condition. The exhibition has since been open to the public and has received T.V. and press coverage. The Nottingham pipes on display complemented Peter's talk on the local industry and the many original documents connected with the pipemaking industry which we were able to examine at the Archives Office. We are grateful to Mr. A.G. McCormick, Senior Keeper of Human History, who allowed us to examine reserve collections of pipes and excavated examples of the famous Nottingham stoneware held at the City Museum.

Memorable social events included a visit to a restaurant which was originally Jessie Boot's chemist

shop (from which the Boots empire grew) and some welcome jars of the local brew at the famous Trip to Jerusalem - a fine pub built into the Nottingham caves. We were also able to visit the Brewhouse Yard Museum and Nottingham Castle Museum. The weekend concluded with a guided tour by the Nottingham Historical Arts Society around the Bridlesmith Gate Caves. Pipes, pottery and glass had been found during recent archaeological excavations in the caves.

### Annual Report

A summary was given of the Society's achievements in the past year. Most recently 'Clay Pipe Research Volume 1' was published and is now available to all those who subscribed at the pre-publication price. Already some contributions had been received for a second volume and this will be produced in due course.

Mick Fordy's Index to Newsletters 1 - 16 was a very useful contribution and he is now following this up by an annual contents list, the first of which will be published in Newsletter 20.

Regretably subscriptions are to be raised due to increases in postage, stationary and production costs. Following discussion it was unanimously agreed that the subscriptions should be raised to £6 for the UK and Europe and £9 elsewhere. We believe that even at the increased rates the Newsletters are excellent value and are dependent on a considerable amount of goodwill to enable them to be produced at the lowest possible price.

Susanne Atkin's 'Bibliography of Clay Pipe Publications' is nearing completion. Thanks must go to her and those who have already contributed to the Bibliography. We are sure this will be a valuable reference work for us all (see page 32 for details). Negotiations are presently taking place with the publishers of 'British Archaeology' to obtain their possible assistance in the production of the Bibliography.

Reg & Philomena Jackson

The Pipemaker's Gravestone, St. Mary's Churchyard, Nottingham



## Some Eighteenth Century Pipes From Denmark

Some years ago I was walking on the London foreshore of the River Thames one fine summer evening picking up the odd clay pipe when I chanced to meet a stranger who was doing the same thing. It turned out that he was on holiday from Denmark and was interested in archaeology and particularly clay pipes. We later corresponded and sent each other a representative collection of pipes from London and Copenhagen respectively.

My friend's name is Jens Larsen and he found pipes at various sites in and around Copenhagen. The seventeenth century pipes he sent to me appeared to be all Dutch, but those of the eighteenth century are more interesting in the sense that they appear to represent a mixture of English and Dutch influence with perhaps a scent of Danish thrown in. I thought it might, therefore, be of interest to record some of these and invite the comments of members who may know more than I do about them.

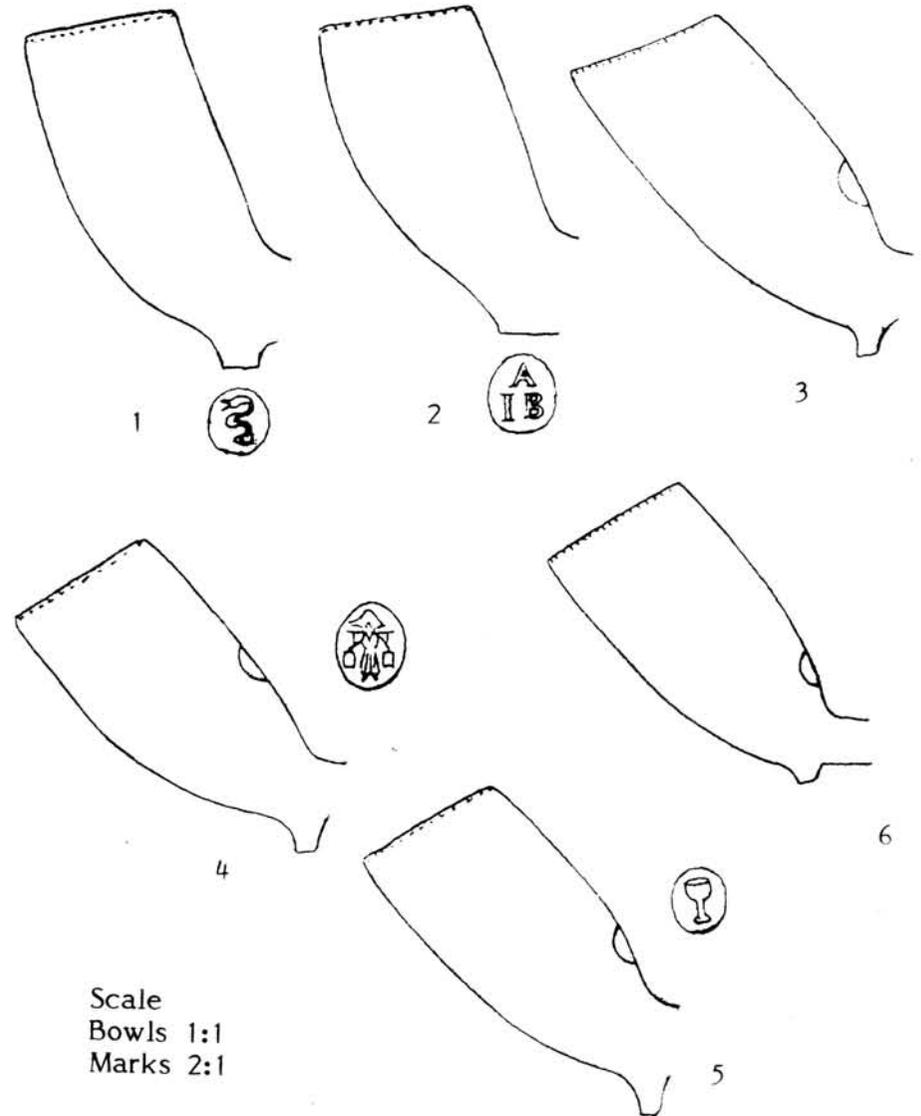
The pipes (Figs. 1-10) are beautifully made, mostly highly polished and have the Dutch-style line of milling very close to the lip, abandoned by most English makers by this time (c1700-50). All are marked, except for one (Fig. 9), a roughly finished kiln-waster.

There are four main types of bowl:

- A) a very similar shape to the English London type 25 (Atkinson & Oswald)
- B) a funnel-shaped bowl tapering to a narrow base with small spur
- C) a small funnel-shaped bowl with a flat-based spur and
- D) the typical large Dutch type of the mid-eighteenth century onwards (Fig. 8).

Two examples of Type A are shown. The first (Fig. 1) has a relief serpent stamped on the short, stubby spur base. The second (Fig. 2) has a larger, flat base stamped with the initials A over IB in relief. The first of Type B illustrated (Fig. 3) has the same mark, A

over IB, on the back of the bowl. Figs. 4 and 5 are marked in relief with a milkmaid and a goblet respectively and Fig. 6 has the serpent mark of Fig. 1 but low down on the back of the bowl.



Scale  
Bowls 1:1  
Marks 2:1

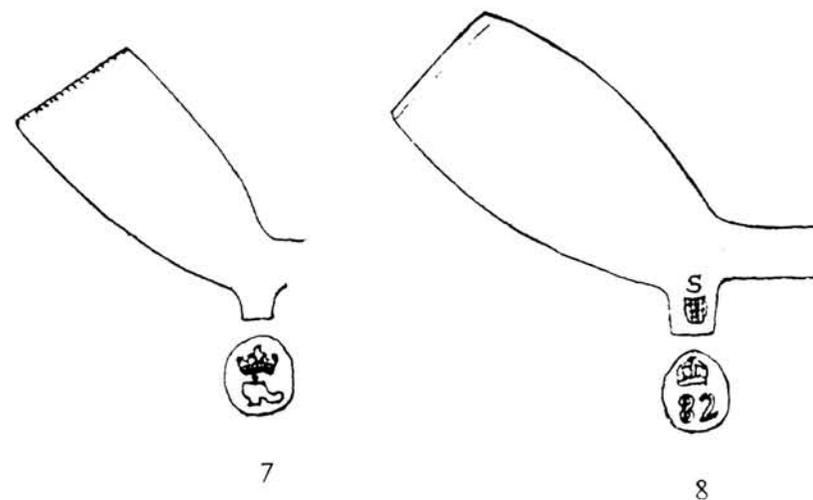
Type C is represented by only one example and appears to be the earliest of the group (Fig. 7). On the base of the small projecting heel is stamped the 'Crowned Shoe' which Larsen dates to c1690-1700.

Fig. 8 shows the standard Dutch type bowl of the second half of the eighteenth century onwards. It has the shield of Gouda on the side of the spur over which is an 'S' for 'slegte' meaning 'ordinary' (as opposed to 'polished') and the mark on the spur base is the 'Crowned 82'. The bowl is interesting, however, because it is not polished and so justifies the S over the shield. I mention this because, despite the Dutch Guild's ruling of 1740 that in future the cheaper, unpolished pipes must not be sold as polished ones (hence the introduction of the letter S) many are found bearing the letter S which are polished. I have not heard any satisfactory explanation of this.

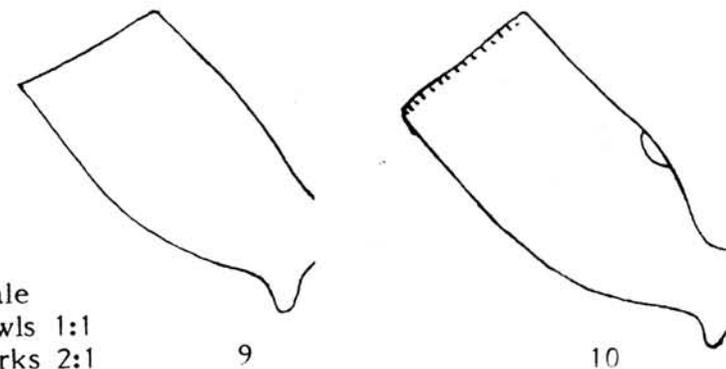
Fig. 9 indicates the local manufacture of pipes in Copenhagen by the mid-eighteenth century as it is a roughly finished, unpolished, over-baked kiln waster.

Fig. 10, which also bears the milkmaid mark, shows a feature of some of these pipes - the funnel-shaped bowl is more cylindrical and has a distinctive inward curve on the back as it nears the stem. For some reason makers placed their mark right on the 'bump' thus created on the back of the bowl - I have other examples showing this peculiar feature from Holland and England.

There are two other bowls similar to Fig. 1, the English type, but these have not been illustrated as they are damaged. The first has what appears to be a 'Dutch' shield surmounted by S each side of the base, is highly polished(!) and on the back of the bowl is part of a three-letter(?) mark of which the lower two, PS, have survived. The other has the back of the bowl missing, on which the mark would have been placed, but has a fairly thick stem around which the 'egg and tooth' type of decoration has been rolled.



Scale  
Bowls 1:1  
Marks 2:1



Apart from a few contemporary English makers such as Richard Sayer of East Woodhay these pipes are all of a far superior standard of production to those made in England at the time. As it appears that the industry in Denmark was in its infancy it is unlikely that such fine pipes could have been produced there. But the influence of the contemporary English style is apparent from the shapes of Figs. 1 and 2. Jans Larsen, in a note to me stated that they were Dutch, c1720, even

if not all (apparently) of Dutch style for the time. I possess no list of registered Dutch makers' marks but presume all these ones can be identified.

From what I have been able to discover there were few attempts to establish a pipemaking industry in Denmark in the second half of the 17th century and in the main imports from Holland dominated the Danish market for smokers. The earliest recorded maker is Claus Bonnichs who began work in 1672 at Christianshaven. In 1747 two Englishmen, Peter Appleby and Salomon (*sic*) Burton began a pipe factory at Christianshaven in Appleby's house, after which the industry steadily grew and flourished, particularly after 1751 when a restriction on the import of foreign pipes was introduced to protect the home trade.<sup>1</sup>

Thus it would appear that all of the pipes illustrated, save Fig. 9, are Dutch, showing that Holland still had the Danish market well into the eighteenth century. Fig. 9 was found by Larsen on a site which was a filled-in lake at Nyropsgade which he was excavating in 1970. Most of the other pipes present were Dutch but this rather crude effort seems to indicate the beginnings of Danish home pipe production in the first few decades of the eighteenth century.

#### Sources of Pipes Illustrated

Fig. 1 Copenhagen & Christianshaven; Fig. 2 Nyropsgade; Fig. 3 Nyropsgade & Christianshaven; Fig. 4 Copenhagen; Fig. 5 Nyropsgade; Fig. 6 Copenhagen; Fig. 7 Nyropsgade; Fig. 8 Copenhagen; Fig. 9 Nyropsgade and Fig. 10 Copenhagen.

#### Reference

1. Linde, P. *A little about clay pipes*, Dansk Kultarhistorich Museums Povering III, Ch. V, p41.

David Atkinson

#### The Brittain Family of Pipemakers

There is growing evidence that the Brittain's (spelt in a variety of ways) were one of the most important pipemaking families in Birmingham and the Black Country from the seventeenth to nineteenth centuries. In 1975 Adrian Oswald<sup>1</sup> noted four makers of this name in Birmingham; Mary 1770-80, Joseph 1800-50, Thomas 1839-50 and one without a recorded christian name in 1770. In addition he recorded James Brittain from 1818-50 in Wednesbury. Since his publication David Barker<sup>2</sup> has noted the following reference in the 1841 census of the potteries; James Brittain, pipemaker, aged ?35, lodging at 17 Paradise Street, born Wednesbury, Staffordshire. This must be another James since, if the age is correct, he would not have been old enough to appear in a directory of 1818. More recently Nigel Melton has been examining the Birmingham trade directories and I am most grateful to him for the following notes from his current research. He notes a Brittain (no christian name) at 6 Hill Street in 1770 and 1774, Dorothy Brittain at Deritend in 1830, Joseph Brittain at Deritend from 1800-53, Thomas Brittain at Jennen's Row or Suffolk Street from 1785-1798 and Mary Brittain at 91 Hill Street from 1777-81. Pigot's directory of Staffordshire for 1829 lists John Brittin (*sic*) at Darlaston Road in Wednesbury, and in 1842 the same directory lists James Brittain at Kings Hill Field in Wednesbury. These references make it clear that various members of the family were active from at least 1770-1853.

Recent work undertaken as part of the National Pipe Stamp Catalogue has been able to extend the date range for this family, and has indicated something of the variety and quality of their work. Much of this information has come from the collection of Mr. Krawiec who has meticulously collected and documented material from the Birmingham area over the last fifteen years. There is one pipe in his collection, and another in Birmingham City Museum, marked THO/BRIT/TIN (Fig. 11). The marks are from different dies and both occur on typical Broseley style bowls

with tailed heels dating from c1680-1730. These marks show that by the end of the seventeenth century a Thomas Brittin was working as a pipemaker in the area.

The most interesting pipes, however, date from the eighteenth century. By this date distinctive local styles of bowl are found in the Birmingham area. Alongside these a John Briton developed an interesting and diverse range of roll stamp decorated stems which have been found in both Birmingham (Figs. 12-15) and at the Hartshorne Inn site in Lichfield (Fig. 16). These consist of his name flanked by borders with geometric or floral motifs. Although decorated stems were being

produced at Leicester, Nottingham, Chester and other centres at this date the Birmingham examples are of a rather different style. They are tentatively dated to the period c1750-90 and suggest that a distinctive school of stem decoration developed in this area during the eighteenth century. The Hartshorne Inn site has also produced a border of similar style marked ?Fletcher which may likewise be a Birmingham area product. These John Briton marks may well have been made by the member of the family recorded by surname only in the directories of 1770-74.

The quality of these marks and the number of recorded pipemakers in the family indicate that they must have been one of the most important manufacturers in the area. Ten or eleven members are known to have been involved in the trade; Dorothy 1830, James I 1818-50, James II 1841, John I c1750-90, John II 1829, Joseph 1800-53, Thomas I c1680-1730, Thomas II 1785-98, Thomas III 1839-50, Mary 1770-81 and one un-named 1770-74. The author would be most interested to hear from anyone who knows of other references to this family or to any other pipes bearing their mark.



11



12



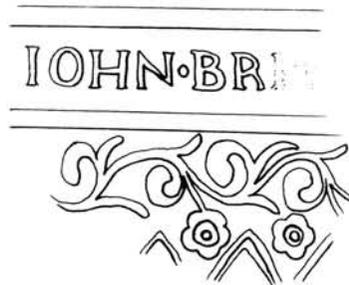
13



14



15



16

Scale 2:1

Briton Roll Stamped Stems

### References

- Oswald, A. (1975) *Clay pipes for the archaeologist*, BAR 14
- Barker, D. (1985) *The Newcastle-under-Lyme clay tobacco pipe industry*, BAR 146(i).

David Higgins

## Peter Piper Packed a Pipe of Perique; Or Tobacco Comes to the Abecedarium

Little did I expect a connection between ABC, or alphabet, books (technically, abecedaria) and my particular research interest, the history of tobacco. But a presentation on British and American illustrated alphabet books, delivered by Mary Huth (Assistant Head of the Department of Rare Books and Special Collections at the University of Rochester Library) at a monthly meeting of the Bibliophile Society of Rochester, proved to be just such a case, and a curious one at that.

ABC books have a long and fascinating history. Prior to the nineteenth century, they were principally a vehicle for religious and moral instruction. By the 1800s, they began to develop into picture books whose chief aim was to amuse children.<sup>1</sup> Peter Piper's Practical Principles of Plain and Perfect Pronunciation, which contains the famous, perhaps even immortal, tongue twister "Peter Piper pick'd a Peck of Pickled Peppers ...", was a precursor to the numerous alphabet books of the 1850s and 1860s. First published by J. Harris in London in 1814, the book's primary purpose was "Principally to Prevent the Pernicious Prevalence of Perverse Pronunciation." Its alliterative verses and delightful woodcuts made it popular among young readers.<sup>2</sup> Carter Andrews and Company in Lancaster, Massachusetts, published the book in this country about 1830.<sup>3</sup>

In addition to the above oft-quoted verse, Ms. Huth read the following:

X Y Z have made my Brains to crack-o,  
X smokes, Y snuffs, and Z chews tobacco,  
Yet oft by X Y Z much learning's taught;  
But Peter Piper beats them all to naught.<sup>4</sup>

The second line had a familiar ring to it. Where had I read those words? Searching through my tobacco library, I quickly found the answer. A distinctive eighteenth century tobacconist sign depicts three hands

sticking out from a single sleeve (Fig. 17): the left hand holds a pinch of snuff on the thumb; the middle hand grasps a clay pipe; and the right hand holds a bunch of tobacco leaves. Printed beneath this image is the following verse:

We three are engaged in one cause;  
I snuffs, I smokes, I chaws.



17

X x Y y Z z



Fig. 18: From the Carter Andrews and Company edition, c1830

Further, the similarities do not end with the printed word. A variation on this sign replaces the three hands with the depiction of a Scotsman, a Dutchman, and a sailor.<sup>5</sup> The woodcut used to illustrate "Xx Yy Zz" in Peter Piper (Fig. 18) depicts the same group. A 1755 tobacco label (Fig. 19) shows, again, three men enjoying stuff ("Rappe"), a pipe, and chewing tobacco ("quid"), except in this instance the consumer of snuff is French, not Scottish.<sup>6</sup>

It is certainly within the bounds of reason to see in this eighteenth century sign (or even the label) the inspiration for one of the Peter Piper verses. Although the book was first published in 1814, it is generally assumed that the verses existed in oral tradition for some time prior to their being set down in print. This would date their origin at least as early as the late eighteenth century, overlapping the period of use for the tobacconist sign (and tobacco label) described above.



## References

1. Levine, Muriel Z. (1970) *The historical development of the ABC book*, M.S., Long Island University.
2. Steinfast, Susan (1976) *The origins and development of the ABC book in English from the Middle Ages through the nineteenth century*, Ph.D., University of Pittsburgh.
3. *Peter Piper's Practical Principles of Plain & Perfect Pronunciation* (1911), LeRoy Phillips, pub., Boston.
4. Ibid.
5. Scott, Amoret & Christopher (1966) *Tobacco and the collector*, London, pp.132-33. The same information is referenced in Fairholt, F.W. (1859) *Tobacco: Its history and associations*, London, pp.134-5, which may well have been the Scott's source of information. Fairholt states that an engraving of the sign appears in a volume entitled *A pinch of snuff*, published anonymously in 1840.
6. 'Tobacco Library' *Fortune* 9(4): 22 April 1934.

Eugene Umberger

## Congratulations

To David and Angela Higgins on the birth of their son, Laurence David John, on 21 November 1988.

## The Clay Pipe Smoking Oyster

Lord George Sanger, the famous showman and circus owner, mentions in his autobiography an unusual use for the clay pipe. His autobiography entitled *Seventy Years a Showman* was first published in 1910. Sanger died in 1911 aged 84.

*"My big hit however was made by my tame oyster. This was quite my own idea, and puzzled and amazed not only the public, but at its start the other showmen, who became quite envious of the novel attraction ... My show was crowded as it had never been seen before ... I'll let you into the secret of the tame oyster that smoked a pipe. I had prepared a fine big oyster shell, the two halves fitting closely together as though it was a nice fresh bivalve. Inside were fixed two little pieces of piping opening to two holes in the lip of the oyster shell. These pipes were connected with two pieces of black rubber tubing that ran down under my conjuring table on the raised platform.*

*I had handy two or three nice fresh oysters that in appearance and size closely matched the dummy shell, which laid on a dark grey cloth, was not visible to the audience. When all was ready I took one of my good oysters, and introducing it as 'The Tame Oyster, the only one in the World!' handed it round, so that the company could see there was no deception. When I got the oyster back I pretended to place it in the grey cloth, but really dropped it at the back of the table, while I pulled forward the prepared shell. This I lifted up onto a black bottle, with the two tubes running well behind out of sight. Then calling attention to the fact that every body*

*could see the oyster, I would get a clay pipe, put some tobacco in it, and then with a request to the oyster: 'Now, sir, let the company see that you really are trained and intelligent by showing how you can smoke a pipe!' I would insert the stem of the pipe into the hole made for it in the shell, call a boy from the audience, give him a spill, and ask him to light the tobacco. As he did so my boy who was concealed under the table, would draw the smoke down one tube and blow it back through the other, so that it really looked as though the oyster was puffing away at his pipe.*

*The trick never failed to amaze as well as amuse, more especially when, as if considering the oyster had smoked enough, I would say: 'That will do sir! You will make your head ache if you smoke too much!' With this I took the pipe away, and threw the corner of the grey cloth over the prepared oyster, at the same moment pulling the latter off the bottle and dropping it, tubes and all, into the drawer at the back of the table while I deftly substituted a real oyster. Then throwing the corner of the cloth back, I would say: 'There he is, ladies and gentlemen! Looks none the worse for his smoke, I think, but see for yourselves!' And the real oyster was handed round again, all believing it to be the one that had just been smoking. They used to go away quite convinced that they had seen an oyster enjoying a smoke and that there was no deception."*

Paul Cannon

## The Clay Pipe Smoking Monkey

After the story of a fake pipe smoking oyster comes one about a real pipe smoking monkey. The *Illustrated London News Supplement* for 18 September 1869 carried a story about a female Andaman monkey called Jenny who, after 'serving' on board HMS Vigilant, had been given to Regent's Park Zoo in London:

*'The face is by no means fierce; the features may even be called good-natured. She has been made a great pet by the sailors. The result is that she has been educated to an extraordinary degree of cleverness. She is fond of company, and her constant companion is a chicken (a regular ship chicken, with hardly any feathers), which lives with her in her cage day and night, and accompanies her in her perambulations. She walks upright on her hind legs with remarkable facility, and with much less effort than even the performing monkeys as seen in the London streets. ... If a soda-water bottle is given to her she will set to work to untwist the wire. This done she will get out the cork, if it be not too tightly fixed, and then drink the contents of the bottle. Her attitude in drinking is something quite new. She sits down on her haunches, holds the bottle with both hands, and tilts the end of it up with her hind foot, so that the liquid shall flow at the proper level into her mouth. In this attitude her appearance is highly comical, and at the same time very interesting. The most extraordinary part of Jenny's performance is that she smokes a pipe. Other monkeys will carry a pipe in their mouth and pretend to smoke, but this is the first monkey that we have ever known actually to smoke lighted tobacco out of a pipe. Other monkeys will drink grog, but Jenny is especially fond of it, and always takes her glass with her pipe, which she enjoys quite as much as Forecastle Jack after he has been reefing topsails.'*



THE ANDAMAN MONKEY AT THE ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY'S GARDENS

## Two Pipemakers From Nonconformist Registers

I have come across the following two references to pipemakers which may be of interest to others.

*'1800 December 24, at the house of William Scott, Alicia Catherine, second daughter of James Nind, pipe maker, Overbury and Sara Nind, daughter of James and Sarah Pynock, Tewkesbury, baptized by James Scott.'*

*'1713 October 9, Margaret, daughter of Chitwinde, poor pipe maker. She was 5 or 6 years old.'*

Both of these baptism entries come from the registers of the Coventry Street Meeting House, Stourbridge, Worcs., and are included in *Sources for Nonconformist Genealogy and Family History* by D.J. Steel (First published 1973; reprinted 1980); published as Volume 2 in the series '*National Index of Parish Registers*' by the Society of Genealogists, p.547 and 550.

Paul Cannon

## A Pugilist Pipemaker

At the beginning of the 18th century James Figg, a champion with the broadsword and at cudgelling, opened a school of arms in London known as Figg's Amphitheatre. His principal challenger at prize fighting was the pipemaker Ned Sutton from Gravesend in Kent. Figg and Sutton met on three occasions and Figg confirmed his right to the title of first champion of the English prize ring by defeating Sutton every time, the last occasion being in c1719. Figg retired undefeated in 1730.<sup>1</sup>

Oswald<sup>2</sup> does not record a pipemaker called Ned Sutton as working in Gravesend during the 17th/18th centuries. However, he notes the following Suttons at Gravesend:

Edward Sutton 1723 - 1737  
Richard Sutton 1699 - 1731.

## References

1. Golesworthy, M. (1983) *Encyclopaedia of Boxing*, 7th edition, Robert Hale, London.
2. Oswald, A. (1975) *Clay pipes for the archaeologist*, BAR 14.

Reg Jackson

## Sale of Pipes From HMS Invincible

On 10 March 1988 Christie's of South Kensington, London, held a sale of artefacts recovered from the wreck of HMS Invincible which sank in the Solent in 1758. Members may be interested in the prices fetched by the clay pipes. As you will see, they were remarkably high:

Lot 248	A clay pipe, complete 5 $\frac{3}{4}$ in. long	£160
Lot 249	A 'church warden' clay pipe, the stem in three pieces 10 $\frac{3}{4}$ in. long	£190
Lot 249A	Two clay pipe bowls	£90

£90 for two clay pipe bowls!!

Colin Tatman

## Quakers' Purchase in New Jersey, U.S.A.

In the summer of 1677 two hundred and thirty members of the Society of Friends (Quakers), mostly from Yorkshire and London, sailed from England to the American Colonies, there to establish a settlement in the region of New Jersey. On the banks of the Delaware River they built a town named Burlington.

Although the Friends had legally acquired their lands from the recognised English proprietors, they always, on arrival, 'bought' them from the original owners - the Indians - and by so doing retained their goodwill. A tract of land extending twenty miles along the banks of the river was 'bought' from the Indians for the following articles:-

*30 match-coats, 20 guns, 30 kettles, and one great one, 30 pair hose, 20 fathom of duffields, 30 petticoats, 30 narrow hoes, 30 bars of lead, 15 barrels of powder, 70 knives, 30 Indian axes, 70 combs, 60 pair tobacco tongs, 60 scissors, 69 tinshaw looking-glasses, 120 awl-blades, 120 fish hooks, 2 grasps of red paint, 120 needles, 60 tobacco boxes, 120 pipes, 200 bells, 100 Jew's harps, 6 anchors rum.*

I wonder where the pipes were bought, London or Yorkshire?

### Reference

Emmott, Elizabeth Braithwaite (1923) *A short history of Quakerism*, Swarthmore Press, London, p.273.

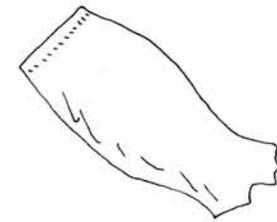
Ron Dagnall

## An Early Clay Pipe?

Excavations were carried out at the remains of Burscough Priory, Lancashire under the direction of a Mr. James Bromley in 1886 and a published report of his findings<sup>1</sup> included one drawing of a clay pipe (Fig. 21) with the following note:-

*'Pipe head of white clay. Hundreds of broken pipes were found below the layers of roof-flags and stained glass formed at the destruction of the Priory, indicating their use before tobacco was known in England. It is probable that dried coltsfoot was smoked in these pipes. I have a collection of ancient pipes, found by Mr. James Dixon, in Ormskirk Churchyard and on the lands of Chapel House, Ormskirk - two miles from the Priory.'*

The Priory, founded in 1124 was pulled down at the Dissolution c1536 and the Earl of Derby in his Will of 1572 speaks of 'the whole as utterly demolished'.



21

Fig. 21 would appear to illustrate a late 17th century pipe, which calls into question the reliability of Mr. Bromley's observations. Burscough Priory lies only 7 miles north west of Rainford but I have no parallel local find for a bowl of this shape.

### Reference

1. Bromley, J. (1889) 'Burscough Priory', *Transactions Historic Society of Lancashire & Cheshire*, Vol. 41.

Ron Dagnall

## Pipe News

The *Journal of the Society for Post-Medieval Archaeology*, Vol. 21, 1987 has just been published. It contains some information of interest to pipe researchers which they may not otherwise come across:

An article by Malcolm Atkin entitled 'Post-medieval archaeology in Gloucester: a review' includes a gazetteer of post-medieval finds in the city including:

**Black Dog Yard-Worcester Street** (Inner Relief Road) Site 3/83 (SO 8344 1890)

19th-century clay pipe factory discovered by A.P. Garrod during road works. A manufactory yard was overlain by kiln waste deposits. Pipes stamped RW are assumed to be those of Robert Williams, pipemaker from 1849 to 1866 (report for publication by A.A. Peacey in progress).

**10 Lower Quay Street**, Site 28/79 (SO 8279 1878)

A trench excavated by Allan Peacey uncovered kiln debris and pipes from a 17th-century clay pipe kiln (report in preparation).

**116-148 Westgate Street**, Site 15/73 (SO 8280 1885)

Debris from two 19th-century clay pipe kilns was discovered during rebuilding work. This tenement was recorded as the property of James and William Jenkins, pipemakers, in 1874, and had formerly been within the bounds of 99 Westgate Street.

(Editor's note: a report on the Westgate Street site is contained in Peacey, A. (1979) 'Clay tobacco pipes in Gloucestershire' *CRAAGS Occasional Paper 4*).

The report by G.L. Good entitled 'The excavation of two docks at Narrow Quay, Bristol, 1978-9' illustrates 8 pipes from the fill of Aldworth Dock. They date to the third quarter of the 17th century and were all made in Bristol.

'Post-medieval Britain in 1986' edited by Geoff Egan notes for Barnstaple, North Devon (SS 56133326):

'Excavation by N. Nartowski at Bear St. (Alexandra Rd.) was for N. Devon District Council Archaeology Unit, funded by N.D.D.C. and M.S.C. The Alexandra clay tobacco-pipe works (known from documentary sources to have opened on the site in 1859) was investigated. Although the period of pipe manufacture was short, many examples of the varied forms of the products were recovered'.

(Editor's note: on a recent visit to Barnstaple I was told that a booklet on the Alexandra pipe works and containing details of the excavations was going to press. I will let members know when this is available).

Reg Jackson

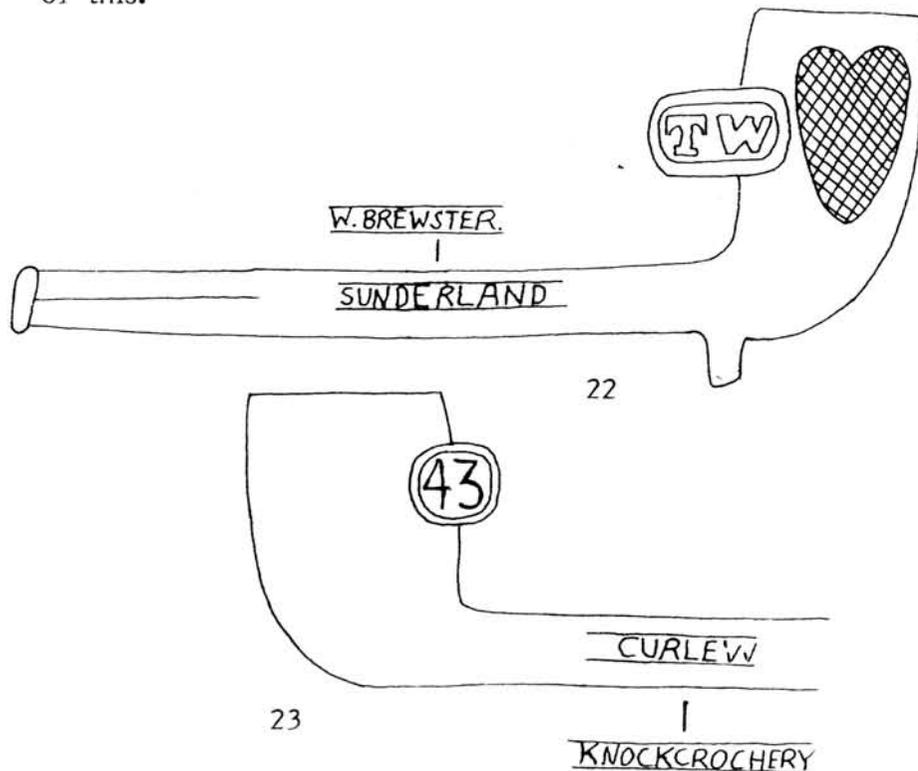


## Points Arising . . .

Philip Swales writes:

I refer to the article by Edward Burns in SCPR 19 concerning clay pipes from refuse dumps in the Glasgow area. Figure 7 in that article suggests that a pipe with the initials TW on it was made by a Scottish firm. Contrary to this, I have a complete pipe with these initials on (but a different design), and the name 'W.BREWSTER.' 'SUNDERLAND' on the stem (Fig. 22).

Figure 17 in the same article suggests that a pipe with the number 43 on the bowl was made by a Glasgow firm. I have an identical pipe which has the slightly worn name ?'CURLEW' 'KNOCKCROGHERY' on the stem (Fig. 23). Knockcroghery is a small central Irish town, and I have heard rumours that the pipe factory has been reopened recently, although I am not certain of this.



## Editors Note:

The pipe illustrated in Fig. 23 is more probably marked 'CURLEY' rather than 'CURLEW'. The Curleys were a pipemaking family who worked in Knockcroghery, Co. Roscommon, during the 19th and into the 20th century. An article on 'Knockcroghery - An Irish Pipemaking Centre' by Joe Norton appeared in SCPR 11.

Regarding the reopening of the pipe factory in Knockcroghery, Joe Norton of Dublin brought me a present of a 'Traditional Irish Clay Pipe - The Knockcroghery Dudeen' when he visited England in 1986. The pipe, which appears to be slip cast, comes with a publicity leaflet stating 'Early in 1985 the manufacture of the Dudeen was revived by myself Anne Lally, at my home, the Mill House Pottery, Knockcroghery. The Dudeens are handcrafted by me today with the same love and care as in the old days'.

## Publications

*'Some clay pipe groups from Cheshire and Merseyside'*  
by D.A. Higgins.

North West Archaeological Trust, Report No. 3, 1987 (ISBN 0 9510204 3 9). 22 pages, 13 figures, Bibliography. Obtainable from the North West Archaeological Trust, 19 Abercromby Square, Liverpool L69 3BX. Price £2.00 but this does not include postage.

To quote from the Preface by P.J. Davey and D.F. Petch:

'This is the second report in what might be termed the North West Archaeological Trust's 'backlog' monograph series. ... These reports have been produced at the request of the excavators of a variety of sites in the region and are from excavations in which the clay pipes were an accidental by-product and not part of a stratified, contemporary sequence. ... The particular

usefulness of this monograph is the inclusion of rare material such as the best group of French imports from the region and groups from geographical areas from which few pipes have previously been published.'

It is good to see an archaeological trust producing a monograph on clay pipes. The pipes came from the following excavations:

- Sandbach, Cheshire, 1981
- Church Lawton, Cheshire, 1982
- Middlewich, Cheshire, 1981
- Tatton, Cheshire, 1979 and 1981
- The Old Academy, Warrington, 1981
- 1 Dale Street, Liverpool
- Bromborough Court House, Merseyside, 1980

'The Martin Clay Pipeworks, Woolwich' by Derek Garrod.  
*Kent Archaeological Review*, Vol.88, pp176-185, 1987.

A pit containing pottery and pipe fragments was uncovered during excavations in Woolwich in 1986. These were dated to the middle of the 19th century. 26 forms of pipes are illustrated ( $\frac{1}{2}$  size) of which 19 are made by Michael Martin.

Information about the Martin family is also included.

#### Registered Design Number 2452

Two pipe designs, numbers 2452 and 2453, were registered by Samuel McLardy on the 25 February 1884. The first was described as 'a normal cutty' which had three lobes inside the bowl to support a plug while the second had a 'nicotine reservoir' formed by a metal cap covering a long tubular spur.

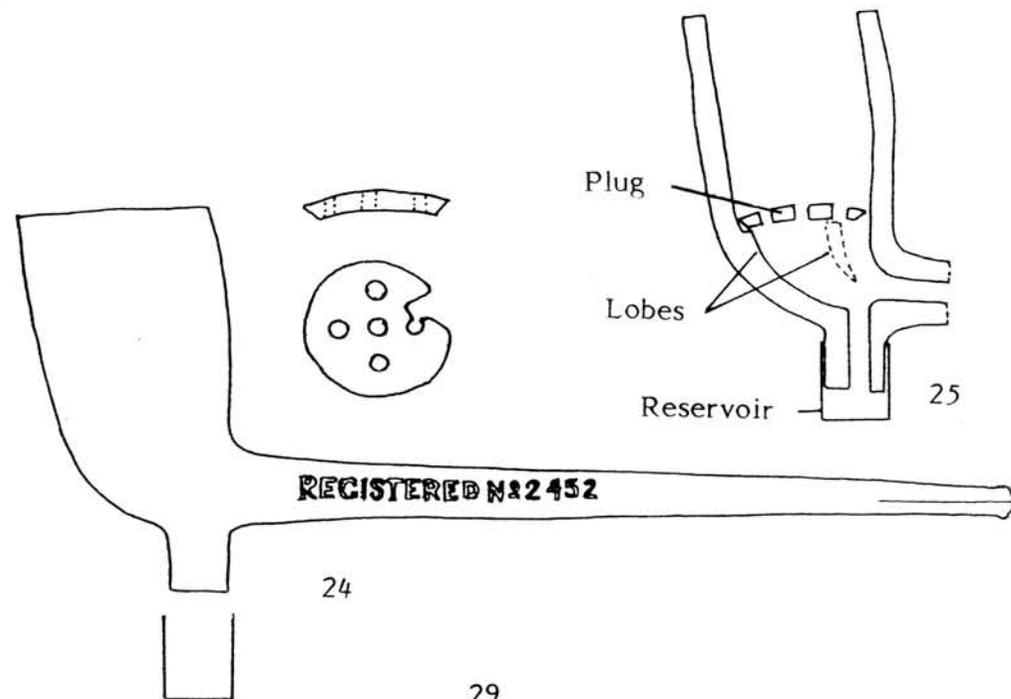
The complete pipe, illustrated in Fig. 24, bears the registration number 2452 but combines both of the designs mentioned above. It may represent 'The Gordon' mentioned by Peter Hammond. The plug is a slightly-domed disc perforated by five holes and is readily removed from the bowl. Its position in the bowl is shown in Fig. 25.

Presumably this type of pipe was slightly more effective in removing harmful substances than the pipes described in 'Points Arising' following Ron Dagnall's original description of five-pronged stoppers.

#### References

1. Hammond, P. (1985) *Registered and patented clay tobacco pipes*. BAR 146(i), pp33-156.
2. Various authors. 'Points Arising' SCPR 5, Jan 1985, pp35, 36. SCPR 6, Apr 1985, p.30.
3. Dagnall, R. (1984) *Four unusual stoppers*. SCPR 4, Oct 1984, p23.

Mick Fordy



## Help!

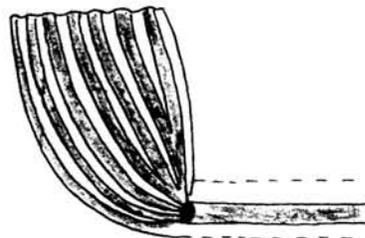
J. van der Meulen of Utrechtse Jaagpad 115, 2314 AT Leiden, The Netherlands, asks:

Who can tell me something substantial about the pipes known as THE WHOLE DAM FAMILY and IT'S A SHAME TO TAKE THE MONEY? These pipes have been made in the Netherlands and in Germany, but may be in England as well? What is the origin and source of these pipes? For what reason were they made? Any information would be gratefully received.

Philip Swales of 21 Morland Avenue, Stonegate, Leicester LE2 2PF has a query regarding an unusual pipe in his collection. He asks whether any members have information on a plain pipe with an upright bowl 19 mm in diameter (Fig. 26). It is unusual in that there are 23 ridges in the manner of ribs on the inside of the bowl (Fig. 27). He feels sure that some patent should have been issued for this, but he has not managed to trace any.



26



27

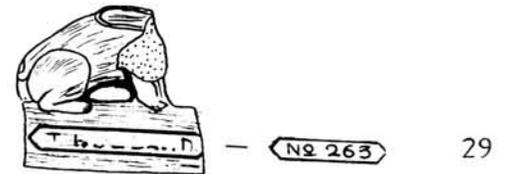
30

Peter Hammond of 81 Ena Avenue, Sneinton Dale, Nottingham NG2 4NA, writes:-

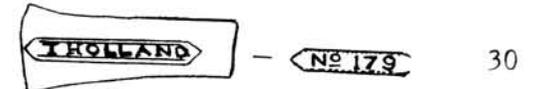
I am attempting to compile details of all known pipes made by Manchester pipemaker Thomas Holland (working 1843 - 1885). He manufactured a wide range of decorative pipes, and usually marked them on the stem with 'T.HOLLAND' and a number on the opposite side. Sometimes, instead of a number the pipes bear the wording 'T.HOLLAND-MAKER' or the name of the actual pipe is given, such as 'RUSSIAN.LANCER'. I have also seen several of his pipes with the name virtually or completely blanked out but usually still bearing the number on the other side. Examples recovered from fields in my own county of Nottinghamshire are shown (Figs. 28 - 31). If anyone suspects they have seen pipes that could be by this maker I would be very pleased to receive full details, preferably with a drawing, and provenance if known.



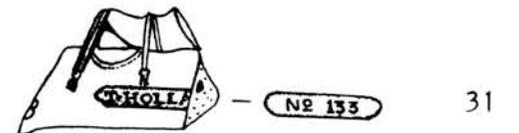
28



29



30



31

31

### **Bibliography of Clay Pipe Publications**

The Bibliography contains approximately 36 pages, A4 size, of information regarding articles, reports and monographs on clay tobacco pipes.

- \* Over 700 entries are listed county by county for England, Ireland, Scotland and Wales, and the Channel Islands.
- \* A list of over 370 locations helps the user find the correct county name since the boundaries were reorganised in 1974.
- \* A General Section lists the most commonly used and/or some of the most useful general publications.
- \* The information includes details of how to obtain the publications and the prices where known - from museums, societies and publishers, or as xeroxes from individuals (addresses for individuals will be obtainable from the Secretary for the SCPR on receipt of a stamped self-addressed envelope).

Publication will be in January/February 1989, and the cost will be not more than £3.00. An order form will be sent with the next Newsletter. In the meantime, enquiries or reservations (enclosing a stamped SAE but no money please) can be sent to Susanne Atkin, 57 Oak Way, Huntley, Gloucester, GL19 3SD.

### **New Members**

Mr. C.G. Addams, P.O. Box HM 219, Sandys MA BX, Bermuda.

Figural pipes.

Mike Baker, 62 Britannia Road, Easton, Bristol.

Tom Beech, 311 Greenwood Drive, Panama City, Florida 32407, USA.

Mr. G. Berlyn, 22 Greenacres, Ludlow, Shropshire SY8 1LU.

Makers of pipes in Shropshire, Herefordshire and adjacent Welsh counties.

Stephen J. Caiger, 72 Lesney Park, Erith, Kent DA8 3DU.

All aspects of clay pipes - collect figurals and complete early English.

Brian Gillam, 'C' Shift BLSS, RAF Lyneham, Chippenham, Wiltshire SN15 4PZ.

French figurals.

Denis Gojak, 6 Napier Street, North Sydney 2060, N.S.W., Australia.

Prof. R. Ian Jack, Dept. of History, University of Sydney, New South Wales, Australia 2006.

British and especially Scottish pipes exported in 19th century.

Mr. T. J. Robertson, Kingston Lodge, 65 Shakespeare Road, Acton, London W3 6SB.

Philip Swales, 21 Morland Avenue, Stoneygate, Leicester LE2 2PF.

#### Change of Address

Lloyd Edwards, 1 Moffat Avenue, Jarrow NE32 4HW.

Compiled by Mick Fordy

A Catalogue of Clay Tobacco Pipe Stamps Found in England.	
David Higgins. . . . .	p.19,18 Apr 1988
A Jacobite Pipe?	
Richard Le Cheminant . . . . .	p.9,17 Jan 1988
A Pugilist Pipemaker.	
Reg Jackson. . . . .	p.20,20 Oct 1988
A Sussex Pipemaker and His Kiln and Shops.	
David Atkinson . . . . .	p.1,17 Jan 1988
A Use for Broken Pipe Stems.	
Karen Parker . . . . .	p.12,17 Jan 1988
An Early Clay Pipe?	
Ron Dagnall. . . . .	p.23,20 Oct 1988
Another Edwin Southorn Token.	
Peter Hammond. . . . .	p.18,17 Jan 1988
Apprentice Tobacco Pipemakers.	
Peter Hammond. . . . .	p.13,19 Jul 1988
Clay Tobacco Pipe Fragments from the Forth & Clyde Canal Footpath at Possil Loch.	
Edward Burns . . . . .	p.13,18 Apr 1988
Clay Tobacco Pipes From Old Refuse Coups in the Glasgow Area.	
Edward Burns . . . . .	p.16,19 Jul 1988
*TW pipes & Curley, Knockcroghery, pipes.	
Philip Swales. . . . .	p.26,20 Oct 1988
Edward Keevil: Some Further Information.	
Joe Norton . . . . .	p.13,17 Jan 1988
Eton Pipemakers.	
Eric Ayto. . . . .	p.2,18 Apr 1988
Facsimiles of Pipe Catalogues.	
Reg Jackson. . . . .	p.28,19 Jul 1988
*Gloucestershire Pipes.	
Allan Peacey . . . . .	p.21,17 Jan 1988
(see D. Atkinson. . . . .	p.18,16 Oct 1987)
Help:-Acume & Ambre Pipe. . . . .	p.25,17 Jan 1988
Help:-Armorial Pipe . . . . .	p.33,18 Apr 1988
Help:-Greenwood/Lower Nags Headp. . . . .	p.34,18 Apr 1988
Help:-Internal ribs in bowl . . . . .	p.30,20 Oct 1988
Help:-Land League Pipe. . . . .	p.35,19 Jul 1988
Help:-Museums List. . . . .	p.35,19 Jul 1988
Help:-? PipeMaker London. . . . .	p.35,19 Jul 1988

Help:-Pipes of T.Holland of Manchester  
 p.31,20 Oct 1988

Help:-Reynolds Pipes. . . . .p.34,19 Jul 1988

Help:-17/18th Century Pipe. . .p.32,18 Apr 1988

Help:-The Whole Dam Family & It's A Shame To  
 Take The Money. Origins?.p.30,20 Oct 1988

Help:-Underwater Pipe . . . . .p.34,18 Apr 1988

Help:-Williams, London. . . . .p.25,17 Jan 1988

\*Insects on Pipes.  
 Martin Kugler. . . . .p.21,17 Jan 1988  
 (see L.T.Alexander p.38,15 Jul 1987)

\*Insurance Registers.  
 Adrian Oswald. . . . .p.22,17 Jan 1988  
 (see M.Fordy & P.Hammond p.25,16 Oct 1987)

\*J.Cleever Pipes.  
 Pauline Swales . . . . .p.22,17 Jan 1988  
 (see P.Poirier . . .p.40,16 Oct 1987)

Leaving for America.  
 Robert Moore . . . . .p.12,18 Apr 1988

More Pipemakers From the Sun Fire Insurance  
 Policy Registers 1793-1813.  
 Reg Jackson. . . . .p.2,19 Jul 1988

Newspaper Cutting.  
 David Atkinson . . . . .p.35,18 Apr 1988

Notes for Researchers in the Tobacco  
 Pipemaking Industry.  
 John Andrews . . . . .p.17,18 Apr 1988

Nottingham Conference.  
 Reg & Philomena Jackson. . . . .p.1,20 Oct 1988

Peter Piper Packed a Pipe of Perique;  
 Or Tobacco Comes to the Abecedarium.  
 Eugene Umberger . . . . .p.12,20 Oct 1988

Pipemakers and Bristol-Glazed Stoneware:  
 George Priest of Cardiff.  
 Philip & Dorothy Brown . . . . .p.6,17 Jan 1988

Pipemaker's Sideline.  
 Ron Dagnell. . . . .p.22,18 Apr 1988

Pipes Made By Eric Ayto.  
 Reg Jackson. . . . .p.27,19 Jul 1988

Quaker's Purchase in New Jersey, U.S.A.  
 Ron Dagnall. . . . .p.22,20 Oct 1988

Registered Design Number 2452.  
 Mick Fordy . . . . .p.28,20 Oct 1988

Sale of Pipes From HMS Invincible.  
 Colin Tatman . . . . .p.21,20 Oct 1988

Slip-Ware Pipes.  
 Eric Ayto. . . . .p.19,17 Jan 1988

Smoking Pipe Conference, Rochester, New York  
 (1989). . . . .p.30,19 Jul 1988

Some Eighteenth Century Pipes From Denmark.  
 David Atkinson . . . . .p.4,20 Oct 1988

'Song Pipes'.  
 David Higgins. . . . .p.6,19 Jul 1988

The Assortment of Arend Van Dijk, Pipemaker  
 in Gouda, Holland.  
 Don Duco . . . . .p.24,18 Apr 1988

The Brittain Family of Pipemakers.  
 David Higgins. . . . .p.9,20 Oct 1988

The Clay Pipe Smoking Monkey.  
 David Higgins. . . . .p.19,20 Oct 1988

The Clay Pipe Smoking Oyster.  
 Paul Cannon. . . . .p.16,20 Oct 1988

The Earliest Montreal-Glasgow Pipe Connection.  
 Robin H.Smith. . . . .p.21,18 Apr 1988

The Interpretation and Regional Study of  
 Clay Tobacco Pipes: a Case Study of the  
 Broseley District.  
 Peter Davey. . . . .p.30,18 Apr 1988

The Versatile Clay Pipe.  
 Eric Ayto. . . . .p.11,19 Jul 1988

Two Pipemakers From Nonconformist Registers.  
 Paul Cannon. . . . .p.20,20 Oct 1988

Unusual Pipes.  
 Peter Hammond. . . . .p.25,19 Jul 1988

Women 'Gum-Bucketeers' in the 1850s.  
 David Higgins. . . . .p.17,17 Jan 1988

Wooden Tobacco Pipe from Poole, Dorset.  
 Derek Markell. . . . .p.16,17 Jan 1988

-\*-

Author Index - Issues 17-20

- Andrews, John  
 Notes for Researchers in the Tobacco  
 Pipemaking Industry . . . . .p.17,18 Apr 1988
- Atkinson, David  
 A Sussex Pipemaker and His Kiln and Shops.  
 p.1,17 Jan 1988  
 " Newspaper Cutting . . . . .p.35,18 Apr 1988  
 " Some Eighteenth Century Pipes From Denmark.  
 p.4,20 Oct 1988
- Ayto, Eric  
 Slip-Ware Pipes . . . . .p.19,17 Jan 1988  
 " Eton Pipemakers . . . . .p.2,18 Apr 1988  
 " The Versatile Clay Pipe . . .p.11,19 Jul 1988
- Brown, Philip & Dorothy  
 Pipemakers and Bristol-Glazed Stoneware:  
 George Priest of Cardiff. . . p.6,17 Jan 1988
- Burns, Edward  
 Clay Tobacco Pipe Fragments from the Forth  
 & Clyde Canal Footpath at Possil Loch.  
 p.13,18 Apr 1988  
 " Clay Tobacco Pipes From Old Refuse Coups in  
 the Glasgow Area. . . . .p.16,19 Jul 1988
- Cannon, Paul  
 The Clay Pipe Smoking Oyster.p.16,20 Oct 1988  
 " Two Pipemakers From Nonconformist Registers.  
 p.20,20 Oct 1988
- Le Cheminant, Richard  
 A Jacobite Pipe? . . . . .p.9,17 Jan 1988
- Dagnell, Ron  
 Pipemaker's Sideline. . . . .p.22,18 Apr 1988  
 " Quaker's Purchase in New Jersey, U.S.A.  
 p.22,20 Oct 1988  
 " An Early Clay Pipe? . . . . .p.23,20 Oct 1988
- Davey, Peter  
 The Interpretation and Regional Study of  
 Clay Tobacco Pipes: a Case Study of the  
 Broseley District . . . . .p.30,18 Apr 1988
- Duco, Don  
 The Assortment of Arend Van Dijk, Pipemaker  
 in Gouda, Holland . . . . .p.24,18 Apr 1988

- Fordy, Mick  
 Registered Design Number 2452  
 p.28,20 Oct 1988
- Hammond, Peter  
 Another Edwin Southorn Token.  
 p.18,17 Jan 1988  
 " Apprentice Tobacco Pipemakers.  
 p.13,19 Jul 1988  
 " Unusual Pipes. . . . .p.25,19 Jul 1988
- Higgins, David  
 Women 'Gum-Bucketeers' in the 1850s.  
 p.17,17 Jan 1988  
 " A Catalogue of Clay Tobacco Pipe Stamps Found  
 in England. . . . .p.19,18 Apr 1988  
 " 'Song Pipes' . . . . .p.6,19 Jul 1988  
 " The Brittain Family of Pipemakers.  
 p.9,20 Oct 1988  
 " The Clay Pipe Smoking Monkey.p.19,20 Oct 1988
- Jackson, Reg  
 More Pipemakers From the Sun Fire Insurance  
 Policy Registers 1793-1813 . .p.2,19 Jul 1988  
 " Pipes Made By Eric Ayto. . . p.27,19 Jul 1988  
 " Facsimiles of Pipe Catalogues.  
 p.28,19 Jul 1988  
 " A Pugilist Pipemaker . . . . .p.20,20 Oct 1988
- Jackson, Reg & Philomena  
 Nottingham Conference. . . . .p.1,20 Oct 1988
- Kugler, Martin  
 \*Insects on Pipes. . . . .p.21,17 Jan 1988  
 (see p.38,15 Jul 1987)
- Markell, Derek  
 Wooden Tobacco Pipe from Poole, Dorset.  
 p.16,17 Jan 1988
- Moore, Robert  
 Leaving for America. . . . .p.12,18 Apr 1988
- Norton, Joe  
 Edward Keevil: Some Further Information.  
 p.13,17 Jan 1988
- Oswald, Adrian  
 \*Insurance Registers. . . . .p.22,17 Jan 1988  
 (see p.25,16 Oct 1987)

Parker, Karen  
 A Use for Broken Pipe Stems .p.12,17 Jan 1988

Peacey, Allan  
 \*Gloucestershire Pipes. . . .p.21,17 Jan 1988  
 (see p.18,16 Oct 1987)

Smith, Robin H.  
 The Earliest Montreal - Glasgow Pipe  
 Connection. . . . .p.21,18 Apr 1988

Swales, Pauline  
 \*J.Cleever Pipes. . . . .p.22,17 Jan 1988  
 (see p.40,16 Oct 1987)

Swales, Philip  
 \*TW pipes & Curley, Knockcroghery, pipes.  
 p.26,20 Oct 1988

Tatman, Colin  
 Sale of Pipes From HMS Invincible.  
 p.21,20 Oct 1988

Umberger, Eugene  
 Peter Piper Packed a Pipe of Perique;  
 Or Tobacco Comes to the Abecedarium.  
 p.12,20 Oct 1988

-\*-