

## Annual Report to 31 October 2016

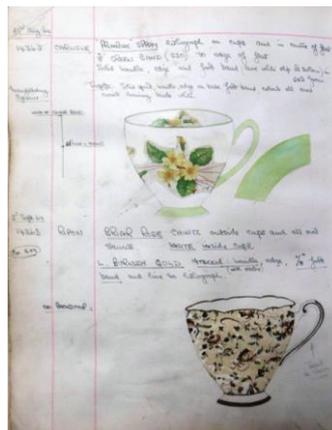
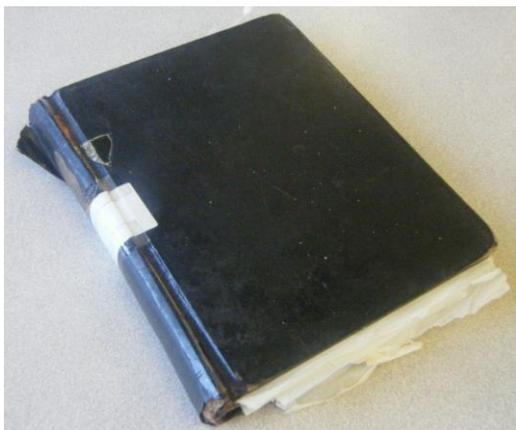
**The Shelley Group** was formed in 1986 and became a registered charity, number 1097547, in 2003. The object of the Group is the public education and promotion of the production of Wileman and Shelley Potteries; a collectors club with research and educational aims. Open to collectors, academics, researchers, institutions and enthusiasts worldwide it is self-funding and has a membership of 224 with strong ties to sister clubs in America, Australia and New Zealand. Approximately 25% of members are from overseas. Governance is conducted by a board of trustees voted in by the members. A full annual report is no longer required by the Charity Commission.

**2015-16 saw regional** meetings in the north, east and south of the country and the annual Shelley Group Weekend meeting was held at the Holiday Inn, Telford in April. This attracted 76 members, of which 19 visited from America, Australia and Canada. Audio-visual presentations on Shelley and Wileman products and history were given by members, accompanied by four glass cabinets of ceramics. We were delighted to have Harvey Pettit and Robert Senft give an after dinner talk on staging, with Chris Watkins, the 1980 travelling Shelley Exhibition and publishing their Shelley Potteries book. One UK Group member attended the annual American Shelley conference in Charleston.

**Four excellent magazines** were published during the year. Research and data gathering was conducted by members, contributing to the magazines, Shelley Weekend talks and web site. Knowledge gained is made available to members and the public, the latter generally via the Group's web site which is updated on a regular basis. Queries received are answered by the Research Officer.

**The Shelley Group** again gave a charitable award to a student undertaking the 'Master of Arts Ceramic Design' course, at the University of Staffordshire, Stoke on Trent. A £500 cheque was presented to Rachel Hoyle, who will graduate in 2017 and it is expected that The Group will make a similar award to another student in that year. Two previous award students have graduated and are working with ceramics.

A key event in the year was the long awaited open access to the Shelley pattern books, housed in the Stoke on Trent City Archives. The 32 known books were made available for research with the agreement of the Stoke Archives, The Group has undertaken to make a complete digital record of the pattern books and taking and processing the photographs is a long ongoing task. This Group archive will be an invaluable source of information on the pottery's production, available to members and the public.



Registered office: 'Kingsleigh', 4 Ashlyn's Road, Frinton-on-Sea, Essex, CO13 9ED  
Registered Charity number 1097547 *web site:* [www.shelley.co.uk](http://www.shelley.co.uk)

Trustees: Gerry Pearce (Chairman), Sheila Aves, John Barter, David Cox, Christopher Davenport, Brian Hill, Ian Davies, Sheila Davies, David Deller, Shirley Deller, Linda Ellis, Carole Lockyer, Bruce Till, Elaine Whittaker.