

Académie Internationale de la Pipe



Newsletter No. 6 - December 2010

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1. Introduction

This Newsletter is, for lack of other contributions, nearly entirely dedicated to the recent, well-attended and successful, AIP-conference in Grasse. However we keep soliciting members to supply news items for future Newsletters.

2. News from the Board

26th Conference in Grasse

The theme “North and South”:- Tobacco Pipe Research and Collecting in the Western Mediterranean and their northern European connections- proved to be an interesting and informative subject. A wide range of papers underlined the reciprocal influences of models and processes. The handling-session of selected pipes from the “Alice de Rothschild Collection” was undoubtedly a highlight.

The Board owes Monsieur Yves Cruchet and his staff of the “Bibliothèque Municipale de Grasse” a great debt of gratitude for their assistance in organizing the Conference. In particular, the indefatigable supply of trays with pipes, and their active participation, during the “handling session” merits special mention.

A word of thanks also goes to Angéline Vinciguerra for arranging the local housekeeping including the partner’s programme.

In the meantime the Board has agreed to publish the proceedings of the conference, including a number of papers on the Rothschild Collection in cooperation with Grasse Library, in Volume 4 of the Journal (Autumn 2011).

Membership

It is with great pleasure that we announce the application and acceptance of the following new members:

Kath Adams
UK
Collector of Clays, Meerschaums and others.

Bert Adams
UK
Collector of Clays and Porcelains

Michal Morawski
Poland
Collector of Meerschaums, Porcelains and Woods

We were delighted to welcome them in Grasse where they played an active role both in the social as well as the subject-matter gatherings.

On the request of some members we attach (see attachment I) an AIP-member E-mail-

list. This list will not be published on the web-site because it is strictly meant for members only in order to facilitate mutual communication.

3. Subscription 2010

We remind some members that their contributions have not been received as yet. In this context we note that only members having paid their subscription will receive the Journal.

4. Journal

Volume 2 (for 2009) of the Journal went to press just before the Grasse conference where page proofs were on display. It is expected to be delivered in mid-December and distributed to members just before Christmas. The volume represents a massive step forward for the Academy in that it consists of almost 200 pages in full colour and brings to publication a wide range of research activity being carried out by our members.

The core of the volume consists of 19 national summaries of the clay pipe industry which have been written and assembled by the clay pipe working group. These range widely around the world from Canada to Australia and from Japan to Ireland. They provide a unique entry point for anyone wishing to know the state of clay pipe research in those countries. There are also papers by Gilles Kleiber on pipes used as a medium for advertising, by Hakon Kierulf on the Norwegian long pipe tradition, by André Leclair on ceramic cuvetts used as ember pots for lighting and relighting pipes, by Arjan de Haan on an 18th century Dutch clay cheroot holder and by Peter Davey on an original c1920 pattern book for briar pipes used by the Civic Company of London.

Volume 3 (for 2010) is largely the proceedings of the Budapest conference and is almost ready to be set for publication in the New Year.

The editor and his team put in an enormous amount of work on this key element of the Academy's activity on which its reputation very much depends. They are to be sincerely thanked and warmly congratulated.

5. The new website (www.pipeacademy.org) - A message from the President

The site has been active for 6 months. Its original design was basic - only the most obvious and available subjects were covered. The time has now come to develop the site in order to make full use of its potential for creating a showcase for the work of the Academy to the wider world. There is extensive scope for publishing information, primary material, notes and news over the whole field of pipe studies.

One suggestion I have is that instead of having one page devoted to the working groups we dedicate a single page to any bona fide pipe related subject and ask for volunteers to draft structure, text and illustrations for the page. Where working groups already exist they can decide how best to do this, but for other subject areas volunteers will be needed and sought!

If you have any ideas about the development of the website or are prepared to volunteer assistance with it, please get in touch with me at: pjd1@liv.ac.uk.

6. Report of 27th AIP-conference in Grasse/France, 3-5th November 2010

A. "North and South": Tobacco Pipe Research and Collecting in the Western Mediterranean and their northern European connections.

November 4th, Morning at the “Palais des Congrès”

Peter Davey, President of the Académie, welcomed the guests and members, in particular those attending for the first time, and subsequently opened the conference.

Next a series of highly interesting and revealing presentations were read (for abstracts see attachment II):

SESSION 1: The Alice de Rothschild Collection

- The Pipe Collection of Alice, Baroness de Rothschild, *Peter Davey, Michel Garreau, André Leclair and Felix van Tienhoven*
- Porcelaine pipe production in Paris, *André Leclair*
- A freemasonry pipe in the Rothschild Collection and Hungarian parallels, *Anna Ridovics*
- Four Meerschaum pipe Iconographies, *AIP Working Group Meerschaum, presented by Hakon Kierulf*

November 4th, Afternoon at “Bibliothèque Municipale”

SESSION 1 (Continued)

Full afternoon study session. Handling, determination and photographing of pre-selected pipes from the Collection. This was an extremely interesting and rewarding event.

An informal dinner in a local restaurant brought this most interesting day to a close.

November 5th, Morning at the “Palais des Congrès”

SESSION 2 : Regional pipe studies

- Local pipe production and export in Provence and Languedoc between the 17th and 19th Centuries from written, archival and archaeological sources, *Lucy Vallauri, Université de Provence-CNRS*
- A collection of pipes from La Ciotat (Marseille) and some discoveries in Nice, *Véronique Abel, Institut National de Recherches Archéologiques Préventives, Marseille.*
- Ceramic pipes found in Barcelona: production and trade from the 16th to 18th Century. *Julia Beltrán de Heredia, Nuria Miró, Mikel Soberón (Museo Historia de Barcelona).*

WORKING GROUP MEETINGS

The last part of the morning had been reserved for working group meetings. The following plenary discussion centred on “the future of working groups”. It was generally felt that the present set-up along material-structure lines only needed to be reconsidered, with the possible exception of the “clay-group”. Therefore it was suggested forming working-groups based on themes across materials. This proved to be in line with the conclusion of the meerschaum working-group which had decided to change its current form of working and, through a questionnaire, to determine “Themes”.

Ruud Stam presented a paper relating to the future of clay pipe research outlining the many areas which still deserve attention. (Attachment III).

Peter Davey rounded the discussion off with the conclusion that we henceforth should concentrate on:

- themes
- internet (forum)

November 5th, Afternoon at the “Palais des Congrès”

SESSION 3: Symposium on the WM stamped pipes in England and Italy.

- Pipe finds from the site of the 18th Century Manifattura Tabacchi, Fondamenta della Penitenti, Cannaregio, Venice. *Albert Halmos.*

- William Manby II, clay pipe-maker of Limehouse, London (1719-63). *Jacqui Pearce, Museum of London. (read by Susie White)*
- Deciphering the letters-the problem of the WM Mark. *David Higgins*
- The phenomenon of numbered initials at St Quentin and other French pipe production centres. *André Leclair.*

SESSION 4: North and South; East and West.

- Morelli and the Tophane pipe. *Arjan de Haan (work in progress!)*
- Southern European elements in Gambier's products and design. *Arthur van Esveld. (read by Arjan de Haan)*
- The mass production of briar pipes: an entente cordiale? *Peter Davey.*

In his closing words Peter Davey looked back at the two very interesting and rewarding days and thanked speakers as well as participants for making this such a successful conference.

B. Annual General Meeting at the “Palais des Congrès, Grasse, France , 5th November 2010

Present: 27 members; Apologies: 10

a) Opening remarks

Peter Davey briefly reviewed the state of affairs for the 2009/10 period and formally introduced the following new members: Kath and Bert Adams (UK), Andrew Yoshihiro Aoba (Japan), Arthur van Esveld (Netherlands), Albert Halmos (Germany), Masayuki Handa (Japan) and Jan Kwint (Netherlands), who were subsequently duly elected.

b) Reports from Officers

1) Finance (Dennis Gallagher)

A summary statement of the financial activities for the year ending 31 December 2009 and a provisional statement of the position for the current year at 28 October 2010 were presented (Attachment IV). A GBP 5000 donation pertaining to 2010 was in the pipe-line but not included in the data yet.

Our financial situation remained healthy but a better balance between income from subscriptions and publications, and current expenditure required attention.

2) Publications (David Higgins)

An overview of the current status of the Journals 2 (Country summaries) and 3 (Budapest-papers) was given. It was expected that Journal 2 would be distributed before Christmas and Journal 3 in Spring 2011.

Ruud Stam asked whether new country-summaries would be included when they become available in Journal 3 or 4. The answer was in the affirmative.

Furthermore he mentioned the desirability of publishing “an index”. René Delon offered to contribute an index he had written to the French titles of articles in the Pipe Yearbook (he has since done so). The Board would consider whether a full index was realizable and if so when.

3) Web-site (Susie White)

The new office-equipment was running fine. Therefore the web-site could gradually be further improved.

4) Membership (Felix van Tienhoven)

In the beginning of 2009 340 circular letters were sent out to individual researchers, collectors and pipe-clubs in the context of a membership-drive.

Museums, research-institutes etc. were left out on purpose at that stage because we had no ‘product’ to

show them. He believed that after the publication of Journals 1 and 2 the time would be appropriate to approach them as well.

We repeat the request to members to let us know of anyone who they think might be interested becoming a member and who could make a real contribution to the future of the Academy.

5) Preparation 27th Conference (Divna Gacic, Anna Ridovics and Peter Davey)

Divna had already distributed a nicely designed “Welcome”-folder and elaborated briefly on the venue. The theme of the conference will be ‘Turks in Europe’ and dwell on Turkish pipes, their production and workshops outside present Turkey. (see section 5 for further details).

c) The Contemporary Briar Pipe as an Art Form (Peter Davey)

Although this subject is very important, in particular in view of the growing ‘new generation’ of pipe-smokers and collectors, the Academy has not been able to muster sufficient keen interest amongst the current membership to carry the project forward. Unfortunately the Board itself can not cope with the required research due to its limited resources. Therefore much to its regret the project has been placed ‘on hold’ in the hope that in the near future it can be infused new life.

d) Resolutions.

1) The Annual Report and the Accounts for 2009 were unanimously approved.

2) The election of the Board for 2010/11, proposed by John Adler and seconded by Sharkey Peckus was approved and therefore will be:

- Peter Davey (Chairman)
- Felix van Tienhoven (General Secretary)
- Dennis Gallagher (Treasurer)
- David Higgins (Editor)
- Anna Ridovics (Member)

3) An increase of the subscription-rate to € 35 per annum (and an equivalent rate in Sterling- at present GBP 30), to take effect in 2011, proposed by Arjan de Haan and seconded by Sharkey Peckus, was approved

4) No other business came to the meeting and the Chairman closed thanking the members for their support.

The day, and conference, ended with a gala-dinner at the “Palais des Congrès” attended by the Mayor of Grasse, his Deputy and the staff of the “Bibliothèque Municipale”. Speeches by the mayor and Peter Davey highlighted the importance of the “Alice, Baroness de Rothschild Collection”, its future and the role of Grasse in this respect being more than just the “Perfume-city”. The evening was a worthy closing of the memorable AIP-conference in Grasse.

By the way, your reporter did learn from reliable sources that, greatly thanks to Angéline, the partners’ program was also a success.

7. Preliminary information 27th AIP Conference in Novi Sad/Serbia, 5-8 October 2010

At the kind invitation of the City Museum of Novi Sad, our 2011 conference will be held in Novi Sad, capital city of Vojvodina in Serbia .The City Museum is located in Petrovaradin Fortress. The conference will focus on “Turks in Europe”- Turkish pipes, their production and workshops. For the occasion a special exhibition of pipes from Serbian collections will be organized.

Furthermore an interesting partners' programme visiting the rich cultural-heritage monuments in the vicinity has been drafted.

Members willing to present a paper are invited to contact Peter Davey (pjd1@liv.ac.uk), Anna Ridovics (anna.ridovics@gmail.com) or Divna Gacic (divnag@sbb.rs) with the title and a brief summary of what they like to offer.

A detailed programme and joining instructions will be circulated to members early in the Spring.

In view of rate-negotiations with the hotel etc., we would appreciate receiving preliminary bookings (admin@pipeacademy.org) in order to get the earliest possible idea of the likely approximate number of participants.

8. Notes and Queries

Giovanni Bastianini, Florence

The following enquiry was recently received from Professor Anita Moskowitz from Stony Brook University, New York:-

I am an art historian working on a nineteenth-century Italian sculptor whose name is Giovanni Bastianini (1830-1868). He produced numerous neo-Renaissance sculptures in terracotta and marble as well as works in a contemporary mid-19th-century style. In addition, he designed various types of household objects/furnishings, such as fire places. There is a reference in an early study (R. Becker, *Die Benivieni-Bueste des Giovanni Bastianini* (Schriften des Wissenschaftl. Veriens zu Breslau), Breslau, 1889, p. 38), to a clay pipe he made and it is described as follows: "a clay pipe, which had the form of a coal pan used in Florence; in front of it sits a naked lad who blows on the cinders and extends his arm as though to warm himself." There are no images and the object itself is lost. I wondered if such designs were common or unusual. Has anyone ever come across a pipe with the motif described for Bastianini's pipe. Was there a pipe manufactory in Florence in the 1860s? Could this have been a single example made by one individual for a private commission or for his own pleasure rather than a design for a pipe factory?

If anyone can help Professor Moskowitz can they please contact Susie (admin@pipeacademy.org) who will pass any information on.