



## Report from the July Council Meeting

The ABPC Council met in July at the Sheffield Assay Office. The meeting covered several areas of concern and interest but mostly focussed on two areas of future projects:

**Apprenticeships** - there was a wide discussion on how best to support the industry in terms of future apprenticeship programmes and initiatives that the ABPC might be able to help to manage. There was potential to find finance (with the support of the Worshipful Company of Pewterers).

It was agreed that the time was ripe to explore this area but that there would be many challenges of different company requirements and geographical locations. The meeting agreed that initial work and costings would be carried out which in turn would be fed back into the Worshipful Company. The Worshipful Company would then be in a position to design, and advise the ABPC of, the practical support that it could give to the trade.

David Pinder agreed to take on the initial research task; and report back to the next meeting of Council.

**Future membership** - the Council fully supported a proposal that the ABPC should look to increase its membership amongst the individual designer / maker community and thereby improve the services that the ABPC could offer to such members. Funds were allocated from ABPC reserves with additional matching support from the WCoP to assist the secretary in actioning this plan.

**State of Testing etc.** - no new updates on Testing or Regulations were reported to Council.

**ITRI: code of conduct and responsible tin sourcing issues** - Jonathan Rickwood [jonathan.rickwood@itri.co.uk](mailto:jonathan.rickwood@itri.co.uk) made a presentation to Council. See also his article below.

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## Website

Readers of this Newsletter will be aware that last year the Council launched a revamped website (<http://www.britishpewter.co.uk>). This is intended to benefit you, the members; and our 'new' secretary, Lou Mott ([info@wharnccliffebookkeeping.co.uk](mailto:info@wharnccliffebookkeeping.co.uk)), would therefore welcome all constructive criticism of the site and suggestions for improvement.

Back copies of most of the Newsletters are available on the site; as are lists of the benefits the various categories of members can expect to obtain from their membership. The new site has a FAQs page; and again, comments very welcome for improvement and addition.

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# Responsible Tin Supply

Jonathan Rickwood, Materials Stewardship Officer at ITRI writes about the organisation's ongoing attempts to help industry avoid conflict financing in the tin trade.

ITRI – the tin industry association - has launched the Responsible Tin Supply Group (RTS); it has also pioneered the iTSCi due diligence programme, aimed at helping industry avoid conflict financing via mineral trade. It is compiling a global standard 'Code of Conduct' for the upstream supply chain to implement.

The RTS group was officially launched at the Investing in Tin Seminar in London on 1<sup>st</sup> June this year.

RTS was launched in response to increasing pressure over the sourcing of raw materials, particularly around whether they are being sourced from socially and environmentally positive origins. Some existing issues have been exacerbated by misinformation and high end user sourcing arrangements. Legislation such as the Dodd-Frank Act and multiple surveys, checks and audits are also providing challenges.

To address these issues, ITRI believes that an industry co-ordinated approach will be the most effective in providing solutions. Focus topics of the RTS will be: developments in the Wa region of Myanmar; co-operation with key companies and stakeholders in Indonesia; ways of improving gathering and reporting of tin recovery and recycling statistics; and ideas on how to manage the new EU regulation for importers of mineral, metal and chemicals.

ITRI sees RTS as a platform providing enhanced information exchange and understanding between upstream and downstream tin sectors. It will also enable early identification of emerging issues of key importance and responsible tin supply. More information can be found on the [Responsible Tin Supply](#) group website.

**Jonathan Rickwood**

ITRI: <https://www.itri.co.uk>

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## ABPC Commercial Prize at Pewter Live 2017

Pewter Live is held annually at the Worshipful Company of Pewterers' Hall in the City. It started out as a second year college students' design competition, but has evolved and some years ago it added an open competition, attracting entries from many designers and workers in pewter.

While Pewter Live was first and foremost a design competition, the Association of British Pewter Craftsmen proposed the institution of a Commercial Prize. The objectives of the ABPC's prize, now in its fourth year, are:

- to encourage entrants to think, in addition to their creative design, of the commercial reality of the marketplace; and
- to encourage the design of a piece or pieces that a pewter manufacturer wants to acquire the rights to in order to make and sell it into the marketplace.

## THE ABPC COMMERCIAL PRIZE

### Sarah Shelton-Palmer

Truro College

IRIDESCENT CAPTURED IN PEWTER



Winner

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Items can, at one end, be aimed at the luxury market; and at the other at the mass market. Different considerations of 'commerciality' would apply, and 'commercial' means different things to different people. Basically, 'commercial' to me means 'intended to make a profit'; and probably 'intended for the mass market, or a wide, popular market.

Sam Williams, of AE Williams, Birmingham, is a member of the ABPC Council, and also on the

panel of Pewter Live judges. He was asked by the ABPC Council to judge the entries for the ABPC's 'Commercial Prize'.

We asked Sam about his views on this year's standard of entries, the innovation shown and the winner chosen by him. Sam said: "

The Commercial Prize winner (getting a cheque for £250) was Sarah Shelton-Palmer from Truro College, whose 'Iridescent' (see photo above) also won Third Prize in the 'Jewellery and Fashion' category of the student competition. She also gained a 'Commended' for another of her entries - *Succulents in Pewter* in the same category.

Pewter Live 2017: [http://www.pewterers.org.uk/pewter\\_live/pewterlive2017.html](http://www.pewterers.org.uk/pewter_live/pewterlive2017.html)

[The Pewterer](#)

[Antique Metalware Society](#)

[The Association of British Pewter Craftsmen](#)

[The Worshipful Company of Pewterers](#)

[Pewter Bank](#)

### *The Pewterer*

[Pewter Live. 2017](#)

Have you read *The Pewterer*? This is an e-zine devoted to pewter, and published in support of pewter and the pewter trade.

[www.thepewterer.org.uk](http://www.thepewterer.org.uk)

[The Pewter Society](#)

[ITRI](#)

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