

ABPC Newsletter

Volume 11, Number 2

The Association of British Pewter Craftsmen

May, 2017

Pewter Live 2017



This year, students from eight Universities and Colleges are entering Pewter Live; and the constantly-expanding 'open competition' has 24 entries.

For the first time, other Livery Companies have been welcome to enter the open competition; and for the fourth year running the Association of British Pewter Craftsmen are putting up £250 for a 'Commercial' Prize. The objective of this prize is, each year, to reward the entrant with - in the judge's view - the most commercial reality. This year the judges for this prize will be led by Sam Williams of AE Williams of Birmingham.

Richard Abdy, Chairman of ABPC, said: We have been very impressed, over the first three years of our Prize, at the initiative and inventiveness of the entries. Some of them have gone into production, and that is, after all, our main goal - to encourage students to think commercially alongside their creativeness. We think that there will be exciting possibilities this year to expand on previous success given that the ABPC prize is now firmly established as part of Pewter Live."

Pewter Live's new Chairman, Laila Zollinger, said: "The challenge we have set this year is to produce an object, or range of objects, that would compliment a contemporary lifestyle, made of mixed materials, with at least 50% being constructed of pewter."



Richard Abdy, ABPC Chairman



New Pewter Live Chairman, Laila Zollinger

She expects that other media might include glass, wood, plastic, horn, leather, fabric, another metal, stone or perhaps, paper,. "The object could be for a domestic or office environment, it could be for personal adornment, either as a fashion accessory or jewellery, possibly a piece of furniture. The use might be for marine, architectural, horticultural or even agricultural applications. The criteria for judging include the quality, originality, suitability for purpose and marketability of each piece. That magical unquantifiable extra that catches the imagination is likely to sway the judges too."

Laila Zollinger said that Pewter Live also provides members of the ABPC with the opportunity to work closely with participating colleges, universities and professional designers by arranging for them to visit pewter manufacturers to learn about the traditional processes and techniques

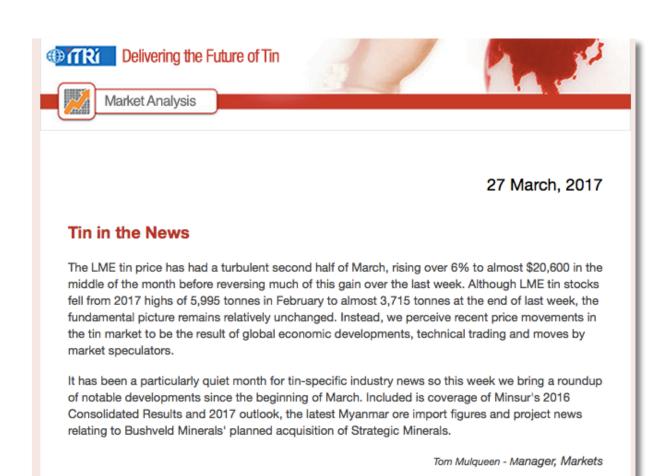
involved in working with pewter. "Over the past few years", she said, "well over 30 new pewter products have been brought to the market as a direct result of the competition."

Alan Williams

Pewter Live takes place at Pewterers' Hall in Oat Lane in the City in May. The public open day is Wednesday 24th May between 10.00 and 12.00 and 14.30 and 17.30.

http://www.pewterers.org.uk/pewter_live/pewterlive2017.html

http://britishpewter.com/component/content/article/2-uncategorised/21-abpc-commercial-prize



For more information about ITRI, please contact their main website - https://www.itri.co.uk

Update on User Agreements and on Membership

New subscription rates were agreed, at the Council meeting in March, for the current subscription year, that of 2017. The new rates are calculated based on company turnover (associated with pewter only, for companies that trade in several areas). This replaces the previous system, one that was based on tonnage of pewter used, and follows feedback from members and potential new members that a much simpler (and potentially fairer) system would be preferred as and when membership rates fell to be reviewed.

The new rates were circulated to members in April; and membership invoices for the following year will be issued on return, alongside those invoices the new User Agreement will also be issued.

Approved by Council this document will require signing and returning to the new Secretary, Louise Mott. As already described (see Volume 11.1) the new agreement covers the use of the Seahorse and other trade marks, members' touch marks, and the standards that members are required to work to. The new agreements replace any previous agreements and are also intended to allow the ABPC to police and maintain standards better.

If on receipt of the new agreements, members have any questions or concerns about them, the Chairman, <u>Richard Abdy</u>, and the new Secretary, <u>Louise Mott</u>, will be happy to address them as promptly as possible.

Contact!

Please note that Lou Mott's, the new Secretary's, contact details are as follows:

Postal address: ABPC, PO Box 5889, Sheffield Yorkshire, S36 6XP

Email: louise@britishpewter.co.uk

Telephone: 07776 236925 (but note that reception is, currently, poor at the office)

And please do not forget the ABPC's new website: do visit it and let us have your comments: www.britishpewter.co.uk How can we improve it still further for your benefit?

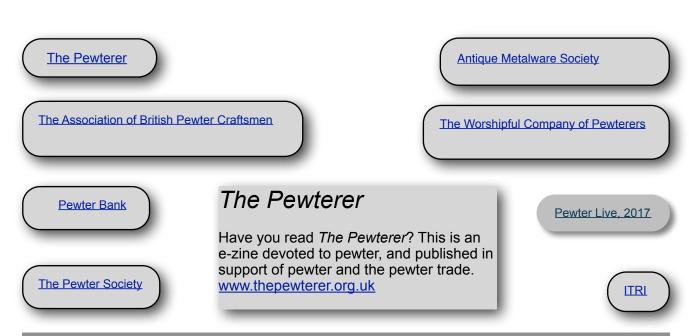
The next ABPC Council Meeting

The Secretary has given notice that the next Council Meeting will be on Wednesday the 12th July, at 10am at the Sheffield Assay Office. The address of the Office is: Guardians Hall, 2 Beulah Rd, Sheffield S6. Phone: 0114 231 2121.

Any ABPC member interested is welcome to attend, but please give at least two (2) days' notice for administrative purposes. A buffet lunch will be available following the meeting.

European Pewter Union

Please note that the EPU meeting, proposed to be held in The Netherlands this month, has been postponed until a date to be settled in 2018.



Editor: Alan Williams. Published by The Association of British Pewter Craftsmen, PO Box 5889, Sheffield, Yorkshire, S36 6XP

Copyright: ABPC, May 2017

Opinions expressed in this Journal are those of the several authors and not necessarily those of the editor or publisher.