



Lesley Durbin working on Poole Pottery's restoration of the Quay site's panels.

Poole Pottery news

Poole Pottery protects archives in preparation for building work

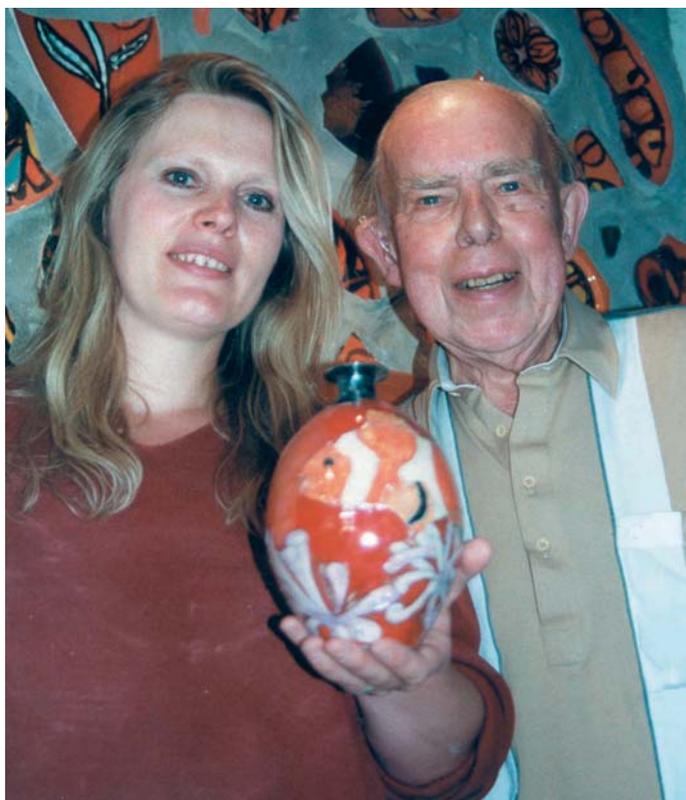
Poole Pottery has commenced restoration work on the various tile panels and architectural faience which exist at the company's 130 year old Quay site. In anticipation of construction work which should commence this winter, the management has made a significant investment into ensuring all the site's archives are protected and restored before work starts on the site.

Lesley and Michael Durbin from The Jackfield Conservation Studio in Ironbridge have been commissioned to undertake the prestigious work. Based at Jackfield Tile Museum, the Studio was chosen by Pottery Managing Director, Peter Mills, for their extensive experience in this field, having worked on projects for the Houses of Parliament, Royal Courts of Justice, and the High Court in Toronto, Canada.

Peter Mills is keen to preserve the various tile panels which scatter the Pottery's site on Poole Quay. He says, "These artefacts are an important part of the Pottery's heritage and it is vital that we protect, preserve and restore them. They will be placed into the new site here on the Quay in their original condition, and possibly in the new factory on Cabot Lane. They will certainly not be sold or given away. We are extremely proud of them and they play an important part in the Pottery's history."

Twelve panels, including the relatively new D-Day memorial panel from the Quay front, are being removed and reinstated. Taken from various parts of the current site, both externally and internally, many of the pieces date back to the early 1900s. The oldest piece is believed to be the Carters lustre panel which is situated at the rear of the building. It is considered the first experimental lustre work by Owen Carter, one of the company's founders.

Lesley Durbin from The Jackfield Studio is pleased to be involved with the project. She says, "This is the preliminary phase of the preservation and re-instatement of Poole's important works. The world of ceramics will be very glad to see the careful preservation that these panels are undergoing. It is a painstaking process but one which is a pleasure to undertake."



Lise B Moorcroft with her father Walter Moorcroft, joins Poole Pottery to produce a series of one-off pieces and limited edition ranges.

Lise Moorcroft joins Poole Pottery to produce exclusive designs

The Grand-daughter of William Moorcroft, the creator of the famous Moorcroft potteries, has joined Poole Pottery to produce a series of one-off pieces and limited edition ranges as part of the company's 'Living Glaze' giftware designs.

Lise B Moorcroft, daughter of Walter, who was the essence of Moorcroft for more than half a century, has enjoyed success in the ceramic industry and has recently seen her work exhibited at the Victoria & Albert Museum in London. Poole Pottery invited Lise to join their design team to create a small range of pieces under her signature.

The youngest of four daughters who grew up surrounded by the world of pottery, Lise was the only one to pursue a career in the business and unwittingly found herself enjoying the ceramic aspect of a foundation course in art. She says, "At 22 years old I had to start right at the bottom, building up my own name with my own skills and techniques. I didn't go into the Moorcroft pottery but followed my own route into the business and I now undertake all my own production processes, from throwing on the wheel, to designing, decorating and glazing."

On working with Poole Pottery, Lise continues, "I was really excited when I heard from Poole which has got such a professional and dynamic name in the industry. My style of working already utilises many of the techniques which are fundamental to the company's Living Glaze ranges so I feel at home with the processes. I find working on their famous giant chargers particularly challenging and I'm pleased with the results so far."

Lise B Moorcroft's work, in association with Poole, will be available to retailers and collectors alike. Images already produced include tubelined lilies and fish which are both synonymous with Lise's style and Poole's typical themes.