

Transferware Collectors Club
A Tour to England including the Newark Antiques Fair
June 2nd - 9th, 2026



Here are some of the exciting activities planned for June 4th and 5th!

THIS TOUR NOW HAS THE REQUIRED NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS AND IS CONFIRMED. IT CAN ONLY ACCEPT 4 MORE REGISTRANTS. DON'T WAIT!

[Register Now!](#)

Thursday June 4th

NEWARK ANTIQUES FAIR

We begin the day at the Newark Antiques Fair, one of the largest in all of Europe! From 9:30-3:00 you will join fellow travelers to shop for transferware and other treasures! Then, we will depart for Stoke-on-Trent. In the evening, we'll enjoy a lecture by Dr. Richard Halliday.



Friday, June 5th

STOKE-ON-TRENT

Morning:

Middleport Pottery

We'll start with a hearty breakfast, we have a jam-packed day ahead of us!



We begin with a special guided visit at Middleport Pottery, located by the Trent and Mersey Canal, operated by Burgess Dorling & Leigh. It is the oldest working pottery in Staffordshire, and continues a tradition of producing fine quality, printed English earthenware products using the same traditional methods as in the 1880s. Activities include:

- A private factory tour (1 hour), where we will see how each piece of Burleigh ware goes through 25 pairs of hands – from a lump of clay to a finished piece of pottery
- A self-guided tour (30 minutes) to see
 - the historic bottle kiln and Europe's largest collection of moulds
 - the 'Victorian Offices,' which exhibits Burleigh ware of the past.
 - 'The Duchess' steam engine and the 1950s Lodge Keeper's House, located across the road on Harper Street.
- A visit to the Burleigh factory shop, featuring a wide selection of the best quality and seconds pottery.
- Buffet lunch served on Burleigh dinnerware at the Packing House Café at Middleport Pottery, with views of the Trent and Mersey canal.



Afternoon:

Duchess China Factory

This afternoon we will continue to the hamlet of Longport for a visit to two potteries. First, we



will visit Duchess China 1888 Ltd., which has been manufacturing classically designed handmade ranges of fine bone china for more than 135 years. In addition to a factory tour, we will see a demonstration by master hand painter Lee Price.



Gladstone Pottery Museum

Then we walk next door to Gladstone Pottery Museum. Following a cup of tea and biscuit, we



will enjoy a guided tour of the museum. Here we will view some of the few bottle oven kilns that have survived in the UK. A pottery factory first opened on the site in 1787 and made earthenware and decorated plates and dishes produced by Josiah Wedgwood in Etruria. The factory opened as a museum in 1974.



Evening:

Keele Hall and the Raven Mason Collection



Enjoy a special evening at Keele Hall, the ancestral home of the Sneyd family now located on the campus of Keele University. We will be welcomed by Deb Skinner, Development Officer of the Raven Mason Collection. Deb will provide an introduction to Keele Hall and give a tour and handling session of the collection of Staffordshire ceramics made by the Mason family, famous for their ironstone china. A catered

dinner will follow in the Sneyd Room.

The Raven Mason Collection represents the heyday of the Staffordshire ceramics industry in the first half of the 19th century known for making a range of ceramic items from smart tea wares to prestigious decorative items. Transfer-printing technology played a crucial part in the success of the renowned and elaborately decorated Mason's Patent Ironstone China.



Register Now!