Publication of a new book entitled:

The Art Potteries of Swadlincote Derbyshire.

ISBN 978-0-9540613-3-3

This, the first work to be co-written by David Ash and Pat Paling, is now available to purchase. The book deals with the history and products of the only two ‘Victorian’ art potteries ever to exist in Swadlincote, Derbyshire. They were William Ault’s Faience Works and The Palissy Pottery Co Ltd both situated in Midland Road. The section dealing with William Ault’s works includes an investigation into the influence of the contribution to this pottery’s success by Dr Christopher Dresser, the eminent designer.

Ault’s pottery is known the world over and is regarded by many art pottery collectors as the Bretby Art Pottery’s main rival and equal. Palissy, on the other hand, is hardly known at all and yet it too produced some pieces which ‘artistically’ speaking were just as good as both of the above potteries.

David has been studying and researching the potteries of South Derbyshire for over twenty-five years now and has amassed an enormous archive of photographs and relevant material from trade magazines, trade directories and other publications on which much of this text has been based. He has published three previous works on the subject of local potteries and these are:


Pat has, for many years, originally with her late husband Frank and now with her daughter Melanie, been a keen collector of anything ‘local’ particularly if it was made of pottery. Her interest remains undiminished! This book is the result of many years of research by both parties, the majority spent in either searching for these hard to find items for our own collections or locating and taking photographs of other collector’s pieces so that we can do justice to the quality and diversity of work produced in the immediate area.

The book is A5 in format and has laminated covers, it is printed on a fine quality paper throughout. For the first-time factory marks for both manufacturers are shown and in total the book has 176 pages including 59 colour illustrations and 22 black and white illustrations.

This work will be published in strictly limited numbers; the price of the book is £15.00 inclusive of p & p and can be ordered from:

David Ash Publishing, 165 Station Street, Castle Gresley, Swadlincote. DE11 9JY. e-mail mdash165@sky.com or by telephone on 01283 212390.

Cheques payable to ‘David Ash Publishing’ please.