

Editorial

I am late with this issue of *The Pewterer*, for which I apologise. My intention was to publish at the end of February; and now we are at the end of March - and I am in Paris, which goes a little way towards explaining the delay.

The leaves are more than just showing on the trees, the pavement cafés are suddenly, almost overnight, in full swing. I seem to have swapped Brexit for the *gilets jaunes* and for industrial action by the French Border Force.

What has all this to do with pewter? Well, there is a lot of it here; and there will be a number of articles, to follow, on French pewter (well, at least, on pewter in France). For instance, I have already found here lots of pewter bar tops - or are they zinc? Also, plenty of antique shops displaying pewter ware of a varying types and styles.

For this issue, we have some interesting articles on some diverse (non-French) subjects:

The creation of a (pewter) swan; Peter Wildash's efforts to get the record straight over Ken Graves' Touchmark; a voyage into Norwegian pewter; a travelling, pewter of course, font, (or was it a tureen?) now residing at Backler's Hard; and a wandering piece of Brazilian pewter ware, taking us back to Gregory Somers in Tiradentes, Minas Gerais, Brazil!

For the next issue: finally, the article on Lords Mayor and pewter; a look at some 'hidden' pewter, inherited or found in the attic; and lots of (French) pewter, from bar tops to trinkets!

By the time you read this, this year's ABPC AGM and Conference will already have taken place. Held this year in Sheffield, it promises, from this side of the weekend, to be full of interesting talks and visits. The choice of the date of 29th March (otherwise known as 'Brexit Day') for the first day of the Conference might have been better chosen. As it turns out, the bigger impediment to travel for the overseas visitors to the Conference, and certainly for your editor, may be industrial action by the French Border Force.

I will tell you all about it in the next issue, which will also carry a full report on the weekend.

In the meantime, I hope you enjoy the spread we have laid out for you in this issue!

Alan Williams
Paris, March, 2019