

Clay pipe working group

The summaries project

The group was formed at the Copenhagen Conference in 2004. At Bergerac in 2005 it was agreed that an appropriate long-term project for the Academy would be to try to produce a summary of clay pipe production and consumption for each country. The summary would consist of a 1,000-word text overview for that country, together with a short bibliography and an indication of where the main collections can be seen. The summaries would also be illustrated with photographs and drawings of the major pipe types as well as tables and diagrams to explain the nature of production, consumption and trade. They would provide a preliminary introduction only and would not impinge on the long-term researches of any members of the Academy or others.

After Bergerac, a sample study was produced for Scotland and since then nineteen complete summaries were received: Argentina, Australia, Belgium, Bohemia, Canada, Denmark, England, France, Germany, Hungary, Ireland, Japan, Malta, Netherlands, Norway, Scotland, Sweden, Switzerland and the USA. These texts have now been published in Volume 2 of the *Journal of the Académie Internationale de la Pipe* (Pages 1 to 148) which appeared at the end of 2010. Members and scholars in a number of other countries are preparing further texts which will be published in future volumes of the Journal.

In the event it proved quite a challenge to provide a succinct, authoritative statement about a single country. The differences between those countries that were both producers and consumers, those that only imported pipes from north-west Europe and those that had their own traditions which are overlain by foreign importation, have become only too evident.

If any reader of this page would be interested in producing a national summary, please get in touch with Ruud Stam at: r.d.stam@minlnv.nl

The social history of pipes and pipe making

At the Budapest conference in 2009 it was felt that social history and in particular the living and working conditions of the pipe makers, irrespective of the material they were working in, would be an interesting theme for a future conference and/or for the new AIP journal. Anyone who would like to contribute to this research objective, please contact Ruud Stam at: r.d.stam@minlnv.nl