

The Shelley Group Annual Weekend

Celebrating our 40th Anniversary

24th – 26th April 2026

Programme for Delegates

Throughout the Weekend

We are celebrating 40 years since The Shelley Group's founding in 1986 with a display of photographs depicting Group events and members over the years, including past Exhibitions. The early non-digitised newsletters, other paper materials from the Group's archives, and also the Pattern/Scrapbooks owned by the Group will be removed from the Museum Archives for delegates to browse, throughout the weekend. We will also have notebooks from the Shelley factory and other artefacts from the manufacturing process. Please feel free to bring your own paper ephemera and photographs to share too

The Reynolds Suite

Friday

9.30 AM

OPTIONAL EXCURSION TO MIDDLEPORT FACTORY (“BURLEIGH”)– TRANSPORT BY CAR SHARING AND AT OWN COST. Tours of the factory have to be booked in advance (cost £12) and the last tour on Friday is 10.30. Charlotte Rhead did a lot of work for the factory, and no doubt some of her designs will be featured in their small museum. There is lots to see including the nearby workshop studio of Alex Allday, who received a bursary from The Shelley Group, and the Burslem Pottery producing bird grotesques with more than a nod of inspiration from the Martin brothers.

This is not included in the annual weekend booking and you need to let Ruth know ASAP if you want to go on the Pottery tour and need or can help with transport.

2:00 pm onwards	Check in at Hotel reception
3:00 pm onwards	Items for display to The Reynolds Suite and/or Pritchard Suite
6:00 - 6:30 pm	<u>REGISTRATION AND OFFICIAL START OF THE WEEKEND</u> The Reynolds foyer
6:30 - 7:45 pm	Dinner Olive Tree Restaurant
8:00 - 10:00 pm	Social Event The Reynolds Suite Olwen's Quiz

Saturday**Breakfast****Olive Tree Restaurant**

10.00 am

Chairman's Welcome**The Reynolds Suite**

10.15 am

TALKSSpecials Patterns for Retailers

John Barter

Collecting by Color: Ruby

Carolyn Keating

11.00 am

Tea and Biscuits

The Reynolds Foyer

Opportunity to view Displays

The Reynolds Suite

11.30 am

TALKS**The Reynolds Suite**The History of the Shelley Pottery

Gerry Pearce

Powder Bowls

Olwen Dudgeon

12.30– 2 pm

Saturday Lunch**The Olive Tree Restaurant**

Opportunity to view the Displays

The Reynolds Suite

2.30

TALK**The Reynolds Suite****GUEST SPEAKER: MARK HILL**Curves, Colours & Cool: An Introduction to Mid-Century Modern

Focusing on Scandinavia, Italy, America and Great Britain, this practical and inspirational lecture looks at furniture, ceramics, glass, lighting and metalware, identifies key designs and designers, and the examines the revolutionary design movements they began.

3:30 pm

Tea and Anniversary Cake

The Reynolds Foyer

Opportunity to view Displays

The Reynolds Suite

4 pm

TALK**The Reynolds Suite**Show and Tell: a Guide to the Shelley Pottery exhibits

Chris Davenport

We have to vacate The Reynolds Suite promptly at 5 pm so that hotel staff can set up for the Gala Dinner

6.30 – 7.30 pm	Pre-dinner Drinks and <u>Silent Auction</u>	The Reynolds Foyer
	7:00 p.m. – 7:15 p.m. Buyers settle up with Sellers	
	7:15 p.m. – 7:25 p.m. Sellers settle up with The Shelley Group	
7:30 PM	Gala Dinner	The Reynolds Suite
	<u>Drawing the raffle for the Ray Reynolds Painted Vase</u>	
	Lucky Dip – and a surprise	
<u>Sunday</u>		
Breakfast	Olive Tree Restaurant	
9.00 am	Set Up for the Shelley Marketplace	The Pritchard Suite
	Opportunity to view Displays	The Reynolds Suite
10.00 am	TALKS	The Reynolds Suite
	<u>The Shelley Snake - The Piece that Means the Most to You</u>	John Barter
	<u>Garden Scenes</u> , a series of patterns designed by Eric Slater	Linda Ellis
	<u>Miniatures</u>	Paul Graetz
	<u>Drawing the raffle for Warren Leenert's Painting</u>	
11.00 am	Tea and Biscuits	The Reynolds Foyer
	Opportunity to view Displays	The Reynolds Suite
11:30 am	TALK	The Reynolds Suite
	<u>Frederick Rhead</u> : the influences and inspiration that shaped him and his impact on Shelley and the wider pottery industry	Chris Davenport
12.00	THE SHELLEY MARKET and opportunity to sell and buy OR swop and gift	The Pritchard Suite
	Final Opportunity to view Displays	The Reynolds Suite
1:00 – 2.15 pm	Sunday Lunch	The Olive Tree Restaurant

2.15 onwards	Display dismount	The Reynolds Suite
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For those booked in overnight on Sunday

Optional excursions may be arranged if there is any interest from delegates, by car sharing and at own cost. Please note that attractions which charge admission fees generally close at 4 p.m. on Sundays, but it will be possible to wander around Ironbridge.

6.30 pm	Drinks in the foyer bar
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7.30 pm	Dinner	The Olive Tree Restaurant
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Monday

Breakfast and check out

Delegates are invited to give feedback on the Annual Weekend and suggestions for next year to any committee member or to events@shelley.co.uk

Instructions for setting up times for various activities

The Shelley Group Annual Weekend 2026

Additional Timetable Items

Please note set up times for the various activities

Friday, 24th April 2026

02:00 p.m. onwards Room check-in at hotel reception

03:00 p.m. onwards **Display** items to **The Reynolds Suite**
Co-Ordinators:

Saturday, 25th April 2026

06:15 pm **Silent Auction** items to the Reynolds Foyer
Co-ordinators – Chris Davenport & Linda Ellis

Sunday, 26th April 2026

9 am Set Up for **The Shelley Market Place**
Items to **The Pritchard Suite**
Co-ordinator

9.45– 10.00 am Set up for **The Shelley Snake** –
Items to **The Reynolds Suite**
Co-ordinators – John Barter and Linda Ellis

02:15 pm onwards **Display** Demount – **The Reynolds Suite**
Co-ordinators – John Barter and ??