

The Canterbury Potter

Newsletter of Canterbury Potters' Association

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FROM THE PRESIDENT

Happy New Year! And what a year that was!

Nothing starts the new year quite like a working bee. Thanks to help from members on Saturday the 21st we collectively filed many of the books gifted to the club in the preceding year including our copy of Chester Nealie's 'Etched in Fire' (enjoy but please do not remove). The rooms were thoroughly cleaned and ordered in preparation for the start of classes. Trees were trimmed and much rubbish removed. Speaking of which, we have changed our rubbish collection service to the City Council (from Mastagard). I was assured (nebulously) by the Christchurch City Council representative I spoke to that we would receive our complement of bins very "soon". Please apply usual household rules concerning placing the appropriate detritus in the rubbish, recycle or green bins ☺

We have a new oven! It's not wired in yet but it's sitting in the kitchen looking very new. Scally Electrical have been asked to install it, which I anticipate will be done in the next few days.

In addition to our regular ensemble of events there will be a few changes this year concerning invoicing and clay ordering. Our auditors were explicit regarding the details they require for auditing purposes so we have signed up to the Xero accounting software which has helped simplify things for our very dedicated Treasurer. There will be changes regarding how receipts are filled in and how clay is paid for... watch this space!

I am very pleased to announce a new weekend class to be given by Andrew Carran on Saturday mornings who indicates that his class would involve amongst other things, hand building and decorating techniques for beginners in term 1, wheel basics in term 2-4. Projects development for experienced potters. Glaze and glazing for everyone. "No experience required."

Subscriptions are due on 01 April and our annual auction is not long afterwards, 15 March at 7 pm. We have received some generous bequests to auction.

Immediate Past President Ngarita Wight has put together a table of key dates for CPA events which is posted in the club rooms. It will be updated as required and shows the year's events at a glance.

Well, as the Two Ronnie used to say, "Its goodnight from me", "And its good night from him!"
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-eZpHphhgpo> or as Arnold Schwarzenegger said, "I'll be back!"

Darren Saunders, Your President (and clay slave)



Are you an exhibiting potter? Have you been to an interesting workshop? Seen a great exhibition or have some other interesting tidbit that you'd like to share? Something to sell, or wanting to buy something? Have you read a great (pottery-related) book or seen something interesting online? We'd love to hear about it!

We put out our club newsletter four times a year, and would greatly appreciate any contributions from our members. Contact Lorraine Bonisch lorraine.bonisch@gmail.com or a committee member. And don't forget photos.

NEWS

NEW BIN SYSTEM

Look out for the new rubbish bins due to arrive any day. They are the same as the ones you have at home, so there should be no confusion about where to put rubbish.

WOODEN PALLETS – HELP YOURSELF

There are some wooden pallets down the side of the clubrooms. If you have a use for these – for firewood or a recycling project – please help yourself to save us the cost of dumping them.

GET ONLINE AND CHECK THESE OUT . . .

Don't forget our Facebook page and members-only group. (On Facebook request to access this.) It's a great forum for questions, advice or swapping materials.

Here's an interesting website and blog to check out if you are looking for pottery tips and inspiration.

<http://www.potterymakinginfo.com/news/23-pottery-tips-reading-pottery-blogs/>

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!

We welcome Bridget Anderson, Judith Clement, Janet Fallow, Ann Goldfarb, Jan Robertson, Paula Smulders, SoonMay Travers, and Richard Lovett. And a warm welcome back to Julia Mead.

AVICE HILL CRAFT DAY

Just a reminder that the City Council has decided there will be no Avice Hill Craft Fair this year.

WORKSHOPS FOR 2017

Your committee hopes to organise workshops in during the breaks from classes in April and June, in addition to the Exhibition Selector's workshop in October. As always, we are interested to hear your workshop ideas, or if you, or someone you know would like to take one.

CLUB NIGHTS/HAVE-A-GO SESSIONS

If any members have ideas on techniques or topics they would like to share with other club members, our Events Co-ordinator, Jane McCulla, is coordinating "have a go sessions" once a month on our Wednesday club nights. Jane would be happy to help you organize and promote your session.

WORK/LIVE: BIRDLINGS FLAT

Studio/Workshop (60 m2) and 2 BR cottage for rent. Ideal for artist/artisan/woodworker. Workshop insulated, with heat pump, running water, work benches, extensive shelving, large display area. Cottage double glazed, fully insulated, heat pump and gas water heating, clothes washer and dryer. No smoking indoors. No pets. Single car garage + ample on-site parking. \$300 p/w. Contact 021-101-7543"

SITUATION VACANT - EXHIBITION CONVENOR. NO EXPERIENCE NECESSARY

We need a convenor for our exhibition in November, to make sure everything is put in place for the smooth running of the exhibition. There are lots of little tasks to organise, but we have a very clear plan to follow, which has been refined over the years. This makes the convenor and the exhibition committee's job easy. You can select your own committee (usually three people) to help organise the various jobs outlined in the plan. Previous convenors are on hand to help, and other members will make themselves available for specific jobs.



AUCTION COMING UP

Our auction is approaching fast. Please join us for our only fundraiser of the year. We already have some items but of course we need more! We'd love to see donations of pottery, or pottery-related goods, plus produce, preserves, baking etc. Items we already have that will be going under the hammer, include: We have some excellent books, glass panels for printing on, corks, extruder, spray items with small compressor, bats, banding wheel, magazines

We hope to see you all on Wednesday 15 March at 7pm.



FEBRUARY

Wednesday 22 at 7pm Mono printing on clay with coloured slips.

Jane McCulla will encourage you to have a go at this exciting technique. Bring a printer's brayer/roller if you have one. Newsprint paper, coloured slip will be provided (\$2 each cost to cover materials)
Please bring your own clay to print on or you can purchase on the night.

MARCH

Wednesday 15 at 7pm CPA Annual Fundraising Auction:

Donations of pottery related books, pottery materials/ tools, fruit and/or chutneys, jam welcome. Supper will be provided.

Wednesday 22 at 7pm Spray booth session with Steve Dench.

Learn how to apply glazes with the spray gun.
Bring a piece of bisqueware to practice on.

MAY

Friday 12 all day Canterbury Fired Up Exhibition 2017 Selection

Selector and workshop to be confirmed.)
See the clubroom noticeboard for details

JUNE

Wednesday 14 6pm Canterbury Fired Up 2017 Exhibition Opening

At Canterbury Museum until Sunday 25th June.

Wednesday 21 at 7pm Canterbury Potters AGM

Come along and support your club. Tea and cake will be served.

JULY

Wednesday 26 at 6pm Mid-Winter function.

Details to be confirmed.

OCTOBER

Friday 6 all day CPA Annual Exhibition Selection

We are currently in discussion with our potential selector, and will let you know as soon as we can announce it.

Saturday 7 and Sunday 8 all day Selector's Workshop

Selector and workshop to be confirmed.

NOVEMBER

Wednesday 1 at 6pm CPA Annual Exhibition Opening

At Canterbury Museum until Sunday 12th November.

YOUR COMMITTEE

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CLASSES FOR 2017

In response to the big uptake in demand for classes, the club is now offering a Saturday morning class for absolute beginners and potters at all levels. This will be tutored by Andrew Carran, and is filling up fast. If you are interested, please contact Andrew directly.

Here is our class timetable. Please use this timetable to see when the clubrooms are free for members to work. We ask that you respect these teaching times if you are needing to pop into the clubrooms.

TIME	DESCRIPTION	CONTACT
Monday 10-12pm Term 1: 13 Feb-3 March Term 2: 2 May-20 June Term 3: 24 July-11 Sept Term 4: 16 Oct-11 Dec	8 Week term \$110. Hand-building and wheel thrown work taught. Exploring various techniques and surface treatments. Considering form and suitable scale of pieces. Clay and firings extra.	Jane McCulla 0226353911 janemcculla@gmail.com
Monday 1.30-3pm Term1: 13 Feb-13 March Term 2: 1 May-29 May Term 3: 24 Jul-7 Aug Term 4 16 Oct-20 Nov	Home Schoolers Class 5 week term \$80. Introducing children to clay making different project each week.	Jane McCulla 0226353911 janemcculla@gmail.com
Monday 4.00-5.30pm Term1: 8 Feb-14 Mar Term 2: 2 May -6 Jun Term 3: 25 Jul-29 Aug Term 4:10 Oct-21 Nov	Kids' Pottery class. 6 week term \$90. Introducing different techniques, making pots etc and having lots of fun! All materials and firings are included.	Jane McCulla 0226353911 janemcculla@gmail.com
Monday 7-9pm Term 1: 13 Feb - 29 May Term 2: 21 Aug – 11 Dec	TERM 1 CLASS FULL 15 week term \$190 (Pay at first class) Wheelwork, form, function, glazing and the firing of students work each month.	Frederika Ernsten frederika@cyberxpress.co.nz
Tuesday 9.30-11.30 am Term 1: 7 Feb-16 May Term 2: 1st Aug-17 Nov	15 week term \$195. Two week school holiday break per term. All aspects of clay work taught from beginner to advanced.	Margaret Ryley 03 3138406 margaretryley@clear.net.nz
Tuesday 1-2.15pm School term times	Horizon Pottery class	Akane Nakao
Tuesday 7-9pm Term 1: 7 Feb-10 Apr Term 2: 2 May-4 Jul Term 3: 25 Jul-26 Sep Term 4: 17 Oct-5 Dec	TERM 1 CLASS FULL 10 week term \$135. (T4 \$95) Beginners to advanced. Hand building, press moulding, throwing and glaze techniques are the focus of this class.	Terry Gallie 03 351 9623 terrypot@xtra.co.nz
Wednesday is club day from 11am. Members welcome.		
Thursday 10am-12 Term1: 9 Feb-6 April Term 2: 4 May-29 Jun Term 3: 27Jul-21 Sep Term 4: 19 Oct -14 Dec	TERM 1 CLASS FULL 9 week term \$120 payable at first class. Wheelwork, form, function, glazing and firing of students work each month.	Frederika Ernsten frederika@cyberxpress.co.nz
Thursday 7-9pm Term 1: 9 Feb - 6 Apr Term 2: 4 May- 6 Jul Term 3: 27 Jul -21 Sep Term 4:19 Oct - 14 Dec	TERM 1 CLASS FULL Term \$120.This class will focus on core skills for wheel thrown pottery. Students will be introduced to working on the wheel and basic clay forms as they become confident	Alyse Oliver alyseoliver@hotmail.com
Friday 9.30am-12pm School term times	Skill Wise Pottery class	Mary Lou Foate
Saturday 9am-12pm Term 1: 11 Feb - 8 Apr Term 2: 6 May - 8 Jul Term 3: 30 Jul - 30 Sep Term 4: 22 Oct - 16 Dec	Term \$120 payable at first class. No pottery experience required. T1 Handbuilding/decorating for beginners. T2-4 Wheel basics. Project development for experienced potters. Glazing for everyone.	Andrew Carran 03 310 8453, 021 026 55395, jandacarran@vodafone.co.nz



We have said it before, but with all our new members joining up, we think it is important to repeat this safety message.

Here's a review of Rosemary Perry's book, and details where you can get a copy of your own.

"Potters Beware"

**By: CPA Life member
Rosemary Perry**

In 1986, Canterbury Potters Life Member Rosemary Perry became concerned at the numbers of emerging potters who seemed to have little knowledge of the dangers of our craft. So she researched and published Potters Beware, an account of the hazards which potters and their customers may be subject to.

Review

Reviewing Potters Beware for Claynews in 1996, Howard Williams wrote This is an excellent booklet - it could save your life or prevent unnecessary exposure to materials ultimately injurious to your health or the health of those working close to you, studying under you or living close to you – or even those who buy your pots! At the very reasonable price of \$12, it would seem irresponsible of any potter not to own and be fully acquainted with this booklet.

NZ Potters sold its last copies some time ago and when we received requests for copies recently, Council suggested scanning a copy to make it available once more. When I rang Rosemary to ask her permission, as copyright holder, she said she had discovered a box of nearly three hundred copies when she was packing up the contents of her quaked house to make room for the builders. Rosemary has generously donated these copies to NZ Potters for sale, but asks that a dollar from each sale be donated to Canterbury Potters.

Where to purchase

Copies may be obtained from the secretarynzpotters@gmail.com for \$14. Postage is included within New Zealand.

WHERE WERE YOU IN '69?

Committee member Trish Morant spotted this blast from the past in our archives (the article, not the photo!!) and thought our members would be interested to see what the club was up to back then. This is an excerpt from NZ Potter magazine, Volume 11/1 Autumn 1969. (Wouldn't it be great to see the work of those Fijian potters?)

If you have an article, photos, anecdotes or stories about CPA way back then, please let us know!



is full of small pinched pots all ready for the flames. The next best thing to sitting inside the kiln to watch what happens!

And now for a moan. It is disconcerting to find that some pots bought at the national exhibition do not function as claimed by the selectors. I have found in using, at a friend's home, a pot that had been declared tested for pouring and found functional, did not, in actual fact, pour without dripping badly, and indeed, actually poured very badly. The public buy these pots in good faith, having heard at the opening of the exhibition and read in the daily press that these pots have been tested for pouring and function, and must feel very anti-pottery and anti-potters when they find these claims can be worthless. In another case reported to me a small stoneware pot when filled with water for flowers did not only sweat but actually leaked in quantity! It seems to me that the ultimate responsibility for integrity goes right back to the individual potter, but surely no advertised claims should be made by officials in an exhibition unless they can be substantiated. This attention to detail by the potter is becoming more noticed and more demanded by the public all the time, and a heartfelt cry from at least one retailer in Dunedin calls for a few moments in smoothing the bottoms of the pots sent in for sale: someone has to do it and surely it is the potter who should be the one, as part of the trademark of his ware. □

Beryl Jowett

from Christchurch

The Canterbury Potters' Association began its 1969 activities on February 25, when, at the first meeting of the year, Mr David Brokenshire gave an excellent lecture and demonstration on 'Ceramics as applied to Architecture'. As an architect and potter himself, Mr. Brokenshire spoke with some authority to a well attended meeting and a very good evening.

A week later the Fijian potters arrived, and we had the opportunity, after seeing David Carson-Parker's slides last year, of watching Amele making her unique cooking pots. On the day before their departure for Wellington, the Mount Pleasant potters were hosts for a field day, when Amele demonstrated; then the previously completed and dried pots were open-air fired, the flames leaping high in a strong nor-

west gale. Unfortunately one New Zealand clay pot completely disintegrated, but the two made of Fijian clay fired beautifully. One will be housed in the museum's collection, and the other was bought by the Risingholme Community Centre.

On Monday, 10 March, we opened an unusually interesting exhibition on the theme 'Pottery for outdoor living' at the Canterbury Society of Arts gallery. Although the number of entries was a little disappointing, we were fortunate in that Yvonne Rust's careful selection produced an exhibition of which we could be proud. The long downstairs gallery was skilfully converted into a scree garden embellished with shrubs and handsome potted plants, which formed a most compatible background for large or hanging planters, pottery lamps (some extremely inventive), barbecue ware and other decorative and useful terrace pottery. At the end of March we were excited by the first exhibition to be assembled of West Coast pottery and painting.

Two departures to be reported—firstly our president, Roie Thorpe, has left Christchurch for Hororata, where her husband, the Rev. David Thorpe (also a potter) has taken over a new parish. Secondly, Michael Trumic has left temporarily for Australia. We wish them both well.
Doris Holland □

from Manawatu

An active society of some 120 members has been formed and the usual film and slide evenings, week-end schools, exhibitions and visits have been arranged. Perhaps the highlights of this year have been the excellent and stimulating slide lecture by Doreen Blumhardt, week-end schools at an advanced level, conducted by Peter Stichbury and Mirek Smisek, and at learner's level by Peter Wilde and Peg Jackson, and the day trips to the potteries of Mirek Smisek, at Manakau, and Wilf Wright, at Reikorangi. And, of course, the recent visit of Amele, who gave a demonstration to members and the public at Massey University. Amele impressed all with her skill in the creation of a traditional cooking pot from Fijian clay, which fortunately Malakai had managed to bring in his travel bag. This pot was subsequently fired by Amele in Wellington and