



# The Canterbury Potter

Newsletter of the Canterbury Potters Association

October - December 2021

## A Note from the President

As we enter the New Year I would like to thank all our members who helped out over the last 12 months. I would especially like to thank our committee who work very hard to bring you events and keep the wheels of the club running smoothly, particularly our Treasurer and Secretary and the kiln fairies. I cannot mention all of your names but you know who you are.

2020 was a year of good times and not so good. Covid certainly put a stop to a lot of our activities earlier in the year, but fortunately not for too long.

I would like to acknowledge and express our condolences on the death of Rosie Thompson and Rosemary Perry, both will be greatly missed and were very active Life Members of CPA.

Our club is in good health but we need to look to the future. In the next five years or so we could be looking at replacing kilns and wheels. The roof will need painting and there will be general maintenance of the club rooms to attend to. We are currently in discussion with the council over renovations to the cottage. This will allow us to make better use of those rooms.

Our membership continues to hover around 140-150 members. People come and go as they move away, take on new jobs, or family commitments take over. Our classes are full, we have difficulty keeping up with the number of people who want to come to a class. A huge thanks to our tutors who give so much of their time and knowledge; no wonder we have full classes!

Some exciting workshops were held, a great annual 47th exhibition, our website is up and running and we will continue to bring you events this year which we feel sure that you will enjoy. However, if you have any ideas for a workshop or event, you are very welcome to make suggestions to your committee. The club is for the members; the committee is open to your thoughts and ideas, what you like, what you don't like and what you would like to see happen.

I take this opportunity to wish you and your families very best wishes for a happy and creative 2021.

Trish Morant  
President

## Welcome New Members

A very warm welcome to: Simon Caldwell, Kim Fowler, Coralie Winn, Pia Titus, Holly Zeldis, James Struthers, Andrew McKaskell, Leanne Lassman, Pat Alexander,

Eleanor Watkins, Mairin Borlase, Sarah Jenkinson, Niki Brown, Ashleigh Corby, Trent Jorgensen, Isobel Nash, Ruth Keighly Ryburn, Louise Shepherd and Sarahanne Smith.

# The Passing of two of our Life Members

It is with regret we record the passing of two of Canterbury Potters's life members, Rosie Thompson and Rosemary Perry.



Rosie Thompson who died on 30 October 2020, was, over her 40 or so years of membership, a tireless worker and support for CPA. Devoting her time freely, she was always one of the first to appear at any working bee.

Her award winning, beautifully realised ceramic birds which she exhibited both nationally and locally, enhanced the reputation of the club.

As a member of the New Zealand Society of Potters, she often hosted regional meetings at her house, insuring a good turnout with her generous hospitality.



Rosemary Perry who died on the 5 January 2021 at the age of 92 was one of Canterbury Potters foundation members giving her time unstintingly to the establishment of the club in Canterbury. She was the first person in New Zealand

to fire an electric kiln with enclosed elements, enabling it to be fired in a reduction atmosphere. She also made bronze castings of her some of her ceramic heads.

Rosemary represented Canterbury on more than one occasion on the New Zealand Potters executive. She was the author of the definitive book on material hazards, *Potters Beware*, continuing to be a reliable and countless source of information and help to the club right to the last.

They will both be greatly missed.

## Nola Barron: potter, sculptor, gallery director New Book for Sale:

Paperback 110 pages

Published National Library of New Zealand,  
March 11, 2020 (Amazon)

Copies of the publication are available from Nola Barron's son Andrew Barron at: [aelb@xtra.co.nz](mailto:aelb@xtra.co.nz)

Brief outline:

This publication covers three different aspects of Nola Barron's life and work. After an initial interest in painting, she found pottery was the craft she wished to follow and enrolled at Yvonne Rust's Studio of Design in Christchurch. There she learned the basics of throwing, glazing and firing and, after about two years of tuition, she established her own studio and built a kiln. Not satisfied with wheel-thrown domestic objects she experimented with hand-built clay forms to produce modernist sculptural forms, often in response to land formations. She also produced ceramic tiles which were assembled and mounted on plywood. Wishing to expand her knowledge, Nola enrolled as a part-time student at the University of Canterbury School of Fine Arts where she studied design and sculpture. Extending her range of materials, she produced sculpture in fibreglass, cast aluminium and cast bronze. During her career as a potter and sculptor, Nola Barron achieved success and acceptance of both her peers and the public. She exhibited widely throughout



Nola Barron Land Form 1971 stoneware  
Banbury/Hornby Collection

New Zealand, was a member of 'The Group' in Christchurch, and is represented in public collections. Her significant contribution to the pottery movement in this country is recognised in honorary life membership of both Canterbury Potters' Association and New Zealand Society of Potters. In 1977 Nola was appointed director of the Canterbury Society of Arts (CSA) Gallery, a position she held for ten years.

GRANT BANBURY, Art Consultant, PO Box 22-474,  
Christchurch 8140, NEW ZEALAND



## CPA's 2020 Exhibition

COVID-19 did not stop us! We were able to hold our annual exhibition at the Museum and to enjoy the usual opening night function there. Some 40+ pieces sold with sales totalling just under \$6,000.

Grateful thanks to our award sponsors, to all those who exhibited, to Leanne Lassman for her design images, to Lorraine Bonisch for the exhibition design and set-up, to Michael

Micheals for photography, to Ngarita Wight and Trish Morant for their ongoing advice, to the Museum staff and to all those club members who assisted over the submission and selection process, transporting pots to and from the Museum, carrying out their Museum roster duties and the rest!

Angela Williams  
Exhibition Convenor

**Congratulations to our award winners:**



**Selector's Choice**  
Kay Whiting's – *Relic*  
(sponsored by Nelson Pottery Supplies)



**Merit Award**  
Hugh Rickard's –  
stoneware bowl  
*Sunset*  
(sponsored by  
Decopots)



**Merit Award**  
Renate Galetzka's  
– platter, rice  
bowl, chopsticks,  
dish and spoon  
*T 4 One*  
(sponsored by  
Decopots)



**Merit Award –**  
Penny Wright's  
Salt-glazed Vessel  
*#1*  
(sponsored by  
Morant Foundation)

A catalogue of work from the exhibition can be viewed at [www.canterburypotters.co.nz/exhibitions](http://www.canterburypotters.co.nz/exhibitions).



# THE LOWDOWN

## THINGS YOU NEED TO KNOW

### Help Wanted!

As our membership expands, so too does the workload. When you filled in your subscription renewal form, you will have noticed we asked you how you are able to help us. We hope you will consider giving something of your time, knowledge and skills. As a voluntary organisation, we depend on the goodwill of our members to keep things running. If you didn't return the form, please email it to us, or just email the club to let us know how you can help.

**Newsletter Editor** – We are needing someone to organise, edit and layout our quarterly newsletter.

**Grants Applications** – We also need someone to be our grants application person for many of our projects. If you have had some experience with grant applications please email us at [canterburypotters@gmail.com](mailto:canterburypotters@gmail.com) with the subject line Grant Application. We would love to hear from you. If you're interested or know someone who is, please get in touch with any committee member.

### Signing In

Please remember to sign yourself in and out when entering the rooms. We have our own official NZ COVID Tracer poster for you to scan on your arrival. This is an important requirement for potential contact tracing, for the foreseeable future.

## What's on What's coming up

**Annual summer working bee**  
**Saturday 30 January 2021 starting from 10am.**

Please remember to take all your bisque and glaze ware off the shelves before Saturday 30 January 2021. Anything left on the shelves will be taken away to the landfill on the working bee day.

The CPA is run by volunteers and we need the help of all members to keep the club rooms and the surrounding outside space clean and tidy. Come when you can, stay for as long as you are able, bring a bucket, rags and any

### Keeping it clean

Reminder for people to please bring a towel to wash and dry the table and bucket to take slops away. There should be no throwing of slops into trees or behind or to the side of the CPA building. Everything needs to go back home to be recycled. There are also plenty of paper towels in the clubrooms.

### The Incident Book

The committee wants to make sure that all people who use the clubrooms are aware of the Incident Book. This is kept in a holder on the big white box to the left of the door. We ask you to enter any health or safety incidents which might happen in the rooms, even if they seem minor. This book is checked regularly as we are concerned to make sure that our club is a safe place to work.

### New to the internet

Potters need to be aware of Health and Safety legislation relevant to their place of work.

Rosemary Perry's Potters Beware book is now available online <https://pottersbeware.nz>



gardening equipment you may need. A date to put in your 2021 diary!

### Opportunity to Exhibit Looking for a Volunteer

CPA has been invited to present a group exhibition at the Te Huanui gallery in Darfield next year, the dates are Friday, 30 April - Thursday, 27 May. We are looking for someone to organise this event on behalf of the CPA. If you are interested please contact us for more details.

# Pushing boundaries with Daryl Frost



In October Daryl Frost joined us from Tasman to select for our annual Canterbury potters' exhibition, followed by a weekend workshop focussing on the works of Peter Voulkos the American abstract ceramic artist. We were asked to prepare by

bringing photographs of his work to the course with us, and I looked forward to an in depth experience of his genre.

The first day was interesting as we each were given the task of producing a number of pieces to be incorporated into a larger work, after which we were to choose one piece from each participant and use them to create a sculpture of our own. This was challenging due to the pieces not being in an ideal leather hard state and there were several collapses and muttered expletives to be seen and heard, however by the end of the day we all had some form of object finished. Those who finished early were shown how to use a blow torch to create a surface on pinch pots.



On Sunday morning having been asked to start earlier a rather bleary eyed group sipped fortifying coffee or tea and waited to find out what was in store for the second day. We were asked to form two groups. After some bewilderment we were divided into left and right sides of the

room. What followed was described by one attendee as 'master chef'. We had to choose one of the pictures of Peter Voulkos works and, using the leftovers from the previous day and whatever clay we had left over, compete to see which group achieved the best likeness after which they would be re cycled.



The planned exercise did more than push boundaries, it nearly sent a few running for the door. However no one did leave, and most of us bravely set to work, some more enthusiastically than others. Towards the end of the day the two 'sculptures' were still being fine tuned by a couple of the more motivated competitors, the rest of us having given up in favour of afternoon tea. As a bonding experiment it certainly pushed boundaries, however I would have still quite liked to experience something more about Peter Voulkos or for that matter Daryl Frost's work or technique.

by Vivien Rechsteiner

## Note from Ceramics NZ

Dear Club representatives,

As you know, this year we were forced to cancel our Touring Potter programme with Korean master, Kwak Kyungtae. For 2021 we are looking at touring a New Zealand based potter, so that the programme can continue under Covid travel restrictions. In planning for this we would love to hear from you. Please let us know if there are particular skills and techniques your members are looking to learn from a touring artist or if your

members would like to attend workshops from a particular potter and why. As we often need to focus our international artists' travel on the main centres, this would be a good opportunity to get instruction from a high calibre potter out into the regions as well. I look forward to hearing from you. Thanks for your continued support.

Ngā mihi,  
Meagan





## Annual Christmas Pottery Market

Our Annual Christmas Pottery Market started with a hiss and a roar and kept up a steady pace all day.

Fortunately the day turned out sunny.. hot for those without shelter..ie Carmen on the sausage sizzle, but a tad chilly for those under the trees.

We had 20 stall holders + the Canterbury Herb Society on site.



Sales from what I have gleaned appeared good and up on last year.

Our customers reflect the growing interest in pottery with a lot of younger people this year.

Our Raffle winners 1st prize Denise Hiskmueller, 2nd Alex Prentice, 3rd Kate Whyte, 4th Caroline Sturgess.

All winners were thrilled and the donated pots seem to be going to homes where they will be much appreciated!

'Thank you!' to Frederika Ernsten, Michael Michaels and Toni Thomas for very generously donating your pottery to the raffle!

'Thank you!' also to CPA members for donating goods to the Christmas Hamper.. it was certainly very full!

Profits from the Raffle \$280 and Sausage Sizzle \$117.30. This money is to be set aside toward the purchase of a pottery wheel.

'Thank you!' to Toni Thomas who helped organise the event and created the beautiful posters.. many a favourable comment were made about them! Thanks also to those involved on the day.. Alison potting in the clubroom and talking to the public, Carmen and Richard operating the sausage sizzle and those helping set up and pack down at the end!

With regards to next year's market. if we would appreciate any photographs taken on the day so we can use them for marketing next year!

Would anyone like to be involved in the organising of the 2021 market? I am happy to pass on what I know about setting it up!

Kind regards  
Monique

## HERE ARE THE PEOPLE MAKING IT HAPPEN:

**President:** Trish Morant – 021 0222 1224

**Secretary:** Richard Scarf

**Membership Secretary:** Glenda Clark

**Treasurer:** Ann Goldfarb

**Tutor Coordinator:** Michael Michaels

**Committee:**

Thomas Strange,  
Jacqui Overton,  
Angela Williams,  
Carmen Collett,  
Mary Lou Foate

**Past President:**

Ngarita Wight

**Tutors:**

Michael Michaels – 021 076 4643

Frederika Ernsten – 03 313 6509

Margaret Ryley – 03 313 8406

Jane McCulla – 022 635 3911

Hugh Rickard – 03 326 4255

Alyse Oliver – 021 110 3552

Mary Lou Foate – 03 355 5968

Andrew Carran – 021 0265 5395

Melanie Davies – 021 182 3850