

The Canterbury Potter

Newsletter of the Canterbury Potters Association

April – June 2021

Note from the President

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It has been a busy few months for CPA again with lots of activity in and around the club rooms. The committee met for the annual Strategic Meeting at the end of March. The priority is kiln replacement and this is underway, thanks to Ngarita and Coralie for preparing the Grant Applications which have now been submitted. Our new wheel is now in operation and appears to be well used. I am pleased to report the Tutors Workshop was a great success with most sessions having a waiting list. It is obviously a very popular workshop; members like to see our tutors demonstrating. I had a very pleasant meeting with representatives from Mt Pleasant, Halswell and Harakeke pottery groups. It is interesting to hear how the other clubs operate and good to swap ideas. Preparation is going ahead for our Pizza and Video night at the end of the month, look out for the posters. We have a weekend workshop with Renate Galetzka coming up in July; like our Tutors Workshops the workshop was almost full as soon as it was advertised. It goes to prove we are all keen to learn new skills. Sadly, we have lost another of our club members to cancer, Judy Kirkpatrick, who has been an active member of the Thursday class for some years, died last week, we have sent condolences on behalf of CPA.

Happy potting!

Trish Morant, President



[Image from the Te Huanui Art Gallery]

WHAT'S COMING UP:

Members Pizza and video night

Did you know that the CPA has a number of wonderful videos of famous potters? We are having a mid-year evening where we can get together over pizza to enjoy some old videos of early workshops at CPA including Len Castle, Shoji Hamada and more.

When: **Wednesday June 23rd at 6:30pm**

Cost: Koha for the pizza

Annual Auction

Our Annual auction will again take place after our AGM. Please drop off to the club rooms those items in your home that you would love to donate for our auction. Date and details to come.

Club Raku Firing – Hugh Rickard

Sunday 27th June

Alternate raku effects

Raku firing is when a ware is rapidly heated until the glaze has melted, and then it is immersed in an organic combustible material to create stunning designs. It is an excitingly unpredictable process, and quite fun! Join us for a group Raku firing. ' Participants need to bring suitable bisqued items, food, and a willingness to participate. E-mail interest to canterburypotters@gmail.com



UNDERSTANDING & PRODUCING FUNCTIONAL DOMESTIC WARE WORKSHOP WITH RENATE GALETZKA:

We are very happy to announce we have an upcoming workshop with Renate Galetzka: 'Understanding & Producing Functional Domestic Ware'.

Please find attached poster below.

- Saturday 17th & Sunday 18th July
- 10am - 3:30pm (both days)
- CPA Clubrooms
- \$120 per person

Please email Canterburypotters@gmail.com to express your interest and we will get back to you if your place has been confirmed! Limited to 10 people.

This is a demonstration and hands-on workshop, with observation, feedback, skills sharing and tips and tricks from the tutor. There will be some theory, demonstrations, sharing and reflection. We will look at how to get to produce dishes you/your family/your customer wants, likes and that are fit for purpose.

Prerequisite: Comfortably center 1kg of clay and pull up a balanced pot

What we will cover, reflect on and practice

- Understand domestic ware, cylinder-based pots (cups, beaker, jug etc), bowls and plates
- Stack-ability, proportion, rims, foot rings, glaze, size, durability..
- Develop skills to design and re-produce like dishes. Best tools for the job.
- Experiment and produce other people's shapes and wishes, develop first prototype for ourselves or a customer.
- Design and produce prototype for a dinner set and/or breakfast set and/or afternoon tea set

Outline

On both days we will start with demonstrations by the tutor. There will be some theory like measuring, shrinkage, qualities of different clay categories, sizing. As a group we will reflect on everything domestic dishes. Please bring samples of domestic dishes you love (made by you and other potters). There will be some planning homework on Saturday to be ready for hands on tasks and prototype development on Sunday.

What to bring

- Your tools and clay, bats etc
- 2 rulers (that start at '0')
- Mirror, 20 x 30 cm or bigger, freestanding
- Samples
- Sketch book/paper, note book, soft pencil (ie B6)
- Questions

Enrolment

After your place is confirmed with CPA (you will receive an email to pay), please get in contact with Renate. Briefly update her on what your main interests are, type of dishes, focus for you at the workshop etc. She would like to be prepared for demonstrations and what samples to bring. Renate: rgaletzka@gmail.com

About the Tutor

I love the process of throwing on the potter's wheel. In the 90s I did work experience with Frederika Ersten in her Courtyard Pottery. In the early 2000s I did a traditional pottery apprenticeship in Switzerland under Kartin Nigg. I hold a trade certificate in Pottery from 'Schule für Gestaltung', Zurich.

Now I mainly produce to order, private and commercial commissions. I have an in depth understanding of what makes good domestic ware and I love incorporating customers ideas and creativity into my work. In my regular work I often use a lot of bright colours. All of my work is hand thrown and at times individually decorated. Each piece is unique in its decoration and design. All my domestic work is suitable for dishwasher and micro wave oven.



THE LOWDOWN

THINGS YOU NEED TO KNOW

Reminder- Unpaid membership

Fees Due

Your 2021/2022 membership fees are due. Please note there will be a **\$10 late payment fee for subs not paid by 1 July**. Remember that these fees go towards the operating/maintenance costs of the clubrooms. If you no-longer want to continue your membership or have any questions regarding membership, please email Molly at canterburypotters@gmail.com. :)

TUTOR REQUIRED

CPA has a vacancy for a Tutor for the Thursday morning class. This will be a wheel throwing class. We require the class to start at the beginning of Term 3. Should you be interested in tutoring this class, please send your cover letter/CV to: canterburypotters@gmail.com with "THURSDAY MORNING CLASS TUTOR APPLICATION" in the subject line.

Signing In

Please remember to **sign yourself in and out** when entering the rooms. Please also scan in with the NZ COVID Tracer poster on your arrival.

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.



Welcome New Members!

If you have not yet arranged your induction to the club rooms, please email us at

canterburypotters@gmail.com

Jim Barribeau, Denise Cressey, Shna Galindo Juarez, Patrick Fitzgerald, Alistar Paterson, Michael Riach, Kim Wright-Stow, Dee Love, Annette Eggelton, Jan Stupples, Tina Reynolds, Erin Scott

NikKi Johnston, Rohaila Heeren, Caren Pistorius, Indigo Muir, Sanet Swart, Sara Dunnarsdottir, Kathy Thorpe, Jo Hui Zui Xin Lim, Jalan McGrory, Mia Meek, Rachel Hansen, Heather Mitchell, Yumi Bush, Kate Ladley, Megan Roulston, Simone Rikustad, Rachel Russell

Send in your photos!

We would love to share your work on our social media pages! Send us your photos of pottery activities, works in progress, finished pieces, or any exhibitions you may be involved in. You can submit any photos or short videos to canterburypotters@gmail.com. Please include your @instagram tag (if you have one) and a short description of the image.

Raku

Raku, in Japanese and Chinese, means “Fun”. We definitely had tremendous fun in our most recent raku firing workshop on Sunday 28 March 2021. We would like to extend our appreciation to the tutor, Hugh Rickard, for his knowledge, sharing, and leadership. Experienced raku potters even took an advanced step to try ‘naked’ raku techniques in the session. (the pots being unglazed, not the potter being naked!)

A wide range of raku specialised glazes were provided in the firings, including some cracking and copper-infused effects. Testing the durability of our bisque-fired pieces through the temperature changes during the raku process is the most challenging part. The unpredictable outcomes and its immediate delivery of results are the reasons potters are fascinated by it.

Approximately 7 batches of firing were conducted in a professional and safe manner on the day. The outcomes are stunning. Although we all smelt like smoky sausages, at the end of the day, many of us have started to consider what items to make and we look forward to our next workshop. The next Raku will be on Sunday 27th June.

Clay Purchases -

Record your Clay Bag numbers

What? You may ask! The bags of clay we have for you to purchase have numbers for a reason; so we can keep track of what we have sold and what we have in stock. So please, please remember to note the bag numbers on your invoices when you buy clay. Very often this is not done and it causes our Treasurer to become a detective, trying to solve the missing clay.

2021 Emerging Practitioner in Clay Award

30 June is the deadline for submission of entries for the 2021 **Emerging Practitioner in Clay Award**. Information, conditions and entry forms are also available from www.quartzmuseum.org.nz and quartz.award@gmail.com



Retirement of Frederika Ernsten

After many, many years of tutoring, Frederika has decided to retire from her teaching role at CPA. We would like to thank Frederika for her dedication to students and the wealth of knowledge she has passed on over the years. We have many potters in our community who owe a great deal to Frederika. She will be missed in this role but has certainly earned her retirement. We express huge respect and thanks for your input to the Christchurch pottery community. Very best wishes from us all Frederika for a long and happy retirement!

Cleaner for Clubrooms Needed

There is a vacancy for a cleaner for the CPA clubrooms. The role involves a 2 hour weekly clean: vacuum and wash floors in workroom, around kilns and wheels, glaze room, kitchen and store room, toilet area and office in cottage building; clean toilets and basin. Contact CPA when supplies need replacing or equipment fails. Other duties will be explained on application.

We would prefer the cleaning to be done on a Wednesday morning and be finished by 10am.

Please email CPA with 'Cleaner Application' in the subject line if you are interested.

Feedback from the Weekend of Workshops



Feedback from participants

Donna Atkinson:

I took advantage, last weekend (1/2nd May), to attend all four workshops held by our experienced potters/tutors. They each demonstrated their varied skills and talents and shared their knowledge freely to the interest of those that attended, which was greatly appreciated by all. Lots of tips, recipes and information, was gained by all of those that attended. I think that everyone came away with something that we didn't know prior, from all four classes. Margaret Rileys class encouraged us to be individuals, express ourselves more freely with the use of stains, glazes and wax resist decoration. It was great fun to watch her demonstration and then have a go on our own pieces to see what wonderful creations we could produce. Unfortunately mine were a complete mess - possibly to much freedom expressed,) and quickly found a new home at the bottom of my red bin, but I do however intend to attempt again and try some of the other ideas she demonstrated.

Looking forward to another workshop in the future.

Katie Jenssen

It was great to be part of Hugh and Michael's workshops on Saturday. In the morning Michael demonstrated how to alter wheel thrown forms and gave some great insights as to how he works as a potter, including this great quote 'You never know what the limits are until you break them'. That afternoon Hugh took us through using slip on our greenware pots and how to carve back the slip to create contrast and texture. It was so inspiring to see these two accomplished potters in action. I got lots of new ideas for my own practice and can wait to put these new skills into action.

Molly Hindman

Andrew Carran's workshop was an inspiration and insight into the endless possibilities glaze making can offer. The colours that he achieved from using Canterbury sediment deposits as the feldspar substitute, was mind blowing. From Metallic, to a celadon type green, all colours produced from our local environment! As a relatively beginner potter, it's given me a whole new passion for creating glaze. Thanks for sharing your wealth of knowledge.

From tutors:

Hugh Rickard

It was great to see the twelve participants all soo enthusiastic... and most cases produce something 'a little different' from their normal work.

The style of sgraffito I employ has long been a staple of the work I produce; a quick and easy way to add interest to any ceramic surface, and it was nice to pass on that approach. It will be interesting to see if any of those students pick the ball up and run with it also.