

The Canterbury Potter



OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE CANTERBURY POTTERS ASSOCIATION | **ISSUE 1 2023**

FROM THE COMMITTEE

Celebrations

On 30 April 1963, 39 potters held a meeting to form the Canterbury Potters Association. As a result we are celebrating the ripe age of being 60 years old. It is also our 50th annual exhibition—lots to celebrate.

We plan to hold some special events to celebrate our anniversary in the year culminating in our annual exhibition which will be a bit different this year. We are wanting to invite all our members to exhibit, it will be a truly inclusive exhibition with no selection to celebrate all our diversity in our club, and we look forward to seeing your best work in this very special exhibition. More details will be released soon. Please get making your pieces for this special occasion in a new venue.

Farewell

We are also celebrating the wonderful Margaret Ryley who has recently retired from teaching on a Tuesday morning and who has been pretty much involved in the club for nearly as many years as the club has been in existence. Margaret has been a committee member, librarian, administrator, and much-loved tutor.

History

If you are interested in the history of ceramics in Canterbury and of our club then we have a copy of *Fired*

Clay The Story of the Canterbury Potters Association 1870-1989 by Nolene Brokenshire in our magazine stand for you to sit and read. It is a fascinating history of the CPA and other clubs in the city.

Pimp my clubroom part 4

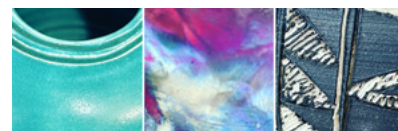
You may have noticed our newly painted and repaired kiln area. The roof above has been repaired too and the whole area now looks very tidy and even glamorous in white!

Workshops

We have just had our first workshop for the year and it was so much fun. People learned a lot of new techniques from Duncan Shearer. Duncan was a wealth of knowledge and tips which he shared very generously. We have the delightful Alex Prentice with his third workshop on making milk jugs in March, and a raku and gas firing in March as well. Then in April, we have our tutors and members taking four workshops over one weekend—Hugh Rickard, Margaret Ryley, Jane McCulla, and Mary Lou Foate—who will be teaching a lot of different techniques—not to be missed. We have a few more exciting workshops planned for the year, keep an eye out for them in our emails, on Instagram and FB pages.

Glaze survey results

The results are in and we are delighted that 95 members and



WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBERS

Alan Joice • Angela Desmarais • Charlotte Mainwaring • Christiane McLeod • Dina Snow • Fiona Joice • Katrina Wilkes • Liliana Lines • Linda Ward • Margo Mainwaring • Nicola Wallace-Bell • Sarah Snelling
Nau mai, haere mai

thank
YOU

Our cleaner Denni is resigning. We would like to give her a big thank you for all her hard work cleaning the club rooms over the last few years. She has done far more than her role called for. We do have a new cleaner but everyone needs to play their part and clean up after themselves.

CPA COMMITTEE 2022-2023

vacant **President**
Trish Morant **Immediate Past President**
vacant **Vice President**
Angela Williams **Secretary**
Penny de Jong **Treasurer**
Chris Moir **Membership Secretary**

Committee

Loreto Adams	Pat Alexander
Mary Lou Foate	Ann Goldfarb
Molly Hindman	Yann-Pierre Montelle
Jan Robertson	Carmel Rowden
Ngarita Wight	

students participated in our selection for new glazes for the room. We still have a wee bit of work to do—but we are hoping to have new glazes for you very soon. The big reveal is on page 2.

New tutor

We also welcome Penny de Jong as one of our new tutors for Tuesday morning. Penny is teaching a beginner wheel throwing class in terms 1-3 and a beginners glazing class in term 4.

Maureen & Murray Johnston

In early January 2023 Maureen Johnston, one of CPA's Life

Members, passed away, only two months after Murray, her husband of 63 years. Maureen was a valued member of the club, involved in many activities, always with the best interests of the club to the fore. (Some of us remember the fun nights with the raku BBQ on 5 November, with Maureen and Murray in the thick of it). Maureen was President 1995-1997. Both were committed potters and CPA supporters, Murray was the wheel worker and Maureen the decorator. RIP Maureen and Murray.

Ngā mihi mahana

MARGARET RYLEY RETIRES



At the end of last year Margaret Ryley reluctantly decided to step down from teaching at the CPA, after decades of involvement with our club (Margaret's name first appeared in the CPA committee records for 1969-1970). She was there right at the beginning in 1984 when the hunt was on to find the club a permanent home, and she went on to give hours of her time to roles including

committee member, club librarian, administration secretary and tutor.

As a teacher she was a font of information about clay, glazes, glazing techniques (including her specialty - ash glazes), decorating with underglazes and both hand and wheel work.

Margaret regularly brought treasures from her own collection to class to discuss, extending her students' knowledge about potters, their materials and techniques.

On several occasions she also shared her home where the class would gather to experience raku and sawdust firing, always with a shared lunch in her wonderful garden.

In so many ways Margaret had the ability to understand the needs of her students, offering encouragement and help. She focused on enabling them to develop to the best of their ability. Our club will really miss her and it is so good to know that she plans to continue to be involved as much as she can.

KIA TŪPATO! HEALTH & SAFETY CORNER



IS YOUR POTTERY FOOD SAFE?

We have some new glazes at the club (bravo glaze sub-committee!) and our committee member Yann-Pierre has been testing all glazes for food safety, including re-checking our older glazes and they have all passed the test.

Disclaimer: Food safety cannot be fully guaranteed and it is the responsibility of the potters to test their ware with the lemon test and the microwave test, find out more here: bit.ly/CPA-glazetest.

We recommend reading this guide to better understand this important aspect of making domestic ware. bit.ly/CPA-glaze



NEW GLAZES

Big thanks to our glaze subcommittee—Penny, Yann-Pierre, Loreto, Ngarita, Trish & Pat—for testing a wide range of new glazes on five different clay bodies.

The top five glazes chosen by members and students are: **olive green celadon, raspberry, zinc blue, transparent green** and **duck egg**. The current glazes still available are jet black, charcoal black, gloss white, silky white, stormy light blue, and jade. Deep blue and tenmoku will finish when the bucket is empty. We hope you enjoy the new glazes, they need to go through further testing but we hope they will be ready for use soon.



WHAT'S BEEN HAPPENING?

DUNCAN SHEARER WORKSHOP

A handful of lucky CPA members gathered at the clubrooms over the weekend for a two-day workshop in the marvellous company of Duncan Shearer. Exploring altered forms by way of throwing, cutting, joining, paddling and coiling, the group tried their hand at Duncan's quirky and characterful forms.

Sharing his wealth of knowledge with us, Duncan demonstrated and assisted in the learning of many useful techniques including throwing ring coils, cutting and joining gussets, and shaping spouts and handles to create his popular baker forms and jugs.

From the pottery wheel to the hand-building bench, clay was pinched, pulled, and paddled to transform round cylinders into angular shapes. Putting emphasis on interesting angles, gestural lines, and creative additions, the close of the weekend saw a variety of vessels, some more focussed on fun over function; a refreshing approach for most and an enjoyable weekend all round!

CPA Member, *Samantha Elise*



REMINDERS

Starting to sound like a broken record... ☺

If you are using underglaze at the tables please put newspaper down first - it can stain the tables and get into others clay.

As always, clean up your space before you leave, including wheels (which are looking particularly grubby) - wash down with lots of water and dry with a towel to remove any residue.

Take your slops home with you - never put them in the garden or by the trees. Better out of the garden and our drains!

Please bring back our moulds - we seem to have a few that people love and use regularly which are no longer there. You are welcome to use the member shelf to dry your work - we prefer that moulds don't leave the rooms.

If you've used the extruder, please clean inside and in all the nooks and crannies - including the templates.

TIP: Put clay in a plastic bag, cut off the bottom of the bag where it sits on the template, this will keep the extruder free of your clay.

Take your fired work home.

Check windows are shut.

Big thanks to all who do this already.

CLEAR GLAZE

We are aware there are issues with the CPA clear glaze, eg crazing, underglazes or stains running etc. The Committee decided at 8 March meeting to remove the clear glaze bucket and will make up a bucket of Abbots Clear as a temporary measure. It may, however, be some days before the Abbots Clear will be in place. We apologise for any inconvenience.



PROGRAMME

WHAT'S BEEN HAPPENING?

THURSDAY CLASS WITH HUGH RICKARD

Our Thursday group had a successful barrel firing. A big round of thanks to Julia Clauser and family for hosting our group for this event. With rain squalls passing, and the occasional downpour, somehow we still managed to complete this outdoor firing. It had been 20+ years since I'd done a pit firing... so much of it was a first.

Pots wrapped in copper, plentiful banana skins, orange peel, salt, copper carb, all combined to produce some great results. We'll take that, and hope it wasn't just beginners luck, and now the talk is of the next event. Of course the highlight was the shared camaraderie and meal that followed. Andrew does a mean barbeque.

END OF YEAR RAKU

Another day that started out overcast, with an outlook that threatened rain... it was nice to have the sun arrive, plenty of people attend, and ultimately some great results.



ODD (INTERESTING) BITS

Check out Inner Peace, a video about Darryl Frost's 100th angama firing and the process of making. Darryl lives and works with clay in Tasman, Nelson. If you are visiting the area it is definitely worth popping in to visit Darryl and his beautiful gallery.

bit.ly/CPA-dfrost

National Film Unit award-winner about late New Zealand artist, conservationist, and rail enthusiast Barry Brickell. Filmed at his first studio and home in the Coromandel, it follows the progress of his large-scale works from start to finish. Accompanied by a jazzy soundtrack, Brickell works his clay alone in the sun. Amidst the five-finger and harakeke of the Coromandel bush, the making of New Zealand art has never looked more picturesque. Brickell died on 23 January 2016, at the age of 80. The short documentary was made as part of the Pictorial Parade series.

bit.ly/CPA-BB



CARPENTER WANTED

Do we have any carpenters or cabinet makers in our club that would have some spare time to fix our rimu cabinet?

If so, please email Molly at molly.hindman8@gmail.com.

FIRING SERVICES IN CHRISTCHURCH

General Pottery is no longer offering a firing service. An alternative is Bot Pots in Christchurch. Visit botpotschristchurch.com/firing-services



CLUB POLICY

MEMBER FEES & CHARGES

Kia ora all.

It was decided at the AGM 2022 that membership fees structure be simplified. The statement below was accepted by the meeting:

Motion that for the year 1 April 2023-31 March 2024 there be no separate joining fee, access charge or room use contributions and that full year subscriptions be set at \$100 for individuals and half year subscriptions for new members on a one-off basis only be set at \$60, and that there be no joint memberships.

As usual members will be informed via email when the fee is due for the new year (April 1). Half year membership will be for people who have not been members previously, joining after 1 October.

WORKING BEE



A huge thank you to all the wonderful members (and some non-members) who came for the working bee... nothing was overlooked!

ROOM AVAILABILITY 2023

	M	T	W	T	F	S	S
9							
9.30	SET UP	SET UP					
10			C				
10.30			L				
11			U				
11.30			B				
12							
12.30			D				
1	SET UP		A				
1.30			Y				
2							
2.30							
3							
3.30				SET UP			
4							
4.30							
5							
5.30							
6							
6.30	SET UP	SET UP	*	SET UP			
7							
7.30							
8							
8.30							
9							

CLASS
AVAILABLE

COMMITTEE MTG
Held on second Wednesday each month. Rooms unavailable 5.30-8pm

12 APRIL
10 MAY
14 JUNE
12 JULY
9 AUGUST
13 SEPTEMBER
11 OCTOBER

An email will be sent if dates change

Please avoid coming in before 10am on Wednesdays. Floor is usually wet and may be hazardous right after cleaning.

Term breaks are the same as primary schools.

Some tutors start/finish classes at different times so please check the class timetable here: canterburypotters.co.nz/classes/

WHAT'S COMING UP...

ROOMS NOT AVAILABLE FOR USE DURING WORKSHOPS + MEETINGS UNLESS SPECIFIED

MARCH

8	WED 5.45-8pm	COMMITTEE MEETING
11	SAT 9am-1pm	MILK JUGS WORKSHOP with Alex Prentice
12	SUN 10am	RAKU FIRING bring bisque work Rooms available for use
18	SAT 9am-12pm	MILK JUGS WORKSHOP with Alex Prentice
24	SAT 8.30am-4pm	GAS FIRING Rooms available for use

APRIL

1		SUBSCRIPTIONS DUE
12	WED 5.45-8pm	COMMITTEE MEETING
15	SAT 9am-4pm	FOUR TECHNIQUES ONE WEEKEND Keep an eye out for details in email & newsletter
16	SUN 9am-4pm	
23	SUN 2-5pm	CELEBRATING 60 CPA YEARS + MARGARET RYLEY'S INVOLVEMENT WITH US See poster for details



General Pottery

- promoting locally-sourced and
sustainable pottery supplies

Open Wednesday-Saturday 10am-4pm
27 Essex Street, Phillipstown, Christchurch 8011
www.generalpottery.co.nz

CARVED SLIPWARE

(PARTICIPATION)

HUGH RICKARD

SAT 15 | 9–12

Hugh will demonstrate making a shallow bowl form, which he will carve into and then decorate using slip. You will then have a go!

EXPERIENCE : ALL LEVELS

SURFACE DECORATION

(DEMONSTRATION)

MARGARET RYLEY

SUN 16 | 9–12

Margaret will demonstrate surface decoration, slips and wax resist techniques. Have a go at the end but you'll need to bring your own bits.

EXPERIENCE : ALL LEVELS

FOUR TECHNIQUES ONE WEEKEND

15–16 APRIL | 9–4

ALL WELCOME

DECORATIVE BALLS

(PARTICIPATION)

MARY LOU FOATE

SAT 15 | 1–4

You'll choose a theme, make pieces and lay on a batt, then you will put together in a mould until a ball is formed.

EXPERIENCE : ALL LEVELS

MONO PRINT + STENCILS

(PARTICIPATION)

JANE MCCULLA

SUN 16 | 1–4

Mono printing using coloured slips and stencilling with underglazes

EXPERIENCE : ALL LEVELS

**Interested in coming?
Book now as numbers are limited!**

Choose one or all four to suit your interests

Each workshop is \$50 or \$180 for all four | tea and coffee provided. Please bring your own lunch if you are attending both workshops on either day.

To book your place, email canterburypotters@gmail.com with **FOUR TECHNIQUES** in the subject line and tell us which workshop you are signing up for and we will reply with payment details. Your place is confirmed when payment is received. **A list of items you need to bring will be emailed to you.**



395 Memorial Ave
Burnside
Christchurch
canterburypotters.co.nz

JOIN US TO
CELEBRATE CPA'S
ANNIVERSARY

60



SUNDAY 23 APRIL

2-5PM

RSVP BY 16.04.23

BRING A
PLATE TO
SHARE



WE'LL BE
COMMEMORATING
MARGARET RYLEY'S
RETIREMENT FROM
TUTORING US TOO!

