

Otaki Potters

October 2023

The last quarter of the year is all but upon us. Term four class places are filling up, The Kapiti Arts trail is 6 weeks away. The Public Raku is set to go ahead on the 2nd of December, a pit firing is scheduled for late October and some great work shops are coming up.

There is one **cleaning bee** to go before the end of the year - this will run on the 9th of December, however for those of you who have not been able to attend throughout the year and cannot attend on the 9th we will also be holding a couple of working bees. A list of jobs will also be posted on the notice board that can be done this year in lieu of a cleaning bee. Alternatively, please pay the \$40 fee as soon as possible so the team can mark you off as having honoured your membership agreement.

The committee acknowledged Jennifer Turnbull and what she has achieved as education manager for the club. Jenny's approach to this role is as I see how she works in her field of ceramics with creativity, absolute dedication and doggedness and she gets the job done extremely well. The club now offers outstanding education opportunities and with the team can cater to almost all who wish to enrol in a class. Jenny's last day as Education manager falls at the end of September. We will be looking for some one (or two?) to take over this role ably assisted by Alastair - who has set up and manages a finely honed enrolment system – and the team.

Our situations vacant will need to become a column I fear, as we are still looking for a Rooms manager on top of the recently vacated education position. If you think you can help but are unsure of what might be involved please talk to anyone on the committee.

Unbelievably my water tanks are low but that hasn't meant that we no longer have rain or flooding out the front of our club building. We are arranging sand bags to be placed along the front of the gallery area until we can organise having the sumps cleared.





The area along the eastern side of the building has been tidied further – big thank you to the clay recycling team - with the piles of collected used clay now being prepared for recycling. Much of this clay comes from classes and it is astounding how much some of the students throw out! This could easily be wedged up again using the new plaster slabs and the cement boards to recover the clay. See Jojos report later in the newsletter.

The Clay team have sent a reminder that if you wish to order clay, please email directly to clayotakipottery@gmail.com as our secretary has a big enough workload without having to forward these emails on to Lynne. There are good stocks of a range of clays but if you have a particular request, please feel free to discuss with Lynne. There is an order of BRT and Brick Red due along with Macs Buff, Speckled Buff, Weekend and Whitestone.

The **clay store** is being relocated and with a new fitout and I would like to thank Glen and his team for taking this project on.

Kylie is doing a wonderful job keeping our website updated. If you are interested in any workshops keep an eye out here as these are being snapped up almost as soon as they are posted. Javier's workshop on Head studies was booked out within 24 hours! He has indicated he would be happy to hold another couple (one on head studies and the other on the human form) early next year. If you missed out on the November workshop make sure you keep up-to-date and check in on the website for the information

Events... The club is honouring a sponsorship arrangement and will be hosting a class for Go media on the 8th December. Sue and Derryn will be calling for volunteers to help with this class. If you can help or would like to know more please talk to Sue Wilson.

6 weeks to go to the **Kapiti Arts Trail** on the 4th/5th and the 11th/12th of November. For information on how to exhibit at the Tote Modern, please talk to Derryn, Lynne or Paula. Running alongside at the OMRC is Whakaaro Whakairo Sculptural Symposium Otaki. Maori artists, carvers and weavers, who will be working at their craft

Tote Modern Exhibitors for October (great month!) are Ema Frost – who some of you may have met when she held the Kintsugi workshop, and Adele Souster - Adele's landscape work is best described as Contemporary Realism and has to be seen. It is quite amazing.



This opens on the 5th October at 5pm. Come along and support these artists, you are very welcome to bring friends and family.

The Tote has a new sign board coming. Look out for it when you turn into Te Roto road. The gallery also has a smart new chalk board that will advertise the current exhibitions.

Public Raku – Saturday 2nd December. This is an event for the community that the club holds every year - weather permitting.

Janine and Shona are holding an evening – on the 6th October - for members to get together to make some pieces for the public raku. If you are interested in helping on the night let either of them know and fish and chips will be ordered for you! janinemh68@hotmail.co.nz

Alternatively, it can be arranged to have clay left out for you to make some small pots for the event.

Rob and his team will be reorganising the shelving for the molds. Our new molds should be dry in the next few weeks, and we want to look after them. Rob will organise specific places for each mold and when this system is in place please make sure you return any mold you use back to the place you got it from clean please.

Workshops – Javier Murcia Head sculpting will be held in the club's hand-build classroom on the 18th & 19th November. There are several other work shops currently being considered.

Lithography – possibly late November. Jennifer Turnbull.

Bonsai – date to be set and depending on numbers registering interest.

Garden Orbs – date to be set and depending on numbers registering interest.

Kintsugi - date to be set and depending on numbers registering interest.

Simplified figures and Head Sculpting
- Javier Murcia. Dates on the website.

A **Pit firing** will take place on the 28/29th October This is not a workshop but an opportunity to join in and learn from those who are familiar with the process. It will be held in Te Horo – weather dependant. A small fee will be charged to cover materials used and if those involved can bring wood for the fire this will help.



CLAY RECYCLING NOTICE from Jojo

On Friday and Saturday last week the old clay dumping area has had all the clay cleared out and sorted.

The 2 baths have been clearly labelled and any black or terracotta has been sorted into different tubs.

The team has decided to trial the following procedures for ongoing collection and storage of clay.

ROOMS: there will be 2 buckets in the members room that are clearly labelled and any clay for recycling should go into these buckets and the clay team will keep an eye on these and empty them regularly.

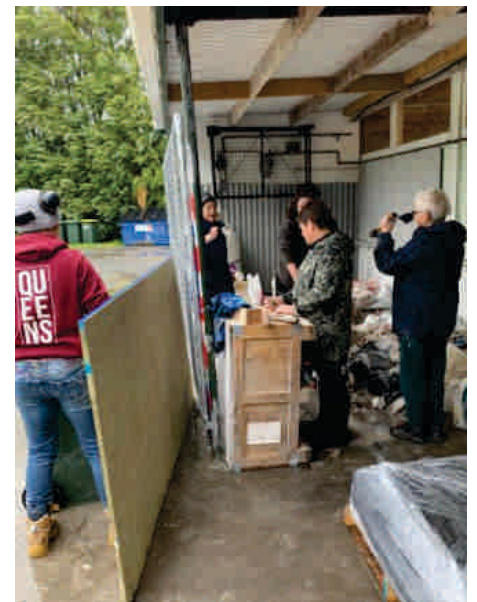
CLASSROOMS: the tutors need to make sure the buckets in the classrooms are emptied after each lesson and put the contents into the appropriate baths. If there is obvious contamination please do not empty into the baths.

PROCESS: Ian will be in during the week to stir the baths and sieve any detritus from the top of the baths.

The clay that is slaking down now should be ready to put out to dry off in a couple of weeks and then when it has dried to the correct consistency, we will commence pugging. Then we will refill the baths with the waiting clay that we could not get into the baths the first time around.

Once the clay has been put on the boards the team will keep an eye and turn them for even drying.

(Below are photos from the day). Thanks Jojo



The School holiday programme run by Derryn and Storm began on the 27th September and will continue through to the 6th October. The website has details.

Health and Safety – Dean has obtained a good supply of masks and we expect anyone sanding greenware or bisqueware to wear a mask – please note that any sanding is to be done outside and well away from any open doors. Masks should be worn when using the spray booth and it is recommended that a face shield or eye protection is worn while spraying. Masks will be freely available. Many thanks to Dean.

The committee has agreed to the purchase of an AED defibrillator. This will be mounted outside on the front of the building.

Gas Kiln – Neil Hey has presented to the committee a comprehensive report on both gas firing charges and gas supply. The committee has accepted Neils recommendations for a new pricing structure for work going through the gas kilns.

If work is bisqued and glazed at the club there will be no additional charge. If work is bisqued away but glazed at the club an additional \$3.50per kg will be applied. For work that is bisqued away and glazed away from the club it will be priced at \$2.50 per kg.

Neil has put a lot of time into presenting a well-documented proposal and we thank him for this and for his management of the gas kilns.

Happy potting everyone,

Caitlin.

Management Committee

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Administration Team

CLASSES Adult Alastair McKenzie

Children/Youth Derryn Robson

CLAY Lynne Corkin

CLEANING BEES Jojo Hare

EQUIPMENT MAINTENANCE Rob Young

EVENTS & MARKETING Kylie Van Dyke

FUNDRAISING Katherine Joyce-Kellaway

GALLERY Paula Archibald

GLAZES Rod Graham

GRAPHICS Kylie Van Dyke

HEALTH & SAFETY Dean Lewin & John Little

KILNS Rod Graham

LIBRARY Kaye Stead

MAINTENANCE Brent Craig

MEMBERSHIP Stephanie Tidman

NEWSLETTER Lyndele MacDermaid

ORIENTATION Kathryn Lim

ROOMS **Manager Needed**

SOCIAL MEDIA Wendi Lindsay

WORKSHOPS Adult Clare Botha

Children/Youth Derryn Robson

TOTE MODERN GALLERY OPENING

This months exhibitors

Potter: Ema Frost

Artist: Adele Souster

MEMBERS NOTICE BOARD

Committee Meeting - Thursday 19th October

New Members: Welcome to Raelene Lord to the club.

On 7 & 8 October, Wellington Potters Association are running an outdoor pop-up market at the Wellington Botanic Gardens.

We have a limited number of spaces available, and would like to extend an invite to your members to participate.

Stalls are \$30 per day. Participants are responsible for all set-up, pack down and cash handling.

WPA provides advertising and promotion

wellingtonpotters.events@gmail.com

THANK YOU TREVOR

Trevor has been a life saver for our club attending to many of the problems the electric kilns have thrown at us. We are indeed indebted to Trevor for the many hours he has put in and especially for his smiling face.

