

Otaki Potters

MARCH 2016



OTAKI POTTERY CLUB INC.

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Others with responsibility:

Club Library Kaye Stead

DVDs and Enrolments Margaret Hunt

New members Jude Whitaker

Newsletter Editor Caitlin Taylor

Website Biz Hayman

Cleaning Bees Stephanie Tidman

Property Maintenance Russell Kitto

Clay Jenny Turnbull

Keys David Simmonds

Festival of Pots Convener Brent Craig

Greetings!

Thank you to those who turned out for the **AGM**. We have a full committee with two new members. We had a good discussion around the Festival of Pots.

The **Twilight Raku** was a most enjoyable event. It was relaxed. The



weather was good and with two kilns going there was no pressure. There was time to talk around the BBQ and check out the results. The naked raku worked really well. The slip fell away with no effort revealing the soft pastel colours of the burnished slips under the crackle pattern. People seemed to go away happy.

The **Kay Bazzard Workshops** generated a lot of interest and the first lot of heads have been going through the bisque firings with no mishaps. Some people may be interested in finishing them with Liz Earth's Bronze glazes, if so let me know. It seems people are keen to do another workshop with Kay on torso's.

The **Vivian Rodriguez's sgraffito workshop** is coming up on the 14th & 15th May. There will be more information in this newsletter.

At the March committee meeting Brent welcomed Biz Hayman and Jeavons Baillie onto the committee for 2016. Biz is managing the

Dates to Remember :

Term one ends	15th April
Cleaning Bee	16th April
Gas firing	20th April
Term two begins	2nd May
OPC Classes resume	9th May



websites for the club and the Festival of Pots and serving on the FOP committee. Jeavons will work with Kay Stead on the library and research specific projects for the committee. At present Jeavons is investigating how to effectively heat the rooms and a possible system to extract clay particles from the air.

Thank you to those members who have written to the committee with suggestions and ideas. Letters and emails are tabled and discussed.

The plan is not to continue to grow the Festival of Pots beyond our ability as a club to manage it but rather put our energies into continuing making it a vibrant and exciting event that people

look forward to visiting. We hope members will be inspired and challenged to explore new ideas during the year and have work ready for the Festival in January 2017.

While the festival is an important fundraiser for the club it is equally important as a venue for members to exhibit their work and for the club to promote itself.



Kay Bazzard Workshops

Top - 1st workshop - Bisque fired

Above - 2nd Workshop



The question was raised as to whether the committee had a list of priorities for spending. After the special member's meeting last year the committee prioritised projects as follows...

1. Carry out repairs to the roof.
2. Upgrade the clay shed and raku sheds and paint the main door.
3. Replace the shelving in the kiln room.
4. Upgrade or replace the slab rollers.
5. Improve the heating in the rooms.
6. Replace the main cable from the college switchboard to the kilns to enable more than one kiln to be fired at the same time.
7. Upgrade the spray booth.
8. Add more plinths to the club's collection.

Items 1 – 4 have been completed. 4 – 8 are in process.

The painting of the buildings is on hold. The issue around storage and the efficiency of the workspaces in the rooms will come up for consideration this year. If members have any ideas or requests, please bring them to the committee's attention.

Both **Talisman slab rollers** are for sale. Priority will be given to members, please contact me if you are interested otherwise they will be sold on Trade Me.

The College will have no students in attendance from Thursday March 24th until Tuesday 29th. The term ends on Friday 15th April. Term two starts on May 2nd.

There are still vacancies in the Cleaning Bee on Saturday April 16th, 10am – 12 noon. Please fill in the sheet by the door or contact Stephanie. If you intend to apply for an exemption for this year, please do so in writing to the committee.

The gas kiln is being fired this week. The next firing is scheduled for Wednesday April 20th. Pots need to be glazed and on the shelves by mid day Tuesday. Please remember to note which glazes you have used.

Welcome to Shane Winchcombe who will tutor the Wednesday night adult class from term two. Thank you to Margaret Hunt who tutored the class while a tutor was found. People who did the Kay Bazzard workshops and want to continue to practice the skills and techniques can enrol in the Thursday night class and Duncan will assist and encourage you.

Alastair Pain has a project for a keen member, or group of members, to make a collection of Ouroboros.* If you are interested either contact me and I will forward his email or contact Alastair direct.

Autumn is setting in and daylight saving is coming to an end, it must be clay time!
- Rod.



* *The Ouroboros is an ancient symbol depicting a serpent or dragon eating its own tail. The name originates from within Greek language; (oura) meaning "tail" and (boros) meaning "eating", thus "he who eats the tail".*



Childrens workshops

Terracotta planters
Tuesday 19th April

Magical creatures
Thursday 28th April

10 - 12.30 pm

\$20 per person per session
Contact Margaret Hunt 364-8053



Notices

- **People who fire their work at home but want to use the club glazes** will need to weigh their pots. The cost is \$3.50 per Kg , and part thereof. This then needs to be entered in the Kiln Book folder in the kiln room.
- **Minute taker** - if you would like to be a little more involved in the club and think this role would be of interest please contact either Caitlin or Rod

Please leave the rooms clean and tidy.



Cleaning Bees 2016 .

Cleaning Bees will be held on:

16th April, 09th July
24th September, 10th December



Each full member is required to do 1 two-hour cleaning bee or pay \$30.

For an exemption you need to apply in writing to the committee.

If you would like to do your cleaning bee painting the new plinth's (photo or cleaning bottles please contact Rod or Stephanie - (contact details on front of Newsletter)



Workshops:

Vivian Rodriguez:

Sgraffito Workshop



14th and 15th May. Fee \$80
Shared Lunch

18th and 19th June Fee \$80
Shared Lunch

The May workshop has to be paid for by the 20th April. Those people with their names already on the list need to take note of this.



Bruce Walford:

Making Waka using moulds

20th and 21st August. Fee: \$80

If there is a lot of interest we will ask Bruce if he would be happy to hold a second workshop



All information will be put on the wall behind the wheels or you can contact:
Margaret Hunt 063648053, mhunt@xtra.co.nz

Correction....

Welcome to our new member

Saskia Smids

My apologies Saskia for recording your name incorrectly in the last newsletter.

Talisman Slab Rollers

..in working condition but will need some maintenance.

If you are interested in making an offer please contact Rod.

rodgraham@xtra.co.nz