

Otaki Potters

March 2019



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PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Greetings!

It has been a busy start to the year with the Festival of Pots, mentoring group, adult classes and the Children's workshop starting, sorting out access and the AGM. Hardly time to catch your breath!

The Festival of Pots was successful beyond expectation. More than twice the number attending, sales were strong and the café was humming. The club has prospered. Thank you to everyone who helped, especially those who went the extra mile when the pressure was on. The Festival Committee has had a de-brief and Derryn Robson gave a financial report to the AGM. The meeting agreed to proceed with the 2020 Festival at Anam Cara Gardens and negotiate a booking for 2021.

There is no doubt that having a publicity committee that was creative and innovative helped promote the Festival in areas unexplored before. Digital media made a big impact with 49 000 hits on Facebook. We got extremely good value for the money invested. We are grateful to Wendi Lindsay, Jude Bismark and Sue Wilson for the time and energy that they put in and those members who supported them in getting the message out.

We also acknowledge the support we had from Big Mac Slabs. Steph put a lot of time and energy in promoting this year's Festival and we thank her for her enthusiasm and expertise.

There were many who jumped in when they saw that something needed doing and others who just quietly got on with it. Some "other halves" became willing workers and some of our adult students volunteered their time. It was a great effort.

Thank you to the team who managed the café; a bumper year! Paula is having a break in 2020 so we are looking for a café manager. Maureen Hunter has done a superb job of curating the inside exhibition and after 5 years in the job it is now time to put her feet up (literally!). Jude Bismark will curate the 2020 inside exhibition. Jude has had many years managing her own gallery. Lynne Corkin has completed her stint in managing the sales desk. Kevin Haste has offered to step back into the role.

With the substantial growth in the Festival this year there will be

changes in 2020. We need to share the load a bit more. Wendi Lindsay will be coordinating and managing the rosters.

With the College fenced and the gate due to become operational this month ACCESS has become a significant issue. Classes were scheduled to start after 3.30pm. Discussions have been ongoing with the College, and Brent and I met recently with the Principal to discuss a proposal to allow entry and exit during a short window around midday. Andy Fraser was open to the suggestion and agreed to approach the Ministry of Education. We will keep you informed, also when the gate becomes operational.

The AGM was well supported. Brent presented a report from the group investigating options for relocation. There was good discussion and it was agreed that a group would be formed to establish the requirements of the club and continue to explore options. If you would like to be involved please contact Brent or Caitlin.

All those who were on the 2018 committee were re-elected except Russell Kitto who stood down but made himself available to continue to help with repairs and maintenance. Ann Porter stood down as Treasurer after several years of faithful service. Ann remains on the committee. Derryn Robson was appointed club Treasurer. Jude Bismark is new to the committee this year. We welcome Jude and the experience and expertise that she brings to the management of the club.

Minutes of the AGM will be available on request to members once Caitlin is back from her overseas travels.

This year we need a new convenor for cleaning Bees.

President's report continued overleaf...



Dates to Remember

Key Exchange - Saturday 9 March from 2pm to 4pm
New Club Day to be held on Sundays from 10am to 12noon
Next Cleaning Bee - Saturday 16 March
Next Gas Firing - Thursday 4 April

President's report cont....

Stephanie Tidman has managed these but it's time for someone else to step up. If you can help, please contact Caitlin. Likewise, we need someone to manage Health & Safety, this is a legal requirement. We will publish a complete list of people and their responsibilities, both on and off the committee, in the next newsletter.

We need to improve our communications with members who cannot receive texts and/or emails. Please let Caitlin know so we can ensure that you are kept up to date with what is going on.

The mentoring Group is working with Bruce Walford. The Challenge is to make up to six different items that are reproducible up to café and restaurant standard. At first, for most of us it was expecting a lot. The group has responded to the task, encouraging one another and sharing expertise.

Friday afternoons have been buzzing and it's exciting to see the variety of forms and creative ideas that are beginning to show themselves. This session is somewhat different to the previous two sessions. The parameters were set by the mentor with a prescribed outcome. The course focuses on design, mould making and glazes.

All adult classes are full and the first Clay workshop for Young People is coming to an end.

Mac's White has been replaced by Mac's Classic White which is now in stock.

For those of you going through medical procedures - we are thinking of you and wish you a speedy recovery.

The club is in its 30th year. Brent is organising a committee to celebrate this milestone. It's great to be a part of a creative community.

HAPPY potting
Rod

THE FOLLOWING IS AN INFORMATION & DISCUSSION DOCUMENT ONLY

SITUATION:

The Otaki Pottery Club is located within the grounds of Otaki College, and as such we are "guests" in Ministry of Education territory. We have a lease with the Otaki College which expires in 2021, and will require renegotiation. Recent circumstances have dictated that the Ministry of Education must erect a fence (with electronically controlled gates) around the entire College grounds.

This has meant that we'll no longer have freedom of access onto the College grounds between the hours of 0830 & 1530, while the College is in session. Access after those hours is not restricted, and as a result Otaki Pottery Club classes & other activities have been moved to outside those restrictions.

OBJECTIVES:

Realistically the Club must look to its options should the need require for it, to relocate or build new premises. If this is to happen, we are faced with some significant financial hurdles. Resource consent is required for fire control systems; emissions from the kilns; approval from neighbours for parking, access & location.

We'll need to locate an existing building suitable for our requirements, or build new purpose built premises either on Reserve land or at Te Horo. (We will also be required to move our present buildings from the College grounds). Any existing building would require modifications for Club use.

KCDC has land at waste water facility, and at the Riverbank Rd transfer station (obviously not suitable to us). KCDC manages Reserves land that could be available to us, but we would have to apply before they will tell us, where and when. The precondition is that we have to first contact all other clubs on that land and ask if they can accommodate us. Then we would have to relocate present our buildings or build a new one. The KCDC doesn't have any premises or land available at present, but this could change in the next 5yrs.

The proposal to have a Ceramics Centre (Smisek's) at Te Horo, is still in its infancy and 2021 is a projected date for completion. It is of interest to us because of its potential. The Otaki Maori racing club has some premises available. Still investigating. Hyde Park complex has a buildings that might be suitable. Still investigating.

The local real estate offices have us on their "lists".

Other options include land next to the College, (ruled out because of existing covenants). The RSA offered us the land next to their premises (too small and costly).

We need someone with a legal background in conveyancing, to assist us.

COSTS:

To build a new purpose-built building we need to consider:

- The transfer of the current buildings, equipment & assets.
- Building Consent from KCDC is charged on the cost of the project:
 - Storm water and foul water; foundations of building; new requirements such as extra toilets, ramps, stairs, fire alarms.
 - Cost of relocating a building & containers:
 - KCDC application for resource consent: \$1224 (for 8hrs) & \$153 for every extra processing hour. Any problems with submissions for Resource Consent: \$4500 (it could take up to 60 - 100 working days (3-6 months) & could cost between \$20000 - \$30000.
 - 3 x phase power installation costs, plus a requirement for power & lighting outlets.
 - Costs of plumbing & sumps.
 - If we were to get OK for use of Reserve land, and it was contested during public notification, our legal costs could be massive. Our total costs could reach \$100,000.

NB: the clubs expenses are not "real", given that the College provides telephone, low power, security, water rates, minimal rental, ordinary land rates.

FUND RAISING

The Club does have some funds available, but they would swiftly be exhausted, before we even go "started". There are community trust funds available, but applications are not even considered until the applicant has a tangible asset. In other words, you can't apply for the money until after you have the property / premises secured.

Should we to advertise for "space" / land? At this stage NO. We're still exploring our options with the College.

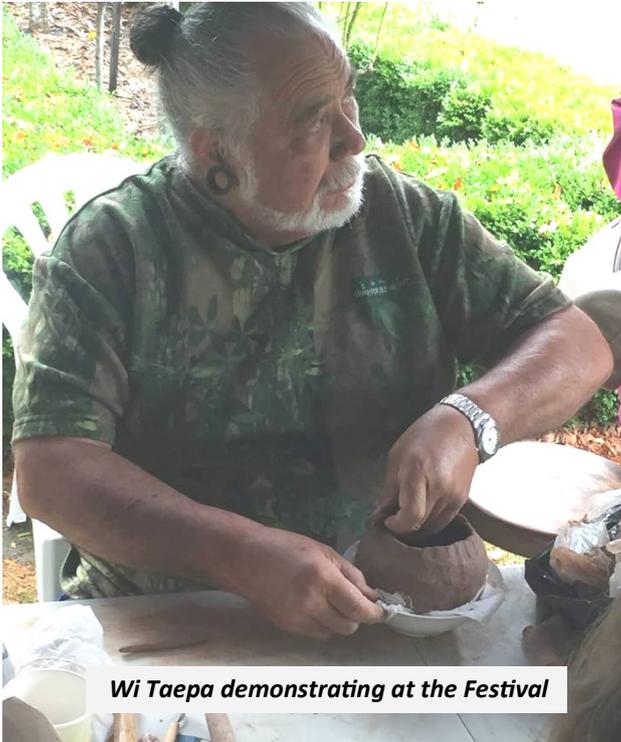
OTAKI POTTERY CLUB 30TH ANNIVERSARY

At the Otaki Pottery Club's Annual General meeting, it was decided that the Club should do something positive to celebrate it's

30th Anniversary. There were a wide range of suggestions, and it was decided that the members of the Club should be asked to submit ideas on how to celebrate this occasion.

It was also decided to establish a working committee to ensure that those ideas were acted upon.

If you would like to be part of the organizing committee, or have any bright ideas, submit them to the Secretary, or Brent Craig.



Wi Taepa demonstrating at the Festival



Festival of Pots



Lenore Winterburn with her amazing creation.

Lenore attends Biz Hayman's Thursday evening hand-building class



Lyuba demonstrating at the Festival



Paula Archibald mould making at a mentoring session

CLEANING BEES 2019

All full members are required to do a two-hour cleaning bee, or equivalent club activity during the year or pay \$30 for someone to do it for you. If you are physically unable to do this you can apply in writing to the committee requesting an exemption. This year cleaning bees will be held on the following dates:

Saturday 16 March, 10am - 12 noon

Saturday 14 September, 10am - 12 noon

Saturday 30 November, 10am - 12 noon.

The roster is on the notice board beside the door. It would be helpful if members could indicate their preference.

We need to fill the March session quickly!

CLUB EVENTS & NOTICES

CLUB DAY

Sundays from 10am to 12noon

We have had a request to move Club Day to the weekend so we will give it a go and see what response we get.

Next Gas Firing: Thursday 4 April

Pots on the shelf by noon on 3 April, please.

Please note: Gas firings are for members only unless part of an adult class programme.



Murray Hopping has a captive audience at the Festival

Management Committee

Patron Grant McNab

President Rod Graham

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Vice President Brent Craig

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Secretary Caitlin Taylor

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Treasurer Derryn Robson

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Committee

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Jude Bismark

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Other Contributors

Club Library & Rooms: Kaye Stead

DVDs and Class Enrolments: Margaret Hunt

New members and Orientation: Stephanie Tidman

Newsletter: Diana Litton

Website: Biz Hayman

Social Media: Stacey Young

Cleaning Bees: (vacant)

Property Maintenance: Brent Craig and Russell Kitto

Keys: Stephanie Tidman

Clay: David Timperley



Festival of Pots



Sometimes you need a little help from your friends :)

REMINDER

Please ensure that **the rooms and equipment are left clean and tidy** and that all lights are off and windows closed when you leave.

If you need clay, please contact Rod (0274 457 545) or Margaret (027 450 2726).