

Otaki Potters

December 2021

Greetings.

Christmas is just around the corner. The year has disappeared, but we can congratulate ourselves on where we are as a club. We are running 11 weekly Adult classes and a class for young people, we have fantastic resources - classrooms and great tutors, amazing workspaces, a fantastic team running the kilns that give us access to a range of firing choices and members who together help make the club work really well. Our teams' managers do an amazing job at keeping our club running at a level that we can be super proud of. We really appreciate the time they put into this.

We have been aware that the parking area has been in need of some attention. The racecourse has done some work on this and for now this will take care of the potholes, but we will need to consider how we may address this in the future.

The roof is also in need of a paint and we do have a couple of leaks that will need to be fixed before too long. While the club is in reasonable shape financially these repairs will eat into those funds.

This is probably a good time to talk about the Festival of Pots - the club's main fundraiser. The Festival committee believe that it is not able to run the festival in January as many members have expressed concern about what is happening with the coronavirus and how uncertain things may be in January. The management committee agreed with the festival committees recommendation to postpone the event. The decision was not made easily, however, to carry on and make the decision closer to the time would mean investing significantly more funds. We are hoping that early in the New Year we can look at holding a version of the Festival - perhaps if not at Anam Cara Gardens then at the race course. Soooo keep making those pots so we can hold a fundraiser. The funds raised from this event

Jenny and Pamela Annsouth



Tote Modern Exhibition Opening



Yolanda Watson



Pamela Annsouth



Murray Hopping Scarecrows



**Charlotte's
Vases**



**Rob Young
Vessel**



go toward maintaining our equipment, purchasing new equipment and tools and also enables us to keep our subscription, class and kiln fees low.

The kilns have had all elements replaced and we have bought a stack of silica carbide shelves making the kilns ready for 2022 and ready for many pots!

The annual Public Raku has also been postponed. This is such a shame as the Raku has been a great community event for many years and we know many families look forward to it. It would be great if we could combine a Raku alongside the fundraiser next year. If you are interested in joining the team to help put a new version of the fundraiser together for 2022 please get in touch.

The Kapiti Arts trail was successful and from what I heard all who were exhibiting had a very busy time. The Tote Modern did very well too. Thank you to all of you who helped run this. The gallery looked great – apart from the waterfall and the river that flowed past the front door on the last Sunday! We do have a guttering job to add to the list of work needing to be done.

Mike Mealings will be completing the western storeroom and we will need a team to help clear this and then organise the equipment that will be going back in. Please contact Sue Wilson or Stephanie if you can help. This will be early in the new year.

Another great cleaning bee was held on the 27th. Thank you to all those who attended. If you have yet to do a cleaning bee please contact Jojo. Jojo will find you something to do that will count as your cleaning bee or alternatively you can pay the \$40.

Jojo and Rod had to postpone the proposed clay recycling and are now looking at doing this sometime in January. When the date is set you will be notified and given the opportunity to purchase a bag or two of the recycled clay.

The racecourse is having problems with the water supply and are trying to locate where the burst pipe is. We are currently running on a very limited supply of water so glazes will not be being made until we are reconnected. Please use water sparingly but please do make sure you clean up well after yourself. Kaye does a wonderful job looking after the rooms, but it is not her

responsibility to clean up after us! Remembering to wet wipe benches clean and then use a dry towel. Leaving smears of clay behind is what creates the dust that we all know is not good to breath in!

The Committee has been concerned with how the club needs to react to the current situation we have with coronavirus and the consideration of masks and vaccinations. Any decision that may make members feel uncomfortable is not made lightly. Some committee members were concerned that a decision to only accept members to the clubrooms with a current vaccination certificate was discriminating how ever the overriding feeling was that we had a responsibility to protect members and students who could be vulnerable to any possibility of covid contact. Therefore the decision to operate under the rules - mask wearing being mandatory and current vaccination certificate required for entry - was implemented.

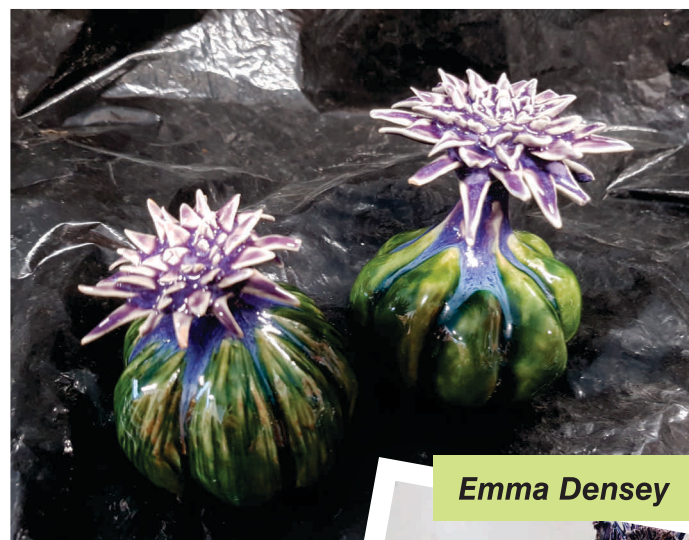
A survey was sent out to members and the result to the question asked "No Vaccine no entry into the clubrooms – Yes or No" from the 133 fully paid up members of which 92 replied was 66 answered Yes and 26 answered No.

We want to continue the dialogue and appreciate this decision affects several of our members. If we can find a way for these members to work at the clubrooms we will. Stephanie has sent out an invitation for those who wish to participate in a discussion around this to attend prior to the next committee meeting on the 16th December 5.30 – 6.15pm. If you cannot attend and wish to contribute to the discussion, please send correspondence to Stephanie which can be presented on your behalf to the meeting.

Do keep an eye out for information on proposed summer workshop. This is still being developed but will comprise of many short workshops covering a variety of topics.

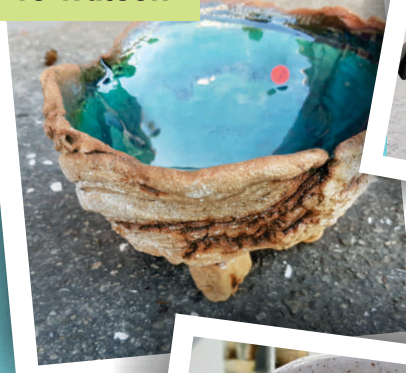
I do hope this year has not been too stressful and that you have managed to produce some fabulous work. Please do come along to the Christmas party – it would be lovely to see you all.

Have a wonderful summer.
Caitlin



Emma Densey

Yo Watson



Sue O'Rourke



Prue Burbidge



Stephanie Tidman

Management Committee

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Committee

Margaret Hunt

Stephanie Tidman

Neil Hey

Jojo Hare

Other Contributors

Workshops/DVDs: Margaret Hunt

Children's After School Programme:

Paula Archibald

Children's Workshops: Wendi Lindsay

Membership Manager: Abbey Morris

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Gallery Manager: Paula Archibald

Marketing & Raku Co-ordinator: Sue Wilson

Website: Kylie Van Dyke

Library & Clubrooms: Kaye Stead

Newsletter: Lynde MacDermaid

Cleaning Bees: Jojo Hare

Clay: Rod Graham | Jojo Hare

Property Maintenance: Brent Craig

Glaze Making:

Rod Graham | Helen Walch

David Roil | Val Waugh | Sue Smith

New Members:

Welcome to Brenda Groen, Rod Young

Louise Conway, Claire Botha, Chantal Murray

Next Committee Meeting

16th December 6.30pm

Congratulations

To Ern Bale our oldest member at 93.

To Julianna Mansvelt Outstanding Geographer of the Year. Now Professor Mansvelt at Massey University

Tote Modern

Artists for next month are Neil and Lindsay Hey.

Opening nights are the last thursday of the month unless otherwise advised.

THANK YOU

Saturday 27th, was the last cleaning bee of the year, I want to thank all of the people who attended, it was a great atmosphere, and everyone did an excellent job, thank you. By the time we had finished the glaze room looked fantastic and the club room was spotless.

I will put up a new roster after the new year with next year's dates on them. And thank you to all that attended this year's cleaning bees, many hands did make light work.

Many thanks Jojo Hare

PLEASE JOIN US FOR OUR

Christmas
GET TOGETHER

SUNDAY 12 DECEMBER

4.30PM AT THE TOTE BUILDING

This year we want to celebrate getting through a tough year and would like to have the Christmas party in our building.

Please bring something to add to the table and something to drink.

There will be non-alcoholic punch and cheese platters provided.



We look forward to seeing you there and a special invitation to all members new to the club this year.

EXAMPLES OF GLAZING SMALL ITEMS

Glazing small things can be tricky and take up a lot of room in the kiln, here's some examples of how to do single and double sided items.

