

Otaki Potters

July 2021

Kia Ora koutou, Greetings.

Winter has arrived! What better time to hunker down with your clay or drawing pads and create or design some pots?

The club has been very active over the last month. The tile competition is off to a great start with many of you busy creating your tile. Thank you, Brent, for organising and running this. It will be interesting to see the results. Please don't think you can only make a tile for the competition; we would love to see all members make a tile for the tile wall. The competition closing date is now August 1 st however tiles will be accepted for the rest of that month for the wall.

Bruce Walford's large coil pot workshops have proved to be very popular and the results are filling up any available space in the rooms. Bruce has agreed to a 3 rd workshop to accommodate those who missed out on the earlier workshops. The allocation for this workshop is full.

Margaret is working on other possible workshops which will be advertised as soon as we have confirmation from the Tutors.

Kathryn Lim is organising a Friday evening get-together. "Tote Talks" the first of which will be on Gas firing given by Neil Hey on the 2nd July. Neil has been running our down draft gas kiln and is a mine of information on anything associated with gas firings. Kathryn's aim is to continue these "talks" on the first Friday of each month if this proves to be popular. Well done Kathryn, great initiative. I am sure if you have any suggestions for "Tote Talks" Kathryn would be pleased to hear from you.



Bruce Walford's large coil pot workshops



Bruce Walford's pot in progress



Katyhryn Lim



Paula Archibald



Large pots coil workshop

The newly formed committee met on the 16th June. We have a great team. The committee is there to represent the club members so please do let us know if you have any concerns, ideas, queries that you would like addressed. Emily Friedlander was voted on to the committee at the meeting. Welcome Emily and thank you for volunteering your time to the club. You are welcome to attend a committee meeting any time. Please advise if you would like to come along.

Thank you to Ann Porter and her team for implementing our new accounting system – Xero. This system makes it much easier for the accounts team to keep their records and enables a better understanding (by all of us) of the presented club accounts.

We are planning to set up a folder in the shelves in the kitchen which will contain copies of the monthly minutes and accounts to keep members abreast of club information.

On that note we do need to find someone to manage some of the secretarial jobs. Keeping track of diary events, filing club documents and other secretarial duties. If you can help, please contact Caitlin.

We have a change in Tutors for our Wednesday night hand-building class. Rod will take over from Bruce at the beginning of term 3. Bruce came to the rescue when we had a need and we are grateful for his support.

We welcome Bruce not only as a member and a tutor but also as our Resident Potter. Bruce will set up an area in the glaze room but as you will have noticed by now, he has also been constructing his very large pots on a wheel in the club rooms. The construction of these pots is quite something to watch. Bruce will be available to interact and answer questions on an informal basis but please do respect his space and time.

Rod, Wendy Ransfield and Tina Lowe ran a class making tiles and stars at the local Montessori school for Matariki.

It is great that we can introduce the craft to schools. Thank you to Rod and his team. I'm sure it was a lot of fun! The tiles and stars will be mounted on a board and form an artwork in the school's playground area.

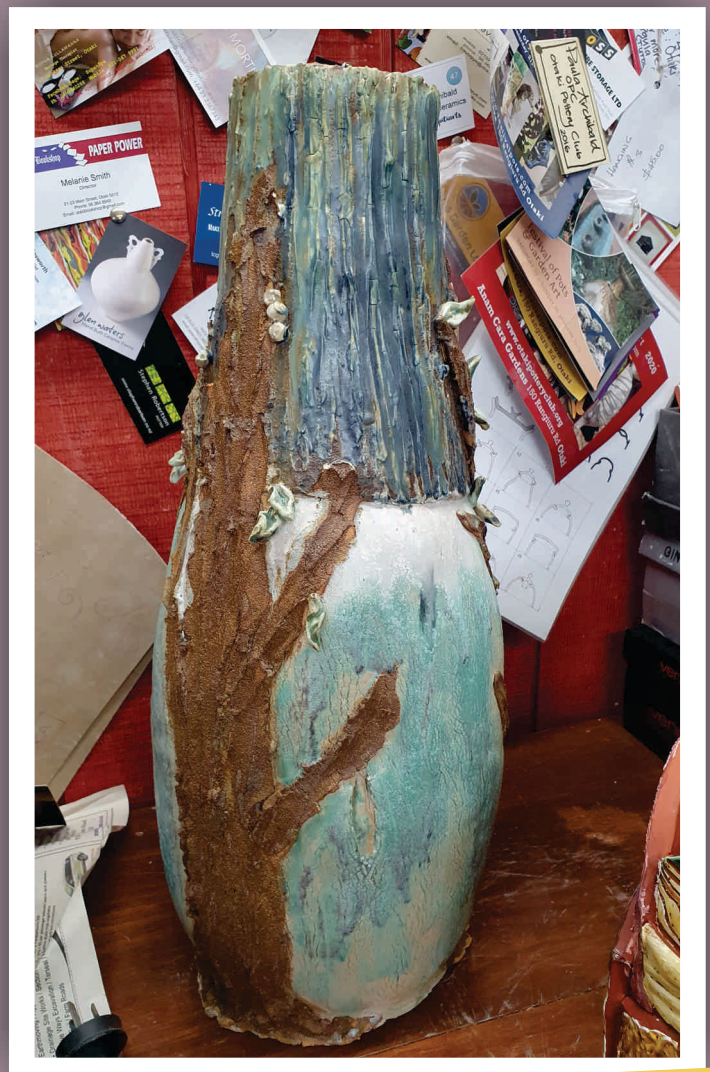
Due to the region going to level 2 we have had to postpone classes (Wednesday – Friday) and the Saturday "Play with Clay date" Thank you for your co-operation all who have been affected by this. Thanks also to those who assist Sue. The work that is coming out of these "dates" is really interesting.

Clay supply is still unpredictable. We have good stocks of PRGi and PRGf, however most white clays are difficult to get. Rod has installed a white board on the clay room door listing available clays. Rod has sent his report on clay which will be printed further in this newsletter.

The club receives newsletters from other pottery and craft clubs. These are sent out to those who have requested in the past. Please let me know if you would like to receive these and I will add your name to the mailing list.

We note with sadness the passing of Joy Snaddon. Joy was club treasurer for some years and an active member of the club. Also, Wilf Wright. Wilf and Jan were helpful and encouraging of the club in the early years and continued to keep in contact over the years. Both these people will be sadly missed by those who knew them.

Keep warm
Caitlin Taylor.



Glaze workshop - Work by Paula Archibald



Tile making session

Management Committee

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Committee

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Wendy Ransfield
Allie McHugo
Emily Friedlander

Other Contributors

Workshops/DVDs: Margaret Hunt
Children's After School Programme:
Paula Archibald
Children's Workshops: Wendi Lindsay
Membership Manager: Stephanie Tidman
Gallery Manager: Jude Bismark
Marketing & Raku Co-ordinator: Sue Wilson
Website: Kylie Van Dyke
Library & Clubrooms: Kaye Stead
Newsletter: Lyndele MacDermaid
Cleaning Bees: Jojo Hare
Clay: Rod Graham | Jojo Hare
Property Maintenance: Brent Craig | Russell Kitto
Glaze Making: Rod Graham | Helen Walch
David Roil | Val Waugh

A wood fired kiln for OPC

The recent Committee meeting supported a proposal to investigate the construction and operation of a wood fired kiln at the Racecourse site. The immediate project will be to seek the agreement of the OMRC, arrive at a kiln design and construction timetable. Would Club members who are interested in taking part with Jeavons please email him or the "Secretary" indicating whether you have relevant knowledge or would just like to be kept informed as the details are firmed up. Jeavons proposes to mainly use email and keep face to face meetings to a minimum.

Clay Report

We have been informed that clays on back order (November 2020) have now arrived in the country and will be dispatched from Decopots over the next few days. These include White grogged stoneware, Paper Clay and White Speckled Stoneware. BRT and Feeneys White raku are unavailable at the moment. We have supplies of most other clays. We are fortunate that PRGI and PRGF are readily available. PRGI is great for wheel and hand building. PRGF is a good clay for sculpture and large pieces. Shipping clays from overseas has been problematic and I'm slowly building up supplies to avoid shortages in future. It is likely that clay will increase in price due to increases in shipping costs. **Rod.**

Banking

Please make sure you have changed our bank details in your bank payees: 38-9003-0784227-011
NB: the last 3 numbers have changed from 005 to 011

New Member: Welcome to Liz Watt

Next Committee Meeting 21st July



*We would love to see you at
"TOTE TALKS" this Friday night!!*

This month topic is Gas Firing.

It's a great opportunity to get some great tips and meet some new members.
Come to the potluck dinner at 5.30pm, to be followed by the talk at 6.30pm.