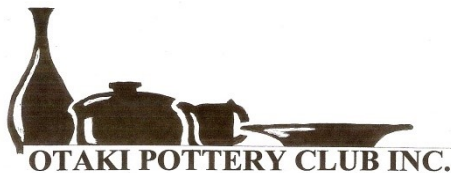




Otaki Potters

April 2019



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www.otakipotteryclub.org

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Greetings!

Summer just keeps going and no one is complaining.

The electronic gates are now operating at Otaki College and will be closed 8:30-3:30pm when school is in session. The gates will open 12noon-12:15pm Monday, Wednesday and Friday to allow people an opportunity to get in or out.

The gates are open at 3:30pm every day; all weekends; school and public holidays.

There may be some parking beside the gates or at the front of the College beside the tennis courts. I know that this is a pain but it is the best we can do for now.

The group investigating new premises is making good progress. There is an update from them in this newsletter. Thank you to those members (and partners!) who indicated that they would like to be involved. All members will have the opportunity to have their say and look over any proposed building before the club signs any lease that binds the club for the long term.

Anam Cara Gardens is booked for the **Festival of Pots and Garden Art, January 17th-26th**. I'm pleased to announce that our guest potters will be Fiona Tunnicliffe and Bruce Walford. This year, about 50% of club members exhibited and most were very happy with the result. It would be great if every member had at least one piece in the next Festival. It is a great confidence booster when you realise someone likes your work enough to purchase it. Now is a good time to experiment with new ideas and build on the ones that you are already pleased with.

Murray Hopping and Helen Welch are doing a great job in keeping the club supplied with glazes. It's a demanding and time consuming job. If a particular glaze is running out please leave a note on the board beside the door.

Jenny Shearer has offered us the opportunity to have a two-day workshop with Erik Omundson. If you are into wheel work, this is for you. Erik will demonstrate throwing big pots and "loose" pots. I like the sound of loose pots. After

working with Mike O'Donnell and spending 13 years with Barry Brickell at Driving Creek, Erik has a wealth of knowledge and some good stories to share.

Michelle Read is making a good recovery from her hip operation and Kaye Stead has good news and getting her strength back.

Onwards and upwards!

HAPPY potting

Rod

CLUBROOMS UPDATE

At the 2019 AGM, it was decided that the Otaki Pottery Club should remain at its present location, but should actively investigate relocation options if access became difficult.

Now that the gates are operational and access has become very restricted the need for better premises has become more urgent.

Many options have been well explored by the sub-committee that was then formed and who now wish to recommend that a building located on the Otaki Maori Race course grounds be the best option for the relocation of the pottery club.

The building being considered is the (standalone) Cafeteria / tote building at the rear of the main grandstand.

Continued overleaf



Dates to Remember

Next mentoring workshop - Saturday 13 April from 9am to 1pm

Pit Fire Workshops - Saturday 4 and 18 May from 9am to 1pm

Next Gas Firing - Thursday 2 May

It's a large space with potential for many club activities, it has plenty of parking, and good access. However, it will require considerable work to make it fit for our purpose.

The Committee is also in the early negotiation stage with the race course management, and will keep you advised of progress there.

Members will be kept fully informed as information comes available. To ensure members are fully appraised of the proposal, and to avoid any misunderstanding or disgruntlement, we recommend for the next few months at least that you keep up-to-date by reading any related emails, read the newsletter and check the notice board. This is a major Club decision, and requires your involvement and support.

Please email Caitlin if you have any questions relating to this recommendation.

The hard work we have all put into the Festival of Pots is now paying dividends. Without this fundraising event this option would not have been possible.

Brent Craig
Vice President

School Holiday Clay workshops

Tuesday April 16th

10am-12 noon Castles

1pm-3pm Serving Plate or Dinner Plate

\$30 per person per workshop.

Term Two: young people's clay workshop

4 sessions Mondays 3:30-5pm

\$50 includes firing and all materials.

Starts May 6th.

Adult Classes: hand building and wheel

Start week beginning May 6th.

For further information and to enrol, contact Margaret Hunt 06 364 8053 or Mhunt@xtra.co.nz.

ERIK OMUNDSON WHEEL WORKSHOP – register your interest

Erik is from Hawaii and visiting New Zealand later in the year. We have been offered the opportunity to have him for a two-day workshop on November 23rd and 24th. The first day will be a demonstration of making large pots and "loose" pots for 15 people. Day two will be a hands on workshop for 10 people. The fee for day one is \$35; for day two is \$40. For both days \$75.

Erik Omundson heads Donkey Hill Arts and Ceramic Department in Hawaii. In 1995 he came to New Zealand to be Mike O'Donnell's apprentice at Tarariki Pottery in Paeroa. In 1997 he worked as Barry Brickell's thrower and wood kiln firer. At Driving Creek Erik produced a

NOTES FROM THE GLAZE TEAM

- Murray Hopping and Helen Walch

We have tested a number of Black Tenmoku (1260 C) recipes on a wide selection of clays but none have proved better than the current OPC recipe. A new batch of this glaze is available.

Similar tests using JB Fleck (1260 C) indicate best iron phosphate colour development occurs when the glaze is applied thickly. The extra iron content of brown clays (such as SC 50, SC 80) also helps produce good speckled rust-red colours.

We have made a new batch of Cone 6 Shiny Clear (1200 C) from the original recipe as used by Margaret Hunt's class and corrected by Diane Irwin. This is an excellent transparent glaze for Cone 6 but apply it thinly for best results. Too thick and it goes milky.

Murray



OTHER NOTICES

- * **Please check** to see if you have PW20 Bag numbers P329; P353 and P354 and contact Rod.
- * **We need....** Newspaper and old towels.
- * **Next gas firing** : May 2nd. Pots to be on the shelves with clearly labelled tickets by noon May 1st.
- * **The rooms are booked** for the following workshops: Saturday April 13th 9am-1pm: Mentoring Group. Saturday mornings 4th and 18th May: Pit Fire Workshop.
- * **CLUB DAY**: Sundays from 10am.



formidable amount of work both sculptural and domestic. He stayed 13 years then returned to the US. You can go online and see some of his work.

If you would like to attend this workshop please register your interest. We need to determine if there is enough support to proceed.

Please contact Margaret Hunt at mhunt@xtra.co.nz
Phone 06 364 8053 or 0274 502 726.

ERIK OMUNDSON





Management Committee

Patron Grant McNab

President Rod Graham

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Vice President Brent Craig

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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

Staff needed at Te Horo Beach Bus Cafe

We're looking for someone to join us on the Bus.

We're a busy little cafe at the bottom of the garden.

We need someone to help front of house, taking orders, cash handling and general duties in the kitchen. Experience would be an asset.

Friday, Saturday and Sunday 9am - 4.30pm.

Phone Kirsty on 021 650 636

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.

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).