

P O Box 36 OTAKI 5512 Ph. 06 364 7308 x 711 www.otakipotteryclub.org

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Greetings,

It was a good move to postpone the raku, we ended up with a brilliant sunny day. It was good to have potters join us from Levin Pottery Club, Kapiti Arts and Crafts, Woolshed Potters and Wellington Potters. Lynne Rigg from Kapiti did some experimenting with naked raku getting good results. If people bring their bisqued ware masked we can put the slip on, dry it then apply the glaze then fire it without delay. We got strong coppers and rainbow colours.

Our next club raku is planned for September/October and we will make it an inter-club raku again. We will also set up for anyone who is interested to try naked raku (good on white clays and terracotta). I will also ask Sandra Sinclair to again demonstrate Obvara and ancient technique to seal work for domestic ware, so bring some bisqueware along to try it. Sandra says it works best over texture. There will also be an opportunity to try hair and feathers on heated pots.

The first Bruce Walford Workshop demonstrating plaster molds was a great success. Bruce is such a wealth of information which he is so willing to share. The second workshop on May 27th is full. Thank you, Margaret, for organising these. Please remember: It is imperative that no liquid plaster gets into the drainage system.

All adult classes are full and operational. Thank you to the tutors who make themselves available to share their expertise. The after school workshop for young people on Mondays is also all go and we have a one day workshop on Thursday 25th for home school students.

The Children's Act requires schools to have policies and processes in place. Therefore, Otaki College requires **ALL MEMBERS** AND **ASSOCIATE MEMBERS** who will drive into the college to provide their name, make and model of

vehicle and registration number to be on record. If you drive more than one vehicle please include all. Either fill in the form in the rooms or email your details to Caitlin. The College require this by 18th June.

In addition, members, associate members and adult class students who come onto the college grounds between 8am and 4pm on the days that the college is open for students, are required to fill in a Police Vetting Form. Forms are available online and there will be forms available in the rooms. Two documents as evidence of identity are required to accompany the form, one of which must include photo ID. Caitlin and I will meet with the Executive Officer at the College then advise you of the agreed process which needs to be completed by 18th June.

The National Potters Convention will be held in Wellington next year. We need at least one member to represent us on the organising committee. If you are interested please talk to Jenny Turnbull.

The committee has agreed to upgrade the lighting in the rooms with LED tubes. Members have first call on fluorescent tubes and fittings that are being replaced please contact Brent if you are interested.

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Dates to Remember

- Vehicle registration details to Caitlin ASAP
- Police Vetting Forms due ASAP
- Empty Bowls Project pot-in, Friday June 9th

President's Report Cont.

While the lighting is being upgraded, double plugs will also be installed behind the wheels and near the two new wheels. Three new heat guns will also be purchased.

Just a reminder that when you move bisque and glaze ware on the shelves to be careful as some work is being damaged.

We have the Empty Bowls Project evening on Friday June 9th. BYO pizza/ F&C etc.

Keep warm. **Happy Potting**



OPC Management Committee

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Other Contributors

Club Library & Rooms Kaye Stead DVDs and Enrolments Margaret Hunt Orientation Jude Whitaker Newsletter Anna Wood Website Biz Hayman Cleaning Bees Beryl Rowe New members Stephanie Tidman Property Maintenance Russell Kitto Clay Jenny Turnbull **David Simmonds** Keys



Cleaning Bees



Have you helped at a cleaning bee this year? As a requirement for full members, please add your name to the sheet in the Club Room. Dates for remaining cleaning bees are: 15th July, 16th September, 9th December. Alternatively, you can pay \$30 to cover your cleaning contribution. Please contact Stephanie to discuss.

CLUB EVENTS



Empty Bowls NZ was launched in 2015, building on an international idea and a lot of questions about how to support our community. The initiative encourages

potters to make and donate bowls to be sold in order to raise funds to support Wellingtonians in need. Over 900 bowls were made and sold in 2015, raising almost \$20,000 for Wellington's Downtown Community Ministry.

The Empty Bowls initiative is being run again this year. The bowls will be made by a community of professional potters and members from OPC, Wellington Potters Association and Porirua's Woolshed Potters. Bowls can be turned or hand-built and the only requirement is that they are food-safe.

All clay is being generously supplied by **Waikato Ceramics** and all bowls will be sold via Moore Wilson, at their Wellington city, Wairarapa and Porirua locations, from Saturday 2 September.

If you are interested in participating in Empty Bowls 2017, OPC will have a pot-in on Friday June 9th (BYO fish and chips etc).

To register for the pot-in and/or to request your free clay to make an Empty Bowl, please add your name to the sheet on the noticeboard in the Club Room or email rodgraham@xtra.co.nz



CLUB NOTICEBOARD

Laguna Clay On Sale

Sample bags weigh 11.36 kg or 25 US Lbs Clays including their standard price per bag...

- Wood fire Clay C12 \$40.00pb -½ price \$20.00
- Speckled Buff Clay C6 \$35.00pb -½ price \$17.50
- Raku Industrial Clay C06 \$25.00pb- ½ price \$12.50
- Electric Brown Clay C5 \$40.00pb ½ price \$20.00
- Red Calico Clay C5 \$25.00pb ½ price \$12.50

Please write the name of the clay in the clay book when purchasing.

New Macs Clay now available

Macs Buff Stoneware

- Shrinkage 1280C 12% 13%
- Plasticity Excellent
- Colour Light buff Oxidation, toasty in reduction
- Applications Throwing, small scale hand building

A traditional iron bearing plastic stoneware clay made from 100% NZ clays. A smooth plastic clay with excellent throwing properties makes this a good choice for both the proficient thrower and the beginner. Fires well in both oxidation and reduction. It is ideal for celadon and iron based glazes and has a good colour response in wood firing. Also good for hand building applications.

Macs Whitestone

- Shrinkage 1280C 11%
- Plasticity excellent
- Colour White at earthenware, tending creamier toward stoneware
- Texture Medium molochite grog mesh 30/80 10%

Applications – Throwing, hand building, slab, earthenware – stoneware firing range. A very plastic clay and dense creamy white clay suitable for all applications with a wide firing range 1000 – 1300C









Editors Note: Photographs of OPC potters' recent works are included in this newsletter. Apologies to those potters whose work is unnamed. Please feel free to email me to identify your work and I will acknowledge this in next months newsletter. Anna (a_j_wood@yahoo.com)