

Otaki Potters

May 2018



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PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Greetings!

Unexpected challenges have necessitated some changes. The removal of asbestos and demolition work around the College during the school holidays meant that we had to postpone the inter-club raku and find another venue for the children's workshops; which were a great success. With limited access and the power being disconnected for several days meant it was pretty quiet in the rooms. However we did manage to get some work done around the place.

We have sorted the glaze samples on the shelves. Margaret has prepared 60 samples to test the gas fire glazes so you will have a better idea of possible results. I say possible because there is quite a bit of variation in the firing process. It's not like firing in the electric kiln where results are consistent no matter where pots are in the kiln and the atmosphere does not change during the firing. Depending which glazes you apply will determine where the work will go in the kiln. We fire in a reducing atmosphere where at certain temperatures fuel is increased and oxygen diminished; for example this turns copper red. The temperature range from top of the kiln to bottom is 1280-1312 deg C so it is important that if you want to use more than one glaze on your pot they must mature at the same temperature. If you are interested in firing in the gas kiln talk to Margaret Hunt, Jenny Turnbull or me. We could run a half-day workshop on using our glazes for gas firing. Let Margaret know if you are keen.

Health and Safety....we provide gloves but you need to provide your own mask when glazing, especially when spraying.



Stacey Young

Dates to Remember

Working Bee 5 May
Term Two Classes start w/c 7 May
Gas Firing 10 May
Inter-Club Raku 21 July

President's message cont.

The **working bee** (as opposed to a cleaning bee) will be held on Saturday May 5th. If you can wield a shovel and a hammer you qualify. We will also clear and sort stuff above the benches. Let Brent know if you are available. This counts as a cleaning bee.

We need to build a data base for the Festival of Pots inputting the information on the raffle tickets that people filled in during the recent festival. We need a couple of people to do this and it would count as your cleaning bee. Please contact Caitlin.

The **Inter-club Raku** will be held on July 21st. More time to make pots! More information in the June newsletter. All Adult Classes and Children's Workshop are full for term two and start the week beginning May 7th.

We currently have 82 members (92) and 10 associate members (11).

Our best wishes to Carol Elsmann who has recently been admitted to hospital.

Our condolences to Diane Irwin on the passing of her husband Peter. Our thoughts are with you.

Condolences to Caitlin. Her mum passed away in Christchurch recently.

Happy Potting



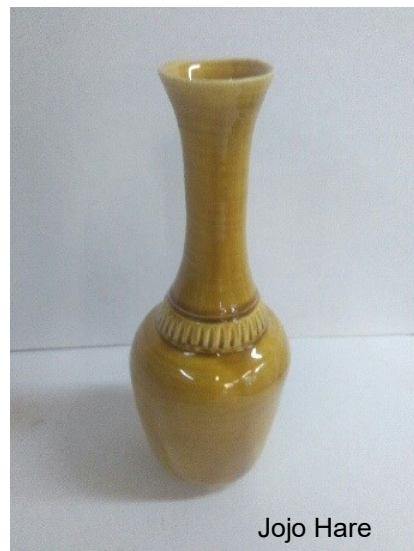
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Biz Hayman



Jojo Hare



Jojo Hare

15 April - 3 June 2018

Three Ceramic Artists:

Pamella Annsouth, Anneke Borren, Jenny Shearer.

You are warmly invited to the opening of two exhibitions on Saturday 14 April at 5pm, all welcome, free entry. The exhibitions run until Sunday 3 June.



Mahara Gallery
Kāpiti Coast District Gallery

Mahara Gallery, Mahara Place, Wadsworth, 370. 04 902 6242, info@maharagallery.org.nz, www.maharagallery.org.nz
OPEN: Tues-Sat 10am-5pm, Sun 1-4pm. Free entry.

OPC MENTORING WORKSHOPS

Chris Dunn, an experienced potter and active member of Wellington Potters, has agreed to mentor a group of 12 Otaki Potters for three sessions. Chris has just returned from Australia where he was potter in residence with Canberra potters for three months where he ran Barrel Firing s with exciting results.

Chris will run the mentoring workshops on Friday afternoons from 2pm. The first was held on Friday April 27th and it was exciting to hear the stories of workshop members, see some of their work and what they hope to achieve in the coming three months. The second and third will be on May 25 and June 26.

It is agreed that the group will meet informally on Friday afternoons from 2pm. The rooms will be open to other members during this time. However, the rooms will be closed to others from 2-6pm on the days that the mentoring workshops take place.

This is an exciting development. Not only does it provide a challenge in a positive working environment for more experienced members but it will also strengthen the club.



EXPRESSIVE CERAMICS CONVENTION 2018

Registrations are open and are rolling in! Having a Ceramics NZ convention practically in your backyard is an opportunity not to be missed, as it happens only about once in ten years.

We have four wonderful masterclasses lined up on dates before and after the convention proper at three different clubs. Jane McCulla will run a master class at Hutt Art Society on Thursday and Friday 16/17 August. Originally from Ireland, and with honours in 1st Class BA Hons Fine & Applied Art at the University of Ulster, she and her family came to NZ about eight years ago and Jane has just become a NZ citizen. Yay, Jane!

Jane is the Canterbury/West Coast Regional Council member for Ceramics NZ as well as vice president, and as such has been proactive in organising the Biennial National Tableware Exhibition, other regional exhibitions and setting up a co-op at Stoddard Cottage in Diamond Harbour. Not only that, she is an award winning ceramic artist. Among others, she has won a merit at the Portage, and her "Mythical Vessel" also received a commendation at last year's National Exhibition in Whanganui. Recently, she spent an 8-week residency in Jinghe- de-Zhen, China.

At her masterclass she will help you make sprigs and make vessels with textured and stretched slabs of clay. She applies slips and wiped back glazes to give her work that earthy, ancient look. This will be a hands-on class suitable both for experienced and not so experienced potters. I'm sure she will have lots of interesting stories from her time in China as well.

We are looking for a few people able to offer billeting to out of town participants in the master classes. The guests will pay \$30 per night/breakfast directly to their host. Preferably the host will live within an easy commute to a club or be participating in the masterclass themselves and able to share transport. We see this as a win/win situation: the host gets to subsidise their potting activities, the guest has cheap accommodation, and there's the bonus of connecting with a like-minded person! If you are able to offer a billet, please email Aimee: mazpots@gmail.com, and we will line you up with someone.

Don't forget:

Expressive Ceramics 2018: Surface Exploration- 11-12 August, Trentham Gardens, preceded by Ceramics NZ National Exhibition opening Friday 10th August, Expressions, Upper Hutt, and followed by optional bus tour, 13 August. All the details and registration forms on: www.expressivec ceramics.co.nz Masterclasses are filling up fast, be in quick!

Aimee McLeod, co-convenor

Expressive Ceramics 2018

Ceramics New Zealand Convention in the Wellington Region

Friday 10 - Sunday 12 August 2018



Featuring Surface Exploration Workshops by:

Greg Daly – Australia

Will and Kate Jacobson – Hawaii

Jane McCulla – New Zealand

Mollie Bosworth – Australia

Stevei Houkamau – New Zealand

expressiveceramics.co.nz

Enquiries to: mazpots@gmail.com

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PRIMOCLAYS

CLUB EVENTS & NOTICES

CLUB DAY Wednesdays 10am – 12 noon. Friends and visiting potters are welcome.

Working Bee. May 5th.

Inter-Club Raku. July 21st.

RAKU Sue Wilson is running this year's Raku she is putting together a team and would like anyone interested in helping to get in touch with her Kakacat29@gmail.com

Next Gas Firing May 10th

Over the weekend someone damaged a very special piece of work and didn't leave a note.

While it may have been an accident please avoid touching other peoples work.

Management Committee

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Other Contributors

Club Library & Rooms: Kaye Stead
DVDs and Class Enrolments: Margaret Hunt
New members : Stephanie Tidman
Orientation: Stephanie Tidman
Newsletter: Anna Wood
Website Biz Hayman
Social Media: Stacey Young
Cleaning Bees: Stephanie Tidman
Property Maintenance: Brent Craig + Russell Kitto
Keys: Stephanie Tidman
Clay: Vacant



Unknown



Murray Hopping



Diane Irwin