

Otaki Potters

NOVEMBER 2016



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Others with responsibility:

Club Library & Rooms	Kaye Stead
DVDs and Enrolments	Margaret Hunt
Orientation	Jude Whitaker
Newsletter	Caitlin Taylor
Website	Biz Hayman
Cleaning Bees	Stephanie Tidman
New members	Stephanie Tidman
Property Maintenance	Russell Kitto
Clay	Jenny Turnbull
Keys	David Simmonds
Festival of Pots Convener	Brent Craig

Greetings.

Rock 'n Roll and rain, rain rain!

I had visions of broken pots and a mess in the rooms after the recent earthquake and was amazed to find nothing was out of place when I arrived at the rooms.

It has been so wet that we have had to cancel the **pizza party** and postpone the **pit firing** twice as the ground is too sodden to put the pit in. Our last attempt will be on Saturday November 26th



Murray Hopping
-Mocha diffusion

The **Public Raku** is on Saturday December 3rd. Judy Page is the convenor this year and she has been ringing around to slot people into the various tasks that go together to ensure that the day goes well. Judy reports that people have been most responsive and helpful. If you feel neglected please give Judy a ring and let her know where you would like to help. Judy is really well organised and is putting a lot of time and effort into making the event a success so your support is appreciated.

If you have good seconds or pots you no longer want please consider putting them in the marked box in the drying room for the club stall at the Public Raku. Colleen goes to a lot of trouble to display work well at affordable prices. She likes to have new work each year so donations are welcome. If you would like to make something for the stall see me and I'll sort out clay and firing costs for you.

One of the things I like about this club is that people will pitch in and go the extra mile when asked. This was evident when Judy asked that we make more pots for the raku. The call went out and before we knew it the kiln room was full of work. A great effort. It was fun. Thanks people.

Thank you to the person who not only returned the raku burner but did a great upgrade on it.

The **Club Day Lunch**, at the Brown Butter Café in Ohau, was a most enjoyable occasion. The food was good, the venue very pleasant and the company convivial.

Our **Christmas Doo** is coming up on December 11th at the Riverstone Café in Otaki. We need to know that we have at least 25 going to confirm our booking (they are opening just for us). If you are planning to attend please contact Caitlin ASAP. We need to know names and numbers. Thank you to those who

Dates to Remember :

Public Raku 10 - 3pm.	3rd December
Cleaning Bee	10th December
Christmas Dinner	11th December
FoPs opening night	21st January
Greg Barron Workshop	23rd - 24th January

have already registered. A great way to get together after recovering from the raku.

While we are presently putting our focus on the Public Raku, which is our way of encouraging families to join us for a community art experience rather than a fund raiser, planning for the **Festival of Pots** is at the advanced stage. Brent is doing a great job. Rosters are being prepared to cover entry, the sales desk, café, set up and pull down.

Last year Sheryl Julian came in every morning at 9am to vacuum and check the toilets. This time we would like two or three people to share this task, doing it two or three times over the period that the Festival is on. If you can help with this please email Brent.

We do need someone to host Greg Barron for the Festival. If you are in to hospitality and would like the joy of having a master potter in your home please contact Jenny Turnbull.

The Festival is our only fund raising event for the year. With over 80 full members it is quite manageable, we all benefit and it's much better than selling raffle tickets! A successful festival means that we can keep costs affordable and improve the facilities. I'm sorry, clay is out of our control. We do endeavour to buy in bulk to get the best price but the cost of freight and clay just keep increasing.

Because we are not a bank, the treasurers have begun to implement the 10% late fee on kiln accounts at the end of each month. Clay must be paid for at the time of purchase.

Lately, despite the fact we pay a cleaner for 2½ hours per week, and Lisa does a good job, the rooms are becoming more messy and untidy. The cleanest place to be at the moment is in the toilet. (thank you Jeavons for your fastidious attention to detail). I'm trying to be really positive about this but **PLEASE CLEAN UP AFTER YOURSELF AND PUT THINGS AWAY!!!** When I was little my mother used to run around after me but I'm not prepared to do that for you because you are a big person and big people do it for themselves.

Definitely a gold star for you Jeavons. Anyone who dismantles the toilet seat when cleaning is truly a big person and a great role model for the rest of us.

Big people also identify their work either with their club number or their mark which must be registered in the front of the kiln book. Unidentified work will be returned to the drying room. Tutors, please ensure that adult class students are aware of this.

We hope Russell Kitto makes a speedy recovery. I hear Biz is doing well. Sadly Barbara Burke, a long-time member, passed away last week.

Just be thankful that you are not living in Kaikoura or working in a high rise building in Wellington. Pack your emergency kit and keep potting. -Rod



Maire Ashman



Wednesday night class - Jugs



Diane Irwin

Festival of pots

Merry Christmas, fellow Potters.

The Christmas festivities are about to begin at your place, and I wish you all a healthy, safe, and great family time. It's OK for you to take a "Nana Nap" when the family have gone, but it's not safe to nap when the grandkids are still about, and armed with the new colouring (felt) pens, that YOU gave them as a present. A friend of mine woke up from a "nan nap" to find Christmas messages written all over his bald head.

But, I digress. **The Festival of Pots** kicks off on the **21st January (Wellington Anniversary weekend)**, so it's time to get motivated. The committee have been beavering away all year to make sure that it's a success. BUT, we need your support.

Please spare a few hours of your time to help at reception and sales. Contact:

Marion Mealings / Kevin Haste.

If you have skills in the Café / baking area. Contact: **Paula Armstrong,**

Are you prepared to demonstrate your skills ? Contact: **Colleen De Verre.**

Check the website for entry instructions www.festivalpots.com

Do you need help in preparing your Biography ? Preparing your labelling cards (free from the club rooms) Make sure (outside) ones are waterproof. Contact Brent / Rod.

We look forward to your support, and considering the benefits to the Club in 2016 (new heat pumps & electrics; 2 x slab rollers; &, 2 x "Shimpo" wheels).

The extra funds help to run the club without placing a burden on your pockets.

A few hours of work in pleasant surroundings, sure beats selling raffle tickets.

Merry Christmas

Brent

Diane Irwin



Cleaning Bee.

10th December



Our final cleaning bee for the year is December 10th. There are 6 places left to fill. Please remember that if you do not attend this final cleaning bee and you have not applied for an exemption from the committee, you will be invoiced \$30. To date there are 22 members who have not sought an exemption or paid \$30. Please people, the club doesn't ask much of its members so it would be great if you could take just 2 hours out of the whole year to do a cleaning bee.

- Stephanie.



Club Notices

- ♦ We need **T-Towels, Newspaper, ice-cream containers** and Blankets
- ♦ **Public Raku - Saturday December 3rd 10am - 3pm**
- ♦ Next **Gas firing** : When there is enough to fill a kiln.
- ♦ **For sale**: 4 Cowley **electric wheels** in good condition. Contact Warren Baillie 027 251 4767
- ♦ **Monday club night has moved** to Friday night due to the increase in the wheel class size.
- ♦ Please remember to park in **designated carparks**. There is no parking on the gravel area outside the rooms or next to the old kiln shed.

Please leave the rooms clean and tidy. -if you cant clean it don't use it!

**Member's KILN ACCOUNTS
need to be cleared at the end
of each month otherwise a 10%
penalty may be incurred.**

Trailer Required:

We need the loan of a trailer on the evening of December 2nd and for the day of the third to move equipment for the public raku. If you can help please contact Rod.

Christmas Hams



are available again this year. Delivery is around December 13th.

Details will be on the wall behind the wheels.
Payment and inquiries to Rod please.

Christmas Doo

RiverStone Sunday 11th December.
Drinks at 6.30pm, dinner at 7pm. \$35 per head,
Please note this is BYO

Partners welcome. Please pay when you put your name on the list.

Please remember to **number your work for firing**. If you have multiple small pieces please identify at least two of them. Unnumbered work is charged out at a higher rate. If you have your own mark please make sure that it is registered in the front of the kiln book.

Sender:
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