

Mar
2011

newsletter

monthly newsletter & journal



Wellington
Potters'
Association
— EST 1958 —

Roger's Ramblings

August may seem a long way off but, believe me, when it comes down to getting pots ready for the exhibition it's not that far away. Ceramicus11 opening will be on Friday evening, 2 September but will open to the public from Saturday, 3 to Sunday 11 September. It will coincide with the last week of World of Wearable Art and, on Sunday 11 September, with a Rugby World Cup game South Africa v Wales at the Stadium so there will be heaps of visitors in Wellington looking for other things to see and do and that will mean good attendances at Ceramicus and good sales.

Your committee has also decided the club should do its bit to help Christchurch following the earthquake. So, in conjunction with our exhibition, we will hold a 'Cash & Carry' sale of members' beer mugs made especially for the occasion, all proceeds of which will be donated to the Red Cross Christchurch appeal. We invite you to contribute a mug (or several) and we are also inviting all potters in the NZP Wellington region to participate whether or not they are members of WPA. I am also trying to drum up some sponsorship support from a brewery. All is explained in the notice on page 3 so please give this some serious thought (and action).

By the time this comes out the working bee will have come and gone and the outside area on the south side will be clean and uncluttered. Please help keep it so!

Ben Carter's weekend workshop was a great success for those lucky enough to attend and you can read about it in this newsletter. Next month there will both Raku and Pit firings so if you have not tried these forms of firings have a go - these firings will be well worth attending. See Potters Diary for dates, etc.

I shall be away in Vietnam for much of April hoping to find a pottery or two.

Happy potting!

Roger

New members to WPA

A warm welcome to the following members: Emily Holdsworth, Arya Armitage, Raphael Antonini, Elisa Puccioni.

And apologies to the following new members who we failed to welcome during the Christmas break: Rosie Little, Joe Zuccarello, Johan Bekker, Marie Harris, Delia Benazzo and Carlo Puglia.

Keeping up to date

The WPA runs an online diary. Check this out for the most update information on events. You can also find a number of resources available there too. Website: <http://www.wellingtonpotters.famundo.com>.

Newsletter by email?

If you would like to receive the WPA newsletter by email instead of hardcopy please send your email address to Vera at davee@paradise.net.nz. Receiving the newsletter by email will help the club with economics and the environment. You will also receive it sooner (and in colour)! Cheers ☺

From the Rooms

Is there a club member with a test kiln who can do a short series of 1200 C glaze tests for the club? Phone Rosemary O'Hara 233-0003 or email roseo@klezmer.co.nz.

Crown Lynn: Crockery of Distinction 29 January - 24 April 2011 - exhibition at the City Gallery Wellington.

The iconic New Zealand Crown Lynn dinner sets and other domestic ware - including the retro-chic swan vases - will feature in the exhibition. We will see the collections of a number of passionate and dedicated collectors, and there will be associated events, for both adults and children.



Potters' diary

Date	Activity	Subject	Coordinator/tutor
Saturday 29 January- Sunday 24 April 2011	Crown Lynn Exhibition City Gallery		
Saturday 23 April 2011	Pit Firing		Francesca Costa
Sunday 24 April 2011	Raku Firing		Mike Atkins
Saturday 14 May to Sunday 5 June 2011	Anagama Firing (and associated activities)		Alan Ross
Saturday 21 – Sunday 22 May	Mike Dee's workshop	Archy Texture	Alan Ross
Friday 24 June 2011 (Please note change of date from previously advertised 17 June)	An evening guided tour	Victoria University's classical pottery collection (mostly Greek)	Vera Burton
16 July – 7 August 2011		NZSP Regional Exhibition "Elements 11" at Pataka	Mal Sole
Saturday 23 July 2011	Raku Firing		Mike Atkins
Saturday 20 – Sunday 21 August 2011	Potter-in- Residence workshop/demonstration	(tbc)	Vivian Rodriguez
1 – 12 September 2011	Ceramicus 2011		Roger Pearce
Sunday 16 October 2011	AGM and pot luck meal (BYO)	47 Simla Crescent	Roger Pearce
Saturday 22 October 2011	Raku Firing		Mike Atkins
Saturday 5 November 2011	Pit Firing		Francesca Costa
Sat/Sun 19/20 November	Potter-in- Residence workshop/demonstration	(tbc)	Mia Hamilton

WPA Library Reviews

JOURNALS

This journal is reference only in the Library, and can be borrowed when the next issue arrives.

The Log Book, no.45, 2011

- Ash Glaze as Ceramic Terroir
- The interconnection of Clay, Glaze and Fire
- Why I Don't Make Shino, by Steve Harrison

Elaine Marland

Librarian

22 March 2011

"Make a Mug"



In conjunction with Ceramicus 11 Wellington Potters' are arranging a sale of beer mugs to aid the Christchurch earthquake fund. Ceramicus 11 is Wellington Potters' Annual Exhibition from 3 - 11 September, 2011.

This will be a separate sale run alongside the exhibition. We invite you to donate mugs of any shape, size, funky, serious - but you must be able to drink beer out of them!

Let your imagination run riot! We are hoping for a lot of very individualistic mugs! They will be sold on a cash and carry basis replacing stock as it is sold. We would like you to price the pots and this will be the minimum price for which they will be sold. Wellington Potters will not take any commission on these - all money will be donated.

We will be happy to receive donated mugs from any potters in the greater Wellington area, ie that covered by the Wellington region of NZP. We can also accept them at any time up until Sunday 27 August - you don't need to wait until formal receiving for the Exhibition itself. Send your mugs to Vera Burton, 20 Motueka Street, Ngaio, Wellington 6035. Or drop them into the Wellington Potters' Centre, 130 Grant Road - make sure they are clearly labelled "Make a Mug for Christchurch".

Some mugs may be selected for special sale or auction. WPA does reserve the right to refuse to accept entries that are substandard.

A second venue could be considered if we receive more mugs than we can handle at the NZ Academy of Fine Arts which is the exhibition venue.

Please clearly mark your mugs with your name and price, and include with them your name and contact phone/email if you want any unsold items returned to you. Included are a couple of examples made by Jenny Shearer to get you thinking.



Email: davee@paradise.net.nz

Pyromaniacs reunion

In May there will be a gathering of those versed in the dark and ancient ways of the pyromaniacs. The Wellington guild of pyromaniacs will gather in Horokiwi to load and fire the anagama kiln located on June and Graeme Houston's Te Haunui property.

For those unfamiliar with anagama firings, a typical firing will take about 5 days. The firing is divided into a series of 6 and 8 hour shifts, each shift being led by a Shift Leader supported by a number of Shift Members who ply the Shift Leader with wine and food for the privilege of stoking the kiln.

As you may recall Shige O'Hashi has agreed to resume the role of Firing Master, a term he dislikes, for the anagama firing.

Shige is keen that a cadre of aspiring "firing masters" be encouraged to be involved rather than him being seen as the sole or dominant "firing master". He is happy and eager to share his knowledge about anagama with people who are interested in learning and having an ongoing involvement in WPA anagama firings. In Shige's own words: "I like to have a team as the firing master. If we can have the team and the members want, I'm happy to transfer my anagama knowledge and experiences to them."

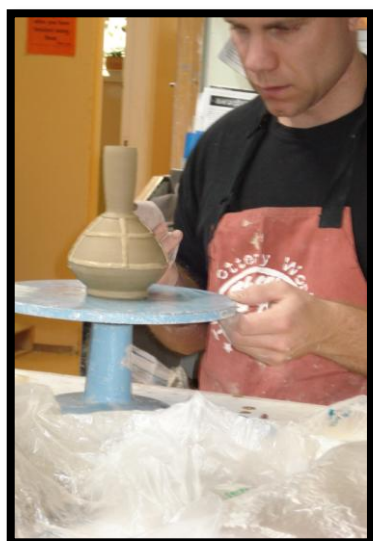
I'm often asked what sort of clay should be used for pots that will be fired in the anagama kiln. While standard stoneware clay is okay, my clay of choice is a Clayworks product, RSF (Rye's Salt Glaze & Woodfire Clay Body), formulated by Owen Rye, a noted Australian ceramicist and wood firing exponent. A visit to his website: <http://owenrye.com/index.html> is well worthwhile. RSF is available from Wellington Potters' Supplies at \$25.80 a bag

In the coming weeks I will be preparing the roster for the firing, so if you would like to be involved as a Shift Leader (depending on your previous experience) or as a Shift Member (novices as well as experienced shift members are welcome) please register your interest with me at: alross@clear.net.nz.

STEPS	DATES
Receive pots at rooms (Upstairs)	Saturday 14 May 2011
Transport pots to kiln	Sunday 15 May
Load kiln	Tuesday 17 May – Saturday 21 May
Fire kiln	Wednesday 25 – Sunday 29 May
Cool kiln	Monday 30 May – Saturday 4 June
Unload kiln	Sunday 5 June

Alan Ross

Ben Carter workshop 26-27 February 2011



What a well-planned, well-run workshop this was, by a hugely talented potter from the U.S. Ben is originally from Roanoke, Virginia, and currently lives in Shanghai where he is Educational Director at The Pottery Workshop. Over the two day workshop he alternately demonstrated his skills, talked about his work and his philosophy of ceramics, gave us a slide show about his work, and helped participants try out various structural and decorative techniques on pots we made ourselves on the first day. This balance of listening, discussing, watching and doing worked really well.

Ben makes earthenware domestic pots by throwing and hand building; he often alters the pots to create curves reminiscent of Asian roof profiles, and then decorates with slip and underglaze in rich multiple layers, recalling European Maiolica ware and English slipware. His pots are thoughtful, considering the purpose and function of the object, and also its social significance. He values of the cultural and social importance of food, and of wanting to slow people down and bring them back to a sense of community around the table. He believes in the

virtue of craftsmanship, the value which decoration adds to an earthenware pot, the importance of the commemorative function of pots, and the necessary tension and contrast between symmetry and control on the one hand, and asymmetry and “not control” on the other. Ben comes from a long line of quilters and spoke of sleeping under quilts all his life – so the multiple patterning of pieced quilts is an important inspiration for his decorative techniques, as are the Southern traditions around food and hospitality. Other important influences on his work are Middle Eastern pottery, stained glass windows, and the work of potters past (such as Thomas Toft) and present (the Rock Creek Pottery, Linda Arbuckle, Matt Long, Michael Klein, Julia Galloway, and Kristin Kieffer).



Ben demonstrated throwing and altering a cup and saucer, mug, vase and dish, and showed us his technique for making handles and feet. He showed us how to make a drop mould from builder’s insulating foam, and how to decorate thrown and hand built ware with a range of techniques, including dipping, brushing and painting with slip, slip trailing, sgraffito, “finger-swiping”, and creating raised surface decoration using paper stencils.

He shared a recipe (“Pete’s White” decorating slip), and gave us tips for making tools from everyday objects like CDs, biscuit cutters and bamboo chopsticks. Ben is a talented potter and a skilled teacher, who shared his skills, knowledge, beliefs and enthusiasm with great generosity and good humour.

In an enjoyable cultural exchange, he ate pavlova for the first time, and we learned about berry bowls, biscuits and gravy, and dishes for sticks of butter. And since Ben is an outdoor pursuits fan – bungee-jumping, skydiving, mountain-biking, surfing, hiking – we know he'll be back ...

You can see Ben's work on www.CarterPottery.com, and follow him on his travels on his blog, www.CarterPottery.blogspot.com

Joanna Tennant

Archy Texture

(Ceramics and Architecture) A weekend workshop with Mike Dee, Saturday 21 – Sunday 22 May

This hands-on workshop is suitable for anybody who has ever made a sandcastle – or wanted to make an “Ann Hathaway’s Cottage” teapot. Exploring architectural form in miniature is an exciting way to exploit and enhance existing pottery skills. It is also a pathway to achieving original design concepts that can be readily adapted to conventional pottery making and decorating. This is an opportunity to combine wheel-thrown, slab and/or coiling techniques with impressed and applied clay decoration to produce pots, sculptures, models, and/or tile murals inspired by architectural examples.

The aim of this workshop is to explore ways and means of developing original design ideas in ceramics, towards achieving an identifiable, personal style.

The method is to find and exploit adaptable motifs from a closely related discipline, architecture (as an example). The process is to follow the design practice of setting a brief, conducting research, widely exploring possible outcomes and selecting and refining a final product.

Potters have been inspired by architectural forms for centuries. There is a considerable cross-over between the two disciplines, from brickwork and tiles to murals, sanitation fittings and decorative ceramic fixtures. Many ceramics are designed specifically for interior and exterior architectural spaces, such as the Hans Coper candle-holders in Coventry Cathedral. Potters’ kilns are a specialised branch of architecture.

Adobe, tile, brick, and mosaic; the bonds between claywork and architecture are ancient and inextricable.

⌘ Date: Saturday 21 – Sunday 22 May

⌘ Time: 9:30 am – 4:00 pm

⌘ Cost: Members \$70 and non-members \$80

⌘ Sculptural clay: Bags of sculptural clay may be purchased at the rooms either in advance of or during the workshop - \$26 a bag.

⌘ Bring food for a shared lunch

You can register by either e-mailing or ringing Rhonda Edwards at Rhonda_je@yahoo.co.nz or (04) 389 8751.

To pay (by not later than Friday 13 May), please send a cheque (made payable to the Wellington Potters’ Association and addressed to: The Treasurer, Wellington Potters’ Association, PO Box 6686, Wellington) with a note giving the name of the workshop “Archy Texture” and your name. Alternatively you can place your note with a cheque or cash in the safe at the rooms.



Members of the Otaki Potters’ group building ceramic sculptures during a weekend workshop last year.

Pottery classes at the rooms

Mondays and Tuesdays 7-9pm – Vivian Rodriguez

Basic to intermediate 8 week course \$145. Enrol through Onslow College (phone 477 1118, email commed@onslow.school.nz)

Thursdays 7-9pm – Rosemary O'Hara

Throwing and hand building for beginners and beyond. 6 week courses run continuously, next round starting 24 February 2011. \$100 per course, plus clay and firing costs. Contact Rosemary to enrol: phone 233 0003, email roseo@klexmer.co.nz.

Saturdays 9.45-11.45am – Anthea Grob & Rosemary O'Hara

Introductory and intermediate class in hand building and wheel throwing. 6-week courses run continuously. \$100 per course, plus clay and firing costs. Contact Anthea to enrol: anthea@ecofabric.co.nz

School Holiday Childrens Pottery classes – Rosemary O'Hara

3 days, 27, 28 and 29th April, 10 to 12 pm and 1 to 3 pm class (depending on enrolment levels). \$60 all costs included. 7 years up. Contact rosemary on roseo@klexmer.co.nz or ph 233 0003 to book.

Clays for sale at WPA

How to buy clay

New clay is kept under lock and key in the storeroom. The rooms manager, president and treasurer have keys. Clay is available for purchase on Tuesdays between 10am and 2pm. Please pay immediately. Note that we can't give change or receipts.

Abbots Stoneware: \$22

Traditional buff stoneware.

Abbots Sculptural: \$26

Grogged stoneware, suitable for raku or sculptural work. Low shrinkage. Oatmeal buff colour in oxidation, brown in reduction. Firing range: cone 8-10.

Abbots Red: \$22

Fine, plastic earthenware. Orange terracotta colour at maturity. 50mesh. Firing range: cone 03-2 (1100-1150).

Red Raku (12.5kg): \$26

Great for hand building. Grog content of about 30%. Pale terracotta colour. Won't take glaze all that well. Firing range: cone 03-5

PCW (Potters Clay White): \$36

A versatile, pale grey-firing (grey in reduction) stoneware body with excellent throwing characteristics. Suits many applications (including raku firings because of a good thermal shock resistance). 80 mesh. Drying shrinkage 5-8%, total when fired about 16%. Firing range: cone 9-10 (1257-1282 degrees centigrade).

W10 (10kg): \$23

White clay with a firing range from earthenware to stoneware (similar to Abbots white). (Members using this are impressed with its texture for throwing)

Primo white stoneware (10kg): \$20

Primo buff stoneware (10kg): \$20

Recycled clay: \$7 per bag

Large production pottery kiln for sale - Whanganui

For sale in as is condition

Kiln Specifications:

- ⌘ Manufacturer: Elecurn double track/door ceramics production kiln Fibre lined with electric operated brick rolling tables each end
- ⌘ External Size: Approx 3.2m length x 1.8m wide (controller additional) x 2.4 high Loading trolleys x 2 additional: Approx. 3m length x 105 wide x 55cm high
- ⌘ Rating: 120 kw 186 Amps
- ⌘ 3 phase 4 wire 50 hz
- ⌘ 415/240 volts
- ⌘ Maximum Operating temperature 1300 deg. C
- ⌘ Year of manufacture 1994



Has been in storage for last 4 years, good condition for its age. Need some new element rod holders, and maintenance. Electric Italian controller (Brand Cutler Hammer thermoelectrics), 7 thermocouples, plus fan cooling vents.

\$105,000 original purchase price (as stated on certificate)

Forward freight responsibility of the purchaser

Only serious offers considered

Email claudia@claudiaborella.com

Who's Who in the WPA

President

Roger Pearce
970 2113
rojann@paradise.net.nz

Vice President

Mauritz Basson
381 6751
mauritz.basson@wellingtonzoo.com

Secretary

Alan Ross
566 8922
alross@paradise.net.nz

Treasurer

Robyn Connolly
977 8448
rob.c@paradise.net.nz

Rooms Manager

Jo Moon
972 1123
jomoon@paradise.net.nz

Kilns – Club Firings

Sam Duckor-Jones
s.duckorjones@gmail.com

Kilns – Repairs

Mike Atkins
970 1205
kayne_nz@yahoo.co.nz

Glazes

Stoneware: Ivan Vostinar
ivan@vostinar.com

Newsletter Editor

Saskia Hendrikse
saskia.hendrikse@buddlefindlay.com

Librarian

Elaine Marland
384 4718
marland@xtra.co.nz

Raku Matters

Mike Atkins
970 1205
kayne_nz@yahoo.co.nz

Pit Firing

Francesca Costa
479 1522
costaf@xtra.co.nz

NZP Delegate

Mal Sole
479 4145
jan.mal@xtra.co.nz

DCA Supervisor

Cate Pates
04 478 4433
021 143 7705
clpates@hotmail.com

Email address for the WPA

wellingtonpotters@gmx.com

As a club we try to keep our fees down while still covering costs.
If for financial reasons you feel excluded, please contact the President.

Articles for April newsletter need to be emailed to Saskia by 22 April 2011

[\(saskia.hendrikse@buddlefindlay.com\)](mailto:saskia.hendrikse@buddlefindlay.com)

Clubrooms, 130 Grant Road, Thorndon (opposite George Street), PO Box 6686, Te Aro, Wellington 6011
Phone (04) 473 3680, **Email** wellingtonpotters@gmx.com

Committee List 2010/2011

Position	Name	Address	Contact number	Email
President	Roger Pearce	47 Simla Crescent, Khandallah	970 2113 (027 356 4025)	rojann@paradise.net.nz
Vice President	Mauritz Basson	9 Kilgour Way Crofton Downs	381 6751 (021 227 8151)	mauritz.basson@wellingtonzoo.com
Secretary	Alan Ross	58 Viewmont Drive, Harbour View, Lower Hutt 5010	566 8922	alross@paradise.net.nz
Treasurer	Robyn Connolly	2 Worcester Street, Wilton, Wellington 6012	977 8448	rob.c@paradise.net.nz
Immediate Past President	Gwyn Williams			gwynwilliams@gmx.com
Committee				
Newsletter editor	Saskia Hendrikse	146 Mulhern Road, Judgeford, Porirua 5381	H 238 2779 (021 661 324)	Saskia.Hendrikse@buddlefindlay.com
Librarian	Elaine Marland	91A Webb Street, Wellington	384 4718	marland@xtra.co.nz
Rooms Manager	Jo Moon	33 Harbour View Road, Northland, Wellington 6012	972 1133 (021 177 4191)	jomoon@paradise.net.nz
Host	Rhonda Edwards	12 Connaught Terrace, Brooklyn, Wellington 6021,	389 8751	rhonda_je@yahoo.co.nz
Kilns	Mia Hamilton	19 Freyberg Street, Lyall Bay, Wellington 6022	027 668 6711	mia.hamilton@xtra.co.nz
Grants	Kate Ford	14A Salisbury Garden Court, Cecil Road, Wadestown, Wellington 6012	473 5356 (021 121 6531)	kate.ford48@gmail.com
Co-opted Members				
DCA Coordinator	Cate Pates	2 Trilids Lane, Churton Park, Wellington 6037	478 4433	clpates@hotmail.com
Database lists	Vera Burton	20 Motueka Street, Ngaio	938 8207	davee@paradise.net.nz
Kilns & Raku	Mike Atkins	13 Nevay Road, Miramar	970 1205	kayne_nz@yahoo.co.nz
Pit Firings	Francesca Costa	Flat 7, 35 Ganges Rd, Khandallah	479 1522 (027 678 6006)	costaf@xtra.co.nz
Glazes	Rosemary O'Hara	8 Reserve Road, Plimmerton 5026	233 0003	roseo@klezmer.co.nz
NZP Delegate	Mal Sole	46 Silverstream Rd, Crofton Downs, Wellington	479 4145	jan.mal@xtra.co.nz