

July  
2012

# newsletter

monthly newsletter & journal



Wellington  
Potters'  
Association  
— EST 1958 —

## PRESIDENT'S PIECE

Hi all. You will see that we have a bunch of new Cowley wheels at the rooms. They will turn both clockwise and anticlockwise. If you find that the wheel is going the wrong way when you turn it on, you may have the switch on the side turned in the wrong direction. Turn the wheel off, then depress the pedal (while the wheel is still switched off) to get all the energy out of the drive cone, then turn on again. That, at least, is the way the old Cowleys worked. In Japan, potters throw with the wheel turning in the opposite direction from the way most NZ potters have things set up. We have a few Japanese members, so you may well find that the wheel is going the 'wrong' way when you sit down to throw.

If you are a thrower, I hope you enjoy the new wheels. Please take care of them and clean them properly after use. Please also clean any clay from the floor with a wet sponge. And remember to turn the wheels off when you are finished. If you don't switch your wheel off, it will keep on chewing through electricity, even though the wheel head is not spinning.

Just a note about use of space at the rooms and about storing your things. The work areas are all communal. Anyone can set themselves up on any table or use any free wheel when they arrive. And everyone is expected to clean up after themselves and make the workspace or wheel available for the next person. So when you are done, put all your tools and other stuff in your cubby hole. You should take home anything that doesn't fit in your cubby hole. Anything you leave around the rooms is at your own risk. Don't get upset if it disappears. (Contact Donna if you would like a cubby hole – contact details at end of newsletter.)

Please also put your work on the drying racks with your name and the date on a piece of paper. As soon as it's dry, take it down to be fired in order to free up space. Anything sitting around for ages will go to death row. And please don't touch other people's pots.

Gwyn

## WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS

Angela Gordon, James & Shae Araci, Bridie Atkins, Nigel Hubbard, Emma Harrison, Amanda Dibley, Eleanore Gachet

## FROM THE ROOMS

### Compulsory orientation for new members

Membership of WPA requires attendance at an Orientation Session. Sessions are held for new members in the 1st and 3rd weeks of each month according to demand. Bookings are essential. Please contact the facilitator hosting the session of your preference.

### Week 1: Thursday 9pm

Contact Rosemary O'Hara: [roseo@klezmer.co.nz](mailto:roseo@klezmer.co.nz) or ph 233 0003

### Weeks 1 and 3: Saturday 11am

Contact Kate Ford: [kate.ford48@gmail.com](mailto:kate.ford48@gmail.com) or ph 473 5356

### Club Firings

We will be doing regular cone 6 club firings as soon as there are enough pots to fire. We will continue with stoneware club firings for the rest of the year, and with earthenware club firings too.

## ELECTRIC KILNS – ONE TO SELL; ONE TO GIVE AWAY

WPA has two electric kilns that are surplus to requirements. Details below. You will need a three-phase electricity supply to run them. If anyone is interested, please get in touch with Gwyn: [gwyn.w@gmx.com](mailto:gwyn.w@gmx.com), ph 04 905 2586.

**McGregor top loader**, 5 cu ft, completely refurbished. The kiln is square and quite deep, so not easy to load for short people (you will manage). Comes with four shelves and a probe (but no controller). Fires to stoneware temperatures ~1300 degrees. \$500.

**Cobcraft top loading kiln**, octagonal, 8 cu ft. The kiln will need refurbishing before use - the brickwork and elements need attention. But it used to go fine. Free.

## OLD TALISMAN WHEELS FOR SALE

Variable quality. \$50 ono. Please contact Vivian or Shane if you are interested ([shanedg@gmail.com](mailto:shanedg@gmail.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](mailto: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 😊

## Cone 6 glazes

A selection of cone 6 (mid-fire) glazes is available at the rooms. The glazes are in clearly labelled buckets in the glaze room. They should be fine to use, though we really need pots coming out of the kilns on a regular basis in order to be sure that the glazes produce good, consistent results.

You can help us to refine the cone 6 glazes by using them! For the next couple of months, you will not have to pay anything to have your work fired to cone 6. And once we establish firing charges for cone 6, it will cost you less per kilo to fire your work to cone 6 than to cone 9.

Feel free to try any mid-fire or stoneware clay with the cone 6 glazes. Stoneware clays will be a little under-fired, but should be fine. You can use RKF, Mac's White and Abbots Stoneware, all of which are available for purchase through the club. Let us know what you think of the results.

If you use the cone 6 glazes, make sure you put your pots on the correct shelf – down the bottom. There are also new firing slips. Please tick the appropriate box to indicate what glazes you have used, and write down what clay you used as well.

If you want some background on the cone 6 glazes, or if you want to know more about the difference between cone 6 and cone 9, have a look at the president's column in the March newsletter.

## 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](mailto:commed@onslow.school.nz))

### **Thursdays 7-9pm – Rosemary O'Hara**

Throwing and hand building for beginners and beyond. 6 week courses run continuously. \$120 per course, plus clay and firing costs. Next Thursday night class resumed on Thursday 12th January. Phone Rosemary 233 0003 or email [roseo@klezmer.co.nz](mailto:roseo@klezmer.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. \$120 per course, plus clay and firing costs. Contact Anthea to enrol: [anthea@ecofabric.co.nz](mailto:anthea@ecofabric.co.nz)

### **Children's pottery classes are being held in the 2nd week of the holidays**

July 9th, 11th, 12th, 13th. Morning sessions 10 to 12, afternoon 1 to 3, 7 years up. \$85 all costs included. Ph Rosemary 233 0003 to book.

## ANAGAMA BECKONS

On reflection "Beacon" rather than "Beckons" might be a more apt word in the title as smoke and fire will issue forth in September at the club's "Te Haunui" ("the big wind") anagama kiln on the property of June and Graeme Houston in Horokiwi.

My last call for volunteers to assist with the firing elicited a small number of replies. More would be welcome. I will, of course, be circulating later in July a copy of the shift roster for the 8th anagama firing to those who have put their hands up and to those who have indulged in previous firings.

For the uninitiated the firing will comprise 16 (8 & 6 hour) shifts over a 5 day period which starts on Wednesday 12 September. Each shift will have experienced shift leader.



Ideally they should be assisted by 2 to 3 helpers (inexperience is not a handicap). We are also keen to build a group of people competent to conduct such firings in the future.

Apart from shift members, volunteers are also needed to assist Shige Ohashi, the firing master, in loading. Roger Pearce, who has volunteered again to manage the receiving of pots on Saturday 1 September, would also appreciate having a couple of assistants.

Many of you will be keen to exhibit anagama pots in the annual Ceramicus exhibition in October. In addition, the Wellington Ikebana folk will have up to 10 displays at the exhibition and will want some pots from us. They can be sold as additional pots and not count against the exhibition entries.

#### Points to note:

- Bisqued pieces only will be accepted for the firing
- The firing charge is \$9.00 per KG of the bisqued weight of pots prior to firing.
- Clay: Stoneware or a porcelain white body - any of the non-translucent porcelains are suitable. My clay of choice is RSF (available from Wellington Potters Supplies) which is especially formulated for wood firings.
- Type of pieces: Vases, bottles and lidded containers are the most suitable. Avoid making large voluminous pieces as they occupy a lot of space and if space is at a premium we may not be able to accommodate them.
- If you want to glaze your pieces, there will be some specific anagama glazes available at the rooms from Saturday 18 August formulated by the alchemist Mal Sole.

#### TIMETABLE

STEPS	DATES
Receive pots at rooms (Upstairs): 10am - 3pm	Saturday 1 September 2012
Transport pots to kiln	Sunday 2 September
Load kiln	Monday 3 – Saturday 8 September
Fire kiln	Wednesday 12 – Sunday 16 September
Cool kiln	Monday 17 August – Saturday 22 September
Unload kiln	Sunday 23 September

**VOLUNTEERS** - If you are interested in helping in any way or want more information, please contact me at: [alross@clear.net.nz](mailto:alross@clear.net.nz).

Alan Ross  
Coordinator

#### CERAMICUS 12 12-21 OCTOBER

Our annual exhibition is coming up - Time to get some pots made!

Academy Galleries, Queen's Wharf, in conjunction with Watercolour New Zealand Jubilee Exhibition & Ikebana International (Wellington Chapter).

Receiving: **Sunday 7 October**

Opening night: **Thursday 11 October**

Guest potter and selector: Brendon Adams (picture right)

Entry Forms and Conditions of Entry will be in the August newsletter. Copies will also be mailed out with your subscription renewal notice.

#### NOTE:

- Pots will also be needed for the Ikebana displays
- If you enter pots in the exhibition you are expected to also take a turn at minding it. Get in early with your preferred day and time by putting your name down when you submit your pieces. Members who live locally and who are unable to do so please find a substitute.
- This is a great chance to have a good look at the pots and also the associated artworks in the watercolour exhibition running alongside ours.



**JOURNALS**

These journals are reference only in the Library, and can be borrowed when the next issue arrives.

**Pottery Making Illustrated, vol.15 number 3, May/June 2012**

- Blending Slab and Coil Building
- Building up Surfaces Layer by Layer
- Fast-Firing Saggars
- Making Even-Walled Bowls of Any Shape or Size
- Shino Glazes
- Throwing Bats

**Ceramic Review, no255, May/June 2012**

- Karen Bunting – the Integration of Aesthetic and Function
- David Queensberry and Martin Hunt – 40 Years at the Forefront of International Tableware Design
- Marie Beckman and Jussi Ojala, Swedish potters
- Ceramic Water Filters
- Piet Stockmans' Designs, Studio Work, and Art
- Technical: Bisque Firing Part 1

**The Log Book, no47, 2011**

- Leach Pottery Climbing Kiln
- The Potters of Haut-Berry
- Woodfiring in the USA

**The Log Book, no48, 2011**

- Darryl Frost [Nelson, N.Z.] – The Innocent Glaze
- Ashwini Bhat – Journey in Clay
- Earthenware Firing at St Ives

**The Log Book, no49, 2012**

- Duncan Shearer [NZ] – My Approach to Soda
- Sten Ørsting – Many Layers of Reality
- Meri Wells – Purely Elemental

Elaine Marland, Librarian  
30 June 2012

**2012 Workshop/Events Programme**

Month	Date	Activity	Subject	Coordinator/tutor
June	23 & 30	Workshop	Lombok Coil	Rosemary O'Hara
	23	Workshop	Pit Firing	Francesca Costa
July	14 & 15	Workshop	Printing on clay	Barbara Spencer
August	18 - 19	Workshop	Casseroles	Vivian Rodriguez
September	1	Receiving	Anagama	Alan Ross
October	Sun 7	Ceramicus	Receiving Day Selection Opening, closes 2 pm	Gwyn Williams
	Wed 10 Thurs 11			
	Sunday 21	AGM		
November	23 & 24	Workshop	Throwing Big Pots	Vivian Rodriguez

**Committee 2011/2012**

President	Gwyn Williams	21 Ames Street, Paekakariki	04 905 2586	gwynwilliams@gmx.com
Vice President	Mauritz Basson	9 Kilgour Way Crofton Downs	381 6751 021 227 8151	mauritz.basson@wellingtonzoo.com
Secretary	Kate Ford	14A Salisbury Garden Court, Cecil Road, Wadestown, Wellington 6012	473 5356 021 121 6531	kate.ford48@gmail.com

Treasurer	Robyn <b>Connolly</b>	2 Worcester Street, Wilton, Wellington 6012	977 8448	rob.c@paradise.net.nz
Immediate Past President	Roger <b>Pearce</b>	47 Simla Crescent, Khandallah	970 2113 027 356 4025	roger.jann.pearce@gmail.com
<b>Committee</b>				
Newsletter editor	Saskia <b>Hendrikse</b>	146 Mulhern Road, Judgeford, Porirua 5381	H 238 2779 021 661 324	Saskia.Hendrikse@buddlefindlay.com
Librarian	Elaine <b>Marland</b>	91A Webb Street, Wellington	384 4718	marland@xtra.co.nz
Host	Rhonda <b>Edwards</b>	12 Connaught Terrace, Brooklyn, Wellington 6021,	389 8751	rhondaedwardsnz@gmail.com
Cubby Curator & WPA Forms	Donna <b>O'Connor</b>	32 Greyfriars Crescent, Tawa Wellington 5028	210 2321 027 575 6477	waywardkiwi@gmail.com
	Joe <b>Zuccarello</b>	139 Awarua Street, Ngaio, Wellington 6035	479 1299	Joe.Zuccarello@vuw.ac.nz
	Vivian <b>Rodriguez</b>	49A Moxham Avenue, Hataitai Wellington 6021	972 0811 021 264 5414	<a href="mailto:vivian.rodriquez@clear.net.nz">vivian.rodriquez@clear.net.nz</a>
<b>Co-opted Members</b>				
Anagama Coordinator	Alan <b>Ross</b>	58 Viewmont Drive, Harbour View, Lower Hutt 5010	566 8922	alross@clear.net.nz
DCA Coordinator	Cate <b>Pates</b>	31 Foster Crescent, Belmont, Lower Hutt 5010	565 3734	clpates@hotmail.com
Database lists	Vera <b>Burton</b>	20 Motueka Street, Ngaio	938 8207	davee@paradise.net.nz
Kiln firings	Shane <b>Gallagher</b>			shanedg@gmail.com
Kilns & Raku	Mike <b>Atkins</b>	13 Nevay Road, Miramar	970 1205	kayne_nz@yahoo.co.nz
Pit Firings	Francesca <b>Costa</b>	Flat 7, 35 Ganges Rd, Khandallah	479 1522 027 678 6006	costaf@xtra.co.nz
Glazes	Rosemary <b>O'Hara</b>	8 Reserve Road, Plimmerton 5026	233 0003	roseo@klezmer.co.nz
<b>Accounts</b>	Janine <b>Collier</b>			jcollier@symbolique.net
<b>NZP Delegate</b>	Sue <b>Scobie</b>			suescobie@xtra.co.nz

**Articles for August newsletter need to be emailed to Saskia by 31 July 2012**  
[\(\[saskia.hendrikse@buddlefindlay.com\]\(mailto:saskia.hendrikse@buddlefindlay.com\)\)](mailto:saskia.hendrikse@buddlefindlay.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.**

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