

Aug  
2012

# newsletter

monthly newsletter & journal



Wellington  
Potters'  
Association  
— EST 1958 —

## PRESIDENT'S PIECE

The anagama firing is very soon. If you want to help out in any way – especially with the firing, but also the loading – get in touch with Alan Ross: [alross@clear.net.nz](mailto:alross@clear.net.nz). I know Alan is really keen to get some more volunteers, and helping out is a fantastic experience. I hope many of you are making pots for the firing. Receiving day is Saturday 1 September. You'll need to bring any work you want fired to the rooms and pay your fee. The firing itself will run from 12 Sept to the 16th – all day and all night. The unloading will be on the 23rd.

Hot on the heels of the anagama will be our annual exhibition, Ceramicus12, selected by Brendon Adams from Auckland. You should get entry forms and more info with this newsletter or in the mail. Again, we'll need volunteers to help out receiving pots, packing them, transporting them etc. So get in touch if you'd like to help. If you have pots selected, we really expect you to help mind the exhibition. Get yourself on the roster early. An advance notice to put in your diary: Brendon Adams is the guest potter and selector for our exhibition and while he is here he will be giving a

demonstration of his work and techniques. This will be on Saturday 13 October at the rooms. More details next newsletter, but mark it in your diary now and keep it free.

The other thing coming up in October is the AGM. More in the next newsletter.

Gwyn

### Parking at the rooms

We have closed the area up behind the rooms to vehicles. Please park out the front of the building.

Please park close together to allow as many vehicles to squeeze in as possible.

Note that the parking areas are for people who are actually using the rooms. Do not leave your car at the rooms while you wander into town or go to work.

Think about coming by bicycle.

## APPLICATIONS FOR POTTER IN RESIDENCE 2013/14

The Wellington Potters' Association (WPA) has a separate mezzanine studio space for use by a Potter-in Residence. Applications by letter or e-mail are now invited from potters/ceramists at solo exhibition level. Applicants may apply to occupy the studio for terms of one or two years.

The WPA will provide the successful applicant with a year or two years' use of the studio at the Wellington Potters' Centre, 130 Grant Road, Wellington. The period of use will run from 1 January to 31 December 2013 or 1 January 2013 to 31 December 2014. There is no automatic right of renewal. If a two year term is approved, there will be a review conducted on or about the anniversary of the appointment. The outcome of that review will determine whether the appointment will continue for the second year of the term.

The appointee will be required to:

- Pay WPA \$25 per week (payable monthly in advance) for the studio as a contribution towards overheads
- Be available during attendance at the rooms as an educational resource for club members
- Be in residence for an average of 20 hours per week during the 12 month period of appointment. It is expected that the appointee will use the studio for at least 40 weeks
- Be fluent in English
- Pay all costs of the production of his/her work
- Donate two weekend educational sessions in their area of speciality to WPA each year
- Be or become a member of WPA and participate in club activities

Applications should include:

- A CV/bio
- An overview of what you hope to achieve during the term as potter-in-residence
- An overview of the contribution you would make to WPA during the term as potter-in residence
- An overview of what you could cover in the weekend educational sessions
- Photos of your work

Applications close on Friday 28 September 2012. If you wish to be considered please provide your application by e-mail to [wellingtonpotters@gmx.com](mailto:wellingtonpotters@gmx.com) (please put Potter-in-Residence in the subject line) or write to: The President, Wellington Potters' Association, PO Box 6686, Te Aro, Wellington.

If a person is appointed, the appointment will be made by not later than 31 October 2012. The WPA will enter into a formal agreement, covering the position, with any appointee.

## CERAMICUS 12

# THE ANNUAL EXHIBITION OF OUR MEMBERS WORK IN CONJUNCTION WITH WATERCOLOUR NEW ZEALAND'S "DIAMOND JUBILEE EXHIBITION" AND IKEBANA INTERNATIONAL (WELLINGTON CHAPTER)

**When:** 12 - 21 October 2012.

**Where:** Academy Galleries, 1 Queen's Wharf, Wellington

**Opening night:** Thursday 11 October

**Guest potter and selector:** Brendon Adams

**Receiving:** Sunday 7 October from 10 am to 4 pm at Wellington Potters Centre

So if you haven't already made some great pots for it you still have time to start. If you got this newsletter by post you should have received with it a subscription renewal form (pink), and an Entry Form/Conditions of Entry for the Exhibition - Ceramicus 12. If you receive your newsletter by email those forms will arrive by post in a few days. Your invitation to the opening will be included in the next newsletter. Note; the main room upstairs will be closed to members, but not to classes, from Sunday 7 until Tuesday 9 October. (The glaze room will be available).

### Ikebana Pots

A reminder that we are looking for pots for Ikebana arrangements. These can be for sale and are not part of the exhibition selection. They will need to be delivered to the rooms by October 1st clearly labelled with your name and price and marked 'For Ikebana. The Ikebana arrangers will select those that are suitable for them.

Help make this exhibition a success by

- Making and entering your best pots.
- Help distribute leaflets when these become available in September.
- Attend the opening.
- Help mind the exhibition. This is a great chance to have a good look at the pots and also the associated artworks in the Academy exhibition running alongside ours. Please Note: If you enter pots in the exhibition you are expected to also take a turn at minding it. So, when you bring in your pots on Sunday, 7 October you will be asked which day you will be available for the roster.

Read the entry forms for full details.

If you have any queries call Vera on 938 8207, email [davee@paradise.net.nz](mailto:davee@paradise.net.nz)

### WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS

Levi Kalabha, Andy Romero, Jennifer Muus, Lucy Coote, Megumi Ogo

### 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 😊

### FROM THE ROOMS

Early this year we had a visit from Canadian potter Gillian McMillan. She has sent Roger an email about her activities which included a reference to a Tennessee potter called Vince Pitelka who does amazing work with coloured clays (amongst other techniques). Members might well be interested in looking at his website which is: [http://iweb.tntech.edu/wpitelka/workshops/colored\\_clay.htm](http://iweb.tntech.edu/wpitelka/workshops/colored_clay.htm).

### CLUB FIRINGS

#### Shelves for club glaze firings

We have been having a problem with people putting work they want fired on the wrong shelves. If you get it in the wrong place, it could be fired at the wrong temperature. At worst, the glaze could run all over the shelves.

To help solve the problem, we're changing the layout:

- Work for **stoneware/cone 9** should go on the **top rack**
- Work for **midfire/cone 6** in the **middle**
- **Earthenware** on the **bottom shelf**

Hottest at the top; coolest at bottom. The shelves will be clearly labelled.

#### Uncollected work

We are also having a problem with work not being collected or glazed once it has been fired. The shelves are currently overloaded with bisque ware. Please note that you are expected to remove work from the firing room soon after it has been fired.

- Work that has been sitting round for more than a few weeks will be moved to **'death row'**
- Work on death row will very soon be chucked out
- We will regularly clear death row - dumping pots in the rubbish

#### 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.

The return of the potter from making goblets for Hobbits: Ivan visited the rooms to collate some of his glaze recipes for Wellington Potters. The glazes all fire at cones nine and ten and recipes will be available in our library.



#### 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)



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## MAKING CASSEROLES, TAGINES AND POTS WITH LIDS WITH VIVIAN RODRIGUEZ, WPA POTTER IN RESIDENCE



**Saturday and Sunday 15 and 16 September**  
**10:00 am to 4:00 pm At the Rooms**  
**Cost: \$50**

This workshop will be full participation. It is suitable for all throwers

The workshop will cover:

- Throwing casseroles and tagines
- Making lids
- Handles and knob
- Glazing and finishing tips

**What to bring:** Your favourite clay, and a dish for shared lunch

**To book:** Please email [vivian.rodriguez@clear.net.nz](mailto:vivian.rodriguez@clear.net.nz) or leave your name on the Vivian Rodriguez workshop booking list near the phone at the rooms. Pay on the day but remember if you book but fail to show, you will be charged the full fee.



## WELL HANDLED – CERAMICS AND PHOTOGRAPHY - 3-9 September 2012



**Well Handled**  
Ceramics and photography  
Thistle Hall, Cuba St  
3-9 September 2012

How many times is a piece of clay handled before it becomes a finished ceramic work?

How much handling does it take to get that perfect photograph?

Our group of exhibitors from the greater Wellington area have well and truly handled their medium of choice and the result is here for all to see.

Ceramics by Jennifer Turnbull, Linda Savell, Geoff Savell, Michelle Retimana, Dianne Register-Stout and Aimée McLeod were selected to represent the enormous diversity of styles and possibilities of fired clay.

The pieces on show include exquisite functional ware, funky “Alice in Wonderland” themed tea pots and cups, robust bowls, wall hung bodices, garden and other sculptural pieces and more.

Photographs of Wellington and arty shots by Angie McLeod and Russell Dear which would look good in any home or office adorn the walls and round off our exhibition.

Thistle Hall, Corner Cuba & Arthur Sts

Opening function: Monday 3 September, 6-8pm

Tuesday- Thursday 10:30am - 6pm, Friday 10:30- 7pm, Saturday 10am – 5pm, Sunday 10am- 1:30pm

For more information contact Aimée McLeod

email: mazpots@paradise.net.nz OR www.aimeemcleod.com

## ANAGAMA BECKONS



### Thoughts on the Anagama Firing

Few pottery clubs in New Zealand have wood fired anagama kilns. Reflecting on its uniqueness, Anneke Borren recently posed the question: do members “realise how wonderful the process is?” This reminded me of something that Shige Ohashi, the firing master for next firing of the anagama kiln in September, wrote two years ago. It was a handout to people who had volunteered to assist in the firing. An edited version is reproduced below. It captures the essence of the anagama process.

“Here, I write my basic thoughts on the Anagama firing.

**Myself** - My name is Shige Ohashi and I have been selected from a cast of one to be this year’s Firing Master. I was the Firing Master for the first firing of the WPA Anagama. As to Anagama firings in Japan, my first firing was around 20 years ago. Since then, I experienced several firings every year. Each potter can has his/her own style of Anagama firing. I have my style of Anagama firing formed through my experience, too.

**Prologue** - “Inevitability”, “Accident” and “Time”. These are my favorite key words.

Nature and Life on the Earth were born from these key words. If I could feel them in something, it would touch my heart. Anagama firing may give it to me, although it is very, very small compared with happenings in the universe.

**History** - The first Anagama kiln in Japan was built, maybe, in Shigaraki not so far from Kyoto, around 800 years ago. Since then, the word “Anagama” has continued to be used. I believe such is the power of this primitive wood firing kiln “Anagama”.

**Loading** - I will load each piece as to get good “Inevitable” results of the firing on it as much as possible. When I put a piece on a shelf, I imagine how the flame flows and how much wood ash the flame contains. The pieces on the shelves are decorated with the flame and ashes, or shadow of other pieces. At completion of the loading, the Anagama firing is over 50% done.

**Firing** - It’s a fun time. Things we can do are not so many. Stoke pieces of firewood believing in the power of the Anagama kiln for about 100 hours. If you believe in the kiln, it may give us a beautiful “Accident”.

A time of 100 hours is long. During stoking firewood, we not only increase the temperature, but also make up the natural glaze with wood ashes and apply it on the pieces little by little. It’s “Time”.

We can’t control everything happening in the kiln. I want to have the kiln fire our pieces without human’s petty thinking. However, we have to feed the energy of the firewood to the kiln effectively. We need to understand the current situation/condition of the kiln. Sitting just before the kiln, listen to the kiln and communicate with the kiln. It’s a delightful time.

**No pyrometer** - I want to go back to the ancient ways. When I said this to someone, he said that it would be strange because I watch the exact temperature of the kiln by a modern pyrometer. I agreed with him. We will not use a pyrometer at this firing. However, we will be using two sets of cones. We can see many antique, beautiful pots which the ancient potters fired without a pyrometer. I want it to be as if I were in a time machine and go back to an era without modern machines. I want to forget our current busy world when I sit before the Anagama. To the team members, I say believe your instincts. (Don’t worry about this. Have fun.)

**Expectation of your piece** - Do not expect a good result on your piece. Such expectation will disappoint you. The results on your piece will never be like what you expect. Please expect the unexpected. Please try to find a beautiful face on your piece after the firing. Your piece had been standing in the massive flame for 100 hours long. It must give us good hints for the next firing.

**Safety** - I quote Mal Sole’s advice for last year’s firing: “Safety is my prime concern, watch each other to make sure that no one gets hurt, and don’t rush anything it is not a race. A minute or two here and there will not make much difference in the long run and it is a long run from start to finish. I’d suggest you wear woollen or cotton clothing – non-flammable gear.

Also bring sun glasses or welding goggles if you possess a pair. A pair of leather gardening gloves is essential. For those on night shifts bring a torch as the ground in some places is uneven.”

**Conclusion** - Have fun and enjoy the firing.”

Here's the overall timetable for the firing and related activities:

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 – Saturday 22 September
Unload kiln & BBQ: 11:30 am	Sunday 23 September

If you would like to be part of this exciting event or have any questions please contact me at: [alross@clear.net.nz](mailto:alross@clear.net.nz)

Alan Ross  
Coordinator

### 2012 Workshop/Events Programme

Month	Date	Activity	Subject	Coordinator/tutor
<b>September</b>	Saturday 1 (10am - 3pm)	Receiving upstairs at rooms	Anagama	Roger Pearce
	Monday 3 – Saturday 8	Loading	Anagama	Alan Ross
	Wednesday 12 – Sunday 16	Firing	Anagama	Alan Ross
	Sunday 23 (11:30 am)	Unloading kiln & BBQ	Anagama	Alan Ross
<b>October</b>	Sun 7 Wed 10 Thurs 11	Ceramicus	Receiving Day Selection Opening, closes 2 pm	Gwyn Williams
	Sunday 28	AGM at the rooms		
<b>November</b>	23 & 24	Workshop	Throwing Big Pots	Vivian Rodriguez

### Lovely recipe from Tuesday group: Rebecca's Chickpea Curry

This is very versatile eg I didn't add any spuds in the dish I served to the lunch group – feel free to add any veggies or meat. Serve over rice or just eat with Naan. Serves 4.

1 tbsp butter	¼ tsp Pepper
1 onion chopped	1 (400g) tin chickpeas, drained
3 cloves of garlic chopped	1 (400g) tin chopped tomatoes
2 tsp Garam Masala	1 (400g) tin coconut milk
3 tsp Curry powder	2 potatoes, chopped
½ tsp Paprika	75ml milk
½ tsp Caster Sugar	2 tbsp tomato sauce
½ tsp Ground Ginger	2 tbsp sour cream
¼ tsp Ground Turmeric	2 chicken stock cubes
¼ tsp Salt	4 tbsp ground almonds

Melt the butter over medium heat in a large saucepan. Cook and stir the onion and garlic in the melted butter for about 5 minutes, until onion is translucent. Sprinkle in curry powder, garam marsala, paprika, sugar, ginger, salt & pepper. Continue to cook and stir 3-4 more minutes until spices are lightly toasted.

Mix in chickpeas, potatoes, coconut milk, tomatoes, milk, tomato sauce, sour cream and stock cubes. Simmer the curry powder over medium-low heat for about 25 minutes, until the potatoes are tender. Stir in ground almonds to thicken.

**Committee 2011/2012**

President	Gwyn <b>Williams</b>	21 Ames Street, Paekakariki	04 905 2586	gwynwilliams@gmx.com
Vice President	Mauritz <b>Basson</b>	9 Kilgour Way Crofton Downs	381 6751 021 227 8151	mauritz.basson@wellingtonzoo.com
Secretary	Kate <b>Ford</b>	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
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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>
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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
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<b>NZP Delegate</b>	Sue <b>Scobie</b>			suescobie@xtra.co.nz

**Articles for August newsletter need to be emailed to Saskia by 31 August 2012**  
[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), Wellington 6011  
 or PO Box 6686, Te Aro, Wellington 6141 | **Phone** (04) 473 3680 | **Email** [wellingtonpotters@gmx.com](mailto:wellingtonpotters@gmx.com)