

Upcoming Dates to Note in Your Diary Now!

November 29	Working Bee at the Rooms
December 15	Last Club Firings for 2015
December 24	Last day for removal of personal items from kiln and glaze rooms
January 19	First Club Firings for 2016
Regular events:	
Tuesdays	Shared lunch at the rooms - just come along and bring something to share!
<i>For the indicative WPA Programme for the year, see page 5, Pottery Classes page 6</i>	

Newsletter Contents

Upcoming Dates To Note In Your Diary Now!	1
From The Vice President	1
Ceramics Exhibition By WPA Potters	2
Aaron Scythe Workshop Review	2
Pottery Throw-Down In The UK	4
End Of Year Clearout And Firing Calendar - Reminder	4
The Cubbies!	4
Potter In Residence At Wellington Potters' Association	5
Proposed Pottery Programme For 2015/2016	5
Pottery And Music Tour Of France, 18 June - 2 July 2016	5
Pottery Classes	6
New Members	6
Club And Committee Contacts	6
WPA Committee	7
Co-Opted Members	7

From the Vice President

November has been a busy month at the rooms, with classes from Wellington Community Education Centre running on Monday and Tuesday evenings with Nicola Dench and Mauritz Basson as well as Shige's class on Wednesday afternoons, Nicola's kids' classes on Tuesday as well as Anthea's classes on Friday and Saturday mornings.

The first weekend of November the club hosted a workshop by renowned ceramic artist Aaron Scythe. Back in New Zealand after more than a decade and half living and working in Japan, it was a privilege to all participants to learn new, exciting and challenging techniques for working with clay. The rooms were at full capacity with 14 members attending the workshop, plus a few of our regulars working in the remaining available tables. Please remember to check the club's programme printed in the newsletter as well as the monthly calendar at the room's whiteboard to get all the news regarding classes and workshops.

By the time you receive this newsletter the working bee on Sunday 29th November will have taken place. A big thanks to all those present for your input and for donating to the club your time and skills. For those who were nowhere to be seen, don't worry, there is still a chance to give back to your club at the next working bee.

As you all know the club sells clay at the rooms. This is a service to all, it saves you money and time. At the moment we offer three types of clay: Mac's White 20 KG bags at \$46; Abbots Stoneware 20 KG bags at \$ 23 and Abbots Brick Red 20 KG bags at \$28 each. Please make sure you pay for clay on the day of the purchase, and also that you fill in the blue folder, kept on the kiln room bench, with the necessary information. Help our treasurer to trace your transactions by keeping payment details clear and up to date.

As Christmas is almost here please remember that the last club firing is on December 15. So finish all your Christmas presents early to avoid disappointment. As part of our end of year clean up and due to the installation of a new ventilation system, please remember to finish and take home with you by December 24 all your work, glaze and equipment.

I also want to congratulate Aston Christie and Brad Heapey, WPA's very own finalists of the prestigious Portage Ceramic Awards in Auckland, well done!!!!!!!

Vivian Rodriguez

Ceramics Exhibition by WPA Potters

Ceramics Exhibition by Maurice Bennett, Chris Dunn and Lyuba Zhilkina

1 – 20 December 2015, at
Potocki Paterson Art Gallery,
Level 1,
41-47 Dixon Street,
Wellington

10.30am – 5pm (closed Sunday and Monday)

Christmas Gifts for Everybody!



Aaron Scythe Workshop Review

On 7 & 8 November Aaron Scythe gave a 2 day workshop during which he demonstrated his Oribe inspired style of pottery, showing his spontaneous and playful throwing and decorating techniques. Aaron lived in Japan for 16 years and returned to New Zealand with his family, following the 2011 devastating earthquake.



Aaron was highly inspiring, and although his major source of influence is 16th century Japanese traditional tea ceremony wares, he offers a refreshing alternative to more prescribed ways of creating. The workshop was punctuated with demos between which participants were given time to practice on making “wobbly” tea bowls, water bowls, vases, sake bottles etc, throwing two or 3 parts separately and joining them together on



the wheel afterwards. Aaron uses carved plaster bats to throw on, making an imprint on the base (which doesn't always remain the base in the finished piece!). Carved pieces of clay of different shapes and sizes are also added to the vessels for decorative and/or functional purposes (handles, repair patches or just added interest).

Aaron also showed his playful way of decorating pots with white slip and iron oxide paint, incorporating slipped pieces into a yet to be fully assembled vessel, creating interesting merging and bleed.

It was a challenge to all, in the sold out workshop, but also an amazingly freeing and renewing experience. Participants were encouraged to let go, try something new and be open to "mistakes" and what they might learn from them. Aaron was a pleasure to have around and learn from. The creative stimulation was such that many were mentally, creatively and physically exhausted, but elated, inspired and changed. A new way of thinking, practising and living.

We hope to see more of Aaron in the future and are already looking forward to the next workshop.

If you want to find out more about Aaron Scythe's work, check out the following links to articles and videos: A short interview with Aaron Scythe on the occasion of the 1st Annual Hikidashi Fire Show in 2004 Mashiko Japan: a short summary of Aaron's influences and values.

<http://www.unm.edu/~ceschiat/ASinterview.htm>

Blogpost about Aaron Scythe's Waikato Society of Potters Workshop in September 2011

<http://gorgeouswithattitude.blogspot.co.nz/2011/10/aaron-scythe-workshop.html>

An article published in the Waikato Times in 2012 retracing the steps that led Aaron back to New Zealand after the 2011 Japan earthquake

<http://www.stuff.co.nz/waikato-times/life-style/people/7931636/Gone-to-pot>

2013 post from Cone Ten and descending... blog (title taken from the book Cone Ten Down: a history of studio ceramics in NZ 1945-80) produced by writer and curator in ceramics Moyra Elliott, describing Aaron's work

<https://conetenanddescending.wordpress.com/2013/10/05/basara-rules/>

2015 Auckland Verve Magazine article

<http://vervemagazine.co.nz/boar-in-a-pottery-shop-aaron-scythe/>

The Avid Gallery's page about Aaron

<http://www.avidgallery.co.nz/aaron-scythe/>

And of course, Aaron's blog, to see more of his work and observe his progression over time.

<http://aaron-scythe.jugem.jp/>

Videos:

Simple Tea Bowl video "Beauty should be simpleone must refrain from thinking ...speed helps with this"

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ufv7I-Ou54M>

... and many more videos available from his website, at this page

https://www.youtube.com/results?search_query=godinc247&og=godinc247&gs_l=youtube.3...2449.6846.0.7661.13.13.0.0.0.126.1039.11j2.13.0...0.0...1ac.1.Dfjwq_rZQXI

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by Francoise Padellec

Pottery Throw-Down in the UK

Gloria Young has just returned from the UK and was surprised to see that the British are tiring of all the endless cooking shows, and so instead of the great Bake-Off, they now have the "great Pottery Throw Down". Could it ever happen here, she wonders?

The Great British Pottery Throw-Down

Sara Cox hosts the latest telly contest to find Britain's top potter.

Anyone still pining after the soggy bottoms and cringeworthy puns of *The Great British Bake Off*, make a note in your diaries, for tonight sees the launch of its "messier cousin", *The Great Pottery Throw Down*.

Ten potters from up and down the UK will be making their way to the home of the British pottery industry, Stoke-On-Trent in Staffordshire, to begin their quest to be crowned Top Potter.

For the full article, see <http://www.independent.co.uk/arts-entertainment/tv/news/the-great-pottery-throw-down-air-date-contestants-and-everything-you-need-to-know-about-the-new-bake-a6710151.html>

End of Year Clearout and Firing Calendar - Reminder

We need members to remove EVERYTHING that they have in the **kiln room and the glaze room** by 24 December 2015! Prior to a big cleanup over the holiday period, and to make space for the installation of a new ventilation system, we need members to remove everything; that is all of their work, their glazing materials, and their equipment.

LAST DAY FOR REMOVAL: 24 December 2015.

What Needs to Go:

- *All bisqued work
- *all glazed work.
- *all personal glazes, equipment and glaze materials

Please note that any of the above not removed by 24 December will be **disposed of**.

Damp Cupboard and Upstairs Drying Shelves

As of Monday 14 December, any works in the Damp Cupboard and on the Drying Shelves not named, or if named but dated outside of the allowed periods for being in those places, will be sent to the **Recycling Bins**.

Last Club Firings for 2015: Tuesday 15 December.

First Club Firings for 2016: Tuesday 19 January.

The Cubbies!

It seems that many cubbies in the rooms are being under-utilized, and we have a growing list of new members who do not have cubbies. If you are not using your cubby, please remove your materials and remove your name from the cubbies list (back of rooms). This will allow the cubbies to be utilized by active members. I will need to check that cubbies are being used.

Please sign your name on the cubby list next to your cubby allocation to show that you are actually using your cubby, otherwise I will have to remove material from unused cubbies (and we don't have anywhere to store this material, so it will become a club donation!).

Sorry for this, but we are trying to make the best use of limited space.

Joe the Cubbie Man



Misleading picture of cubbies

Potter in Residence at Wellington Potters' Association

Calling potters / ceramic artists - Potter in Residence at Wellington Potters' Association

We are offering an opportunity for a potter who would like to use the Potters in Residence studio at Wellington Potters' Rooms for a 3-month period, from January till the end of April 2015. It offers a period of time for concentrated work, to do some experimenting, get together a body of work, or prepare for an exhibition..... whatever your goal.

The offer is open to local and overseas potters.

We offer

- A free studio
- A stretch of time to work on your own work
- The opportunity to contribute to the life of Wellington Potters

The conditions are negotiable, but would include:

- A 4-month residency, with no right of renewal
- Becoming a member of WPA if you are not already one
- Attendance at the rooms for at least 20 hours a week
- A plan of the work you intend to do
- A requirement that you run a workshop for club members
- A commitment to assist with some aspect of the club's work – making glazes or firing, etc
- While the studio is rent free, you would pay for your own materials and expenses.

Please send a brief CV with your plan for the 4months, to wellingtonpotters@gmx.com.

Those who have applied before should re-apply.

Closing date Friday 11 December 2015.

Proposed Pottery Programme for 2015/2016

Regular events

- Classes
- Tuesday shared lunch – every Tuesday. Just come along, and bring something to share!

Plus

- Some regular workshops for beginners on how to glaze.
- Electric kiln firing workshop.

The Committee is currently working on a programme for 2016; please contact the WPA club with any suggestions (wellingtonpotters@gmx.com).

Pottery and Music Tour of France, 18 June - 2 July 2016

For those who love pottery and art, studio and gallery visits; jazz, blues and world music; hilltop villages, rural landscapes lavender and sunflowers, fine food and wine. A comment from Jenny Shearer – “I had such a great time on this tour about 4 years ago... Jane Annois the guide speaks perfect French (is a good potter herself) ...the potters in France are friendly and interesting and the scenery divine. Numbers small so it's good that way”.

Costs: Lyon to Paris \$4,300, includes:

- Bed and all breakfasts
- 6 dinners
- Gallery and museum entries
- Music concert tickets
- Pottery workshops
- All travel during the 2-week tour, including train Lyon to Paris.



At the Jazz Festival we either take a picnic or buy take away on site. The chambres d'hotels are homes where we stay and breakfast is included. 6 dinners are included, when we go to restaurants you will pay for your own. Our big lash out extravaganza will be La Pyramide at Vienne at 64 Euros. It is worth the special occasion at an excellent French restaurant. Being a small group we can make some changes to the itinerary to suit the weather, the best music and festival options.

Lunches: we can have a picnic or buy a sandwich or find a little restaurant, to be decided on how we feel at the time.

The jazz festival program can be found at www.jazzavienne.com [the new program comes out in April 2016]. We will be attending 3 concerts. We will not know who is performing then until the program comes out. During the festival our hours change. We go to bed late and get up late. We often don't get home until 1am or so, which means a relaxed morning and brunch at 11am. We may juggle the dates within the tour to make sure we see our favourite musicians.

Please ring me if you would like to talk about it. I can guarantee an insightful trip, as knowing the area and the local French people for 18 years has allowed me openings to places and people you would not otherwise find. The language is invaluable too! We will have a lot of fun. Jane

Jane Annois
03 98442337/0422942216, jane@zestefrenchtours.com, www.zestefrenchtours.com

Pottery Classes

Mondays with Nicola Dench: Kids' class 3.30pm – 5pm running for 8 weeks during school terms, aimed at 8-12 year olds. \$200 per course all costs included. Contact Nicola Dench on 938-3356 or email theclaypenguin@hotmail.com. 2016 classes start 15 February, 9 May, 25 July and 10 October.

Community Education Center courses: Community Education Centre courses are currently being finalized for 2016; check with <http://www.cecwellington.ac.nz> or contact cec@whs.school.nz.

Wednesdays, ongoing, 4-9pm: Japanese style throwing with Shige Ohashi, for all levels. Shige will be at the Association rooms 4-9pm, students start their 2 hour session anytime between 4-9pm. For further information, contact Shige at capshoh@gmail.com. Note that there will be no classes in January, February or March in 2016.

Fridays 9.45-12pm: Anthea Grob - Introductory and intermediate class in hand building and wheel throwing. 6-week courses run continuously. \$138 per course, plus clay and firing costs. Contact Anthea to enrol (grobanthea@gmail.com) or phone 9726672. Next course starts on 15th January 2016.

Saturdays 9.45-11.45am: Anthea Grob - Introductory and intermediate class in hand building and wheel throwing. 6-week courses run continuously. \$138 per course, plus clay and firing costs. Contact Anthea to enrol (grobanthea@gmail.com) or phone 9726672. Next course starts on 9th January 2016.

For further information on all courses, please email Wellington Potters Association (wellingtonpotters@gmx.com).

New members

Wellington Potters welcomes new members: online application forms are available at: http://www.nzpotters.com/Clubs/WellingtonPottersAssociation_Join.cfm
There are also links to the form on this page: <http://www.nzpotters.com/Clubs/WellingtonPottersAssociation.cfm>

WPA Club welcomes new members: Hannah Gerrard, Lucy Wise, Tim Edwards and John Swindes.

Club and Committee Contacts

FEE PAYING BY Internet:
Wellington Potters Association - Account Number: 02 0568-0024590-00

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

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/pages/Wellington-Potters-Association/213144062066063>

Articles for the February newsletter need to be emailed to the Editor's cat by 25 January 2016

(Elaine Marland <marland@xtra.co.nz>)



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.

WPA Committee

President/ Volunteer Coordinator	Mauritz Basson	381 6751	mauritz.basson@wellingtonzoo.com
Vice President/ Programme	Vivian Rodriguez	021 264 5414 972 0811	vivian.rodriguez@clear.net.nz
Past President, DCA Liaison	Gwyn Williams	04 905 2586	gwynwilliams@gmx.com
Secretary/ Orientation	Kate Ford	473 5356 021 121 6531	kate.ford48@gmail.com wellingtonpotters@gmx.com
Treasurer Safe/banking	Mike Doyle	021 631 187	mprzdz@hotmail.com
Programme Co- ordinator	Rebecca Flowerday	027 279 9077	rebecca.flowerday@gmail.com
Ceramicus16	Andrew McKaskell	021 444 106	spinyagm@paradise.net.nz
Kilns & Glazes	Chris Dunn & Andrew McKaskell	021 138 8472 021 444 106	cdunn@ihug.co.nz spinyagm@paradise.net.nz
Cubbies	Joe Zuccarello	479-1299	joe.zuccarello@vuw.ac.nz
Volunteer Co- ordinator	Paula Weir	385 1840	paula.weir@paradise.net.nz
Cubbies	Joe Zuccarello	479-1299	joe.zuccarello@vuw.ac.nz
DCA Liaison			
Building maintenance	Mauritz Basson & subcommittee		

Co-opted members

Anagama co-ordinator	Alan Ross	566 8922	alross@clear.net.nz
NZP delegate	Nicola Dench	938 3356	theclaypenguin@hotmail.com
Membership/ database manager	Vera Burton	938 8207	davee@paradise.net.nz
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