

Upcoming Dates to Note in Your Diary Now!

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|---|---|
| March 12-13 | Throwing Big Plates Workshop |
| March 27 | Nerikome Workshop |
| April 2 - 3 | Making a Two Piece Mould, Richard Stratton |
| <i>Note that weekend workshops will take precedence in the rooms – please note the dates, if you intend to use the rooms at the weekends!</i> | |
| April 30 - May 1 | Raku for Club Members |
| Regular events: | |
| Tuesdays | Shared lunch at the rooms - just come along and bring something to share! |

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From the Vice President

The rooms have been busy again after the holidays with people coming back to work. It is good to see so many of our regulars as well as new members getting their hands (and clothes) dirty. The first term of pottery classes has started on Monday, Tuesday and Thursday evenings as well as Friday and Saturday morning. Please keep in mind that during these times, the tables and wheels may be occupied by students and tutors. All are welcome to work at the main studio, but just make sure to be considerate while working in the shared spaces.

Congratulations to Rhonda Edwards for a very successful throwing workshop this past weekend. The workshop was attended by 14 potheads who enjoyed learning new skills and refreshing old ones. Please make sure you check our diary for future weekend and, day workshops. It is going to be a busy year and the committee will be doing its best to provide as many activities as possible to cater for all those wanting to enhance their skills.

The weather has been lovely, (for those who love the sun) and pots are drying very fast, a day or two at the most. Please don't forget to finish your work in time and move it to the kiln room to be fired. In that way, we will avoid clutter on the drying shelves as well as the humidity cabinet.

Many thanks to all those helping with the club firings and remember if you want to join in, just contact the firing master. Also, if you have any empty ice-cream containers or old/new sponges at home please bring them in. Our ones have been disappearing lately and are in much need.

Happy Potting

Vivian Rodriguez

Throwing Big Plates Workshop 12-13 March

Vivian Rodriguez will be holding a workshop on throwing big plates:

Saturday and Sunday 12 & 13 March
10:00 am to 4:00 pm
At the Rooms
Cost: \$ 80 WPA Members (\$ 70 early bird)



This workshop will be full participation. It is suitable for competent throwers. In order to throw big pieces you need to be able to centre and work with at least two kilos of clay. The purpose of the workshop is to teach you how to double the amount of clay you can work with so you can make larger pieces. What to bring: Your own clay, your tools, and a generous dish for shared lunch. The workshop is limited to twelve spaces. Enrol now.

To book: Please email wellingtonpotters@gmx.com.

Nerikome Technique Workshop, 27 March

Mason Chidgey will be holding a workshop on the Nerikome technique:

Sunday 28 May 2016 9:30-4:30

You will create a coloured object using skills learnt: Colour clay, Hazards, pattern making, Grog making, hand-built vessel or Hump/Slump mould, finishing technique. We will be using porcelain, so some experience with clay would be preferred. Nerikomi (often referred to as “neriage”) is a decorative process established in Japan that involves stacking coloured clays and then slicing through the cross section to reveal a pattern, which can then be used as an applied decoration.

Nerikomi designs provide a wonderful way to work three dimensionally with patterns and images. The results reflect a combination of both careful planning and accidental surprise, plus it’s exciting work for those who love patterns and are drawn to the wet-clay stage of pottery making.

Mason will be putting together a schedule to guide the day’s activities, which will also include a brief overview of the technique, with links to renowned practitioners. This will be printed and given out on the day.

What to bring:

- Apron, basic tools, water bottle. Good sense of humour!
- Generous shared plate of food for lunch ;-)



Cost:

- 1 day \$50 **including all materials**

How to pay:

- Usual method – in the safe, or on the internet; note your name, *Masons workshop a/c 02 0568 0024590 00*

To book: Please email wellingtonpotters@gmx.com



Raku for Club Members, 30 April, or 1 May

There will be a Members Raku Day at the Rooms:

Saturday 30 April or weather alternative **Sunday 1 May**

This is an invitation for WPA Members to come and take an active role in Raku Firing. One day only, but as this is a weather dependant activity we have Sunday as the alternative weather day.

Ring Chris on 021 138 8472 to confirm on the day (10am)

Note that the kiln is of limited size; 2 small bisqued pieces per member will be accepted. Raku pre-made Glazes and Firing is included in the price, you just supply the bisqued pieces.

20 people maximum. So please Register with Kate at wellingtonpotters@gmx.com

What to Bring:

- Your Pre-Bisqued work
- \$15 per person for 2 Small/Medium pieces to be raku-glazed and fired
- Your lunch

And we'd appreciate:

- Newspaper or paper (for the reduction tins)

Programme:

- Glazing from 11:00 – 1:00
- Firing from 1:00 – 4:00

Your participation is encouraged, under the Supervision of Chris and Elaine. Come and help set-up the firing and take an active role in firing your piece.

Limited to 20 Members so please Register your involvement with Kate Ford wellingtonpotters@gmx.com.

Usual payment method – in the safe, or on the internet or on the day; note your name & *Raku Members Day, a/c 02 0568 0024590 00*



A result from the last raku firing

Auntie Agatha's Agony Column

Dear Auntie Agatha

I use the rooms very often but I am having a problem. Every time I use the wheel I take out the screws on the wheel head as they are very annoying. However, every time I am back, I realise that they have been put back and I have to take them out again. How can I solve this problem? Who is putting my screws back?

Fred Loose



Auntie Agatha replies...

Dear Fred

Thank you for your question. I am glad to hear that you are a committed potter and enjoying your time at the rooms. The wheel head at the potters' wheel has two sets of screws designed to fix wooden batts of different circumferences from 15 to 30 cm. Wooden batts are used by potters especially when making plates and large pieces in order to minimise distortion when lifting the pot from the wheel. When throwing directly on the wheel head, there is no need to take the screws out just lower them but leave them in place. The screws often get a little stuck if there is some dry clay around them so just use a sponge to pour some water on them to make them easier to lower down. If using wooden batts, just adjust the screw to the higher position. Remember; always leave the wheel head with the screws down after each session. So, to answer your question, you can solve the problem by screwing down the screws. Also, I believe it is Vivian Rodriguez who has been putting all the screws back onto the wheel heads accompanied by some very colourful language.

Auntie Agatha.

Have you got a problem you would like Auntie Agatha's advice on? Send a message to our Editor at marland@xtra.co.nz

Glaze Material Containers Available for Sale

Attached is a photo of a heavy cardboard cylinder (with a metal sealed lid). I have 7 such containers which I have used to hold my bulk glaze materials, such as Silica, Talc, China Clay, and Feldspars etc.

I am considering a time coming soon when I will have to vacate my wonderful studio in Miramar, and wish to get rid of these containers preferably to someone who could still make use of them. They fit under a table or bench.

I also have kilos of China Clay, Talc, Whiting, Dolomite, Nepheline Syanite, and other Glaze materials to sell at greatly reduced prices. Should anyone be interested please contact me on 021 2668275.

Gloria Young



Notes from Our Alaskan Branch...

From: Matthew Van Atta <mnvanatta@alaska.edu>
Date: 31 January 2016 9:46:34 pm NZDT
To: Wellington Potters Association <wellingtonpotters@gmx.com>
Subject: Never too far away

I don't think I will ever understand why I wander the way I do. I showed up in Wellington with little reason beyond that it was on my way...

Today, there is a new revival of pottery in the Matanuska-Susitna valley of Alaska (outside Anchorage). The Valley Pottery Association opened a few weeks ago and the first classes have started. Interest and enthusiasm is starting to build! The space is wonderfully open and clutter-free (give that some time to fix itself) and most of the equipment still feel new. Best of all, the website is already out of date (AKpottery.com)

I would like to thank the WPA for being part of my foundation in pottery. Barry Brickell also had a philosophical influence and I was saddened to hear his passing. I treasure his book and my short time visiting his dreamland of a pottery.

It is rather cold right now but if any New Zealand potters happen to come this way (March and August are the "best" months to visit in my opinion) there is a wheel, clay and a finished bowl to borrow!

Happy potting
Matthew

Club Firings – Now on Monday Evenings

Your pots for the next club firing must be in before 5pm on MONDAY afternoon, NOT TUESDAY!

They must be bone-dry. Please do not glaze your pots on Monday, they will not be accepted. Best get them into the kiln room on the weekend; kilns unloaded Thursday afternoon as usual.

Remember – clearly write your name, telephone number and type of clay used on your firing slip, and record your payment.

This change is because Peter and Chris will both be away for some of the weeks in February and March. Fortunately some members with kiln licences have volunteered to stack and fire the kilns for you, but they can only do this on Monday evening.

Happy potting, Chris & Peter.

Kick Wheels Available

TWO STAND-UP KICK WHEELS AVAILABLE FOR A SMALL DONATION

The club has two stand-up kick wheels available for anyone who would like to take them for a small donation to the club. The one in the photo is outside the southern end of the building. The other has an electric motor and is in the garage, though I'm not sure how well it works.

Please contact Chris Dunn cdunn@ihug.co.nz if you are interested.



Kiln Furniture Wanted

KILN FURNITURE WANTED – TILE AND PLATE SETTERS.

Does anyone have any kiln furniture suitable for stacking plates and/or tiles in a kiln that they don't need and could donate to WPA?

We need them because many of you make plates for firing in the club kilns and they take up a lot of room when put on a standard kiln shelf. If we had the right stacking furniture we could stack them more efficiently, and fire more of them. We cannot buy them in NZ, they would be expensive to import. Please contact Chris Dunn (cdunn@ihug.co.nz) if you have any you would like to donate.

Proposed Pottery Programme for 2016

Regular events

- Classes

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

March

- 12th – 13th, Throwing Platters & Chargers, Vivian Rodriguez
- 27th, Nerikome, Mason Chidgey

April

- 2nd – 3rd, Making a 2 Piece Mould, Richard Stratton (see picture at right; making a mould from a 3-dimensional object)
- 30th – 1 May, Family Raku, Chris Dunn & Elaine Marland

May

- 28th – 29th, Sculptural Waka Forms, Bruce Walford

June

- 11th – 12th, Sgraffito Ornamentation, Vivian Rodriguez

July

- 2nd – 3rd, Slip Making and Casting, Craig Williams (following on from Richard Stratton's Mould Making, Craig's workshop is about using an existing plaster Mould and making a Casting Slip to produce a clay representation of the original item – see picture).
- Date to be confirmed, Raku for Club Members, Chris Dunn and Elaine Marland

August

- 13th – 14th, Decoration and Surface Textures, Jennifer Turnbull

September

- 17th – Photographing Your Work – To Be Confirmed

October

- Dates to be confirmed – Raku for Club Members, Chris Dunn and Elaine Marland
- Date to be confirmed – Demonstration on Hand Building Techniques, Brendan Adams

November

- Date to be confirmed – Clay Ocarina Making, Paula Weir

This is an indicative programme of events for 2016 – more detail on each will be provided closer to the event. If you have any suggestions please contact the WPA club.



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.

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 who have joined since November last year; Kelvin Bradford, Miriam Harvey, Kolja Schaller, Tia Ikin, Sam Holloway, Lexi Kirkconnell-kawana, Sun Jeong, Luisa Beatty, Marie

Richardson, Rebecca Roberts, Tom Brooks, Claire Hopkins, Lizzy Baker, Sarah Jeong, Naomi Walker, Daphne Dashfield.

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 April newsletter need to be emailed to the Editor's cat by 25 March 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

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|--|----------------------------------|-----------------------------|--|
| 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 | mprzdd@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 | davee42@clear.net.nz |
| Library and Newsletter editor | Elaine Marland | 021 0505 335 384 4718 | marland@xtra.co.nz |

