

WPA Newsletter

March 2018



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Key Dates

6 March (and onwards) – Free Tuesday sessions, p.5

10-11 March – The Perfect Cup, p.2

Mid-late March – temporary kiln closure, p.4

25 March – Special General Meeting, p.2

8 April – Anagama Workshop, p.3

3-4 May? – Ben Carter Workshop

From the WPA Committee

In the interests of keeping people up-to-date, here's a summary of things that came up at the February committee meeting.

On the finance side of things, we've got to a size where we need to register for GST, and we'll have that sorted soon. We've decided to install an eftpos machine so that we can get rid of cash and the memory lapses that can interfere with on-line payments.

The year's programme is getting sorted and we're working on an on-line calendar. Classes are well underway, and we'll try and have some more next term. There is high demand from beginners and intermediates. Also we are finalising a programme of workshops so people can learn new skills and challenge themselves to the next stage. Most of the workshops will be by local experts, but there is one coming up run by the American ceramicist, Ben Carter, who will be here in May. The on-line calendar will include the 4 working bees, so you can schedule them into your personal calendar. We hope – expect - that all members can come to at least one of those.

Our meetings always involve decisions to buy stuff – quite expensive stuff. You may have noticed the new ladders and a whiteboard; we’re ordering a new kiln to replace FE1, a new slab roller, and electronic scales for the kiln room.

We’re having a special committee meeting to look at the findings of the WPA Membership Conversation held on 11 February. We’ll synthesise your thinking, and make recommendations to bring back to you at the Special General Meeting on Sunday 25 March.

The Perfect Cup Weekend Master Class, 10-11 March

MASTER CLASS INFORMATION

DATE:

SATURDAY 10 &
SUNDAY 11 MARCH

TIME:

10AM to 3PM

FEE:

\$140 WPA Members
\$180 Non Members

LIMITED TO 12 SPOTS
ONLY

For enrollment or
more information,
please contact:

V. RODRIGUEZ

0212645414

vivavivianr@gmail.com

THE PERFECT CUP

WEEKEND MASTER CLASS WITH
VIVIAN RODRIGUEZ



This workshop is designed to teach students different techniques to create beautiful and functional cups, mugs, tumblers and tea bowls. It will cover throwing, trimming and handle making as well as basic design, decoration, glazing and firing tips. It is open to all levels but students need to be able to center and work at the wheel with at least 600 grams of clay.

WPA Special General Meeting 2pm Sunday 25 March 2018



On 11 February Wellington Potters Association held a “Membership Conversation” at the rooms; thanks to all who turned up for the conversation around what WPA means to us all, and how we can ensure that it continues to prosper. And special thanks to Tim Foote for a masterly facilitation of the conversation and the day!

It was a lively and entertaining day, and it was great to see so many new members there. We have put some work into condensing the results of that meeting, and will continue to work on creating a proposal around WPA’s membership structure; full details of the eventual proposal will be forthcoming shortly, but in the meantime, put **2pm Sunday 25 March** into your calendar!

Free Anagama Workshop and Demonstration, Sunday 8 April

Two mud-slinging pyromaniacs (one a thrower, one a handbuilder) will give you their hands-on insights into what works best for anagama (wood kiln) firings as well as advice on the best clays to use, whether to glaze - or not - and answer your questions on the meaning of life. There will be posters showing anagama activities and 'real, live, unadulterated' examples of the works from previous firings.

Sunday 8 April:

DISPLAY ON VIEW: (browse the posters, pictures and anagama pots) 10am - 5pm

DEMONSTRATION: Noon until 3pm

Your hosts: Mal Sole and Peter Rumble

Ben Carter Workshop in May

As you will have seen from a recent email to all members, Ben Carter is coming to NZ, and WPA has been given a limited number of weekday 1 or 2-day workshop options during the **first week in May 2018**. We will be making a decision about how long a workshop we will be asking for based on your responses, so watch out for further information!

Cost for participants and exact topics to be covered will depend on the length of the workshop. Thanks to the generous subsidy from Creative New Zealand and Ceramics New Zealand, workshop fees will be similar to our other workshops from local tutors.

Any questions? Just get in touch with WPA Workshop coordinator Nicole Gaston

- nicolemgaston@gmail.com



News from the Kiln Room

Heads-Up! The kilns will not be operating for a day or two sometime *between mid and late March*. Indeed, the power to the whole building will be off *temporarily* as major work is undertaken on the main fusebox. **More specific timing will be broadcast closer to the time.** If you're working to a deadline to have your work completed, get it in sooner rather than later!

IMPORTANT NOTICE TO KILN LICENCE HOLDERS: There is vital information you need to know regarding the operation of the kilns, including a reiteration of your Responsibilities and Liabilities. Some of you have not updated your email addresses with the Kiln Leaders Team. Until you reply to the email (emailed on Tuesday 27 February to your currently listed address in the KLH Register) *any bookings you make will be voided.*

Out with the old; in with the (sort of) new: The LL kiln is being replaced...look for the **Kiln for Tender** notice in this newsletter. A refurbished, solid-brick kiln that will fire to Cone 10 will be taking its place.

Back in Action: FE3 has new elements (following a user's accident) and is up-and-running again. Thanks to Paige Jarman for her work on this.

REMINDER OF MEMBERS' RESPONSIBILITIES AND LIABILITIES REGARDING CLUB GLAZE FIRINGS

The Glaze-Making and Kiln-Firing teams work well together, particularly when analysing kiln accidents (WHY did that glaze slop all over the shelf when it was fired?!). Invariably, it is NOT the fault of the glaze, it is down to poor or improper glaze application. While the kiln loaders do their best to screen the pots going through to glaze firings, poor or improper glazing technique is not always obvious.

BE AWARE that, by putting your pots into a Club Firing, you are entering into a Contract. Any damage caused by your pots to any interior parts of the kilns and kiln furniture is the responsibility of the member whose pot(s) caused the damage...and the member IS LIABLE TO PAY FOR THAT DAMAGE.

There is a notice on the glaze room door identifying good glaze practices. Read and comprehend, please. ***It could save you hundreds of dollars!***

Latest Equipment Upgrades at WPA

As mentioned in the "From the WPA Committee" section, the Committee continue to look at the purchase of new equipment to make the rooms run more smoothly; latest purchases are:

Two new ladders: With members' safety in mind, two new ladders have been purchased. One is for the main studio and one for the kiln room. The step ladder from the kiln room will be moved upstairs. YOUR SAFETY is always at the forefront of your Committee's mind. If you notice a potential hazard and can't deal with it yourself, contact one of the Committee. Their names and contacts may be found on the last page of this Newsletter, and on the main notice board in the studio.

New Electronic Scale: Very soon there will be a new electronic scale in the kiln room. This not a \$2-Shop piece of equipment!!! Please treat it with respect. Damp-wipe off any clay or glaze residue then dry off the weighing-pad with a paper towel. ALWAYS replace the scale on its shelf under the table.



Tuesday Sessions at the Rooms – Free for All!

If anyone would like a bit of help with their throwing, or wedging, or in fact anything clay-related, there are a couple of long-time WPA members who are currently turning up at the rooms from 10am-12pm on Tuesday mornings, and are happy to share their knowledge. Call in and get some great guidance from **Vera Burton** and **Mal Sole** (see an article about Mal at http://www.ceramicsnz.org/FeatureArticles/FeatureArticles_Display.cfm?FeaturesID=25)

Anagama Insights and Information

The 14th anagama firing is in August and preparation for it is well advanced. Most of the firewood required has been stacked in the shelter. Outstanding tasks include repairing the kiln doors, completing the cleaning of kiln shelves and stacking firewood outside that is not needed for the firing.

Thanks are due to those who have diligently barrowed and stacked firewood, including Mal Sole, Peter Rumble, Ian Gear, Lyuba Zhilkina and Frank Anderson (a non-potter who enjoys the exercise and the rural environment).

A targeted survey of those who participated for the first time as shift members in the 13th firing was conducted to get their views on the most effective form that information sessions (viz. Anagama Show & Tell/Presentation/Workshop) might take and other related things. Seventeen people were invited to participate and 13 responded – an excellent result. The Anagama Team is reflecting on the results and the suggestions. A poster displaying a representative sample of pieces included in recent firings is now on display in the rooms as a source of encouragement and possibly inspiration. Each pot is numbered and Peter Rumble is on a quest to find out who made each piece, the clay used and the glaze used (if any). Please enlighten him. This information will be included in an accompanying key. The poster boys (Mal, Peter and me) are extraordinarily grateful to Grace Sharp who designed the poster.



A comprehensive brochure headed “WPA’s Te Haunui Anagama Kiln” is available at the rooms to assist new members, in particular, who might wish to be involved in the next firing. An Anagama Workshop and Demonstration will be held on Sunday 8 April at the rooms (see notice page 3).

Alan Ross
Anagama Coordinator

Wellington Home and Garden Show

Information for WPA members, on our 2018 Wellington shows for your consideration to promote & sell your works. Visitors to our shows are often looking for products to decorate or use in their homes or gardens. Our Better Home & Living Show, on in May has more of a focus on eco-friendly products. We have a special sculpture rate at both shows, for garden art and sculptors:

[Wellington Better Home & Living Show: 25, 26, 27 May 2018, on at Westpac Stadium](#)

Fully Indoors show, 2017 event - 10700 adult visitors, 177 exhibitors attended:

Better Homes, Sections A-E, \$232 + GST per m², incl. carpet, panels, 10amp power for the 3 days
Better Homes, Sections F-G, Special Sculptor Rate: \$610 + GST for 4.2m wide x 3m or 5m deep site

[Wellington Home & Garden Show: 21, 22, 23 September 2018, on at Westpac Stadium](#)

Fully Indoors show, 2017 event - 14900 adult visitors, 212 exhibitors attended:

Rate: \$253 + GST per m², includes carpet, panels and 10amp power for the 3 days

Outdoor products section, Special Sculptor Rate: \$625 + GST for 4.2m wide x 3m or 5m deep site

If you would like to share a stand with a group of potters, we are happy for you to do so. If you would like further information on either show, please feel free to contact me directly via reply email or on my direct dial number shown below.

Regards

Heather

Heather Mitchell | Jade Promotions and Events | P O Box 8516, Havelock North 4157 |

ddi: 06-280-5192 | office: 06-877-6475 |

www.homeandgardenshow.co.nz

Kiln for Tender

LL "Easy-fire" electric kiln. 3-phase. All brick (i.e. no ceramic fibre) and an outer of stainless steel construction. Dodecagon-shaped, the internal measurements are: 690mm diameter; 430mm high. Has new contact switches recently installed (plus an extra set as spares). Sold on an "as is, where is" basis. Successful tenderer must pay the agreed sum and remove the kiln from WPA premises within 5 working days of Tender being accepted.

Last day for Tenders to be submitted: Sunday 11 March at 6pm.

Address queries, or email tenders to Peter Rumble (acting for WPA)

sales@rumbles.co.nz, ph 021 0678099

Our Foreign Correspondent

Those older readers of the newsletter will remember the Saga of the Ming Dysentery Teapot filed by our foreign correspondent and now Life member, Mike Atkins. You may be interested to know he's still on safari – this time in the Marlborough Sounds.



Proposed Pottery Programme for 2018

Regular events

- Classes
- Friday Club Night – share wine, food, tips – or just your company!

March

- 10-11th, The Perfect Cup Workshop with Vivian Rodríguez

April

- 8th, Anagama Workshop and Demonstration, Mal Sole and Peter Rumble

If you have any suggestions for the WPA programme please contact the WPA club.

Pottery Classes 2018

- **Mondays 9.30am-11.45am, 5th February for 7 weeks. Throwing for Beginners with Galit Maxwell**, for WPA members, absolute beginners and intermediate; includes the

practical skills of wedging, centring, throwing cylinders & bowls & trimming. Covers different types of clay & variety of techniques. Email maxwellgalit@gmail.com

to enrol. Cost for 7 weeks course \$200, to be paid in advance. Clay & firing costs extra.

- **Mondays 5.30pm-7.30pm, Handbuilding and Throwing with Anthea Grob**, 8 week sessions from 12th Feb; see **Community Education Centre** cec@whs.school.nz to enrol.
- **Tuesdays 5.30pm-7.30pm, Throwing, All Levels, with Mauritz Basson**, 8 week sessions from 13th Feb; see **Community Education Centre** cec@whs.school.nz to enrol.
- **Tuesdays 7.30pm-9.00pm, Throwing, All Levels, with Mauritz Basson**, 8 week sessions from 13th Feb; see **Community Education Centre** cec@whs.school.nz to enrol.
- **Wednesday 6.30pm-8.30pm, 7th Feb for 8 weeks. Throwing for Beginners and Advanced Beginners with Galit Maxwell**, for WPA members, absolute beginners and intermediate; includes the practical skills of wedging, centring, throwing cylinders and bowls & trimming, different clays and techniques. Email maxwellgalit@gmail.com to enrol. Cost for 8 weeks course \$200, to be paid in advance. Clay & firing costs extra.
- **Thursdays, 9.30am-1.30pm, 15th Feb for 4 weeks, Hand-building with Peter Rumble**; contact **Community Education Centre** cec@whs.school.nz to register.
- **Thursdays 5.00pm- 7.00pm, 8th Feb for 8 weeks. Throwing for Beginners and Advanced Beginners with Galit Maxwell**, for WPA members, absolute beginners and intermediate; includes the practical skills of wedging, centring, throwing cylinders & bowls & trimming, different clays and techniques. Email maxwellgalit@gmail.com

to enrol. Cost for 8 weeks course \$200, to be paid in advance. Clay & firing costs extra.

- **Thursdays 7.00pm- 9.00pm, 8th Feb for 8 weeks. Throwing for Beginners and Advanced Beginners with Galit Maxwell**, for WPA members, absolute beginners and intermediate; includes the practical skills of wedging, centring, throwing cylinders & bowls & trimming, different clays and techniques. Email maxwellgalit@gmail.com to enrol. Cost for 8 weeks course \$200, to be paid in advance. Clay & firing costs extra.
- **Fridays, 9.45am-12pm: 16th Feb for 8 weeks. Pottery Projects with Anthea Grob**. Projects using throwing and hand-building techniques to create functional forms, for WPA members at intermediate level (i.e. have completed a course including ceramic practices). Contact grobanthea@gmail.com, or 9726672 within office hours. Cost for 8 week course: \$200, to be paid in advance. Clay and firing costs extra.
- **Saturdays 8.30am-10.30am: 19th Feb for 8 weeks. Beginners Mixed Hand-Building and Throwing with Anthea Grob** (*times may change to 8-10am if a club workshop held in the Rooms). For WPA members new to clay. Contact grobanthea@gmail.com, or 9726672 within office hours. Cost for 8 week course: \$200, to be paid in advance. Clay and firing costs extra.

**note courses need sufficient enrolments to go ahead, or the course will be postponed or cancelled and enrolment fee refunded.*

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

New Members

Wellington Potters welcomes new members; application forms from the WPA website <http://wellingtonpotters.org.nz/>, or email wellingtonpotters@gmx.com.

Latest new members: Isabella Nicole Allan, Gareth Bevan, Rebecca Bewick, Julie Brunton, Madison Grace Coles-Cox, Piata Costello,

Sarah & Richard Ford, Denny-Marie Ford & Monica Yee, Rebekah Gomez, Elle Hendriks, Zach Hoffman, Alana Inglis, Anna Irwin-Schutze, Michelle Johnstone, Rebecca Kiddle, Maria Lob, Kiae So Lee, Jo Leem, Rory Leonard & Jessica Allison-Batt, Kura McCaskill, Rachel Metson, Steve Moate,

James Neville, Rossella Nicolai, Paola Nigris, Heather Payne, Roxanne Sutherland-Valentine, Abigail Timmins, Meg van Oosten, Dian Wang, Francina West, Han-Christian Wilhelm, Jennifer Wittig, Robyn Zwaan

Rejoining: Meena Kadri, Mike Robinson.

About Us – Contacts, Social Media Info

Internet Payments:

Wellington Potters Association; Account Number: 02 0568-0024590-00

Location, Mailing Address, Phone & Email:

see front page of Newsletter.

Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/pages/Wellington-Potters-Association/213144062066063>. If you have any pottery inspiration, cool videos or articles, or upcoming exhibitions, email your idea through to Chris Dunn – chrisdunn6@gmail.com.

Website: The WPA website is at <http://wellingtonpotters.org.nz/>; send contributions or suggestions to webmaster@wellingtonpotters.org.nz.

Clay Purchase: WPA has clay for sale to members, but the process does rely on the availability of a few of our hard-working club members. To organise clay purchase, email Vivian Rodríguez vivavivianr@gmail.com, or talk to a class tutor.

WPA Committee/ office holders: see below.

WPA Newsletter Deadline: Articles for the April Newsletter need to be emailed to the Editor (Elaine Marland marland@extra.co.nz) by **25 March 2018**.

Membership Costs: 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:** John Saunders, ph. 021 343 790, kiwipens@gmail.com.
- Vice President/Newsletter Editor:** Elaine Marland. Ph. 021 050 5335, 384 4718, marland@extra.co.nz.
- Past President/Maintenance Manager:** Mauritz Basson, 021 227 8151, mauritz.basson@wellingtonzoo.com.
- Secretary/Orientation/Supplies:** Kate Ford, 473 5356, 021 121 6531, kate.ford48@gmail.com, wellingtonpotters@gmx.com.
- Treasurer:** Mike Doyle, 021 631 187, mprzdz@hotmail.com.
- Committee Members**
- Kiln Team Leader:** Peter Rumble, 021-067-8099, 475-9411, sales@rumbles.co.nz.
- Classes, Shelf Manager:** Shona Carstens, 021-490-661, 473 3055, shona.carstens@extra.co.nz.
- Workshop Coordinator:** Nicole Gaston, 022-674-7815, nicolemgaston@gmail.com.
- Librarian, Clay Sales, Working Bee Coordinator:** Vivian Rodríguez, 021-264-5414, vivavivianr@gmail.com.
- Treasurer's Assistant, Ceramicus Convenor:** Ulli Rosenfeld, 022-089-2952, ulli.r@gmx.de.
- Fees & Membership Sub-Committee:** Tim Foote, 020-407-52468, foote.timothy@gmail.com.
- Co-opted members**
- Anagama Coordinator:** Alan Ross, 566 8922, alan.lynne.ross@gmail.com.
- Membership:** Vera Burton, 938 8207, veeanddave93@gmail.com.
- Cubbies:** Joe Zuccarello, 479 1299, joe.zuccarello@vuw.ac.nz.