



Cairns Potters Club Inc.

April 2015 Newsletter

ABN 60 623 179 734

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Clubhouse

Newsletter Editor

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Ceramic artwork by Indian ceramist Adil Writer

President: Lone White.

Vice President: Kylie McKenna

Secretary: - Erica West

Minute Secretary: Christina George

Treasurer: Mark Davis

Librarian: Christina George

Kiln Booking Officer: Jennifer Arthur

Newsletter: still vacant (acting newsletter editor -Lone White)

Glass Officer: vacant

Website Manager: - Jennifer Arthur

Clay Officer:- Di Sant.

Committee Members; The following members have agreed to be on the Committee:
Rebecca Barnes, Claire Heathcock, Glenys Lonie, Heather McCoy & Hedy Verhulst ,

CLUB MEETINGS

The Management Committee of the Club meets at 4.30 pm on the first Thursday of the month at the Club premises at 28a Grove Street Cairns. Members are welcome to attend and/or bring issues to the Committee at these meetings.

The next Management Committee meeting will take place Thursday 9 April 2015 at 4.30 pm.

(note the change of date for this meeting)

A word from the President.

The Annual general Meeting (AGM) took place 28 March at the clubhouse (see page 3). Great to see so many members turning up for the meeting . It was also nice to see some new members, who were willing to put their hand up to be part of the Management Committee.

The next upcoming event is our traditional “Mothers Day Fair “ the day before Mothers Day Saturday 9 May, so please make plenty of pots and artworks to sell at the Fair.

The glaze room extension, thanks to an infrastructure grant of \$ 38,000 from the Cairns Regional Council , will be starting shortly and we are still looking into how we can manufacture a great glaze booth, so members can apply glazes to their pots a bit easier.

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Annual General Meeting

Saturday 21 March 2015 at 2pm



The AGM started 2.30. Thanks to all the members who attended.

Our secretary Claire Heathcock, treasurer Pam Breckenridge and glass officer Deb Clarke had all indicated that due to other commitments they were not available for re election. The club thanks them for all the work they have done during their time on the committee.

We have now a new Vice president Kylie McKenna, Secretary Erica West, Treasurer Mark Davis and two new committee members Rebecca Barnes and Claire Heathcock, however we are still looking for a new glass officer.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Annual General Meeting – Year ending 31 December 2014

This year the Cairns Potters Club is 41 years old. I think it is quite an achievement.

To run a “non for profit organisation” with volunteer staff is not an easy job especially now when Governments and Council and the Insurance Industry are placing more demands on small clubs and organisations. Anyhow we keep battling and hope to find enough enthusiastic potters and glass artists to keep the club going in the future.

2014 again was a very busy year.

Our traditional activities throughout the year included: -

- Adult classes (functional and sculpture) taught by Yuki Horiki
- BAWU and children's classes taught by Rachel Platte
- Tuesday & Wednesday “open day” for potters organised by Yuki Horiki & Glenys Lonie
- Glass workshops organised by Deb Clarke
- Mothers Day Fair
- Cairns Show
- Open Ceramic Studios
- National ceramics exhibition Melting pot 2014
- Christmas Fair

Three new activities took place:

- “Play with Clay” on the Esplanade
- “Clay demonstration” at James Cook University
- EsplanArt

The Club applied to be involved in a council project to display temporary artworks on the Esplanade for 7 weeks. With Lone as the co-ordinator a group of eight potters and painters made a 3 m long saltwater crocodile in clay panels and displayed it on the mudflats. It was a great learning curve for the group and the finished work was well received and later sold.

Thanks to our webmaster Jennifer Arthur for looking after the club’s website www.cairnspottersclub.net. It gives information about the Club, the latest newsletter, art news etc and promotes the works of club members by showing picture samples – further contributions would be warmly welcomed. Through the web site we have now often people contacting us re info about the club and its activities and people from all over the world are visiting the site. It is great promotion for the club. Jennifer has also been busy as our kiln officer.

Thanks to Di Sant our venture into selling clay from the clubhouse has been very successful and we are now selling more types of clay to our members.

The Melting Pot 2014 exhibition at the Cairns Regional Gallery was a great success with around 8 thousand people visited the exhibition. Especially international visitors commented in the visitors book on the high standard of artworks displayed. We sold 1/3 of the works on display which pleased both the artists and the club, who benefitted from the commission paid. Again thanks to all the members who helped organising, setting up and taking down the exhibition. We hope shortly to get the dates for our next Melting Pot exhibition at the Cairns Regional Gallery.

2015 is shaping up to be a very busy year.

Australian Ceramics Association is again planning an Open Studios Australia. Last year’s open Studio weekend was very successful. The club opened its doors to the public and a fair bit of pottery was sold as well as people becoming aware of what pottery is all about.

The club applied earlier in the year for an infrastructure grant from the Cairns Regional Council to extend the building and get a much needed glaze room with a spray booth. The application was successful and thanks to the Cairns Regional Council, we will shortly receive a grant of \$ 38,000, so we can go ahead with the extension. The contractor hopes to start in April.

As mentioned it takes a lot of effort to run the club, especially since it is all on a voluntary basis. I would therefore like to thank all the members who gave their support and helped with the activities during the year - but very special thanks goes to the Management Committee who worked hard and were always ready to step in when needed.

I am sure the new committee can look forward to another challenging year and hope they will continue to promote and foster club activities to the mutual benefit of all members.

Lone White.

President

At the Clubhouse

CLASSES:

SATURDAY MORNING– classes will be conducted sometimes in the near future.

EVENING CLASSES

Wheel throwing and hand building class for beginners and existing potters who would like to refresh their skills.- Tues and Wed evenings from 6:30 to 9:00.. Contact Yuki @ yuki.koyuki@hotmail.com or 0438741922 (prefer SMS)

CHILDREN’S CLASSES – Felicity will be starting children’s classes for 8 weeks starting 20 April until 22 June - Monday afternoons from 4pm to 5.30 pm

TUESDAY & WEDNESDAY MORNINGS

CLUB MEMBERS GET TOGETHER

Between 9 and 12 noon– no cost involved. Members can practise their hand building, wheel throwing, decorating and glazing techniques and perhaps share a firing, also a chance to get to know other potters and share their joy in pottery making. Contact Glenys 0487194747 or Yuki on 0438741922

“**Play with Clay**” day at James Cook University.



On behalf of the Cairns Potters Club Marc Lucas and Glenys Lonie went Wednesday March 18 to James Cook University to spend two hours over lunch with the international students to give them a chance to make their first “masterpieces” in clay either on the wheel or by hand. The report from JCU was that they had a fun time and that the university wants the club to come back again another time.

MOTHERS DAY FAIR Saturday 9 May 2015

Hope you have plenty of artworks to sell e.g. pots, glass, jewellery , paintings, plants etc.

Arrive early – around 7am to set up your table in a good spot.

If you need a table for your display please contact Lone White on 40537508 to book a table (limited tables available).

Drop your sales sheet at the Sales Table. Help at the Sales Table if possible!

At 3:00 pm the Fair will close – so pack up your unsold items.

Help clean up the grounds and then relax with fellow potters over a drink and some refreshment.

CLAY FOR SALE

The club has just put in a new order for clay and materials as we are very low on many types of clay. Hopefully it should be here by mid April.

Prices as at 1 /3/15

***Non members of Cairns Potters Club will have to pay \$5 extra pr bag.**



Clay types – can all be fired to stoneware temp except Feeneys Terracotta

	<u>Sales price per bag</u>
Blackwattle White Paper Clay stoneware	\$ 25
Walkers No 10	\$ 22
Walkers White handbuilding	\$ 20
Walkers Feeneys white stoneware	\$ 19
Walkers PB 103	\$ 22
Feeneys dark stoneware	\$ 18
Feeneys Red stoneware	\$ 18
Feeneys White Raku - stoneware	\$ 18
Feeneys Buff Raku (Trachite)	\$ 18
Feeneys Terracotta	\$ 16
Keanes White Raku	\$ 24
Keanes Special K	\$ 26
Keanes 33	\$ 24
Keanes stoneware 7	\$ 26
Keanes Porcelain	\$ 26
Orton cone 10, 9 , 8, 06 ,04	each \$0.60

If you would like to purchase some clay please contact Di Sant on 40324487 or 0419657553 email sassy_di2000@yahoo.com

Payment for clay can be either cash or chq to Di Sant on 40324487 or 0419657553 or directly deposited into the Club's Bendigo Bank A/C by making an electronic transfer to the following bank account

Cairns Potters Club – Account # 119552826

BSB 633-000

Cairns Art Society's 10th **Artist of the North exhibition** is going to take place at the TANKS ART CENTRE from Friday 10 April to 25 April.

Several members have asked about how to make paperclay, so here is again my recipe for making it:

Making paper clay,

Paperclay has properties that allows immense flexibility of use, particularly in the joining process. Because joining can take place at any stage of the drying process work can be left for extended periods of time. It is used in a variety of construction techniques including slabs, bricks, liquid slip, fibre coiling and moulds.

The following is a recipe for how I make paper clay:-

1. Shredded paper (newspaper, toilet paper etc) soaked in plenty of hot water overnight, blended until pulped. (I use an electric paint blender to make it to a pulp and the cheapest toilet paper at Coles)
2. Remove excess water with sieve and/or squeeze with hands to get rid of excess water.
3. Mix 1/4 paper pulp with 3/4 clay slip (soft clay well mixed (no lumps) a bit thicker than milky) by volume. Mix well
4. Pour the porridge like mixture onto a plaster slab or suspend on a cloth to let it dry until it can easily be kneaded or wedged like normal clay ready for pottery making.
5. Keep some paperclay slip aside in a plastic squeeze bottle for use as "glue".
6. Break or cut dry paperclay slabs into desired shapes before building. Stick together with "glue".
7. Recycle dry scrapes by placing them in warm water, leave for one day and pour on to a slab or cloth again until leather hard and then get it ready for pottery making again.

If you use paper clay to make some pots and there is a crack or cracks in the pots or handles when dry, you can mend the crack with leather hard paperclay.

WORKSHOP



The club tries to organise for a clay specialist to come to Cairns each year to do a workshop. Last year Imants Klidzejs from Latvia did a two days workshop for us, which was very successful.

In the last newsletter we asked members if they would be interested in a workshop conducted by USA artist Christine Jilek, however we got very few responses, so that will not take place.

However I will be hosting a potter/painter & architect Adil Writer from India from 15 July to 30 July. Adil will be taking part in the Triennale Ceramic Conference in Canberra early July and wanted somewhere to stay and use workshop facilities after the conference. If you are interested in knowing more about him, herewith his website.

<http://www.adilwriter.com/pages/about.html>

He will be happy to meet artists while here and might be willing to conduct a workshop.



from

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