

WPA Newsletter

May 2018



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Key Dates

1 May (onwards) –Tuesday sessions, 10am-12pm

3-4 May – Ben Carter Workshop (rooms closed)

19 May – last day for removing personal clay, p4

20 May – **Working Bee**, p2

See **Pottery Programme** p4, or **WPA calendar** at <http://wellingtonpotters.org.nz/activities/calendar/>

WPA Online Calendar

WPA now has an online calendar – check out <http://wellingtonpotters.org.nz/activities/calendar/> for what's on. Many thanks to Nicole Gaston for setting this up!

Ben Carter Workshop and Evening Talk 3-4 May

American Artist **Ben Carter** (<http://www.carterpottery.com/>), with support from Ceramics New Zealand and Creative New Zealand, will be presenting a workshop at WPA on 3-4 May, 9.30-4pm. Unfortunately the workshop is completely full (with a waiting list!), but WPA members are welcome to come to the rooms for an evening talk:

Friday 4th May at the Rooms, 5.30pm-7.30pm

[please note that the rooms will be closed during this time]

Fee: Free for members/\$20 for non-members – no registration necessary

The evening talk will look at aesthetic development and is limited to 50 people on a first-come basis.

Any questions? Just get in touch with WPA Workshop coordinator Nicole Gaston, nicolemgaston@gmail.com.



Working Bee 20 May 2018

Come along **Sunday 20 May** 9 am to 3 pm!

Lunch will be provided



Join your fellow club members to help keep, maintain and enhance our wonderful pottery studio space; and be there for the great food as well, lunch will be provided! If you can't make it on the 20th, contact Vivian, 021-264-5414, vivavivianr@gmail.com, as there are some jobs that can be done before that date.

Please note that the studio will be closed for personal use during working bee dates and times.

Be there for the Lunchtime Conversation about WPA, Membership Behaviour, Life, the Universe and Everything...

At lunchtime on the 20th we'll be having a conversation about what we all expect from membership of WPA – what we expect from membership, what we need to keep the rooms running, what sort of training and workshops would be good...

Vivian Rodríguez - Tagines, Casseroles & Lidded Vessels, 2-3 June

Weekend Master Class with Vivian Rodríguez on Tagines, Casseroles and Lidded Vessels

Saturday 2nd – Sunday 3rd June

9am – 4pm



Fees: \$140 for WPA members, \$180 for non-members

Limited to 14 places

This workshop is designed to teach students different techniques to create beautiful and functional Casseroles, Tagines and Lidded Vessels. It is open to all levels, however students need to be able to centre and work at the wheel with a minimum of 1.5 kilograms of clay.

For enrolment or further information please contact Vivian Rodríguez, 021-264-5414, vivavivianr@gmail.com.

News from the Kiln Room

If you have been in the kiln room in the last few weeks, you will have noticed a wee bit of re-arranging going on! Ol' faithful **FE1** has been decommissioned and removed. Thank you very much to Craig Williams, Jane Gray and Anthea Grob for their help moving the green machine into the garage. As no tenders for FE1 were received, it will be advertised on Trademe soon.

To replace FE1 we have a brand new kiln – the **Woodrow**, which arrived on 24th April. An equally big thank you to Dave Marland, Tim Foote, Dave Marshall, Lyuba Zhilkina and Lyuba's son for helping get the kiln inside unscathed. This kiln still needs to be put in place and wired up, so expect an announcement in a few weeks when this is up and running.

Thank you to everyone else who offered their assistance in moving these kilns, but due to timing or days were unable to make it. I received a lot of offers for help which shows what a great community we have in the club 😊



FE2 has blown its bottom elements – it has limped through a few bisques but will be out-of-action until the new elements arrive.

FE3 is currently only doing bisque firings, so that is putting more pressure on the test kiln for small firings. Please be considerate of other people's bookings and cancel well in advance if you are not able to use your booking. Remember that a maximum of 2 firings can be booked at any time.

The **Brick kiln** is up and running and available to be booked by Kiln Licence Holders. Programmes for bisque, e/ware, cone 6 and stoneware have been saved in the controller. It is very easy to fire – follow the instructions on the wall (let one of the kiln team know if you would like some assistance). Shelves are stored under the bench with the safe. Please use cones (and record their results) so we can see how the kiln is firing and if we have to tweak the programmes. Private fire prices are as follows: Bisque \$34, E/ware \$47, Cone 6 – cone 8 \$59, Cone 9 – cone 10 \$75.

Speaking of **cones** – they have arrived! We are now stocked up with all the common cones. We have also purchased a selection of new common height **props** which arrived last week – they are beautiful, smooth and all the same height. Please look after them so they stay this way (no tossing into the boxes!).

We are also in the process of getting some new shelves for the **Cob** kiln, but due to some hiccups they are not available yet.

Thanks to all members for their patience with the club firings while all these changes are happening. It will likely be a few more weeks until the club firings are back to normal capacity.

Cheers,
Paige



- P.S. from Peter: Take 'em awaaay! **Shelf space** is at a premium. Collect your Club-fired pots promptly... within two weeks of firing date. There'll be a clear-out at the Working Bee on May 20. The substation roof will be their new location. And speaking of the **May 20 Working Bee**: All Kiln License Holders expected to chip in with the many tasks in and around the Kiln Room. Schedule to be issued closer to the time.

Anagama Workshop and Demo Report Back

About 30 members attended. A lively discussion that branched into the many facets of Anagama was launched by an erudite presentation on 'How to make your own Anagama glazes'. Thank you Vivian Rodríguez. Mal Sole and Peter Rumble threw in their five cents' worth of clever tricks in their respective areas of throwing and hand building. Other seasoned practitioners offered advice and anecdotes. The excitement amongst new-to-Anagama members was palpable. We'd better start building that second kiln... (NOT!!!)

Soy Wax Trial

A kinder way to wax your pots....the pots don't care but you should. Please give feedback on whether this non-toxic wax is good, bad or indifferent from a practical viewpoint. The wax comes in handy flakes. Fill the pan to about 10mm; you're not waxing the Statue of Liberty! As the level drops, spoon in a few more flakes.

This soy wax is low-melting point, low smoke. Once the wax is melted, either turn the thermostat right down or turn the pan off. If you're waxing many pots, adjust the thermostat as required. Don't leave it on full-bore whilst you wax all your ware. One more thing.....DON'T mix other wax types into the soy....please!

Move it Or Lose it!

The deadline to have your clay off the studio floor is fast approaching. **May 20th** (Working Bee day) will see 'non-compliant' clay sent to the recyclers.

Expressive Ceramics Convention update



Registrations are open and are rolling in! Having a Ceramics NZ convention practically in your back yard, is an opportunity not to be missed, as it happens about once in ten years. Trentham is only a 40-minute train ride away - if you drive, there is plenty of free parking.

We have 4 wonderful masterclasses lined up on dates before and after the convention proper at 3 different clubs.

Today, I'm going to focus on **Jane McCulla**:

Originally from Ireland, and with honours in 1st Class BA Hons Fine & Applied Art at the University of Ulster she and her family came to NZ about 8 years ago, and she has just become a NZ citizen. Yay, Jane! Jane is the Canterbury/Westcoast Regional Council member for Ceramics NZ as well as vice president, and as such has been proactive in organising the Biennial National Tableware Exhibition, other regional exhibitions and setting up a co-op at Stoddard Cottage in Diamond Harbour.



Not only that, she is an award winning ceramic artist. Among others, she has won a merit at the Portage, and her "Mythical Vessel" also received a commendation at last year's National Exhibition in Whanganui. Recently, she spent an 8-week residency in Jingh-de-Zhen, China.

At her masterclass (Thu/Fri 16/17 August at Hutt Art Society) she will help you make sprigs and make vessels with textured and stretched slabs of clay. She applies slips and wiped back glazes to give her work that earthy, ancient look. This will be a hands-on class suitable both for experienced and not so experienced potters. I'm sure she will have lots of interesting stories from her time in China as well.

We are looking for a few people able to offer billeting to out of town participants in the master classes. The guests will pay \$30 per night/breakfast directly to their host. Preferably the host will live within an easy commute to a club or be participating in the masterclass themselves and able to share transport. We see this as a win/win situation: the host gets to subsidise their potting activities, the guest has cheap accommodation, and there's the bonus of connecting with a likeminded person!

If you are able to offer a billet, please email Aimee: mazpots@gmail.com, and we will line you up with someone.

Don't forget:

Expressive Ceramics 2018: Surface Exploration

11-12 August

Trentham Gardens, preceded by CeramicsNZ National Exhibition opening Friday 10th August, Expressions, Upper Hutt, and followed by optional bus tour, 13 August.

All the details and registration forms on: www.expressiveceramics.co.nz.

Masterclasses are filling up fast, be in quick!

Cubbies Notice

The waiting list is getting long, and I see that many cubbies are being used by occasional users. We need to make room for new members that are waiting. So, please sign your name to the cubby list (at the back of the rooms between cubbies and drying shelves) associated with your cubby, to show that you are coming to the rooms and using the cubby, by May 15th. After this time I will re-assign cubbies to needy people and your stuff will be removed (recycled or made general rooms equipment). So if you do not want this, please come and show that you have been in the rooms. If you are not using the rooms regularly please empty your cubby and let someone else have an opportunity.

Don't self-assign cubbies, I have a procedure (contact me). Self-assigned cubbies will be considered unassigned.

Thanks

Joe Cubbyman, 479 1299, joe.zuccarello@vuw.ac.nz.

Proposed Pottery Programme for 2018

Regular events

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

May

- 1st, Tuesday session 10-12 (free)
- 3rd - 4th, workshop with Ben Carter, plus evening talk on 4th
- 8th, Tuesday session 10-12 (free)
- 15th, Tuesday session 10-12 (free)
- 20th, Working Bee
- 29th, Tuesday session 10-12 (free)

June

- 2nd - 3rd, Vivian Rodríguez master class on Tagines, Casseroles and Lidded Vessels
- 5th, Tuesday session 10-12 (free)

July

- 14th onwards, Anagama specific glazes (shino, ash and milky white) available at the rooms
- 29th, Anagama Receiving Day
- 31st onwards, Load Anagama Kiln

August

- 8th - 12th, Fire Anagama Kiln
- 13th onwards, Cool Anagama Kiln
- 19th. Unload Anagama Kiln & BBQ

If you have any suggestions for the WPA programme please contact the WPA club. The WPA calendar is also online at <http://wellingtonpotters.org.nz/activities/calendar/>.

Pottery Classes 2018

- **Mondays 9.30am-11.30am, 30th April for 8 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 7th May; 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 8th May; 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 8th May; see **Community Education Centre** cec@whs.school.nz to enrol.
- **Wednesday 9.30-11.30 am, 2nd May 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.
 - **Wednesday 1-3pm, 2nd May for 8 weeks. Intermediate Japanese Pottery with Lyuba Zhilkina**. Builds on skills acquired in the Introduction classes, for those with past experience with pottery, e.g. able to centre 1.5 kg. of clay, and interested in learning the intricacies of the Japanese Style. In this course, we will learn to throw larger works like bottles, vases, plates and lidded pots. Email info@kiwiclay.com to enrol. Cost for 8 week course is \$200, to be paid in advance. Clay & firing costs extra.
 - **Wednesday 4-6pm, 2nd May for 8 weeks. Introduction to Japanese Pottery with Lyuba Zhilkina**. For those interested in starting Japanese Pottery. Lessons include preparation for work (wedging, centering,) throwing basic shapes on the hump (bowl, cup, saucer, jug,) trimming and decoration (handles, stamps, slip, glazing). Email info@kiwiclay.com to enrol. Cost for 8 week course is \$200, to be paid in advance. Clay & firing costs extra.
 - **Thursdays, 9.30am-11.30am, 10th May for 8 weeks, Hand-building with Peter Rumble**; contact **Community Education Centre** cec@whs.school.nz to register.
 - **Thursdays 5.00pm- 7.00pm, 3rd May 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, 3rd May 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: 11th May for 8 weeks. Pottery Projects with Anthea Grob**. Explore surface treatments including inlay, terra sigillata, dipped slip, sgraffito and glaze and some on-glaze treatments; the first 2 weeks for throwing or hand-building, then trimming and completing pots, ready for surface treatments over the remaining weeks. For WPA members at intermediate level (i.e. have done a prior course so that the course is not about establishing basics such as wedging, needing to do two firings etc). 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: 5th May 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: Emily Bedward, Jane Blackmore, Tina Chen-Xu, Chantal Cropp, Belinda Griffiths, Scott Jania, Kate Lubarsky, Katie Milne, Sandra Preinl, Vivian Tan, Joshua Taylor, Leslie Tergas, Sam Turner, Grace Wilshaw, Lauren Winstone, Kath Wood.

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.

WPA Online Calendar:

<http://wellingtonpotters.org.nz/activities/calendar/>

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 June Newsletter need to be emailed to the Editor (Elaine Marland marland@xtra.co.nz) by **25 May 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@xtra.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@xtra.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.