

DECEMBER 2016

The Canberra Potter

The Newsletter of Canberra Potters' Society Inc.

INSIDE: Summer Education Program Tim Andrews Review 2016 in Review **2017 in Preview** EASS Winners Announced & more...

A selection of work by artists participating in this years Christmas Fair. Image CPS.

Workshop Access over the Christmas and New Year period

Key-holders:

The Centre will be closed from 4pm December 23 until 9am January 4 when the Summer School starts; the car park gates will be closed from December 31 to the January 8 (with access allowed for Summer School attendees January 4-8). You are still welcome to use the workshop during this period but you will not be able to park in the car park when the gates are closed. Please remember to sign in and out as usual in the workshop access folder and in the case of an emergency, phone Sara on 0414 526168. (Note that Summernats is on from January 5-8 so the Watson area will be very busy with traffic and parking.)

Casual users:

There will be no workshop access from 4pm December 23 until Wednesday January 4.

Do you need to get work fired before Christmas?

All work for firing must be on the appropriate glaze shed trolley by close of business December 16. Fired work may be collected up to 4pm December 23 after which you will have to wait until January 4.

CHRISTMAS PARTY

Canberra Potters' members and guests are invited to a fully-catered buffet meal and drinks to celebrate the Christmas season on Saturday 17 December at 6pm at 1 Aspinall Street, Watson. Tickets \$12. For catering purposes ticket sales close on 12 December.

Apologies if you've tried to book for the Christmas Party at Eventbrite and encountered a problem. This has been resolved and tickets are now showing as available for purchase – go to: tinyurl.com/cpsparty

Christmas Fair

Watson Arts Centre Gallery
8 – 23 December
Daily 10am-4pm

Our potters and ceramicists have a wonderful selection of ceramic artworks, functional and sculptural items for you in the Christmas Fair. Between that and the potters place shop you're bound to find the perfect gift at the perfect price. Not only that but you'll know that your purchases are supporting local artists and the local economy – what could be better?

This year there are new makers presenting their creations alongside old favourites. Old favourites they may be but that doesn't mean there's anything tired in the works that are on offer as makers are always exploring new ideas and expanding their ranges. Grab your present list and head on in; unlike the busy shopping centres, we have plenty of free parking.



From the Director

Where did the year go? No really—where? Maybe it's the high-speed information age we live in or our multi-tasking lives. As we reflect on the past twelve months (see the year in review on page 4) and prepare for the next (page 5) I hope this festive season you take some time to sit, think and take a breath. Ah that's better...now as I write there are still a few spots left for our Summer School. Perhaps you can use the break to work on your entry for the Canberra Show or think bigger and bolder towards the Members' Exhibition later in the year.

Thank you to all our Members, volunteers, staff, teachers, shop members and studio holders whose contributions make our organisation and facility a vibrant and inspiring place to be. Thank you to our major stakeholder artsACT for their continued support.

Stay safe, be creative and see you at the Christmas party.

Richard Thomas

Director

director@canberrapotters.com.au



From the Chair

Do you love Christmas? Yes or no, it's almost upon us, I hope you are ready. We have a few dates to remember before then, constitution consultations on Sunday 4 December at 3pm and Tuesday 6 December at 7pm with supper, and of course the Christmas Party on Saturday 17 December at 6pm.

At year's end, I want to extend my thanks to everyone, staff and volunteers, who has helped make Canberra Potters such a vibrant and receptive environment. It enables so many community members to engage, and explore and enjoy ceramic arts.

I had the great pleasure of assisting with judging the EASS awards, and I congratulate the award recipients and all graduating students. The work of every applicant was impressive, demonstrating many hours of exploration and dedication. Well done all, we ceramicists fully understand the hours of input, the losses and the incredible optimism required to work with clay. She is either a fickle or an accommodating mistress!

Our 2017 classes for Term 1 2017 are filling fast, and the bookings for our School Holiday Program are running hot. I'm excited about attending Jenny Orchard's Summer School—who else is coming? Of course we're all ready for Christmas and are making in preparation for the Canberra Show as it does tend to arrive before we've fully shifted into gear for the year.

Best wishes for a very happy Christmas and safe and enjoyable holidays.

Velda Hunter

Chair—Board of Canberra Potters

velda@tpg.com.au

Board & administration

Board

Velda Hunter **Chair**

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Contributions are welcome. Please email copy and images with captions to the editor:

editor@canberrapotters.com.au

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Contact us

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Aspinall St, Watson ACT

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02 6241 7800 classes

PO Box 7021
Watson ACT 2602

Gallery/Shop hours

Thursday—Sunday
10—4 pm

ABN 65 491 135 689

Summer Education Program

Take a dip into some cool clay over Summer!

We have a full program of activities coming up this January at the Canberra Potters. And there is something for everyone. We've covered all bases with classes for children, beginners and more experienced clay fiends.

For the Kids

General Holiday Classes

Week 1: 9 – 13 Jan

Week 2: 16 – 20

Week 3: 24, 25 & 26

Prices: from \$96 (3 day short course) to \$280 per week (longer 5 day class).

These classes follow a general format and give kids a chance to try a range of techniques and projects, or realise their own ideas.

Ceramic Puppetry Class with Marianne Mettes

This will run over 3 Tuesdays: Jan 10, 17 and 24. \$250

Puppeteer Marianne Mettes will lead the participants over 3 sessions to create their own mixed media puppets and puppet show

For the Adults

Annual Summer School Sculpture with Jenny Orchard.

Jan 4 – 8. \$420 (CPS members & students) \$460 (all others).

This 5 day immersion with Jenny Orchard will be a real treat. Jenny will help participants realise their projects over the course of the 5 days. Booking up fast. Some previous clay experience is necessary for this workshop, but it is suitable for a range of skill levels. Call to discuss if unsure.

Introductory Intensive

This condensed model of our usual Beginner's course, Introduction to Clay course is proving very popular.

2 offerings over January.

Jan 4, 5, 6 (BOOKED OUT) and Jan 23, 24, 25. \$320

Both classes will be followed by a half day raku firing at a date to be arranged with the group.

Thrilling Throwing with Kaye Pemberton

Jan 14, 15, 21, 28. \$300

Over 4 sessions Kaye will guide participants with competent throwing skills to push and extend themselves to improve and develop their work. A great opportunity to learn from a respected teacher and artist.

Teapots Galore! With Rick Beviss

March 25 & 26. \$300

Our own Teapot Master, Rick Beviss, will lead participants in the design and function of the perfect teapot. Technical aspects such as spout physics will be covered as well as aesthetic considerations such as handle placement and decoration.

Some clay experience is necessary, but this is suitable for a range of skill levels.

Note: this is not a throwing workshop. Teapots will be constructed using handbuilding techniques only.

All inquiries:

classes@canberrapotters.com.au

Tim Andrews Raku Firing Workshop Review

A group of ten keen CPS members recently enjoyed two days of expert tuition from Tim Andrews—a raku specialist known to many as the author of such books as *Raku*—first published in 1994, second edition in 2005; and *Raku: a review of contemporary work* first published in 1995.

Tim is known for his “naked Raku” technique which turns out to have nothing to do with clothes-optional potting but is a technique by which Tim prepares a pot for raku decoration, including burnishing and then bisqueing, and then applies a masking slip and glaze that is deliberately chipped off the pot after being raku fired and reduced in the usual fashion. The slip masking, once removed, then leaves the original burnished surface as the naked part of the finished pot.

The weekend workshop was preceded by a well-attended Friday night Members' Supper Talk in which Tim showed us a series of beautiful slides of his work as well as let us fondle a dozen examples that he brought with him. On the Saturday we had a longer slideshow to enjoy, including the

step-by-step method of slip-masking and removal, and Tim sitting at the wheel and throwing some of his classic shapes, including showing us how he throws his beautiful “humbbug” form. After lunch we tried our first efforts at the naked raku method. By the end of day one we all had at least one pot fired using Tim's technique and we went home full of ideas.

Day two was fantastically busy—using one gas-fired raku kiln and two Stefan Jacob design wood-fired raku kilns (shown in the forefront of the photo, below), the ten of us made the most of Tim's expertise and encouragement to experiment with the slip-masking and with the class raku glazes—all of us fired 4-5 pots (some many more) and the afternoon was full of oohs and aaahs. There was also quite a bit of talk about a subset of the class getting together to build themselves some more raku kilns by adapting the Stefan Jacob design but “going bigger”. All too soon it was 4pm and time to farewell Tim. If ever you have a chance to visit Tim's studio in Devon, England (check out www.timandrewsceramics.co.uk) please do so—his gallery sells pots made by other potters too. Thanks Tim from your grateful students—we loved it!

Jen Collier



Tim Andrews, Large Striped resist Humbug

2016 The Year In Review

As this is the bumper issue for the year and will have to see you through until February we thought we'd say farewell to 2016 with a look back on the year that was.

We began the year with a full Summer School program featuring our first Artist In Residence (AIR) of the year Carla Wolfs (NL) and local potter Malcolm Cooke. Carla concentrated on her unique method of hand-building and carving and Malcolm shared his secrets and skills while demonstrating large throwing techniques. Our regular stint at the Canberra Show is a highlight of our community events and saw record numbers passing through the Craft Pavillion. March is when we really hit our community stride with appearances at Art-not-Apart, CapExpo and the Seniors Expo. Community engagement and spreading the good word on clay are vital to the continued success of our organisation. In April we enjoyed a

visit from Ginny Conrow (USA) for an artist talk and glaze workshop. Mahala Hill and Anna Neale began the EASS residency and worked toward a show later in the year. We continued to offer a diverse range of special shorts throughout the year including Cuerda Seca with Sandra Passerman, Attention to Detail with Kaye Pemberton and Radical Raku with Tim Andrews. Later in the month Wyatt Amend (USA) dropped by for an artist talk on his works inspired by Venetian glassblowing. We hosted some wonderful ceramic-focussed exhibitions during the year and supported our many members as they exhibited around town. Our Winter School proved to be a popular choice with Steve Williams providing a project-based course where students worked toward presenting tableware culminating in a mouth-watering feast and artist talk. Continuing the winter months we squeezed in our Student and Teacher exhibition and EASS show highlighting the Ceramics School graduating year from ANU and a Seniors Exhibition, a result from our Pottery for All Seniors class. Rosario Lopez gave a memorable

artist talk. Roger Ellyard and Maryke Henderson were awarded honorary life membership and we welcomed Huang Yu Chun as our AIR for the remaining winter months. August saw many of us involved in the TACA Open Studios event. Puppetry came to the Centre with Marianne Mettes as we ran puppet-making classes during the school holidays. Spring and artsACT gave us the opportunity to participate in Floriade with our very own pop-up shop. A spectacular Members Exhibition led into a fun and informative Open Day, our major public event of the year. During October artist talks on residency experiences were given by Jo Victoria on Denmark and Albert Yonathon Setyawan (Indonesia) on Strathnairn. In November our active studio holders put on a tea-themed event as part of the Design Canberra calendar. As summer approaches we welcome our last AIR for the year Amanda Bromfield. Sadly we said farewell to some loved friends, respected potters and supporters of our Membership, vale: Majorie Robey (1919-2016), Barry Brickell (1935-2016), Catherine Reid (1955-2016) and Esmee Smith.



2017 The Year In Preview

To whet your appetite for all things clay in the coming year here's a sneak preview of some 2017 highlights.

January: Summer School with Jenny Orchard. Join Jenny on this five day school as she guides the group through the making and decorating of sculptural pieces.



What students can look forward to in Jenny Orchard's Summer School

February: Carla Wolfs will be returning as a self directed artist in 2017 exploring new work and she will teach a workshop during her stay.

March: Art-not-Apart 18. Growing in popularity, this year's event will be sure to excite participants. If you'd like to be involved as a volunteer or demonstrator contact the Canberra Potters Education Program Manager for more details.



Art-not-Apart 17

Teapots Galore. March 25 & 26

Our own Teapot Master, Rick Beviss, will lead participants in the design and function of the perfect teapot.



A Rick Beviss teapot

April: AGM. This is your chance to get involved and have a say in the way your organisation is run.

June: Janet Fieldhouse AIR. We are very excited to welcome Janet Fieldhouse as our indigenous artist-in-residence during 2017. While working on a new body of work Janet will be taking part in numerous Centre activities and helping curate an indigenous arts community exhibition.



Janet Fieldhouse, *Baskets*, 2008. Flexible porcelain, 11.5 x 21.0 x 18.0 cm. Image: Rob Little

July: Winter School 17-21 July. We haven't decided on our guest artist but you can put the dates in your diary!

Our 2017 Exhibition Program

We're working on a great line-up of exhibitions for you in 2017. The first three months kick off with a display of new functional work by Paul Dumetz, the result of recent mentoring by Maryke Henderson. This is followed by the ever-popular Bald Archy Prize (don't forget that this one is open every day) and then Women, Light the Way. Coming shortly after International Women's Day, Angharad Dean, Simone Doherty, Marijke Gilchrist, Lynn Nicholas and Anita Smith aim to show how a woman's view can transform the world.

The rest of the year includes:

- » Works exploring the manner in which the previous artistic practice of the exhibiting artists informs their work with clay;
- » Ceramics and photography resulting from a road trip through rural Western NSW by two sisters;
- » EASS 2017 featuring the work of ANU graduate Heidi Strachan;
- » Ceramic work by Japanese students of Ryozyo Shibata, a past artist-in-residence at Canberra Potters;
- » Photography, painting and mixed media works by local art groups;
- » And regulars such as the annual Student and Teacher Exhibition, Christmas Fair and, of course, the 2017 Members' Exhibition.

Keep an eye on the website, and future newsletters, for all the latest exhibition news.



Ryozyo Shibata

EASS—And the winner is...

We proudly announce the winners of the 2016 Emerging Artist Support Scheme (EASS). A pool of seven talented ANU School of Arts students graduating at Bachelors and Masters levels competed for two prizes. EASS awards aim to support graduating ceramicists as they embark on individual careers, give opportunity for further investigation, and build on Australia's next generation of potters and ceramic artists.

The eight-week residency is awarded to Abbey Jamieson, and the Exhibition is awarded to Heidi Strachan. Sincere congratulations, Abbey and Heidi. Congratulations also go to graduating students—Gemma Simpson, Andres

Caycedo, Zoe Atkinson-Pickering, Jo Victoria, and Katrina Leske. We are all anticipating the pleasure of viewing your future works and exhibitions. We wish those continuing with postgraduate education all the very best.

This year's judges had a difficult task evaluating the presentations, as all works hold great potential, each demonstrating the makers' unique artistic talent, and diverse range of technical abilities. We were treated to a tactile delight in Abbey Jamieson's beautiful, round-bottomed tea bowls and their little resting saucers. The rhythmic presentation of various sizes and clay bodies provided visual impact. Abbey's forms, coupled with the potters' age-old respect for, and fascination of outcomes of wood-fired kilns, and controlled atmosphere of salt vapours were winners in our hearts

and minds. Residency at Canberra Potters will give Abbey opportunity to utilise our soda kiln and explore mentoring opportunities by soda and wood-firing members.

Strong and confident describe Heidi Strachan's diverse works - simple forms, some paying homage to Korean traditional rice bale bottles, displayed narrative surfaces in a subtle palette. Her works attest the skills of an adept potter, glaze technician and abstract artist. With the vigour of the renowned Betty Woodman, Heidi has employed mixed media treatments to vessels that link to mixed media canvases, enticing the viewer to look beyond the form into an iconic window. We look forward to hosting Heidi's one-woman show at the Watson Arts Centre Gallery during 2017.

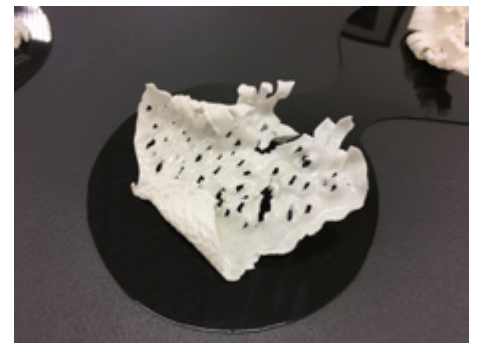
Velda Hunter



Abbey Jamieson: hand pinched, soda fired stoneware 9 x 8.5 x 8.5 cm appx. Image CPS



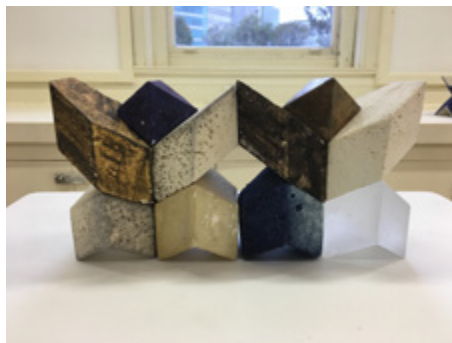
Gemma Simpson: stoneware and porcelain slip, stain, various dimensions. Image CPS



Zoe Atkinson-Pickering: porcelain stoneware glaze 15 x 12 cm. Image CPS



Heidi Strachan: beeswax, oil paint, pigments, clay. Image CPS



Andreas Caycedo: castable ceramics and glass. Image CPS



Jo Victoria: Imperial porcelain 25 x 30 cm appx. Image CPS



Katrina Leske: wheel-thrown earthenware clay, cobalt decoration, clear glaze 18 x 23 x 23 cm. Image CPS

Constitutional Review

The review team has identified some key issues and needs your input. An email detailing these issues has been sent to you for your consideration. You are invited to attend either of two consultations: Sunday 4th December 3pm or Tuesday 6th December 7pm at Canberra Potters' Society, Watson. Or contact either Jennifer Collier on jennifercollier@optusnet.com.au or phone 02 6255 4255; or Jessica Coates on jessica.m.coates@gmail.com; or Velda Hunter on velda@tpg.com.au

Kiln Hire

Our kiln hire conditions of use have recently had an overhaul, in part to provide answers to some frequently asked questions but also to ensure that all kiln users know and understand the conditions under which we make our kilns available to licenced members. Regular kilns users have been notified of the changes. If you haven't had the new conditions emailed to you then next time you book a kiln you will need to sign off against the new conditions. Copies are available in the kiln shed by the booking board, or you can read the new conditions online [here](#).

Exhibitions

Ceramics Workshop Graduating Exhibition 2016

ANU School of Art
26 November – 4 December
10.30am-5pm

Christmas Fair

Watson Arts Centre Gallery
8 – 23 December
Daily 10am-4pm

Porcelain & Politics

Narek Galleries, Tanja NSW
Ph. 026494 0112
Until 8 January 2017
www.narekgalleries.com

Marianne Huhn's functional work with distinct narrative surfaces shows the last few years of her studio-based PhD work. Beginning with the Russian Revolution it moves into the contemporary Australian political landscape. A much anticipated exhibition.

Welcoming the Light

Form Studio and Gallery
November 23 – December 12 2016
Ph. 0420 525 778
A group exhibition curated by Peter Haynes

Includes work by Di Broomhall, Ruth Oliphant (represented by Beaver Galleries), Claire Capel Stanley, Spike Deane, Claire Primrose, Mel George, Jo Victoria, Sylvia McEwan, Tania Vrancic.



Jo Victoria

Small Works

Beaver Galleries
81 Denison St Deakin
www.beavergalleries.com.au
Ph: 0262828416
1-24 December 2016

Includes ceramic works by Cathy Franzi, Somchai Charoen, Julie Holmes, Keiko Matsui, Kenji Uranishi, Kevin White

Butter Box

Butter Factory Arts Centre, Cooroy,
Sunshine Coast
2-23 December
Includes ceramics

Paul Dumetz

Watson Arts Centre Gallery
19 January – 5 February
Thurs to Sun 10am-4pm
A small display of new functional work by Paul Dumetz, the result of recent mentoring by Maryke Henderson.

The Bald Archy Prize 2017

Watson Arts Centre Gallery
10 February – 13 March
Daily 10am-4pm
Admission \$8, concession \$6

That eccentric icon of the Australian art calendar is on again. Created in 1994 as a spoof of another more serious competition, the Bald Archy Prize provides a genuine opportunity for artists of all styles and standards to create portrait paintings of humour, dark satire, light comedy or caricature. Known internationally as the only art competition in the world to be judged by a sulphur-crested cockatoo named Maude, the satirical side of this event has its basis in the irreverent, larrikin Australian comic comment and has great appeal to people from all walks of life.

Diary dates

December

CPS Constitution Consultations:
Sunday 4 December 3pm or
Tuesday 6 December 7pm. At
Canberra Potters, 1 Aspinall St
Watson

Bookings for Members' Christmas
Party (via Eventbrite) close 12 Dec

Members' Christmas Party
6pm Saturday December 17 at CPS
1 Aspinall St Watson

Canberra Show entries close 21
December 2016

Last day for firing to be COB Friday
16 December

Last day for pick-up of fired work
4pm Friday 23 December

Shop, gallery & workshop facilities
close 4pm Friday 23 December

More diary dates on page 8

Watson Arts Centre is a Key Arts Organisation supported by the ACT government and run by Canberra Potters' Society. We offer:

Classes for children and adults across all levels of ceramic practice. Workshops, Summer Schools and Kids' Holiday classes are available too.

Studios where tenancy applications are always welcome from emerging and established ceramic artists.

Artist-in-Residence program including studio and residence facilities to national and international visiting artists.

Gallery hosting a ceramic focused exhibition program.

Shop with a range of pottery and ceramics to suit all tastes and budgets.

The gallery and shop are open Thursday to Sunday 10am-4pm and most public holidays.

For further information on all programs, events and available facilities please visit canberrapotters.com.au

Opportunities

Biennial International Ceramic Competition of Carouge

The theme is the Ceramic Mirror.

Applications close 18th march 2017.

Further information at

www.carouge.ch/concours-ceramique

Arts Law Education

FREE legal advice sessions for Canberra artists are available to meet with Arts Law Director of Legal Services, Delwyn Everard, face to face to discuss legal questions or issues. Monday 5 December. Ainslie+Gorman Art Centres. Bookings are essential. For appointment times and how to book head to [their website](#).

For Sale

Closing Down Sale

Dismantled slab roller (inside measurement 530 cm) with cloths and trays: \$1,000

Electric Kiln 900 x 1000cm Ceramic Fiber (in good condition), 3 Phase, \$ cost of removal

Kiln Shelves: 1x560x560x20cm \$100; 2x280x560x15cm \$30 each; Kiln props 23 cm–2.5 cm \$6–\$1ea

Shinko smart controller for electric kiln \$500

Plaster moulds \$5–\$40ea, Banding Wheel \$50, Raku Tongs \$25, Clear Gloss Earthenware Glaze ETB 6101 5kg powder \$50

FREE: E/W glazes and ingredients, E/W slips; porcelain casting slip; stains; underglaze powders; hand building tools; texturing stamps & rollers.

Contact: Marion Hicks 0401 050 051 or 6296 1468

Wanted

Kiln wanted

Must be in good condition and fire to 1300. Gas or electric. If electric – 2 phase; computerised; minimum internal dimensions 530x515x830

Contact: Avi Amesbury

avi@aviamesbury.com

Canberra Show

Zig Zag Zest is the craft theme for the 2017 Show. Don't be lulled into thinking that it is a long way off next year—the application deadline is December 21, even if you haven't made the work yet (like me). Then you have the new year for making.

Perhaps you could work on a zestful piece inspired by the Queen of Zest, Jenny Orchard, at the Summer School. Or you may have some work already finished. See the Canberra Show website for further details canberrashow.org.au/craft.

Any questions ask Judy McDonald

judymcdonald1@gmail.com

or Jennifer Collier

jennifercollier@optusnet.com.au

Thanks to all the volunteers who have put their name down already to assist at the Show. If you can spare some time, please let Judy or Jen know as they need lots of helpers. This is a wonderful opportunity to reach a large audience about the joy of making/using ceramics and to showcase the Canberra Potters Society.

More diary dates

January

Summer School with Jenny Orchard 4-8 January

School Holiday Program Starts January 9

Thrilling Throwing with Kaye Pemberton January 14, 15, 21, 28

Shop & gallery re-open 10am Thursday 19 January

February

Draft Constitution Information Evening 7 February 7pm

Canberra Show Craft Expo 24-26 February 2017

March

General Meeting of CPS to Adopt Constitution 6 March 7pm

Teapots Galore! With Rick Beviss 25-26 March

In 2016 the Members' Exhibition is supported by



The family of the late Jane Crick