



Board recommendations of Life Members of the Canberra Potters' Society Inc

In accordance with our Constitution the Board invited nominations for conferral of honorary life membership in Canberra Potters, to be considered at the 2024 AGM (8 May 2025).

Our Constitution provides that:

3.3 Honorary life Members

1. *Honorary life membership may be granted by the Society, on the recommendation of the Board and by subsequent majority vote at an Annual or Special General Meeting, in recognition of sustained and outstanding service to the Society or Australian ceramics.*
2. *Honorary life Members shall have all the privileges of Members of the Society.*

In practice 'privileges of Members of the Society' has also included a waiver of the annual membership fee.

Nominations received

The Board received two nominations which it now recommends to the membership at the AGM for approval.

1. **Ingrid Adler** (Proposed by former CEO Richard Thomas and Acting CEO Sue Cant).

Ingrid has been a long-time member and exhibiting ceramic artist who has been incredibly active over many years and has contributed in many ways to Canberra Potters. In particular, the quality of our garden setting owes much to her creative vision and energy and this is something that we should particularly acknowledge and celebrate in our 50th year.

2. **Meg Miller** (Proposed by former President, Jill Farrelly)

Meg first joined the Canberra Potters' Society in the late 1970's and was a contemporary of current life members Pam Barker, Marlene Flanagan, Judy McDonald, Christine Pearson and Hiroe Swen. Meg served as Secretary of Canberra Potters and it was in that capacity in 1988 that she helped negotiate with ACT Arts Bureau for more suitable premises. The existing premises were no longer large enough; we only had space for the teaching workshop and no space for an office, or an area for the Committee to meet, or an outlet for members' works, or a gallery.

Meg's involvement from the 70s to the late 80s saw many changes and innovations: growth to 144 members in 1988 from the 14 in 1979, incorporated in 1977, the development of the Annual Exhibition, the Doug Alexander Memorial Lecture at the School of Art, and the creation of the National Ceramics Award in 1984. Canberra Potters also provided assistance with therapeutic pottery for patients in the Psychiatric Ward at Woden Hospital for 8 years, held Pot Sales 6 times a year, and introduced the monthly newsletter.

In 1988 Meg took over as Editor of the newsletter from Ian Hodgson and continued in that role for many years. The production and distribution of a hardcopy monthly newsletter was a major commitment before the days of word-processing and email.

Meg played an important role - particularly with fundraising - in building a new kiln shed which opened in 1990. Meg also assisted with:

- organising the roster and the monthly sales;
- regular cleaning bees;
- acquiring the audit services of Long Lawrence (which included sponsorship for the Members Exhibition);
- organising the 1990 Members' Exhibition;
- convincing the Department of Urban Services to erect permanent signage Canberra Potters on Northbourne Avenue, Stirling and Aspinall Streets.

Meg made a significant contribution to the Society during the first third of its life, a time when it was laying down the foundations for the major arts organisation it is today.