



# NEWSLETTER SUMMER 2023

**Hello and Happy New Year to all Mt Pleasant Pottery club members.**

I hope everyone had a good break and is looking forward to another year of potting joy. The committee had their first meeting on Jan 18 2023 and focused on strategic planning for the year. Leigh-Ann is the new Co-Chair for 2023 and has many fresh and new ideas for the club. Welcome back to the committee Leigh-Ann!

The first club night will be on Tuesday 14 Feb, 7 to 9pm. As this is the first club night of the 2023 year, we thought we would make it a bit more social. It is also Valentines Day so come along, bring your partner if you would like to, bring some chocolate to share also. We thought we might have a glass of wine and a general chat about how to make your own Pottery Stamp. "Make your Mark". This will be a good way to start off the year. Renate has also kindly offered to do a club night demonstration on "Everything Clay", recycling, slurry, wedging, and hopes to be there on the night unless Jury Duty dictates otherwise.

**We have a working Bee on Sat 28 Jan from 10 to 12pm (approx.). It would be great to see new faces at the working bee and have as many keen helpers as possible so please come along. Please remember to bring your own gloves and cleaning gear. We will be doing a general clean of the rooms and focusing on cleaning out room 3 so we can progress the use of this space during the 2023 year.**

We had a very good AGM meeting at the end of last year. A very big thank you is due to Rudi and Elaine for making fantastic fresh waffles, very delicious! You may have also noticed the fantastic new blinds in the Gallery space, a big thank you to Lesley Towart for organising this.

The committee in 2023 will focus on funding, facilities, administration processes, and the club programme and workshops. More details to come.

Renate will be co-ordinating the Gallery and sales set up so a big thank you again to Renate for her ongoing support of the club.

Happy potting for 2023!  
Lesley Adams  
Co-Chair.

## **MEMBERSHIP IS NOW DUE:**

Your membership for 2023 is now due. Please pay \$85 into the club account, and make sure it is clear who you are and what the payment is for! The new lock box code will be sent to paid up members (who have key access) in the next few weeks.

Update on

# KILNS

A busy start to 2023.

Cobb craft have been out to replace the elements on kiln 1 and kiln 3 – fix the bung on kiln 3, routine inspection on kiln 2 and fix the probe on kiln 1.

This was a very expensive start for the year – but it means all three kilns will be able to gloss fire – which is great news.

**The kilns will not be available until after the working bee on the 28th Jan – this will give us time to settle in the elements and re-calibrate the kilns.**

Thank you to all the members who have signed up for the kiln course – which is now full. The course will now be run as one complete course encompassing bisque and gloss firing – Term 1 on a Tuesday night for 2-3 weeks starting Feb 21st @ 7pm.

A number of kiln members have only completed the bisque portion of the course – a catch up will be offered in Term 1 and you need to attend to continue in your kiln group. This will be held on Tuesday 21st March @ 7pm.

Our first annual meeting will be held on Jan 28th – straight after the working bee – you need to attend to be placed in a firing group for 2023 (current kiln firing members and members signed up for the kiln course in term 1) – please email me if you are unable to attend.

The club (particularly Renate) has put a lot of effort into establishing this system – it is designed to be strict as the kilns are expensive and powerful pieces of equipment that need respect and knowledge to operate.

Thank you

Leigh-Ann – leighanno@gib.co.nz



# 2023 CLASSES

**Note: All students enrolled in classes must be club members (membership is \$85/year)**

## **Mid week classes (Mon, Wed, Thurs) 7-9pm with Alex Prentice (full term 1)**

These cater for beginning to intermediate potters doing hand-building, wheel work and more. Students are taught basic skills and techniques to support their own projects.

Tuition fee: \$150 per term (8 x 2h sessions)

Time: Mon, Wed, Thurs 7-9pm

Term dates: Term 1: 30 Jan - 30 March, Term 2: 24 April - 15 June,

Term 3: 17 July - 7 Sept, Term 4: 9 October - 30 Nov

Tutor contact: **Alex Prentice alexprenticefamily@gmail.com**

## **Monday 4.30 - 6.30 Wheel class with Dianne Macdonald (full term 1)**

For beginning to intermediate students. Learning techniques from wedging clay, mastering the art of centering, to throwing cylinders and bowls, glazing and firing work.

Tuition fee: \$150 per term (8 x 2h sessions)

Time: Thur 4.30-6.30pm

Term dates: Term 1: 30 Jan - 30 March, Term 2: 24 April - 15 June,

Term 3: 17 July - 7 Sept, Term 4: 9 October - 30 Nov

Tutor contact: **Dianne Macdonald di@employlaw.co.nz**

## **Monthly Wheel Class for the Intermediate Thrower with Renate Galetzka (Terms 3 and 4)**

Project based with a focus for first part of the semester will likely be baking dishes/casseroles with lids, knobs and handles.

Prerequisite: to comfortably center 500 to 700g of clay and pull up a pleasing pot

Tuition Fee: \$150

Time: 9:30 to 12:30, last Sat of the month, 29 July - 25 Nov. 5 sessions per semester.

Tutor contact: **Renate Galetzka, 021 1336620, rgaletzka@gmail.com**

Limited spaces available.

## **Thursday Morning Class - Making Glaze with Shona Clarkson (Term 3)**

Mixing a series of glazes with one recipe changing it from shiny to matte, variegated, dark to light in colour.

Time: 6 week course from 27 July to 31 August. 3hr sessions 9.30 to 12.30 for 5 weeks, last week 1hr

Tuition Fee: \$160. (includes glaze materials)

Tutor contact: **Shona Clarkson claytech1@gmail.com**

Limited spaces available

## **Thursday Morning Class (Term 4) Stacked garden Sculpture with Lesley Towart**

Creating a garden sculpture by hand building ceramic objects to stack on a metal rod.

Time: Term 4: 9 October - 30 Nov, 10am - 12pm,

Tuition Fee: \$150 (8 x 2h sessions)

Tutor contact: **Lesley Towart lesleytowart@gmail.com**

Limited spaces available

# UPCOMING WORKSHOPS

## CLUB NIGHT TUES 14 FEBRUARY – MAKE YOUR MARK !

Come and join us for chocolate, wine and pottery – what more could you ask for!!

Our first club night will be a free interactive night – bring along some clay – we will have a demonstration and then you can make your own stamps.

We would love to see you  
The Committee



## MARY LOU FOATE WORKSHOP – 3D DESIGNS ON CLAY.

**Aim: to create 3D designs using tools on a flat surface and on a ball.**

Time: 2x 3h sessions, 9.30-12.30, Saturday 4 March and 1 April.

Fee: \$60

Contact Lesley at [chris.lesleyadams@xtra.co.nz](mailto:chris.lesleyadams@xtra.co.nz)

Limited spaces available

Details of what to bring will be provided to students once enrolled. Basically - 5kg of smooth clay (not BRT), tools, anything to make a good texture.... it will be fun!



# MPPG STUDENT EXHIBITION

The all student exhibition in Dec had a great turn out! Many of the pieces of the work entered were of club exhibition standard. Some of the highlights this year were obviously "Borris, the hitchhiking boy" and the giant rooster. It is always spectacular seeing such large ceramic sculptures.

We would first and foremost like to thank all the students who entered pieces into the exhibition this year - the club is brimming with pride.

To all friends, whānui & hapori whānui, thank you for coming to see the fantastic mahi our students have created this year. Our committee donated prizes along with our friends at General Pottery; we greatly appreciate your continued support. Thank you to Kate Adams for giving us her time & experience in judging the exhibition. To our fabulous tutors Alex, Di, Shona, Lesley & Renate - Your guidance & passion shines through your students. We know how proud you all are. Thank you!

Last but certainly not least, thanks & gratitude to Angu, Stacey, Shelia & Jos, our go-getter students. Without them, this event would not have happened.

All Classes Student Exhibitions - Awards & Winners

Achievement Award - Faye Pearson-Green

Achievement Award - Joe Furniss

Best Cup Award - Marie Gant Roxburgh

Glaze Award - Kerri l'Estrange

Hand Building Award - Will Goudie

People Choice Award - Ellen Baker

Sculpture Award - Joanne Webber

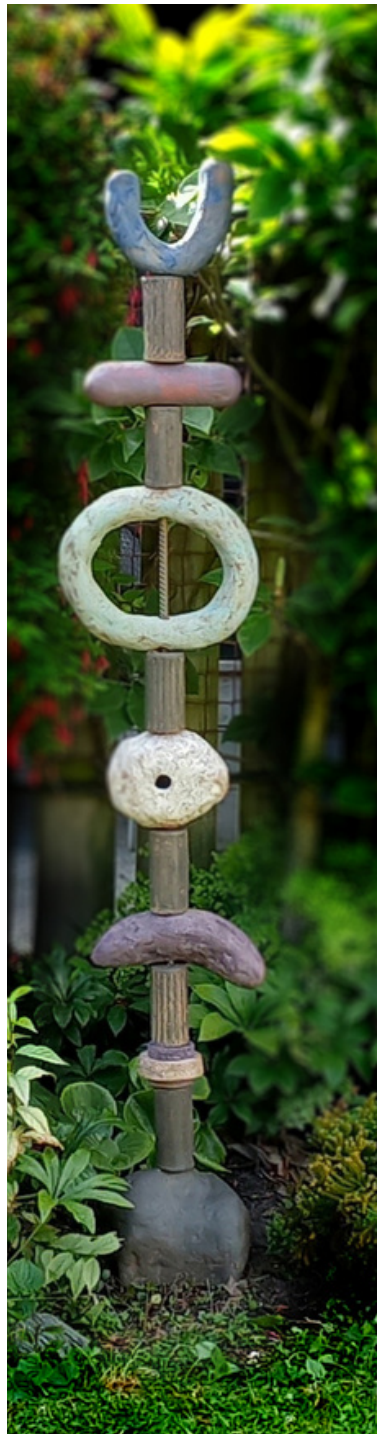
Sculpture Award - Lynne Haslett

Slab Work Award - Chelsea Mitchell



# STACKED GARDEN SCULPTURES WITH LESLEY TOWART

Another wonderful sculpture workshop with Lesley Towart - this time on stacked garden sculptures. Truly excellent results from everyone! If you're feeling inspired looking at these you could enrol in the same class in Term 4 this year!



The beehive is functional!



# STUDENT PROFILE – KATE ADAMS

Kate attends Saturday monthly classes at MPPG. She is a competent wheel thrower with great flair for decoration.

Earlier in 2022 the class theme was 'Plates – large and small': We worked on design of repeatable shapes, stackability, footings and on working large.

Kate is showing us here that she can do all these things exquisitely.

*A tip from Kate: don't be too precious about keeping your early pots, just sit down and throw lots, and recycle the clay. One time when it's quantity over quality I think to get a feel for it.*

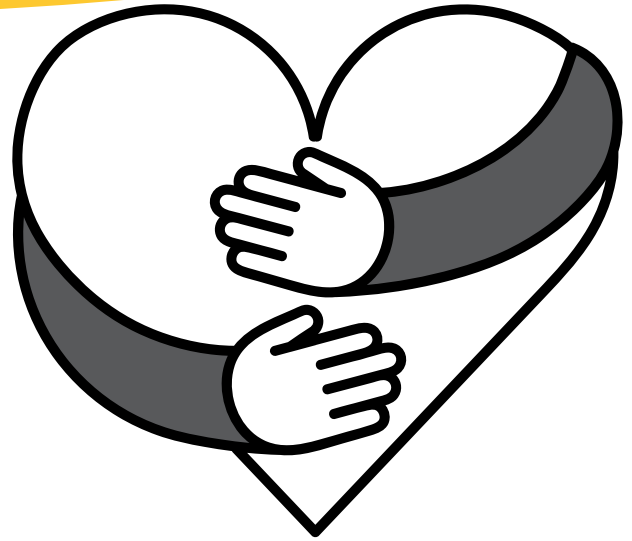
When Kate doesn't pot she's a busy partner and parent of two little girls, manages their home extension, works as a vet and is active on the MPPG club committee.

~ Renate, tutor



# CLUB NOTES

We would like to send a big hug to our dear friend (and life member) Graham, who lost his wife Minty just before Christmas last year. Graham, we are so sorry for your loss, and we look forward to catching up with you for coffee and chats and of course a bit of pottery.



## SEND IN YOUR PICS!

We would love to share your work on our social media pages!  
Send in pics of your pots, pottery activities, work in progress, exhibitions or events.  
You can submit any photos or short videos by direct message to our Facebook or Instagram or via email to the club with "social media" in the subject line.  
Please include your @social media tag (if you have one) and a short description of the image. Thank you!



## REMINDER – ROOM USE:

\$3 half day or less

\$6 Full day

**Demo nights** are a great chance to improve your skills and learn new things! We always reward our demonstrators for their time, knowledge and equipment used. In order to do this, we charge \$5 to attend demo nights.

**REMEMBER THE  
WORKING BEE ON  
NEXT SATURDAY  
28TH JAN – SEE  
YOU THERE !!**



# Need to make a payment to the club?

If we can't trace you - we can't confirm your payment.

Payment details are;

Account - MT PLEASANT POTTERY

Bank - WESTPAC

Account number - 03 1591 0083454 00

Ensure you input your details correctly

Particulars	Code	Reference
Your Name	What it's for	When
LA Smith	Class fee	Thur PM
John Doe	Clay Bag48	Clay Bag 48 (put the clay bag number)
Shoe KA	Fire 456	Fire 456 (put your firing number)



## COMMITTEE

Contact details:

Co-Chairs: Lesley Adams - [chris.lesleyadams@xtra.co.nz](mailto:chris.lesleyadams@xtra.co.nz)

Leigh-Ann O'Brien - [leighanno@gib.co.nz](mailto:leighanno@gib.co.nz)

Treasurer: Ken Doidge - 021 145 9175, [doidge.ken@gmail.com](mailto:doidge.ken@gmail.com)

Secretary: Kate Adams - [kateladams81@gmail.com](mailto:kateladams81@gmail.com)

Programme: Renate Galetzka - 021 133 6620, [rgaletzka@gmail.com](mailto:rgaletzka@gmail.com)

Newsletter: Eroica Ritchie - [eroica.ritchie@gmail.com](mailto:eroica.ritchie@gmail.com)

Clay coordinator: Lesley Adams - [chris.lesleyadams@xtra.co.nz](mailto:chris.lesleyadams@xtra.co.nz)

Kiln coordinator: Leigh-Ann O'Brien

Member inductions: Stacey Rod - [stace.rod@gmail.com](mailto:stace.rod@gmail.com)

Follow us on Instagram!

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### Mt Pleasant Pottery Group

www.



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<https://www.mtpleasantpottery.org.nz>



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for updates: at  
[Mt Pleasant Pottery Group](https://www.facebook.com/MtPleasantPotteryGroup)



Get in touch at:  
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