



ASP NEWS

August 2005

The Newsletter of the
Auckland Studio Potters
Society Inc.
ASP Centre
96 Captain Springs Road
PO Box 13-195 Onehunga
Directors: Peter Lange,
Duncan Shearer
Phone: (09) 634 3622
Fax: (09) 634 3626
Email: asp@ceramics.co.nz
Web: www.ceramics.co.nz

Studio Opening Hours

Monday	12.30pm - 5pm
Tuesday	12.30pm - 5pm
Wednesday	12.30pm - 5pm
Thursday	12.30pm - 5pm
Friday	12.30pm - 4pm
Saturday	10am - 4pm

Remember to pay \$2 per hour
up to a maximum of
\$6.00 per day

3 workshops coming up:

September: Carla Ruka a young graduate from the Hawkes Bay Polytechnic will be taking a limited number (12) of students through the techniques she uses to produce medium to large coiled works. She is an amazingly deft worker and has incredible skills and confidence with clay. On the first day (Sunday 11th September) the class will design and talk about their individual projects, Carla will demonstrate coiling and then everyone will complete at least one piece. They will be bisqued during the week and on the following Sunday (18th September) there will be a social sawdust firing. If you saw the Christchurch potter at work at the Invercargill conference you will have an idea of the sort of dexterity involved, and Carla offers a fine design sense as well.



October: Toby Stafford from the Far North will be taking a rare school - he's not seen too often this side of the Mangamukas. This will be a hands-on throwing school, again limited to 12 because of the extra tuition involved. Toby's work is well known in Auckland and his glazes are very popular at the ASP - he's an experienced thrower, wood-firer and slab-builder, making gutsy pots that demand to be handled and used. This school is on the 8th and 9th of October (note that the Centre will be shut for casual use that weekend).



December - dates to be announced. Jill Fanshawe Kato is coming to the ASP! Here is her programme:

WORKSHOP OUTLINE

1 COLOUR IN CLAY - Agate and Japanese nerikomi methods using oxides and underglaze colours

2 TEXTURE IN CLAY - Students to bring in combustible materials to add to clay. We will search the studio and surroundings for natural textures then construct forms from the impressed clay.

3 SLIP DECORATION - Exploring a range of slip methods such as hakeme (Japan), paper resist, sgraffito, inlay etc on tiles or slabs which can be constructed into forms, time allowing.

4 'INSPIRED BY NATURE' - Students to bring sketchbooks, reference materials, workshop starts with drawing. Sculptures will be made based on natural forms such as seed-pods, stones, fish, birds or animals.

SLIDE LECTURES

5 My own work and influences- Jill Fanshawe Kato (Potting in UK, Japan, nature and travel)

6 Pottery Travels in Rural Japan - A visit to contemporary Japanese potters in Okinawa, Onta, Hagi, Bizen and Tokoname, also Ryoji Koie who JFK worked with in Autumn 2004.

7 Contemporary Potters in Britain

This is the big event for the ASP summer!

A few words from our Prez.

Wally Hirsh

The annual exhibition of member's work has concluded. It was a very good show if perhaps a little crowded. Our thanks go to the many members who supported the exhibition firstly by entering their work and secondly by visiting the show. However our very special

thanks go again to Judy Rae who co-ordinated the whole event. We will be having post-exhibition discussions and matters of venue, timing, format etc are always on the agenda. In the meantime we have been pencilled in at Mairangi Bay for 2006 and again in July but everything is subject to confir-

mation.

Hearty congratulations are due to Peter who has been the recipient of a prestigious New Zealand Arts Council award, the Craft/Object Fellowship. The award means that Peter has a year

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Centre News:

Peter Lange



Back at the Centre after a roller coaster month travelling, and a bit of this and that. The place is flat out - amazing for the winter when we often struggle to get the classes filled. All of the classes are full! We've got 4 new Pacifica wheels, making 8 altogether, and the 8 remaining Talismans give the students another option. I still like the Talisman wheels in spite of their lower strength and tendency to fall apart - they stop on command while the Pacifica tend to drift to a stop, and you can sit in a civilised position on the Talisman without rubbing your ears with the insides of your knees. One of our students put a new wheel up on bricks and it's a great improvement. We are about to have 16 new seats delivered - we can get rid of the old typists' chairs which are heavy and hard to adjust (not the old typists - the chairs) - so that will be another improvement.

Things break down all the time - the till has got stuck on \$39, and so everything we sell is now \$39. We're getting a new one this week. The cheap water boiler, that replaced the zip, is leaking and so we're getting a new one of those. The cheap one, if nothing else, proved that having instant boiling water was a good idea for this place.

A truck-load of free concrete paving tiles was sourced by Peter Stichbury and we'll lay them around the kilns. Our wood storage keeps improving, and the wood kilns are being constantly upgraded. We're getting close to building another small gas salt kiln.

Kiln maintenance never stops as I'm sure you all know and with 13 kilns of all models it's an ongoing thing here, but we get materials, bricks, shelves etc, constantly given to us and that makes it easier. The Diploma students are required to be closely involved with kilns and firings, and they are a useful asset to have around too.

Our clay is now Potters Clay from Nelson and it is proving popular - it has the advantage of being of a suitable softness for our new students. Macs Mud was not interested in this problem and preferred to supply very firm clay. The list of what we have is on our website - you can buy it direct from us.

I'm around for another couple of months and then I'll be at home working from my back shed - I'm looking

forward to that but I'm keen to keep in touch here. I'll teach my Monday morning class and also still help with the newsletter from time to time.

I've just been to Nelson to take a school and the potters there are all a little down in the mouth about the loss of the Wearable Arts show and its annual injection of customers. However most of the potters I met are living pretty well, working hard and marketing cleverly. It seems so much simpler there than trying to make and sell in Auckland. Good luck to them.

This quote has appeared twice before in this newsletter over the last 20 years but is always worth a revisit.

"If only creativity and money could be separated. But they can't, if only because each artist - anyone who makes something where nothing was before - provides occupation and profit for so many others. Just as a criminal supports on his shoulders a whole army of policemen, sociologists, commentators, reform societies, Ministers of State and so on - all dependent on his ability to perform a criminal act - so does each artistic act support publishers, critics, libraries, galleries, play-houses, concert halls, actors, printers, framers, musicians, usherettes, cleaners, academics, Arts Councils, administrators, Ministers for the Arts and so forth - and the weight can seem excessive, the rewards astonishingly little, and society's expectation that the artist will do it for free (or just enough to keep them alive and still producing) for sheer abstract love of form, beauty, Art, oh Art - while those who are parasitical upon the artist will command high salaries, higher status - oh intolerable, extraordinary!"

From Fay Weldon's "The Hearts and Lives of Men"

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MONDAY-FRIDAY 8:30 am-5pm

continued from page 1

to do his own creative thing. We are all so proud of him. Peter will be taking leave from ASP from October this year for almost 12 months. But happily we will still see him around the place from time to time. His job is currently being advertised among our members. Details of the position are available from Duncan or Peter. Applications for it should reach the Centre by the 22nd of August.

I am sure you would all join me in wishing David Lange all the best for a speedy recovery from his most recent operation. We ask Peter to convey the greetings of our members to brother David.

Meanwhile on the resource front I can report that our 4 new wheels from America are in place and they seem to be proving to be very popular. We are currently investigating the re-roofing of the kiln shed. As I have reported so often there is always something to do at our Centre. Your support for all of our activities is essential if we are to continue with essential maintenance and improvement of our facilities. The end of the year is fast approaching and the Big Clay Day Out is our next major event. The date will be fixed at our next executive meeting but meanwhile I ask that you keep this big day in mind. It will be early in December.

Meanwhile keep on potting.

Special Class!

Because there is a 4 week gap before the last term starts, Graham Ambrose is keen to take a casual Tuesday morning class for students with some wheel experience. It will start on 23rd August at 9.30am and is designed to give a little extra help to those of you who are throwing but need a bit of a push. It will be priced on a daily basis - \$20 per 3 hour session, but we need to have an idea of numbers, so please let us know if you are interested. It is envisaged that the class will eventually morph into the last 10 week term.

Graham has very good throwing skills and a reputation for excellent design; he is a regular exhibitor at Ron Sang's special exhibitions and sells at top design stores throughout NZ.

Get in touch soon please!

Anagama Firing

The 5th firing of the anagama kiln happened mid July and was again a very successful firing. Although it poured with rain during the three days of loading it managed to fine up enough during the actual firing to make for a pleasant affair. The regular group of firers, plus a few additions, managed to burn their way through piles of timber in 61 hours and produced a very even cone 10 firing. The pots that emerged after a week of cooling had a huge range of colours and surfaces.

Nelson white clay came out the winner for displaying the widest range of colours. Next firing is planned for December, and we've already rebuilt the woodshed beside the kiln to better dry the wood. The mill slab in the carpark is needing to be chopped up and stacked now, so that it can dry before we need it - so if you want to have a go in the December firing then contact Duncan about how much wood you can stack now!



Jo-Anne and Charade blowing the kiln

Co-Director Contender

No, not another reality TV show but a quest to find Peter's stand-in whilst he gets a year off to make bricks. The position is for one year and involves working at the Centre on Tuesdays and Wednesdays; additional hours are also necessary during workshops or start of term. The job involves a fair variety of

tasks, everything from writing newsletters to loading kilns. Some computer experience is essential, as is a quick hand at loading kilns. Training will be given in all the procedures of running the Centre. For more information about what it is that Peter does, please call the Centre now. Applications for the position need to be in by the 22nd August.

Pots of Delight

We want you to show off the highlights in your collection (big or small, we all started somewhere). This will be a chance for you to reveal some of your favourite pots and your reasons for collecting them. Pots from foreign countries, or famous potters or even anonymous items that tickled your fancy from a junk shop are all welcome. We will provide the liquid refreshment and food. Expert opinion also on hand.

Antiques Roadshow
Show and Tell
7pm on Tuesday 23rd August.
Your ASP Social Night



Neil Grant's workshop

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ceramic fibre, kiln bricks, fibre cement, anchors, shelves, props,
pyrometers, controllers, elements for most kilns (reasonably
priced).

Write for more details to:



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ASP New Members

Welcome to:
Allen Laurenson
John Taylor
Kevin Kerrigan
Julia Alabaster
Judith Meehl
Laurel Vileg
Keith Jowsey
Gaylene Earl

classified

All phone numbers in these sections are in the Auckland free-calling area unless an area code is explicitly stated.

Wanted:

Members for Pots of Ponsonby, Auckland's best-known pottery co-operative. Phone 3760145

Ribbon blender, dough mixer or low-speed blunger either to buy or hire for a few months. Phone Clare 3606116 or 0211430736

10 members to look after the Centre on Saturdays. Please get in touch - it's a good day and you can use all the facilities here, and help us out at the same time. It's not complicated - you'll be well briefed before you start, and there are always people around who are familiar with the place. Phone 6343622.

Someone to make a simple drop sheet to fit over our flash photocopier at the Centre - we'll pay for the material but need some expert help.

For Sale:

One burner FE Gas kiln for sale, the size of a large fridge, fires to cone 11 happily. Inside still in excellent order. Very easy to load and use. Potter keen for it to go to a new enthusiastic student. \$700 ono. Shelves/stilts/pyrometer price can be negotiated. Phone Lesley 5372189.

exhibitions

Pots of Ponsonby:

to August 13th "Quilted Pictures" window display by Carol Dewe

Masterworks Gallery (Customs St)

FRUIT

Katherine Smyth

Exhibition preview: Wednesday 10th Aug

WESTERN POTTERS SUPPLIES

FOR ALL MATERIALS AND EQUIPMENT

- casting slips (white, terracotta and stoneware)
- clays
- raw materials
- tools
- kilns and equipment
- ceramic colours
- glazes (transparent & opaque)
- on-glaze, glaze and body stains
- enamels

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2005 from 5.30pm

Exhibition 11 - 27 August 2005

95 Customs St West, Ph:357 6693

In 2004, Katherine Smyth undertook an 11 week trip to the Middle East to continue with her long term interest in Bronze Age pottery from the region. 'Fruit', the first new series of work inspired by this journey, was initially evoked by an ancient Cypriot opium pot which has the form of an inverted poppy head.

Smyth first went to the Middle East in 1993 where she worked in Jordan as a volunteer assistant to English Potter Jim Mason helping to teach pottery skills to a group of local women in order to revive a lost tradition. It was here that Smyth's love affair with the Bronze Age Pottery began. "The pots speak to me about people, about the nature of time, of pottery, of beauty, of function and form."

Katherine would like to acknowledge the support of Creative New Zealand.

Masterworks Gallery (Ponsonby)

NECKWARE IV

This is Neckware's Sixth birthday!

This year's exhibition features the work of a wide range of established artists and new makers and has become a showcase for the innovation and strength of New Zealand contemporary jewellery. This exhibition is a definite 'must see' for those with a love of jewellery.

Preview Wednesday 3rd Aug from 5.30pm
Exhibition runs from 4 August - 20 August.
77 Ponsonby Rd, Ponsonby

Art for the Kaipara

An art auction with works available by many leading New Zealand and Kaipara artists. Paintings, sculpture, mixed media and ceramics. Artists include painters Stanley Palmer, Sarah McBeath, Herb Foley and Dean Buchanan. Sculptures from Jeff Thomson, John Edgar, Bronwynne Cornish and Grant Scott. Mixed media art from Jasmine Clark and Jude Eldridge, Ceramics by Lynda Harris and Iona Matheson. See catalogue for full list of artists.

Art Auction from 6pm Sunday 28 August.
Exhibition opens Friday August 26th to Sunday 28th.

At BeesOnline Honey Centre and Cafe
791 State Highway 16, Waimauku.

For Art Auction catalogue go to www.artforthe Kaipara.org.nz

Proceeds from this Art Auction go towards protecting the natural heritage values of the Kaipara Harbour. Kaipara Forest and Bird is raising funds to take a case against large scale aquaculture on the Kaipara to the Environment Court in September this year.

Bruce Martin Retrospective

at the Hastings Exhibition Centre opening 5.30 p.m. on 16th September 2005. This is a major event for NZ potters and it would be good for ASP members to make the effort to visit this show by one of this country's foremost anagama firers. We'll have more details next newsletter.

Anna Bibby Gallery

NEIL DAWSON: "Craters"

2 Morgan Street. Newmarket. Auckland
Phone.302 2599. Hours. Tuesday - Friday
11am - 5pm. Saturday 11am - 3pm

Warren Tippett 1941-1994

A retrospective of this potter's work is planned for OBJECTSPACE as their summer feature exhibition, opening on December 3rd this year.

Would anyone who owns Warren Tippett pots they believe to be of quality, and is willing to loan the work, please get in touch with the curator. Particular interest in former exhibition pieces from FCCA, New Vision, Alicit or the ASP annual show at Auckland Museum in 1986 where he was guest exhibitor, but any good pieces are sought at this stage. Marks: In the main, early stoneware has a three leaved stamp and later earthenware is usually signed with full name or W Tippett, and the year. Moyra Elliott. email moyra@pl.net or Tel/Fx 3616264.

Corban Estate Arts Centre

The Transit Lounge: An Installation Project by Lauren Lysaght

Surface [W. Benjamin's Nightmare]: A Project by Sarah Munro

Remembrance: An installation project by Cristina Beth

Whangamata Arts 2006: For an entry form for this event contact: Whangamata Information Centre, Box 215, Whangamata. Awards of \$500 and \$250 up for grabs.

SCULPTURE WITH METAL

A 6 week course using welding tools and creating designs in copper and other metals. John Luzac is the tutor - he has had many years experience
Cost: \$60 Wed evenings 7-9pm starting 10th August Phone 5371814 to enrol
Held at: Pakuranga College, Pigeon Mountain Rd, Bucklands Beach



Neil Grant's workshop