



# ASP NEWS August 2007

The Newsletter of the  
Auckland Studio Potters  
Society Inc.  
ASP Centre  
96 Captain Springs Road  
PO Box 13-195 Onehunga  
Directors: Peter Lange,  
Renton Murray  
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 \$3 per hour  
up to a maximum of  
\$9.00 per day



Elena Renker - Premier Award



Al "Willoughby" Wheldale and the judges

## INAUGURAL DOMESTICWARE AWARD

What a great evening. lots of people there, good food and wine, and a good selection of pots.

Congratulations to: Premier Award winner with some lovely shino pots (\$500) - Elena Renker. Double Merit Award (\$200) to Brian Halstead, Merit Awards (\$100) to: Rachel Carter, Colin Underdown and Al Wheldale.

Congratulations also to the judges: Peter Stichbury and Renton Murray, and of course to Tony Bacon who initiated the event and contributed the prizemoney.

This was the best attended members' evening in a long time, and while the judges were spared the third degree, there were a lot of useful opinions aired; the most vexing question turned out to be the name of the Award, although the consensus at the end was that the given name "domesticware" is perfectly adequate. We look forward to next year's Award - it's a short, sharp and interesting format and a great chance for you all to work on your domestic pots.

## ASP Exhibition

Included with this newsletter are some promotional flyers/invitations for this event - please hand them out to family, work-mates, neighbours and local shops.

## Water-etching workshop

with George Andrews (Waiariki Polytech, Rotorua)

**2 days hands-on. Sept 1st and 2nd 10am - 4pm, shared lunch, limited to 15. \$80** (this slightly higher fee than normal is a result of limiting the numbers)

This is getting closer now and the places are filling up steadily. George is a mine of information on all sorts of techniques - he is a bronze caster, potter and sculptor and he has tutored at the Polytech in Rotorua for many years, specialising in ceramics. We decided to ask him to present a school at the ASP after seeing him in action at the Taupo Conference of the NZSP where he entertained the crowds with a variety of interesting techniques, including photocopying and printing on clay.

The focus of this workshop is producing a relief image on the surface of a pot by "water-etching" - this results in the sort of effect that is perfect for such glazes as celadon on porcelain, and salt-glazing.

Clay: Bring along the clay that you normally use. A chuck - a plastic bucket or empty paint tin. Brushes for 'decorating'. Any brush that will retain slip and release it in a stream when lifted out of the slip. A 4-inch house-painter's brush is good.

Ring the Centre to book for this - at the time of writing there are 4 places left.

**The studio will be closed for casual use that weekend.**



Water-etched pot - George Andrews

## ASP Exhibition

Entries in on September 2nd - not long to go!! The selector this year, Campbell Hegan, has decided to select the best 50 - 100 pots submitted, rather than take an "inclusive" approach which has seen all submitters get at least one pot into the show over the last few years, so it will be interesting to see if there is an improvement in the standard of the exhibition. He has undertaken to write useful comments for those that require them.

## From Duncan & Charade

Hi guys, we've made it only up the road from La Borne to another pottery village called St Amand. I was here 4 years ago firing the enormous kiln that's still talked about in these parts. We're busy making pots again and loading a kiln in preparation of firing it starting Monday with a whole bunch of young potters (should that be crop?). We've got a room to sleep in that's right above the kiln, we can virtually stoke from the bed, it was that or a tent site in the middle of a nettle patch. And we have bats at night flying around making squeaking noises. Justin sends his regards. The pottery wheels are bizarre; constantly speeding up, you need to brake them all the time just to stop your pots from flying off. We're part of some kind of pottery/firing/arts/music festival starting tomorrow; basically another excuse to party all night (not that we needed one). A common thread that everyone moans about is the difficulty in selling woodfired pots anywhere in the world - not that it stops us churning out thousands more anyway.

Cheers from Charade and Duncan

PS I have learned a few more words in French "desondre votre cullotes" means "take off your knickers!!!!" Arohanui Charade.

## ASP Website

Tony Bacon

The ASP website at [www.ceramics.co.nz](http://www.ceramics.co.nz) has been around for a few years and has served us well. We get a lot of enquiries for classes through people visiting the site, and it serves as a good resource for members and other people seeking information about pottery and potters. However things can always be made better, and a recent review has identified several areas where we believe the site can be improved and extended. We want to have more pictures, clearer navigation; we'll redesign the potters'

map and Pikes Point Gallery pages, and generally give the site a new look. I have undertaken the rebuilding and future maintenance of the site, and I'm anxious to hear from anyone who has ideas and suggestions about things we could do. I would be particularly pleased to hear from anyone who has historical information or photos that we could use on the site.

One area where we want to make a big difference is on the gallery and potters' map pages. We think this is an area where we can really serve members by making their work visible and accessible. If you are interested in being featured in either of these areas, please contact me at [tony.bacon@sthw.co.nz](mailto:tony.bacon@sthw.co.nz).

This is quite a big project, so don't expect to see major changes next week! We are aiming for the new site to be launched with appropriate fanfare at the beginning of 2008.

As a footnote to this article the ASP Committee, in its search for ways to promote the ASP, is looking for members to submit layouts and designs for a "trifold" flyer (an A4 folded in 3 long-ways). There will be a prize of a free Centre workshop for the best submission. Contact the Centre for more details - it would be best in an .indd file or something similar and should include a combination of photos and text.

## Trademe bargain:

Jan Aliah

Hello, hope you have all been keeping warm. This winter, I have decided to put most of the products that I am selling on Trade Me. As this is my first listings, I have lowered my prices to bargain prices just to have some fun. As a potter myself, I realize prices of raw materials have been going up due higher import costs. It does not help us potters very much. So most of the prices listed on my listings are wholesale prices not bothering with import costs. I will bear that.

As the products are limited, please do go in and have a look at my offering. If this will help NZ potters carry on producing fantastic works of art, I might consider doing this more often in future as my small contribution to the pottery world here in NZ.

I would appreciate if you could let your friends know of this promotion. Thank you and happy potting!

Notes: All the products are new and have been stored safely in their individual containers. They are uncontaminated

and new. If you choose to pick up, we just need to make an appointment during weekends. Otherwise, I could box up your orders and send/courier it to you.

Check these listings on Trade Me:

[www.trademe.co.nz/Browse/Listing.aspx?id=111342625](http://www.trademe.co.nz/Browse/Listing.aspx?id=111342625)

[www.trademe.co.nz/Browse/Listing.aspx?id=111349398](http://www.trademe.co.nz/Browse/Listing.aspx?id=111349398)

[www.trademe.co.nz/Browse/Listing.aspx?id=111371758](http://www.trademe.co.nz/Browse/Listing.aspx?id=111371758)

## Marie Corcoran

Humphry De Lautour

Marie Corcoran was a member of ASP since the late 1970s. Marie had a long interest in arts of many forms, originally being a fashion designer. She successfully ran a bridal gown salon, and also spent some time designing women's lingerie in earlier times. She attended classes by Brian Gartside, Margaret Milne and others, and became hooked on clay. Her strength was in design, and she had a preference for things that were original, irregular and usually with more than a hint of natural origin. Apart from pottery Marie was also interested in weaving, knitting, painting and floral arrangements including Ikebana. She had a passion for collecting all the relevant tools for these many arts, and the storage of these eventually left little room to actually make use of those tools. She had great dreams of being able to make original ceramic creations, but unfortunately over the last twenty years rarely enjoyed the good health to realise her dreams.

Marie died of lung cancer on 15th July. She is survived by a son and daughter, and one grandson. A collection of her ceramic books has been donated to ASP.

Marie will also be remembered as the designer of the Fletcher Challenge Exhibition at the Auckland War Memorial Museum, in the year that we were honoured to host Japanese living treasure Imaemon Imaizumi as guest exhibitor.

## From Canada

Hi Renton and Peter: We are just fine with some hot summer weather. Carol has been oil painting and I have been making some porcelain work and some cone 6 work to be glazed with the bronze glaze. We were pleased with the story on the workshop in the newsletter. Just wanted to know if the pots I made survived the drying and if there were any "racers" in the wood firing.

Hope all is well with you two. I am on

the list to have my right hip replaced and going to deep water aqua fit five times a week. It is really a good one hour workout and Carol is doing it as well. It may be five months before I get the new hip but I think I may be in shape by then.

Regards to all at ASP, Richard Selfridge.

### A couple of interesting websites:

If you want to find out how optimistic potters survive in a place like Cambodia check out: [www.khmerceramics.com](http://www.khmerceramics.com)

And for an informative website based on visits to China for touring potters try: [www.chineseclayart.com](http://www.chineseclayart.com)

### Portage Awards

Deadline 17th August!! Get cracking! This year's judge is rumoured to be a real scoop. We'll be having a one-day school with her/him in October and it will be a special experience. Imagine Bob Dylan coming to play at your local - it'll be the same sort of deal.

### President's Report

Michael Billington

Warm greetings to all. I must apologise for the absence of the president's report in the last newsletter. It was a case of too many pots simmering at once (so to speak).

Improvements are going on all the time at ASP, the most obvious one of late is the new car park replacing the previous wasteland over by the Band Hall. I am really pleased to see this area cleared and a space for car parking created. Because of the increasing use being made of the playing fields next door often one was forced to park a considerable distance from the Centre and walk. It is quite amazing how many cars can be accommodated in the new car park. Please rest assured a fairly in-depth search for all those nails from the destruction of the

wood pallets was carried out before the sealing was done so you can park there with confidence I feel.

Our Centre staff are some of the most multi-skilled and innovative people I know. There are not many jobs they have to hand over to outside agencies. There is a great deal of collaborative thinking going on at all times – the kitchen table is often the launch platform for many a good idea. I was impressed a couple of weeks ago with Renton's 'under-floor' abilities when assisting him to install a cable to provide Internet for the computer in the library. The second Internet connection provides another research point for our students at ASP.

I would like to acknowledge once again the people who give so willingly of their time and efforts for the betterment of the Centre. This generosity often goes far beyond the usual and benefits all members. Without it we would struggle to make the progress we do. The same people never want kudos for what they do which is so reassuring in these days of dwindling numbers of people doing something for nothing. I see people who have a few minutes up their sleeves at ASP

who turn their hand to gardening or just cleaning up around the place. We are so lucky to have them.

As you will have read in previous newsletters there are some upcoming events which bring to the fore our potters' skill and artistry. Get those entries in for the ASP exhibition. If you are unclear on the dates please contact ASP.

In addition to this report I would like to thank Tony Bacon for making it possible to hold the first Annual Domestic Pottery Award. His generosity combined with the two judges' expertise (Renton and Peter Stichbury) made the event a huge success. It was marvellous to gather together and be witness to the growing skill of our potters and the broad range of style and form. It is also wonderful to see new glazes appearing on such fine work. Thanks to all who participated.

### Renton's Ramblings.

The Friday evening Members' Night in combination with the Domesticware Award went very well. It was very well attended and Peter Stich and I had an interesting time judging the many pots and awarding the overall winner to Elena Renker for her really lovely shino group and the Merit Awards to four other pot-



Five nonchalant salt-firers

ters. Interest has been high at the Centre and the kilns have been busy. Judging was interesting on several levels; we took an "overall approach" and tried to judge from a cohesive group feeling and not just "the one good pot". Peter and myself went home unmolested so that was good (no visible daggers showing). Peter's little glimpse of Nigerian Pottery made me keen to see the many hundreds of slides he must have in his collection. An idea for a future members' evening perhaps. Many thanks to Tony Bacon for his idea and sponsorship of the Domesticware Award. A set of ideals that I certainly value very much.

Batts have arrived in the roof cavity, so morning tea time is now a warmer experience, and thanks to the ASB grant we will soon have wheels that run a lot more smoothly. We have a busy end of the year arriving faster than I can cope with....see you at the Centre soon.

P.S. we urgently need sculptors ... far too much grogged clay in stock.

## WESTERN POTTERS SUPPLIES

FOR ALL MATERIALS AND EQUIPMENT

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

UNIT 4/43a LINWOOD AVE. MT. ALBERT  
PO BOX 60126 Titirangi Ak7  
Phone (09) 815 1513 Fax (09) 815 1515  
[quentin.w@ihug.co.nz](mailto:quentin.w@ihug.co.nz)

### WE PROMISE SATISFACTION

EASY TO FIRE • CONSTANTLY BETTER RESULTS  
KILNS FOR EVERY PURPOSE from 0.6cu.ft. to 30cu.ft.

POTTERY, CERAMICS, RAKU, PORCELAIN DOLLS,  
ENAMELLING, CHINA PAINTING, CRUCIBLES,  
GLASS KILNS FOR FUSING AND SLUMPING.  
All kilns are available in FULL FIBRE (layered or Stack Bonded); FULL BRICK; or FIBRE & PARTLY BRICK.

Suppliers of slab rollers, banding wheels, kiln and raku burners, ceramic fibre, kiln bricks, fibre cement, anchors, shelves, props, pyrometers, controllers, elements for most kilns (reasonably priced).

Write for more details to:



FURNACE ENGINEERING (1986) Ltd  
Razorback Road RD2 Pokeno 1872  
Phone: 0-9-233 6690  
Fax: 0-9-233 6690  
Email: [FEKILN@IHUG.CO.NZ](mailto:FEKILN@IHUG.CO.NZ)  
Internet: [www.furnace-eng.co.nz](http://www.furnace-eng.co.nz)

# classified

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

## For Sale:

Assorted greenware, assorted moulds, 2 big work benches, 1 foldout portable table, 5 shelving units, 2 cobcraft octagonal 5cuft kilns, 8 KW, 3 phase (including thermocouple, controller & kiln furniture), 1 portable spray booth, 1 hydraulic extruder, 2 spray guns (1 brand new), 1 Cobra 2.5 HP, 40 lt air compressor with hose, 1 portable shelving unit, 1 fettling bench, 1 slip casting table, 1 slip mixer. Please contact John or Briar Ph. 8172232

Cowley wheel - good order, single direction. \$350 Phone Sue 4737336

Leach kick wheel \$50, Electric kiln 1.5 cuft with stand \$50 Ph Penny 09 4265633

I have a small electric kiln, bought it from someone who bought an ex-ASP member's house. John Booth created hand made porcelain pieces and fired in this kiln. It has worked, but I have never used it, having had it now for 18 months. FREE to a good home. Phone Lorraine 816 8008 or bigtrees@orcon.net.nz.

# exhibitions

## Masterworks

"Wide View" - excellence in contemporary applied arts, 2 - 22 August. For Wide View we have invited the contribution of leading practitioners from New Zealand and Australia. This

CLAYS  
GLAZES  
CHEMICALS  
STONEWARE STAIN  
AND MORE

Everything for the potter at:

CCG INDUSTRIES LTD

Unit 2, 25 Triton Drive, Albany

Phone 09 475 5224 or 09 475 5004

MONDAY-FRIDAY 8:30 am-5pm

is a wonderful opportunity to view the diversity of contemporary object-making from Australasia. Artists include Galia Amsel, Emma Camden, Ben Edols & Kathy Elliott, Jeff Mincham, Nick Mount and many more.

"Jewellery Box" - Mary Curtis, 2nd - 22nd August.

Continuing development of the theme for Spinning Straw, Mary Curtis' Jewellery Box juxtaposes banal 'found' objects with complex and beautifully crafted settings. Preview Wednesday 1 August from 5.30pm

"Artfully Yours" - 29 August - 15 September, the work of Christine Cathie and Hana Rakena

Fabric Sculpture of Margaret Daube and Jenny Forster: 21st July - 3rd Aug.

## Objectspace

www.objectspace.org.nz

Taking its name from the Metaphysical Heart series, a long-running narrative in brooch form, "Metaphysical Heart": until 25th August, jewellery by Peter McKay is a retrospective of over three decades of jewellery, surveying the diversity and extent of McKay's work, and looking for the common threads of technique and concept that bind his work together.

## Pots of Ponsonby:

"ART from eARTh" - Outdoor sculpture from Nicky Jolly: 4 - 26 August

"Sea Creatures" - ceramic forms by Helen Adams: 26th Aug - 9th Sept.

## Stop Press:

Due to the closing of Artful Gallery, the venue and dates for "CONE CITY CLAY" have been changed.

New Venue: Compendium Gallery, 5 Lorne St, Auckland - a well known and respected gallery in the heart of the Auckland CBD - newly refurbished and enlarged.

New Dates: Saturday 1st September

See the LARGEST range of KILNS available:  
pottery or china painting - electric - gas - fullfibre  
All with our 12 months unconditional guarantee

THE ELECTRIC FURNACE  
COMPANY LTD.

73 Wiri Station Rd, Manukau City  
PO Box 76-162 Manukau City  
Phone 0-9-263 8026

Cheapest spare elements with guarantee for any make of kiln.  
Also other spare parts, temperature controls, pyrometers etc.  
We manufacture gas burners and blowers.

- closing date for entry forms

Saturday 15th September - Short list artists advised

Thursday 4th, Friday 5th October - Ceramics arrive at gallery

Monday 8th October - Opening of exhibition at 6-8pm

Saturday 20th October - Exhibition closes 4pm - artists and buyers collect work 4.30pm - 5.30pm.

Contact the Centre for entry forms.

## Library News

Judy Rae

New books now available:

"Alternative Kilns and Firing Techniques" by James Watkins - Raku/sagar/pit/barrel.

"Single Firing" the Pros and Cons by Fran Tristram

"The Ceramic Glaze Handbook" by Mark Burleson

"Ceramic Faults and Their Remedies" by Harry Fraser

"Ceramics With Mixed Media" by Joy Bosworth (John Parker's favourite)

And we have books donated by Marie Corcoran's estate - keep an eye out for them, there may be one or two for sale as well.

## Peter's Ramblings

The big news from the Centre this month is that we have been awarded an ASB Community Trust grant - enough to buy 8 brand-new Talisman wheels. Our poor old wheels have been rattling along for a while now, needing constant repair (often in the middle of a class) and it's going to be a real luxury to have these new wheels. Many of our students (and tutors) prefer the NZ wheels to the US ones, and now we'll have a good selection of both.

The old wheels will come up for sale soon - priced in the area of \$280, so put your name down if you want one. They're fine - well used but also kept running by constant maintenance, and they are quite easy to maintain.

Classes are extra full this term, Margaret Sumich has been having new knees installed and is progressing well; in the meantime Chris Southern is standing in for her, so he's doing three nights each week, very exhausting, but he's a young buck..

Renton, Lex, Graham Ambrose, Chris and I are heading to the Dylan concert this weekend to represent the ASP at this important event. It's Renton's 9th Dylan concert! He'll get a wink from Bob.