



ASP NEWS October 2006

The Newsletter of the
Auckland Studio Potters
Society Inc.
ASP Centre
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Renton Murray
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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

Guy Fawkes Evening

This evening is becoming legendary, each year we try to outdo the previous years. We've had car firings, ice kilns, underwater firings, filing cabinet firings and this year will be our first "Hole" firing. Named after a Danish performance firer, Nina Hole, it will be styled on her technique of building a large sculpture with clay brick modules, covering it with fibre, firing to a good orange and then ripping the cover off after dark to Ooohs and Aaaahs, semi-naked dancing, cosmic spasms and cups of tea. Bring meat to barbeque and other food to go with it, your own drink, crackers and the usual Guy Fawkes requirements. We'll kick off on Sunday the 5th November at 7pm - the kiln will have been firing all day but will reach its climax about 9pm. We'll have a bonfire as well for the more traditional approach. This is our big Members' Event for November.



Glaze Workshop

with *Quentin Whitehouse*.

Two Wednesday evenings working on your own pots under Quentin's supervision and using the knowledge he has gained from years of working with glaze retailing and teaching. He is particularly experienced with earthenware glazes, lustres and enamels, and will follow up the evening's lecture he gave recently with some hands-on instruction.

\$30 for the two nights.

Dates: 25th October and 1st November 7pm - 9pm



The Big Clay Day Out

Auckland's largest pottery fair will once again be held at the Centre on Sunday the 3rd December. The studio will be transformed into a ceramics market and we are anticipating a huge crowd of pottery enthusiasts to descend on Onehunga. Contact the Centre now to reserve your table space. Setting up will be on the Saturday and if you can help with that please let us know.



UFO conspirators

Peter's Piece

Peter Lange

I'm babysitting the Centre for a day while Duncan cycles round the North in the middle of a deluge. It's very quiet today, bucketing down outside, but it's a good chance to get back in touch with systems here - one year on and the three different kiln controllers now seem so complicated, and there are a lot of precious pots depending on my uncertain fingers. The new till too - what a mass of buttons! And a new phone with lights inside that plays a tune. What will they get next? An electronic wedger that plays "One Hundred Pounds of Clay". Most important - new chairs are on the way for the wheels. No more shifting grubby old office chairs that fall to bits and don't suit the height of the wheels. Mike and Renton are onto it.

Recently I was asked by TV3 to stage a UFO event, and I'd had a plan in the back of my mind for a year or two but with the help of the ASP brains trust (Duncan and Mike) I managed to get it to fly. The rope that supported it was driven by a Pacifica potters wheel through a complicated series of pulleys up to a fixed point about 30 metres up a local structure and so it was able to go fast and slow, up and down and there was also an on/off remote switch on the LED lighting system. We had a great time playing with it, coming into land and taking off and banking it. Looked better in real life than on the telly. Some of the wags wanted to get a hoax thing going, so they rang radio stations - Marcus Lush was on duty that night, he was really funny about it ... wasn't interested at all in the UFO, found it more unbelievable that there were 10 people in a pottery class on a Monday night. "What's going on? Maybe pottery is the new mah jong, I don't believe this story, 10 people in a pottery class!". Had to keep reminding him about the UFO. John Radford came armed with a potato gun and shot the UFO down using a lemon with a flashing LED crucifix

Centre News:

Renton Murray

The Centre is busy again having only just caught its breath over the holidays. Duncan is back, very fit after a cycling trip "oop north". Nearly all the classes are bursting full and so the kiln shed is also bulging already.

Peter Lange's class had a better firing in the new salt kiln, using diesel all the way. Renton has his class kiln loaded but was hailed on Tuesday, also new burners are being built for it.

The Mairangi exhibition is over for the year – still a few pots from members to collect, so if you haven't received your money yet then it means that your pots didn't sell and are at the Centre awaiting collection.

On Sale now at the Centre we have a collection of catalogues from the Garth Clark Gallery in New York – each with an excellent essay in the front and stunning illustrations - \$20 each. We also have a limited number of books signed by Garth Clark (Shards, Free Spirit – the New Native American Pottery and Gilded Vessel – Beatrice Wood) and 3 copies of Emmanuel Cooper's, Bernard Leach – life and work. Contact the Centre or check out the website for pricing details.



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attached. It all became a bit bizarre in the end.

Try this for a good pottery laugh: www.ceramicstoday.com/articles/rascal_ware6.htm

Sad to hear that Sally Vinsen's husband John Taylor died recently. He was a keen supporter of Sally in her work, a great yachtsman and very hospitable.

They have been living in the UK for a few years. We send Sally our deepest sympathies.

The Wallace Awards are on at the Aotea Centre – a disaster of an exhibition space, and the "Salon Des Refuses" at the Wallace gallery (also a terrible exhibition space), but it is interesting for the inclusion of three ceramic pieces this year. Madeleine Child from the Otago Polytech has a fine installation of oversize popcorn made of painted terracotta amongst the Aotea select group, and Raewyn Atkinson (Wellington) with ice-like porcelain, and John Roy (Tauranga) with a figurative piece are badly displayed at the Wallace gallery. There is some ceramic content at the New Gallery in Frances Upritchard's installation which won the main award. This is worth a visit too – quasi-archaeological constructions and fake museum works result in a really strong work. Take your togs and have a soak in the spa pool.

Great write-up about Tom Hubbert in the North Shore Times – he's now 89 and still active in clay circles, and made it to the weekend school here last weekend. He does yoga every day and has an interest in all sorts of subjects from cars to cellos.

All underway now at Corbans Estate – head down for the next three months. It was a great thrill to win the Portage Award and I must thank Creative NZ for the support I have had over the last year.

The award was tempered by a couple of things ... firstly the standard did not seem to be as high this year, and many of our well-known potters were not there.

This may simply be because they did not enter, or because the judging did not go their way. More depressing though was an anonymous letter that was sent

to Lopdell House from someone who is obviously an ASP member threatening legal action if any of the ASP manage-

ment was selected for the Portage Award or given a prize. Their basic reasoning is that the ASP hosted the judge to deliver a one-day school and that could have been construed as some form of bribery by the organisers of the school – named as Peter Lange (Director At Large) (sic) (though I do admit to the "large" bit), Duncan Shearer, Renton Murray



Bill Samuels Workshop

and any members of the Committee.

The organisers of the Award are naturally very concerned that this misguided person will jeopardise the valuable sponsorship and are relieved to have cleared their existing processes with their lawyers at some expense. If an entrant were a member of the organising committee for the award, or an employee of Lopdell House then that could have been a problem. However the ASP staff and committee are removed from any of that organisation (thankfully – it's a big job), and had agreed to host the judge at an event to be held only after he had completed his judging. This judging was scrupulously anonymous (the artist's name is never released to the judge) right through to the day before the school, and the school happened only after the judging was finalised.

It would be interesting to do a psychological profile of the anonymous letter writer.

Sounds like a man, and in my opinion he:

Is fond of quasi-legal, important-sounding phrases – probably spent years in an office plotting around the water-cooler

Is highly competitive – possibly has been involved in serious sport, suspended for tackling his own players

Is living alone - difficult to live with someone with this mind-set

Is deluded about the worth of his own work and feels hard done by

Is not fit to be a member of the ASP; not because of the actual point which is

pathetic and flawed, but because of the cowardice shown, and for being prepared to put the sponsorship at risk.

Now if he is brave enough to come forward and follow up the threat then it will be interesting to see how accurate my guesswork is. But I doubt that that will happen.

Workshop fees have gone up – first time in ten years. They are now \$3 per hour with a maximum of \$9. Still great value.

Working Bee

Finally here's your chance to help out around the Centre. We need this place spick and span for the BCDO and to spring clean away the accumulated rubbish from winter. Multiple trips to the dump are in order and some judicious hacking away of foliage. So please bring useful garden implements, gloves and a willingness to get stuck in. Sunday 12th November from 10am to 2pm.

Hands on Clay

Is run by Karen Woogate (8178968) and myself Lorraine Barnett (8168008). We are both potters and offer after-school programmes, visits to primary schools for class workshops, demonstrations, and visits to community groups. Over this last term we have provided three after-school classes, located at Titirangi Community House, Lopdell House studio and Glen Eden Intermediate, we have taken sessions at four kindergartens, and classes at Glen Eden intermediate involving Koru workshop and ancient Egypt, so this is really something that we have found there is a need for. If you have kids who want to get into clay give us a call to find out more.



Workshop/discussion



The Portage Winner

And the winner of the 2006 Portage Award is... a hushed silence, all the potters in the room learn forward in anticipation... Peter Lange. And the room erupts into cheers, a popular and well deserved winner. The winning piece is a brick lilo (life size) and is one of a body of work that Peter has been working on this year all revolving around brick constructions of things not normally made from bricks.

Three merit prizes were awarded to Mark Mitchell and Owen Bartlett, the Waitakere Artist Award was given to Danny Rowlandson.



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classified

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

For Sale:

Talisman wheel excellent condition (but dirty) with spare parts and seat. \$550 ono. Talsiman pugmill \$500. Phone Michael 8176621

Kiln, 3 phase – can be converted to single phase. Hunua. Phone Marion 2924768. \$2,500 ono

New clay called "Earthclay" being sold through Waikato Ceramics (07 8568890) Mostly earthenware or mid-fire range.

Kiln Electric Furnace. Top loading with KP 13 programmer, 3 cuft. In good working order. To be collected from North shore. Selling at \$200 because I am moving Phone Jill.4194104

This week only! New Venco wheels (similar to our Pacifica only with wireless pedal) \$1500 (+GST) only Phone Peter Collis 4809856

Property for sale

Len Castle's attractive, sunny, 3 bedroomed house with wide rural and river views, 2,000 sq.m. of mature, informal gardens, well treed.

Workshop, large garage, storage shed and big kiln pavilion with 1 cubic metre L.P.G. trolley kiln included. 3 phase electricity, substantial, strong, well designed storage shelves and work area. Countryside living at Warkworth, 3 minutes from township. \$690,000 ph: (09) 4259809.

Situations Vacant:

Rachel Carter our General Assistant is moving on soon to join Peter Collis in his studio and so we need a replacement. Starting date is the 2nd November and so if you're interested then please contact the Centre by Friday the 20th October.

Pottery Tutor at Hungry Creek – Part time starting February 2007

Key skills sought: BA or MA in Fine Art or Ceramics. Teaching experience and/or qualification is desirable. Need to have knowledge and technical ability with clay, glazing and kilns.

The pottery tutor is responsible for tutoring pottery to the year one to advanced level students one per week. Classes are all day, 6 hours duration. The mode of delivery is hands-on with a balance of theory with regards to technical aspects of pottery forming, glazing and glaze perpetration, firing and critical evaluation of students work. Trips to Galleries and selected exhibitions are approximately once per term depending on what is showing. First year student's complete assignments on set topics, senior students follow a partially self directed programme. The tutor is respon-

sible for marking and assessing student achievement according to the assessment criteria.

The Pottery workshop is equipped with 2 electric and one gas kiln, raku and pit firing facilities. There is a glaze room and the required resources and a small library. Further details on the School and a job description are available from Joy on 09 4220 752 or email: joy@hungrycreek.ac.nz. To apply or to discuss the position further contact Ruth Tait, Director of Studies on 09 4220 752 or email ruth@hungrycreek.ac.nz. Apply by post to: Hungry Creek Art and Craft School, PO Box 41, Puhoi

events

Summer Do at the Quarry

The 2007 Summer Do is on from the 7th to 14th January 2007. The course fee of \$400 remains the same as last year. Our tutors are confirmed:

Iosefa Leo; Stone sculpting
Jane Zusters; Painting
Mike O' Donnell; Clay Sculpture
Henery Mackeson; Earth building
Bryan Divers; Clown as Artist
Coral Kaire; Flax Weaving
Shelly Ryde; Screen printing
Contact Northland Craft Trust [nctrust@ihug.co.nz], Whangarei

exhibitions

Artful Gallery

Louis Kittleson
New Anagama Ceramics
10th October to 26th October
Cone City Clay National Ceramics Exhibition 2006
19th November to 9th December
1 Morgan St, Newmarket.

Objectspace

Tony Kuepfer's Bottles
30 September – 23 December
This impressive selection of tall bottles made by glass artist Tony Kuepfer has been collected by Stuart Park as part of his ongoing fascination with New Zealand glass. Produced over a relatively short period of seven years between 1979 and 1986 these distinctive pieces have caught Park's attention, his collection of Kuepfer bottles now numbering near thirty. Park considers Tony Kuepfer to be "a true pioneer, who inspired, taught and stimulated many later glass artists, and who first began educating New Zealanders to buy glass as art and whose influence has continued through his teaching in Whanganui, and through his ongoing involvement in glass".

Pots of Ponsonby

"Japanese Style" from a Japanese perspective - new work by Sanai Shirai
8th October - 22nd October

The Gus Fisher Gallery
Kamaka – The Ceramics of Bruce and Estelle Martin

Opening Friday 20th October at 5.30pm and running until the 22nd December.
On Saturday the 21st October Bruce will be giving a floor talk around the exhibition from 2pm. On Saturday the 4th November at 2pm Richard Fahey and Richard Parker will discuss the process and results of Anagama firing.
74 Shortland St, City. Ph: 373 7599

Following on from the success of the 2006 Living Room series, Auckland City is seeking proposals from the creative sector for temporary events/installations/interventions in the CBD that will contribute to the 2007 Living Room programme.

To find out more about the Living Room programme and how to submit a proposal visit www.aucklandcity.govt.nz/cbd.

Applications close at 5pm on Friday 10 November 2006.

Art by the Sea

"Landforms"
An exhibition by Brendan Adams and Charlie Seakins.

Saturday 14th-27th October.

Charlie and Brendan are two long standing Auckland potters, who have got together to have this exhibition. Charlie will be exhibiting large landscape oil paintings along with his stunning large platters with magnesium carbonate glaze effects.

Brendan will have wall sculptures using mixed media and some free standing paper clay sculptures he made using plaster components given to him by Leo King.

The theme connecting the two groups of work will be an interest in landforms and textures.

Masterworks Gallery

Start Spreading the News
Paul Maseyk Ceramics
12th October to 24th October
Ponsonby Road.

NZ Sculpture OnShore

3 -12 November
Fort Takapuna Historic Reserve, Vauxhall Road, Devonport

Gala Opening 2 November, 5 - 8pm
Gala Tickets from (09) 489 6200, or order at www.nzsculptureonshore.co.nz - \$75 to benefit NZ Women's Refuges Exhibition curated by Helen Schamroth has works for sale by over 100 New Zealand artists including:

Gretchen Albrecht • Chris Charteris • Bronwynne Cornish • Paul Dibble • Fatu Feu'u • Charlotte Fisher • Christine Hellyar • Humphrey Ikin • John Ioane • Virginia King • Gregor Kregar • Barry Lett • Lauren Lysaght • Paul Mason • Neil Miller • Garry Nash • John Papas • Matt Pine • Terry Stringer • Marte Szirmay • Richard Thompson • Jeff Thomson • Barbara Ward

For further information on this 6th biennial sculpture exhibition organised by Friends of Women's Refuges including a list of all exhibiting artists, please visit www.nzsculptureonshore.co.nz