



Cairns Potters Club Inc.

September 2025 Newsletter

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Artwork by Neil King

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PRESIDENT'S REPORT

It's been another busy month for the club. The Open Weekend (see below) was a great success, with many visitors coming along to learn about the club, try their hand at making pots, and even take part in the raku firing. We are still waiting to hear if our grant application for the property extension and new kiln room has been successful.

POTTERS' CLUB OPEN HOUSE WEEKEND - **16th (Sat) - 17th (Sun) August**

For many years the Cairns Potters Club has opened its doors to the public over one weekend in August, giving people the chance to see what we do, learn about our classes, and perhaps even buy a pot or two. This year's Open Weekend was well attended, with plenty of visitors interested in pottery as well as members keen to take part in the raku firing.

A big thank you to the potters who helped aspiring potters make their first pots, and to Nigel and his team for running the raku firing on Sunday. Both members and visitors had the chance to glaze and fire pots, with some exciting results coming out of the kiln. Thanks also to the members who helped prepare for the firing and those who volunteered their time over the weekend.

Thanks to Catherine Louison and Steve Brown for the photos.



ADULT AND CHILDREN'S CLASSES

Any club member interested in doing adult or children's classes please contact Lone White. There is a great demand for classes and some of the teachers cannot continue for the moment.

CLAY AND MATERIALS ORDER

Picasso's Ceramics had some problems getting clays from the new owners of Keanes Clay, but members finally received their June/July orders last Saturday.

The club will be sending in a new order later this month, so if you would like to order any clays or materials, please send your order to lone@tpg.com.au

Handbuilding Workshop - Carolyn Brumby



Jenny - Wow! So much fun. Thanks Carolyn. This workshop is a fantastic introduction to handbuilding. Carolyn takes you through a huge variety of skills including slab, moulded and pinch pots all in a relaxed and supportive environment. Highly recommend it !



Melinda - I recently did a handbuilding pottery course and really enjoyed it. It was such a creative relaxing experience and I learnt so much in a short time. Carolyn was supportive and made it easy to pick up new techniques. I'd definitely recommend it to anyone wanting to try pottery.



Jewelz - I had such a wonderful time at the pottery class. Out of all my projects, my favorite was creating my pumpkin jar with a lid - I loved how it turned out. I also really enjoyed working on the detail of the sculpture house, which I am excited to turn into an incense holder. Using the large slab roller was a new and very informative experience. Overall, it was a fun, creative and inspiring day - highly recommended!

Switched On Exhibition at the Bailey Crystalbrook Cairns

8th August – 28th September 2025

The 'Switched On' exhibition features a series of handmade ceramic lights made by practising ceramicists studying at TAFE. Each work explores structure and form as a primary focus, using clay to investigate how light interacts with surface, volume, and space. Texture, pattern, and colour are used to enhance the sculptural qualities of each piece, reflecting a strong engagement with process and material.

The exhibition presents a diverse range of functional light forms—from bold and architectural to intricate and organic—demonstrating the time, skill, and experimentation behind each work. *Switched On* offers a dynamic insight into contemporary ceramic practice.

Participating Artists:

- Linda Gordon
- Nicole Elder
- Catherine Louison
- Susan Willison
- Luisa Manea
- Masaie Iwagishe
- Alisa Iwagishe
- Kerrie Miller

For all the potters involved, it has been a wonderful experience, with special thanks going to Olivia Azzopardi, the TAFE teacher, for organising this showcase of our work.

It's been an exciting experience for all the artists. It's been exciting for us all.



WORKSHOPS AT THE CLUB

Youth Handbuilding Workshop - 26TH SEPTEMBER 10:00 am - 12:00 pm

The Cairns Potter's Club welcomes youths aged 12 - 15 for an introduction to the wonderful world of handbuilding! With our Blue Card Certified instructor, parents are welcome to leave their children for the two hour workshop.

This opportunity will allow your children to learn the basics of working with clay, interact with peers with similar interests, all while making a masterpiece of their own to take home and share with their loved ones. They will be gifted their own set of tools, 1kg of clay, and 1 bisque firing for their piece. Contact our Maintenance Officer Stefany Moran for your booking to our workshop.

Contact Stefany at: artofstefmoran@gmail.com

CAIRNS POTTERS CLUB

Youth Handbuilding Workshop

With Stefany Moran

Come join us at the Cairns Potters Club to discover a love for handbuilding!

We will be going over the basics of working with clay while getting the exciting chance to create your own masterpiece.

Ages: 10-15 years old
Number of slots available: 6
Contact info below for booking

Cost: \$60 Per Child
1 KG of clay, tools, and bisque firing included

When: Friday 26th of September
Time: 10:00am - 12:00pm

Where: Cairns Potters Club
28A Grove St,
Parramatta Park QLD 4870

Email: artofstefmoran@gmail.com
Phone: 0403 883 387

CLASSES AT THE CLUB

Advanced Wheel Throwing Classes with Carole Lomax (Members Only) Thursday evenings: 18:00-20:00

At present there are no classes for those who have passed the beginners level. This intimate 4 x week course is based on the technique of 'Throwing off the Hump'.

Ideal for repetition throwing, small pieces and multi-part pieces. The course will revisit and hone basic skills, the foundation of all your throwing, and you will learn new skills to add to your practice. If you are interested, have clay and enthusiasm.

Contact Carole at: clomax54@gmail.com

Throwing off the Hump Intermediate classes.

THURS. 6:00 - 8:00pm

\$140 - 4 x consecutive weeks

4 x places available

Expressions of Interest:
Carole clomax54@gmail.com

- Learn how to throw singular and repeated forms off the hump
- Learn the art of spiral banding for larger pieces of clay
- Revisit and refine all basic throwing techniques
- Learn a myriad of tricks and tips to aid your practice

All students must be able to centre clay on the wheel and pull up a wall evenly to attend

Wheel for hire



WHEEL
FOR
HIRE

Contact Caronlyn Brumby directly for enquiries.

Message Carolyn B.
for details.

048795260

CLUB MEMBERS REGULAR CATCH-UPS **EVERY WEDNESDAY**

Let's catch up! Join us on Wednesdays from 9:00 AM to 12:00 PM. It's free! This is a great opportunity to gather, share skills and knowledge, or just enjoy the company of fellow potters. Connect with other potters, share the joy of pottery making, and foster a sense of community within the club.

CLUBHOUSE CALENDAR

■ Member Catch-up ■ Booked for class or workshop

September Clubhouse Calendar						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 16:00-17:30 Monthly meeting 18:00-20:30 Carolyn's Class	2	3 9:00 -12:00 Members Catch Up	4	5 18:00-20:00 Carole's Class	6
7	8 18:00-20:30 Carolyn's Class	9	10 9:00 -12:00 Members Catch Up	11 18:00-20:00 Carole's Class	12	13
14	15 18:00-20:30 Carolyn's Class	16	17 9:00 -12:00 Members Catch Up	18 18:00-20:00 Carole's Class	19	20
21	22 18:00-20:30 Carolyn's Class	23	24 9:00 -12:00 Members Catch Up	25	26 10:00-12:00 Youth handbuilding workshop - Stef Moran	27
28	29	30				

WHEN YOU COME TO THE CLUBHOUSE YOU MUST BOTH SIGN IN AND OUT IN THE BOOK NEXT TO THE ENTRANCE – STUDENTS ATTENDING CLASSES MUST ALSO HAVE THEIR NAMES ENTERED IN THE BOOK – THE TEACHERS ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR THAT. IT IS AN INSURANCE REQUIREMENT.

Committee Members

President:	Lone White	0740537508	lone@tpg.com.au
Vice President:	Catherine Louison	0427735401	cjmusso@bigpond.com
Secretary:	Yasu Mackenzie	0415445636	cairnspottersclub1@gmail.com
Minute Secretary & Librarian:	Christina George	0740532240	chrisg34@bigpond.net.au
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Clay Officer:	Di Sant	0419657553	disantart@gmail.com
Glaze Officer:	Carolyn Brumby	0418793260	carolyn.brumby@gmail.com
Committee Members:	Carole Lomax, Hedy Verhulst and Samallie Kasirye.		

Neil King

I came to Cairns from Adelaide in a panel van when I was 18 – that was 50 years ago! I had forgotten how good it is here. My plan this time was to travel down the east coast in a van, but I like Cairns and the Cairns Potters Club so much that I've decided to stay.

I don't have any particular style, but I've mostly been doing underglaze painting on wheel-thrown vases since I arrived. I first tried pottery at a studio in Taipei, Taiwan, starting out with handbuilding. It took me ages to get the hang of the wheel, and I still throw them a bit heavy! I'm still interested in handbuilding and I've been learning more about some of the native flora and fauna around Cairns.

I'm also in the process of house-hunting, hoping to find somewhere with a view of the beautiful mountains that surround the city.





from

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