



Cairns Potters Club Inc.

November 2025 Newsletter

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Artwork by Andrea Kerti

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PRESIDENT'S REPORT

It's been another busy month at the Cairns Potters Club! Our membership has now grown to over **240**, reflecting the rising popularity of pottery in our community. With this growth, we're looking for more potters interested in teaching classes for both children and adults – a great way to share your skills and help others discover the joy of clay.

Looking ahead, our next big event is the **annual Christmas Fair**, held every year on the first Saturday in December – this year that's **Saturday, December 6**. We hope everyone is busy in their studios making plenty of beautiful pots to sell. It's always a fantastic day to celebrate the end of the year and showcase the wonderful work of our members!

MESSAGE FROM OUR NEW LIBRARIAN

Hello I am Jacqi. I have volunteered to be the librarian for the Pottery Club. I am hoping that there will be a fresh interest in the library selection at the club house.

I was a Primary school teacher in another life and for 13 years I was the school librarian. So I have many years of experience in this area. The Pottery Club library will be run more like a library with books leaving and returning through me. Sadly there have been many many many books not returned under the current system and so this is to be one of the new rules. A full set of the new rules will be posted as soon as we have agreed to them. In the meantime you have a "grace period" to return any outstanding books you have borrowed from the club house.

Please be patient about the coming opening as I am planning to reorganise and to audit the books against the catalogue the previous Librarian had collated. Her ground work is a great starting place for me as your new Librarian.

I am also a potter and have been potting on and off since my daughter was a child. We have as a family done many courses and classes over the years. I have found a profound sense of calm and stilling of my busy mind, when I am handling clay. Be it on the wheel or hand building. I am happy to be getting back into a community of potters whom I can share and build ideas and learning, together. I look forward to meeting you all over the coming years.

Jacqi, Your Librarian

Work in Progress Items / Uncollected Items

As we head toward the end of the year and prepare for upcoming events such as the Christmas Fair and our parties, we'll be doing a thorough clean-up of the clubhouse.

Any unfired pieces that have been left for more than three months must be collected, completed, or moved to the firing shelves by **22 November**.

Items not claimed or moved by that date will be **recycled**, and any personal belongings left in the clubhouse may be **removed as part of the clean-up**.

CAIRNS ART SOCIETY GALLERY - DFO Shopping Center Mulgrave Road.

Artists of the month in window display Lone White - Ceramist

I have played with clay and glazes since 1978 and during most of that time I have lived in Cairns. A lot of my ceramic art works have been inspired by my surrounds - the reef and rainforest.

Frequent travels throughout the Middle East, South-East Asia, Japan, China, Russia and Europe observing traditional techniques, visits to major museum collections of Sung Dynasty ceramics and exposure to modern innovations have provided an ability to approach works with a flexibility to adjust techniques to reflect ideas - or perhaps moods..

For the last few years I have been working on a series called 'Flower inspired ceramic forms'. I have wanted to give my pots texture, flow and movement. To do that I have been using paper clay which makes it possible to make intricate forms related to seeds, bark, etc. All the ten works have been fired in oxidation at varying temperatures from 1200 to 1280 degrees C.



CLAY AND MATERIALS ORDER

We're expecting a new shipment from Walkers Ceramics early in November, so we'll soon have plenty of Walkers 10, PB103, and SES available for members to purchase at the clubhouse on Saturday mornings between 9:00 and 11:00 am.

We'll also be sending through another order towards the end of November. If you'd like to order clay or other materials, please email your request to lone@tpg.com.au

Please note that members can purchase up to **10 bags of clay per month**.

EXHIBITIONS

Our Garden of Tropical Delights - TANK 4

Fri 7 Nov 2025 - Sun 7 Dec 2025

Once a storehouse of oil and industry, the Tanks Arts Centre now blooms with new life. In *Our Garden of Tropical Delights*, artists Jamie Cole and Gabrielle Cooney (aka Flintstone Designs) explore the fertile meeting point between the natural world and the industrial past.

Gabrielle's ceramics embrace the philosophy of wabi-sabi — finding beauty in imperfection, impermanence, and transformation. Her tree trunks, seed pods, and pipe-like forms echo both the resilience of nature and the remnants of human structures.

In vivid contrast, Jamie's paintings pulse with fluorescent colour, gold leaf, and graffiti-like layers. Drawing on foliage, camouflage, architecture, and pop motifs, his works channel the dynamism and spectacle of the urban environment.



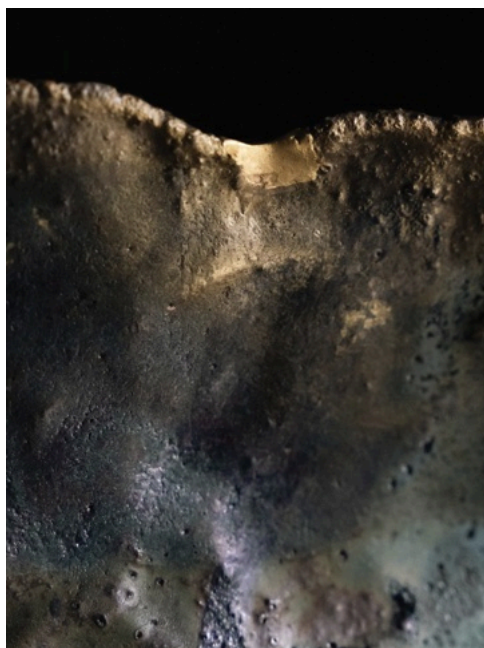
Together, their practices form a landscape of tension and harmony: fragility beside force, ruin beside renewal, silence beside riotous colour. This exhibition is a garden of contradictions — a space where art, nature, and history entwine to reveal the beauty of transformation.

Words by Bruce Ferguson

Launch: 6pm, Fri 7 Nov

Intimate Worlds II - Northsite

11 October — 24 December 2025



Intimate Worlds brings together NorthSite makers whose practices are grounded in material exploration, slow processes, and thoughtful making. This exhibition highlights the space where art and design overlap—showcasing creators who work with sensitivity to their chosen materials and an enduring drive to test their potential.

Often working quietly and independently in their own studios, these five artists are given the opportunity to expand techniques in their chosen craft—creating objects that speak of inner worlds translated through form. The exhibition invites audiences into these practices, where craftsmanship and concept intertwine, and where each piece carries traces of time, care, and transformation.

At its core, **Intimate Worlds** is a celebration of experimental materiality and process. The artists' respect for their mediums, paired with a restless curiosity, results in works that resonate with both refinement and intimacy.

Botanical Painting on Clay Workshop: Fiona Hiscock

Tanks Arts Centre - Tank 4

Artist in residence, Fiona Hiscock comes to Cairns in November to develop new works inspired by the Cairns Botanic Gardens plant collection and birdlife. Fiona's practice involves making water colour studies and transposing this imagery onto over-scaled, hand built ceramic vessels.

Fiona is offering two workshops including:

- A slide talk introduction to her work
- Preparing a water colour painting of a plant to transfer onto clay.
- A demonstration of coiling and pinching techniques, allowing participants to make a small coil vessel by hand.
- Paint a pre-prepared ceramic tile with botanical imagery

After the workshops, participants may leave their tiles in Tank 4 to be fired by Cairns Potters Club and collected later.

When: Sat 15 Nov 2025 - Sat 22 Nov 2025

To book please visit:

<https://www.cairns.qld.gov.au/tanks/tanks-only-events/workshops/botanical-painting-on-clay-workshop>



CHRISTMAS FAIR! - 6 DECEMBER 8AM-2PM



Our Christmas Fair will be held on Saturday 6 December. We hope you'll have plenty of pots ready for sale at the Fair! Please arrive early—around 7 a.m.—to secure a good spot for setting up your table. If you need a table for your display, contact Lone White at 07 4053 7508 to book one (limited tables are available).

You're welcome to sell items other than pottery, such as glassworks, paintings, jewellery, plants, fruit, etc. Each seller must fill in a sales sheet with their name and contact details. Sales sheets are available at the clubhouse, or you can request one to be sent to you. On your sales sheet, please list all items for sale, each labelled with a sticker that includes the item's number, price, and your initials.

The club takes a 20% commission on all sales. Drop off your sales sheet at the sales table when you arrive. While you aren't required to stay with your work throughout the day, it can be beneficial for promoting your pieces.

Please note that the club is not responsible for any loss or damage to unattended items. All purchases are processed at the sales table, so if you have some time, your assistance there would be appreciated

SAVE THE DATE! - CPC CHRISTMAS PARTY

We're wrapping up the year with our End-of-Year Christmas Party on Saturday, 13 December, starting at 12:00 pm at the clubhouse.

All members are warmly invited to join! Please bring a plate to share, and come along to enjoy some good food, conversation, and festive cheer. It's a wonderful opportunity to relax, celebrate the year, and connect with other members of the club.

WORKSHOPS AND CLASSES AT THE CLUB

Youth Handbuilding Workshop - Saturday 15 November 14:00-16:00 hrs

Stefany Moran welcomes youth ages 10-15 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.

Contact Stefany directly at: artofstefmoran@gmail.com



Cairns Potters Club

Youth Handbuilding Workshop

With Stefany Moran

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

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

When: Saturday 15th of Nov.
Time: 2:00pm - 4:00pm

Ages: 10-15 years old
Limited Slots Available

Email: artofstefmoran@gmail.com
Phone: 0403 883 381

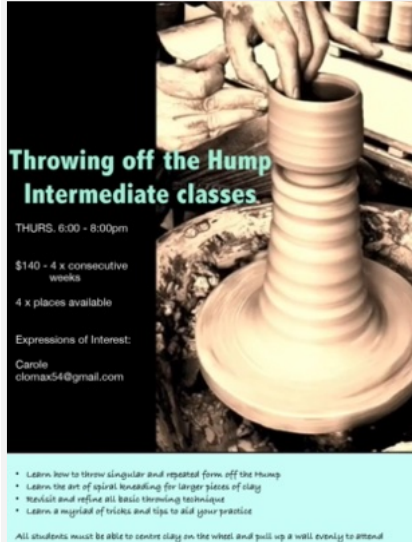
Give your child the chance to create their own ceramic piece that will last a lifetime

Advanced Wheel Throwing Classes with Carole Lomax (Members Only) Thursday evenings: 18:00-20:00 (Tentative starting date to be advised)

This intimate 4-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 directly 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 form off the hump
- Learn the art of spiral handbuilding for larger pieces of clay
- Revisit and refine all basic throwing technique
- 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

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! Connect with other potters, share the joy of pottery making, and foster a sense of community within the club.

November Clubhouse Calendar						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3 16:00-17:30 Montly meeting	4	5 9:00 -12:00 Members Catch Up 18:00-20:30 Paulina's Class	6	7	8
9	10	11	12 9:00 -12:00 Members Catch Up 18:00-20:30 Paulina's Class	13	14	15 14:00-16:00 Youth's workshop
16	17	18	19 9:00 -12:00 Members Catch Up 18:00-20:30 Paulina's Class	20	21	22
23	24	25	26 9:00 -12:00 Members Catch Up 18:00-20:30 Paulina's Class	27	28	29 13:00-17:00 Private event
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	cairnpottersclub1@gmail.com
Minute Secretary:	Christina George	0740532240	chrisg34@bigpond.net.au
Librarian:	Jacqi Thornborrow		stormypud@gmail.com
Treasurer:	Mark Davis	0418155106	paladin_67@hotmail.com
Kiln Booking Officer:	Nigel Perera	0409459013	(Please Text for booking)
Website Manager:	Gabrielle Cooney	0418708068	info@justpurple.com.au
Newsletter Officer:	Paulina Tapia	0475725686	paulina.tcab@gmail.com
Publicity Officer:	Samantha Lam	0406780967	sammart852@gmail.com
Maintenance Officer:	Stefany Moran	0403883381	artofstefmoran@gmail.com
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.		

Andrea Kerti

I'm Andrea, and a lot of you will know me from the Wednesday social group. I have been attending the club for a couple of years now. I began coming to the club for my role as a disability support worker. I bring and support an NDIS participant who has been going to the club for many, many years. Pottery is something that I was always curious about; however, I hadn't tried it in the past, but as soon as I got my hands on some clay, I was hooked.

At first, I learned a lot from the regular members who were quick to guide me in the right direction. Since then, I've taken a couple of classes. I also learned, and still learn, a lot from potters on the internet. I have attempted the wheel a few times, including during classes, but I find it all a bit too serious for now. I find that handbuilding comes much more naturally to me, and it's therapeutic. It's a privilege for me to have the opportunity to play with the clay and create art. I love going with the flow to see where it takes me. I gather inspiration and then apply that with my own ideas to create something. I enjoy challenging myself by trying different shapes and forms. I've made some decorative things; however, most of the pieces I've made are functional, such as plant pots, soap holders, plates, bowls, etc.

I don't plan much, and I never measure anything because I prefer to just figure it out organically. I enjoy painting with underglaze or using sgraffito to carve patterns and doodles into my pieces, much like the drawings I do. Other times, I prefer to bisque my pieces and experiment with a variety of glazes. More recently, I have been creating small pieces that I can use as jewellery components. Another hobby of mine has been learning how to wire-wrap and make jewellery using copper and silver. I love adding ceramic components as well as gemstones and shells that I have collected. I believe that this is just a chapter of my artistic journey, and I'm delighted to see where it takes me.





from

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PO BOX 1470

CAIRNS QLD 4870

Website <https://cairnpottersclub.com>