



Cairns Potters Club Inc.

January 2026 Newsletter

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Artwork by Lone White

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PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Pottery certainly continued to grow in popularity here in Far North Queensland throughout 2025. Our membership reached 246 – the highest it has ever been. Our annual Christmas Fair, held on the first Saturday in December from 8 am to 2 pm, was a standout event, with more than \$21,000 worth of pottery sold. This was a record for the club and was made possible by the 36 stallholders who offered such a vibrant variety of colourful and diverse work to the public.

Looking ahead to 2026, it promises to be another busy year for the club. Alongside our usual Cairns Show ceramics display in July, we will also be hosting our biannual national ceramics exhibition, **MELTING POT 2026**, planned for the second half of the year. Hopefully you are already beginning to make your masterpieces for these upcoming exhibitions.

RENEWAL OF MEMBERSHIP - DUE 1 JANUARY 2026

Please note that your membership expires at the end of **2025**, and your **clubhouse access key will also expire on 31st December 2025**.

To continue accessing the clubhouse, purchasing clay, and participating in firings, we kindly ask that you **renew your membership** at your earliest convenience.

Please also advise us if you have a firing deposit but do not intend to renew your membership; we will be happy to arrange a refund upon request. To assist us, please forward the most recent email from Lone showing your firing deposit balance to cairnspottersclub1@gmail.com, and we will review the details and proceed accordingly.

Please note that we will continue to send email newsletters and general communications until the **AGM (Annual General Meeting) in March**. If you no longer wish to receive emails from us, please let us know by contacting cairnspottersclub1@gmail.com.

To renew your membership, please complete the membership renewal form on our website or pick one up at the clubhouse: cairnspottersclub.com/membership/. You can also renew your membership at the club on Saturday mornings from 9 to 11 am.

Additionally, you can come on January 1st between 10 am to 12 pm to the clubhouse to renew your membership and purchase/collect your key.

Thank you for your understanding and continued support of the Cairns Potters Club.

CLAY AND MATERIALS ORDER

The club's order from Picasso's Ceramics arrived just before Christmas, and we are planning to place another order towards the end of January. If you would like to include an order in the club's purchase, please email lone@tpg.com.au with your details. Please note that orders are limited to a maximum of 10 bags of clay per member.

We also received a large delivery of clay from Walker Ceramics in December. If you're running short, feel free to drop into the clubhouse on any Saturday morning between **9 am and 11 am** to purchase clay.

CPC CHRISTMAS PARTY - Message from vice president, Catherine Louison

Under the shady trees at the club's entrance, members gathered to enjoy a delicious variety of dishes brought along to share, celebrating a wonderfully successful year for the Cairns Pottery Club. Our passionate club president, Lone White, congratulated and thanked everyone for their achievements, their participation in events throughout the year, and their contribution to the successful running of the club.

It was a wonderful opportunity for many to catch up with fellow members—definitely a talk fest! A fun, relaxed, and enjoyable time was had by all who attended, making it a wonderful Christmas party, definitely a talk fest!



WORKSHOPS AND CLASSES

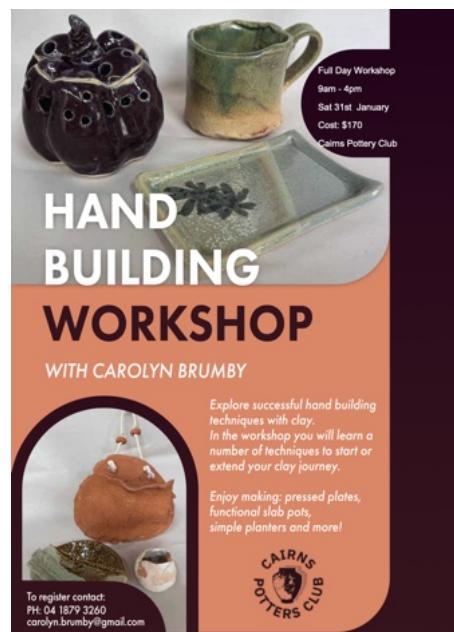
Hand Building Workshop - Carolyn Brumby

31 January 9 am - 4 pm

Discover the joys of making pots with a variety of successful techniques. You will be working with various clays and learn what is the best fit of the clay body for each project.

Explore the process of making functional as well as decorative pieces. How to pattern to add texture and depth, what is sgraffito, and tips to join and shape. The skill will provide a grounding for your independent works in clay. It is suitable for beginners but also will cater for clay artists to extend their skills.

Contact Carolyn at: carolyn.brumby@gmail.com



6 Week wheel throwing workshop - Carolyn Brumby

Monday & Tuesday evenings in February

Start 2/2/26 and 3/2/26

Learn the age-old technique of forming pots on the wheel with Carolyn Brumby in this relaxed and hands-on 6-week course. Each week (2.5-hour class), you'll build your skills – whether you're just starting out or want to take your technique to the next level. In week 6, you'll also be introduced to the glazing process to finish off your beautiful creations.

Limited places available.

Contact Carolyn at: carolyn.brumby@gmail.com



Intermediate Wheel Throwing Classes - Carole Lomax (Members Only)

Tentative start date: early February

These intermediate wheel throwing classes offer an opportunity to deepen your relationship with the clay and refine the quiet skills that come with practice. The tentative start date is early February, with the final date to be confirmed once sufficient expressions of interest have been received.

The focus will be on advanced throwing techniques, including throwing off the hump for both individual pieces and repeated forms. You'll also learn spiral kneading for preparing larger amounts of clay, and revisit essential forms with fresh attention—refining movement, control, and consistency at the wheel.

Classes are offered in 4-week blocks, with 2-hour sessions at a cost of \$140. A minimum of four participants is required for the class to run, with a maximum of six participants, allowing for thoughtful, personalised guidance. Participants should already be confident in centering and raising clay. Please bring your own clay and tools.

If you're interested, please send your expression of interest to:

Contact Carole Lomax 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 kneading 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

Hand building classes - Paulina Tapia Start date: 11/02/26

Come and enjoy the calm pace of hand building. In these sessions you'll learn the fundamentals of handbuilding, including pinch pots, coiling, and slab building, with a focus on functional forms and surface decoration. We'll explore texture, carving, and slip decoration. In the last session we will focus on glazing so you can take home your final pieces.

The first bag of clay is included. Additional clay can be purchased from the Potters Club. Firing, glazes, and glaze firing are an additional cost and will be discussed during class.

Price \$330

Contact Paulina at: paulinat.ceramics@gmail.com



**Hand building classes
WITH PAULINA TAPIA**

Join a 6-week course designed for adult beginners (8 students max).

You'll learn different hand building techniques, including pinch pots, coiling, and slab building, with a focus on functional forms and surface decoration.

6 CONSECUTIVE CLASSES ON
Wednesday evenings 6:00 - 8:30 pm
**BOOKINGS
ESSENTIAL!**

Contact: paulinat.ceramics@gmail.com

Cairns Potters Club 28A Grove Street Cairns

Wheel throwing classes - Paulina Tapia

Start: early April

Discover the art of wheel throwing in a relaxed, small group setting (max 6 students). This 6-week course is designed for adult beginners – no experience needed, just a willingness to get your hands dirty! Each week, we'll cover the basics and build your confidence using the pottery wheel (2.5-hour class per week). In the final session, we'll go through the glazing process so you can finish and take home your pieces.

The full course is \$330, which includes clay and a bisque firing.

Contact Paulina at: paulinat.ceramics@gmail.com



BEGINNERS —————
**Wheel throwing class
WITH PAULINA TAPIA**

Join a 6-week course designed for adult beginners (6 students max).

You'll learn the basics of wheel throwing in a relaxed environment.

Price \$330
Tools, clay and first bisque firing included.
Contact: paulinat.ceramics@gmail.com

6 CONSECUTIVE CLASSES ON
Wednesday evenings 6:00 - 8:30 pm
BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL!

Cairns Potters Club 28A Grove Street Cairns



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

January Clubhouse Calendar						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7 9:00 -12:00 Members Catch Up	8	9	10
11	12	13	14 9:00 -12:00 Members Catch Up	15	16	17
18	19	20	21 9:00 -12:00 Members Catch Up	22	23	24
25	26	27	28 9:00 -12:00 Members Catch Up	29	30	31

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.

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:	Christina George	0740532240	chrisg34@bigpond.net.au
Librarian:	Jacqi Thornborrow	0421954946	stormypud@gmail.com
Treasurer:	Mark Davis	0418155106	paladin_67@hotmail.com
Kiln Booking Officer:	Nigel Perera	0409459013	(Please Text for booking)
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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.		

Lone White

I have been working with clay and glazes since 1978, exploring a wide range of techniques – from primitive forming and firing methods to the use of modern materials and specialised firing schedules. Functional ware has never held much appeal for me. Instead, my work is inspired by the tropical environment and the impressions gained through extensive world travel.

Over the years, I have experimented with many glaze types, including bronze, crystalline, crawling and, more recently, chrome glazes. These have featured in my series of rainforest forms, and I am currently creating works inspired by ginger plants (*Etlingera*) and their flower blossoms. I am enjoying exploring these forms using vibrant, colourful glazes and continuing to have a great deal of fun in the process.





from

CAIRNS POTTERS CLUB INC

PO BOX 1470

CAIRNS QLD 4870

Website <https://cairnspottersclub.com>