



Cairns Potters Club Inc.

February 2026 Newsletter

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Clubhouse	28a Grove St Cairns 4870
Account	119552826 BSB: 633-000 Account Name: Cairns Potters Club Inc
President	Lone White / Phone contact 07 4053 7508
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Website	www.cairnspottersclub.com



Artwork by Catriona Smith

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PRESIDENT'S REPORT

It looks like 2026 is going to be a busy year for the Cairns Potters Club. We still do not have a date or venue for our **MELTING POT 2026 National Ceramics Exhibition**, but we hope to confirm this shortly. Our AGM will take place on **14 March** (see below), and several changes to club operations will be discussed and voted on that day, so we hope plenty of potters will attend. We are also still looking for potters to conduct children's classes, so please contact the club if you are interested.

NOTICE : Cairns Potters Club -Annual General Meeting

Saturday 14 March 2026 at 2pm

Please come to the AGM and support the Club. It will also be an opportunity to meet other members and share ideas about the future of the Club. You are, of course, more than welcome to nominate for a position on the Management Committee. Afternoon refreshments will be served.

AGENDA

APOLOGIES

MINUTES OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2025

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

TREASURER'S REPORT

AUDITOR'S REPORT

CALL FOR NOMINATION FOR COMMITTEE POSITIONS

APPOINTMENT OF AUDITOR

GENERAL BUSINESS.

List of Positions: PRESIDENT, VICE-PRESIDENT, SECRETARY, TREASURER, Publicity officer, Librarian, Kiln officer, Glaze officer , Clay officer, Maintenance Officer ,General Committee at least 3 (must be a financial member)

NOMINATION FOR 2026 COMMITTEE:

I hereby

Nominate

(please print)

For the position of

(please print)

My Nomination is seconded by

(please print)

Nominator Signature

Seconder Signature

Nominee Signature

PROXY FORM

(as stated in Constitution)

I of

Being a member of the abovementioned Club, hereby appoint

of or failing him

of as my proxy to vote for me on my behalf at the Annual General Meeting of the Club, to be held on the 14 March 2026

Or at any adjournment, therefore.

Signed day of 2026

Signature

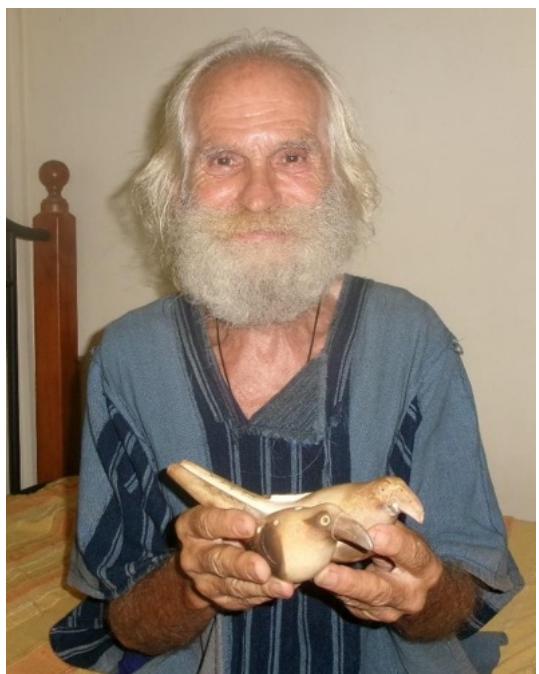
Nomination forms can also be picked up at the clubhouse. Being on the committee will give you a chance to have a say in how the club could be run.

LE SON DE LA TERRE

The Cairns Potters Club recently received a visit from the famous French potter and musician **Ivan Levasseur** on **Wednesday 7 and 14 January**. While he was here, he demonstrated how to make a small bird-sized flute in clay. Over the past 50 years, he has made hundreds of musical instruments in clay, including a violin, and these instruments have been used for musical performances in many countries.

Shown here is one of the bird flutes he made. After forming it, he covered it with an underglaze and then burnished it, and it is now ready for a cone 5 firing.

He also visited some of the potters from the Tablelands, where he shared his technique. Using some fired flutes (like the two bird flutes in the photo), he produced a wide range of sounds.



CLAY AND MATERIALS ORDER

The club has just sent an order to Picasso's Ceramics, so it will take a couple of weeks before we expect the transport company to deliver it. If any member would like to have clays or materials included in the club's February order, please send your order to lone@tpg.com.au.

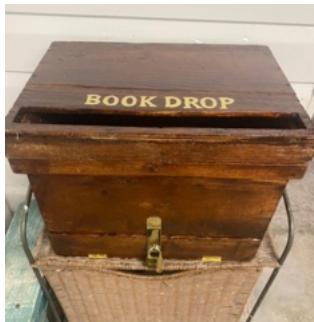
FOR SALE – CLAY!

Member Di Lennon is selling Keanes 7 clay. If you are interested, please contact Di directly at diannelennon1@gmail.com

MESSAGE FROM OUR LIBRARIAN

Hello All You Fabulous Potters,

Jacqi here, your Librarian, with some exciting news – the library will be opening very soon!



The big news is our fabulous new **Book Drop**, Yasu has kindly made a beautiful return box for us, so books can now be safely returned even when the library is closed. It's located in front of the library on the wicker stand. A huge thank you to Yasu from us all – you're a star! This will help us keep much better track of our books and stop them from wandering off.



There are a few rules you'll need to know:

- **Library opening times:**

Every Wednesday 10am–12pm, and every other Saturday 10am–12pm (unless advised otherwise by email due to unforeseen circumstances).

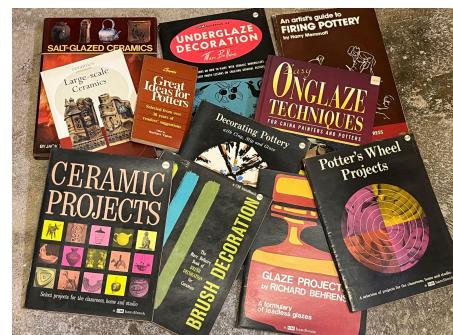
- Members may borrow up to **3 books total**.
- Only members with **current membership** may borrow.
- To borrow a book, please notify the Librarian so it can be recorded in the ledger – this is the only way books may be taken out. The Librarian may be in the library or on the potting floor.
- Books are loaned for **2 weeks**.
- Books may be returned directly to Jacqi or placed in the **Book Drop**.
- Books must be returned or renewed within 2 weeks.
- To renew, please email the Librarian with the book title and your club number: **stormypud@gmail.com**. You'll receive confirmation within 24 hours (if not, please email again).
- Books not returned or renewed within the fortnight will incur a **50c daily fine**. After one month, an additional charge equal to the book's replacement cost will apply. This is due to many books previously lost to the sands of time.

The library will be open from **Wednesday, February 18th**.

I look forward to seeing you all, and I hope you enjoy using the library.

PS. We have had these lovely potting books donated to our library. A huge thank you to our anonymous donator.

Thank you. Jacqi, your librarian



GLAZE REFLECTIONS by Carolyn Brumby

It was a warm afternoon to gather in the club, and there were many keen participants. This was a basic information session to help new members in, What makes a glaze, safety, reading a glaze recipe, some tips and a demonstration. Reflecting on the safety which was discussed, although glaze ingredient may contain some toxic items, once fired this changes and the end products should be food safe. Safe practices are washing hands before you eat, clean aprons, clothing regularly and stir the glaze with anything but your hand.



I was asked about the cost of making glazes. The clear glaze, 4321 for 3 litres is approximately \$15. All glaze cost will vary depending on the ingredients and the amounts in which you purchase the raw materials. But broadly speaking, commercial glazes will give a better finish if you are painting. Application for the glazes at the club are best if, dipped, poured, or sprayed.



Please don't waste the glazes and put all small amounts back in the correct bucket. If you are using the pouring method and catching the glaze into another container, I suggest you can place a tablespoon of water into the container, mix with leftover glaze contents and then pour back into the glaze bucket. Be mindful to add extra water very sparingly, so you don't upset the slurry balance. Finally, the clay you use must be able to be fired to stoneware, 1280*C. This is the best fit for the glaze as well as the glaze firing.

Next glaze talk: Sunday 15/02 3-4pm

FREE! maximum of 25 people.

Bookings: cairnspottersclub1@gmail.com



CLASSES AT THE CLUB

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

WORKSHOP
WHEEL
THROWING
with Carolyn Brumby

6 WEEK WORKSHOP
6PM - 8:30PM
Cairns Potters Club: 28A Grove St, Cairns North.

WORKSHOP OUTLINE :
For Beginners to Advanced / 6 Weeks
Duration / Max. No. 5 Students / Includes
1 Bag of clay, Starter Tool Kit & bisque firing
(glazes and glaze firing additional cost)

\$330 per person

PH: 04 1879 3260
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!**

February Clubhouse Calendar						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2 16:00-17:30 Monthly meeting	3 9:00-16:00 Private event	4 9:00 -12:00 Members Catch Up	5	6	7
	18:00-20:30 Carolyn's class	18:00-20:30 Carolyn's class				
8	9	10 9:00-16:00 Private event	11 9:00 -12:00 Members Catch Up	12	13	14
	18:00-20:30 Carolyn's class	18:00-20:30 Carolyn's class	18:00-20:30 Paulina's class			
15	16	17 9:00-16:00 Private event	18 9:00 -12:00 Members Catch Up	19	20	21
	15:00 Carolyn's glaze talk	18:00-20:30 Carolyn's class	18:00-20:30 Carolyn's class	18:00-20:30 Paulina's class		
22	23	24 9:00 -16:00 Private event	25 9:00 -12:00 Members Catch Up	26	27	28
	18:00-20:30 Carolyn's class	18:00-20:30 Carolyn's class	18:00-20:30 Paulina's class			

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)
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:	Gene Pratt		
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.		

Catriona Smith (aka emiRaven)

My arts practice explores many mediums, including photography, video, music, digital art, and ink drawing.

I'm guided by my curiosity as I draw inspiration from myth and mystery, solitude in nature, and the gentle presence of my ancestors.

Creating is a way for me to slow down and hear my inner world, engage in the present and seek answers to questions that may never be revealed. My artistic journey is deeply entwined with my quest for healing. By following my intuition and researching Ancient Nordic healing practices, animism and culture I've begun restoring roots that have withered through migration.

After two years working with clay, sculpture has become my primary medium. Its unique challenges and rich rewards have captivated me as each piece emerges through ritual and reflection. Creating pieces inspired by the past is my way to honour and embody the ancestral wisdom that continues to echo through time.



You can see more of my work at www.emiraven.com

Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/emi.raven/>





from

CAIRNS POTTERS CLUB INC

PO BOX 1470

CAIRNS QLD 4870

Website <https://cairnspottersclub.com>