



# Cairns Potters Club Inc.

## March 2026 Newsletter

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'Twenty Nine Pounds'  
Finalist in North Queensland Award 2024

**Caroline Walker-Grime**

*Please note: Opinions expressed or advertisements displayed by contributors to this Newsletter are not necessarily those of the Editor, Executive Officers or the Committee. Whilst every effort is made to publish accurate information, Cairns Potters Club inc. accepts no responsibility for statements made or opinions expressed.*

## **PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

It's been another busy month for the Cairns Potters Club, with many members attending Carolyn Brumby's informative lecture series, *Intro to Basic Glaze Facts*.

Our AGM will take place on Saturday 14 March 2026 at 2pm (see below). Please make every effort to attend and support the meeting, helping to ensure the continued success and future of our club.

Planning is also underway for our 17th Biennial National Ceramics Exhibition, *MELTING POT 2026*, which will be held at the Cairns Art Gallery from 10 October to 5 December 2026. Make sure you're busy creating exciting new work for both the Cairns Show and *MELTING POT 2026*.

## **NOTICE : Cairns Potters Club -Annual General Meeting**

**Saturday 14 March 2026 at 2pm**

All members are encouraged to attend and support the Club. The AGM is a great opportunity to connect with fellow members and contribute ideas for the Club's future.

Nominations are invited for all Management Committee positions.  
Afternoon refreshments will be served.

### **Agenda**

Apologies  
Minutes of the 2025 AGM  
President's Report  
Treasurer's Report  
Auditor's Report  
Call for Nominations  
Appointment of Auditor  
General Business

### **Positions Vacant**

President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, Publicity Officer, Librarian, Newsletter Officer, Kiln Officer, Glaze Officer, Clay Officer, Maintenance Officer, and General Committee Members (minimum three – must be financial members).

## **CLAY AND MATERIALS ORDER**

Finally, the Club's order from Picasso's Ceramics is on its way to Cairns. Members will be notified once the shipment has been delivered to the clubhouse.

Another order will be placed towards the end of March. If you would like to include items, please email your order to [lone@tpg.com.au](mailto:lone@tpg.com.au)

## RAKU FIRING - Saturday 18 April

A Raku firing day for members is planned for **Saturday 18 April 2026**, starting at 10am and continuing until all pots are fired.

Now is the time to start preparing work for this event. Each piece must be no larger than approximately 20cm x 20cm.

If you plan to fire your own bisque ware, please ensure it is suitable for Raku firing. Raku is a rapid process in which the kiln heats from room temperature to approximately 1000°C in under an hour. The glowing pots are then removed and placed into sawdust and paper for reduction, or left to cool in oxidation. Work should be made with an even wall thickness to minimise the risk of cracking or exploding in the kiln.

Information about Raku glazes will be shared in the next newsletter edition.

Firing fees and glaze costs apply.

## MUG EXCHANGE DAY! - you're invited!

Cairns Potters Club members are invited to join our fun Mug Exchange on 18 April 2026

Here's how it works:

**1 - Drop off\* your handmade, food-safe mug (max 15cm x 15cm x 15cm)**

\*Drop off on Sat or Wed morning when the officers are on site before the event. Or on the day of AGM

**2 - We'll pack it up and randomly assign it.**

**3 - Receive a surprise mug made by a fellow potter on Raku Day!**

To participate, just make sure you're a club member and bring your mug along before the event.

It's a great way to share your work and take home a unique handmade piece!



**CAIRNS POTTERS CLUB** **Mug Exchange Day!** **CAIRNS POTTERS CLUB**  
First Time Running....

**Cost: FREE**  
for members

**Date of Event**  
**18 APR 2026**

**Step 1**  
Drop off your mug.

**Step 2**  
Your mug is packed up and randomly assigned.

**Step 3**  
Get a fellow potter's mug.

**What do you need to do to participate?**

- ✓ Need to be club member
- ✓ Need to make a food safe mug\* (stoneware fired so it is dishwasher and microwave safe)
- ✓ Needs to be no bigger than 15 cm x 15 cm x 15 cm - we need to be able to pack to randomly assign and surprise people!
- ✓ **Drop off your mug between Wed 09:00 -12:00 or Sat 9:00-11:00 before 14 March 2026 or on this day between 14:00-15:00**
- ✓ Pick up your randomly assigned mug on Raku Day (18 Apr 2026)

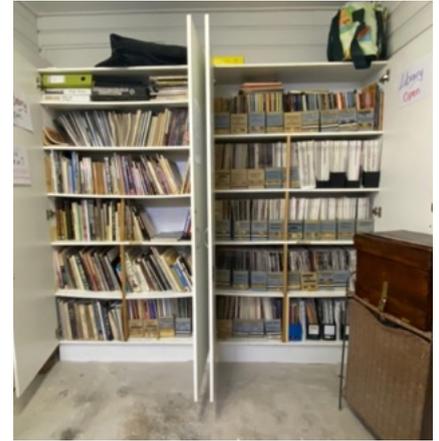
\*Food, microwave & dishwasher safety - Please ensure you do a hot water test, if club fired your pieces will be vitrified and all club glazes are food safe if in doubt please ask or see - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=X92YET0IVc>

**What is a mug?** As long as its within the 15x15x15 cm dimensions and can hold tea/coffee it qualifies, handle, no handle, colour, theme, clay, glaze as long as food safe up to you!

**Give a Mug, Get a Mug ❤️!**

## CAIRNS POTTERS CLUB LIBRARY RULES

- **Opening hours:** Every Wednesday 10am–12pm and every second Saturday 10am–12pm, unless otherwise advised by email due to unforeseen circumstances.
- Members may borrow **up to three books at a time**.
- Only current financial members may borrow.
- Once you have chosen a book, you must notify the Librarian so it can be recorded in the ledger. This is the only way books may be borrowed. The Librarian will be in the library area or on the potting floor.
- Loans are for **one month**.
- Books must be returned at the end of the loan period or renewed.
- Returns can be made directly to Jacqi or placed in the Book Drop box.
- To renew, email the Librarian at **stormypud@gmail.com** with the book title and your membership number. A confirmation will be sent within 24 hours. If you do not receive a reply, please email again.



**Overdue books:** A fine of \$1 per day applies to books not returned or renewed on time. After one additional month, the replacement cost of the book will also be charged. Members with outstanding fines will be invoiced and unable to borrow until payment is made.

## Studio Equipment for Sale

Hello Potters, For health reasons, I am reluctantly retiring from my ceramics practice. I have decided to sell my studio equipment including kiln, pottery wheel, and numerous other tools and materials. If you're interested, please let me know either by email or phone. I can send you a list of items for sale. Yours in clay,

Anne  
0408 789 108  
annejillett@gmail.com

## WORKSHOP

Pottery is a never ending development of skills and knowledge. This afternoon workshop is for people who throw but can want to go the next step and learn how to upskill to finish their creations. How to pull a handle and attach to be functional as well as finish the aesthetics of the pot. What about those knobs on a lid to lift it off and lugs to put on many items. Finally you will learn about the dynamics of jugs and the process to turn without disturbing the spout. Numbers will be limited.

Contact Carolyn at: [carolyn.brummy@gmail.com](mailto:carolyn.brummy@gmail.com)

**Going the Next Step**  
With Carolyn Brumby

Sunday 15th of March  
12:30pm to 4:30pm  
\$120  
28A Groves St  
Parramatta Park  
Bring your own clay and tools

*This workshop is for people who can throw but want to go the next step to finish their creations.*

*Pulling handles, attaching knobs and lugs, and the dynamics of jugs.*

CAIRNS POTTERS CLUB  
Phone: 0418 793 260  
[carolyn.brummy@gmail.com](mailto:carolyn.brummy@gmail.com)

## CLASSES AT THE CLUB

### 6 Week wheel throwing workshop - Carolyn Brumby

**Monday & Tuesday evenings in February**

**Start 20/04/26 and 21/04/26**

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](mailto: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: March**

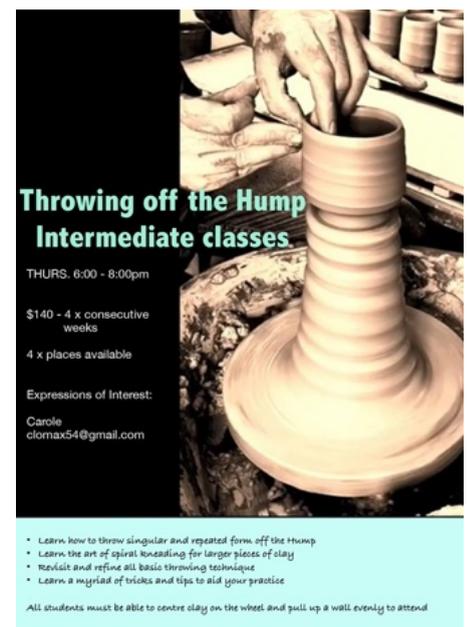
These intermediate wheel throwing classes offer an opportunity to deepen your relationship with the clay and refine the quiet skills that come with practice. The start date will be confirmed once sufficient expressions of interest have been received.

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 total 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](mailto: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](mailto: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 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

## Wheel throwing classes - *Paulina Tapia*

**Start date: March 25**

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](mailto: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 wheelthrowing in a relaxed environment.

Price \$330  
Tools, clay and first bisque firing included.

Contact:  
[paulinat.ceramics@gmail.com](mailto:paulinat.ceramics@gmail.com)

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

**BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL!**

Cairns Potters club 28A Grove Street Cairns

## Hand building classes - *Paulina Tapia*

**Start date: mid May**

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 and bisque firing included. Additional clay can be purchased from the Potters Club. Glazes, and glaze firing are at an additional cost and will be discussed during class. Price \$330.

**Contact Paulina at: [paulinat.ceramics@gmail.com](mailto: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](mailto:paulinat.ceramics@gmail.com)

Cairns Potters club 28A Grove Street Cairns

## Exhibition Opening - *Of This Earth* - **March 13, 2026**

The Board of the Cairns Art Gallery and the Director, Angela Goddard, invite you to celebrate the opening of *Of This Earth: Transforming Culture and Country Through First Nations Ceramics* With *Welcome to Country* by Professor Henrietta Fourmile-Marrie AM, Gimuy Walubara Yidinji, and guest speaker Tina Baum, Gulumirrgin (Larrakia)/Wardaman/Karajarri Head Curator, First Nations Art National Gallery of Australia.

6pm(for 6.30pm start) – 8pm

A cash bar and refreshments will be available.

Free event. RSVP essential for catering purposes.



## EXHIBITION - Eye Spy – Fisheyes

14 February – 11 April 2026 NorthSite Contemporary Arts

Whilst browsing through the remarkable reference book *Swainston's Fishes of Australia*, the artist became captivated by the extraordinary diversity, colour, and intricate structures found within the eyes of Australian fish species.

With plate sizes varying from 8.5 cm, 13 cm, and 16 cm, the collection offers an intimate yet expansive window into the marine world—one that bridges human creativity with the natural order of species, environments, and ecological interdependence.



Gabrielle Cooney is a ceramicist known for hand-built, textural, raw clay works. She creates quirky character bowls, sculptural egg- and pod-like forms, and rough-hewn vessels that celebrate imperfection and the tactile qualities of clay. She works under the label Flintstone Designs, a name that reflects her earthy, rugged aesthetic.

## Remembering George Crozier

(June 1973 - January 2026)

George joined the pottery club several years ago and approached his work with a clear vision. Even when faced with challenges, he would quietly research and persevere until he felt he had achieved what he had set out to do. He was an artist with strong conviction, yet gentle and modest in manner.

His interest in colour is something many of us will remember. He often asked thoughtful questions about subtle differences in tone and finish, and it was evident that he cared deeply about getting things right. He took genuine pleasure in his work and valued each piece he created.



We attended the memorial exhibition organised by a fellow potter and friend, Andrea and others in his honour, where we learnt that George had produced many paintings as well. We had only known him as a potter. In his paintings, as in his ceramics, his sense of vision is clear. The careful brushwork suggests patience and quiet dedication.

We have lost an artist full of curiosity and talent. We only wish we could have seen more of the work he would have gone on to create. He will be remembered through the work he leaves behind.

The exhibition continues until Thursday, 5 March at Crete 59 (59 Sheridan St, Cairns City). Admission is free.



## CLUB MEMBERS REGULAR CATCH-UPS EVERY WEDNESDAY!

March Clubhouse Calendar						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3 9:00 -16:00 Private event	4 9:00 -12:00 Members Catch Up	5	6	7
	16:00-17:30 Monthly meeting 18:00-20:30 Carolyn's class	18:00-20:30 Carolyn's class	18:00-20:30 Paulina's class			
8	9	10 9:00 -16:00 Private event	11 9:00 -12:00 Members Catch Up	12	13	14 14:00 AGM
	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
12:30-16:30 Carolyn's workshop	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			
29	30	31 9:00 -16:00 Private event				
	18:00-20:30 Carolyn's class	18:00-20:30 Carolyn'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	cairnpottersclub1@gmail.com
Minute Secretary:	Christina George	0740532240	chrsg34@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, Garry Sanders		
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.		

## Caroline Walker-Grime

After graduating with an MA Fine Art Printmaking in the UK, I developed an interest in ceramics, and have been making pottery for some 30 years. I moved to Australia 20 years ago and have exhibited my work nationally in solo and group shows. I have been a finalist in ceramic awards in the Gold Coast, Far North Queensland Ceramic Awards and Melting Pot, Cairns!

My current work is influenced by the verdant surroundings and hills of my Port Douglas rainforest home. I was particularly affected by cyclone Jasper and its chaos. Over a number of years I have also made a number of pieces about family history and the death of a loved one using porcelain and photographic decals, drawing on my printmaking background.

I am an enthusiastic member of Port Douglas Artists and have recently joined Cairns Potters with the hope of making fellow potter friendships.



Insta: walkergrimepots

FB: Caroline Walker-Grime Ceramics

[www.cwgceramics.com.au](http://www.cwgceramics.com.au)





from

CAIRNS POTTERS CLUB INC

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CAIRNS QLD 4870

**Website** <https://cairnpottersclub.com>