



Cairns Potters Club Inc.

July 2026 Newsletter

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Rae Delai

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PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Once again, it has been another busy month at the Cairns Potters Club. Our membership continues to grow and is now sitting at around 260 members, which really shows just how popular pottery has become.

The Cairns Regional Council has requested that we carry out some restoration work on the clubhouse. As a result, you can expect to see carpenters and other tradespeople on the premises over the next couple of months while these works are being completed.

CLAY AND MATERIALS ORDER

We have just received one tonne of clay from Walkers Ceramics (Walkers 10 and Walkers SES). If you need either of these clays, they are available for purchase at the club on Saturdays from 9:00 am to 11:00 am. Be quick though—we sold out within two weeks last time!

Our latest order from Picasso Ceramics left Brisbane today, so we're hoping it will arrive early next week.

If you would like to order clay, materials or other supplies from Picasso Ceramics, please email your order to lone@tpg.com.au.

NEW MEMBERS INDUCTION SESSION

A new members induction session will be held every **Saturday from 9:00am to 11:00am**. Members who are coming in to purchase clay and require an induction can attend during this time. If you are a new member needing access to club facilities, please make use of this session.

LIBRARY

Hello my fellow potters, your Librarian here.

The library has some great books on glazes. Those who went to the glaze talk might like to take a look and borrow one or two. As a nice follow on from the fabulous talk Carolyn did. Thank you Carolyn from us all.

Just to remind you all the library is open every Wednesday and every other Saturday. Books can also be dropped off in the "Book Drop" box allocated by the library. Enjoy our great range of books. There is a mine of information in the journals to be explored too.

Cheers all

Jacqi, your Librarian.

RETURN OF BORROWED ITEMS

A friendly reminder to members to **please return any club items you may have borrowed**. At the moment, we are still missing a few items, including thermocouples, **a spray gun bottle, and some batts**.

As a volunteer-run club, we all share responsibility for looking after our equipment and facilities so everyone can continue to enjoy and benefit from them. If you have any borrowed items at home, please return them to the clubhouse as soon as possible—no questions asked. Your cooperation is greatly appreciated.





The Cairns Potters Club and the Visual Arts Association are once again coordinating the Visual Arts Display at the Cairns Show. We hope you have entered one or more pieces in the 3-Dimensional section.

Delivery of exhibits

Wednesday 8 July, 12:00 pm – 6:00 pm
Visual Arts Hall

If you have any problems delivering your artwork during these times, please contact Lone White on 4053 7508 or Christina George on 4053 2240. Alternative arrangements can be made for earlier drop-off.

Collection of exhibits

Saturday 18 July, 9:00 am – 12:00 pm

If you are unable to collect your work on this day, please contact Lone to arrange another collection time.

As mentioned previously, members are also welcome to sell their pottery during the Show. The process is the same as for the Mother's Day Market. Please prepare a list of the items you wish to sell and label each piece with your initials, an item number and the sale price. The club will retain a 20% commission on all sales.

Pots for sale should be delivered to the Visual Arts Hall at the Showgrounds on Wednesday 8 July between 12:00 pm and 6:00 pm, and collected on Saturday 18 July between 9:00 am and 12:00 pm.

We are also looking for members who are willing to volunteer for a shift during the exhibition. There are four shifts each day:

- **Wednesday 15 July:** 9:00 am – 12:00 pm, 12:00 pm – 3:00 pm, 3:00 pm – 6:00 pm, 6:00 pm – 9:00 pm
- **Thursday 16 July:** 9:00 am – 12:00 pm, 12:00 pm – 3:00 pm, 3:00 pm – 6:00 pm, 6:00 pm – 9:00 pm
- **Friday 17 July:** 9:00 am – 12:00 pm, 12:00 pm – 3:00 pm, 3:00 pm – 6:00 pm, 6:00 pm – 9:00 pm

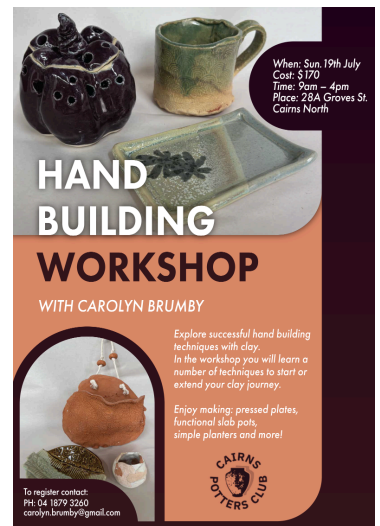
Volunteers receive free entry to the Show on the day of their shift, and refreshments will be provided. We have two people rostered for each shift.

If you are interested in helping, please contact Lone on 4053 7508 or email lone@tpg.com.au.

CLASSES AND WORKSHOPS AT THE CLUB

Hand Building Workshop 19 th July

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. These skills 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.



When: Sun. 19th July
Cost: \$170
Time: 9am - 4pm
Place: 28A Groves St. Cairns North

HAND BUILDING WORKSHOP

WITH CAROLYN BRUMBY

Explore successful hand building techniques with clay. In the workshop you will learn a number of techniques to start or extend your clay journey.

Enjoy making: pressed plates, functional slab pots, simple planters and more!

To register contact:
PH: 04 1879 3260
carolyn.brumby@gmail.com

CAIRNS POTTERS CLUB

6 Week wheel throwing workshop - Carolyn Brumby

Monday & Tuesday evenings

Next available date: 5th and 6th October

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

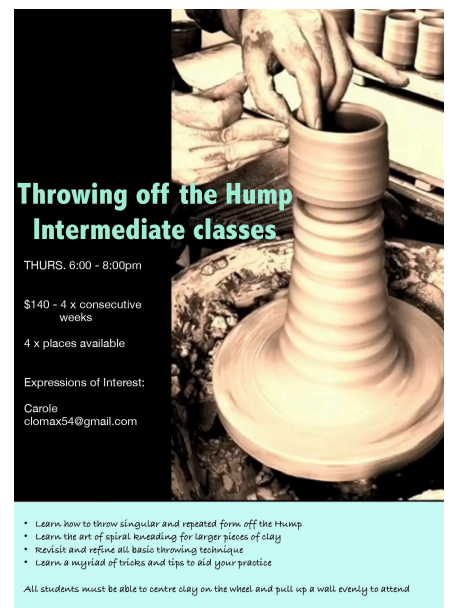
PH: 04 1879 3260
CAROLYN.BRUMBY@GMAIL.COM

Intermediate Wheel Throwing Classes - Carole Lomax (Members Only)

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: **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 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*

Next class available: August 19

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. Glaze firing and cost will be discussed in class.

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 wheelthrowing 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

Handbuilding classes - *Paulina Tapia*

Next class: Mid September

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.

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



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

CLUBHOUSE CALENDAR

July Clubhouse Calendar						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 9:00 -12:00 Members Catch Up 18:00-20:30 Paulina's class	2	3	4
5	6 16:00-17:30 Monthly meeting	7 9:00 -16:00 Private event	8 9:00 -12:00 Members Catch Up 12:00 - 18:00 Delivery of Artworks - Cairns Show 18:00-20:30 Paulina's class	9	10	11
12	13	14 9:00 -16:00 Private event	15 9:00 -12:00 Members Catch Up CAINS SHOW	16	17	18 09:00 - 12:00 Collection of Artworks - Cairns Show
	18:00-20:30 Carolyn's class	18:00-20:30 Carolyn's class	18:00-20:30 Paulina's class			
19 12:30-16:30 Carolyn's workshop	20	21 9:00 -16:00 Private event	22 9:00 -12:00 Members Catch Up	23	24	25
	18:00-20:30 Carolyn's class	18:00-20:30 Carolyn's class	18:00-20:30 Paulina's class			
26	27	28 9:00 -16:00 Private event	29 9:00 -12:00 Members Catch Up	30	31	
	18:00-20:30 Carolyn's class	18:00-20:30 Carolyn's class	18:00-20:30 Paulina's class			

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.

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

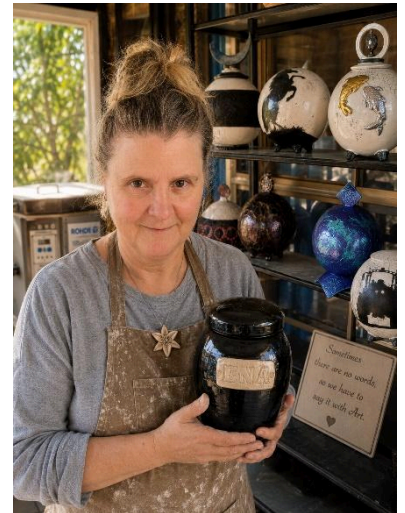
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Website Manager:	Leigh Harder	0401520413	leighharder07@gmail.com
General Committee Members: Neil King and Masae Igawishi (Social firing team), Carole Lomax, Hedy Verlust.			

Rae Delai

My love affair with clay began in 2009 when I attended a beginner's pottery class with the wonderful Mecki Kracke. With a lot of guidance, my first wonky pot was born and so too my obsession.

In 2014, my 87-year-old Aunty Ena asked me to make a cremation urn for her ashes. She wanted her ashes in the urn to be thrown from the top of the Gillies Range when the time came. That single request changed the direction of my pottery forever and led me into the world of memorial ceramics.

Today I specialise in creating custom and off the shelf cremation urns through my business, White Lily Urns. I sell through my website, whitelilyurns.com.au, and my Etsy shop, Cloud8Workshop. My work has found homes with families throughout Australia and overseas.



My greatest strength as a potter is also my greatest weakness: I can't make the same thing twice. Production pottery and matching dinner sets are definitely out of my wheelhouse. I will do almost anything to get a nice pot, for example staying up until 2am firing a gas kiln or hand-mixing a batch of slip for six hours after the mixer motor goes up in flames.

I use a combination of hand building, slip casting with vintage moulds and a little wheel work to create meaningful pieces for families. I love colour and use a lot of underglazes, boldly coloured glazes, lustres and actual photographs. I also have a fascination with orbs and spheres. To me they represent strength, completeness and the idea of something that has no end, making them especially meaningful forms for memorial art.

My greatest pottery love is Raku firing. I never tire of the excitement, smoke and unpredictability of opening a reduction bin. Fortunately, Raku is perfectly suited to memorial urns.

I create urns for both people and pets—because pets are people too. My favourite saying is, *"Sometimes there are no words, so we have to say it with Art."* That belief guides everything I make.

When I'm not creating memorial pieces, I enjoy making "fun stuff"; spoon rests, vases and planters; which I sell at the wonderful Cairns Potters Club Markets. My "Cloud 8 Workshop" under my house is my happy place and I am so blessed to be able to spend my days doing what I love.



