



Cairns Potters Club Inc.

September 2026 Newsletter

ABN	60 623 179 734
Postal Address	PO Box 1470, Cairns QLD 4870
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
Email	cairnpottersclub1@gmail.com
Website	www.cairnpottersclub.com



Marg Lilley

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PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Again, a very busy month for the Cairns Potters Club. We are still working on the building renovations the Cairns Regional Council has asked us to do in order for us to keep leasing the place. The Open Weekend was a great success (See page 3) and our next big event will be our Bi-annual National Ceramics exhibition, MELTING POT 2026, which will open at 6 pm on 9 October at the Cairns Art Gallery, so hopefully you are all busy making one or two ceramic artworks for the exhibition – closing date for entries 20 September 2026.

We have also organised two workshops in October – one by our judge Chris Harford (See page 5). He is a very talented potter and will over the weekend 10-11 October at TAFE, be demonstrating various wheel-throwing techniques. His wife, Cathy Franzi, also a very great potter, will be doing a one-day workshop on Ceramic Surface – Textural Imagery on Thursday 8 October at the clubhouse; however, that workshop is already full.

Melting Pot National Ceramics Exhibition 2026

Over the years, the Melting Pot National Ceramics Exhibition has highlighted current developments, trends and directions in ceramics Australia wide.

Entries are now open for Melting Pot 2026. Entries can be submitted online or by completing the official entry form. <https://cairnpottersclub.com/melting-pot-2026/>

Closing date: Sunday, 20 September 2026

For postal entries, completed entry forms must be received by the closing date at:

Cairns Potters Club Inc.
PO Box 1470
Cairns QLD 4870

Entry forms are available from the club website, clubhouse or by contacting Lone White:

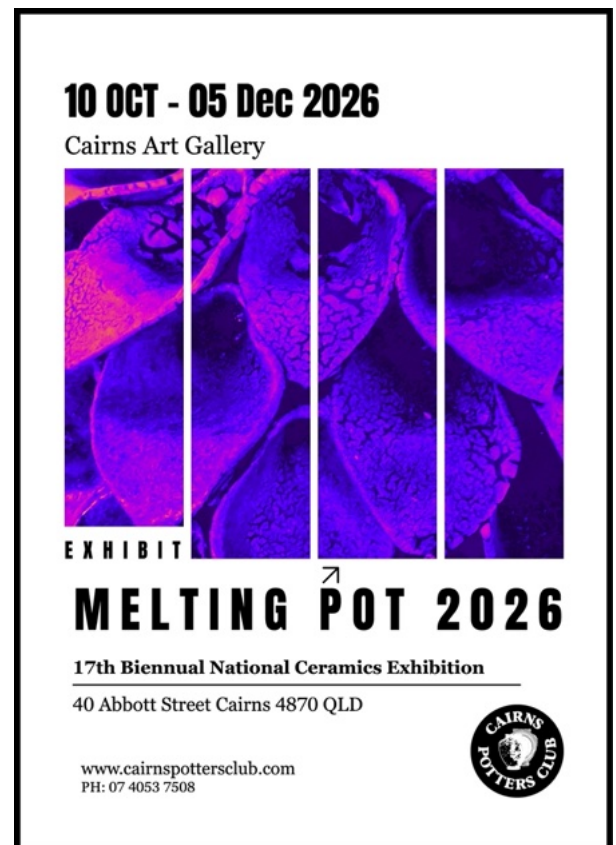
Tel: 07 4053 7508 / Email: lone@tpg.com.au

Please note that the entry fee must also be paid by 20 September 2026.

Payment details:

Cairns Potters Club Inc.

BSB: 633-000 Account Number: 119552826 Description: Melting Pot 2026 (If the sender is different from the entrant, please put the entrant's name in description)



OPEN WEEKEND (8th and 9th AUG)

For many years, the Cairns Potters Club has opened its doors to the public over one weekend in August, so they would get a chance to see what we do and what we can offer them classes, etc., or perhaps buy a pot or two, as some members attending did bring some pots for sale.

This year's "Open weekend" was well attended by visitors interested in pottery.

During the weekend, club members did some wheel throwing demonstrations and helped aspiring potters make their first pots.

During the raku firings over the weekend, both members and visitors got a chance to glaze and fire some pots.

Thank you to all the volunteers who supported this event!



CLAY AND MATERIALS ORDER

The Club received our order of 1 tonne of clay from Walker's Ceramics just last week and already more than half of it is sold (Walkers 10 and PB103) so another order is on the way to Cairns this one will also include some Walkers SES clays.

Our August order for Picasso's ceramics is finally on the way to Cairns – there have been problems getting some of Keanes clays. The next order to Picasso's Ceramics will go in towards the end of this month, so if you want to order some special clays or materials, please send an email to lone@tpg.com.au as soon as possible with your membership number.

Please ensure you specify the unit, quantity, and brand as clearly and specifically as possible when placing your order. This helps Picasso's accurately identify your items and speeds up the packing process.

Once your order is received, Lone will send you an acknowledgement confirming that it has been received. All orders are then consolidated and forwarded to the supplier for processing. Please allow approximately 3 – 4 weeks for orders to arrive. Once your order is on its way, Lone will send you an invoice as confirmation that your order is arriving. Payment required before collection.

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.

Renewed members who may not be familiar with using the clubhouse are warmly encouraged to attend this session. Even if you simply have questions or need some guidance, please feel free to come along—we're happy to help!

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 bat-mate (blue) , a spray gun set, and some batts.**

As a volunteer-run club, we all share responsibility for looking after our tools, 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.

CLEANLINESS OF THE CLUBHOUSE

As the clubhouse is a shared space for all members, we kindly ask everyone to take a moment to clean up after themselves and leave the space ready for the next person.

This includes anything you have used or areas you may have made messy, such as tools, pottery wheels, floors and tables, the kitchen, spray guns and its booth, and the glaze room. We often find clay slip and trimmings left around the pottery wheels, so please remember to give the area a good clean once you have finished. Please ensure to use clean clothes or sponges. (Extra cleaning tools are stored in the toilet.)

The clubhouse is run by volunteers who generously give their time to keep things running, but they are not cleaners. A little consideration from each of us makes a big difference and helps keep the clubhouse a pleasant and comfortable space for everyone.

Thank you for doing your part and helping us look after our shared space.

CLUBHOUSE CALENDER

Please check the Clubhouse calendar in this newsletter each month (see page 8). If a workshop, program, or other activity is scheduled, we kindly ask that you refrain from using the clubhouse during that time so the session can run smoothly. Thank you for your understanding and cooperation!

Just a little note: this does not apply to kiln checks and our regular members' gatherings on Wednesdays and Thursdays. These will continue as usual, and all members welcome!

CLASSES AND WORKSHOPS

Special Workshop : Chris Hartford Demo Workshop at TAFE FNQ CAMPUS



CHRIS HARFORD | DEMO WORKSHOP
SAT 10 & SUN 11 OCT 2026
2-DAY PROGRAM | 9AM-4PM

VENUE | TAFE CAIRNS
\$140 PER PERSON
limited availability

The Cairns Potters Club is pleased to present a two-day **Throwing Skills Demonstration Workshop** with visiting renowned ceramic artist **Chris Hartford**

Booking & Inquiry : cairnspottersclub1@gmail.com

PROGRAM SCHEDULE

Day 1
Core Throwing Techniques
Chris will focus on the foundations of throwing, demonstrating the making of cylinders, mugs, bowls, plates and teapot forms. As well as the creation of bodies and lids, and the use of batts.

Day 2
Advanced Form & Finish
Chris will introduce more complex techniques such as throwing vases and bottles, pulling and attaching handles, crafting hand-built handles, trimming, fitting lids, working with chucks, and completing refined finishing work.

www.chrishartfordtableware.com

Date : 10 OCT & 11 OCT 9 am - 4 pm

Cost : \$140.00** per person for 2 days

Booking & Inquiry :

cairnspottersclub1@gmail.com

Payment details:

Cairns Potters Club Inc.

BSB: 633-000

Account Number: 119552826

Description: Chris Hartford WS (If the sender is different from the participant, please put the participant's name in description)

(**Non refundable after 10 Sep 2026)

School Holiday Children Workshops

Let's be creative!

Date 21 Sep (Mon) / 25 Sep (Fri) / 28 Sep (Mon) / 2 Oct (Fri)

Time 9:00 am - 12:00 pm

Cost \$35.00 per child, per session
(Include Clay and Bisque firing (Glaze firing extra))

Venue Cairns Potters Club 28A Grove St. Cairns

Limited spots available

Contact Catherine at cjmusso@bigpond.com / 0427 735 401



SCHOOL HOLIDAY POTTERY WORKSHOPS
Monday & Fridays
9 - 12 am
Cairns Pottery Club

Creative Workshops
Interactive Learning New Friends & Great Memories

Limited Slots Available!

Registration: Call Catherine 0427 735 401 or email cjmusso@bigpond.com

Intermediate Wheel Throwing Classes - *Carole Lomax*

Thursday evenings

Next class: to be advised

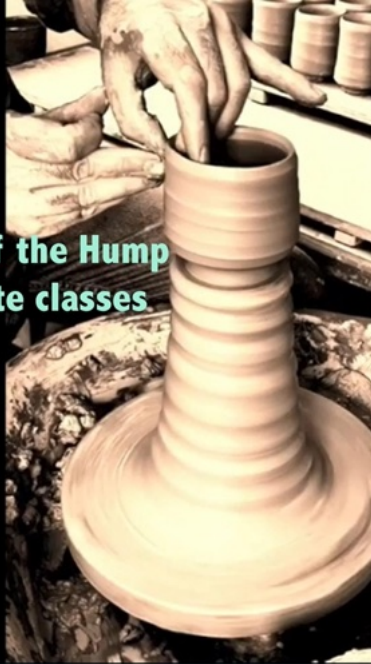
These intermediate wheel throwing classes offer an opportunity to deepen your relationship with the clay and refine the quiet skills that come with practice. The start date will be confirmed once sufficient expressions of interest have been received.

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



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: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 - *Carolyn Brumby*

Monday & Tuesday evenings

Next 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

 CAIRNS POTTERS CLUB

 **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

Wheel throwing classes - *Paulina Tapia*

Next class: to be advised

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: to be advised

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, 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

September Clubhouse Calendar						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 Power Out (daytime) 9:00-16:00 Private Event	2 - 9:00 -12:00 Member Catch Up - 18:00- 20:30 Paulina's Class	3 - 9:00 -12:00 Member Catch Up	4	5
6	7 16:00-17:30 Committee Meeting	8 9:00-16:00 Private Event	9 - 9:00 -12:00 Member Catch Up - 18:00- 20:30 Paulina's Class	10 - 9:00 -12:00 Member Catch Up	11	12
13	14	15 9:00-16:00 Private Event	16 - 9:00 -12:00 Member Catch Up - 18:00- 20:30 Paulina's Class	17 - 9:00 -12:00 Member Catch Up	18	19
20 MELTING POT ENTRY DEADLINE	21 9:00-12:00 School Holiday Kids Program	22 9:00-16:00 Private Event	23 - 9:00 -12:00 Member Catch Up - 18:00- 20:30 Paulina's Class	24 - 9:00 -12:00 Member Catch Up	25 9:00-12:00 School Holiday Kids Program	26
27	28 9:00-12:00 School Holiday Kids Program	29 9:00-16:00 Private Event	30 - 9:00 -12:00 Member Catch Up - 18:00- 20:30 Paulina's Class	1-Oct - 9:00 -12:00 Member Catch Up	2-Oct 9:00-12:00 School Holiday Kids Program	

CLUB MEMBERS REGULAR CATCH-UPS EVERY WEDNESDAY and THURSDAY!

Let's catch up! Join us on Wednesdays and Thursdays 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	chrisg34@bigpond.net.au
Treasurer:	Mark Davis	0418155106	paladin_67@hotmail.com
Glaze Officer:	Carolyn Brumby	0418793260	carolyn.brumby@gmail.com
Clay Officer:	Di Sant	0419657553	disantart@gmail.com
Kiln Booking Officer:	Nigel Perera	0409459013	(Please text for booking)
Maintenance Officer:	Garry Sanders	04 5930 5439	garrysanders16@gmail.com
Librarian:	Jacqi Thornborrow	0421954946	stormypud@gmail.com
Newsletter Officer:	Paulina Tapia	0475725686	paulina.tcab@gmail.com
Publicity Officer:	Samantha Lam	0406780967	sammart852@gmail.com
Website Manager:	Leigh Harder	0401520413	leighharder07@gmail.com
General Committee Members:	Neil King and Masae Iwagishi (Social firing team), Carole Lomax, Hedy Verhulst		

Marg Lilley

I completed a degree in ceramics many years ago at Latrobe University in Bendigo. I subsequently had little to do with ceramics until I moved to Cairns. I then joined the excellent, now defunct, open studio programme at Cairns TAFE.

I have since moved to the Cairns Potters Club, an amazing local institution which has fostered community involvement and inclusion for decades.

I practice hand building, having finally accepted I'm not really interested in the wheel! I'm strongly influenced by Ancient Greek and Italian pottery, which is evident through my work.



