



Cairns Potters Club

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MAY 2020 NEWSLETTER



Miss Ivy. by Felicity Bury @ Kettle Black Pottery

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A WORD FROM OUR PRESIDENT

The Cairns Potters Club is still in lock down. According to Cairns Regional Council we are not able to use our club premises. However, it sounds like the government will allow some relaxation in the conditions, but they will take place slowly. We will just have to wait and see what happens.

As potters, we are so lucky that we still can create works from home, and some of us now have much more time to explore and experiment with shapes, textures, etc. When we are again allowed to use the club facilities, I expect that our kilns will be in big demand for firings of all the works our members have produced at home! Further in the newsletter you will see some photos submitted by our members of their Isolation Artwork!

As you all know, we were not allowed to get clay and other materials delivered to the clubhouse, so it will continue to be delivered to my house, where members can pick up their order from a safe distance. The previous order of a tonne of clay and materials went very quickly, there is not one bag of clay left! I have sent in another order for a tonne of clays and materials, which I understand has left Brisbane. I hope it will arrive in Cairns shortly so you can all keep potting!

Please call me 4053 7508 if you would like to purchase clay. See page 6 for our current list of materials, and how to pay for your order.

When the clay order arrives, I will send out invoices to the potters who have ordered clay.

Please note that we are only allowed to sell to our current financial members due to insurance conditions.

Any announcements regarding the clubhouse opening will be sent out via email, and also uploaded to the website and Facebook pages. Keep an eye out!

*Kind regards,
Lone White.*

INSURANCE REQUIREMENTS

When you come to the Clubhouse you MUST sign IN and OUT in the book next to the entrance. Students attending classes must also have their names entered in the book, however the teacher running the class is responsible for doing this. It is an insurance requirement. Please take a moment when you next arrive to locate the book and fill it out when you arrive and leave.

TO HELP STOP THE SPREAD OF CORONAVIRUS, OUR CLUBHOUSE IS TEMPORARILY CLOSED.

For more information about **Coronavirus (COVID-19)** visit **health.gov.au**

HELP
STOP THE
SPREAD
AND STAY HEALTHY

Based on the updated travel and social gathering restrictions imposed by the Australian Government at midnight 25 March 2020, as well as examining the safety concerns for our members, we, the Management Committee of the Cairns Potters Club have been advised today to suspend access to the Cairns Potters Clubhouse **EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY**, for an indefinite period.

The padlock to the clubhouse doors will be changed and your keys will no longer work.

Clay orders will be **unavailable** for collection.

Thank you for your understanding during this challenging time and we sincerely apologise for the inconvenience this short notice will undoubtedly create. We wish all the best to our wonderful pottery community.

Contact us if you have any further enquiries:
cairnspottersclub1@gmail.com



ISOLATION WORKS

We requested our members send in photos of clay pieces they are working on from home during the Covid-19 lockdown. Here are the photos so far. Please send your photos to cairnsottersclub1@gmail.com for display in next month's newsletter.



At home Barrel Firing by Geoff Riley.

The two darker pots had Ferric Chloride poured over them, then wrapped in kitchen foil with copper carbonate, seaweed, and natural sponge soaked in brine solution. The other three pots had corn husks, banana skins and seaweed tied onto them with twine, placed in the barrel with salt & copper sulphate (Bluestone) around them.



'Beings from the Deep'

Magda Palmer, has just joined the Cairns Potters club and never played with clay before. "Then I was gifted an ice-cream container full of Paper Clay along with a lesson to make more, and glazing. I'd never considered modelling in clay before. This was brilliant, it gave necessary vent to my artistic nature and my finished work didn't need framing. I dug my fingers into the gooey stuff, then massaged it between my palms - the sensation was instant. I wanted to play more but no, I followed instructions and spread the liquid out on wood and returned to it the next morning. Eureka! It had become a slightly solid, malleable mass. I started building a face, the feeling was both sensual and amusing. Everlasting Sundays are going to be fun. I've used every skerrick of that paper clay and am now impatient to glaze and fire."

DI THOMPSON REPORTS ON CHILDREN'S CLASSES

The children's pottery classes were always about creativity and clay, so once the isolation due to Covid-19 came into effect, we came up with a game plan to keep connected and not lose that wonderful creativity during isolation.

On the day we ended our club classes I had a box full of fired wares, so I suggested the kids take them and write stories about their art. They could take photos of each piece - top, bottom and sides, enabling cropping of the artwork to gather more story line for their books, and to be proud of their previous work, and to let their imagination run wild!

Once I received the new load of clay, I rang 8 families and delivered it to them while practicing social distancing and good hygiene. We discussed how to keep the clay soft; making sure to put down a cloth or tarp so not making too much mess at home; and to use all sorts of tools around house (with their parents permission!).

As it was Easter, the timing wasn't the best, and most of my parents are Essential Workers, so I didn't go ahead with any online classes, as family time was precious and they didn't need anymore demands on them.

Two weeks went by, and as you can see by the wonderful photos, the children have made some exciting art pieces!

I want to send out a big "thank you" to all the Mums and Dads for their own creativity and patience by bringing clay into their homes!

As clay is a wonderful art and relaxation process, please call me anytime on 0405 227 633 if your family is interested in joining our group.



CLAY FOR SALE - Price Per Bag 2020

Clay orders during Covid-19 Isolation are for Current Financial Members of the Cairns Potters Club Only.

No sales to non-members are allowed sorry.

Blackwattle - White Paper Clay Stoneware	\$25
Walkers No. 10	\$24
Walkers White Handbuilding	\$21
Walkers School Earthenware / Stoneware	\$21
Walkers / Feeneys White Stoneware	\$23
Walkers PB 103	\$24
Feeneys Dark Stoneware	\$22
Feeneys White Raku Stoneware	\$22
Feeneys Raku - Sand	\$22
Feeneys Buff Raku - Trachyte	\$22
Feeneys Terracotta	\$20
Keanes White Raku	\$26
Keanes Special K	\$29
Keanes Stoneware 33	\$29
Keanes Stoneware 7	\$29

Clay types – can all be fired to stoneware temp except Feeneys Terracotta.

Payment:

Payment for clay is as per the invoice arranged by Lone White. It can be either cash in person when picking up the clay at Lone's house, or it can be directly deposited into the Club's Bendigo Bank account by making an electronic transfer.

*If you choose to do an electronic transfer, please make sure to **add your name and a reference to what you are ordering**, so we can match your payment to your order.*

Account Name: Cairns Potters Club

Account Number: 119552826

BSB Number: 633-108

WEBSITE GALLERY

Club members are invited to submit an Artist's Statement and photographs of artwork that represents your artistic style for inclusion in the Gallery page on our website. Your artist's statement should be one paragraph in length and may include your contact details at the end of the paragraph if you wish. Please email your Artist Statement and photographs to our Website Officer - Dieter Tracey (see contact details on last page).

2020 Management Committee & Contact Details

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From

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