



# Cairns Potters Club

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## APRIL 2021 NEWSLETTER



*Oilspot Glaze by Geoff Riley*

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## Club meetings

The Management Committee meeting is held on the first Monday of the month at 4.00pm at the Club premises at 28a Grove Street, Cairns. We continue to practice social distancing at these meetings.

## A word from our President ...

**Lone White**

*Cairns Potters Club  
President*

Thanks to all the potters who attended the Annual General meeting on 27 April, 2021 (see report page 3). We managed to fill all the positions, so hopefully during the year ahead we will be able to get the club running smoothly.

We are still pursuing the issues of an extension to the clubhouse with the Cairns Regional Council, as our membership has grown and so many potters are using the premises. We have also had to restrict the use of our electric kilns, so potters can only have one bisque and two glaze firings a month.

Our next big activity will be the Mother's Day Fair Saturday 8 May (see article, page 4). At our Christmas Fair 2020 we were inundated with buyers, so hopefully this coming Mother's Day Fair will also be well attended.

Happy potting!

Lone White



## Inside:

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Glazes Update

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Mother's Day Pottery Fair

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2021 Cairns Show

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Artist of the Month:  
Geoff Riley

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Lone's Paper Clay  
Recipe

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### Clay and materials order

The club is again running out of clay, so if you want to order clays or materials from the Clay Shed (look at their website <https://www.clayshed.com.au/>) then send Lone an email [lone@tpg.com.au](mailto:lone@tpg.com.au) with your order before 15 April 2021. She will let you know when the consignment arrives in Cairns for you to pick up your order towards the end of the month.

The Clay Shed

# PRESIDENT'S REPORT

## Annual General Meeting – Year ending 31 December 2020

The Cairns Potters Club has now been going for 47 years — quite an achievement.

To run a “not-for-profit organisation” with volunteer staff is not an easy job especially now when Governments and Council and the Insurance Industry are placing more demands on small clubs and organisations. Anyhow we have survived so far and keep battling and hoping to find enough enthusiastic potters and glass artists to keep the club going in the future.

2020 was again a busy year. Our membership for the year reached over a hundred and twenty for the first time, which shows that pottery is again getting very popular.

It was also a tumultuous year with Covid changing our usual way of living with all the restrictions, some of them still in place. We had to close down the clubhouse for several months, could not have our yearly Mother's Day Fair, Cairns Show or Open Day in August, but despite that we kept working with clay. I got permission by the Government to get our clay orders delivered to my house, so potters would be able to get clay for use at home.

We were allowed to have our **Christmas Fair** 5 December 2020 from 8am to 2 pm and we were in for a big surprise. Never had so many people attended a Cairns Potters Club fair and never in our 47 years history did we sell so many pieces of pottery and art (\$14,600).

Our traditional activities throughout part of the year included:

- **Adult classes** (hand building and wheel throwing) taught by Astrid – Wednesday and Thursday evenings and Samallie Saturday mornings.
- **Children's daytime classes** were taught by Astrid
- Tuesday & Wednesday “**open day**” **casual gatherings**
- **Glass Workshops** by Kate Prynn.
- **Christmas fair**
- And **ordering clays and materials** for club members

Thanks to Dieter for looking after the club's website, which gives information about the Club, the latest newsletter, art news, kiln firings etc and promotes the works of club members by showing picture samples – further contributions would be warmly welcomed. Through the web site we have now often people contacting us re info about the club and its activities and people from all over the world are visiting the site. It is great promotion for the club.

Geoff Riley was our maintenance officer for the year and made a great effort to sort out problems with the clay trap, cleaning the roof and making sure the club would be a safe place to work. Thank you to Geoff for all his hard work.

Thanks also goes to Karen and Astrid for being our kiln officers — not an easy job with so many potters wanting their works fired.

Also thanks to Di Sant, our venture into selling clay from the clubhouse, has again been very successful and we are now selling more types of clay and materials to our members.

As mentioned, it takes a lot of effort to run the club, especially since it is all on a voluntary basis. I would therefore like to thank all the members who gave their support and helped with the activities during the year - but a very special thanks goes to the executive Management Committee, who worked hard and were always ready to step in when needed.

I am sure the new committee can look forward to another challenging year and I hope they will continue to promote and foster club activities to the mutual benefit of all members.

Lone White.

President

April 2021.

# Mother's Day Pottery Fair — Sat 8 May, 2021

Arrive early – around 7am to set up your table in a good spot.

If you need a table for your display please contact Lone White on 07 4053 7508 to book a table (limited tables available).

You can sell other things apart from pottery, e.g. glass works, paintings, jewellery, plants, fruit etc.

You must fill in a sales sheet with your name and contact details.

You can pick up a sales sheet

from the clubhouse or ask us to send you a sales sheet. On the sales sheet you must include all the works for sale, which must each have a sticker with number, price and your initials. The club takes 20% commission from sales.

Drop your sales sheet at the Sales Table when you arrive. Make sure all the things for sale have a label attached with your initials, price and number.

You do not have to stay with your work all the time, but it would be good for promotion of your works. All the works must be paid for at the sales table, and if you have time perhaps you can give a hand there.

At 2:00 pm the Fair will close – so you will then have to come and pack up your unsold items and help clean up the grounds.

If you have nothing to sell, you are still welcome to come and help for a few hours. It will give you an opportunity to meet up with other potters and get to know about what is happening in the club.

We will also need some helpers during the day for clay play with children.



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## 2021 Annual Cairns Show — 14-16 July



*The Visual Arts Association of FNQ together with the Cairns Potters Club will again be organising the Visual Arts Section at the showground during the Cairns Show.*

*More information will be provided in the next newsletter, however start to get your artworks ready!*

*Entry closes 4pm 25 June 2021 and bump in day Wednesday 6 July 2021.*

# Geoff Riley



*"There is that feeling of anticipation and excitement waiting for the kiln to cool and to finally reveal the fruits of my endeavours."*

## ARTIST OF THE MONTH

*I joined the Cairns Potters Club after attending the open weekend in August, 2018.*

*On the Sunday there was a Raku firing. I purchased a piece that had been biscuit fired then glazed it. What emerged from the kiln was pure magic, I was hooked.*

*I make both functional and decorative pieces occasionally the piece is both. I like to experiment with processes to try and make pieces that are unique.*

*There is that feeling of anticipation and excitement waiting for the kiln to cool and to finally reveal the fruits of my endeavours. Sometimes it is below expectations, sometimes expectations are met or even exceeded. Occasionally what emerges gives me pure joy.*

*This is why I love pottery.*

— Geoff Riley.



| 5

# Cairns Potters Club: Glazes update

by Carole Lomax

The Glaze room has now been cleared of most of the dried and defunct mystery glazes and reorganized for optimum functionality. There is an area to wax your pots, a clear bench for working on, easy access to the sink, and all glazes tested with tiles attached to buckets. Some tiles are marked TK (top of kiln) and BK (bottom of kiln) to see the difference in test results in the large kiln. You may notice some name changes, to more correctly describe a glaze.

There are two new glazes at present (still awaiting test tiles), Light Eggshell blue, a soft satin pale blue and Talc white, a smooth opaque white that can respond well over other glazes.

I will seek feedback on whether these glazes prove popular. When you use the glaze room please leave it in a better condition than when you found it. You cannot store your personal materials in the glaze room.

## Glaze Costing

Very soon there will be a chart in the glaze room that will give information on the cost to use the club's glazes. There will be a fixed square cm measurement (found by multiplying the height x width x depth) with an example of a form. You will be required to pay the nominal amount listed if your pot measures from the previous measurement up to the stated square cm measurement. The total for your glaze costs will be entered with you kiln costs on completion of firing.

## Glaze Induction Workshop

Starting from Wednesday 21st April there will be a class for all those interested, about glazes and the application of glazes (cost: \$5). This will happen monthly on the 3rd week, dependent on numbers and people can contact me to book a place:

[clomax54@gmail.com](mailto:clomax54@gmail.com) | Location: Cairns Potters Club | Time: TBA | Duration: Approx. 1hr

## Regular pottery classes for adults and children at Cairns Potters Club

**Astrid Elika** is running regular **Wednesday and Thursday classes** at the clubhouse — for children from 4-5:30pm and for adults from 6-8pm. Adult classes are \$25 per session for tuition, with additional clay and firing costs based on individual requirements. The children's classes include clay, colourful glazes, and firing.

Please contact Astrid on 0406 566 227 for further information or to make your booking.

Make sure to check our website for more information on upcoming classes and regular clubhouse gatherings.

# Regular clubhouse classes and casual gatherings

**CLUB MEMBER GET TOGETHERS** — No Cost Involved

*(must be a Financial Member)*

**TUESDAY & WEDNESDAY MORNINGS** — 9.00am to 12.00pm

Members can practise their hand building, wheel throwing, decorating and glazing techniques and perhaps share a firing. It is also a chance to get to know other potters and share their joy in pottery making.

## 2021 Management Committee & contact details

<b>President</b>	Lone White <a href="mailto:lone@tpg.com.au">lone@tpg.com.au</a> 4053 7508	<b>Kiln Booking Officer</b>	Astrid Carthew <a href="mailto:astridelika4@gmail.com">astridelika4@gmail.com</a> 0406 566 227
<b>Vice President</b>	Samallie Kasirye 0478 801 305 <a href="mailto:dunkasi@bigpond.com">dunkasi@bigpond.com</a>	<b>Clay Orders</b>	Di Sant 0419 657 553
<b>Secretary</b>	Tammy Parsons <a href="mailto:cairnspottersclub1@gmail.com">cairnspottersclub1@gmail.com</a>	<b>Publicity Officer</b>	Sue Wilson <a href="mailto:cairnspottersclub1@gmail.com">cairnspottersclub1@gmail.com</a>
<b>Treasurer</b>	Mark Davis <a href="mailto:paladin_67@hotmail.com">paladin_67@hotmail.com</a> 0418 155 106	<b>Maintenance Officer</b>	Di Sant 0419 657 553 <a href="mailto:disantart@gmail.com">disantart@gmail.com</a>
<b>Librarian and Minutes Secretary</b>	Chris George <a href="mailto:chrisg34@bigpond.net.au">chrisg34@bigpond.net.au</a> 4053 2240		
<b>Newsletter Editor and Website Officer</b>	Dieter Tracey <a href="mailto:dietertracey@icloud.com">dietertracey@icloud.com</a> 0413 490 237		

### Other Committee Members

Tom Britton <a href="mailto:kbritton@tpg.com.au">kbritton@tpg.com.au</a> 4053 5848	Sivonne Price Lisa Harris	<b>Kiln Calendar</b> (to check availability) <a href="https://teamup.com/kshkd8g2sc76kdq19w">https://teamup.com/kshkd8g2sc76kdq19w</a>
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*From*

**The Cairns Potters Club**

PO Box 1470

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