

## Hi from our President

We have had a rather busy month as you will see in the following.

### Kate French Workshop

**3 August 2024.** We had a great, if exhausting, day. Kate was very generous with her knowledge. Even non-sculptors learned a lot and had impressive results - see below.

### Ekka 2024

The results are on page 5.

### Our Annual Exhibition and Sales

**11-13 October 2024.** The plinths and truck are booked. The Expressions of Interest are nearly full, so be quick if you are still keen to participate. We expect your best work to be on display - exhibition and sales

### Xmas BVAC pop-up

**12 to 15 December 2024.** Set up on the Wednesday/Thursday morning. 5 tables have been booked.

### 2025 - Celebrating 20 years of Western Suburbs Clayworkers

**This will be another big year for us.**

The Auditorium is booked at Mt Coot-tha for 19-21 September 2025.

**Stay well, keep safe and pot on.**

**David**

## Kate French workshop



Kate provided a basic tool set then gave us great insights into how to shape various body parts.



**What have you been working on? Anything artistic or crafty. Please send us a few words and photos!**

contacts

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# WSC at the BVAC Open Weekend



From left:  
Claude,  
mentoring  
another victim!  
Gai talking to  
a prospective  
thrower?  
Derek, one of our  
members, also  
with the Half  
Dozen Group



Gai with Ally from  
the Enamellers,  
extending her  
creative skills.

Above: Judy demonstrated her  
alternative centring method and  
passed on her knowledge to one  
happy member of the public!



From the hand  
building tables - Lyn's  
examples and some  
work produced by  
willing participants.



CAQ was busy with their Raku,  
including horse-hair but using a  
spectator's dog's hair!

## Gai's texture workshop



Using textured slabs to  
create and decorate.  
Stretching the textured  
slab - can be applied to  
forms or used to build  
forms.

# Julie Shepherd - Slip cast Porcelain,

Dremel carved, demonstration from the BVAC Open Weekend 27-28 July 2024

- Notes by Natalie

## Making the moulds

- Get plaster from plasterboard companies, not Bunnings. It's fresher. Plaster goes off and negatively impacts a mould.

## Making slip

- Limoge's porcelain 10/12kg plastic clay ordered in (supply shops don't keep in stock) Bags they come in disintegrate, so re bag
- Mark 10L water line in a bucket, then remove water. Pour in 2L water
- Add thin slices of clay until water reaches 10L mark
- Add 2 drops sodium silicate
- Add 2 drops Dispex
- Blunging (soaking) is a way to minimize air bubbles
- Dip fingers in and if slip webs between fingers when removed, it's a good consistency
- Pass through 60 mesh sieve x 2
- Don't add too much stain or it will cause bloating

## Filling mould with slip

- Pour in one smooth motion, not stop start, and tap out bubbles
- Set timer for 10 minutes, check and leave a little longer if need be
- Tip out gently, not quickly as this can pull the slip away from the mould wall
- Let drip out a while, then place upside down on the wedges
- Turn upright before the piece falls out of the mould. Scrape the edge so it doesn't stick to the mould and become difficult to remove. Wait until firm enough to remove from mould

## Surface decoration with Dremel

- Dremel power tool
- Bit attachments get worn with use and need replacing A and E in Sydney, or Jewellery shop
- Food colouring, not black, to outline design (burns off in firing)
- Drill separate holes completely through leather hard slip along rim line, using small size 12/14
- Sit piece upside down on not slip matt for better support
- Form tripod to brace body and keep steady
- Use desired size to form design
- To create lines, stick the Dremel bit through completely then pull through pliable leather hard slip
- A small accidental hole can be filled, but not a big one. Use slip with APT2 porcelain and stoneware enhancer (USA high firing mend)
- Cut rim to shape along line of pre-drilled holes, using precision seam ripper from Lincraft (doesn't rust)

## Firing fine porcelain

- If not stable base, fire upside down on a porcelain support, pre-made using same mould. Brush mix of wax emulsion with calcine alumina on support to stop piece from sticking to support
- Throw foot ring separately, then place biscuit fired piece upside down on rim, using a little clear glaze between two, place foot ring on top of piece. Will stick when firing. Too delicate to work with slip in the leather hard stage
- Biscuit fire to 960°C cone 08, it's easier to sand
- Hot fire to 1280°C, careful first 600°C but normal firing for porcelain as even thickness
- Hot face fibre can be used as support around non-glazed, wide pieces as supports. Fire once only, use a mask and throw out afterwards
- Using gloves and wet sandpaper, wet piece then sand with 100/120 grit sandpaper, then progress through finer 400 and 600 grit. Note a mask must always be used if clay is dry.





## IN CLAY

### Western Suburbs Clayworkers Exhibition & Sale



Supporting the Sherwood Neighbourhood Centre

RICHARD RANDALL GALLERY  
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Mobile 0420239537 all texts will be answered quickly

# The results from the 2024 Ekka

Congratulations to our members who did well!

## CERAMICS/POTTERY

| Cat No. | Exhibitor     | Result       |
|---------|---------------|--------------|
| 106     | Farr, Kirstin | Best Exhibit |

### CERAMICS/POTTERY - OPEN

#### 18 - Hand-Built

|     |                |        |
|-----|----------------|--------|
| 101 | Martin, Julie  | First  |
| 98  | Hogben, Raewyn | Second |
| 95  | Crabbe, Amy    | Third  |

#### 19 - Wheel Thrown

|     |                 |                  |
|-----|-----------------|------------------|
| 106 | Farr, Kirstin   | First            |
| 110 | Keys, Cassandra | Second           |
| 105 | Del moral, Elia | Third            |
| 108 | Horie, Yuichi   | Highly Commended |

#### 20 - Slip Cast

|     |                 |        |
|-----|-----------------|--------|
| 114 | Cavanagh, Maree | First  |
| 115 | Smith, Patricia | Second |

#### 21 - Figurative or Animal Sculpture

|     |                |        |
|-----|----------------|--------|
| 118 | Farr, Kirstin  | First  |
| 121 | Horie, Yuichi  | Second |
| 125 | Payne, Jessica | Third  |

#### 22 - Item Featuring Surface Decoration

|     |                    |        |
|-----|--------------------|--------|
| 130 | Farr, Kirstin      | First  |
| 132 | Horie, Yuichi      | Second |
| 128 | Bartholomew, David | Third  |

## SCULPTURE

| Cat No. | Exhibitor        | Exhibit           | Result   |
|---------|------------------|-------------------|----------|
| 58      | Ellsworth, David | Equestrian Fusion | Champion |

### 1 - Representational - Any Subject - Any Medium

|    |                     |                     |                  |
|----|---------------------|---------------------|------------------|
| 35 | Veerman, Annie      | The Tub             | First            |
| 17 | Lewis, Shontelle    | Triceratops         | Second           |
| 25 | Regan, Damian       | Female portrait     | Third            |
| 20 | Patey, Sonia        | Sealife- Totem Pole | Highly Commended |
| 1  | Alabri, Sami        | Starlight swimmer   | Commended        |
| 10 | Hardt, Ollie        | Amphritite #4       | Commended        |
| 29 | Schofield, Madeline | "LOSS"              | Commended        |

| Cat No. | Exhibitor                                  | Result |
|---------|--|--------|
| 23      | <b>Item featuring On-glaze decoration.</b> |        |

|     |                      |        |
|-----|----------------------|--------|
| 142 | Maddocks, Julie      | First  |
| 141 | Jones, Margaret Anne | Second |
| 140 | Jones, Margaret Anne | Third  |

### 24 - Item made from air-dried or oven-fired clay

|     |               |        |
|-----|---------------|--------|
| 144 | Adlard, Laura | First  |
| 145 | Adlard, Laura | Second |

### 25 - Item made by others; decorated and/or glazed

|     |                      |        |
|-----|----------------------|--------|
| 148 | Jones, Margaret Anne | First  |
| 149 | Renshaw, Michele     | Second |
| 150 | Van Oyen, Rose       | Third  |

### 26 - Mosaic Tile Work

|     |                 |       |
|-----|-----------------|-------|
| 151 | Wedge, Margaret | First |
|-----|-----------------|-------|

## CERAMICS/POTTERY - NOVICE

### 27 - Hand Built or Thrown Clay Work

|     |                     |                  |
|-----|---------------------|------------------|
| 156 | O'Brien, Gabrielle  | First            |
| 157 | Oldham, Natalie     | Second           |
| 158 | Oldham, Natalie     | Third            |
| 152 | Constable, Georgina | Highly Commended |

## CERAMICS/POTTERY - JUNIOR

### 28 - Hand Built or Thrown Clay Work

|     |                     |        |
|-----|---------------------|--------|
| 159 | Constable, Georgina | First  |
| 160 | Measham, Abi        | Second |

| Cat No. | Exhibitor  | Exhibit | Result |
|---------|--|---------|--------|
| 2       | <b>Abstract and or Stylized - Any Subject - Any Medium</b> |         |        |

|    |                  |            |                  |
|----|------------------|------------|------------------|
| 41 | Hamilton, Judy   | Barbara    | First            |
| 47 | Mendes, Helena   | Wanderers  | Second           |
| 40 | Hamilton, Judy   | Frida      | Third            |
| 49 | Solomon, Russell | Taurus BOS | Highly Commended |

### 3 - Outdoor - Any Subject - Any Medium

|    |                    |                      |                  |
|----|--------------------|----------------------|------------------|
| 58 | Ellsworth, David   | Equestrian Fusion    | First            |
| 53 | Bayer, Monika      | Mama Cat & Kitty Cat | Second           |
| 64 | Staff, Kyle        | Bowl                 | Third            |
| 52 | Anderson, Rosemary | Flying Swans         | Highly Commended |



**Clay on Display 2024**

members' exhibition

the redcliffe pottery group

**Monday 23 to Sunday 29 September, 10am to 4pm**  
The Volunteer Hub at the Old Redcliffe Fire Station  
395 Oxley Avenue Redcliffe

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Tad 0411 339 061 or [info@redcliffe-pottery-group.org.au](mailto:info@redcliffe-pottery-group.org.au)