

A word from our president

Say G'Day BBQ

- you are all invited, 20 May

We have been invited to participate in a meet and greet with our local member, Graham Perrett MP. It is on Wednesday 20 May, 2020 and seeing our group will be in the centre, he would like to invite us all to attend a sausage sizzle/barbecue.

The studio

Large kiln

As you may have heard there was a significant failure in a bisque firing in the large kiln. This may have been due to a number of issues: ware too thick, too wet, air bubbles etc. We have re-programmed the Harco for a slower firing and we would like to test it and are looking for sacrificial pots to bisque. A range of handbuilt and thrown pieces of varying thickness are looked for.

Raku workshop

When the weather is a little cooler we will schedule our first for the year - soon we hope!

Mid-fire

This will be happening soon.

Look out for the new firing form where you can sign off on the appropriate clay and glaze.

BVAC Arts and Crafts Market

1, 2, 3 May - a Market instead of the Pop-up-Shop. Just one low fee for the whole group and no commission.

We have access to 6 tables.

There are 8 interested parties so far.

Ekka entries are open

<https://www.ekka.com.au/competitions/arts-cookery/creative-arts-crafts/>

for on-line entries.

Support the craft and enter soon.

Our Annual Exhibition

Get working on pieces for October

- we have booked Richard Randall again.

We hope more members will be involved in our exhibition this year. The committee are looking for suggestions for change of name, and format.

Sherwood Community Market 4 April

We plan on having a stall at the markets.

Library display

We have booked for September this year.

Membership

The end of March will be the cut-off point for membership. If you haven't paid your fee by then you will no longer be permitted to use the studio or participate in any activities with the group. Congrats to the 95% who have renewed.

Forms are on-line and easily filled out in Acrobat and emailed back.

wsclayworkers.org.au

Next meeting is 1 April (seriously) at 10am - see you there.

Cheers, David

wsclayworkers@hotmail.com

This month's video - pit firing in NZ! - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iof4xwRUW8s>

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MEMBERS' TO DO LIST

The studio 2020

- 7 March** - Studio open on Saturday morning from 10am
- 14 March** - Basic glaze workshop with Lyn McGlade
- 4 April** - Sherwood Neighbourhood Centre Market
- 1 to 3 May** - BVAC Arts and Crafts Market at Mt-Coot-tha
- 20 May** - Say G'Day to Graham Perrett MP - BBQ, all invited
- 2020** - Raku
- 2020** - September in the Fairfield Library
- 2020** - October Annual Exhibition
- 2020** - BVAC Pop-up-Shop - December
- 2020** - The rest is up to you!



Show and Tell

Our Glaze Dots workshop

Basic Introduction to Glazes

Some basic notes from Lyn's workshop on this Saturday, 14 March

The four basic components of a glaze are:

1. THE GLASSFORMER:

Silica (which melts at 1710C)

- a. This is far too high for ceramic kilns.
- b. Too much silica causes glaze to become too stiff.
- c. Too little silica causes glaze to run off the pot.

2. STABILISERS:

The refractory (the stiffening agent)

- a. Keeps glaze from running off the pot.
- b. Kaolin, Ball clay, Alumina or Talc are some examples of stiffeners.

3. FLUXES:

Help lower the melting point of the glaze

- a. Gerstley borate (prevents crazing), bone ash, Nepheline Syenite, Whiting/Calcite, sodium, soda ash, frits and potash feldspar are some examples of fluxes.

4. COLOURANTS:

Metal oxides (the beautifiers)

- a. Usually toxic so don't use on tableware.
- b. Red Iron Oxide (browns), Copper Carbonate Turquoise (goes red in reduction), Cobalt Carb is finer (comes out as blues.), Magnesium Dioxide (black/browns), Chrome (yellow/greens.), Chromium Oxide (red/yellow/pinks/greens), Manganese (blue/purple), adding rutile gives different effects, and more.

TEMPERATURES

Common firings

- a. BISQUE - CONE 06 (980-1000°C)
- b. EARTHENWARE- CONE 03 (1080-1100°C)
- c. MIDFIRE - CONE 6 (1180-1220°C)
- d. STONEWARE - CONE 10 (1280-1300°C)

(It's important to match glazes to firing temp)

Important note: Make sure your clay temp and glaze temp match the selected firing.



Western Suburbs Clayworkers

BVAC Arts and Crafts Market

Mt Coot-tha Auditorium
May 1 to 3

Proudly supported by
BVAC
Brisbane Visual Arts Community

Hand shaping clay
WESTERN SUBURBS CLAYWORKERS
Decorated plate
Green vase
List of glaze ingredients: 30 Whiting, 15 Ball clay, 25 China clay, 30 Silica, .75 Cobalt Carb., .80 Oxide Nickel, 6 Rutile



**Saturday
4th April
2020**

THRIFT SHOP

MARKET STALLS

Time: 8am to 1pm

Location: Sherwood Neighbourhood Centre



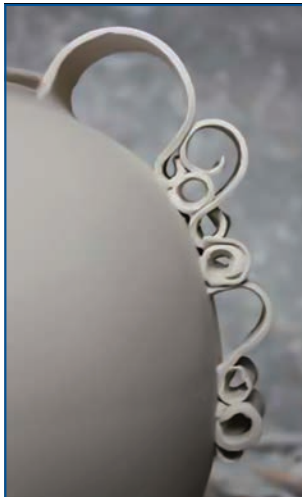
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