



# mudlark

June 2022

South of the River Potters' Club Newsletter

## COMING EVENTS:

- BUSY BEE – Saturday June 25<sup>th</sup>, 9.30 to clear out the sheds in preparation for the big move!
- SORPC Monthly meeting – Wednesday July 20<sup>th</sup>, 6.15pm
- Empty Bowls – Sunday, August 21<sup>st</sup> at Christchurch Grammar School
- CAAWA Selective Exhibition September 9 – October 15 Central TAFE
- MCAA Art Awards exhibition September 19<sup>th</sup> - October 15<sup>th</sup>
- Glorious Mud: October 20 – October 30



## ***KARLUP-ATWELL CERAMICS STUDIO SOON TO BE COMPLETED – Members' help needed***

The construction of our new ceramics studio is reaching the final stages and we anticipate being given access to the building in the second week of July. Unfortunately members will have to be patient for just a little bit longer because we will have several weeks' work to get all the furniture delivered and set up before we can really open up for everyone to begin working in the new facility. The City of Melville has offered to help us move all of our heavy equipment and furniture into the new building. All of the wheels, tables, slab roller, kilns and heaps more stuff will be moved into the new building in the FIRST WEEK OF JULY.

All members' equipment, personal items and pottery works MUST be removed from the green shed and the kiln shed by the end of June.

We are having a BUSY BEE on Saturday, June 25<sup>th</sup> starting at 9.30 and all members are encouraged to come along and help. Partners and friends are also welcome to come along and join in the fun and there may even be a sausage sizzle to reward our efforts. Please bring packing boxes, plastic crates or whatever will help in gathering all of the Club bits and pieces and transferring stuff to the new building. If the work can't be completed on the Saturday, we may reconvene on Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> to finish the job because the CoM removalists will be there the following week and the sheds need to be cleared out by then. Please come along and let's not see just the same 'old faithful' members lending a hand. It will be a celebration of the happy culmination of a very long process!!

If you would like to get a glimpse of the progress on the building, there are some current photos on the website: <https://sorpottersclub.com/new-studio>

***South of the River Potters' Club***

ABN 42 626 130 408

Atwell House 586 Canning Highway Alfred Cove WA 6154 9330 2800

Postal Address: PO Box 27 Applecross WA 6953

General bank account: **BSB:306-070 A/C 4187263**

**\*\*Kiln Firing bank account: BSB 306-133 Account - 0293474**

***sorpotters@hotmail.com Instagram: southoftheriverpottersclub***

***Website: <http://sorpottersclub.com> Facebook: southriverpotters***

President – Jenny Rygiel 0451 119 242

Secretary – Kerry Palmer 0422 947 106

Treasurer – Peggy Stacy 9331 2507

---

## ***NEW STUDIO – MEMBERS' WORKSHOPS***

---

Peggy Stacy has been very busy negotiating a series of workshops to be held in the new Karlung Studio later in the year for members only. She has put together an exciting program which includes wheel work, sculpture and majolica workshops.

The first workshop will be conducted by Cher Shackleton, a long-time friend and supporter of the Club. Cher will be presenting an all-day demonstration/workshop on Wednesday the 24th of Aug- 9:30am to 4 pm which will include lunch and wine and cheese to finish.

There will be demonstrations in the morning and hands-on hand-building in the afternoon. The topics covered include throwing covered bowls, lidded pots including various styles of galleries and lids, teapots. After lunch there will be a hands-on session where participants will be able to make and assemble textured slab forms, create a large platter from a slab and see a demonstration of the use of moulds plus the finishing of pieces made during the morning session.



Come and support one of the first activities of our club in our new premises. We all know how engaging and informative Cher's workshops are!! This workshop is only open to members and the cost is **\$96** (20% reduction from \$120). Send an email to [sorpotters@hotmail.com](mailto:sorpotters@hotmail.com) to register your interest.

Other workshops to be presented for members later in the year include:

Cate Cosi – majolica  
Robert Hawes – wheel work  
Ian Foster – hand building  
Julie Deague – wheel work/glazing  
Robyn Varpins – sculpture  
Frank Smith – wheel work

---

## ***KILNS***

---

With the move to the new studio about to happen, no new work is being accepted for firing because of the imminent removal of the kilns. Graham will attempt to fire the pots that are currently on the kiln shed shelves before the deadline and these pots must be collected by June 29th. Graham may be able to do a small amount of firing in the old KilnWest kiln which is not going to be transferred to the new building. Check with him if you have a particularly urgent need to get work fired.

*(PS: he likes chocolate)*

The 'work in progress' shelves in the workshop are getting filled with work that has been there for some time and members are unable to use the space for new work. In future a two-week limit will apply, by which time your work should be dry enough to bisque or safely remove and free up the shelf space.

---

## ***EMPTY BOWLS 2022***

---



The annual Empty Bowls event is on very soon on Sunday, August 21<sup>st</sup> at the usual venue, Christchurch Grammar School in Claremont. The South of the River Potters' Club has supported this event for many years with members creating generously sized soup bowls to be sold, full of soup, at the event to raise funds for Food Bank. The Club is also able to have a stall from which we can offer members' pots for sale (10% commission to the Club), and this has been quite successful in previous years. Members who contribute bowls will have priority access to the stall.

All members are encouraged to take part and we need to beat our contribution of 70 bowls last year - that's not even ONE pot per member and surely we can do better than that!!

More information about the Empty Bowls project is available at <https://www.emptybowlsperth.com/>

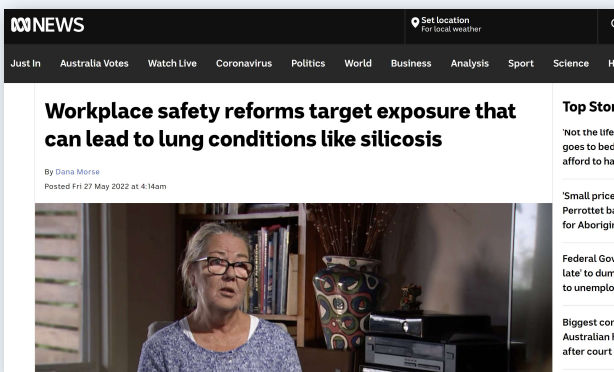
---

## ***SAFETY IN THE STUDIO***

---

With the move to the new studio, the Club will be requiring all members to update their knowledge and awareness of the safety issues surrounding the use of clay and glazes. This will include an orientation to the new building and reiteration of cleaning procedures for the studio to minimise the creation of dust and ensure a clean, safe workplace for everyone.

These recent publications have been a stark reminder of what we are dealing with and how to minimise the hazards.



<https://www.abc.net.au/news/2022-05-27/ceramics-teacher-silicosis-better-workplace-protections/101095360>

### **SILICOSIS – AN AVOIDABLE DISEASE**



SR100 Half Face Respirator

by Kim Martin

With the current global crisis of COVID-19, never has so much attention been focused on our lungs. Fortunately, particularly here in Australia, we have been given valuable advice and insights on how to protect them from being infiltrated by this new, invisible enemy.

With the rising popularity of pottery and the recent closing down of many accredited ceramics and pottery courses in our TAFE's and universities, now more than ever it is imperative that we also focus on an old and deadly invisible enemy: Crystalline Silica, the cause of much suffering and death brought about by the condition known as silicosis.

Most established potters, ceramicists and clay manufacturers are well informed of the dangers inherent in clay and glaze materials. Over the years, crucial information has been written about the hazards in arts highlighting the safety practices required to prevent disease. Formal education has also provided fundamental knowledge of the chemistry of raw materials and methods of production intended to support and complement creativity.

Unfortunately, in recent years, many formal courses have been closed or significantly reduced in

<https://australianceramics.com/assets/jac592silicosismartinreducedsize.pdf?fbclid=IwAR12nJAPmMcUmnrd7BPUZUzbC3Hhxx8HNAd4ppIJkxO2nEmiQpLaK1jCm0>

---

## ***LIBRARY***

---

Librarian, Tracey-Lee, has been working hard to re-catalogue the Club's book collection and a new list will be available soon on the 'Downloads' page of the Club website. Tracey-Lee has also sorted out a number of duplicate books and excess copies will be available for purchase by members – check out the Library shelf.

---

## ***GLORIOUS MUD 2022***

---

The Club's annual selective exhibition 'Glorious Mud' will be on again in October and we are keen to hear from any member who is keen to help with curating and setting up the exhibition. Contact Secretary Kerry or drop a message to the Club email at [sorpotters@hotmail.com](mailto:sorpotters@hotmail.com). Better still, come along to the next meeting and find out more about it.



### **Next Meeting:**

Note – the meeting times will be 10am and 6.15pm on alternate months and will be on the **third Wednesday** of each month. Scheduling of evening meetings is designed to allow working members to attend – we look forward to seeing you there.

### **Monthly meeting schedule:**

Wednesday July 20<sup>th</sup> – **6.15pm**

Wednesday August 17<sup>th</sup> – **10am**

Wednesday September 21<sup>st</sup> **6.15pm**