



OTAGO POTTERS GROUP INC.

July-August

2010

Newsletter of the Otago Potters Group Inc. 6 Neville St, Dunedin, Phone 455
1999

OPG Clean-up Day – 28 August from 1-4pm

OPG clean-up day will be on Saturday, 28 August 2010, from 1-4pm with caravan trips to the tip.

Deco Pots Throwing and Glazing Workshops – 25 September and 30 October

The next set of workshops will offer both wheel work and glazing and will be taught by Riki Julin. The workshops will offer a chance to enhance wheel throwing skills, enjoy the fellowship of other potters and play with clays and glazes from a new supplier, Deco Pots, which has donated some clay and glazes for the workshops.

The **wheel throwing workshop will be offered on Saturday 25 September 25, 2010; \$20 per participant.** OPG has 11 wheels, so the throwing class will be limited to 11 participants. **The Deco Pots glazing workshop will be offered approximately one month later (after the pots have been bisque-fired) on Saturday, 30 October 2010; \$20 per participant.** The glazing workshop can accommodate more than the original 11 participants but all pots brought by participants to be glazed must be bisque-fired and of white clay suitable for a cone 6 firing.

For exact times and other details and/or to reserve a place in one or both of the workshops, please contact Riki, email: rikjulin@xtra.co.nz or phone: 027 343 6898, or on Tuesdays between 10am & 5pm at 481 8484 (the Stuart St Potters Co-op).

OPG exhibition/sale planned for late October or early November 2010

Members need to prepare for a pre-Christmas exhibition and sale this year! Although OPG has not yet located a venue, plans are still underway for some type of show.

OPG has booked the Community Gallery for exhibitions in February (in the temporary Gallery on Moray Place) and November 2011 (presumably in the Princes Street Community Gallery) but has not booked a gallery for October or November this year. Committee members are investigating the availability and cost of renting a room in the Upstart Building on Princess Street; the corner space in the Savoy on Moray Place and Princess (\$400 for 7 days or \$650 for 10 days); or just having a garage sale/show at OPG.

Jo Howard workshop was great success

The first OPG Workshop with Otago artist Jo Howard was a complete success. Jo is well-known for her pieces constructed from slabs of clay decorated with stain-coloured slips. The slabs are then cut and assembled into the desired shapes. Twelve OPG potters attended the workshop and reported being inspired and challenged and having a great time as well. Our most sincere thank you goes to Jo for her exemplary work.

Several additional workshops are planned for the 2010-2011 year:

- Bronwyn Mohring is designing and building a small wood-fired/salt kiln on the OPG grounds. Interested members can observe/participate.

- Dave Sharp will offer a raku firing workshop.
- Peter Gregory will offer a two-day workshop at his home/studio early in 2011.
- Workshops in plaster mould construction may be offered with basic mould construction by Bronwyn Mohring and mould design and casting by Tony McManus.

OPG is looking good

Riki Julin, who teaches a University Clubs & Socs course on wheel throwing at OPG, reports that the new wheel OPG acquired last month for \$500 is working well and is very popular. OPG is in the process of updating wheels: new belts are still needed on some; two wheels have motors which lack acceleration control; and one wheel still needs a new tray. Tony is getting an estimate from the Polytechnic on the cost of having one poured; a new manufactured tray would cost \$180.

Tina Grubba found the two new kiln shelves offered over the internet for 1/3 the regular price. Both have arrived: one is very good, and the other is slightly smaller but usable.

Tony, Riki and Kathy are installing a weather-tight replacement window in the foyer and Riki has installed shelves, drawers and done additional cleaning and organizing, which are most appreciated. A new mail box (on the front counter in the wheel room) has been created for Committee mail and an honesty box has been set up (and working!) to offset costs of using the gas heaters.

Now for the general clean-up day 28 August, 1-4pm!

Potters Marks books still available

Tony volunteered to take spare Potters Marks books to his work (the recycle shop at the tip) to sell at \$20 each. One copy will be kept in the OPG library. (OPG makes a small profit from NZ Potters Society on these but OPG will not be selling for NZPS in the future.)

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