

MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

The Central Coast Potters Society (CCPS) welcomes new members.

The Society was established in 1968 by a group of volunteers with a vision to create a space and a community where the knowledge and skills of the art and craft of pottery could be shared, explored and developed with like-minded individuals, while at the same time furthering the understanding and appreciation of pottery within the community.

More than fifty years on from that first meeting in 1968, the society continues to be run by a committed group of volunteers, **(there are no paid positions in The Society)** who give freely and generously of their time to perpetuate the foresight of those founding members.

The ideals of the founding members remain as the objectives of The Central Coast Potters Society Inc:

1. To increase the knowledge and skills of members and students in the craft of pottery, and
2. To promote a greater appreciation and understanding of pottery by the general public.

These aims are addressed by the various opportunities offered by CCPS:

- Those who already have pottery knowledge and skills that meet specified criteria, can join CCPS as **workshop members**. This enables them to use the CCPS workshop facilities including equipment, glazes and kiln firing, to produce their own work.
- CCPS also offers **social membership** that includes most of the benefits offered to workshop members, including a small amount of firing for work produced specifically for Raku and pit-firing, but **excludes use of the workshop facilities** to produce their own work.
- CCPS conducts weekly classes for adults and children.
- CCPS offers educational workshops and produces a monthly Newsletter for members.
- CCPS holds special events featuring raku and pit firings and other aspects of the potter's craft.
- CCPS organised exhibitions provide members with opportunity to exhibit and sell their work.

Throughout the year, social events are held at CCPS. This is an opportunity for long standing and new social and workshop members to meet, mingle, enjoy some refreshments, get to know each other and ask questions.

As applies to the successful functioning of **any** Not-for-Profit Organisation that is administered and run by a committee of volunteer members, CCPS' provision of services to its members relies on **all members** providing some level of support.

A condition of membership at CCPS is that each member provides an annual amount of at least ten hours of assistance with jobs such as working bees and open days.

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Details of Membership Benefits and Exclusions

- The Newsletter is emailed to members each month, except January.
- The Management Committee meets once per month.
- A members' meeting is held on the first Tuesday of each month at the workshop, commencing at 1pm. All members are welcome & encouraged to attend. Clay work is not to proceed during the meeting.
- Social gatherings are held throughout the year. Details are advised via the Newsletter & Hello Club.

Social membership: Membership starts from the date of signing up and fees paid.

Social Membership Includes:

- A monthly newsletter and meetings.
- Participation in special event workshops, seminars, exhibitions at the reduced members rates.
- Sales opportunities.
- Raku and pit firing days, including a small amount of bisque firing if participating in pit or raku firings (available by special arrangement).
- Social activities and access to the library.
- Nominating for positions and voting at the Annual General Meeting.
- A self- managed account via the Hello Club CCPS Member Portal.
- Regular member-only notifications.

Restrictions of Social Membership

Firing is restricted to that required for CCPS Raku and pit-firings- as previously specified.

Workshop Membership: Membership starts from the date of fees having been paid and approval given.

A workshop membership allows the member to work independently in the workshop during the time specified for Workshop drop-in days, with access and use of workshop tools and equipment.

To become a workshop member, the following criteria apply:

- The applicant has taken 2 or more terms of classes at CCPS and has been put forward by the teacher for Workshop Approval.

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- If the new applicant has not been in a CCPS class, she or he is required to have had enough experience with clay work to be able to work safely and independently.
- ***Workshop membership approval is given at the discretion of the Management Committee.***

Workshop Membership Includes:

- A monthly newsletter and members' meeting.
- A full induction of CCPS processes and facilities, weekly access to the CCPS workshop, equipment and facilities by attending drop-in days.
- Participation in member only social events and activities.
- Provision of glazes and use of the CCPS kilns to fire work at the member rate (annual restrictions apply).
- Access to a comprehensive library.
- Exhibitions and sales opportunities.
- Specialist course and workshop discounts.
- Participation in special event workshops, seminars, exhibitions at the reduced members rates.
- Raku and pit firing days, social activities and access to the library.
- Nominating for positions and voting at the Annual General Meeting.
- A self- managed account via the Hello Club CCPS Member Portal.
- Regular member only notifications.

Restrictions of Workshop Membership

CCPS is not a firing service. Firing excessive quantities of work is not permitted.

A workshop member's firing allowance, based on volume, is calculated annually. Exceeding this allowance incurs additional charges. A member receives notification once her/ his 12-month firing quota is reached. Should the member wish to continue to fire work, the firing charge is doubled.

CCPS is a member run organisation, and as such, requires input from all member to enable offering the full range of facilities, events and activities. Being a workshop member requires a commitment to assist in the promotion of CCPS, annual open days and working bees.

Display Cabinets

Pottery items on display in these cabinets are selected pieces, most of which form the permanent collection of the Society. Accompanying catalogues give details of these pieces.

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Library

A wide range of books and magazines on pottery and other crafts may be borrowed from the library for a monthly charge of 50 cents per item.

See the librarian on Tuesdays or at meetings.

Details of the borrowed items must be recorded in the Borrowing Book located in the library and returns marked off.

(Details on the library borrowing procedure, are included in a separate Workshop Procedures document.)