



# Newsletter

Volume 16, Issue 4:  
Oct, Nov, Dec 2014



Pots by Magdalene Odundo

## OUR MISSION

The main objective of **The Potters' Association of Namibia** is primarily to foster the art and craft of pottery and ceramics in every way. We encourage the development, recognition, appreciation of pottery and ceramics; we hold exhibitions, publish regular newsletters, and distribute related magazines. Furthermore, by providing practical workshops, technical information, skills development, arranging and encouraging social interaction, we support the interests of like-minded people.



*Frohe Weihnachten - Merry Christmas - Geseënde Kersfees*



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For your newsletter  
submissions or enquiries  
Send an email to: pan@iway.na

### **Next newsletter deadline:**

**15 February 2015**

### **DISCLAIMER:**

Neither the Editor, PAN Committee members, nor the contributors to this newsletter will be held responsible for any errors that may creep in unnoticed. The personal opinions freely expressed are not necessarily those of the Association! We welcome, and are most grateful for any contributions to this newsletter! However, the Editor retains the sole right to edit, and/or refuse unsuitable material, submitted for publication.



## Greetings from the Chair

The last month of the year has started and I am sure all of you are frantically trying to finish all those jobs, which can't be carried over to the new year. Yes, I'm in the same situation. The rush slows down a bit once the school holidays have started and all those school and Kindergarten festivities are ticked off. But the office is not closed yet for the festive season and a number of things are awaiting to be finalized before we leave into our well deserved holidays.

This leaves me with putting the last newsletter for 2014 together and sending it out to you. The last few months were quite busy and with this newsletter we would like to share some of the happenings with you.

The Corobrik National Ceramics Exhibition opened in Cape Town on 16. November by Prof. Magdalene Odundo. If you have not been able to attend or see these exhibitions then you should really put it on your To-Do List for things you still want to do in your life.

Magdalene Odundo, award judge for the National Exhibition accompanied me back to Namibia to give a workshop in Windhoek on the 22 November 2014. For those who missed it can get an insight of what she's presented to us. It's been a great pleasure to have her here in Namibia.

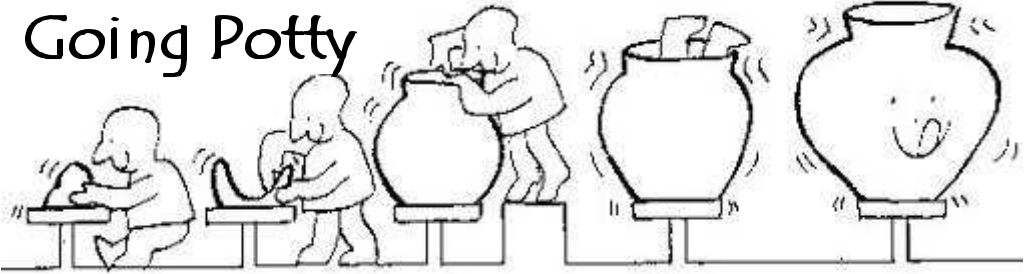
Finally the exhibition dates for the 7<sup>th</sup> National Ceramics Biennale are booked and you can now get ready and think of those exquisite pieces you will be making for this prestigious exhibition on the Namibian Ceramics calendar.

On this note I would like to wish you all a peaceful Christmas and a well deserved relaxing holiday. Enjoy the time with you loved ones and fill up those energy tanks to be fresh and energetic for the next year to come. For those who travel I wish you a safe journey and may you arrive safely at your destination and back home again.

Yours in potting

CAROLAN  
←

# Going Potty



## **Magdalene Odundo Workshop presented on 22 September in Windhoek**

Magdalene and I travelled together from Cape Town to Swakopmund where she spent a few days at the coast. Mariki and her husband Danie took her around our beautiful desert and they together enjoyed a sundowner at the "Musical Rocks" in the Swakop River. They also travelled up the coast to visit the lichen fields. Magdalene was quite fascinated about our desert and coast.

Thursday afternoon we travelled together to Windhoek where she stayed with Genie and Rolf, who looked after her during her stay in the capital. Friday we started getting ready for the workshop on Saturday. The remainder of the day we spend by visiting Sarie's home exhibition and showing Magdalene around Windhoek.

Saturday morning we all met at Rosi's studio and were very excited and curious of what we will learn this day. Magdalene started the day with a power point presentation. A big Thank you goes out to ***Business Connections*** who once again sponsored us the use of their projector for this presentation. During her presentation Magdalene explained how she was influenced by Henry Hammon, Leach, Cardew and Walter Keeler. Her work is strongly influenced by objects and things



she sees in Museums, in her home country Kenia or elsewhere. These images are then interpreted in different forms in her work. eg. The one series of pots developed because she had seen a pregnant lady on the station. The lady's beauty, elegance and posture while standing there were so impressive that Magdalene took that up in her pots.



Then she was influenced by the head gear Nigerian women wear or by Ballet positions.

She spends a lot of time making her pots and pays a lot of attention to the finish of the inside of the pot and finishing the outside. Each piece is burnished and finished separately before they are fired 2 – 5 times in sagars in a gas kiln.



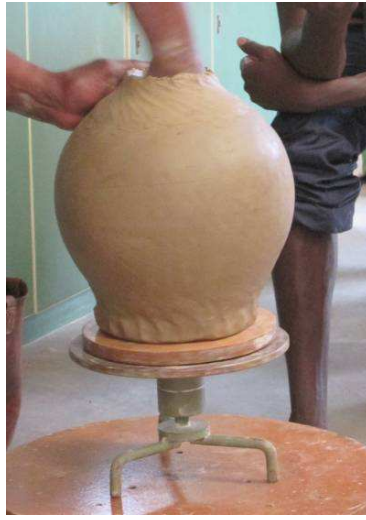
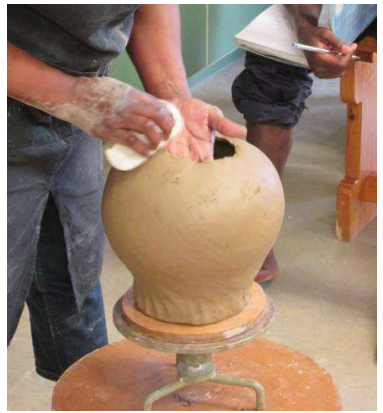
Once we all refreshed with a cup of tea and a biscuit Magdalene started to demonstrate how she makes her pots. While demonstrating it seems as if she's taken in by the clay and her creation as she does not talk much.

The base of the pot is made with a large clay ball, which is pressed open in the centre and the walls pinched out. The walls are then added by attaching thick coils in a circular motion to the wall. After a few coils are attached she starts to smooth the inside of the pot. By smoothing out the inside the outside of the pot is automatically formed.



The tools she uses are all self-made from coconut shell or old plastic buckets, cut to suite her needs.

Once the pot is formed it is set aside to stiffen up before the neck is added. Before the coil for the neck is attached, she first scores the rim. The joint is well worked in and made sure that it does not crack before it's finished off.



After the neck is finished the pot is removed from the bat and the base is formed. The excess clay is cut off until the base has the same thickness as the rest of the pot. Once the piece is leather hard it gets burnished very intensely.





The pot cut in half showed clearly how evenly the walls of the pot are once the bottom has been trimmed.

The last picture shows that a pot can still be altered to give it a totally new shape and expression.

This was a very interesting workshop and while sitting there I felt the urge to get back to my studio and start to coil a pot like this. It looks so tranquil and peaceful the way Magdalene works with the clay and at the end of the day has made this wonderful pot. It's been a great pleasure to have her here in Namibia and I would like to thank her to have made the time available to come and visit us. We hope to see her sometime again.

I would like to thank Mariki Grobler and Genie & Rolf Albrecht for their hospitality and time during Magdalene's stay here in the country.





# NOTICE



7th National Ceramics Biennale 2015

Opening: Thursday 03 September 2015

Venue: National Art Gallery of Namibia

Entry Date: Saturday 29 August 2015

Start working on those  
special pieces





# Cone 5-6 Potter's Choice *Layering*



PC-1  
Clay  
over  
PC-62  
Turkoid  
Amber  
Brown



PC-2  
Clay  
over  
PC-62  
Turkoid  
Amber  
Brown



PC-3  
Clay  
over  
PC-62  
Turkoid  
Amber  
Brown



PC-5  
Clay  
over  
PC-62  
Turkoid  
Amber  
Brown



PC-20  
Clay  
over  
PC-62  
Turkoid  
Amber  
Brown



PC-24  
Clay  
over  
PC-62  
Turkoid  
Amber  
Brown



PC-28  
Clay  
over  
PC-62  
Turkoid  
Amber  
Brown



PC-32  
Clay  
over  
PC-62  
Turkoid  
Amber  
Brown



PC-35  
Clay  
over  
PC-62  
Turkoid  
Amber  
Brown



PC-35  
Clay  
over  
PC-62  
Turkoid  
Amber  
Brown



PC-39  
Clay  
over  
PC-62  
Turkoid  
Amber  
Brown

over  
**PC-62**  
Textured  
Amber Brown

Clay: AMACO® Buff Stoneware No. 46

PC-62 Layering Notes: Apply two layers of base coat. Apply one layer on top coat. (Use clay between coats.)



To learn more:  
[www.layeringpcs.info](http://www.layeringpcs.info)

This full page ad is scheduled to appear in the June/July/August issue of Ceramics Monthly, circulation 25,000, mailing May 15, 2014.

# Art Inside

## Call for Entries

Windhoek — The national arts awareness project 'Art Inside 2015' organised by the National Art Gallery of Namibia (NAGN) in conjunction with the Ministry of Youth, National Service, Sport and Culture, is calling for all Namibian artists to submit their artworks before next February 20.

Art Inside 2015 aims at acquiring original Namibian visual arts for installation in all Ministries and other government premises. The Public Relation Officer (PRO) of the NAGN, Selma Kaulinge, says by installing the artworks at government's premises, the project aims to celebrate visual art as an important mode of creative communication, and to foster an appreciation for visual art as an inherent part of the government's working environment. The project also aims to inspire parliamentarians, government officials and visitors to ministries to engage with visual arts on a daily basis.

However, the NAGN acknowledges artists capacity to create work of an excellent standard and provides an opportunity for Namibian artists to respond creatively to a typical artist/patron situation. Entry forms are available at the NAGN or could be forwarded via email.





# **Membership News**

## **Membership Fees 2015**

At the last committee meeting it has been agreed that the membership fees will increase by 10% as from March 2015. You will receive your invoice from Anita and we kindly request that you pay up your membership fee straight away.

Single Membership Fee: N\$ 350.00

Couple Membership Fee: N\$ 400.00

Student/Pensioner Fee: N\$220.00 (does not receive the NCQ magazine)

Please e-mail your name and payment advice to [pan@iway.na](mailto:pan@iway.na), once you have made your payment. It's very difficult to trace a payment without a name.

Please be reminded that if you get three potters to sign up with PAN in one year, you get a year's membership free. Just ask the respective potter to mention that you introduced them to PAN.

## **PAYMENTS:**

The annual membership fee can be deposited directly into our account at: Standard Bank, Swakopmund Branch #082172, Current Account #240211073 Please fax the deposit form together with completed membership form to: 088643215



# BELMONT ERAMICS

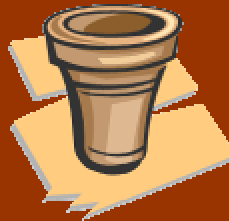
•Your Clay & Pottery Supplier•



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Contact us at the above numbers for any enquiries.



**EVENTS 2015**

**Saturday 14 March  
AGM in Windhoek**

**CSA Clay Festival—March 2015**

**Saturday 29 August  
Entries handed in for the  
7th National Ceramics Biennale**