

PAN 2025 NEWSLETTER



ARTIST XAMMI

C O N T E N T S

A message from us

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A round of Hellos

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POTTERS' ASSOCIATION
OF NAMIBIA



Dear Potters of Namibia,

The new team has officially taken over the reins - or better still, the wheel - from last season's committee, and we are truly excited to create lasting memories for this Namibian Potters community.

Our genuine gratitude goes out to Renate, Jacqui, Cheryl, Rosie and Melody who served our community over the past 8 years. Having made the time in their busy schedules to find ways to create some buzz, events and a space for our shared passion as clay lovers.

We thank Gary Gray, Lesley Crawford and Estee Cuff for remaining on the team, to help us remain focused and build on all the work that has been done over the last 38 years. Yes, the Potters Association of Namibia has been around since the 1980's!

It's also the reason why it is so important to continue with this Association –

to continue building our community and bringing in new artists, expanding our skills through various workshops and also to offer Namibian ceramic artists a space to showcase their creations.

Moving forward, your new team includes Gigi Mathias, Jantje Daun, Svenja Garrard, Estee Cuff, as well as Lesley Crawford and Gary Gray. Our provisional Calendar for 2025 can be found attached to this Newsletter. We hope you enjoy participating at these events. If you have important news to share with the community, please reach out to us.

“ We wish to encourage the growth of the art form that brings us together. To share and exhibit, but most importantly encourage more people to pursue that wonderful satisfaction one finds when creating something with their own two hands. ”

We are here to dedicate time to serve YOU, the Potters of Namibia. We aim to bring exciting workshops, exhibitions and Potters Markets in our country.

Looking forward to sharing ideas, passion and events with you.

Your PAN committee

YOUR PAN 2025 COMMITTEE



GIGI MATHIAS

CHAIRPERSON

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JANTJE DAUN

VICE CHAIRPERSON

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SVENJA GARRARD

SECRETARY

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YOUR PAN 2025 COMMITTEE



ESTEE CUFF

TREASURER

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LESLEY CRAWFORD

ADDITIONAL MEMBER

lesl@iway.na



GARY GRAY

ADDITIONAL MEMBER

grays@iway.na



WHY JOIN PAN

If you share our passion for pottery, are eager to learn new techniques, connect with a supportive community, or simply want to showcase your work to a wider audience - then PAN is for you! Whether you're a beginner or a seasoned artist, PAN provides the perfect platform to develop your craft and be part of Namibia's growing and vibrant pottery scene.

Exclusive Member Benefits

- PAN aims to increase the number of workshops in Namibia, bringing both local and international potters in. PAN Members get **discounts** on these workshops.
- Showcase your teaching studio on the website at no additional fee.

Get Exposure & Showcase Your Work

- PAN will continue to hold the Biennale Exhibition which is a judged event. The aim of this is to stimulate potters to stretch themselves creatively. Exhibitions and Biennale are open **ONLY** to PAN members. By holding such a prestigious event, we help raise the profile of artists and their work in Namibia.
- Get access to exhibitions and events, where you can display and get your work into different galleries around Namibia. In September we have an exciting exhibition at Kamma Studio for all PAN members to join.
- Enjoy access to the Craft Market Centre in Windhoek to showcase and sell your work, as well as Made in Namibia and Kamma Art & Design studio in Swakopmund.

Community & Learning Opportunities

- Join a community and share your passion. In addition to official workshops, we will facilitate video evenings where potters can meet, watch a video together to learn about a particular technique and discuss over a glass of wine or cup of tea. We hope to make this a regular event both in Windhoek and Swakopmund; and will encourage potters throughout.



OFFERING CLASSES?

GET YOUR STUDIO FEATURED ON THE PAN WEBSITE

*We need your updated studio information
to upload to the PAN website and help
get your name out there.*

WHAT WE NEED FROM YOU:

A short brief about you and your studio

A photograph of yourself

The name of your studio

Your contact details

To feature – free of charge – please forward your profile with picture to potters.namibia@gmail.com as soon as possible. Deadline is 30th of May 2025!

2025 PROVISIONAL CALENDAR

D A T E S T O L O O K F O R W A R D T O

WORKSHOPS & EVENTS.

January	February	March PAN membership fees due
April 12.04.2025 Transfer Workshop (Saturday AM) TONFABRIK	May	June 7.06.25 Sculpture Workshop Mitchell Gatsi WINDHOEK 14.06.25 Sprig Making Workshop (Saturday AM) TONFABRIK
July 5.07.25 Sculpture Workshop Mitchell Gatsi SWAKOP 10 – 12.07.25 Throwing Workshop (Thursday PM, Friday whole day, Sat AM) TONFABRIK	August 15 – 16.8.25 Raku Workshop (Fri PM, Saturday whole day) TONFABRIK	September 19.09 - 19.10.25 Exhibition Shapes of the Current KAMMA ART & DESIGN 19 – 21.9.25 PAN Workshop TONFABRIK 27.9.25 Monoprinting Workshop (Saturday AM) TONFABRIK
October 18.10.25 Glazing Workshop (Saturday AM) TONFABRIK	November	December

D A T E S T O L O O K F O R W A R D T O



Mitchell Milton Gatsi

Hand Sculpting Workshop



**5 July
Swakopmund**

**07 June 2025
Windhoek**



S C U L P T U R E W O R K S H O P



Calling
All
Potters

SHAPES OF THE CURRENT



Presented
by PAN
and Kamma



JOIN US AS WE EXPLORE
THE VAST BEAUTY, MYSTERIES
AND COMPLEXITIES OF THE
OCEAN, THROUGH THE
EXHIBITION THEME: SHAPES
OF THE CURRENT.

19 SEPT - 19 OCT '25
KAMMA ART AND DESIGN
Swakopmund, Namibia

OFFICIAL EXHIBITION BRIEF
TO FOLLOW SHORTLY.





SOUTH AFRICAN CLAY AWARDS 2024

In November last year I had the privilege of attending the opening of the first South African Clay Awards 2024 at the Rust-en-Vrede Gallery and Clay Museum in Durbanville, outside Cape Town. The Gallery is accredited as an affiliate member of the International Academy of Ceramics (IAC), and they endorsed this exhibition. The Exhibition was curated by Hennie Meyer, a well-established and successful South African ceramic artist.

A few things stood out for me. The variety, originality and incredible craftsmanship of the fifty pieces exhibited was overwhelming and it was pure joy and wonder to walk through the exhibition and absorb everything. Pieces ranged from fine intricate porcelain work, to large sculptural pieces pushing boundaries of what can be achieved with clay. Some exhibits were bringing poignant, currently relevant themes and messages, others provided some fun.

There were traditional, avant-garde, functional as well as artistic pieces to admire. Different clays, glazes, forms, techniques – everything was on show and each exhibit something special.

Being an accountant by training, what I also found really interesting were the numbers, statistics and process behind the selection for the exhibition. A distinguished panel of ten internationally recognized ceramic experts from all over the globe did the selections. Over five hundred works were submitted by South African potters of which fifty were chosen for the exhibition. These were clay Awards (not a competition), with pieces chosen by selectors (not judges) from photos. The works were chosen anonymously, and the selectors had no contact with each other.

Of the 500 pieces entered for the exhibition, 263 (over half) had a vote by at least one selector. The 50 exhibits chosen had been chosen by at least 3 (almost one third) different selectors. None of the exhibits was selected 10 or more times. I find this fascinating and it shows the diversity of talent and creative expression by South African ceramic artists. It also demonstrates the variety of views, from international ceramic artists, as regards the selection of pieces and merit to be awarded a spot at the exhibition.

In recognition of this diverse talent the awards money was shared amongst the exhibiting artists.

If you would like to know more, you can visit the following website: www.ceramicsnow.org to read an interesting article on the exhibition: "Finding a South African voice: The first SA Clay Awards", 3 Feb 2025.

The website of the gallery, with access to the catalogue of the exhibition is as follows: <https://rust-en-vrede.com/clayawards/>.



PHOTO (D GARRARD): MICHELLE BRINK, SVENJA GARRARD, CAROLA LORCK, GUDRUN AND RUSSEL JOBST, LUMPI (JOHAN NIEUWOUDT HAD ALREADY LEFT)

THROWING WORKSHOP

A wonderful three days were spent at The Tonfabrik in Swakopmund during February doing a throwing workshop with Carola Lorck. Michelle Brink, Johan Nieuwoudt and I have some experience, so it was an opportunity to learn some new skills and grow.

We brought our beloved wheels and relished the dedicated time to work and get messy, without the distractions of jobs and home life. A delightful couple Gudrun and Russel Jobst from the UK (although Gudrun grew up in Walvis Bay), joined our group.

Although fairly new to pottery; they quickly made progress under the guidance of Carola and the table was soon covered in little pots.

They entertained us with stories of their pottery studio in the UK that had so many students, that it needed three classes a day!

It reminded us how lucky we are to have this calm, dedicated space to learn and have fun. On our last morning, we were graced by the presence of the delightful Lumpi who came to check on our progress.

LET'S GET IN TOUCH



We wish to invite all our members to start a dialogue with us. Whether about ideas for PAN, advertising a workshop, how to join PAN, or the potential of finding channels to sell your goods or any other questions. We are here!

Feel free to email Svenja at svenja@qtreeconsulting.com



WANT TO
BECOME A PAN
MEMBER?