



*From the President's desk!*

## Welcome to the February/March 2018 issue of 'PATNZ' Create the official newsletter of Porcelain Art Teachers NZ *Inspire, Inform, Educate!*

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Hello Fellow Artists

Welcome to our first newsletter for 2018

What an amazing hot and dry summer it has been throughout New Zealand. Here in Wellington we had water restrictions and not a lot of rain. It's now official that New Zealand has had the hottest summer since records began. With that in mind I'm sure that not a lot of painting has been done but now that we are going into the cooler autumn months those paint brushes and designs are starting to take shape.

Our two Hutt Valley teachers have now been back teaching for 3 weeks and pupils are keen to learn new techniques so hopefully the year will progress with more people wanting to join our devoted porcelain artists. Please drop me an email [sandra@artonporcelain.co.nz](mailto:sandra@artonporcelain.co.nz) or phone me (my number is at the bottom of the newsletter) if you are interested in joining these classes and one of our teachers will be in touch. You may just want to pop along and have a look at a class in session and that's perfectly fine too.

At our first committee meeting early in February, the committee agreed it's been an excellent year of great progress with the website for **ArtOnPorcelainNZ** and **PATNZ** (Porcelain Art Teachers NZ). We could never have imagined this time last year how far the journey would take us to where we are today!

Our journey in cyber space will be ongoing and this is where I ask each and every one of you for your help and support to ensure we maintain our comprehensive and resourceful website; whilst also maintaining the interesting information updates in the world of porcelain painting.

I ask that each region sends us a precis of what is happening in your region. We would love to know when each association and/or painting group meets and what attractions you have (you never know when

someone may visit and pop in for a look and keen to meet you all) to entice and encourage new members. Also, if you are having an exhibition this year tell us when and if you are having a theme featured!! This could be valuable to everyone and important to anyone who is now watching our website or following us on Facebook and are interested in joining and learning how to paint on porcelain.

I would like contact (phone/email) details of your committee from all active groups please:

- President
- Secretary
- Treasurer
- Liaison person

I will put these on the website, but if you prefer not to have details on view I will just hold them on file for use if and when required. I had intended to phone many of you but alas time has not permitted this.

### *Unit Standards Updates*

This year's "Unit Standard" will be held the weekend of 29 September 2018. The venue has yet to be decided on. I've had the most wonderful news that there are more students who have decided to sit their Unit Standards and will begin with "Unit 1 Soft Flowers" and "Unit 2 Traditional European".

I'm so thrilled to have some new candidates taking on the challenge of completing and learning the variety of porcelain art subjects that make up the Unit Standard programme. I know myself the sense of finishing, achieving and learning the complexities and intricate styles along the way has given me a great grounding to have the confidence of how to teach. Not everyone will want to teach, instead the learning process gives a great insight into porcelain painting. It will give anyone confidence to paint any subject for their own enjoyment. A thank you to their teacher for encouraging them to start. I wish them the best of success.

I feel that this is a very good beginning and has made the efforts of starting our Facebook and website even more important and it's now onward and upwards!

# Painting with Monica!



## More hints for using GOLD

There are four types of gold that can be used for used in porcelain decoration.

The first is:  
Liquid Bright Gold (LB Gold)

This is the most common type of gold used by most porcelain artists.

It is a metallic Lustre and can be easily damaged by contamination with turpentine and many other oils we may use while painting – these may cause the gold to go purple – or have mottled grey finish or become splotchy :-

### TIPS FOR USE

- Use only designated brushes for this purpose
- Use Lavender oil or essence of gold to thin your gold and wash brushes in
- although brushes can be kept pliable hanging from the lid of a jar with Lavender oil in the bottom – so no need to wash after every use and you are not wasting precious Gold!
- LB gold is available in several strengths or % of gold content – the higher the % the better

a) 22% or higher gives a good cover with one application,

b) 12% the most common in use will cover well but may need a second coat.

Anything with a lower gold content will definitely require a second coat – remember to fire after each application.

Ensure your gold is warm and roll it in your hands to make certain it is evenly mixed (DO NOT SHAKE). To warm your gold carry it in a top shirt pocket near your skin for a couple of hours before using.



Before starting wash your hands thoroughly and dry with denatured alcohol or pure methylated spirits also clean the small bowl you will pour your gold onto (DO NOT use directly from the bottle) and the piece you are going to decorate with alcohol or meth. This removes all oils that may damage your gold.

If gold is too thick thin with a little lavender oil or essence of gold to right consistency for an even application from brush or pen.

Once applied leave to dry overnight check and clean off any wayward brush/pen strokes with cotton buds dipped in lavender (leave bud to stand for few minutes to avoid drips).

Make sure your kiln room is well vented. .

## The World of Porcelain Art

### Groups and Exhibitions to look out for:

Starting with our closest neighbour Australia.

#### ▶ APAT (Australasian Porcelain Art Teachers) Queensland will be hosting the 17th Australasian Exhibition and convention of Porcelain Art

Dates 26-30 August, 2019

This will be at Twin Towns Club and Resort, Coolangatta. Gold Coast. There is enough time to book and plan in advance. More information will be posted in the coming Newsletters.

[Contact Apatq2019@gmail.com](mailto:Apatq2019@gmail.com)

#### ▶ APAT (Victoria) are hosting a 4 days seminar with Mariela Villasmil and Mary Gosden

WEEK 1 Afternoon 14 October to 19 October 2018  
with either Mariela or Mary

WEEK 2 Afternoon 19 October to 24th October 2018  
A Fusion of Mariela and Mary together

Open to APAT members only.

#### ▶ I.P.A.T. Miami

#### Filipe Pereira President is hosting the International Porcelain Artists and Teachers Mega Atlantic Convention and Exhibition

Dates 12-18 August 2018

At Double Tree by Hilton

[www.ipatinc.com/CONVENTION.html](http://www.ipatinc.com/CONVENTION.html)



We are now listed on the World Wide network for all Porcelain Art Groups who have a website.

Check out this group by going onto the **ArtOnPorcelain** website, click on the About menu then choose Favourite Links

<https://www.artonporcelain.co.nz/about5>



**ArtOnPorcelainNZ** is a community of like-minded artists and friends who share and promote through events, workshops and exhibitions their love of painting on porcelain.

We welcome all artists, young and old, beginners and masters and all we ask is for your help to share your knowledge through our online social media forum or on our website to keep our art “ALIVE” and relevant in the digital age we are living in. We encourage you to write to us and share photos too. We need your help! *We can't do it alone.*

# An Interview with Phyllis Jenness

## Member of Hutt Valley Porcelain Art Association

A long-time Member of Hutt Valley Porcelain Art Association (HVPAA).

This is a small but wonderful portrait of a Porcelain Artist who has been a member of the HVPAA for over 30 years.

To begin I was very privileged to be welcomed into Phyllis' lovely home situated in the rolling western hills of the Hutt Valley. It is not far from my home in Maungaraki across the hills to Belmont and through the small life styles blocks. So, travelling to visit Phyllis was a tranquil and lovely drive.

Arriving at Phyllis' new home which she moved into about 18 months ago is a wonder. The view of her lovely garden and the space in the quiet cul-de-sac lined with fab trees is an artist's dream.

I was treated to a coffee and Phyllis' famous shortbread. I resisted a second piece although it was so yummy I wished I hadn't.

My first question to Phyllis was "What started her on her journey into painting on porcelain?"



Phyllis described how she went to an Exhibition of Hutt Valley Porcelain Art Association some 30 years ago. There she was fascinated by the wonderful pieces of porcelain painted by Jocelyn Smith, a HVPAA member at the time. What was even more wonderful was that Phyllis could join and begin classes immediately. As Phyllis recalled, she just couldn't

wait to get her starter kit and begin to learn everything about porcelain painting.

Above: "Sparrow on Roses" by Phyllis Jenness



Mountain and cattle scene painted and set into a coffee table by Phyllis Jenness

Along the journey Phyllis painted with Coralie Wallace and Leonie Sellers (Coralie's Sister) and they would travel regularly to Jill Hanlon's home in Waikanae to share their knowledge and learn from each other. At lunch time they would mull over different studies and learn lots of techniques and tips from Jill. Great memories and fun had along the way.

To quote Phyllis, "I have found learning to paint porcelain a challenging and satisfying art form and a great skill to master. Along the way I have met some wonderful ladies who have inspired me and with whom I have become great friends."

Phyllis also wanted to show me her treasurers she has from other porcelain painters that she has collected and have pride of place along with some very beautiful work or her own.



"Butterflies Galore"



"Church Painted Over Gold Overlay"



"Swans" by Phyllis Jenness



"Scene with Gold"  
Lyn Johnson



"Fruit"  
Jean Davidson



The magical heart of ArtOnPorcelainNZ beats with Encouragement, Love of our Art, Respect, and Kindness to All! Please keep that in the forefront of your thinking.

Embrace it! Enjoy it!

Your Partner in Success



Sandra Austin  
(President PATNZ)

A lovely quote I came upon this month - "Each friend represents a world in us, a world possibly not born until they arrive, and it is only by this meeting that a new world is born."  
Anaís Nin 1931-1934



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# ArtOnPorcelainNZ

“The hub for all things porcelain!”

The benefits of joining the **ArtOnPorcelainNZ** online community!

Here at **ArtOnPorcelainNZ** we look upon our online community as “the watercooler for conversations” where porcelain artists and friends can gather around and engage with each other.

You may not realise it, but every artist is a gateway to a door that when opened will stimulate and create conversations between other members of our community in the shape of knowledge sought, knowledge given, and knowledge gained.

We encourage our members to cultivate pride and identity in our New Zealand community of porcelain artists and friends where we provide a safe and warm online place where you can visit and sit a while and be part of a friendly and encouraging group. All artist’s young and old, beginners or masters are welcome.

We endeavour to become a vibrant, engaging “hub” where our members are encouraged to share their wealth of artistic talent and experience not only with each other, but with a new generation of artists looking for information and inspiration.

Members of our community, be it here in NZ or around the world will become our eyes and ears in the world of porcelain painting, making sure everyone is aware of everything that is going on, and helping us echo back what we’re hearing for our members to keep abreast of the conversations going on inside our community.

The world has changed greatly. Once upon a time we all met in each other’s homes or local halls and venues, did our painting projects while chatting over a cuppa or two (or three), exchanged tips, formulated ideas, etc. While that still continues to this day, new “homes” have sprung up in the virtual world of cyber space in the form of “communities” and so it is with our community.

Some of our artists and friends express a little concern about this modern technology; some have even expressed fear. That is perfectly understandable. It has all happened so quickly and it sometimes seems like it is running away from us. Can I impress upon you all that technology in the hands of good people like us here in **AOPNZ** is a tool to enjoy in so many ways; not least a tool that provides our community with a forum (home) that knows no borders. We are all travelling along the information highway together in this new and modern world so let’s not jump off at the next side road, let’s keep the flow of information moving along with us.

We can’t do this alone. We need your help. We want to be a comfortable place for artists and lovers of painting on porcelain to inspire, to inform, and to educate. Sharing information is the key to the longevity of our art. It’s that simple!

Sandra Austin (President PATNZ)