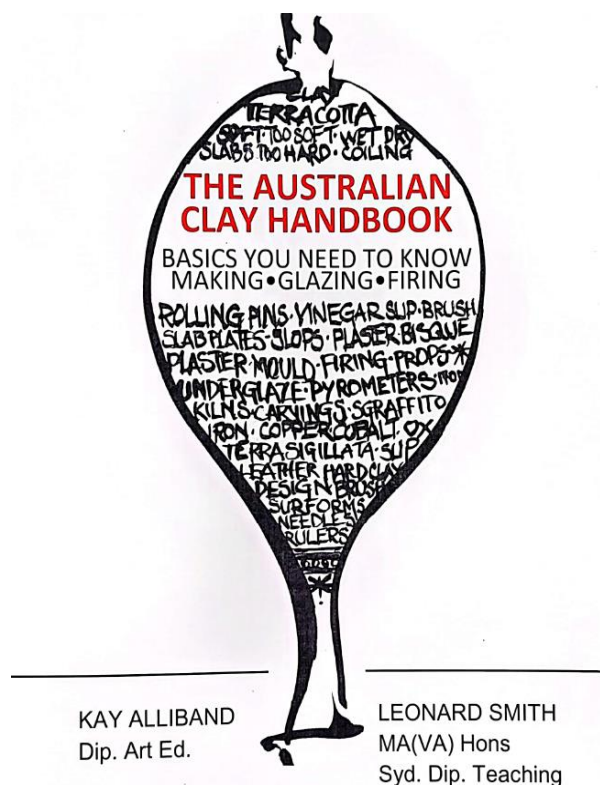


The Australian Clay Handbook



“The Australian Clay Handbook is an excellent, step-by-step guide for ways teachers can make clay work a highly effective and satisfying medium for their students. It has been especially written with school teachers in mind because, as Kay points out in her Introduction, children ‘may have poured love and time into their mini masterpieces’ and the memories of that piece cracking or exploding in the kiln are long lasting - and can be avoided with better knowledge and preparation!

In the school context, very thoughtful consideration is given to products which can be easily obtained in our Australian context and, pleasingly, techniques which not only work well for young potters, but are exciting to look at.

The section on Surface Treatments is a great example with clear steps on making stamps and finding items which can leave fun impressions. Enriching the basic steps are creative prompts, appearing in blue text, which the student (of any age) could pick up and work with.

The section on glazing takes the reader through terminology and must-dos, and gives suggested classroom organisation ideas.

The firing and kiln information is extremely clear and will help the teacher step into this part of the ceramics teaching process with confidence. There is a strong emphasis on explaining what the kiln should look like and how it should work so teachers can understand if something is missing or not working properly.

This book is an excellent blend of nuts-and-bolts, how-to information, enmeshed with creative and sustainable suggestions that can form the base of units of work for students of all ages. It would also assist Year 11 and 12 Senior Visual Arts students who want to understand more about the full process of making ceramics, to give them more agency and insights in their own work.”

Written by Dr Sarah Loch, President, Macquarie Hills Potters, May 2024

The cost for this publication is \$30 plus \$5 for postage and handling.

To place an order, please email:
secretarycsg63@gmail.com