

Area Owners

As a new member of LMCS you are likely to have many questions. Asking other members is a great way to get to know each other. If someone is not able to answer your questions or if you'd like more detailed information reach out to the respective Area Owner.

Community

As a member of LMCS you are part of a community. Volunteers do an amazing job to keep LMCS running smoothly and when you help it spreads the workload so that no one person feels they are doing too much.

Plus One aims to help individuals look for one extra thing they can do to contribute to the community. Please look for the **Plus One** poster to see where you can help.



Cleaning Up

Please leave the pottery area **cleaner** and **tidier** than when you found it. When pottery sessions are wrapping up, it's not fair to leave while others clean up. It only takes 15 minutes if all hands are on deck. If you are unsure what to do, look for the **Cleaning Up** poster and ask around.

LMCS Contacts

Chairperson: Andy Oldham

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Public Relations: Rox Dawson

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Pottery Supervisors

Colin Slattery

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POTTERY AREA INFORMATION AND GUIDELINES FOR LMCS MEMBERS

The Vision for the LMCS is to provide an accessible, safe, friendly, and welcoming inclusive environment that fosters camaraderie, contribute to improved health, happiness, and well-being of all shed members, so benefitting the Cambridge Community.



Safety

Become familiar with the **LMCS Pottery Safe Working Procedure (SWP)**. This document details the hazards associated with pottery and what you can do to keep yourself and others safe. Note the dangers of glaze powders and dry clay particles, the latter being one of the key reasons for keeping our pottery area clean and dust free.



The Pottery Process

The process of creating something with clay is immensely satisfying. There are many ways to start, *hand building* or *wheel throwing* are just two.

Once your piece is ready to be fired, put it on the “Bisque” shelf and the respective **Area Owner** will pack it into the kiln for bisque firing. Once fired, pieces will be put on the “For Glazing” shelf by the person responsible for emptying the kiln. See the **Glazing Guide** and ask for help if you haven’t glazed before.

Glazed pieces are then placed on the “Glazed” shelf ready for glost firing and when that process is complete your creation will be ready for collecting using the “Weigh and Pay” pricing system.

Clay

At LMCS we encourage the use of **Stoneware PB103**. This clay is also available for sale.

Clay recycling buckets are stationed at each wheel. Do not allow any earthenware clay to mix in the buckets and make sure no other foreign materials make their way in.

Keep the lids on to avoid evaporating of the water in the buckets. Clay should be below the surface of the water. If the water level gets close to the lip of the bucket, then please decant the water.

If the bucket itself is more than 50% full of clay, it needs to be emptied out for recycling.



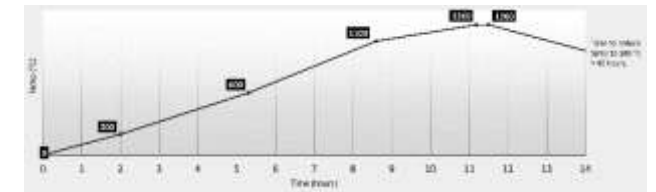
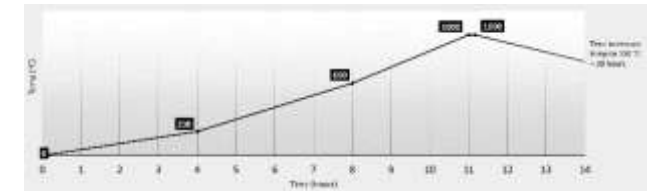
Glazes

A small selection of stoneware glazes is provided. Glazes are expensive therefore please be careful with them. See the **Glazing Guide** for further information and the **Area Owners** poster for a list of people responsible for the glazes.

The Kiln and Firing

At LMCS we have two electric kilns that are both used for the two stages of firing: bisque and glost.

Bisque firing is done to 1000 °C and glost firing is usually done to Cone 9 (1260 °C) however a “mid-fire” (cone 5/6) program can also be run on the premise that the kiln is filled. Please liaise with a Kiln **Area Owner** to organise.



Pricing of Fired Pieces

A pricing system exists to help cover some of the costs in the Pottery area and in turn keep LMCS self-sustaining.

Once your piece has been through its final firing (typically glost but can also be second bisque firing) please weigh it and enter it into the Pricing App.

Note: if you are not happy with your piece it still needs to be paid for.