



CHATTER

CAPE POTTERY SUPPLIES - P O BOX 36, STEENBERG, 7966

RETREAT BRANCH :Kiln Contracts Building,
11 Celie Road, Retreat 7945
MONTAGUE GARDENS BRANCH : Claybright ® Building,
No 1 Stella Mews, 23 Stella Rd, Montague Gardens
SOMERSET WEST BRANCH : 3a Stuart Close
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From Sydne in Retreat Branch

I have been here nearly a year and I have found it to be a very rewarding experience. I have met some wonderful people who inspire me everyday.

This is the year for change, we've experienced some trying times but it has not deterred us, in fact it keeps us motivated. We are launching a new Walford China white clay in April and it is a beautiful white bodied clay, suitable for wheel and hand work.

Please feel free to visit our new and improved showroom to see our exciting range of products.

From Greg in Montague Gardens Branch

The new year is well on it's way to becoming mid-year and it seems that it will be one full of challenges and opportunities. Power outages are affecting everyone and causing anything from annoyance to chaos and a resolution doesn't seem any nearer. Planning for the (hopefully large) influx of 2010 tourists should begin now and not left too late. What may or may not sell? What condition are your moulds in? Is your kiln too small to handle any large repeat orders? Do you have sufficient drying space? Are the outlets that sell your pots/sculptures doing the job or should you be looking at alternatives?

Due to the nature of our business the sourcing and availability of raw materials changes very often – see elsewhere in the Chatter news on clay and slip changes/ improvements. We are continuously looking at new products and extending our colour ranges so do pop into our showrooms on a regular basis to come and have a look and discuss your needs.

Make use of this effect: from Potters Questions and Answers page 137.

Glazes that have an overload of colouring oxides can be used to good effect on decorative and sculptural pieces. One such glaze, firing between 1200- 1260 °C has a bronze appearance and is made from 12 parts red clay, 76 parts manganese dioxide, 13 parts copper, mixed with stain binder to help it adhere to the pot. Such glazes are very fluid and you must protect your shelves from runs. Do not apply them to domestic ware, because the extreme quantity of oxides can seep into food during use.

From Aafke in Somerset West Branch

Everyone always wants to know: "what's new?"

We have a new set of 12 fine metal **wax carving tools** (actually 24, as each tool has a different shape at each end). These are wonderful for fine sculptural work.

Applicator bottles no longer come in only one shape or nozzle size. Try the 16 and 18 gauge underglaze **applicator bottles**. We also are giving a local fabric paint applicator bottle a look in. Let us know if you might be interested in us stocking these. We have samples in the shop.

We have beautiful new white clay bodies coming through. Try our **NEW High Fire Porcelain casting slip** (HCS004). We have samples in the shops – compare the White Stoneware casting slip to the High Fire Porcelain (both taken to 1200°C/cone 5 with the BG6004 Transparent Glaze).

We have **soft soap** back in stock!

Very soon we will have **colour charts** of our new Claybright colours! Keep your eyes peeled.

We also have the **black rubber kidneys!**



WORKSHOPS IN CPS SOMERSET WEST

THURSDAY DEMO'S

Times: 9.30am to 11am

Cost: R65-00 per person per demonstration workshop

FREE samples of various products at the Demo's!

Temperature Controller or Cones? 28 Feb 2008

Extruders 13 March 2008

Amaco, Gare or Claybright? 17 April 2008

Porcelain 8 May 2008

Glazing 22 May 2008

Firing 5 June 2008

Slipcasting 19 June 2008

Book now with Aafke - tel: 021-8523548

WEDNESDAY COURSES

Embracing Glaze

Trained as a painter (as well as a potter), Elsabe loves using more than one glaze at a time, when decorating her pieces. Play with her and various Low Stoneware Glazes. Discover patterning and blending. Try painting with glaze – rather than underglaze – and not just covering the surface of a piece with one colour. Be a potter pointillist, impressionist or Picasso...

The course will run over 4 weeks, every Wednesday, beginning 16 April through to 7 May 2008.

Times: 9.30am to 12pm

Cost of the course is R570.00 (VAT inclusive)

NAKED CLAY

The surface of natural unglazed clay can be truly beautiful. Join Elsabe in celebrating clay

in it's "naked" state. Create texture within the body of the clay itself and complement this by using oxide washes, while contrasting with smooth surface areas.

The course will run over 4 weeks, every Wednesday, beginning 14 May through to 4 June 2008 .

Times: 9.30am to 12pm

Cost of the course is R450.00 (VAT inclusive)

Impasto 3-D's

Claybright 3-D's are more versatile than just squeeze-out-the-bottle. Let Elsabe show you how to use them in an impasto style – thick, juicy, generous – in the style of a painting. Be Rembrandt, van Gogh, Auerbach!

Decorate your own functional painting/plate to take home with you. FREE: **3 brushes** and a **Palette Knife**.

The course will run over 3 weeks, every Wednesday, beginning 11 June through to 25 June 2008.

Times: 9.30am to 12pm

Cost of the course is R460.00 (VAT inclusive)



NEWS/ NEW RELEASES

HIGH FIRE PORCELAIN CASTING SLIP – NEW and IMPROVED – more white!

SUPER PORCELAIN CASTING SLIP – NEW and IMPROVED WHITENESS and TRANSLUCENCY - available March 2008.

From April 2008 the old Walford White will be made using an Asian Kaolin, expected to be slightly greyer and less suitable for handwork. Walford China White will also be available from April 2008 made with the new whiter kaolin.

No more backaches - our Brazilian lightweight kiln shelves are finding favour, large stocks just arrived. For volume discounts for 25 or more contact the Retreat Branch.

NEW BOOKS

Arriving shortly in our showrooms :

The Art of Handbuilt Ceramics by Susan Bruce.

Macro-Crystalline Glazes by Peter Ilsley

Colour in Clay by Jane Waller

Working with Paperclay by Anne Lightwood.



CSA – POTTERS MARKET COMPETITION !

Winner of the CPS Voucher for R 750-00 is :

**Yvonne Thurtell
Congratulations!**



HINTS & TIPS

Tired of pieces collapsing on you when coil building? Here is a tip to make your life a little easier.

When you are busy coiling and you suspect that the piece is getting too wet – STOP.

Cover the top of the rim of the piece with a strip of plastic. Lay one half of the plastic on the outside of the rim about 3 –4 cm down – plastic will stick to the wet clay. Then proceed to fold the plastic over the rim to the inside – all the time making sure that it adheres to the wet clay. The inside must be about the same

width as the outside.

This will stop the rim from drying out, leave the rest of the piece uncovered to dry out slightly and stiffen. Take care not to dry the bottom of your piece too much only enough that it becomes leather hard.

Remove the plastic strip and carry on building. Repeat this process until you have completed your piece. If you plan to be building over a few days just remember to check the piece in the morning. If a little wobbly – cover the rim and give the bottom a chance to stiffen before carrying on.

Happy Building!



From Craig's desk

As potters we are currently being challenged by the power cuts and possible penalties for using large quantities of energy.

For clients who have our Model 3 controller with the rectangular LED's we have good news. This controller can be set to restart through the entire firing schedule. It is configured to not restart above 250°C. Should you wish to change to full restart, then by referring to page 9 – OEM Settings of the manual, Item 8, it is possible to set the controller to restart as described above. If you have lost this manual please feel free to contact us.

The downside occurs when a firing is interrupted just before the end of the firing cycle on a glaze firing. It is possible that by re-firing and the temperature drops by 100°C one would do virtually double the heat work on the glazes. This could result in the appearance of over-fired glazes.

In order to estimate what a firing would cost you, use the following formula :

Multiply the kilowatt (kW) rating of your kiln by the current rate per kW in your area

(approximately 40 cents today), and multiply by 60% of the firing time (typically a 10 hour firing using full power).

So in our case an 8 cubic foot kiln is rated at 10kW over a 10 hour firing therefore

10 kw x 10 hrs x 0,60 time x 0,40 cents = R24.00 and you would have used approximately 60 kW of energy.

Happy firing!



Ceramics Southern Africa

Calendar of Events 2008

8 March	Annual General Meeting	Rust-en-Vrede
15 March	Potters Market	Rondebosch
25 April	Decorex	CTICC
24 May	Pre Winter Workshop	Rust-en-Vrede
22 August	Peter Beard talk/slide show	Rust-en-Vrede
23 August	Peter Beard workshop	Rust-en-Vrede
16 November	Regional Exhibition	Rust-en-Vrede
22 November	Potters Market	Rondebosch



It is with great sadness that we announce the untimely passing of Marianne von der Lippe. Marianne was vibrant, young and committed to her community in Namibia. She shared her knowledge and enthusiasm with the Namibians freely. Our deepest sympathy to her Norwegian parents, partner Ismael and their young baby.

The Potter's Association of Namibia

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MICHAEL GUASSARDO WORKSHOPS:

Swakopmund 19/20 April 2008

Windhoek 26/27 April 2008

Cost N\$ 240.00 per PAN member
N\$ 380.00 for non-members

What to bring : Notepad and pencil. Small bowl, plate or other for glazing (bisque, not to be too thin). Paint brush and small sponges (some cut into shapes i.e. petal ± 2cm long) Towel etc.

SCOTT HURD WORKSHOP:

Otjiwarongo 24/25 May 2008 (Monday 26.05.08 is a public holiday)

Throwing Clinic for anyone - beginners and experienced.

Cost N\$ 240.00 per PAN member,
N\$ 380.00 for non-members

Come and enjoy a weekend away from home together with likewise thinking people who enjoy playing with clay.

What to bring: YOUR OWN WHEEL, well prepared clay (at least 3 x more that you intend to work away), turning tools, bats and any other tools/equipment you normally work with. Lots of energy and pottery spirit for this weekend.

For any further information we can be contacted under:
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FOR SALE

Kiln KTL051 – 5.1 cubic foot / 146 lt

Plus ramp controller very good cond.

R 11 000-00 or nearest offer.

Phone 021-790 2609 or 082 297 5223

Front Loader Kiln

Internal Dimensions: 600 x 550 x 450cm

together with accessories (elderly potter retiring) R5000.00 ono

Phone : 021 855 4964



THE NEXT CPS CHATTER IS DUE OUT IN JUNE 2008.

Adverts are charged at a minimum of R50-00 per advert for 25 words and R5-00 per word thereafter, to a maximum of 50 words. Adverts are entered on a first come first served basis, as space is limited.