



CHATTER

No:2/2007

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

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From Retreat Branch

The only constant thing in life is change..." It's been three months and so much has happened here at Cape Pottery Supplies! In April we launched our fabulous new colours: Cherry Red, Red Flame and Yummy Yellow and the response has been amazing. It seems as if we all were waiting for that perfect red and then' Voila!' And that's just the beginning...

This month we are launching our new decorating slips and our new stains.
Please feel free to visit any of our branches to see our new range; it's very interesting to see the intensity in colour at different firing temperatures.

Yes, things are constantly changing here at Cape pottery Supplies, and change is always good for art!

New Decorating Slips

1200C

1070C

1070C



New Stain

1200 C

1070 C

1070 C



From Greg in Montague Gardens Branch

Here we are in the middle of our "green season". The good early rains have indicated that a spectacular flower show awaits the Namaqualand and West Coast come springtime. Taking a walk

along the beach after a storm one comes across all kinds of interesting jetsam spewed out of the sea and I find myself adding to a growing collection of "collectables" to be used for future inspiration.

Those of you who have wood fires could try and collect the ash for making ash glazes. The sort of tree, shrub or plant, the soil in which it grew and even the time of year it was cut down are all factors which will affect the content of the ash, and finally the glaze. Ideally the ash should be well burnt and all the fine particles collected and stored, ready for sifting and washing. The textures which result from the incorporation of wood ash may be interesting, unusual and, sometimes, beautiful, with subtle colour.

Good books to refer to are Emmanuel Cooper's book The Potter's Book of Glaze Recipes or Harry Fraser's book Glazes for the Craft Potter for recipes and additional information on ash glazes.

Our move should now be happening sometime during the fourth quarter of the year as we've had to wait for the transfer to go through and the rains not being too good for digging foundations or building. We're all looking forward to the additional space and being able to offer workshops, etc once this happens.

The half price sale of the discontinued colours of Gare glazes, underglazes and non-fire products is continuing, so do come and scratch for those favourites while stocks last. The non-fired products are a very good quality acrylic and have many applications to tell your friends who enjoy painting, card making etc. Have fun!

TIP

As you glaze the inside of your pots, the clay soaks up water. If you immediately try to glaze the outside, the clay is too saturated to hold enough liquid to give an adequate coating. After glazing the inside, leave pots to dry overnight. The outside will then take up a good covering of glaze to give you better results.

From Aafke in Somerset West Branch

One of my customers runs workshops in which he teaches people communication skills. Apparently, the workshop is packed quite densely with

information. My customer found that although the participants felt they benefited immensely from it, once home, they got back into their old routine and forgot to practice what they had learnt. Now, at each workshop participants paint a biscuit mug with underglazes, which is later fired and given to them. Whenever they use this mug, they are reminded of the skills they learnt, and are able to practice and incorporate them into their daily lives.

With every one of Elsabé's increasingly successful workshops, not only do you get access to the knowledge Elsabé & Cape Pottery Supplies have acquired over the years, but you also go home with pottery items that not only contain the knowledge learnt, but also the memory of the experience. And often you also get FREE tools or brushes! Not to mention the absolutely delicious tea/coffee and cake, great company and networking opportunities!

Have a look at our exciting new cycle of workshops and demonstration courses on offer for the second half of this year. Choose a workshop/demo, come to Somerset West and blow the cobwebs away!

"In glost firing, to see cones, blow through spy-hole – helps visibility" Tim Morris, Sgraffitti (1973- 1984) (No.12).



WORKSHOPS IN CPS SOMERSET WEST

Times: 9.30am to 11am

Cost: R65-00 per person per demonstration workshop

FREE samples of various products!

Making your own stamps 30 August 2007

Learn how easy it is to make your own mark! Stamps can be used to sign your work as well as create individual patterning. Find out how.

Resist and Masking Techniques 13 Sept 2007

Simple techniques are shown of how to create stunning decorative effects on your work- easily!

Modelling Faces

27 Sept 2007

Sculpting a face is not as difficult as one thinks. Let Elsabé show you a few tricks of the trade!

Brushes & Brushstrokes **11 Oct 2007**

Let Elsabé demonstrate easy techniques of brushwork that create striking decorative & artistic designs. Bring your own brushes & let her show you how to make the most of them.

Handles, lids and spouts **25 Oct 2007**

Find out the secret to making these essential parts of any vessel.

Lettering Techniques **8 Nov 2007**

Be introduced to a variety of methods of using lettering in ceramics in a functional or decorative way. Learn about the variety of tools and materials used to create lettering and broaden your knowledge of the alphabet available to you.

Book now with Aafke - tel: 021-8523548

WEDNESDAY COURSES

Stunning Stains & Playful Paperclay

Join Elsabé Harries once again for an exciting adventure with Paperclay and stains. Learn how to work with paperclay, with emphasis on how to join the clay, be it wet or dry. Find out how to add on small details (flowers, texture, handles, decoration). Discover how to hand build a lid. Make your own stamps/sprig moulds. Use a slabroller. Utilize our vibrant range of coloured stains to decorate the vessel. Mix it into the clay or using it mixed with our new stain binder - like an underglaze.

FREE! – 2 different tools, 2 excellent brushes & a mask! And take home a wealth of knowledge, a memory of fun and **a unique sculptural lidded vessel created by you.** All materials provided.

The course will run over 5 weeks, every Wednesday, beginning 22 August 2007 through to 19 September 2007. Times: 9.30am to 12pm
Cost of the course is R625 -00 (VAT inclusive)

Egyptian Paste

Join Elsabé Harries in a 2-day workshop learning how to make items from Egyptian Paste with moulds individually made by you.

Egyptian paste is "(a) prepared body which creates its own glaze during drying and firing. It was used from pre-dynastic to Roman times in Egypt and was

developed for the production of beads, charms, special models and vessels. Archaeologists gave the objects the misleading name of Egyptian faience. A number of potters use Egyptian paste for making beads and small ornamental pieces. The low-plasticity body is difficult to work but the resulting colours, especially the copper turquoise, make it an attractive material."

-The Potter's Dictionary of Materials and Techniques by Frank and Janet Hamer

All materials and tools are provided! FREE firing! Take home **items and beads unique to you** and a connection to a tradition of pottery begun in Egypt.

The course will run over 2 weeks, every Wednesday, beginning 3 October through to 10 October 2007.
Times: 9.30am to 12pm
Cost of the course is R160 -00 (VAT inclusive).

MUGS 'N JUGS

Elsabé is becoming well known for wowing customers with her simple, effective use of lace to create texture and bring out the best in glazes. Make Mugs 'n Jugs with Elsabé Harries using slabbing, templates, impressed decoration (lace, leaves, sprigs) and our exciting Living Colour 1200°C glazes.

Take home a **full set of unique 4 Mugs and a Jug** handcrafted by you, with memories of fun & creativity! A three-day workshop. **All materials and tools provided.**

The course will run over 3 weeks, every Wednesday, beginning 17 October 2007 through to 31 October 2007.
Times: 9.30am to 12pm
Cost of the course is R350 -00 (VAT inclusive)

MARBLING!

Play with Clay with Elsabé! Elsabé's demo on Marbling & Inlay work with Clay has always been popular. Now you'll get the chance to try out the techniques yourself – not just watch, listen & learn, but get it in the body, too. Colour your own clay and, while pinching a pot, learn how to marble and blend the clay. Try out inlay work – the use of colour clay to make patterns and decoration – and make slabbed, moulded bowl. Get your hands full of clay colour!

Go home with two beautiful bowls, handcrafted by you and a FREE metal kidney! All materials and tools provided.

The course will run over 2 weeks, every Wednesday, beginning 7th November 2007 through to 14th November 2007. Times: 9.30am to 12pm
Cost of the course is R210-00 (VAT inclusive)

NEWS/ NEW RELEASES

BOOK SALE IN AUGUST

50 % discount on selected books available in Retreat branch only – all other books less 15 % discount (retail price only).

Our Website is up!

www.capepotterysupplies.co.za.

Our newsletter is evolving and with the convenience of the internet we look forward to including much more colour content for our readers who receive the CPS Chatter online. We believe that the postal edition will be a thing of the past in the next few years as most of our readers will be online by then.

WEBSITE COMPETITION!

We are offering a prize of R 500-00 CPS voucher to be drawn before our next newsletter. To enter for this prize simply send us an e-mail requesting to receive the CPS Chatter via e-mail in future. If you already receive the Chatter via e-mail you will automatically be entered into the draw.

(Please include your name & postal address)

Winner of the R 500-00 CPS voucher

Ceramics SA Rondebosch Potters Market in March 2007 – participants were given a R 10-00 voucher by Craig, persons redeeming this voucher were then automatically entered into our R 500-00 voucher draw.

THE WINNER IS: **Catherina Pagani**



HINTS & TIPS

Sick and tired of glaze settling? Here are a few remedies that can help.

1. Try adding 5 % of Epsom salts to the glaze. Dissolve the salts in some hot water first before adding it to your glaze. This should thicken the glaze without making it lumpy.
2. If you are making your own glaze and there is raw clay in the glaze, 1% Bentonite, can be added to the recipe in dry form to help with the suspension once wet.
3. You can also add some glue to the glaze slop, like gum Arabic or CMC. The gums should first be dissolved before you add it to the glaze.

All of these will help the glaze to stay in suspension for longer, but always remember to stir the glaze every so often when glazing for an even distribution of the glaze materials on the surface of the glaze item.



From Craig's desk

Last year we sadly had to report the untimely death of our driver Shadreck Buzo. For our Cape Town clients, we are happy to say that his nephew, Fezile Buzo has completed his driving exams after 9 months of hard work. Both Shadreck and Fezile started as labourers in the Clayman factory. This week Shadreck's son, Mzuvukile is receiving training as our forklift driver. We welcome him as a valuable member of our team.

This year has been a year where we have been campaigning to review our products and improve the ranges and their displays. Visitors to our showrooms cannot miss the new decorating slips, stains and Claybright boards where we have added new colours and improved bases.

We are currently busy with our stoneware glazes, both the lazer and living colour ranges. The mould range will follow this and then the earthenware glazes.

For our porcelain clients – watch this space!

In 6 weeks time we expect to have available in our branches the world renowned **Southern Ice from Australia**. Let us know if you are interested and we will e-mail you as soon as it is in store.

HAPPY POTTING!



**THE POTTERS' ASSOCIATION OF
NAMIBIA**

The Potters' Association of Namibia warmly invites you to join us in celebrating our 20th Anniversary in Windhoek!

An exciting program of events opens on Fri. 24 Aug '07 with "Celebration", a theme exhibition of members' work, and the launch of our documentary book "20 Years of P.A.N.", at the Omba Gallery.

A retrospective exhibition of work by the late "Doreen Hildenhagen, P.A.N.'s First Chairlady" opens on Sat. 25 August at Studio 77.

A weeklong "Clay Fest" takes place in the Old Breweries Craft Centre Courtyard, offering many activities for all including: fun-filled "Clay Olympics" challenges, a night-time "Raku Firing Spectacular", skills demonstrations, hands-on workshops, audio-visual presentations and lectures, projects for public participation, and stalls selling locally made pottery and ceramics. This Clay Fest starts on 25 August and ends in the afternoon of Sat. 1st Sept.

All Clay Lovers are most welcome!
For detailed information please contact Sharon at
Tel. & Fax. +264-64402875
Email to: flew@iway.na or to: pan@iway.na



Ceramics Southern Africa

CALENDAR OF EVENTS 2007

18 August Winter Workshop
October Regional Exhibition
17 November Rondebosch Potters Market

CERAMICS SA WINTER WORKSHOP 2007

The annual Winter Workshop will take place at Rust-en-Vrede in Durbanville on Saturday 18 August at 9am.

The programme for the day:

David Walters throwing a variety of forms and problem solving

Clive Sithole, the hot potter from Durban, coil building and smoke firing

Nicolla Harris, ceramist and Interior Designer will discuss product design and creating with slabs

John Bauer will discuss his concepts and ways with clay

Betsy Nield will present a paper clay workshop with emphasis on concept and technique

Panel discussion on the "Future of South African

Ceramics" panelists are, Clementina van der Walt, Kate Carlyle, Chris Silverston, Hennie Meyer and Toni Burton

Cost Members of CSA R200 for the day & non-members R300 (tea and lunch included)

Information and booking details from Hylett

Engelbrecht 021-976 6316 or Ralph Johnson 021-671 6139



FOR SALE

TEARS, The Emma Animal Rescue Society has the following for sale:

Large Kiln, Small Kiln, both Top Loaders All kiln furniture. In excellent working order.

Moulds, over 300 in good condition

Bisque Ware, unpainted. Bisque Ware, painted

Casting Slip Paints, Paintbrushes. Decoupage:

Materials. Please contact: MARGE KRUYT

TEL: 021 785 4482 OR 084 805 81 85

Harpers Kiln – Model 3,5 plus controller R 4500.

Reinders Kiln – Model 4,6 plus controller R 6900.

Tel : 021-9131415 (5-8pm) Claudia

**THE NEXT CPS CHATTER IS DUE OUT IN
October 2007.**

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.