



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
Somerset Business Park, Somerset West

web : www.capepotterysupplies.co.za

E-MAIL : info@capepotterysupplies.co.za

TEL: (021) 701-1320/1

FAX: (021) 701-3179

TEL : (021) 551 8085

FAX : (021) 551 9140

TEL : (021) 852 3548

FAX : (021) 852 8344

From Sydne in Retreat Branch

Our new Chrysanthos stock and tools have finally arrived! The new range of Chrysanthos colours are amazing and our ceramist Elsabe has been experimenting with our Claybright White 3D and the Crysanthos Fantasy glaze to give you some idea of what you can achieve. One often gets stuck in a rut when it comes to decorating. It's quite exciting to try something new and get out of one's comfort zone!

Our new tools are ideal for turning and handwork. They consist of a 4 piece plastic knife set and a 4-piece ribbon tool set. To view our extensive range of products please visit our website at www.capepotterysupplies.co.za

Happy potting!

From Greg in Montague Gardens Branch

Very often we have a customer who walks into one of our showrooms who is completely baffled by the array of clay bodies, glazes, underglazes and tools on display. It can be quite daunting if you are a "newbie" and not always sure of what tools, clay or glaze you actually require. I have therefore decided to give some information on what tools are used for what purposes in my article, hope it helps:

1. Cutting wires: A wire is essential for wedging clay and cutting pots off a wheel head, whether they are thrown or handbuilt. Wires are usually +/- 45cm long, with wooden toggles at each end.

2. Potters Knife: Potters knives have long, narrow pointed sharp blades to make cutting of wet clay easier.
3. Rasp (Surform) blade: This extremely useful tool can be used to pare down surfaces and level rims. The marks left by the blade can be used as decorative surface texture.
4. Potters Needle: A potter's needle is useful for marking rims while rotating the work on a banding wheel before cutting. It can also pierce holes for decoration or the release of air bubbles in clay.
5. Metal kidney: The metal kidney is possibly the most useful tool. It can be used to refine the clay surface. Kidneys come in various shapes, sizes and thicknesses. They can also have serrated edges for paring down rough surfaces.
6. Turning tools: These tools are most often used to trim the bases of pots on the wheel, but they can also be useful for hollowing out handmade shapes, especially sculptural ones.
7. Hole cutter: Hole cutters come in a variety of sizes, usually with a tapering metal blade. The cutter is turned as it is pushed through the clay to make holes of different sizes.
8. Wooden modelling tools: These tools are available in an enormous variety of

shapes. Many potters only use one or two of them to serve many functions.

9. Rubber kidneys: This is a flexible kidney used for very fine smoothing and compacting of clay surface.
10. Sponges: All potters need a selection of natural or man-made sponges. These are used to remove excess water from the insides and surfaces of pots as well as for applying decorative techniques with glazes and underglazes.

When it comes to brushes, these are normally a very personal decision of which ones you are happy to work with. Don't throw away old toothbrushes! They are useful for roughing up clay surfaces thus replacing the need for scoring and slipping because they combine both tasks. They can also be used for spattering glaze or slip decoration.

On a closing note, many of you will have seen our new Chrysanthos range of brush-on glazes now in our showrooms. A huge variety of colours and effects are available. My favourites are the Crackle Glazes and the Fantasy Crystals that come in a dry form. These have both opened up huge possibilities of being able to combine our various stain colours with the clear crackle glaze, or the crystals with our Claybright underglazes, our earthenware glazes or even Gare glazes. The Gun Metal glaze in this range also fires to a lovely silvery steel colour.

Warm wishes and happy potting, Greg.

From Aafke in Somerset West Branch

NEW in our shops is:
Swissgarde SKIN PLUS Skin Protector Crème

This is a technically advanced skin protecting formula, containing PROTECTIN-S, a safe, non-toxic, skin barrier that effectively protects the skin against many irritants, almost like an invisible glove. One application is usually effective for up to four hours, even after washing the skin several times. It is great to protect against skin irritations caused by washing with detergents, household bleaches, pool chemicals, oven cleaners, etc. and protects against nappy rash and bedsores, grease,

oil, glue, cement, ink, paints, solvents and many other harsh products.

Apply your normal hand cream. Allow it to sink into your skin and then apply the Skin Plus. The Skin Plus will seal in the moisture of the hand cream and **protect your skin from many toxic substances.**

For potters it is great because, unlike normal creams, it **will not leave greasy marks on bisqueware** that would repel glaze. It's perfect for those with sensitive skin, or skin that is dried out by regular working with clay. It's more likely to protect against toxic oxides or glazes.

A "Grapevine" Tip

Here's a tip passed onto me by Esme Engelbrecht, who got it from her teacher Hennie Meyer, who got it from his student, Marinda Roussouw...

For small cracks in greenware:

Mix icing or castor sugar into clay that is just a little softer than leatherhard clay, and put this into the crack. The filled crack will set hard, and be less likely to appear once the item is fired.



TRANSFERS

Cape Pottery Supplies now offers a range of limited edition transfers with which one can decorate the crockery of one's choice.

Lauren Skoll and Marguerite Joubert of well-known JT McMaster will share some of their skilled knowledge on Transfers/Decals. They will give a talk on the technical processes involved in the designing, making and applying of transfers, and answer any questions on the subject.

They will also guide you through the process of applying transfers onto ceramic surfaces. Each participant will receive a FREE mug and transfer, and a FREE firing of the mug by Cape Pottery Supplies.

Tea/coffee and biscuits/muffins will be provided.

The course will run on Saturday 1 August 2009.

Times: 9.30am to 11.30am

Cost of the course is R150 -00 (VAT inclusive)

WEDNESDAY WORKSHOPS IN SOMERSET WEST.

Join Elsabe Nel-Harries on Wednesday mornings. She runs these **excellent** workshops, answers your questions and helps with ideas, inspiration and techniques

Times: 9.30am to 12pm
Cost:R150.00 each

The Glazing & Firing Package

Do both or just one!

Glazing 12 August 2009

Be given hands-on guidance on how to glaze. Using our Living Colours glazes, dip-glaze a mug and brush glazes onto a bowl/side plate for a multi-layered effect. Items to be packed in the kiln during the Firing workshop and thereafter fired.

All you wanted to know about the basics of glazing. When is a glaze the right consistency? What are the differences between dipping, spraying or brushing on a glaze? When dipping, what is the best method to use? And much more... Bring your glazing questions.

Firing 19 August 2009

Be shown how to pack a bisque kiln and help pack a glaze kiln.

All you wanted to know about the basics of kiln packing and the firing procedure. How does the density of your kiln packing affect the firing process? How does one fire a kiln? Why fire with cones? Why use a controller? What happens at different stages of the firing process. What are the differences between bisque and glaze firings? Find out whatever you've wanted to know. Come with questions.

The dot in between

Dotty Bowl 26 August 2009
Learn how to colour clay and using this and a mould, create a strikingly vibrant "dotty" bowl.

Mosaic Month

Join us in a month of mosaic magic. Each week over the month of September, learn different techniques that can be applied in order to make mosaic tiles. From slabbing to mouldmaking to glazing. Join us for all of them, or just those that interest you.

Slabmade tiles

Did you know that when you roll out clay you align the clay particles in one direction and that your slab will shrink more in one direction than in another? Find out more about slabbing (both practical and theoretical) while making your own tiles, eg. how to stop tiles warping and what clay to use.

Tile moulds 9 September 2009

Bring found objects (eg. buttons), and using these as well as the tiles made in the "slabmade tiles" workshop, learn how to make your own slipcast moulds for mosaic tiles. For those joining us for this workshop, who were not able to do the first in the mosaic series, tiles will be provided.

Slipcasting tiles 16 September 2009

Learn to cast slip into the moulds made in the previous workshop to create tiles. Moulds will be provided for those who were unable to participate in previous workshops.

Glazing tiles 23 September 2009
Using the tiles made in the previous 3 weeks and our exciting NEW Chrysanthos glazes, learn how to apply glaze to your tiles in the most effective ways – whether dipping or brushing-on, and using one glaze or multi-glazes. Tiles will be provided for those who were not able to do the first 3 courses.

A bit of Everything!

Join us for another cycle of 4 half-day workshops. Complete the whole cycle and learn mould making in its simplest form, make your own bowl and decorate

it in a multi-faceted way, or join us for only those parts of it that interest you.

One Part Mould 7 October 2009

Learn how to make a simple one-part plaster-of-paris mould. Bring a plain glass or plastic bowl with which to make the mould.

Slipcasting 14 October 2009

Using the mould made in the previous workshop or one provided for the purpose, cast a two-tone bowl. Learn everything you need to know about the properties of good slip, as well as casting and fettling.

Carving 21 October 2009

Using the two-tone bowl cast in the previous workshop, or one provided for the purpose, learn how to carve into greenware.

Clay crayons & underglaze pencils 28 Oct 2009

Learn how to make your own clay crayons. Using these and underglaze pencils, decorate the bowl you carved in the previous workshop or a bisque item provided for the purpose.

All materials and tools provided.

Your payment secures your position. In the event of less than 5 people booking for the course, a full refund will be given. Refunds will be given if cancellations are received prior to the start of the course: 50% of cost of course refunded if a week or less notice given, otherwise full refund.

Book now with Aafke - tel: 021-8523548 or e-mail : aafke@capepotterysupplies.co.za



NEW PRODUCTS/ NEWS/SPECIALS



Feng Shui Glazes now in stock, new Fantasy Glazes like Cosmos, Nebula, Abyss, Jurassic

- visit the website to see more of these exciting colours.

WEBSITE COMPETITION

AUGUST 2009 Weekdays only

- every morning and afternoon we will be placing a CPS token with a unique number on the website. Follow the links on our website and email this unique number with your contact details and if you are the first to do so you will receive a R50-00 CPS gift voucher.

Furthermore, all participants will stand in line for a lucky draw at the end of August 2009 for a R 500-00 CPS gift voucher.



Red, Green & Gold Special

Prepare for Christmas in good time!



Claybright - Cherry Red
Pimento
Racing Green
Dark Green
Amaco Glazes:
Lustre Gold
Bronze Patina
Pewter



Chrysanthos : Bronze Metallic
High fire exotic glaze

Have fun with the Chrysanthos
Fantasy Glazes and Crystallites
galore!

**All these items are on special –
less 10 % off retail price for the
month of September 2009 only.
(Bulk purchase discounts apply
first.)**



CSA – POTTERS MARKET COMPETITION !

Winner of the CPS Voucher for R 500.00 is:

Dana Weiner

And John Wilhelm for the 2nd Prize
Mudshredder

Congratulations!
Your prizes are on their way to you.



From Craig's desk

Reading through the latest newsletter from Gare I came across a short article which I would like to share with you. The hints and tips that follow make sound sense.

- “Keep your kiln and kiln supplies happy and functioning!
- Vacuum kiln and kiln shelves at least once a month.
- Use needle nose pliers to straighten the pins on stilts that

have bent.

- Use a stilt sander to sharpen pins.
- Keep stilts and posts separated by size.
- If glaze is stored in your kiln room, ensure that it remains covered when not in use.
- Always use at least one cone in every firing.”



Ceramics Southern Africa

Events for 2009



Ceramics SA Winter Workshop will take place
on Saturday 22 August 2009 at Rust-en-Vrede
Durbanville

Presenters

Yogi de Beer;
Ian Garrett;

Kathy Glenday
Hennie Meyer

Lynnley Watson

Workshop

Throwing demonstration
Coiling, burnishing and
decorating demonstration
Concept and Inspiration
Report back on Ceramic Art
London and Korean
Biennale
Figurative sculpture
demonstration and
participation

Full day fee; members R250, non-members R350
(includes tea and cake and lunch)
Details on presenters and workshops can be found
on www.ceramics-sa-cape.co.za
For information and booking phone Letitia at 021
9793537

Ceramics SA Regional Exhibition opens on 15 November 2009 at the Clay Museum Rust-en-Vrede Durbanville.

This exhibition showcases some of the finest ceramics produced in the Western and Eastern Cape. A panel of 3 selectors will choose work for the exhibition and will also award the prizes

A major prize of R10000 can be won as well as several other prizes.

For information please contact Letitia at 021 9793537

Rondebosch Potters Market takes place on Saturday 21 November 2009 at Rondebosch Park Cape Town.

70 or more potters selling a variety of ceramics, Tombola, live demonstrations, kiddies play area and food stalls. Entrance is free.

For information contact Iris Stuck at 021 7155530

info@ceramics-sa-cape.co.za or call 0219793537



The Potter's Association of Namibia

CALL FOR ENTRIES:

All potters, sculptors, ceramists, clay enthusiasts residing in Namibia, are warmly invited to enter the

2009 P.A.N. National Ceramics Biennale Exhibition in Windhoek, 25 September to 10 October 2009

To be held in the Omba Gallery at the Namibian Crafts Centre, Old Breweries Complex in Windhoek

Guest selector & workshop presenter:

South African ceramist Michelle Legg.

Closing date for entry registration is Monday 21 September 2009.

For further information please email pan@iway.na



FOR SALE

5 cubic foot Fox kiln with automatic switch. Fair condition, works well. Shelves included. R3000

Fox wheel. Fair condition. R1500.

Phone: 0731553336

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Verga Kiln (45A, 220/380V) on stand, front loader, inside measurements : 56 cm x 66 cm x 53 cm with IPCO studio 3000 temp control, 50 moulds R 25000.00 neg. 084 3035 443

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WANTED

Secondhand small/medium glass kiln. Contact Audrey 079 463 5470 (sms or phone) 021 876 2249 (evenings) wielen@telkomsa.net



**THE NEXT CPS CHATTER ISSUE :
October 2009**

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.