



# CHATTER

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

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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

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: ***From Sydne in Retreat Branch*** :  
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I have been very fortunate to have our ceramist Elsabe teach me about ceramics. Her passion for working with clay has definitely rubbed off on me.

At the beginning of the year transferring images on clay seemed quite daunting, not to mention expensive. At CPS we have done our best to learn as much as we can about this new technique and I am proud to say that we've coined it! There is so much one can do when it comes to printing on clay, it has really inspired me to start drawing and painting again. I have a few samples in the shop to show you and advise you on how to do it, but for expert advice it is best to attend Elsabe's workshops.

We have a great selection of books to keep you inspired this winter, my personal favourites are: **The Ceramics Design Course, 250 Tips; Techniques and trade secrets for potters; Earthenware Masters; Hand Building; The Figure in Clay and Image Transfer on Clay** – all these books and more will be less 15% during the month of July, please visit our website to be updated on events.

Happy potting!

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: ***From Greg in Montague Gardens Branch*** :  
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Warm winter greetings from CPS Montague Gardens. So you've been hard at work over the summer months and hopefully all this has paid off. Time to think about a new range, trying somehow to get rid of those pieces that didn't move or just updating or creating your own website. Here are suggestions to help you take great pictures of your pottery with good lighting that defines three dimensional form and shows vibrant colours.

Move a table close to a window. To make the light coming in from the outside easier to work with it's a good idea to tape a piece of tracing paper to the

window. Blocking some of the light helps give dimension to the pot. Put a piece of black cardboard on one side of the product. (Use black cardboard, as any other colour will reflect some light back and change the colours of your product). To put light in the front of the pot put a piece of white cardboard on the other side. Light coming in from the window will reflect on the white cardboard, brightening the front. The black cardboard will make the other side darker. Diverse tones help better define the pot's three dimensional form. The closer you put the cardboard to the pot, the larger the effect it will have in making the pot darker, or lighter. Place pieces of cardboard as close as you can to the pot but leave enough space to be able to move the camera around. Now you are ready to take those professional pictures! When photographing a glossy object you may get areas that are very bright. Sometimes these bright areas help give a feeling of what a glossy object looks like, and at other times these highlights just blot out detail that you would like to show. The tracing paper softens the light coming in from the window, but to avoid highlights we need to use an even softer light. Take out the black piece of cardboard so as to be able to take a picture from that angle instead. This kind of light creates less highlights and less shadows. However, like everything else in life there is a trade-off. Soft light makes things look flat and colours dull.

Looking forward to seeing some of your pictures.

Before I forget, many of you tried and liked using the Gare "White Bead" glaze before it went out of production. We now have the Amaco version called "White Pebble" in a slightly bigger container at a very reasonable price. Pebble has a pebbly appearance as it breaks up into a pattern resembling pearl tapioca after firing. The break up is dependent upon the application. Pebble can be used under, over or between other glazes for varied and interesting effects.

Play safely, and be happy,  
Greg

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**From Aafke in Somerset West**  
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Wanting to know what is happening on the **pottery & sculpture scene** in South Africa? Go to our vibrantly active website! We advertise our customers' exhibitions and workshops on our website for free!

We will be offering a **new run of workshops** for the next half of the year, as well as repeating "Printed Boxes" & "Print your own Transfers" – by popular demand! But look out, too, for workshops by Elsabe at the Winter Workshop at Rust-en-Vrede on 13/08/11.

**NEW** to our shops:

We now stock the following in **litre quantities**:

HLS112	BLACK decorating slip
HLS107	IVORY decorating slip
HEL109	SPECTRE brush on glaze – earthenware

**New decorating slips:**

HLS023	CINNAMON
HLS024	MUD PIE

**New earthenware glaze:**

GLA016	CRYSTALLINE RUST
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**New tools:**

WAC002	Dot Easy
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**New book:**

AAA005	CERAMIC TRANSFER PRINTING – limited quantity!
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**NEW PRODUCTS/ NEWS/SPECIALS**

**AMACO stock in**

**BOOK SALE LESS 15% off**  
our standard price for the month of July - this will help with winter blues!



**CONGRATULATIONS to .....**

Cath Price for winning the CPS Amaco voucher to the value of R 250-00 and to Rachel Kennedy for winning the second prize of a 1kg pack of air drying white paper clay.

Thank you for taking part in the CPS Potter's Market lucky draw!



**WORKSHOPS COMING UP AT THE SOMERSET WEST BRANCH .....**

*Colourful Clay*

Learn how to:

- form a hump mould;
- stain clay;
- incorporate decorative patterns into the clay form;
- mix different clays together in one clay form.

(using our Chocolate Clay, Porcelain and White Stoneware)

Take home : your hump mould  
Surform blade  
Steel kidney  
Your finished piece

We'll provide the plaster of paris, clay, various stains, firing service and of course, as always, great tea/coffee and biscuits/muffins/cake for tea!

Dates : 17 & 24 August 2011.

Cost : R 160.00 per day.

**Glazing**

Learn everything you wanted to know about glazing your own work. Elsabe Nel-Harries will show you how to mix up glaze, as well as taking you through the processes of dipping, pouring and brushing-on the glaze and layering glazes.

Bring along a mug and a bowl – both stoneware, bisque fired. You will be using some of the vibrant Living Colour glazes to decorate your items. We will then fire these to 1200°C for you.

Come with lots of questions – the only silly question is the one that doesn't get asked!

The course is a 2 ½ hour workshop that will run on Wednesday 31 August 2011. Cost : R150-00.

## Firing

Learn everything you wanted to know about firing a kiln. Elsabe Nel-Harries will guide you through the process of packing a kiln, as well as explaining the firing process.

Questions are welcomed – there is no such thing as a silly question!

The course is a 2 ½ hour workshop that will run on Wednesday 7th September 2011.

Cost : R150-00.

## Painting Techniques

Using the theme of Butterflies & Flowers, learn various painting techniques in decorating a bowl with Chrysanthos onestrokes and Claybright underglaze. Learn how make the most of various types and sizes of brushes. Learn how to shade and to work with colour.

The bowl will be glazed in our **NEW Transparent Matt glaze** (cone 5/1200C) for a subtle finish.

Take home a set of 10 x Claybright underglazes and a set of 6 brushes as well as your finished piece.

Included in the cost is your bowl, one stroke underglazes to use, glaze and firing.

Dates : Two Wednesdays:  
14 & 21 September 2011

Cost : R 295.00 per day.

## Print your own Transfers

Using transfer paper and a computer (and possibly a fax machine), learn how to print your own sepia-toned transfers, and then learn how to apply them correctly onto a glazed ceramic surface. Decorate your own pasta bowl.

Date : 28th September 2011.

Cost : R 200-00.

## BLOCK PRINTS - ONTO TRANSFER PAPER

You will be carving into a block of clay, printing onto transfer paper in progressive images, which is then finally transferred onto a glazed article.

### Block Printing

Block Printing is a technique used to print text, images or patterns. The technique is used widely throughout East Asia and is believed to originate in China as a method of printing textiles and later on paper and now onto ceramics.

In block printing the areas to show white in the final print are cut away, leaving the image to show black at the original surface level. The image prints as a mirror-image.

Multiple blocks are used for block printing in colour; a block for each colour. Overprinting two colours can also produce a further range of colours.

We'll supply the clay, transfer paper, cover coat, glazed plate and onglazes

You get to take home : brush, 5 piece sculpture set, modeling tool and your finished piece!

Date : Wednesdays 12 & 19th October 2011.

Cost : R 245.00 per day.

## PRINTED BOXES

We are re-running this popular workshop where Elsabe will show you how to transfer images from Photostats onto a box slab-built by you. You get to take home your piece, a palette knife, a set of plastic modelling knives and a scraper.

### Please bring:

Photostats of patterns/images to cover a lidded box of which each side is about 12cm x 12cm.

Other materials and tools provided.

A two-day workshop Wednesday 26 October 2011 and Wednesday 2 November 2011.

Cost of the course is R140 -00 per day.

# ALL WORKSHOPS

**Times:** 9.30am to 12pm.  
**Venue :** Cape Pottery Supplies  
3 A Stuart Close  
Somerset Business Park  
Somerset West

All prices are VAT inclusive.

An exceptional spread of tea/coffee & delicious cake/biscuits will be provided !

**NB :** Seats are limited to 10 only - so based on a first come, first served basis.

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% deposit if a week or less notice given, otherwise full refund.

Book now with Aafke tel: 021-852 3548  
email : [aafke@capepotterysupplies.co.za](mailto:aafke@capepotterysupplies.co.za)



## From Craig's desk :

NCQ – number 96, Winter 2011 features an article in the Technical Forum : Kiln Control by Prof Oelof Heckroodt. Please read it!

Firing cost barometer:  
Take the kW rating of your kiln x R 7.20.  
i.e. 10 kw x R 7.2 = R 72.00

Most craft kilns are in the range of 5-10kW at most.

This is an indicative cost only based on a 10 hour firing.

Energy Savings: use **FIRELITE** shelves – they're 20 % lighter therefore cheaper to fire!

## POTTER'S ASSOCIATION OF NAMIBIA

### PAN Events Calendar 2011

Month	Date	Event	Address
August	Wednesday 10 <sup>th</sup>	Pottery Video Evening	Swakopmund (Venue to be Confirmed)
November	Thursday 3-25 <sup>th</sup>	Exhibition: PAN Biennale	Studio 77, Old Breweries Complex, Windhoek
	FRIDAY to SUNDAY 4-6 <sup>th</sup>	Workshop: John Higgins (UK)	Windhoek (Venue to be Confirmed)

## CSA – WESTERN CAPE

### Ceramics SA ( Western Cape ) Winter Workshop

The CSA Winter Workshop will be held at Rust-en-Vrede, Durbanville on Saturday 13 August 2011 at 9am  
Presenters are; Lindsay Scott: Throwing, Rae Goosen: Sculpture, Clementina Van der Walt: Interactive debate, Hennie Meyer: Slip cast slab construction, Elsabe Nel-Harries: Printing images onto clay.  
Programme and registration form available on [www.ceramics-sa-cape.co.za](http://www.ceramics-sa-cape.co.za) under Downloads  
Further information: Letitia 0219793537

### CSA 2011 Calendar of Events

Winter Workshop 13 August: Rust-en-Vrede  
John Higgins Workshop 12 November: Durbanville  
Regional Exhibition 13 November: Alphen Great Cellar  
Potters Market 19 November: Rondebosch



## **FOR SALE/ WANTED**

1 five square foot Fox kiln with regulator, shelves and props.

1 Fox wheel

R 5000-00 all inclusive

Contact Sally Leslie: 073 155 3336

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**THE NEXT CPS CHATTER ISSUE: Oct 2011!**

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Cape Pottery Supplies - agents and distributors of AMACO and BRENT products for South Africa.