



# CHATTER

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

RETREAT BRANCH :Kiln Contracts Building,  
11 Celie Road, Retreat 7945  
KILLARNEY GARDENS BRANCH :  
Cnr Cosworth & McLaren Crescent, Racing Park, Killarney Gardens  
SOMERSET WEST BRANCH : 3a Stuart Close  
Somerset Business Park, Somerset West

web : [www.capepotterysupplies.co.za](http://www.capepotterysupplies.co.za)  
E-MAIL : [info@capepotterysupplies.co.za](mailto:info@capepotterysupplies.co.za)  
TEL: (021) 701-1320/1  
FAX: (021) 701-3179  
TEL : (021) 556 4156  
FAX : (021) 556 4148  
TEL : (021) 852 3548  
FAX : (021) 852 8344

## CELEBRATING 25 YEARS

*From Retreat Branch*

We are having lots of exciting things happening for our Birthday at Cape Pottery Supplies....discounts and lots of workshops run by the legend, Elsabe.

When I started working here I had no clue about pottery and still have lots to learn...I thoroughly enjoy working here and with clay. The customers and staff have taught me a lot about pottery...and I always have lots of questions.

We trust you all enjoy our Birthday with us! :)

Regards  
Karen

Tip from Wendy:

Water-colour effect:

A true water-colour effect can be achieved by using the glycerine-wash technique. By using glycerine, several underglaze colours can be made to flow, intermingle and produce a soft blended effect.

A liberal coating of glycerine is painted on the greenware surface.

While the glycerine is still wet, pour on three or four underglaze colours.

Swirl the colours with a brush to start the blending. To obtain flowing patterns, hold the piece vertically, tilting and turning it.

Once dry, bisque and glaze as required.

But you can leave my name out of it and put "With thanks to Marc Bellaire, Ohio."  
Wendy

*From Kathy at Racing Park Branch*

### HAPPY 25<sup>TH</sup> BIRTHDAY CAPE POTTERY SUPPLIES:

I started 6 years ago at Cape Pottery Supplies, not knowing a thing about pottery. I hadn't even had a paint brush in my hand since school days. I put my head down and jumped into it. It is an exciting industry. A lot more respect is paid to anything that I see in the shops that have been handmade, or hand painted, as I have learnt how much effort and time goes into making one ceramic item. Cape Pottery Supplies, then in the Montague Gardens store, did pretty well for the small space that we had. Then Craig decided to build his own premises in Racing Park. We have now been in our new premises for 3 years and have reaped the benefits. The shop has so much more space and allows us to carry a lot more stock, for more convenience from clay and paints to kiln furniture all under one roof.

There have been some magic moments at Cape Pottery Supplies. The most memorable is when you have someone new who has joined a pottery studio and they come in and you can advise them on what to use. Their face lights up with smiles and the confusion seems to disappear....the second time they

come in to purchase they walk in like old potters and know exactly what they doing, and brag with what they have made or achieved.

Come and have some fun shopping - everything under one roof for your convenience...we look forward to seeing you☺

Regards  
Kathy  
Racing Park team

## From Aafke in Somerset West

About 13 ½ years ago I walked into the newest branch of Cape Pottery Supplies in Somerset West to buy clay for friends of mine & discovered that Crystal Schumann, who had worked at the main branch for years, was retiring. I applied for the job and in January of 2003 was extremely fortunate to become part of a family of wonderful co-workers, who support each other and work together as a good team on a minute-to-minute basis. There have been a few changes over the years & Craig Leslie and my colleagues have been very encouraging and patient in allowing me to grow at my own pace along with the business.

The Somerset West branch started out in a smaller rented building in the Somerset Business Park. As it was a newly-growing business where I was lucky if two people walked into the shop on one day. I had time to get to know the products well, to understand the coding system and to do a lot of reading up on the subject as well as make one or two items out of clay. I also had time to gain more confidence glazing and firing items for customers. Then the branch moved over to another section of the area into a much bigger, beautiful airy building that was owned by the business. Over time more and more shelves have been added to the floor as we have stocked more and more products.

With time various cleaning staff has joined me once a week to do their best assisting me in taming the branch of dust and dirt. Margaret Pienaar, who works for us currently, is a long-time friend.

In 2007 Cape Pottery Supplies bought Mercury/Edgeware Moulds and the mastermoulds took up residence along with a mouldmaking room. Siyabonga Buzo worked alternate weeks at the main branch making clay and casting slip and in the mouldmaking department in Somerset West, where Elsabe Nel-Harries taught him to make moulds. In 2010 he joined the Somerset West branch full-time. He is a calm presence who is not only now a master mouldmaker, but also my go-to man for maintenance and assistance with loading of tonnes of clay!

Slowly the branch grew. Workshops run by Elsabe Nel-Harries happened on a regular Wednesday basis with much laughter, tea-and-cake and creativity.

Cape Pottery Supplies became the distributor of Amaco products in South Africa and the bulk of the stock is housed in Somerset West. Stock to the other two branches goes out on a weekly basis.

With more stock, a growing customer base and a varied, increased workload I have also been very blessed that Annette Minnaar started working at the Somerset West branch two mornings a week in May last year. Annette has inspired some of the walls to be freshly painted in bright colours and has brought order and neatness into chaos.

Each new addition to the branch has brought a fresh energy, as do the weekly deliveries, when Fezile Buzo, our driver, pops in with a smile and a tease.

Join us all as we celebrate this quarter century birthday with balloons, laughter and discounts!

Aafke



## WORKSHOPS COMING UP .....

### Glazing

#### Dipping, double dipping, trailing & layering

Come and have fun with glazing. Let me show you that glazing can be fun and not the daunting task that it always seems. There are many techniques out there that make glazing much, much easier. I will be covering the most popular: dipping, double dipping, glaze layering and glaze trailing. We will combine all these techniques on a piece that you will take home once it is fired. *Elsabe Nel-Harries*

**A 2-day workshop. All materials and tools provided.**

The course will run on two consecutive Wednesdays : 20 & 27 July 2016.  
Cost of the course is R560.00

## Slip Trailing & Honey Glaze

Have you seen the old English honey glaze ware - where a slip decoration is applied to a piece and a honey coloured glaze is placed over the top? It is almost like looking through a coloured glass window at the work. Using the same principals, but using the products of today, I will show you how you can use this technique to create wonderful atmospheric work.

*Elsabe Nel-Harries*

A three-day workshop. **All materials and tools provided.**

The course will run over 3 weeks, every Wednesday, beginning 3 August through to 17 August 2016.  
Cost of the course is R570.00

## *Printing on "Walking" Jugs*

Surface decoration made easy. Transfer complex designs onto your bisque and greenware work in an effective, but surprising way using underglaze and decorating slip.

A 3-day workshop. **All materials and tools provided.**

The course will run over 3 weeks, every Wednesday, beginning 24 August 2016 through to 7 September 2016.

Cost of the course is R620.00



Handles,  
Handles



## What to do!

A handle can make or break your piece. It is not just the thing to hold onto. It can be so much more. Come to my workshop and we will explore a few creative ways to do handles. I will be covering pulling handles, moulding handles, press moulding, etc. - Elsabe Nel-Harries

Bring: a leatherhard mug/jug or something that will require a handle, as well as about 300g of the same clay.

A one-day workshop. **All materials and tools provided.**

The course will run on Wednesday, 14 September 2016.

Cost of the course is R200.00

## Moulds - The Basics

This will be a series of 3 workshops, of which you would be welcome to attend all or just one or two sessions. The first one deals with hump moulds (to drape slabs over), the second with hollow moulds (for slumping slabs into or to be used for slipcasting), and the third will be about simple two piece moulds (for use in slipcasting or press moulding). Once you have mastered the 2 piece mould it is very easy to start making more complex shapes. *Elsabe Nel-Harries*

### Hump mould

This session will run over two Wednesdays :  
21 & 28 September 2016.

Cost of the course is R400.00

Please bring along an item made of plastic, glass or clay from which you will make your hump mould.

### Hollow mould

This session will run over two Wednesdays :  
12 & 19 October 2016.

Cost of the course is R400.00

Please bring a shape made from leatherhard clay - anything up to 20cm wide and 10cm deep. Think bowl/plate, etc. Remember that one casts over an object to form a hollow mould

### Two piece mould

This session will run over two Wednesdays : 26 October & 2 November 2016.

Cost of the course is R450.00

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## 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 or tel: 021-852 3548  
Annette fax : 021-852 8344  
email : [aafke@capepotterysupplies.co.za](mailto:aafke@capepotterysupplies.co.za)



## SPECIALS !!!!

We have in stock currently :

2 x KTL069 - 6,9 cubic foot Top Loader Kiln  
1 x KTL051 – 5,1 cubic foot Top Loader Kiln  
1 x KTL020 – 2 cubic foot Top Loader Kiln  
1 x KFL008 – 8 cubic foot Front Loader Kiln  
1 x KFL004 – 4 cubic foot Front Loader Kiln

**We are offering 10 % discount off the list price of these kilns, their shelves, props and controllers while stocks last.**

*Offer ends 30 September 2016.*

## FOR THE MONTH OF JUNE & JULY 2016

15 % discount off list price for element sets for the CLAY MAN top loader and front loader Kilns.

### **JUNE & JULY 2016 DISCOUNT MADNESS continues .....**

For all visitors to our three showrooms only (Does not apply to telephonic, email, website or faxed orders).

These discounts apply in addition to any volume discounts.

- 5% discount on all clays
- 5% discount on all Claybright
- 5% discount on all AMACO
- 20 % discount off all Chrysanthos



*From Craig's desk.....*

25 years on.....It seems just like yesterday when Paul Pepworth and I discussed opening a pottery supplies shop. With little or no experience we engaged with Gillian Bickell Potteries and set up a local branch of CPS trading as Gillian Bickell Potteries. It wasn't long after this that we established The Clay Man at Joe Farragher's house in Rondebosch. When we bought Harpers in 1991 we changed the name from Gillian Bickell Potteries to Cape Pottery Supplies and incorporated a lot of the Harpers products, some of which we still manufacture and sell today.

The Clay Man moved from Rondebosch to Retreat in Evelyn Road and eventually into the building adjacent to Kiln Contracts. Shortly after this Joe left the company for health reasons and sadly passed away a few years later. He will be remembered for his energetic enthusiasm for

anything ceramic and his deep knowledge of clays.

In 1994 Paul Pepworth emigrated to New Zealand where he started his own pottery and is now one of the largest ceramic manufacturers in New Zealand called Decopots. Around this time CPS became a distributor of Claybright products in South Africa. Bruce and Gail Walford were the energetic developers of what is today a very successful South African product. Barbara Robinson who was Gail's mother took over the Claybright business when Gail and Bruce emigrated to Australia. When Barbara chose to join her daughter in Australia Claybright was purchased and brought into The Clay Man fold. This was some 18 years ago .

Around this time CPS opened it's 2<sup>nd</sup> branch in Montague Gardens which also became the home of Claybright. Early in the new millenium we opened our third branch in Heritage Park in Somerset West. When Edgware Ceramics closed their stores in Durban, The Clay Man bought the Mercury Master Moulds which was moved into the Somerset West shop and today is manufacturing fine moulds which we distribute throughout South Africa.

Over time we took on some famous brands in the underglazes and moulds markets. Gare being the first, then Chrysanthos and in recent times we are very proud to have Amaco as one of the leading products of paint and underglazes in the world including Brent wheels.

With an agent network in Namibia, Eastern Cape and Kwazulu-Natal, CPS has expanded it's footprint beyond our borders selling clay and glazes and equipment to other African states and Europe.

It truly has been a remarkable journey filled with the excitement and challenges the ceramic world brings to us.

Above all, is you, our customers without whom we could never have done what we did. Thank you.

Craig



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Cape Pottery Supplies - agents  
and distributors of AMACO and  
BRENT products for South Africa.  
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## PAN 2014 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

**Workshop - 'Triggering your creative impulse' by  
Ralph Johnson**  
18 June 2016 in Swakopmund @ Die Tonfabrik

**Market – Potters' Association of Namibia stall at the  
Omaruru Artists' Trail in Omaruru, Namibia**  
23 and 24 September 2016

**Potters' Association of Namibia Exhibition - 'The  
Force of Nature'**  
5 November 2016 - Windhoek (Venue to be confirmed)

