



CHATTER

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

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MONTAGUE GARDENS BRANCH : Claybright @ Building,
No 1 Stella Mews, 23 Stella Rd, Montague Gardens
SOMERSET WEST BRANCH : 3a Stuart Close, Heritage Park
Somerset Business Park, Somerset West

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From Jana in Retreat Branch

Hello Again - Hope you are all busy getting ready for the potter's market in November. Yes that time again and Christmas around the corner!

You no doubt have had a look at our new glazes and been inspired to new forms? If not we have a new title in our extensive library – Hand building by Michael Hardy, giving you inspirational and practical advice, good to have on your shelf too.

While on the subject of books, we are still waiting for Paperclay by Rosette Gaul, unfortunately no copies available in SA, but we have on backorder. The same applies to Raku by John Matheson, but keep popping in and we'll get a good surprise together!

Happy Potting!

From Greg in Montague Gardens Branch

I often have phone in requests from people look for chimney pots and stackable ceramic wine racks, so if any of you are able to make these items please let us know, there's business to be had out there!

As you may now be aware the colour range of our Claybright underglazes has been extended, Chestnut is now available in 3D and we have also brought out a Speckled Tan underglaze colour that is very suitable for the ethnic look. For more assistance using 3D effects, see Elsabe's Hints & Tips column below.

Our pre-packed 10 and 20 colour Claybright sets make great gifts for those thinking ahead for Christmas.

For those of you who do not own a kiln, all our branches offer a firing service. We are getting quite busy now so please do not leave any goods for

firing until the last minute. We also need to know whether an article has been made from earthenware or stoneware, as it is virtually impossible to judge from a piece of bisque or green ware. You will need to decide whether you wish your item to be clear glazed or not and what product was used for any decoration in order that we fire to the correct temperature to suit the product.
Have Fun!

From Aafke in Somerset West Branch

Wednesday and Thursday mornings at the Somerset West branch are alive and buzzing with inspiration, enthusiasm, people, fun and laughter. Elsabe's short courses and demonstrations are the place to be!

Find out more about oxides, or how to do marbling, or how to get the most out of your brushes. Take part in a raku firing, find out about the art of hand building (it is NOT the poorer sister of wheel throwing or a child's intro into clay), and learn more about decoration with glazes. These are just a few of the topics we're touching on. The course ideas vary and rotate, so give me a call for an updated program.

Suggestions also welcome.

Visit the Tulbagh Community Arts Festival (30 Oct. to 7 Nov). and take part in the Tulbagh Chair project. The chairs will be on display and for sale over the festival – proceeds going to the winners.

Take part in Hennie Meyer's hand building and decoration workshop in Durbanville on 23rd October.

Slowly ease into the festive season by going to festivals, and by picking up tips from others and letting the creative juices flow into festive season presents!

Festive Season Times

CPS Retreat Branch

We operate on a half-day basis from 23rd December up to and including 31 December 2004. Hours will be 9.00 am to 12.00 pm.

Closed on 25th, 26th and 27th December 2004 and 1st and 2nd January 2005.

CPS Montague Gardens and Somerset West Branches

We will be closed from Thursday 23rd December 2004 and will re-open on 10 January 2005.

The Clayman and Claybright Factories

Both factories will be closed from Thursday 23rd December 2004 and will re-open on 10 January 2005, including delivery service.

Kiln Contracts

The factory will be closed from Thursday 23rd December 2004 and will re-open on 17 January 2005.

FIRING SERVICE

Items to be handed in no later than 6th December 2004 to ensure you have your items before Christmas. Items handed in after 6th December 2004 will only be fired once the factories have re-opened in January 2005.



The CPS team wishes to express our sincere condolences to the family and friends of Sonwabo Mayford Dunywa who passed away in Bloemfontein this month. He was the director of Uncedo Pottery which he started in Gugulethu in 1996.

Tea with Steve Shapiro

This morning I had my coffee out of one of Christo Giles' wood fired tea bowls. What a treat!

I have a huge collection of tea bowls and love them all. Choosing the bowl for the day - for the time of day - is part of the pleasure. Sometimes I even use one of my own, mainly if it is fresh from a firing and perhaps even a new glaze. Mainly I like to drink out of bowls made by others, especially if I know them or knew them. Many of those in my collection are by "famous" potters but I get as much pleasure in using gifts by lesser lights - many of

whom are good friends or former students.

It is no secret (but also of no great consequence) that I hold the aesthetic values of the tea ceremony in the highest regard and that I am, hypocritically of course, not all that well disposed to the cellular-digital-cyber world that we have both inherited and created by "virtue" of our dedication to material greed. A wide-awake walk through the neon malls of the (nauseating) Waterfront is to enter the very portals of the Temple of Baal. You will find a golden calf around the next corner. This is our material "real" world.

But I offer now, as I did way back when, a foil to this foul emptiness. It is an easy way, which seems difficult and it is especially available to potters. Maybe even to ceramics or ceramic artists or whatever. Absolutely free! And that is the tea bowl. For God's sake carry one with you and especially if it is your passion, but start making wobbly little beverage "vessels" (without handles) too and perhaps some of the other accoutrements of your own variation of the tea/coffee ceremony. I recently built a crude wooden deck in my garden and I have just finished roofing part of it, using rough wooden poles to support an airy, reed ceiling or roof.

I don't want to be a play-play Japanese dilettante. My tea/coffee guests will sit on chairs but I hope to be able to boil water on a tiny clay hibachi (charcoal) and reach up to an appropriately simple shelf for lidded clay jars with tea and coffee and biscuits. I want to do most of it without having to go into the house. While it's happening we'll listen to the sound of water, chimes, hopefully rain on the roof and dripping off the tree, and maybe even a little Mozart.

The bowls, selected for the occasion will be produced and examined and then something hot will be added and we'll cup them in our hands and sip and talk about trees and birds and the flowers in the crooked vase on the table.

In Japan the guests (if they were Samurai) left their swords on a special rack before they entered the Tea House. I'm planning a rack for cellular telephones - it will be made of clay and filled with water.

Watersound Pottery



NEW PRODUCTS

CLAYBRIGHT® - new colours!!!

Speckled Tan underglaze

And a much requested 3 D addition!
Chestnut 3D

RAKU SHELF - +/- 420 mm

Our Gare and Amaco shipment has arrived – so give us a call if you've been holding on for that special glaze/colour!



HINTS & TIPS

Claybright® 3D's

3D's have come around again. Here are a few tips and some new ideas.

3D's can be applied to either green or bisque ware. When applying to bisque, it is a good idea to dampen the ware first.

Another good tip is to paint a layer of underglaze on your pot before applying 3D's. The underglaze helps to hold the 3D's down on the pot.

Do not forget to clean your pots before painting underglaze or 3D's, a dust layer will prevent the underglaze or 3D's from adhering to your pots. This will cause the 3D's to come loose and "jump off".

Last but not least, remember that 3D's are not just used for dots and stripes; they can also be painted on, applied with a palette knife to create an "oil painting" effect.

Health & Safety Tips

Here are some basic health and safety tips for the concerned potters out there.

1. Make sure to always use a mask and pair of gloves when mixing glaze or powder materials.
2. Never sweep the studio, but mop up spills and clay. The dust from clay and glazes can cause silicosis – this is a lung disease.
3. Keep all glaze materials out of reach of children.

Elsabé



THE POTTERS' ASSOCIATION OF NAMIBIA

PAN NATIONAL CERAMICS BIENNALE 2004

The opening of the Potters' Association of Namibia 2nd National Ceramics Biennale took place in the Main Gallery

of the National Art Gallery of Namibia on Friday 10th September. The doors opened at 6pm and 45 potters treated visitors to a magnificent display of 295 works of ceramic art. At their first National Ceramics Biennale held in 2002 in the much smaller Upper Gallery, only 180 works were on display and the overwhelming increase in number and quality of work is attributed to the enthusiasm of the potters of Namibia.

Meshack Masuku of the Port Elizabeth Technikon, was the Selector, Award Judge, Guest Exhibitor and Workshop Host

AWARDS

Gillian Bickell Premier Award

Sharon Flewellen - Swakopmund

Handwork : 1st Prize: Sharon Flewellen
Wheelwork : 1st Prize : John Hunter
Functional : 1st Prize : John Hunter
Decorative : 1st Prize: Lesley Crawford
Sculpture : 1st Prize Sharon Flewellen

CPS Most Promising Beginner: Ursula von Ludwiger
People's Choice Award: Marianne von der Lippe



CERAMICS SA (formerly APSA)

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

5 Oct – 5 Nov	Christina Bryer Tokara, Stellenbosch
6 Oct – 27 Oct	Multiples Regional Exhibition at Art b.
9 Oct – 23 Oct	Louise Gelderblom and students. The Potters Shop, Kalk Bay
19 Oct – 11 Nov	David Walters and John Wilhelm Salon C, Rust-en-Vrede
16 Nov – 31 Dec	Miniatures Salon C, Rust-en-Vrede
20 Nov	Rondebosch Potters Market.

Multiples – Regional Exhibition 2004 Award Winners

CPS Sterling Award for Best work on Show
Christina Bryer and Hennie Meyer
(The judges decided to split the award)

De Kraal Gallery Prize – Sarah Walters
The Cape Gallery Prize – Ralph Johnson
New Signatures Award – Petro Zondagh
Sponsored by Rose Korber
New Signatures Merit Award – Peter Jacobs
Sponsored by The Potters Shop
Merit Awards – John Wilhelm, Belinda Ormond, Betsy Nield, Martine Laubscher

For a full report – refer to next months Ceramics SA newsletter.

Sonja Gerling Retrospective

Ceramics SA together with Hyme and Jenny Rabinowitz is planning a major retrospective of Sonja Gerling's ceramics.

If you own one or more pieces of Sonja's work and would be willing to loan these for the exhibition will you please contact Hyme at 021-7945458 or Ralph on 083 335 0829. The exhibition will be in Cape Town sometime in 2005.

For further details Tel : 021-6716139 Ralph Johnson or Yvonne Thurtell on 021-975 6228.



IZIKO KOOPMANS – DE WET HOUSE

35 Strand Street, Cape Town

Koopmans-de Wet House opened as a museum almost a century ago, in 1914, and is the oldest house museum in South Africa. It is a very fine example of an 18th century Cape Dutch town house. A special feature of the house is the decorative mural paintings on the interior walls. Excellent examples of Cape furniture, a fine collection of Chinese and Japanese export porcelain, as well as Dutch Delft ceramics, have been placed in the context of a lived-in late 18th to early 19th century townhouse.

The earliest porcelain pieces in the house are of Chinese origin, dating from the 17th century. They are decorated in a combination of underglaze blue and overglaze polychrome enamels, known as wucai or 'five-colour' ware.

A special collection of 18th century Chinese armorial porcelain is on display in the music room. Decorated with heraldic arms and crests, it was made in China for the European market.

Part of a Chinese porcelain dinner and dessert service was made for the Cloete family of Constantia c.1790-1800. It comprises a variety of plates, platters, vegetable dishes, sauce tureens, pierced fruit baskets, footed compôtiers for cooked fruit, and dainty custard cups, decorated in overglaze famille rose enamels.

Japanese export porcelain is also represented in the collection, with Japanese underglaze blue chargers bearing the monogram of the VOC (Vereenigde Oost-Indische Compagnie or Dutch East India Company), Japanese Imari jars and a cupboard garniture comprising three octagonal covered vases and two beaker vases, all dating from the early 18th century.

Koopmans-de Wet House is open from Tuesday to Thursday 0900-1600. Entry Fee R 5.00 for adults, R2.00 for children. Tel : 021-481 3935



CRAIG'S HELPLINE.....

Glaze maturation is affected by the time taken for a kiln to raise the temperature the last 100°C in a firing.

Many people believe that cones reflect a definitive temperature and will accuse their controllers of being inaccurate based on the examination of their cones. However a quick look at the Orton cone chart and it becomes apparent that the cones will bend at different temperatures, e.g. a slow firing will result in the cones bending as much as 20 °C below that of a quick firing and will give the impression of an over-fired glaze or some well developed crystals.

The kiln's capacity to change temperature should be measured as x°C per hour for the last hour. This will provide the kiln user with a good indication of whether the kiln is slow or fast. Anything less than 60°C/hour would be considered approaching slowness.

In our branches we have available copies of the Orton chart, free of charge. For further information contact the branch managers.

Happy potting



FOR SALE

Kick wheel, excellent condition, R 1000.00.
Phone Inger on 021-689 1449.

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**Pottery Kiln, Top loader, 5 + cu ft., Shelves & props.
R 5000.00 ono. Tel : 021-853 8402**

Adverts are charged at a minimum of R40-00 per advert for 25 words and R4-50 per word thereafter, to a maximum of 50 words. Adverts are entered on a first come first served basis, as space is limited.

THE NEXT CPS CHATTER IS DUE OUT IN FEBRUARY 2005 – Please submit your articles/adverts before 31st January 2005.

**The CPS team would like to wish you
Happy Holidays,
safe travelling and
a Prosperous 2005!!!!**

