



# CHATTER

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## ANNUAL HOLIDAY TIMES

### Kiln Contracts (Pty) Ltd

Closed from 23<sup>rd</sup> December 2009 – 12pm and re-opens on 11<sup>th</sup> January 2010.

### The Clay Man and Claybright

Closed from 23<sup>rd</sup> December 2009 – 12pm and re-opens on 11<sup>th</sup> January 2010.

### Cape Pottery Supplies.

Montague Gardens and Somerset West branches will be closed from 23<sup>rd</sup> December and will re-open on Monday 18<sup>th</sup> January 2010.

Retreat branch remains open – however the following hours will apply.

23<sup>rd</sup> to 31<sup>st</sup> December – 9am to 12pm.

Closed 25<sup>th</sup> & 26<sup>th</sup> December and 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> January.

Monday 4<sup>th</sup> January 2010 back to normal trading hours.

**Deliveries** will stop 22<sup>nd</sup> December 2009 and resume on Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> January 2010.

### Firing Service :

If you wish to have items fired for Christmas, prior to our factory shutdown, please have them in by Friday 19<sup>th</sup> November 2009 – anything received for firing after this may not be completed prior to our factory shutdown and will then only be completed in 2010.

### *From Sydne in Retreat Branch*

One important thing I've learned this year is that I have so much to be thankful for. I must admit there have been times when I have lost sight of that but I have a wonderful husband who is a constant reminder that there is good in this world.

It's that time of the year when people are rushing to buy Christmas gifts and we have a big selection to choose from at CPS! Handmade gifts are always a treasure and we have tons of ideas to share with you so feel free to pop in anytime.

I would thank all of our clients for their support and friendship, you have to know how much you all inspire me and motivate me – Thank you.

**May you have a Blessed Christmas and an Awesome 2010!**

### *From Greg in Montague Gardens Branch*

With the extended wet wintery weather we are currently experiencing in Cape Town and a very probable hot dry summer on its way, our thoughts are perhaps directed at drying times for clay objects.

When working on a large project, we often run across the problem of needing the bottom of a pot or clay object to stiffen enough to take the weight as we continue to build the upper areas. To do this, there are a few options depending upon how soon you will be back at work on the piece.

- *I'll be right by the piece as I work on other pieces:* Cover the upper edges with folded damp paper towels and leave the rest of the piece uncovered. When the paper towels are fairly dry, check to see if the bottom area is stiff enough for you to continue.
- *I'll be gone a little while:* Cover the piece loosely with plastic, allowing the bottom area to be exposed to the air. Check on the piece's stiffness every hour or so.
- *I'll be back tomorrow:* Cover the upper edges with folded, very damp paper towels, then cover the entire piece loosely with plastic.

Tiles and slabs. Because drywall is made with plaster, it can be very useful when working with slabs and tiles. Just like plaster, drywall will absorb moisture from the clay. Be sure to get the regular drywall, not the types that have moisture barriers to reduce mould. Roll slabs or tiles on sheets of newspaper. Once rolled, transfer the slab or tiles to the first piece of drywall. Cover with another sheet of newspaper, then place the second piece of drywall on top. Repeat as needed. The drywall will absorb moisture from the slabs and tiles from both sides, allowing the clay to dry evenly and slowly. Allow the slabs or tiles to remain sandwiched in the pieces of drywall until stiff leather-hard or bone dry.

Important! Any speck of plaster dust or particles that gets into your clay can cause it to explode in the kiln. Be sure to seal any cut or open edges of the pieces of drywall with duct tape. Have fun, Greg

### *From Aafke in Somerset West Branch*

This year has been and still is eventful! Our website is regularly updated with our customers exhibitions &

workshops, as well as varying interesting tidbits sourced via the web by mostly Tracey and Greg. For those who love ceramics, March and the upcoming November 21<sup>st</sup> Potter's Markets are always a must! The Winter Workshop organized by Ceramics SA is always popular, and the upcoming Regional Ceramics Exhibition (opening 15/11/09 at Rust-en-Vrede Gallery and Clay Museum) always evokes comment. Syd loved being part of the annual Millstone Pottery Wood-firing Jamboree in McGregor (she is still enthusing about it!) and I was privileged to represent CPS at the African Ceramics Conference in Pietermaritzburg in September. David Walters will be hosting a day of raku-firing in January – always a wonderful experience! All those interested in taking part, chat to Syd.

Every year we also have discount specials in specific months. We regularly have our Element Special; and have introduced the Book Special & Red, Green & Gold specials. Look out next year for our Valentine special! We also run a regular "Potter's Market" competition and this year we held a month-long website competition!

We love sharing your passion for ceramics and constantly strive to help and inspire you as much as you give to us. Thank you to all of you who have made this year a wonderfully rich experience for those of us at CPS.

**NEW** in our branches:

**LS073 Chrysanthos Low Sheen  
Transparent**

(non-toxic earthenware brush-on glaze)  
The Steve Tool (a versatile, adjustable decorating tool)

**Two new books on glass:**

Kiln-Formed Glass by Brenda Griffith  
Warm Glass by Philippa Beveridge, Ignasi Domenech & Eva Pascual

***New* Christmas decorations**

Claybright **Coffee!**

**NEW PRODUCTS/ NEWS/SPECIALS**

Sorry about the shortened form of newsletter that has made way for the brochure - we hope you enjoy it.

**WEBSITE COMPETITION**

Winner of the CPS Voucher for R 500-00 is :

Ms Edwina Howard of Bothasig.  
Congratulations!



**Ceramics Southern Africa**

**Events for 2009**

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

The opening was Sunday 15 November at 5pm at Rust-en-Vrede.

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](mailto:info@ceramics-sa-cape.co.za) or call 0219793537



**The Potter's Association of Namibia**

For further information please email [pan@iway.na](mailto:pan@iway.na)



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**THE NEXT CPS CHATTER ISSUE :  
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