



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

ANNUAL HOLIDAY TIMES

Kiln Contracts (Pty) Ltd

Closed from 19th December 2008- 12pm and re-opens on Thursday 15th January 2009.

The Clayman and Claybright

Closed from 19th December 2008 -12pm and re-opens on Thursday 8th January 2009.

Cape Pottery Supplies

Montague Gardens and Somerset West branches will be closed from 19th December and will re-open on Monday 12th January 2009.

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

Friday 19th December – 9.00am – 12pm

Saturday 20th December – 9.00 am – 12pm

Monday 2nd to Wednesday 24th December – 9-00 am – 12pm

Closed Christmas Day & Boxing Day.

Closed Saturday 27th December 2008.

Monday 29th to Wednesday 31st December open 9.00 am -12pm

New Year's Day - 1st January 2009 – closed.

Friday 2nd January open 9 - 12 pm

Saturday 3rd January open 9 – 12pm

Monday 5th January 2009 back to normal trading hours.

Deliveries will stop 18th December 2008 and resume from Thursday 8th January 2009.

Firing service:

If you wish to have items fired for Christmas, prior to our factory shutdown, please have them in by **Friday 21st November** – anything received for firing after this may not be completed prior to our factory shutdown and will then only be completed in 2009.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank all of you for the support over the last year and wish you and you family safe and happy holidays and a prosperous 2009!

From Sydné in Retreat Branch

The more I learn about pottery, the more I love it! Yes, it can be frustrating at times, but I find the process of creating something really exciting and it is so much fun! I've learned to stop being such a perfectionist and to explore different techniques. It's not always about the end result - the process of creating something is just as important.

We have an exciting range of books to keep the whole family entertained during the summer holidays. For the children we have "Exploring Clay with Children" and "Clay Projects for Children", they will love the fun exercises and ideas for working with clay and, it will keep their minds off the X-box!

For the potters we have "The Basics of Throwing", "Colouring Clay" and "1000 Tiles", these books are very inspiring and will definitely keep the creative juices flowing this summer!

Cape Pottery Supplies wishes all our valued clients and friends a Blessed Christmas and a Wonderful New Year.

From Greg in Montague Gardens Branch

Well the rain dancers of the Western Cape have been pretty over-zealous this year as I'm sure many of you will agree. With all the extra moisture in the air, clay obviously takes much longer to dry and even moulds, kiln bricks and bisqueware absorb quite a bit of this moisture as well, which can cause problems. Be aware that this could be a contributing factor when things go wrong.

We have sourced a number of new books so you may well consider popping in and doing some early Christmas shopping. Two of my favourites and well worth a mention, are:

Colouring Clay, by J. Connell. This is a book about introducing colour in the form of oxides and stains into clay and using it in decorative ways without the need to add any form of glaze. Included are descriptions of using colour clays for coiling, pinching, textural effects, inlaying, sprigging, agateware and neriage, and also how to create Egyptian paste and other unusual clay bodies.

Clay Projects for Children, by M. Krumbach, contains a wealth of suggestions for exciting and fun items that children can make with clay. The items range from musical instruments to wall decorations to fantastic animals and much more. The projects can be done with potter's clay or polymer clays or even salt dough. The age range of the children stretches from fairly young up to early middle school. This is an easy and fun introduction to the use of clay and it should be a must for anyone wanting to work with children and clay.

Both books mentioned retail currently for R253.80. Other new titles in our showrooms include: **1000 Tiles**, by Lang and **The Basics of Throwing – a practical approach to form and design**, by D. Cohen. Both are very comprehensive and full of colour, with easy to follow steps in the latter.

Wishing you all a sunny and happy season ahead
Greg

**From Aafke in Somerset West
Branch**

CPS has recently gone through some price changes – some items have inevitably gone up, but a few have gone DOWN in price. An example of this is our reduced price in temperature controller. Look out too for our new model 4. We continually strive to provide our customers with a wide variety of high quality products at the best possible price.

We are also always looking for new and exciting items to introduce to you and thereby increase your "artist's palette".

Current **NEW** products:

- Umber (clay pigment with iron and manganese oxides)
- 4 More Claybright colours!
- Exciting books – see Greg's column above.
- New modelling tools

- 2 Square bowls in bisqueware
- A whole new range of products from Chrysanthos – acrylic paints that are beautiful to work with, low earthenware brush-on glazes (including crystals to add to them), and plastic tools perfect for children
- A new Chocolate bodied Stoneware! – delicious to throw!

The mould-making department, housed in the Somerset West branch, is making great strides forwards adding to our branch stocks. Our Mercury Mould catalogue can be viewed on our website or at any of our branches.

Join us in Somerset West for **In-glaze Painting** – our last exciting workshop for the year! We continually challenge ourselves to come up with invigorating workshop ideas. Look out for stimulating new workshops in the New Year, eg. a Chrystalline glaze workshop. We post updates regularly on our website.



WEDNESDAY WORKSHOPS IN SOMERSET WEST.

IN-GLAZE PAINTING

Similar to Maiolica in nature, this easy, beautiful technique is often overlooked. Oxides and stains are applied to an unfired glazed surface, creating a soft, yet vibrant decorative effect.

Take home a platter uniquely decorated by you.

All materials and tools provided.

The course will run over 3 weeks, every Wednesday, beginning 12 November 2008 through to 26 November 2008.
Cost of the course is R540.00 (VAT inclusive)

Times: 9.30am to 12pm
A grand tea at break-time will be provided !

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.

TUESDAY DEMO'S

Times: 9.30am to 11am

Cost: R85-00 per person per demonstration workshop

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

THROWING OVAL AND SQUARE DISHES 14 October 2008

Elsabe will demonstrate different techniques on how to throw oval and square dishes on the wheel.

PLUNGE AND PINCH POTS 28 October 2008

Quick and easy hand building techniques, accessible to anyone, on how to make pots.

Book with Aafke - tel: 021-8523548



NEWS/ NEW RELEASES

CLAYBRIGHT ® 4 NEW SPRING COLOURS

RACING GREEN
SPEARMINT
CHEEKY PINK
PASSION PINK



SUMMER WORKSHOP IN FRANSCHHOEK Sunday 25th January 2009

“Do come to tea”

UK based artist potter of South African origin, Jonathan Keep, is visiting Franschhoek in the summer, and will be leading a workshop at the Roubaix House Studio of David Walters.

A full day long workshop, the event will proceed like this.

9.30am. Arrive Roubaix House Gallery, 24 Dirkie Uys Street, Franschhoek in time for tea/coffee. From 10am to 12 noon Jonathan, who has lived and worked in Suffolk, England, for the last twenty-two years will present an illustrated talk about the evolution of his work, both functional and sculptural, reflect on his time at the Royal College of Art and offer a personal perspective upon contemporary English/British ceramics. This promises to be a visual feast and hopefully inspiring. Look on the internet for Jonathan's website to see what he makes. <http://www.keep-art.co.uk>

12 noon. Break for lunch – everybody to bring a plate of food to share, picnic style, under the willows in David Walters' garden. Wine will be served as well as iced tea, tea/coffee. After lunch David will open a reduction firing in his brand new 50cu ft gas fired trolley kiln, made especially for him by Kiln Contracts. Craig Leslie will be in attendance to answer questions. The work in the kiln will include new porcelain and white stoneware work by both David Walters and his daughter Sarah Walters. They will discuss glazes and other techniques. Jonathan will be around to share his knowledge on Cone 6 (1220 degrees C) Oxidation glazes, and any questions arising from the morning lecture.

2.30 pm or so, Sarah Walters, Michelle Walters and Jonathan Keep will help participants glaze and decorate tea bowls for a Raku firing. Tea bowls, glaze, brushes and oxides will be supplied. 4pm Grand serving of tea/coffee/wine in your new tea bowlsand cake.

Cost R200 per person – max 30 people. Booking essential, please phone Michelle Walters on 021 876 4304 or Letitia on 021 9793537.



HINTS & TIPS

When draping clay in a glazed or plastic form, you can spray the form with “Spray & Cook” in order to help the clay release from the vessel.

Very important is that you bisque fire your clay once released from vessel before any decoration – as the “Spray & Cook” leaves grease on the surface of the clay.

Another tip making beads can be fun. Making tube beads is very easy – roll out a sausage of clay. Pierce it with a knitting

needle or sosatie skewer along its length. Then continue rolling the clay, this action will form a tube around the needle in the middle. Once desired thickness is achieved let the clay rest and harden slightly. Remove the needle or skewer and cut to desired lengths, decorate and fire.



From Craig's desk

Over the past few months I have been repeatedly reminded about the value of cones in problem solving and the difficulty that people have in understanding the concept of heat work and temperature. It is invaluable for potters to benchmark their kilns with cones when you are getting good results. It facilitates the immediate comparison of cones when trying to resolve firing results.

Cones are a measure of heat work done on glaze and pottery. Specifically - the time taken to complete the last 100 °C of a firing and any soaking time at final temperature.

If the cones compare then the performance of the kiln cannot be questioned and faults in glaze and clay would need to be investigated. An over-fired kiln could point towards ageing elements and this can be overcome either by replacing the elements, or dropping the temperature by 5 – 10 °C and then continuing until such time cones appear the same.

If cones are under-fired then do the reverse by raising the temperature 5 – 10 °C or extending the soak times. It may also be that the kiln was unable to reach temperature due to element failure and therefore elements would need replacing.

Happy potting!



Ceramics Southern Africa

Ceramics SA (Cape) 2008 Regional Exhibition

Ceramics SA (Cape) is holding a regional exhibition at Rust-en-Vrede in Durbanville. The official opening of the 2008 Western Cape regionals will be on Sunday 16 November at 5pm and the exhibition will run until Saturday 13 December 2008. A gala opening is being planned, so please diarise this date and invite friends and family to come along.

Entry is open to Western and Eastern Cape members of Ceramics SA.

Delivery of work: Thursday 13 November 2008 between 09h00 and 13h00.

Selections starts at 14h00.

Deliver ceramics to the Clay Museum, Rust-en-Vrede, 10 Wellington Road, Durbanville.

Opening of Exhibition:

Sunday 16 November 2008 @ 17h00.

Potter's Market

The November potter's market is scheduled for Saturday 22 November 2008 at Rondebosch Park, Sandown Road, Rondebosch. This year we are going to introduce "Potters in action" as a drawing card and for educational purposes, so that the public can see for themselves all that goes into making a pot. It is open to the public and is a family friendly event, so everyone is welcome to attend.

Further information can be obtained from our office on tel no. 021 979-3537.



The Potter's Association of Namibia

"Open Your Hearts And Fill a Bowl" Potters' Association of Namibia Valentine '09 Fundraiser

Potters are invited to please donate bowls, which we will fill with food and sell on 14 February 2009.

A percentage of funds raised will be donated to a local charity Feeding Scheme for the impoverished elderly residents.

For further information email pan@iway.na or Tel. Carola at +264-64-402381

P O Box 2585, Swakopmund, Namibia
Tel. +264 – 402875 / 402381
Fax. +264 – 402875 / 402324

www.pan.iway.na e-mail : pan@iway.na



THE NEXT CPS CHATTER ISSUE : February 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.

