



# 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, Heritage Park  
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## *From Jana in Retreat Branch*

I always enjoy chatting to potters and painters and feed on the enthusiasm for their field and get joy from the joy they exude for their craft.

For new potters you'll find some disasters along the way, but keep heart and learn from the experience and more importantly don't give up.

Keep Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> March in your diary to show and enjoy Rondebosch Potters Market, very good for inspiration, socialising and catching up.

Happy Potting!

## *From Greg in Montague Gardens Branch*

Here we are again at the beginning of another year, hopefully it will be a healthy, peaceful and prosperous one for us all.

As usual there are thousands of young people out looking for jobs, many of whom will find it very difficult. For anyone trying to make a go of it in ceramics, it is very important to study the market, look for gaps and market your products according to a plan.

Nurseries, florists, gift shops, farm stalls, home décor, businesses and special promotions companies are but a few outlets always on the lookout for unusual and well-made products.

I would like to appeal to any flea/ craft market organizers to send us their contact details which we can pass on to anyone interest in

becoming a trader (you may consider advertising your market in our Chatter too.)

Anyone contemplating broadening their skills and techniques, are always welcome to pop in to discuss ideas and if need be, find out about courses and teachers in the area.

Have a fun filled 2005!

The CPS team wishes to express our sincere condolences to the family and friends of MESHACK MASUKU who tragically lost his two sons, Meshack and Msimisi and daughter, Kate and her two children at the end of last year.

## *From Aafke in Somerset West Branch*

I've decided to start the New Year with colour. RED is one of the CPS colours and Valentine's has just past – so large openhearted RED it is!

Reds seem shy- blushing at low temperatures and fading into the background at higher ones. They are high maintenance and expensive. There are basically 3 sources of red in glazes. Firstly, copper red is the only source in high-fired glazes (above 1100°C). Staining with copper oxide and then reducing during the firing to a colloidal copper state is the "sang-de-boeuf"/ ox blood method, but special conditions are needed for these bright reds because copper is extremely volatile. It burns into gas and is very difficult to trap into a glaze. For this reason a very specific firing programme has to be followed and one might still not get the reds

one is looking for. Apparently adding 2% tin oxide helps reduce and intensifies the copper creating colloidal red.

Secondly, Cadmium reds can be used in low temperature firings. Unfortunately, these are extremely poisonous, both in applying and firing the glazes as well as in eating off a cadmium-glazed vessel. (It dissolves very easily.) Prepared cadmium selenide stains are now mostly used in prepared on-glaze colours. Finally iron oxide compounds in lead glazes can be used to create lovely rust reds. Bright colours require complete oxidation. The Islamic Persian Iznik ware is a particularly good example of this.

People will always be on the hunt for those fugitive, vibrant RED glazes. Write to us and share your knowledge on the subject, or come and quiz Elsabé at her Glaze workshop.

This is just one of the exciting short courses she will be offering this year and the Somerset West Branch studio. Places are being booked fast and furiously - the word is out – the courses are well worthwhile.

Snippets of info from  
"The Potters Dictionary" (Harner)  
"The New Maiolica" (Osterman)  
"Glazes & Glazing Techniques" (Daly)



### **COURSES BEING OFFERED AT THE SOMERSET WEST BRANCH STUDIO WITH ESLABÉ HARRIS.**

Our studio caters for a maximum of 10.

Please contact Aafke for bookings, costs and times

Tel : 021-852 3548.

## **PARTICIPATION WORKSHOPS**

### **MULTI-TEXTURAL COURSE.**

Join the exciting world of textures and construct your own three tier jewellery box, using sprig moulds, press moulds, carvings, stamps and 3D's to create tactile effects or using glazing techniques to enhance the visual impact of the piece.

The participant will be provided with all materials. On completion you will have a richly decorated jewellery box to take home.

The course will run over 6 weeks, every Wednesday, beginning 6 April 2005 through to 18 May 2005.

### **GLAZE DEMYSTIFIED!**

#### **A 4 day course in Somerset West with CPS.**

Come to grips with some of the terminology & techniques of glazing. Elsabé Harries will show you how to mix up glazes from recipes, how to do line-blend testing & layering of glazes.

Experiment with maiolica. Learn how to introduce stains/ oxides into clear glazes. Compare dipping, pouring and painting on of glaze.

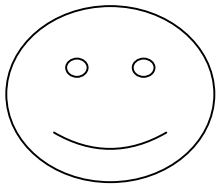
Go home with various testers, a bowl and a platter glazed by you. Materials and notes are provided.

The course will run over 4 weeks, every Wednesday, beginning 25 May through to 15 June 2005.

### **DEMONSTRATION WORKSHOPS**

3 March 2005	Maiolica & Brush-on Glaze
17 March 2005	Lettering Techniques
7 April 2005	Lustres & Onglazes
21 April 2005	3D Decorating Techniques
5 May 2005	Gare No-Fire painting
19 May 2005	Marbling & Inset work with clay
2 June 2005	Stenciling Techniques





## **ELEMENT SPECIAL !!!**

**FOR THE MONTH OF MARCH  
2005**

**10 % off standard element sets –  
retail prices only.**

### **NEW PRODUCTS**

**Save on electricity and firing  
times using HONEYCOMB  
SHELVES now available at  
CPS**

**450 x 350 x 16 mm R 195-60**

**860 x 450 x 25 mm R 1000-00**

Prices include VAT.



**LOOK OUT FOR THE NEW SHIPMENT  
OF GARE AND AMACO COLOURS  
ARRIVING MID MARCH 2005.**



### **HINTS & TIPS**

Tired of your old colour glazes?

Try them on top of one another and see the new effects you can create as these glazes interact with one another at glaze temperature.

NB!! Be sure to select same temperature glazes to use i.e. a 1200 C glaze and another 1200 C glaze. Do not mix two different temperature glazes as it will run down your pot onto your shelves etc!!!

Elsabé



### **THE POTTERS' ASSOCIATION OF NAMIBIA**

#### **CALENDAR OF EVENTS 2005**

##### **SWAKOPMUND:**

26 & 27<sup>th</sup> March (Easter Weekend) –  
Participating Sculpture Workshop: Marianne  
von der Lippe

30<sup>th</sup> April – Demonstration +- 3 hours – Slab  
building: Carola Lorck

... May – Weekend participating Workshop –  
Raku Firing: Sharon Flewellen

11 & 12<sup>th</sup> June – Participating weekend  
Workshop- "Drape Moulded Dishes": Lesley  
Crawford

9<sup>th</sup> July – 2 hour Demonstration – "Under-glaze  
& Wax resist Decorating": Johan v.d. Merwe

31<sup>st</sup> July - 1-Day Lecture/ workshop - "Glaze-  
making without Chemistry": Cobus Potgieter

6 & 7<sup>th</sup> August – Weekend Participating  
Throwing Clinic - "Problem Solving": U.K. potter  
Scott Hurd

August - Smoke Firing Participating  
Workshop: Sharon Flewellen.

10<sup>th</sup> September – P.A.N. Annual General  
Meeting

29<sup>th</sup> October - "Painted Plate" Exhibition and  
Silent Auction

## WINDHOEK:

12 & 13<sup>th</sup> March – Participating weekend Workshop – “Drape Moulded Dishes”: Lesley Crawford  
23<sup>rd</sup> April – Video Show “Throwing Large Pots” by Australian potter Cameron Williams  
4/5 & 11/12<sup>th</sup> June – Participating 2 weekends – Sculpture Workshop “Busts”: Marianne v.d. Lippe  
2<sup>nd</sup> July – 2 hour Demonstration – “Under-glaze & Wax Resist Decorating”: Johan v.d. Merwe

30 & 31<sup>st</sup> July – Weekend Participating Throwing Clinic – “Problem Solving”: U.K. potter Scott Hurd  
For more information please contact the Potters’ Association of Namibia (P.A.N) P.O. Box 2585, Swakopmund. Namibia  
email:- [pan@iway.na](mailto:pan@iway.na) [www.pan.iway.na](http://www.pan.iway.na)  
Telephone & fax: Sharon Flewellen at (09264) 64-402875



## **CERAMICS SA (formerly APSA)**

### **CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

Calendar of Events 2005

12 March	AGM – Rust-en-Vrede, Durbanville
19 March	Potters Market, Rondebosch
29 April to 2 May	DECOREX, Cape Town Convention Centre
13 August	Winter Workshops, Rust-en-Vrede, Durbanville
September	Regional Exhibition, Artscape, Cape Town
19 November	Potters Market, Rondebosch.



## ***CRAIG'S HELPLINE.....***

Would you wait for your tyre to burst before you changed it? Why then suffer the inconvenience when your kiln does not reach temperature due to element failure caused by age, let alone the loss in pottery due to prolonged firing?

In considering when to change the elements, look for the following :

- element coils bunching together;
- element coils collapsing;
- element coils with brown discolouration;

or simply finding your firings are taking longer and longer. This would imply that the resistivity is increasing therefore the power is decreasing and slowing down the kiln.

When elements fail there is also potential to damage the refractory brick and if ignored the new element put in to replace it will have a shortened life span. We recommend replacing elements in sets unless the element that has failed is relatively new.

Remember to properly oxidize your elements by firing the kiln empty and to soak it 1100°C for 3 hours.

***Happy potting .....***



### **FOR SALE**

Plooms Pottery, 17 years in Greyton, for sale as a going concern for relocation to your premises, failing which, as separate items.

Phone Patty 028-254 9339

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 JUNE 2005 – Please submit your**

**articles/adverts before 31<sup>st</sup> May 2005.**