

February 2017

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Your ClayAround Newsletter

ClayAround



Ruth Winchester posted a picture of her garden in spring and has kindly let me use it (see above left). Imagine waking to that in the morning!

I had already set off to find polymer clay flower gardens " to brighten up the winter and look forward to the spring and they seemed an interesting follow up from last months embroidery. I landed up finding hundreds " nay thousands " of miniature gardens: real gardens, with polymer clay accessories. My mediocre example is some polymer flowers I made to exemplify how one could make translucent flowers at speed (see right). But most gardens I found seem to be "fairy gardens"™ Whether you are interested in fairies or not, the gardens are so delightful and the possibilities are endless. So here goes:

[TinkerWhims](#) has obviously made a business out of lots of interesting gardens and you will, from these images, see what I mean when I say the possibilities are endless. My [Enchanting Whims](#) shows in detail the sorts of flowers to include in your miniature garden " if you spend some time on this website you will learn so much about miniature gardens as well as what you could include in your own polymer enhanced garden. [This garden](#) has lots of furniture tutorials and if you scroll down you can make a polymer fairy!.[This site](#) is more about accessories and pretty basic, but still full of ideas. I absolutely love this ["broken pot"](#)™ " and so much detail as you drift down the page and if you search around this site you will find lots

more. If you want to make your own cactus plants there are some examples [here](#) or you could make this tiny little [succulent garden](#) if you felt so inclined! This [sweet website](#) by Mimi might appeal to you – certainly children will enjoy it, and there are lots of patterns for flowers on the site. Finally, returning to the fairy gardens, here are many [more pictures](#) of possibilities to stimulate ideas. I have enjoyed these and been very tempted to play – I hope you are too!



ClayAround are in their seventh year and we are proud to have developed an unbelievably large and loyal customer base. As you know we believe more than anything in customer service and enjoy communicating at an individual level with those who buy from us. This will continue where it can.

There is a saying that taxes – and change (and death!) are inevitable and things have to change at ClayAround. Above is a picture of Sam picking the stock. You will be hearing from Sam regularly – she loves working with us and is a bundle of energy who makes us smile.

Circumstances change and she (we) will be processing orders on Mondays and Thursdays ONLY for the foreseeable future. Thank you for your loyalty until now, and we of course look forward to hearing from you again.

[Ginger has done it again – she has written 96 pages of wisdom in her](#)



Tracy Marriott, like so many of us, has been involved in many arts and crafts, and also like so many of us chose to book herself into a workshop to learn a new craft. Having covered a tea spoon with polymer clay she was hooked! Her words were – I loved the way that with clay you could just let go of everything in your head and just create – With imagination there are no limits – she has observed.

Tracy gets particular delight when modelling and as you will see from the image above, she is talented in this area. Tracy is starting to run courses in her home county of Essex and can be contacted on Facebook.

Our next Clayday is on March 18th 2017 (I got the date wrong in last month's newsletter!), soon after Polymania - details [here](#) as usual. All are welcome as ever.

Polymania is here - 9th to 12th March - and ClayAround will be there, and whilst it is fully booked the waiting list

inimitable style, with wonderful images and quite fascinating content. You thought you knew it all? I kidded myself that I did! They say "the more you know the more you don't know" well Ginger has proven that yet again with her "Polymer clay Essentials" I really do recommend that you buy this very valuable booklet! You can download it [here](#):

is empty and there could always be a chance that you could get a place. So keep your eye open for information or fill in the waiting list form [here](#) And would you believe Cara is already planning for Polymania 2018 - you have to be quick off the mark to get a plac for it is the workshop of the year - every year!

The only way to make sense out of change is to plunge into it, move with it, and join the dance.

Alan Watts

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