

January Newsletter

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Your ClayAround Newsletter

ClayAround



Our next clayday is going to be spent experimenting with the extruders â€“ a perennial topic, not the least because there are so many quality extruders on the market these days. As valentineâ€™s day is coming up you will surely like the hearts on this flickr site, but do scroll down and see the lovely bullseye designs produced using an extruder â€“ you will recognise the classic Klimt style [here](#) Karen Park sets us off with an original variation on Klimt as she gouges out the sides of her extruded pieces to excellent effect [here](#) Cathy Harm sells on Etsy but what caught my eye was this [kaleidoscope egg](#) she has produced. If you search her products you will find tins that she has covered to. And Cathy also has a [Craft Edu tutorial](#) where you can learn how to produce some of her designs Andrea Will shows us how to use some of our left over extrusions â€“ [classy designs](#). I, too, had a go at using extraneous extrusions on a brooch â€“ see picture top left. And we mustnâ€™t forget that we canâ€™t knitâ€™ with our extrusions! ([tutorial here](#)) Back to valentineâ€™s day, in the picture top right you will see what Ron has done with his extruder for the hearts he continues to produce for his charity. Here is his [tutorial](#) If you havenâ€™t discovered the work that Ron does then the information is [here](#): If you have a Lucy extruder [Lucyâ€™s Pinterest page](#) will keep you happy for days â€“ nav months! (even if you do not have a Lucy extruder for her discs fit the Fimo.

the Makins, the Walnut Hollow and the Lucy extruders.) Remember we stock the Lucy extruders " and the numerous discs that they produce. There are so many more wonderful ideas that can be developed with their discs.



Hazel, one of the regulars at our claydays introduced us to [Gleam wax](#), and I have managed to source it so it is now on the shopping cart. It does similar to Gilder's wax, but is sold in packs of three colours. I am impressed with it.

The other delightful discovery is I have found some [mica powder](#) which when added to water can be used as paint. Its quality is that, like "Perfect Pearls" it has a binder so doesn't need to have varnish as a sealant when used as a surface decoration.

We also found some more texture plates and I am trying out some tiny moulds to see if you like them.

Over the years I have had requests for stock from customers. It is not always possible to obtain things (PMYII being a case in point - they can't be airlifted from the States because of 'danger' legislation!). But I do endeavour to find what you want, so keep asking!



I am pretty sure I have introduced Val Lymer to you before. She came to our claydays as a beginner and just goes from strength to strength with creative ideas and increased skill.

Our claydays are burgeoning with more new people every time at our monthly meetings. Luckily not everyone can make it every month or we would land up working in the garden for lack of space! The consensus is that we don't want to move to a hall " apart from the cost, here we have a long day, a lovely log fire in the winter and a sunny conservatory in the summer " as well as access to all the equipment and tools (and of course clay!) We currently have access to a car park too, but it has been sold so change is upon us. What will be will be.

[Our next Clayday is next Saturday, 7th February.](#)

Yet another reminder that there is a very special workshop in Bristol from 13-15th March where Donna Kato, Bettina Welker and Cara Jane will be teaching. I will be there with the shop “ and with luck I will be demonstrating the DREAM machine (if it arrives on time!).

I have been privy to Cara’s organisation of this workshop and without a doubt it will be one of the best! There will be a bead swap, there will be goody bags “ there will be fun. So if you haven’t booked yet, do so soon there really are only a couple of places left.

Imagination is everything. It is the pre view of life’s coming attraction

Albert Einstein

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