

# July Newsletter

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## Your ClayAround Newsletter

# ClayAround

I really love creating canes and flower canes are always fun because they invariably look good even if they don't turn out as you expected. Karen from Clayground makes a very simple cane here: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ipWrojcuay4> This is a really good starter if you are new to flower canes. Alternatively, this is a stitched cane which is ripe for adaptation

<http://kaelmijoy.blogspot.co.uk/2011/09/polymer-clay-tutorial-blue-stitched.html> This cane by Aylet beads' Flickr site is also ideal to adapt:

<http://www.flickr.com/photos/ayeletbeads/3413296983/in/photostream/>

If you want something more complicated then there is a nice YouTube video in Italian (put the sound down " you don't need it!) which she calls a "bureaux flower" <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wz8on2l2nY4> and there is a great fire cane here: <http://polymer-clay-jewellery.blogspot.co.uk/2012/02/polymer-clay-tutorial-fire-flower-cane.html> -

There is, of course, the inevitable Pinterest board too:

<http://pinterest.com/cindil/polymer-clay-cane-flowers/>

Have a look at Kay Vincent's blog: <http://kayvincent.com/> - she is an expert on flower canes (see this lovely orange creation below) " and incidentally he has a lazer cutter and does commissions!

Meanwhile, I have been experimenting with the "Ice" that we received delivery of last month " here is a rather pretty example of pink Ice painted onto translucent clay. We have a variety of colours, and polymer clay is not the only smooth surface it can be used on.





After a very long wait I am now excited because we finally have the Big Daddio cutters that are recommended by Helen Breil. They are temperature resistant up to 160C, hold their shape and are virtually unbreakable (made from nylon and fibreglass). Helen recommends circle, square, teardrop and pod shapes in her excellent book (see here: [http://www.helenbreil.com/Shapes\\_Book.php](http://www.helenbreil.com/Shapes_Book.php)) we also have hexagon, oval, fan, heart and half moon. They are in sets of up to 9 pieces and as far as I know we are the only suppliers in the UK currently.

**Our next Clayday in Wales is on Saturday 3rd August**



Hazel, one of our new clayday people has been showing us her dragons. She is comparatively new to polymer clay and is self taught "mostly from Christie Friezen's book [http://www.amazon.co.uk/Dragons-Techniques-Inspirational-Step-By-Step-Instructions/dp/0972817778/ref=sr\\_1\\_4?ie=UTF8&qid=1375036946&sr=8-4&keywords=Christi+Friesen](http://www.amazon.co.uk/Dragons-Techniques-Inspirational-Step-By-Step-Instructions/dp/0972817778/ref=sr_1_4?ie=UTF8&qid=1375036946&sr=8-4&keywords=Christi+Friesen) until our last Clayday she had never done mokume gane "this is her first effort. He's a personality isn't he?"

**Oh, one more thing - we now have a Facebook page (better late than never!) - not surprising, it is called 'ClayAround' - if you haven't already, you will be doing us a favour if you go in and 'like' it!**

**An expert is someone who has succeeded in making decisions and judgments simpler through knowing what to pay attention to and what to ignore.**

Edward de Bono

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