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Crackle effect can be quite stunning and there are so many ways to achieve it. I was introduced to it in a workshop with Sue Heaser – she uses Daler-Rowney Pearlescent Inks. When I was with her I painted the inks onto black clay, put it through the pasta machine and then impressed a leaf from the garden onto it as a texture. So simple! There is a nice tutorial [here](#) although this tutorial goes a step further and adds embossing powder. The [next one](#) is done using Kroma Crackle (its is not viable for me to import it and sell it although there are sellers in the UK). It really is very lovely although the process with Kroma Crackle is very time consuming.

Emma Ralph uses Inka Gold to create a lovely crackle effect in this [earring tutorial](#) (predictably I sell [Inka gold!](#)) Our friend Ginger from the Blue Bottle Tree made this lovely necklace for her daughter Katie using gold leaf and alcohol inks (see top left). You can find more about it [here](#). If you want to know how use gold or silver leaf, here is a YouTube tutorial that will give you [some idea](#). Here is a [pendant](#) made with crackled copper leaf and alcohol inks and Anna explains exactly how it has been done.. Albeit in Italian, here is another [YouTube tutorial](#), some earrings, this time with gold leaf that look very subtle because they, too, are coated with liquid clay. [This](#) is a tutorial using variegated metal leaf to good effect.

[This piece](#) on YouTube is made with Jones Tones foil. The substitute for this

discontinued tool is the tool we have [at ClayAround](#) at€" here is now you use it! I here is a tutorial using foils here too, by one of the regulars at local workshops, our own [Neena Shilvock](#) And I include this flickr page because it includes a pendant that [Eva Haskova](#) gave to me â€" on which there is a subtle crackle effect. (see picture above right and the pendant at the bottom of her page)



We are excited to announce that only today did the new cutters from Mel arrive. Melanie Muir has developed a new line of cutters to coincide with her templates. There are [7 designs](#) created in sturdy metal and with four cutters per set. They are retailing at Â£8 per set. Have a look and make your choice!

We had a bonanza at the beginning of the month when the Clear Sculpey clay arrived. We were sold out in 24 hours, as was our supplier. The supplier assures me that a new delivery will be available at the end of June and that they will have more than adequate available for the demand! And I had a whim â€" and bought some [pipettes](#) Inexpensive and useful, they are in packs of 10 and cost only 50p. No longer need you have messy fingers when playing with your alcohol inks!

After a request for information from a customer I have also acquired 0 rings that are specifically designed to fit neatly over the 3mm and 2mm buna cord. These can act as buffers or simply as spacers.



Lizzi Bucklow Holt is the brains behind the new website for the British Polymer Clay Guild. (as well as promoting the Guild on social media) She rediscovered her love of polymer clay in 2011 when she found some buttons she had made from Fimo when she was a teenager. Not surprisingly she is now obsessed, particularly because of possibilities in art, jewellery and sculpture. She is constantly learning the craft and eager to share her knowledge having written tutorials (including for Making Jeweller Magazine). Not content with all the work she does for the UK Guild she lives up to her name (Bizzi Zizzi) and has now joined the IPCA Regional Board. So if you have news to share then let her know. She can be found on her [own website](#) or on the [Guild website](#)

The British Polymer Clay Guild are having an anniversary celebration on 23rd and 24th September, in Kidderminster.(In a venue called 'Simply Limitless' in Puxton Lane. 0144 525114 is the 20th anniversary

Our next Clayday in Wales is on Saturday 24th June 2017. As ever all are welcome. At the last one we had a feast - everyone seemed to bring wonderful goodies, and there were all sorts of ideas being explored. See the pictures [here](#).

BY THE WAY! It is the 20th anniversary of the Guild. There will be formal workshops, demonstrations, exhibitions, and buying opportunities. Certainly it will be a networking opportunity and you will recognise a number of familiar faces at the event. Put the dates in our diary!

“Creativity is the process of bringing something new into being. Creativity requires passion and commitment. It brings to our awareness what was previously hidden and points to new life. The experience is one of heightened consciousness: ecstasy.”

Rollo May

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ClayAround
Larkrise,
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