

November Newsletter

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Your ClayAround Newsletter

ClayAround



My son has gone off to the very hot Florida Keys in the US to celebrate Thanksgiving whilst we suffer rain, mist and cold here in the UK, so some Christmas cheer seems appropriate.

In the photo above left Penni Jo and Jane from the Central Oklahoma Polymer clay guild show us what is possible with Christmas decoration balls – my efforts using a simple cane cut with my wonderful Lucy slicer are above right. There are so many possibilities. I love the idea of figures on the balls as they are [here](#) [This website](#) collects pictures from random websites so they don't have designations but there are some interesting ideas: You will have seen some balls covered with extrusions on that page – [here](#) is another with simple swirls. And you will find more if you scroll down [this page](#): If you like steampunk there is one [here](#): (And there are some more ideas at the side of that page). At the other end of the spectrum is the very pretty idea of putting something inside a glass ball (I have seen them done commercially and costing silly money – I am sure we could do better!). the idea is [here](#): And then there are creatures: A [Piranha](#) , a [frog](#) Fashionable [owls](#) and a strange [barnacle](#) .

I intend to give Christmas ball decorations as small gifts to my family and have fun making them in the run up to Christmas. I hope you do too!



Christmas is exciting for children. I have acquired some basic kemper cutter sets " in them they have four 5/16" cutters: heart, circle, teardrop and flower, together with a project page for children. Other stock is slow arriving " the Souffl  and the new Sculpey tools still haven't arrived at my suppliers yet. I am told the beginning of December so watch the shopping cart. However, I am told that the Marxits are due to arrive in Europe on 5th December which means they will be with us in the third or fourth week in December, so sadly it looks as if we won't get them before Christmas. This is not good news as they are very much in demand and would make really great little gifts. The better news is I have just received the latest batch of Lucy cutters so we have plenty of cutters and Lucy extruders if you haven't persuaded your significant other to buy you a Christmas gift yet!



We are lucky enough to have Val Harrison Jones as one of our clayday people. She drives to us all the way from Prestatyn on the North Wales coast. Her polymer clay work is original and meticulous. However her first love is beading. She teaches beading on more than one continent and I couldn't resist showing you her Christmas piece (inset below). She has a regular class every Tuesday in Prestatyn if anyone is interested! (You can get the details from me!)

The next Clayaround clayday will on Saturday 13th December " details [here](#)

Our next Newsletter will be after Christmas - so for those celebrating Thanksgiving in the US and for those celebrating Christmas - I hope it is all you hope it to be!

The life so short, the craft so long to learn. '

Hippocrates

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