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It was Helen Cruikshank that reminded me of how interesting Bargello is when she send me pictures (top left) of her preparation for what she was going to create. On the right is her picture of what she finally produced and of course I admire her creativity.

This geometric design technique originated as a type of embroidery, first found on a series of chairs in the Bargello Palace in Florence. It was originally wool on canvas and of course very colourful. Today it is frequently used by polymer clay enthusiasts. [Here](#), for a start, is a "bargello exercise"™ which has been taken from the fantastic book by Lindly Haunani and Maggie Maggio called "Polymer Clay Color Inspiration"™. In that same book there are instructions for some bargello beads made by Laura Liska "Carol Simmons" shows you the lovely results. (The book is out of print but I have some copies coming to ClayAround very soon so look out for them).

There is a very classy example of what is possible on the flickr page by [Noelia](#) whilst 2 good claymates, [on their blog](#), are advertising some Bargello tutorials "mainly about building motifs, if you are interested."

For lots of variety [here](#) is a raft of variations, and it was Ginger Davis Allman who alerted me to [this article](#) about Bargello showing a lovely evolution of the use of this technique.

OT course you can spend lots of time looking at the Pinterest pages. There is unlimited inspiration on [this page](#) or on [this one](#)



Exciting news this month. We have a Christmas offer of **six 2oz blocks of Premo for the price of four**. They are a special pack of Christmas colours provided by our suppliers, Artemio. The colours are white, pomegranate, Spanish olive, burnt umber, silver and 18K gold. And they can be found [here](#):

But that's not all, we also now have the wonderful and oh so clever [Oyumaru](#) mould making material. This Chinese material is available in 12 small strips. You put the strips into hot water until they become malleable. You then create a mould with the material and your chosen piece. When it cools down it becomes hard enough for you to make a facsimile of that piece. Once you had made the mould or moulds to your satisfaction you can put the Oyumaru back into hot water and use it again.

With Christmas coming it is worth reminding you, yet again, that if you want to give a gift token for products from the ClayAround website then simply let me know by email what amount you want the gift to be worth, and you can choose what



I met Felicity Harvey at Kidderminster at the BPCG celebration. She makes the most delightful little seals in her free time whilst her child is asleep. She has a facebook page called *Sealsational* where she says her followers "scoop up" her seals. She has a whole fantasy world of seals swimming off her Facebook page and she tells me she makes all of them original and irresistible! Her enthusiasm for her work and her world of seals is infectious! Go and have a look! (she has "adoption nights" every Monday!) Search for **Sealsational**

They are made mostly of Fimo and Premo although she sometimes uses other clays too!

Our next clayday is on 25th November and as it is the last before Christmas it is more than likely we will be making Christmas goodies "and potentially eating Christmas foods too. As ever details [here](#) and you will see what we were making last time we met.

There aren't many new books for Polymer clayers these days, but I have mentioned on Facebook, and would like to mention again, that Angie Scarr has just published a new book available [here](#) It is not just for

â€™codeâ€™™ the person has to put into the cart to get their gift. I will send you a Paypal invoice for the amount and they will have an indefinite period in which to spend their token.

miniaturists for it has interesting information about how to use what she calls â€™Gooâ€™™ â€™ you can find out more about that on her [YouTube video](#).

You canâ€™t use up creativity. The more you use, the more you have.

Maya Angelou

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