



Clay Times

The Newsletter of The Clay Studio

Issue 16: November/December 2008

Create Your Own Unique Christmas Gifts

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In the two years that we have been open, painted pottery has been a very popular and unusual Christmas gift. A piece of hand-painted pottery is not only unique but it is highly personal.

Alongside our standard range of bisque pottery we have special Christmas items including Santa and snowman plates and figurines, baubles in different shapes and sizes, tree hangers and more. For this year we have new reindeer figures in two sizes. Check out the Seasonal section of the Gallery on our Web site to see more recently painted Christmas pieces.



Looks like rein, deer

Pottery is an ideal memento of a special occasion, for example, baby's first Christmas or first Christmas in a new home.

Why not have different members of the family paint their own ornaments?

Don't forget that The Clay Studio is just for painting pottery. The Clay Studio Café provides a range of light lunches, hot and cold drinks as well as beers, wines and ciders. We also have some seasonal specials such as Spiced Latte and Mulled Wine. Why not call in for lunch, a snack or just a coffee or glass of wine when Christmas shopping. Remember we are open until 10pm on Thursday and Friday so come and unwind after late night shopping.

The last date when painted pottery can be guaranteed for glazing and firing by 24 December is 22 December. For First Impressions clay imprints and plaster outprints there is an earlier last date. Clay imprints will need to be done by 29 November and plaster outprints by 10 December for delivery before Christmas.

Please note that The Clay Studio will close at midday on 24 December and reopen on Monday 29 December.



My puds are spinning

The Painting Academy



Ceramic Christmas trees now in stock.

We are running two special Painting Academy Christmas Courses during November and December.

Kidz Halloween Painting Party 31 October 2008

It was scary on Halloween at The Clay Studio when witches, wizards, ghosts, ghouls and werewolves arrived to paint pottery and enjoy a Witch's Blood cocktail and ghoulish grub. Congratulations to werewolf Charlie who won the fancy dress competition.



Our New Pamper Party

We now have an new party offer for children. Our Pamper Party allows children from 4 to 104 to create their own Bath Bombs, Fizzing Bath Dust, Layered Bath Salts, Quartz Bath Treasures, Lip Balms, Shower Gels, Body Polish, Melt and Pour Soap, Aloe Vera Body Gels, Hand Soaps. and other fun toiletries.

This party is £16 per head for up to six items. Minimum ten children.



Diva Night

Thursday 13 November 2008



Creative Fun and Fundraising
for Children in Need

Thursday 13 November 2008, 7-10pm
Join us for a fun-filled and creative evening. Get together with your friends, give yourself some valuable "me time" and raise money for Children in Need.

Advance tickets £20 including:

- Studio Fee, paints, glazing and firing.
- £10 bisque credit. (£15 for Clay Friends members)
- Raffle ticket.
- £5 donation to Children in Need.
- Free glass of bubbly.

Our full café menu, hot and cold beverages, wines, beers, cider and mulled wine will be available.

Don't forget your feather boa and tiara!



Historic Christchurch

The latest local print from Wendy Brown continues with her "quirky" view of the local area. Historic Christchurch shows Castle Street with the castle ruins, Avon bridge, the new Kings Hotel and even The Clay Studio.

The limited edition print is available either mounted or framed.



Holly-Days



Masterclass: Writing on glaze

Many have admired the signing plates that are on display in The Clay Studio. We are often asked if all the signatories have to visit us in Christchurch. The answer is no. Whether you paint the plate or we undertake the painting as a commission the plate is collected complete, glazed and fired. The signatures are written on using a special glaze pen that we have available. Once everybody has signed, the plate is left for 24 hours and then baked for 30 minutes in a domestic oven.

Signing plates are suitable for all occasions including weddings, civil partnership ceremonies, christenings, baby naming parties, retirement parties, anniversaries, hen parties or just a get together of friends or family. The signing plate records everyone who attended and looks much better than a guest book that could be left in a drawer.



The glaze pens are also suitable for adding names on to completed pottery items. For Christmas 2008 we have new Santa plates. These are already finished and are sold with one or more glaze pens so that they are ideal as a present. Just add the kids' names at home to make the plate totally unique.



More Glass Fusing

We are now running Glass fusing workshops on the second Sunday of every month. These workshops teach the basic skills required for completing glass fusing projects.



Each workshop costs £45 and is inclusive of all materials, tuition, firing and lunch. Advance booking is necessary as space on each workshop are limited

Next workshops: 11 December 11-3
9 January 11-3

Support Children in Need

The Clay Studio loves to support worthwhile charities. For the BBC's 2008 Children in Need appeal we are not only running Diva Night on 13 November but the following day we will be donating £1 for every painter and 50p for every coffee to the appeal.

Have fun painting and support Pudsey Bear.



How To Find Us

The Clay Studio is right in the centre of Christchurch.

The Clay Studio
12a Castle Street
Dorset BH23 1DT

01202 475000

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Some recent masterpieces



Party Time at The Clay Studio

The Clay Studio is ideal for all types of parties including children's birthday parties, adult parties, hen parties, retirement parties or Christmas parties. We are able to run the party in different ways to suit your requirements and budget.

The Clay Studio Café can supply party food either from our Café menu or from our functions menu. We are fully licensed too to help give your party that extra sparkle.

A painting party is a great, fun way to relax with friends and family and paint Christmas presents or presents for any occasion. You could even theme a party with appropriate decorations and paint pottery to match. You could even paint an item such as plate together.



Remember we are open every day with late nights Thursday and Friday. We are also flexible to be open other evenings for parties to suit your requirements.