

Newsletter

August/September 2011



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Dear All

I hope you are enjoying some fine potting. I have recently completed a kiln load of work for which I must say I had high hopes. I 'glazed' the whole lot using a bucket of slip. Yes really.

I need to concentrate! Which leads me to a thorny topic. As you know my year of editorship ends with the November/December issue and we are looking for a successor to the post. I find the job very fulfilling but also very time consuming (no advert for a candidate you may think!) so I have proposed to the Committee that we create a Newsletter Team, following in the footsteps of the Dacorum and Chiltern Potters Guild - thank you to them for the idea. We have agreed to try this and the plan is to have six roles:

- Editor - to solicit, gather and filter copy
- Advertising Organiser - to solicit ads, gather copy and invoice clients
- Designer - to layout copy and create magazine
- Proof Reader
- Producer - to liaise with printshop on producing hardcopies
- Distributor - to stuff envelopes and post copies

We already have an Advertising Organiser but hope to have the rest of the team arranged by the middle of August and ready to begin work in the middle of December for the January/February 2012 issue. If by the middle of August it has not proved possible to gather a team I will produce a Newsheet instead of a magazine and this will be circulated by email and a small team organised to produce hardcopies for our Members who are not 'on line'.

So! Do please contact Marion, your Chairman, if you would like to have a stint on any of the Newsletter Team roles and as ever, let us have your views on this subject or any other aspect of the Group.

Suzanne



Members' Work

'Spiral', or 'Koru' in Maori on the front page by Claudi Barratt. On the back page, 'Resting Hare' and 'Dodo' by Sandra Bidmead

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Letter from the Chair

Dear Members,

I hope you have all been busy producing ceramic masterpieces in readiness for the summer exhibition in Chichester at the Bishops Kitchen and enjoying the weather, which from time to time has been rather interesting with hail and chilly winds in June!

I want to thank Jan Griffiths for holding three social/workshop gatherings at her home and studio. They have been a great excuse to chill out and chat in tranquil surroundings whilst making pots and they are a superb way to get to know members better.

I went along to the private view of Karin Pearce's Summer Exhibition on 3rd June and it was a thoroughly enjoyable couple of hours; strolling around Karin's country garden on the edge of the New Forest in the summer evening sunshine surrounded by sculptures, pottery and jewellery by well known ceramicists. This was the first time I had gone as I had not heard of it before, and I would encourage any of you in the area to take a look next year and support a fellow member's exhibition. If you have an exhibition coming up, send a piece about it to Suzanne and she will put it in the relevant newsletter, then we all get the chance to support each other in what we do.

What ever you do, enjoy it and have fun!

Best wishes to you all,

Marion

Networking and Social Events



Coach trip to the
Victoria and Albert
Museum London

Wednesday 12th
October 2011

You will recall that the Southern Ceramic Group is organising a trip to the newly renovated ceramics galleries at the V&A museum in October 2011 - for details see your May/June edition of the Newsletter.

A few places remain on this trip - speak to Marion, details on page 20.

Southern Ceramic Group Exhibition - 23th July -
7th of August 2011 at The Bishop's Kitchen, The Palace, Chichester
PO19 1PX

Reminder as there are a few days left! - if you would like to take part in the Southern Ceramic Group Bishop's Kitchen Exhibition in July, please contact Véronique NOW for an entry form at Veronique.cowan@talktalk.net

15th July 2011 - Entry forms must reach Veronique Cowan

20th July 2011 - Last amendments to entry forms via email or phone to Veronique

21st July 2011 - Deliver pots to Bishop's Kitchen from 11:00am -

12:00 noon. 22nd July 2011 - Exhibition opens with a Private Viewing at 18:30pm

7th August 2011 - Exhibition closes at 17:00pm 8th August 2011 - Collect ceramics from gallery from 09:00am-10:30am

Gallery: Work by SCG Members

Jewellery by
Jane Stirzaker-Evans



Natural forms below by Su Peta Cloud



Gallery: Work by SCG Members

Raku work by
Tony
Thompson



and Karen Jenner



Gallery: Work by SCG Members



These planters, also by Karen Jenner, are made by rolling out the clay and putting round formers the piercings are cut out and the inner container - just visible here - is joined to the outer. The glaze is brushed on and fired to 1260 degrees.

Karen is due to exhibit at Hatfield house this August which she is 'looking forward to with a bit of trepidation' She has some work being exhibited at Jealous Holdings at the moment.



Gallery: Work by SCG Members

King Arthur and his Knights of the Round Table. By Marion Stewart

These pieces are part of a commission for King Arthur and his knights of the round table. There are 14 pieces altogether including the table and Merlin. They are all hand sculpted in Scarva porcelain paperclay, decorated with Amaco underglaze colours, glazed and finished with gold, platinum and bronze lustres. It has been a long and challenging commission but I am finally nearing the end and really looking forward to making Merlin and seeing the finished group assembled.



Gallery: Work by SCG Members

'Tribal' and the 'Blue Sweep
Range' of tableware.
By Tilly Leaf Mellor

I am a full time potter/
Ceramicist in West Sussex and
my studio is at Amberley
museum & Heritage Centre.



Review: Johnathan Barratt-Danes at Above the Blue 06 March



This was the second meeting of SCG held at Port Solent, and (I am told) the first at which there was a significant 'hands on' audience participation.

In contrast with other speakers, John started with a demonstration of sculpting know-how. He had brought with him a near life-size clay

sculpture of what he called 'essence of sheep'. This had been built by coiling onto solid legs which had been allowed to dry prior to starting on the body. The sheep weighed about 50kg, and he had built it in the past week; what he showed us was how he modelled the head.

He opened up holes for the eyes, nose and mouth, and worked from mouth upwards, adding clay to the lips and corners of the mouth such that when the mouth was closed it looked like a mouth, not a slit. Nostrils were built up by adding small coils and working them in. Two round balls for the eyes, and then rolls of clay to make the upper and lower eyelids, moulded into the skull without deforming the eyeballs, upper eyelid overlapping the lower in the corners. He pushed a rod through the skull behind the eyes, and pushed out the eyes until they 'looked right': remove the rod and close up the hole. He used a wooden template to get the shape of the ears, which he attached with generous coils.

Some clay between the ears (roughed up to look like wool), and then the face textured with an old nail brush. He used Scarva Earthstone for this work, and said that he uses a stoneware paperclay for some work as it is strong and lighter.

Using a block and tackle, the sheep will be lowered into the kiln and bisc fired slowly up to 1140. When cool, the body is sprayed (2 or 3

above the blue



Sailing the Wave by Glyn Macey
Original Oil on Canvas £1,500

Art Gallery at Port Solent



Sasha Wardell



Annabel Owens



Suzie Marsh



Adriana Brimhead-Bishop

above the blue

The Upper Boardwalk, Port Solent, Hampshire PO6 4TP
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Wednesday - Saturday: 10.30am-7pm ...quite often later on a warm, sunny evening Sunday: 11am-5pm

Review: Johnathan Barratt-Danes at Above the Blue 06 March

coatings) with slip containing 10% calcium borate frit + oxides to give some contrasting colour to the body, while the face is sprayed/brushed with the same mixture but with 10% black copper oxide and some manganese. When fired to about 1260 this gives a matt finish, and the sheep can safely be put out to pasture in all weathers.

John comes from a family of potters, and an entertaining slide show featured some of these and their work, and more of his own recent work (which can be viewed on his web site www.johnathanbarrett-danes.co.uk). This included some slipcast pots and heads, and a pig in wellies prepared from a 17 piece mould!



Before and after lunch we got our hands on some clay and made small (or larger) sheep/lamb heads, and/or a bird head. John showed us how he gets the rough shape of the head, and hollows out the inside, locates and opens the eye sockets before making the mouth, nose and the eyes (as described above). The bird heads emphasis the eyes, and double upper eyelids, which allow the eyes to protrude and help fill out the skull. The beak and nostrils are simple lines and holes, and combs are added at the end.

The fruits of our collective labours are shown on the previous page – not quite a Gormley field – but a modest pasture. For a figurative clay modeller, a great day.

Zyg Kruk

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Networking and Social Events

Angmering Pit Firing

hosted by

Anne Lovejoy

Sunday 4th

September 2011

Welcome to our Angmering pit firing. We would like you to be here by 9.00am if you have anything to put in the pit which we will light at 9.45am, this gives us enough firing time to open it between 4 & 5.00pm.



We should have three Raku kilns going once the pit is lit so do bring plenty to fire and if you have raku glazes they will be most welcome.

Remember that all ware needs to be made with a clay that will withstand thermal shock and burnishing your pots usually makes for a better finish.

Please let me have your details and payment as follows:

My party will include ___ adults @ £8 each

Name :

Address :

Telephone :

Email:

I enclose a cheque made payable to Anne Lovejoy for £___ and will bring biscuited pots to fire & a contribution to a shared lunch

For more information please feel free to contact me either by phone or email, if you phone I am usually in around lunchtime or evenings except on Thursdays, leave me your number if you find it difficult to make contact.

Anne Lovejoy, The Tree House, Honey Lane, Angmering, West Sussex BN16 4AB
Tel:- 01903 772695 please note new email = amlovejoy@btinternet.com

The Committee

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Advertising Rates

Please contact Jane Stirzaker-Evans - see details above.

Rates are:

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