

NEWSLETTER

June/July 2016

www.southernceramicgroup.co.uk/

Email : info@southernceramicgroup.co.uk

Contents

- **Group & Members News**
- **What's On**
- **Glaze Group**
- **The Old Kiln Studio**
- **Potting in Malawi**
- **Demonstrations**
- **SCG Committee**

Editorial

Welcome to the June/July edition of the SCG Newsletter. The newsletter is published electronically bimonthly to members of the Southern Ceramic Group and is more widely distributed to associated pottery groups.

We always welcome your contributions to the newsletter from events to technical articles to profiles. This edition is a great example of the varied interests of the group, we hope you enjoy the newsletter and will consider contributing in the future.

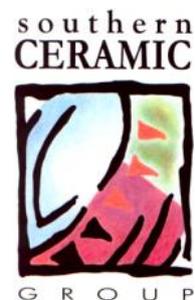
Keith Menear

Group & Members News

New Members

A very warm welcome to new members:

- Sheila Richards from Tadley
- Suna Roffey of Winchester
- Brenda Potter, Waterlooville
- Belinda Shaw of Petersfield
- Gaynor Wilson from Cranleigh
- Simon Carr, Chichester



Next Committee Meeting. The committee meets every few months or so and our next meeting will be on Monday 11th July 2016. 15.00 to 17.00 at Grayshott Pottery, School Road, Hindhead. GU26 6 LR.

If you have anything you would like to bring to our attention please contact Sandie Dixon 2sandie@tiscali.co.uk or any other member of the committee.

What's On

Pit Firing September 4th : Please note that Ann Lovejoy will be having a pitfiring event on September 4th which as usual is the first Sunday in the month. Anne would be glad of some help if someone locally could give a hand with preparation a day or two before the event. Please contact Anne on 01903 772695 or email amlovejoy@btinternet.com to discuss any help you can offer on the day.

Anne Lovejoy

What's On

Joanna Howells, Tythegston Pottery : Next Workshop Dates Planned for Summer 2016

As usual, there will be plenty of individual tuition for improving your throwing skills such as centring, lifting and throwing and altering. There are also my special workshops for learning to make big pots. Here we cover techniques for centrecoils to grow even larger pieces. Throwing and lifting large lumps of clay - up to 10kg - and then adding and throwing. My workshops are very small - only 3 students for Big Pots and 4 for general throwing - so everyone gets really high quality, individual attention when they need it. There are only a few places available, so do book early to avoid disappointment.

- General Throwing Workshop: August 19 - 21st
Three days, cost (including lunch) £282
Three places available.
- Big Pot Making Workshop: Sept 16 th -18th
Three days, cost (including lunch) £352
Two Places Available



Joanna Howells, Tythegston Pottery, 2 Cwrt Isaf, Tythegston, Bridgend, Mid-Glamorgan, CF32 0ND Tel: 01656784021 01656784021

South Wales Potters, 'CERAMICA 2016', Friday Sept 2nd to Sunday September 4th
Cardiff Metropolitan University: Cyncoed Campus, Cyncoed Rd, CF23 6X

The 'Ceramica' demonstration weekend is held biennially and is one of the most important of SWP events. Though much smaller and more intimate than the International Ceramics Festival, delegates usually find it a rewarding experience. As well as a full program of demonstrations there will be a practical session with each of our demonstrators Doug Fitch and Claire Wakefield. The Cyncoed campus of Cardiff Metropolitan University is situated on the outskirts of Cardiff. There is easy access from the M4 and it is well served by public transport. The accommodation is in modern single en suite student rooms and meals are taken in the College restaurant. The full residential weekend costs £195, day only and other options are available. For further information and an application form please go to the SWP website www.southwalespotters.org.uk. Or you can contact us by email to request further information. email@southwalespotters.org.uk

Art in Action, Waterperry, 14 - 17 July 2016. This year's Art in Action is to be the last and we encourage everyone to visit to make this the best show ever! <http://www.artinaction.org.uk/2016-final-show/>

Richard Hollingbery

John Evans' Exhibition of Work

- Horsham Museum and Art Gallery, RH12 1HE – 14 May – 15 July - 'Transforming Light & Shadow' showcasing the work of 4 Ceramicists
- Worthing Museum & Art Gallery, BN11 1HP – 4 June – 14 August – as part of a Sussex Guild standing exhibition.

"John's three **Alternative Raku** workshops in May/June are fully booked but if you would like priority information of any future dates please email John on scg@jevceramics.co.uk"

John Evans

What's On



Hampshire Open Studio at Evergreen, Trampers Lane, North Boarhunt, PO17 6BU. 20th to 29th August - open daily 10am to 5pm (Private View Friday 19th Aug 2 - 8pm - all welcome!)

Jan Griffiths - ceramics, Dee McNamara - contemporary fused glass, Lucille Scott - artist blacksmith (including collaborative work with Jan and Dee), Andy Stevenson - metalwork and Adrian Mundy - artist/papermaker and land art. griffiths.jan@btinternet.com

Jan Griffiths

The Creative Gallery Wareham are delighted to welcome Jacqui Atkin as the guest exhibitor in August. "Colour, Pattern & Texture - A patchwork in Clay" 2nd-31st August - Jacqui will be showing a collection of her latest work with brilliant designs and dazzling colours. The Gallery is open daily 10-5, and easy to find if you follow the signs to Shopmobility, our neighbours, in St John's Hill, Wareham, Dorset BH20 4NB 01929 551700 www.creativegallerywareham.co.uk

Katie Netley Exhibition of Work.

Katie has A BA (HON) in wood, metal, ceramics and plastics (material practice) from Brighton University (2011). She majored in ceramics and has been making sculpture ever since, mainly in clay and is very fond of the use of colour. Katie has a small workshop in her mum's garden along the river in Godalming, where she makes memorials. She runs Totem pole sculpture courses working closely with children and adults with learning difficulties. Katie loves learning about different cultures from far and wide utilising colour and pattern to create her work.

Surrey Hills Sculpture Garden 30/04/2016 – 05/06/2016, 11:00 pm – 5:00 pm
The stunning 48 acre Birtley Estate provides the perfect venue for this annual Sculpture exhibition featuring sculptures from across the UK. Katie Netley -Ceramic Story Teller Tel: 07563703552 <http://www.katienetley.com>



You can also see more of Katie Netley's work at;

Art in the Garden at Evergreen, Trampers Lane, North Boarhunt, Hants, PO17 6BU. 21 May to 4 June (10am to 5pm). A whole host of sculptural items to inspire in clay, meta, willow and glass, including some collaborative pieces designed for RHS Wisley. Plus featuring our very own Sandra Bidmead's amazing ceramic animals. Private View Friday 20th May 2 to 8pm - all welcome!

Jan Griffiths



Glaze Group Meeting Notes May 2016

Glaze Group Meeting held on Tuesday 10th May 2016

Present: Charles Stileman, Barbie Plastow, Lisa Hughes, Tim Thornton, Mike Bush, Tony Thompson, John Howell, and Tom Paine. Nadia arrived after an earlier appointment and after some others had left.

After settling into Barbie's inspiring home, the meeting opened with Tim describing his recent trip to La Borne near Bourges in France, which is a pottery town with a wood firing centre and about 40 to 50 potters. He had bought a number of pots and the group mused on the glazes. Was the blue vase a Chun glaze or a more conventional cobalt? Had the black veins been done with wax resist or was it an underlying slip coming through? We all liked the celadon on porcelain vase but there were mixed feelings about the runs that had become part of the feature of the base. The teapot also caused amusement with its multiple layers of copper and other glazes and liberal uses of oxides to give an unstructured surface. Mike felt that it had been 'dredged up from the Aegean'!

Tom and Mike had been experimenting with float blue glazes, which Nadia had introduced at the last meeting. Tom had produced a plate using his version of the Nadia float blue glaze. It had worked well but run a lot and pooled in the centre where it had collected and gone pale and opaque. When he had tried it thinner on some bowls it had crawled a lot although the effect was not unpleasant; just not what he wanted. He planned to reduce the amount of alumina to try and stop the crawling. Mike showed the effect with his version of Nadia's glaze (afternote; using Digital Fire/Insight Mike's glaze had higher proportion alumina and more calcium than Tom's and so it should have been runnier). He had had three firings. The first produced some lovely mottled blues that all admired, the second a rather plain glassy dark blue (more similar to Nadia's original) and the third a less pleasant mid blue with pinholes. None were clear (least of all Mike) as to what had caused the differences. There would be further experimentation.

Later, Nadia showed her further experimentation with float blues including a rather pleasant Sapphire blue glaze from the John Britt Mid-Range Glazes Book. It contained strontium that was believed to enhance the colour response and the speckled glassy effect, reminiscent of the float blue.

Tom then showed his further attempts at a turquoise blue using copper with fluxes (eg Lithium) that sent the colour response away from traditional copper green towards the blue end of the spectrum. This had worked well but he had obtained a rather speckled effect, which although pleasant, was not anticipated. Mike suggested that the coarse Lithium had caused this.

Barbie then produced two bowls that she had made. In the first the blue glaze had crawled away from the underlying black slip and remedies, such as more flux were suggested. The other was a dark glassy blue. She then showed some examples of an ash glaze that she had made by burning reeds. This had gathered into beads on the work and various suggestions were made to remedy the situation but it was very difficult with ash glazes of unknown composition.

Later Nadia discussed her workshop development and plans for classes. She spoke about her first workshop with John Stroomer and the wider use of her ceramics teaching facility (ceramics@ratlake.net for details).

Tom Paine

The Old Kiln Studio

A few years ago I found an excellent & affordable 5 day course in Cumbria and thought it would be great to get the Master Potter running these courses near Winchester.

The past 6 years I have been potting in an old outbuilding (which used to be part of an old kiln) where my wheel has co-existed alongside my husband's motorbikes and various garden equipment. It became clear to me that I needed more space as my passion for Pottery was growing fast. I somehow managed to convince my husband to build himself a Bike Shed so I could take ownership of the whole building for my Studio.

As the refurbishment of the studio advanced the new found space made it possible to create a larger workshop area and suddenly my dream of replicating the Cumbria workshop was becoming feasible. I decided that maybe I did not need to wait until retirement to fully fit the workshop and run one or two workshops a year. I was really excited that John Stroomer was very supportive when I contacted him and agreed to add a new course in Winchester on top of his 3 courses in Cumbria this year.

I hope that people will really enjoy the Master classes. I have tried to create a relaxing workshop space where people will enjoy meeting and potting. As I am working full time, I am also considering making the Studio available to members of the Southern Ceramics Group who wish to run classes. The studio now houses 8 new Rhode wheels and two electric kilns, a small gas kiln along with spray booth, extruder and pug mill.



You can take a look at the finished project at www.ratlake-ceramics.co.uk – please get touch, it would be lovely to hear from other local potters!

Nadia Hopkins

Malawi Pots : Marigo Harries

I began making hand built pots in Malawi in 1991 with 6 others, in a class run by a dutch lady in her garage. Her expertise was in raku so that's what we did! After she left we had no access to glazes so began to make low fired burnished work inspired by the beautiful pots made by the Malawian women.

In Malawi it is the women that make the pots and the men that do the selling. The different shapes and sizes are sold in the markets, each having a different function. Often whole villages or groups of villages are involved in making pottery. The pictures below were taken at a firing day in the village of Nkoma.



Figures 1-3 : Making pots from clay dug locally from near the river. Usually an old mango stone is used to help shape the clay.



Figures 4-7 : Carrying the dried pots to the firing area and placing them in a small hollow on a bed of kindling.



Malawi Pots : Marigo Harries



Figures 12-15 : Adding small sticks and dried grass and lighting the pile.



Many terracotta pots are decorated with locally found graphite and the pale pots by boiled bark of a tree splashed on.

Marigo Harries



Demonstrations

The next SCG demonstration will be led by **Elaine Peto**, 2nd October 2106 Registration is open, so please see details and registration document below

Dates for your Diary

- On January 22nd 2017, Richard Miller will demonstrate throwing and tile making at Porchester Community Centre. The SCG AGM will take place on that day. Details to follow.
- Kim Jin Eui will demonstrate throwing to SCG members in April/may 2017. Details to follow.

Your committee has decided that there will be 3 SCG demonstrations each year.

If you have a suggestion(s) for a ceramicist to run one of our demonstrations, please tell me (zyg@kruk.co.uk), and I will do my best to take your idea forward

Zyg Kruk
SCG demonstrations

Demonstrations

Elaine Peto Demonstration

Elaine will be demonstrating modeling animals in clay to SCG members and guests on Sunday 2nd October 2016 at Soberton Village Hall, School Hill, Soberton SO32 3PF

Elaine Peto graduated from Exeter College of Art & Design in 1985, where she studied animals via livestock markets and the abattoir, using the media of photography and drawing to record the structure of the carcass. In 1986, she set up a studio and continued the study of agricultural animals. Each animal is individually made by the process of slab building in clay, i.e. rolling out a sheet of clay and forming the body, then gradually adding slab by slab to form the whole animal. The details are then remodeled until the animal is complete. It is then biscuit fired, glazed and refired to stoneware. Elaine wishes to develop other animals such as African animals and to incorporate other materials such as metals with ceramics.



To see more examples of Elaine's work please visit

www.studiopottery.co.uk/profile/Elaine/Peto

Catering arrangements on the day : Coffee and tea will be available through the day.

Please bring a contribution to an American Supper style lunch, as well as your own crockery and cutlery

SCG Elaine Peto Demonstration Registration

2nd October 2016 10.00 to 16.00 Soberton Village Hall, School Hill, Soberton SO32 3PF

Name:

Address:

Contact phone no:

Email address:

SCG membership no:

Name of guest:

Date:

This registration document can be completed on line and sent by email to: zyg@kruk.co.uk

The registration fee is £20 for members, £25 for their guest.

Payment (please indicate): BACS or Cheque

BACS

Account: Southern Ceramic Group

Bank: Lloyds

A/c no: 26954360

Sort code: 30 90 34

Reference: EPDemoYourName

Cheques should be made payable to Southern Ceramic Group and posted (with a printed copy of the completed registration form) to: Zyg Kruk, 30 Wittering Rd, Hayling Is, Hants PO11 9SP

zyg@kruk.co.uk: 02392469104 07864995843

SOUTHERN CERAMIC GROUP COMMITTEE

**Chair**Rolf Hawkins **Tel** : 01962 869117**Email** : rolf.hawkins@winchester.anglican.org**Marketing**Vidya Thirunarayan **Tel** :**Email** : vidyathiru@hotmail.com**Membership**John Howell **Tel** : 02380 618165**Email** : john.howell400@gmail.com**Hon Sec**Sandie Dixon **Tel** : 02380 550064**Email** : 2sandie@tiscali.co.uk**Social Media**Abby Ducharme **Tel** :**Email** : abbyducharme@hotmail.co.uk**Treasurer**Liz Gale **Tel** : 02392 632686**Email** : lizgale@interalpha.co.uk**News letter**Keith Menear **Tel** : 07788908182**Email** : keith.menear@hotmail.co.uk**Demonstrations**Zyg Kruk **Tel** : 02392 469104**Email** : zyg@kruk.co.uk**SCG Summer Exhibition**

Kevin Akhurst

Email : kevinakhurst@btinternet.com

NEXT COPY DEADLINE : 17th July 2016

Please send contributions to : keith.menear@hotmail.co.uk

Next Newsletter due : 1st August 2016

Would you like to advertise in the Southern Ceramic Group Newsletter?

If so please contact Rolf Hawkins

email: rolf.hawkins@winchester.anglican.org

The rates for advertising are:

SCG Members : FREE

Commercial Advertising Rates: B&W Colour

Full Page £20

Half Page £10

Interested in becoming a member of the Southern Ceramic Group?

Application forms can be found on the group website at:

<http://www.southernceramicgroup.co.uk/Information/SCGMemberApp.pdf>

Acknowledgments

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