

May Newsletter

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Your ClayAround Newsletter

ClayAround



For me the big news is that I have managed to acquire some Pan Pastels. These were originally recommended to me by Angela Guertel (a member of the London Polymer Clay Group). Since then I have discovered that Claire Maunsell did a workshop for [Craftcast](#) where she raved over their colours, their glow, and the ability to blend them on polymer clay. She calls them "my darlings"™! Both Angela and Claire suggest that buying the sets which provide palettes is a good idea although I have acquired separate empty palates so that artists can choose colours and buy their own set over a period of time. They are low dust vibrant coloured pastels which last and last.

My theme for an interesting topic today is faux effects using polymer clay " in particular faux stones, although I can't resist showing you faux ivory: my elephant lost his tusk so I made a new one. I was so thrilled with how "real"™ the ivory looked, although the photograph (top right) does not do it justice There is an ivory tutorial [here](#) but I have discovered that better tutorials can be found in books. Carol Blackburn, Lisa Pavelka, and Sue Heaser all feature good

books. Carol Blackburn, Lisa Favera and Sue Heaser all feature good techniques.

There are, however, lots of tutorials for faux stones. There is [Faux Lapis Lazuli](#) on Desiree's website: and [turquoise](#) tutorial by Sue Heaser (which is a download) Craft Edu has an [Opal video](#) but you will have to give them your name and email address. There is a [Tiger's Eye](#) on this French website and here is a [faux jade](#) tutorial. All the work has been done for us on this website for there are [10 faux effect tutorials](#) found by Michael. Finally, as usual, there is a [Pinterest](#) site



I have been on a spending spree this month, buying lots of new goodies. At Ginger's (The Blue Bottle Tree) recommendation, I have acquired some very useful Kemper Wipe Out tools. See her article about them [here](#)

And at the recommendation of Jayne Rozario I have also bought some oh, so useful tiny tools. You can find them [here](#). She finds them invaluable to refine the detail on her [lovely jewellery creations](#).

I have found, too, some German Glitter fine liners – they produce sparkly coloured decorative lines. It is no longer necessary to glue glitter to edges leaving a trail of glitter



What better example today than a pair of Faux earrings by Christine Nicholls. Christine had been making jewellery for a number of years before she found Polymer clay in 2008. A couple of blocks of Fimo and a workshop at a local store and she –hasn't looked back. She uses polymer clay in her jewellery as she believes it to be versatile and forgiving. You can find her flickr page [here](#) and she has an out of date blog [here](#). Like the rest of us, time to write eludes her.

Clayday news – The next one is on 20th June - and with so much new stock we will have many new things to experiment with. Experts and new learners alike are welcome. Details can be found [here](#)

'Monkey Ann' is selling her pipes on

pieces everywhere else!

Finally, I have now got some (but not all) of the lovely new blocks of Pardo Transparent Clay â€” again, you can find out about them from Ginger [here](#). They are not on the cart and are already selling!

the ClayAround website and they have sold beyond expectations. She is now looking to develop new products which will inevitably interest us in the Polymer Clay Community!

And - the Chameleon Pens have arrived and will be on the website on 1st June

To live a creative life we must lose our fear of being wrong

Joseph Pearce

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