

March Clay Day Report

It was a sunny spring day for the March meeting and 39 people came, many having had an early start to travel to London to attend. It was a pleasure to welcome our new members Marina, Caroline, Coby and Lee.



After a few announcements about future polymer events, London member Angela Garrod led the workshop with a demo of her hollow boxes. Angela has recently been featured on the Polymer Clay Daily and the Voila! websites. Her boxes were round and constructed using different size cookie cutters to cut rings which formed supports for the boxes. During the box construction Angela textured the raw clay by lightly scoring lines across the clay with a tissue blade and after baking them she rubbed a light coloured oil paint into the knife marks and removed the excess with a cloth. This was a simple but effective technique giving the round hollow boxes a strong graphic look.

Throughout the day several people had a go at making the hollowboxes and soon there was a queue of boxes lined up waiting to be baked. A big thank you to Angela for giving us an enjoyable and professional workshop. It was her first experience of teaching at a clay day and she did a great job.



On the 'show and tell' table there was the usual wide variety of polymer pieces and several cuffs and pendants from the workshops at the Polymer Pamper Play event which was held the previous weekend.

MJ's restaurant downstairs was open for us again and they did a good trade first thing in the

morning with their fantastic breakfast and then at lunch. It was warm enough to sit outside in the spring sunshine but many chose to sit and chat at the long table next to the workroom.



Thank you to all in the Steering Group who make clay days happen and thanks to all those who came and made the clay day what they are – a fun and learning experience.

Our next clay day will be **Sunday 27th May**. We will be celebrating our 5th birthday and we're busy planning the special day. We will have a birthday cake designed and made by Clare -our cake making wizard- and lots of other eats and treats. We're also having a joint cane making event similar to the Zentangle cane we made at the 4th birthday last year. This time the theme for the cane is a Spring Garden so start thinking of all the

lovely flower and leaf canes you can make for the large cane that we will assemble and then reduce so that everyone has a portion to take away. You could also make a butterfly cane. More information about this event will soon be posted on the website.

So mark your diaries with the date and I hope to see you in a few weeks time.

Till then, have fun claying.

Best wishes

Carol

(all photos by Carol Blackburn)

