

A brief summary of each workshop.

Please note that "What to bring" has not been included here. Details of this will be provided later.

Phil Barnes: A Good Start.....

The workshop is aimed at early enamellers or others who might want a refresher course! We are going to look at basic skills, looking at your enamels, preparing, grinding and washing.

Wet laying over flat, curved and shaped forms, and not forgetting that all important thing...Firing! And all those questions that fall in between.

I will be supplying all copper blanks in the three forms and enamels. That will cover the day at a cost of approximately £6

Julia Cowie: Sand and Cuttlefish Casting.

The workshop is suitable for complete beginners. We will use lead-free pewter as it is easy to use and so is ideal for learning casting techniques.

In the morning we will try cuttlefish casting. This can be slightly hit and miss, but achieves some lovely organic results as the texture of the fish bone transfers to the cast. In the afternoon we will cast using 2-part sand moulds.

We will work at the scale of charms, shells, keys or rings - about 3cm.- and will produce small objects. With luck we will each make a cuttlefish casting and definitely a sand casting.

Large cuttlefish cost £3.50. Pewter grain is £35kg and I will have both available for sale. We will weigh your finished items.

Beate Kormannshaus: Pictures in Cloisonne

This workshop covers the basic cloisonné technique and is suitable for beginners as well as more experienced. Materials are copper sheet as base and round copper wire to create the cells.

We will prepare the copper blank with flux and counter enamel, anneal and pickle the wires and wash the enamels.

From a sketch, wires are bent and placed on the pre-enamelled copper and fired in place. Cells are filled with wet enamel using a spatula, fired and stoned to a matt finish or fired to gloss. The use of round wire gives another dimension to the piece as variations in thickness of the cell walls can enhance the expression.

Do think of a not too complicated sketch in the size of 60 x 60 mm and 5-6 colours to use. If you don't bring your own copper blanks, wire and enamels I can supply some at the cost of £2 to £3.

Jill Leventon: Corrugation

Corrugation is all around us. Nature provides plenty of inspiration, the chamber walls of ammonites being a particularly good example. Corrugations provide strength with less weight, and manufacturers have exploited this for packaging (eg. corrugated cardboard) and building materials (eg. corrugated roofs). By 'borrowing' tools produced for other purposes,

we can also utilise corrugation in metal for jewellery making and sculpture, with the added bonus of further enhancing the patterns by using pliers. Rolling mills and press formers can also be used, but they are not necessary to produce wonderful effects. Add some enamel, and the results can be stunning.

We will use the paper corrugators readily available in craft shops, and I will bring Bonnie Doon corrugators more suitable for thicker metal, and plenty of pliers. I will have suitable metal for you to buy from me if wished. (If anyone would like to bring their press former that would be good).

Tilly Wilkinson: Folded Landscapes

Using copper shim, opaque white and flux we will create small dimensioned, textural scenes suggestive of landscape.

By manipulating the copper to achieve an undulating surface and through the use of higher and longer firing times we will see what can be achieved by using a limited range of techniques and materials.

There will also be the opportunity to produce landscapes on copper using liquid enamel, sifting, scraffito and decoration media.

Jane Short: Experiments in enamelling thin silver

This workshop will be a chance to experiment with shaping up and enamelling thin gauge silver, 0.4 mm thickness, using pliers, punches and wooden formers, to make a small three dimensional form. You can choose between making a piece of jewellery - a pendant or hanging earrings, or a small dish, max 7 cms diameter. Estimated cost of a dish will be £18, jewellery around £10.

We will use both wet laying and dry sieving to apply the enamel, and the aim is to enjoy a day experimenting with the more textural and three dimensional opportunities this way of working can offer.

I will supply the silver (unless you wish to supply your own), and formers and punches etc.