

## SHORT COURSE DETAILS

LW6648 THROWING AND TURNING

Tutor: ALISON SANDEMAN

Dates: LONG WEEKEND THURSDAY 15 DECEMBER – SUNDAY 18 DECEMBER

### ABOUT YOUR COURSE:

This course is suitable for all abilities. You will be taught throwing skills appropriate to your own level of experience and encouraged to practise. New ideas and methods of making will also be introduced.

**For beginners:** The course provides an excellent opportunity for beginners to experience working (throwing) on the potter's wheel. On the first evening we start with clay preparation (kneading and wedging), and a throwing demonstration for all, from the tutor. On the next day after a short demonstration students will start learning to throw. On the last day we will cover the finishing processes of turning but allowing time for further throwing practice for those who have time. You are likely to finish with 8 to 10 pots.

**For those with some experience:** The course is also ideal for those who want to improve and develop their throwing skills. This includes making different shapes, increasing size, and learning to 'get the most out of the clay'. Throwing knobs on lids, teapot spouts, bottle shapes, lids and other techniques will be covered. The tutor will give demonstrations where needed. On the final day we will be turning, but you may have time for further throwing practice. You are likely to finish with 10 to 15 pots.

As the course is restricted to eight students, you will have the use of a wheel for the whole course.

### LEVEL: SUITABLE FOR ALL

A subject focused course that is delivered to suit any level of experience from beginner to advanced practitioner. A structured start is followed by guided independent practise.

### ABOUT YOUR TUTOR:

Alison Sandeman is a long-standing tutor at West Dean. She makes thrown functional and individual pieces in stoneware, porcelain and Raku, at her well established pottery studio on a farm, near Chichester, where she also enjoys maintaining a core range of domestic stoneware. She is currently working with University College London on a research project on ancient making techniques.

### TIMETABLE:

#### Arrival day: Thursday 15 December

|                 |   |
|-----------------|---|
| From 4.00pm     | Arrival for residential students  |
| 6.45pm          | Non-residential students please arrive by 6.45pm for welcome chat and dinner  |
| 7.00pm          | Dinner  |
| 8.00pm – 9.00pm | <b>First teaching session – attendance is an essential part of the course.</b> It will start with an introductory talk and throwing demonstration. This is followed by an introduction to clay preparation and we finish the evening with a video or slides relevant to throwing. |

#### Other days: Friday 16 December – Saturday 17 December

|         |                          |
|---------|--------------------------|
| 9.15am  | Morning classes start    |
| 10.30am | Coffee                   |
| 11.00am | Morning classes continue |
| 12.45pm | Lunch                    |

**Other days continued: Friday 16 December – Saturday 17 December**

|             |  |
|-------------|--|
| 2.00pm      | Afternoon classes  |
| 3.30pm      | Tea  |
| 4.00pm      | Afternoon classes continue   |
| 5.00pm      | Classes finish   |
| From 6.30pm | Dinner   |
| 8.00pm      | Evening working – workshops are available until 10pm for those wishing to work on providing this has been discussed with the tutor. These sessions are untutored. The tutor will also show a video relevant to the course. |

**Departure day: Sunday 18 December**

(Residential students to vacate rooms by 10am)

|         |                          |
|---------|--------------------------|
| 9.15am  | Morning classes start    |
| 10.30am | Coffee                   |
| 11.00am | Morning classes continue |
| 12.45pm | Lunch                    |
| 2.00pm  | Afternoon classes        |
| 3.00pm  | Classes finish           |
| 3.30pm  | Tea then departure       |

**REQUIRED PREPARATION:**

It is good, but not essential, to come with some ideas – functional or decorative.

**Course reading list:** For those interested in reading any books before the course, the following may be in your public library:

- The Craft of the Potter* by Michael Casson (BBC Publications)
- The Complete Potter's Companion*, by Tony Birks (Conan Octopus)
- The Techniques of Throwing*, by John Colbeck (Batsford Watson-Guption)
- Throwing*, by Richard Phethean (Blandford)
- Throwing Pots* by Phil Rogers (A & C Black)

**MATERIALS FOR YOUR COURSE:**

We have a generously stocked craft shop, which opens daily from 8.30am–2pm.

For any materials you need to purchase from the shop, we suggest you do so during the first morning of your course, after having discussed with your tutor.

**Clays and other materials:** The cost of clays, glaze materials and firings is **included in the course fee**.

**Available from the Shop:**

Pottery tools, pottery knife (basic pottery tools are provided for use)  
Rough paper or sketch pad, and pencil  
Wood or plastic ruler  
Natural sponge

**Please bring any of the above, if you have them, and in addition:**

Overall, old towel  
Books of interest  
Cardboard boxes are useful if taking raw pots away at the end of the course  
Clean plastic shopping bags approx. 15.

If leaving your pots, PLEASE BRING A STAMPED, SELF-ADDRESSED POSTCARD WITH YOU (or a card with your name and email address) so that we can let you know when the pots are ready for collection.

Please note that your work will be kept for collection for one year from the postmark date on your returned postcard (or the date of the email).

**Firing and glazing of completed pieces:** Students normally have three options at the end of the course.

1. Students may leave any raw, finished pieces that they wish to keep, for biscuit firing, basic glazing and re-firing by the College, for collection at a later date.
2. Students may leave raw, finished pieces for biscuit firing at the College. They may then book a place on a Glazing Day – the details and fee are advertised in the short course programme – and learn how to glaze their work themselves. This work will be re-fired and available for collection at a later date. (There is no additional cover charge for practical glazing days.)
3. Students are free to take away their unfired pots for glazing and firing elsewhere.

#### **HEALTH AND SAFETY:**

The tutor instructs students in health and safety issues relevant to this course. Students may work unsupervised on agreed projects once they have satisfied the tutor as to their competence. There may be restrictions on the equipment available to students in the tutor's absence. All Personal Protection Equipment, apart from footwear, is provided by the College.