

## SHORT COURSE DETAILS

### SLW08413: THROWING AND TURNING

Tutor: ALISON SANDEMAN

Dates: LONG WEEKEND FRIDAY 14 DECEMBER – MONDAY 17 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: Friday 14 December

From 4.00pm	Arrival for residential students
5.30pm	Workshops available for dropping off equipment and materials
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: Saturday 15 and Sunday 16 December

9.15am	Morning classes start
10.30am	Coffee
11.00am	Morning classes continue

**Other days continued: Saturday 15 and Sunday 16 December**

12.45pm	Lunch
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: Monday 17 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, please vacate workshop by 3.30pm
3.30pm	Tea then departure

**REQUIRED PREPARATION:**

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

As the tutor may like to make contact with you by phone nearer to the beginning of the course to help with the planning and answer any questions **please email her** at [nutwood@waitrose.com](mailto:nutwood@waitrose.com) at least two weeks before the start date of your course with your name, details of the course you are attending (ie course ref, title and dates) and your telephone number.

**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-Guptill)  
*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 six months 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.