

Mid Cornwall School of Jewellery

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**Mid Cornwall School
of Jewellery**

Metal Clay Lentil Bead Earrings and Focal Bead Class

This is a two day class.

Lentil beads are so called due to their shape resembling a lentil! These beads can vary in size and make very good earrings or focal beads for a pendant. They are hollow forms and are great fun to make.

In this class we'll also be considering the end-to-end design process, from designing your texture, making the texture sheets right through to adding gold and patina and making the earring hooks.

You'll learn to make unique texture sheets using the 'tear away' technique. If you'd like to bring some black and white images, check out our tear away service page for some tips on how to create the images. We'll provide plenty of images for you to use too.

Once you've made your texture sheets, we'll start by making two matching round lentil beads for the earrings. When you've mastered the basics, we'll make a focal bead in a more challenging shape.

The cost of the weekend includes enough metal clay for you to make two projects, a pair of earrings and a single bead. You can bring your own metal clay or buy more during the weekend to develop other items if you choose to. You will be shown how to make your own shape templates to create unique items. There will be plenty of time for you to make more beads during the weekend.

The course also includes training in the Keum Bo technique for adding gold foil to your finished items. Gold foil will be provided. You will also learn how to add a patina to your finished work.

Finally, we'll make earring hooks so you go home with a pair of earrings to wear straight away.

Your tutor for this course will be Julia Rai

This course is suitable for people who have worked with metal clay before and have experience of the basic handling and working of metal clay. It is not suitable for complete beginners.

About MCSJ

The Mid Cornwall School of Jewellery offers the widest range of jewellery related courses available at any independent school in the UK. Situated near the south coast in mid Cornwall, we are close to beaches and only 15 minutes drive from the fantastic Eden Project. Our building is a three-minute taxi ride from Par train station and 50 minutes drive from Newquay airport. Our tutors are well qualified and experienced in teaching complete beginners. The school itself is a contemporary, practical environment specifically designed for your safety, learning and enjoyment.

Treesmill Farm

The jewellery school is located at Treesmill Farm in Cornwall (now a non-working farm of almost 10 acres), which is set in a picturesque valley and steeped in history.

The name Treesmill originates from Melyntrait (1235), which means Mill on the Beach although the beach is now marshlands and the stream is no longer navigable by boat. The farm features in the novel House on the Strand by Daphne Du Maurier, which is a great book to read to give you a flavour of the history of this area.

If you possibly can, we recommend that you spend extra time exploring Cornwall. It is a gorgeous, inspiring place and we think you will enjoy visiting.

Places to Stay

We urge you to book your accommodation before arriving, as Cornwall is a very popular holiday destination. There are plenty of great places to stay. For a list of local places to stay, many of which are recommended by our students, see our website. Alternatively, call St Austell Tourist Information on 01726 879500.

Getting Here

BY CAR

We are situated in Mid Cornwall on the South coast. Just off the A390 we are nestled in the beautiful Treesmill Valley at Treesmill Farm.

Heading south west into Cornwall on the A390 approx three and a half miles after you have been through Lostwithiel take a left turn down the lane signposted Tywardreath. This is a steep hill down into Treesmill Valley. We are at the bottom of the valley on the left. If you start going uphill again then you have gone too far.

Heading northeast from within Cornwall on the A390 go through St. Blazey. After you go over a train level crossing you begin to go uphill and you will take the turning on the right called Porcupine Lane. Follow this lane until you come to a T-junction opposite Kath's Place. Turn right at the T-junction. This is a steep hill down into Treesmill Valley. We are at the bottom of the valley on the left. If you start going uphill again then you have gone too far.

Pull into Treesmill Farm and continue past the cottage buildings and workshop to the gravel parking area at the end. The jewellery school is the large barn at the end with double doors.

BY TRAIN

The nearest train station to our workshop is Par, which has main line services from London Paddington. We are a short taxi ride from the station, which will cost around £3.50. Please note that Par is a very small train station and there will be no taxis waiting when you arrive. You must prebook your taxi before you arrive.

Here are some local taxi numbers:

Alans Taxis 01726 815212

Gems Cars 01726 815118

Yeo Taxis 01726 814095

BY AIR

Newquay

Newquay airport is a 50-minute drive from the Jewellery School. Car hire is available in advance from Croftlea Cars free phone 0800 1693240. The airport is situated approx five miles northeast of Newquay town centre. Without a car you could take a bus/taxi from Newquay airport to Newquay train station. Then you could get a train to Par station.

The airport is served by Air South West (0870 241 6830) from London Gatwick (www.airsouthwest.com) or Ryanair (0871 246 0000) from London Stansted (www.ryanair.com).

Plymouth

Plymouth airport is a 45-minute drive from the Jewellery School. Car Hire is available in advance from Avis 0870 0100287 (www.avis.com). The airport is located four miles north of Plymouth city centre. Without a car you could take a bus/taxi from Plymouth airport to Plymouth train station. Then you could get a train to Par station.

The airport is served by Air South West (0870 241 6830) from London Gatwick, Bristol, Manchester and Jersey (www.airsouthwest.com).