

EDITOR'S NOTES

- *Precious Metal Clay (PMC) is one of the most exciting and versatile forms of 21st century silver craftsmanship.*
- *A complementary medium to Sterling Silver, PMC is a fascinating new way to create patterns and textures – not just because it can be easily sculpted but because it can be re-fired many times, providing the chance to remodel or embellish an existing piece at any time.*
- *PMC is made by Mitsubishi Materials Corporation in Japan using ground silver particles, a non-toxic organic binder and water. During firing (using a butane torch or kiln) the binder burns off and the water evaporates, leaving a piece that is 99% pure silver. As such, it can be hallmarked as fine or Britannia silver and is also available in 22K gold.*
- *The official UK distributor of PMC is The PMC Studio which was established in 2005 by Helen O'Neill and is now the heart of PMC's European operation.*
- *The PMC Studio is dedicated to providing a full range of clay, tools, equipment and training for PMC artists and offers accredited certification courses.*
- *PMC is becoming increasingly popular with amateur and professional silversmiths who love its flexibility and beauty.*
- *There are four types of PMC clay (Low-Fire PMC Gold, PMC Standard/Original, PMC+ and PMC3). Each has its own unique qualities.*
- *Each year, The PMC Studio runs a Design Competition which is sponsored by J. Blundell & Sons, one of the UK's oldest jewellery suppliers.*
- *The PMC Studio is running its first UK Conference (on 24/25 May 2008) at Buckinghamshire's historic Missenden Abbey.*
- *The PMC Studio is proud to be a sponsor of the 2008 British Silver Week, a national platform for the talents displayed by Britain's modern silversmiths, increasing numbers of whom are using PMC in conjunction with traditional techniques.*

