



slow down ...
explore handmade!

We teach traditional made-by-hand skills *with a modern twist.*

CONTEMPORARY TEXTILE & LIFESTYLE WORKSHOPS



Ministry Hits The Road!

When we first started Ministry of Handmade, we set a goal to travel and share the joy of handmade. So can you imagine how exciting it was for us to set off on **our first creative road trip!** The car was packed to the brim with lampshade supplies and fabrics as we headed west for Dirranbandi on Thursday 17 March. We spent the night on a sheep station as guests of Gerry and her husband, Duncan, before

heading into Dirranbandi (Dirran, to the locals) for the first lampshade workshop. We were hosted in the old Dirranbandi Railway Station which is now home to the Dirranbandi Arts Society. Ten awesome ladies and lots of fabulous fabrics!! Great fun!!

In the afternoon we headed off to Goondiwindi, via the internationally famous Nindi Gully Pub. Overnighted in Goondiwindi in a 100 yo Queenslander that is now the lovely "Bronte House B & B". On Saturday we ran another lampshade workshop with ten more fun-loving and creative women. After another night in the B & B, we ran a chalk paint workshop before heading home.

We are super keen to make these road trips part of what we do and are currently working on a trip to Dalby and Toowoomba in July and to NSW (as far south as Jamberoo) in October. Let us know if you'd like us to head your way!

Check out some of the photos of our trip here:

<http://ministryofhandmade.com.au/our-events/on-the-road/>



Screen Printing is

back!

After a little break - our screen printing workshop is back!

21 May 2016

This is a small class, meaning you get quality time learning and asking questions. It is a fun, interactive workshop where you can create your own designs to make your own printed fabric. Screen printing is such a wonderful and additive thing, you'll be constantly thinking of new designs to print.

Find out more



Community Sewing Day!

We had another great turn-out for our second Community Sewing Day. We felt privileged to welcome the team of volunteers into our home to happily donate their fabric, time, energy and creativity to such a worthy cause. Some stayed all day, others stayed for a few hours, many donated fabric and thread. We stitched rag quilts that will be donated to women's shelters to provide comfort to those who are fleeing domestic violence.

A comment on our Facebook page summed it up and reiterated that this is a worthwhile project.

"How wonderfully kind you all are! I am a survivor of DV (domestic violence) & I wish I'd had one of your works of art back then. They will give comfort to many beyond anything you can imagine!"

"Practising self-belief and beginning something . . .

that sees much work/time/effort ahead fosters **resilience**, **persistence** and **optimism**. Making things for others – or with others – promotes connection, a sense of belonging and community. This all helps us hit the jackpot in the improved wellbeing and personal/creative growth stakes." Pip Lincolne

If you would like to read the rest of the fabulous article by Pip, here is the link: <http://meetmeatmikes.com/if->

Date for the next Community Sewing Morning!

As a follow on from our successful Community Sewing Day we are having this morning session to both complete the existing quilts and to start some new ones.

Sunday 1 May 2016 - from 9:30am to 12:30pm.

Please come along at any time in the morning.

This is a free community event but we would like you to let us know if you are coming.

[Find out more](#)



Please bring (all optional):

- Sewing thread
- Sewing machine with walking foot
- Extra fabric
- Scissors, quick-un-pick, pins

Thank you - and we look forward to seeing you.

By the way - morning tea will be provided.



Green Heart Fair

29 May 2016

Join Ministry of Handmade in the Brisbane City Council marquee as we demonstrate recycling techniques.

We will be upcycling furniture, making scrappy twine (come learn how!) and rebuilding tired old lampshades.



The Green Heart Fair is Brisbane's biggest FREE bi-annual community and sustainability festival, promoting innovative green living in a fun, family-friendly environment for all residents to come and enjoy.

[Find out more](#)

Crochet Workshops

Crochet is the new black

Hone your crochet skills with our two new workshops:

- Introduction to Crochet - 5 May 2016
- Next Step Crochet - Baby/Toddler Hat - 22 May 2016

Introduction to Crochet

Next Steps Crochet



Resin Jewellery Workshop

28 May 2016

Learn how to make your own resin jewellery! Create one-of-a-kind pieces to complement your wardrobe.

In this fun workshop, you will make two bangles (one wide and one thin) as well as a ring (using all resin or resin on a metal base).

The workshops are kept small to ensure that you have individual attention; and that you walk away happy with the jewellery that you have made.

Find out more



Shibori Dyeing Workshop

4 June 2016

For the love of indigo! This hands on workshop is a fabulous introduction to the ancient art of indigo dyeing using the Japanese technique Shibori or tie dye.

Find out more



What's Coming Up Next?

We've highlighted a few of the goodies coming up but there are more . . . yes, there's more . . .

[Check our calendar for the next few months' workshops and events.](#)



Secret Scone Recipe Revealed

Sounds like something from MasterChef . . . but it isn't :)



At the recent Community Sewing Day the most asked question had nothing to do with sewing and everything to do with scones. "What is the recipe?" was the cry. So, in fear of not making it to the end of the day, Maurice handed it over. He got to live and the sewing volunteers got the prize.

Ingredients

4 cups sr flour
½ cup caster sugar
2 Granny Smith apples peeled and grated
1 cup cream
1 cup ginger beer
Cinnamon sugar

Method

Preheat oven to 210 degrees C.
Plonk flour in a large bowl.
Add caster sugar and give a bit of a mix with a spatula.
Throw in the grated apple and mix it up well until the pieces of apple are separated and coated nicely with flour.
Make a well and pour in the cream, then gingerly add the beer.
Stir quickly while it is all foaming. Dough should be a bit on the wet side.
Evict the dough from the bowl onto the bench and lightly dust with flour.
Divide the dough into small balls and sit them tightly next to each other on a baking tray. Should have about 35-40 small balls.
Paint with milk then sprinkle on the cinnamon sugar.
Bake until browning on the top – about 15-20 minutes.

Lucky newsletter winner!

Congratulations to **Karen Sullivan** who is the winner of the new newsletter subscriber giveaway of a \$50 workshop voucher. Please contact [Julie](#) to find out how to receive your voucher.



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