

Sewing Gems

Hello Readers

Spring has sprung and summer has made its presence felt. It has been a long time since the last newsletter, please accept my apologies.

We have managed a few firsts in the shop since June.

In July we hosted a Lutterloh Pattern system day. It was attended by 25 or so ladies and was well received. I found this an interesting system and am planning to try a few of these patterns when time permits.

In August, Fiona and I, with help from Anne from Brother and Kerry, participated in Taree's Craftathon. We had a great couple days. We launched a beautiful quilt class called "Goosetracks" by Hoopsisters. A quilt totally assembled and quilted in the hoop of an embroidery machine.

With September comes spring and a new season of fabric.

We had our annual Spring Launch for the summer season of fabric. We hope the ladies that joined us had an enjoyable afternoon. The afternoon is celebrated with nibbles, drinks, lucky door prizes and discounts.

October was busy too. Fiona and I spent the long weekend attending a sewing machine convention for Husqvarna Viking. These weekends are always inspirational. Husqvarna Viking launched their New machine, the Designer Diamond Deluxe. This machine has a new thread delivery system – wonderful news for those embroidery ladies that experience tension issues. The engineers have developed a gear that delivers a set length of thread to the needle, we were able to embroider with metallic thread in the needle and the bobbin, magic.

We also checked out the new 5D Card Software, and saw plenty of wonderful samples of the gorgeous embroidery designs utilising the wonderful cutwork needles. It was a very big weekend.

On our return we put our muscles to good use and rearranged the classroom to make it more user friendly. The reports have been all good so far.

Now it's November and we've started some more classes. Six ladies have been enjoying learning to sew and adapt a T shirt pattern. With a little inspiration a simple T shirt can make many varied garments. Our Wednesday Technique Building class has moved to Friday Mornings. And on Friday the 18th November we also started another run of the popular Overlocker class. The ladies have already made a cutlery case and serviette for their car and also a sunglasses case both utilising the stitches on their overlocker.

Spring Thoughts

When it comes to spring, cleaning is foremost on our minds, and even though I really begrudge doing this, I can't stand seeing it left undone. This feeling hit me very hard last week when I went to my sewing room with the thought in my mind that I might do some sewing, my sewing. Standing in the doorway, I cringed. What a mess!

Over the past weeks I had been so busy doing sewing tasks for others that I had just been going in and out of the room without actually doing any cleaning up after myself. I suddenly didn't feel like sewing, not in that messy room anyway. My thoughts whirled around in my head. If I wasn't going to sew I should do some housework. I decided to clean up the room as a compromise.

Where to start... my executive decision was to put things away and not to get carried away sorting things out that were already in a storage place. I whirled around putting fabrics, threads and patterns away. I did the household mending and finished a couple of odd UFOs.

I was beginning to find some surface space.

My mood lifted a bit more when I had a light bulb moment, my sewing room will never be tidy- I use it too much. I decided to be happy with an organised "mess". Storage is always a bit of a problem especially while I keep adding to the collections of fabric. So long as everything has a place I will be happy.



I have to say that a little bit of tidying went a long way. There will always be threads and pins in my sewing room and these will inevitably find their way from the fabric to the floor. I will always have to find some time to tidy or I will never be able to find those UFOs. I will endure sewing in an organised mess in order to keep on sewing.

“CHRISTMAS IS COMING”

It's time to think about Christmas shopping and presents. Here at Diamond and Pearl Fabrics we have lots of great gift ideas. From little items to big ticket items. Here are some ideas for your personal wish list:-

Sewing Machines – we have Janome, Husqvarna Viking, Brother and Elna; all these brands have some great Christmas specials and catalogues are available in store.
Ottlite Daylight Lamps – I love these lamps and I would find it difficult to sew at night without one now.

Trolley bags- if we haven't got it let us know we can order in many different types and sizes, there is still time!

Sewing boxes

Scissors we all need a good pair.

Embroidery threads

New Sewline hand needle threaders

Clover Bias makers in all sizes

Cutting Mats and Rulers

Thread stands - these are wooden and hold 60 threads

Machine Accessories there are a variety of feet, needles and bobbins.

Gift vouchers

And, of course, Dress and Patchwork fabrics.



Up Coming events and classes

Brother Accessory Demo Day

On Friday the 16th of December Anne Dorahy from Brother Sewing Machines will be in the shop from 1.30 pm. Anne will be demonstrating their new specialty bobbin case , how it works and what you can do with it, as well as the circular attachment.

Anne's samples are beautiful and exciting. If you own a Brother Sewing machine or if you are just curious the afternoon is free but bookings are essential so call us at the shop or drop in and book your place.



Basic Learn to Sew Classes

In January we are running 2 sets of our basic Learn to Sew class.

There are still vacancies in these classes if you're interested or know someone who is please book your place.

Times and dates are:

Monday Nights (fortnightly 5 Classes)

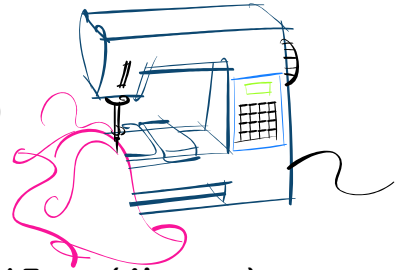
Starting 16th Jan. 5.30pm – 8.30pm (3 hours)
(30TH Jan, 13th & 27th Feb & 12th March)

Cost \$35.00 per class

Tuesday and Wednesday Mornings

10th, 11th, 17th and 18th January 9.15 am to 1.15pm (4hours)

Cost \$50.00 per class.



We are also opening up our sewing room for a “Social Sewing Gems” day. This will be every Monday from 10am to 4pm. There is no teacher for this day, it is for those who wish to set aside a day for sewing in the company of others. The room has a cutting table, large sewing table for machines and there will an overlocker set up for use. The cost is just \$5 for the day and Tea and coffee are supplied. Numbers are limited to 10, so book your place and tell your sewing buddies.

Christmas Closure Dates

Diamond and Pearl Fabrics will be closed for these dates:-

Christmas: 24th, 25th & 26th Dec

New Year: 31st Dec, 1st & 2nd Jan.

MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR TO YOU ALL.