



Craftin' our green future

Climate change challenges ask for solutions that are all stitched up

Bendigo EcoLiving and the Bendigo Sustainability Group, with the support of La Trobe University Visual Arts Centre, are pleased to present Conversations for Change: Sustainable Craft Remaking Culture and inaugural Craft Swap. This will be an evening of inspirational craft & its role in our sustainable future. Friday 20th August 7.30pm – 9.00pm La Trobe Visual Arts Centre, 121 View Street, Bendigo.

The Inaugural Craft SWAP invites people to collect together their craft items that they no longer have a use for. The Craft Swap premise is to promote the reuse / recycling of items and promote sustainable craft, as well as having FUN.

How does it work? Collect a "Craft Swap Bag" from Make your House a Home 67 Williamson Street Bendigo – available from 1 August or alternatively contact Janine 54 100 585 janine@bendigostustainability.org.au to reserve your bag for the night. Then Fill your bag with one type of craft / art items – ie. Material, paper, ribbons, zips, buttons, wool etc. Bring your bag on the evening and receive a token for your "bag". All bags will be on display during the event.

Conversationalists for the night will evoke inspirational reinvestigation of traditional skills and how craft can replace our need for consumption and reduce our carbon foot print. Bendigo based Verity Lougoon. Verity, is one of Australia's leading exponents in ecological textile design. Her skill basis is in sustainable fabrics and screen printing. She is currently researching options for sustainable options for printing paste.

From Shepparton Angie Russi will present; *Weaving Across Walls*: Indigenous Women and Men's Fibre Project, a Shepparton Art Gallery initiative. The project grew from an initial three day work shop in 2009 with indigenous weaver Patricia Harrison who taught 25 local Koori women traditional weaving techniques of South east Australia, a local skill which was almost lost. The Shepparton Art Gallery recognises that it has an important role to building community capacity within marginalised groups and within the wider community – weaving across ignorance.

Hayley Lau, from Melbourne, blogs about ethical craft and living at remade.com.au. She is a young mother, op-shopper, a creative and a piscatarian (which means she doesn't eat any meat except fish, which she is trying to wean herself from). She ran a handmade clothing line where each piece was made from reclaimed materials.

For more information:

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