



## Hot Summer Nights

Ladies,

Please tell me no one is going to be sitting under a quilt, hand quilting it this week?! I know we have deadlines but there's got to be something better to do on a hot Summer's night. Oh wait, 8 of you are coming for a machine quilting workshop Thursday night - whoops! Not to fear, air conditioning, cool drinks, ice cream and playing with your machine while the sun goes down will be great fun! The workshop is full, Florea and Sue are on a waiting list for the next one, so if you would like to join us for a Machine Quilting Workshop, please give me a call.

[Open This Week - Saturday and Monday, 10 - 3](#)

And as Emma and I have to get this place looking spick and span after a chaotic Christmas break of sewing, we thought we might as well have Open Days this week on Saturday and Monday. Nothing fancy mind you, just pop in if you need anything, and I'll have all our new fabrics out on display including what's shown below, specials on habby and fabrics, and Emma and I will be madly sewing in between helping our guests!

There will also be a chance to see the 1st, 2nd and 3rd Prizes in the Australian Textile Exhibition raffle this year. They are nearly finished, with tickets officially going on sale on the 13th Feb. I'll be sending out photos soon as we will be selling tickets on line this year.

So here's what's new this week.

### [Gelato Ombre's](#)

Quite an appropriately named range for Summer! These fabrics have infinite possibilities because of their shading. If a couple of bolts look a bit skinny, it's because I have already "acquired" some for my stash and a few ideas brewing on the studio floor. Bias work, applique, ruching, backgrounds, you name it, it works with these.

Available individually by the metre for \$26/m, but if you think your stash needs a good injection of delicious Ombres so you can have endless shades at your fingertips, I've also put together an Ombre pack of [six, 50cm cuts](#) for \$69 or [six fat quarters](#) for \$36. The shading is mirror images in the middle, so a fat quarter still gives you all the colours and it's enough to cut on the bias to make ruched flowers and stems!



### Metallic Burlap

Just like Quilter's Linen, these prints have been designed to look like a woven burlap, but they are actually super fine quality cotton patchwork fabrics with very delicate metallic detail. This gives you superb texture and detail without changing fabric textures and thicknesses in a project. They are also a lot more delicate than a full on metallic Fairy Frost. I just want to wear them to be quite honest! I will be using these a lot with Melba and Under the Australian Sun, and they are \$26/m or \$18 for a [fat quarter of each](#) in our precuts section.



### Maywood Meadow

We have lots of lovely ladies signed up and ready for the start of our new [Maywood Meadow Club](#) advertised in the last newsletter, and they are currently receiving a special offer in the mail for background fabrics as well! So this is a reminder to join now if you would like to be part of it, membership closes on Monday 22nd with the first mail out on Monday 29th January.



Right, so I'd better get cracking, so much to do before Thursday night! Stay cool and take care, Leesa xx



## Summer Sewing

Hi Everyone,

Have you finished the pudding off yet? Yes, how about the cake then?! Don't forget they both freeze well, for when those unexpected sewing friends rock up for a stitch and gossip! Sincerely though I hope you had a lovely Christmas, and are indeed still enjoying some down time from life's busy routines and challenges.

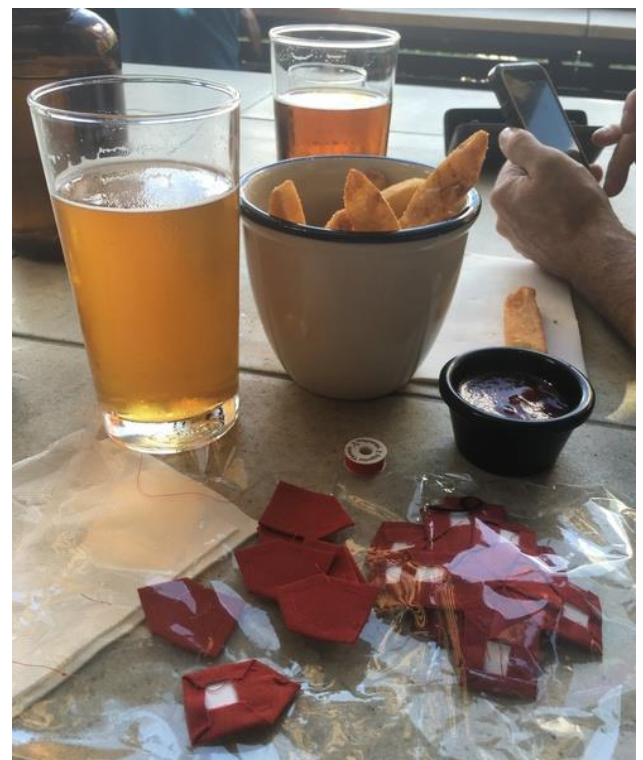
We had a most perfect day on the 25th, and Rob and I went "rogue" on Boxing Day and slipped away for a picnic of leftovers in the Melbourne Royal Botanic Gardens!







I packed some paper piecing, Rob had a book, and we stopped now and then for some reading and sewing. Drinks on the Yarra finished the day, and I decided that if it's socially acceptable to sit in a trendy bar and scroll through your facebook pages on your phone, it's totally acceptable to paper piece as well. Cake and Coffee is usually my sewing fare, but 30 degrees on Boxing Day sitting by the Yarra River, just didn't seem right.



So probably for a lot of my Chandler's Cottage friends, this time of year is all about getting the sewing room, desk, cupboard and/or dining table organised. Sort out which Work's in Progress you want to finish first, what you want to start, and what you really REALLY need to finish. You know, like a wedding quilt for someone whose just celebrating their fifth wedding anniversary.

I'm on it as well, planning projects for our 2018 Australian Textile Exhibition in May, new quilt designs for my Melba and Under the Australian Sun fabrics, as well as working on the new fabrics and patterns to come this year. There are stitcheries, clubs and workshops in planning, and all this, like you, means getting organised!

### Essential Summer Sewing Package

I made a list of essential things I need to have packed in my sewing bag, for when I'm sewing at home, on the beach or at a friend's house over the Summer break, and then thought some of you might like this idea too. So here's a pack that contains essential, good quality sewing supplies, to keep all together in your sewing bag, or give as gifts to sewing friends who you think need a bit of a lift and some nice habby to work with.

The pack contains Superior Threads' King Tut threads in white, cream and black, beautiful Clover piecing pins (I can't live without these), Size 10 Clover Applique needles, Bobbin Case (because you can never have too many bobbins), a pack of Superior Threads' Size 90 titanium machine needles (it's the New Year, so put in a new needle!), Size 9 Cover Piecing Needles (hard to find and the bees knees for paper piecing) and a flash Clover thread cutter.



The [Essential Summer Sewing Pack](#) is valued at \$95 and is just \$75, and I'm popping in a free pattern of my little Tidy Up fabric basket valued at \$9 as well, so you can really get that Sewing Station ready to rock!

### Under the Australian Sun Fabric Club

While this fabric club started in November, the main group of ladies just starting, will receive their first club package next week. Commencing this month you will now receive 75cm of fabric, as either fat quarters or half metre pieces for border prints. In addition you will also receive special monthly offers for complimentary fabrics, patterns and kits. The [Under the Australian Fabric Club](#) is \$18/m including postage, and we can arrange to send it straight to you, or to a special someone so they know you're the best every month!

### Maywood Meadow

This brand new club is Unique, in that it is a Fabric Club, Block of the Month and Mystery Quilt, all in One!

Every month you will receive Three Fat Quarters of beautiful Maywood Studios' Shadowplay, including these brand new beautiful colors just released.



You will also receive an applique pattern for an 7" finished block. It's easy applique, that you can choose to hand or machine applique, which every takes your fancy. They are also not big, so you can easily finish one a month. You can also embellish with embroidery threads, beads, or whatever you like.

So each month you receive your pack of fabric and pattern, cut just what you need for the applique, which won't be much, and pop the rest of your yummy new fabrics in the stash.



Designs will include pretty flowers such as Poppies, Lillies, Irises, Hydrangeas, Fuchsias, Pansies and Periwinkles. Here's a sneak peak at Month 1 to give you an idea of what to expect each month!

In the first month you will receive introductory notes on applique and how to cut and prepare your blocks. You will also receive samples and special offers on background fabrics if you would like to purchase these from us. The colours and designs will look super on Off White, Cream, Black or a very soft Green or Grey. In the last month we will send you assembly instructions which will include adding sashing. You could purchase more of your favourite Shadowplay colour for this, or select from your stash of fat quarters received in the club.

The [Maywood Meadow Club](#) is \$20.50 per month by credit card and includes three fat quarters, applique block design with colour photo and postage. After 12 months you can choose to finish with a lap size quilt or continue for another year to make a double bed sized quilt.

### Oriental Bluework Special

We have four [Oriental Bluework kits](#) left for this Stitchery quilt featuring Japanese Mon Symbols and Kanji writing for the Four Seasons, and then there will be no more! So if you would like to pick one up and guarantee yourself hours of stitchery fun, they were \$90, now \$60, which includes all fabrics, threads and the pattern book.

[Pattern books](#) available individually for \$25 each.



## Machine Quilting Workshop

And finally, I've had a few ladies requesting a machine quilting workshop over Summer, which I love teaching!

This Two Part Workshop will run on Thursday 18th of Jan from 7-9pm and on 8th of Feb from 7-9pm with a maximum of eight students.

Part One will include basic stitches, preparing your work for quilting, designing your own quilt patterns and preparation for Part Two. In Part Two we will start work on making a 2m or 50cm bedrunner and covering important points on binding.

This Two Part Workshop is \$90 per person including all materials for practice and the bedrunner, a reel of King Tut thread in the color of your choice and pack of Superior Thread Titanium Needles and good reference notes on Machine Quilting.

To Book your place please phone me on 03 9587 3958 or email me with your phone number at [info@chandlerscottage.com](mailto:info@chandlerscottage.com).

So that's it for now, a very Happy new Year to One & All and here's to a Year of Fun & Friendship through Patchwork & Quilting, Leesa x.