



Newsletter

February 2011

Dear Friends



The Easter Bunnies are out! This month we have a new bunny pattern for you in two sizes. Basil is 34cm tall (measured to top of ears for both bunnies), made from hand dyed mohair. Clover is 14cm tall, made from hand dyed vintage mini bear velvet. The pattern comes with options for making three types of legs, and two types of arms, you can mix and match. The head design is gusset-less, but with lots of darts. Something different for those who need a bit of a challenge. Kits will be available in pastel colours. Basil and Clover are the *Make it with Megan* project for March.

If you are a regular class attendee, get a discount when you pre-order your kit to start in class next week.

Patterns will cost R 35, kits for Clover R 104 and Basil R 165. Patterns and kits available for sale on the

[Tin Soldiers website on 7 March.](#)

Mini Sale this Saturday

Don't forget that this coming Saturday is our *mini sale day* at Tin Soldiers. Get 10% discount on your purchases between 9am and 1pm.

Bottle Cap Pincushion Workshop



As the name suggests, these irresistible little pin cushions are made from felt over a bottle cap. We are making pin cushions at [Tin Soldiers](#) on Saturday 26 February from 2 till 5pm. The next workshop will be in Port Elizabeth in June, so unless you live in PE already, don't miss your chance this weekend.

Cassius

What the heck? That's not the bear by half! Don't worry, Cassius is in the making. Workshops to make this bear will be offered on 5 March, 2 April (sorry, fully booked), Sunday 3 April, and in Port Elizabeth in June.

Cassius is of French origin, the name meaning protector.

This bear will be the keeper of your treasures and secrets. Designed in the style of early French bears, Cassius has a slightly different body type to German bears that are the main influence in traditional bear making. In addition, he holds a secret

compartment. The bear is approximately 30cm tall, made from mohair and fully jointed. Cost of the workshop

including the kit R 355. See pictures and read his full story on the

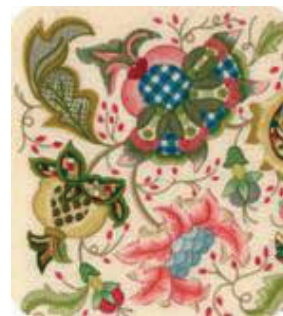
[Tin Soldiers website on 3 March.](#)



Beading and Embroidery with Hazel



We are delighted that Hazel Blomkamp will once again be teaching beading and embroidery workshops at Tin Soldiers. Join us at the workshops on 11 and 12 March and learn to make something awesome. Details on the [Tin Soldiers](#) website, or email Megan for more information.



Weekend Bear Making Workshops



On the first weekend of every month bear and doll makers have the opportunity to spend a full day at Tin Soldiers working on their projects. We cater for beginners, as well as advanced bear makers and offer a range of projects in which you can participate. If you have uncompleted projects that you would like help with you are welcome to come and finish them in class. The cost of a full day including tuition, lunch and refreshments is only R 140. Next available workshops: Saturday 5 March, 2 April (sorry, fully booked), Sunday 3 April.



Online Workshops

I mentioned in a previous Newsletter that we will be offering online workshops at Tin Soldiers this year. I have put an outline for our first ten week workshop on the website. This course starts mid-March and will cover basic bear making. It contains lots of valuable information. I'm very excited to finally have the opportunity to share the knowledge that I have gathered in the studio over the years with bear makers from all over the globe. [Have a peek](#) and email me if this is something that might interest you.

What's happening to the mailing list...

People who know me will tell you that I'm hopeless at keeping my office tidy. They are so right! It's not only my office. Doing any kind of admin is just boring and there are always interesting distractions in the studio. This year I'm making it my mission to get the Newsletter mailing list sorted out.

Your help will be much appreciated. If any of your details have changed/are going to change, please drop us a line so that I can update the data base.

If you are receiving this email more than once, please let me know, it means that I have duplicated your details.

Persons who do not usually receive the Tin Soldiers Newsletter might be surprised to receive this one. I'm sending it to our national customers as well, because it details workshops and products that are not only relevant to those attending classes.

If you asked to be removed from the mailing list and I'm sending you an email again, you have permission to shout at me, and my apologies in advance. I recently combined several mailing lists, and might have put you back by accident.

At Tin Soldiers we respect your right not to receive unwanted email, we do not send Newsletters to anyone who has not contacted us first.

Looking forward to hearing from you, and spending creative time together.

Megan

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