



## Guide to Buying Fabric.



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## AUSSEW-Along

Another Sew-Along coming your way

1st to 5th November

### Heirloom Cushion Cover

The unique feature design on the front of the cushion consists of a series of tucks with V-shaped notches. The placement of the notches is what creates the design. This project is all about precision marking and sewing!

The sew-along is open to Guild members only so you'll need to register to make sure you get your instructions. Just send your name and member number to [sewalong@aussew.org.au](mailto:sewalong@aussew.org.au).

Your first set of instructions will be emailed to you on 1st November. Meanwhile, check the [supply list](#) to make sure you have everything you need.

**Did you miss any of the last 3 Sew-Alongs? It's never too late. Instructions are available via the [ASG Blog](#). All sew-alongs are listed in the right column.**

## Notes from the Boardroom

### AGM Postponed

NSW Office of Fair Trading has approved our application to transfer to a Company Limited by Guarantee.

We have been advised it is not necessary to hold a final AGM for the Incorporated Association. Instead the first General Meeting of the new company will be held in March 2017.

The final audited accounts for ASG Inc. will be made available to members via the website as soon as they are complete.

# Introducing Tara Moss and Victory Lamour

Photographer: Steve Baccon



**Tara Moss** - author, journalist, TV presenter, human rights activist. Tara is a woman of many talents and clearly does not shy away from a challenge. Crime fiction writer, UNICEF Goodwill Ambassador and advocate for the rights of women and children just scratches the surface. [Read more...](#)

Recently Tara has taken up the challenge of sewing and writes about it on her [Victory Lamour blog](#):

Why did I make a promise to myself to (finally) learn the practical skill of sewing? The reason is simple. I wanted to be more self-sufficient. Scratch that, I needed to be.

Over the years it became clear to me that it was well and truly time to learn how to mend my own clothing, fix a busted seam before it rendered a garment unwearable, and sew buttons on in a way that didn't immediately make them fall off again. I also wanted to be able to make clothing and cosplay outfits from scratch and from recycled

materials, but I had no skills whatsoever in either respect (even the sewing on of buttons was a mystery to me), having never been taught any sewing or mending skills, and having never put time into learning.

My inability to mend my own things had become distinctly unhelpful to me, particularly considering my love of vintage and the tendency for even the best made vintage clothing to come apart at the seams, thanks to ageing, 60-year-old thread. It also occurred to me that I'd downplayed the importance of these skills in my younger years in part because sewing, mending and dressmaking have been considered 'feminised skills'. It is ironic, in a way, that a feminist woman would avoid things precisely because they are considered feminine, and in doing so, become less self-sufficient. In time this imbalance became impractical, and though I took a while to recognise it, recognise it I did.

Tara has joined the ASG as our patron for the next three years. Welcome to the Guild and to the world of sewing.

I am a newbie with much left to learn, but in the past few months I have discovered a great deal about what goes into making the kinds of material objects I for decades took too much for granted. Fabric quality. Stitching techniques. The construction of garments and the hours of work that goes into even the simplest item. I look at things differently, more carefully considering the making of an item and what its life might be, how it might be repaired, and whether I'd happily wear it in 5 years or 50.



Tara is excited to learn more, and use her profile to encourage broader interest in sewing, craft, mending and 'slow', sustainable and personalised clothing.



Meet Victory Lamour  
(Tara's vintage alter-ego)

[Facebook](#) [Website](#) [Blog](#)

# *Susan Khalje's Australian 2017 workshop schedule*



*Information on classes and costs  
Booking details  
[www.susankhalje.com](http://www.susankhalje.com)*

## **Melbourne:**

**St. George's Anglican Church  
296 Glenferrie Road, Malvern**

Couture Sewing School - 6 days - January 16-21  
Classic French Jacket - 7 days - January 23-29  
Couture Techniques - 2 days - January 30-31

## **Sydney:**

**City of Sydney RSL, 565 George Street**

Couture Sewing School - 6 days - February 6-11  
Classic French Jacket - 7 days - February 13-19  
Guipure Lace Skirt - 3 days - February 21-23  
Couture Techniques - 2 days - February 24-25

## **Brisbane:**

**Mantra on Edward, 166 Wickham Terrace**

Couture Techniques - 2 days - March 3-4  
Couture Sewing School - 6 days - March 6-11  
Guipure Lace Skirt - 3 days - March 13-15

**ASG & Industry Partners**  
working in collaboration  
with Susan

**Baby Lock Australia**

**Bernina Chatswood**

**Bernina Australia**

**Echidna Sewing Products**

Special thanks to  
**Tessuti Fabrics** (Melbourne/ Sydney)  
and **Sckafs Fabrics** (Brisbane)  
for hosting the shopping experience

*10% Discount for  
ASG Members*

# Around the Nation

Linda Baker (L) & Ann Morony (R)



**NSW Industry Day** on 24th September 2016 was another bright spot on the ASG calendar - entertaining, informative and wonderfully supported by John and the team at Simplicity (so many good bargains – thankyou). Linda Baker and her team (including husband Laurie) did a great job organising everything and the fabulous Rhodes group stepped up once again to cater for all comers. Thank you to everyone involved.

Lots of other ASG members contributed to the success of the day. A parade of garments made and worn by members demonstrated the talents and creativity of

NSW sewists. June Turner showed us her gorgeous blue jacket, Sharon Spilsbury (Rhodes) made her whole outfit and guest speaker Juliet Walsh from Perivale Gutermann wowed us in her beautiful twirly red coat with leopard skin print lining.

Juliet also gave us a great session on the history of needle manufacturing. It is astonishing how much work goes into producing those little shafts of steel.

In keeping with the theme “Looking forward – looking back”, Wilhelmina Van Rooy’s presentation on sewing a 1940s blouse from an original 1940s pattern was fantastic. All Wilhelmina’s work can be appreciated here in her slide presentation – well worth the [click](#) to follow up!

Sharon Spilsbury



June Turner



Juliet Walsh



Many thanks to Juliet and Wilhelmina for all their work.

Photos below show the members paying attention to one of many presentations (*Left*), Wendy McKinnon, NSW SLO taking a well-earned chance to sit and listen (*Centre*), and past president Toni Stuart enjoying the day with Alison Carter (*Right*).



**Teach your children well**... remember the song? (*Crosby, Stills & Nash*) They may not have been singing about sewing but still....



During a recent European holiday, Janice McDonnell visited London and was delighted to see young Isobel's enthusiasm in the sewing room. Isobel is granddaughter to a friend who was a dress designer in her younger days and still exhibits great style.

Isobel has her own sewing machine and is learning to sew a straight line.

She was clearly delighted with the results.

Oh to be young and have a whole life of sewing ahead!



**Share the joy and teach a child to sew**

Has your Neighbourhood Group planned it's 2017 sewing calendar? Why not set aside one meeting (or more) to introducing children to the joys of sewing. Keep it simple, keep it easy and make it fun!



*It's the largest online Fashion Design video library*

**And it can be yours for 1 year for only \$75**

We are offering this special one-year unlimited access to the University of Fashion's online collection of classes at the ASG low price of \$75.

That's one year of full access (ending December 2017) with a saving of \$125!

Subscriptions go on sale 30th October. You must order by end of December 2016 to take advantage of the full year.

[Place your order](#)

*This offer is not available by contacting the University of Fashion directly. Don't miss out!*



The University of Fashion's library contains hundreds of lessons from draping, pattern making, fashion art and product development to CAD, sewing, fashion business, knits, lectures and much more.

**Free 30-day trial begins 15 Oct**

[www.universityoffashion.com](http://www.universityoffashion.com)

Username: Australian Sewing Guild Inc

Password: Trial2016

## Meet Our Industry Partners



### Anne Whalley, Image Consultant

[www.annewhalley.com](http://www.annewhalley.com)

Anne is passionate about fabric, patterns and is an avid sewist.

Helping people Dress to Express themselves and feel confident in their skin is something she lives for. She knows what patterns work best for different bodyshapes.

What happens at her workshops...

Not only will you be entertained but Anne's commentary will leave you overwhelmed with new ideas of style and colour and you will be able to apply that knowledge to the fabrics and patterns you have in your stash and in choosing your future purchases.

If you have a wardrobe filled with "Nothing to Wear" and you want to change this situation Anne Whalley can help you. Your wardrobe will never be the same again!



Danielle Bamford, owner and teacher at Thread Den said. "I love the trend amongst businesses, encouraging their staff to pursue extra curricular activities. Sewing needs you to focus on what is in front of you. It is very difficult for those pesky little stressful thoughts to sneak in while you are making something. At the same time you are being creative and productive - you can't lose!"



Thread Den  
Unit 3d, 26 Wellington Street  
Collingwood. Victoria  
[www.ThreadDen.com](http://www.ThreadDen.com)

Chillipop is proudly Australian owned and operated and probably the best in the industry in stretch fabric manufacturing, specialising in swimwear, dancewear and activewear. For more info check out [www.chillipop.com.au](http://www.chillipop.com.au)



Renae Jamieson is from Queensland. She is known for her savvy marketing and is a local entrepreneur. Twice nominated Telstra Australian Business Woman of the Year, Renae is a single mum of two beautiful girls

Email: [admin@chillipop.com.au](mailto:admin@chillipop.com.au)

Phone: 0416 856 560 or +61 7 5547 5522

3/68 Blanck Street, Ormeau, QLD, 4208, Australia





# TESSUTI FABRICS

Tessuti Fabrics is one of Australia's leading retailers of quality and designer fabrics.

Established over twenty years. Two retail stores in Sydney and one in Melbourne.

Tessuti has become the destination for dressmakers, fashion students and all lovers of sewing.

We take enormous pride in sourcing fabrics that give our customers a unique and stylish range offering quality stock and designer ends.

We purchase from some of the most celebrated local, interstate and international designers including Cue, Zimmermann, Missoni, Dolce & Gabbana and many, many more.

Check out our website for online shopping, classes, patterns, facebook and blog.

[www.tessuti.com.au](http://www.tessuti.com.au)



## Tips and Techniques



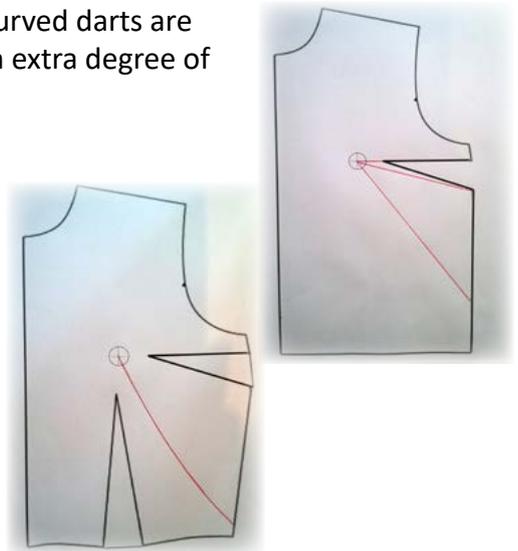
### French Darts

A normal bust dart comes in horizontally from the side seam, or at a very slight angle, and points to the apex of the bust. A French dart starts much lower in the side seam and angles up to the bust, as in the illustration on the left. It's a dart that I am very fond of because it presents a flattering diagonal line. Converting a normal bust dart to this classy version is quite simple.

French darts can be straight or curved. If you have never sewn one before, start with the straight version. Curved darts are also very flattering but require an extra degree of care when sewing.

Two new videos are available in the ASG Sewing Skills Library. One explains how to [convert a single bust dart](#) to a straight French dart. The other video shows you how to [combine the bust and waist darts](#) of a fitted bodice into one curved French dart.

Go to Documents and Resources (ASG website) and enter 'video' or 'dart' in the Search field.





**ASG 20th Anniversary  
25th March 2017**

Welcome champagne, 2-course lunch and wine

**Mercure Hotel  
George Street, Ultimo NSW**

**Guest Speaker**

**Costume designer Marion Boyce,  
interviewed by Tara Moss**

**Tickets go on sale 31st October  
\$65 members \$85 non-members**

## Student Memberships

The age limit (18 - 26) for student memberships has been removed. This category of membership is now available to anyone undertaking **full-time** study. A copy of your Student ID card must be presented upon application and renewal each year. Three-year renewals will not be available to student members.

New cost - \$22 to join and \$22 to renew each year.

## Welcome to 2 new Industry Partners

[Stitch 56](#) (VIC)

[Tessuti Fabrics](#) (VIC & NSW)

## Diary Dates

See [Diary Dates](#) on the website for full calendar

**5-9 Oct** Craft & Quilt Fair (Brisbane)

**9 Oct** Industry Day (VIC)

**10-13 Oct** ASG Convention (Cairns)

**25 Oct** Victoria Spring Luncheon

**11-13 Nov** Bribie Island Retreat (QLD)

**13 Nov** Board Meeting (Brisbane)

**25 Mar 2017** 20th Anniversary Lunch (Sydney)

**9-21 May 2017** Rhodes Fashion Sewers Retreat

## Contacts

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