



Oct-Nov 2022

Merlin Mosaica Newsletter

Glues, Grouts and more
Classes in South Canberra,
Great Service,
Free and easy advice!

Glass Mosaic Specialist
Workshops - South Canberra

Greetings all!

Life is crazy - I apologise, but I am knocking the Newsletters back to bi-monthly! I am now running Workshops, and that takes a quite a bit of time to arrange. Apologies. However, as always, I am available by phone or email/messenger to discuss any issues you may have.

Workshops

I have started running full-day workshops in **Richardson**, a suburb in Southern Canberra. I have a number of subjects, and will be expanding these in 2023. To date, the workshops have been introductory workshops - not full courses designed to teach mosaics. I consider them to be "whistle-wetters" or a look at a simple technique. They are primarily aimed at people with little or no mosaic experience, who may just want to dip their toes in to see if they like it, or those considering a move to stained glass mosaics. All attendees will receive a set of technical notes about mosaics in general. At the completion of each workshop they will take home a completed piece. In some cases, if grouting hasn't been done, I will demonstrate how to grout, and supply enough grout for them to be completed at home.

Next year, I will be expanding my offerings to include a "term-style" more comprehensive course in techniques and good mosaic practice. I will also be running more social sessions, where people can bring their own projects, a wine or two, and create in a convivial community atmosphere.

Tickets are available on Eventbrite (<https://www.eventbrite.com/cc/mosaic-workshops-in-south-canberra-1266759>).
Details are also in my website at: <https://merlinmosaica.com/events/>

I am also running workshops monthly at **Kings Junction, Bungendore**. This is a wonderful café and homeware store, and does the most fantastic High Tea luncheon deal.



*"Hold fast to whatever fragments of love
that exist, for sometimes a mosaic is more
beautiful than an unbroken pattern."*



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Workshop subjects I have been planning so far include:

- Lazy Susan - I have run a workshop using Bamboo ones, and will be offering Glass Lazy Susan's in the New Year too.
- Walled Shapes - I have run a number of these with glass tiles, and they are very popular. Next year, I will do these with stained glass.
- Solar Garden Lantern - this one has already been offered, and was very successful - lots of fun;
- Mosaic Pots;
- Learn to cut stained glass for Mosaics - a very popular class:
- Learn to cut tiles for Mosaics - this has been well received;
- Crash Glass - Framed Mixed Media;
- Mosaic pendants;
- Stained Glass on Slate;
- Glass brick light;
- Hanging light bottles;
- Stained Glass Flowers;
- House Numbers;
- Glass on Acrylic - a variety of styles and projects;
- Sun-catchers; and
- Garden Gazing Balls

MAANZ Sponsorship:

I was absolutely thrilled to co-sponsor the Innovation award at the recent **MAANZ (NSW) Branch Exhibition 2022: Material Musings**. I was privileged to co-sponsor this with my friends and partners - SAS Adhesives, and Axxess Glass.

The winner (Samuel Kirby) received a Kristall 1S Grinder, 5 x 1kg tubs of Litokol Starlike Crystal Epoxy Grout (plus 5 scourers) and 4 litres of Prep Multi-Use adhesive - over \$800 worth of product.

Innovation is something dear to my heart. As you know, I am constantly researching and looking for different products for you. I could stock the same products as many others do, but I would rather expand your arsenal - give you something different to try!

So much more fun!!

New Releases:

I have just released my **Merlin Metallics** range of metallic tiles. These are offered in 500 gram lots, and are based on the Bronze Whaler and Sofala Gold tiles. They are absolutely amazing, and definitely different.

The **QEP Nippers** have now moved on to the Mark II version. This addresses the issue of the loosening central screw. So thrilled that the company listened to us, and addressed our concerns. Longer bolts will soon be available as a replacement for older nippers.

I have the most comprehensive range of **grinders and accessories** in the mosaic market. From the "Rolls Royce" The Grinder, through the German Workhorse Kristall 1S, to the Budget-friendly Minin-Maxi, wired to Australian Standards, and backed by Inland. We will soon be offering different grit bits for ceramics. This little beauty doesn't require sponges, as it uses an Archimedes screw function to kick the water onto the grinding bit.

Bespoke Shapes and Backers:

If you are looking for a particular shape in MDF or in Acrylic, please contact me. I would need a clear black and white image of the shape (preferably in a vector file), the size, and thickness, and desired substrate (MDF or Acrylic). Let me know how many you are after, and I will give you a price.

Product Suggestions:

If you have a product you would like me to add to my range, please suggest it. Should it provide viable, and achievable, I will give you a \$100 store voucher!

Future Releases:

I will soon be offering a superior range of **grout colorants** to the market. These are formulated from Metal Oxides, and as such are fade resistant. The sourcing company is Australian-based, and that is so important to me.

Acrylic letters and numbers are also on their way.

I am also looking to offer great deals on **Cutting systems** in the not too distant future.

I will soon be stocking **individual sachets** of the hardener for the Litokol Range of Epoxy Grouts - both the standard Starlike (coloured) and Crystal (Translucent) variants.

NOTE: The Hardener for the two products is different, so won't be able to be interchanged).

New Glass Tiles and Shapes will be coming online soon.

In conclusion:

As always, if you have any questions, queries or concerns, please don't hesitate to give me a call.

I am always happy to offer assistance wherever I can.

Till next time, stay safe,



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