

August 2007

August/September Events & 'What's New' In-store News...

Good Morning,

'MORPETH WHISPERS'

Campbell's Store Craft Centre
175 Swan Street, Morpeth NSW 2321
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or 02 49331407 any time. Fax 02 49342107
Shop open 10am-5pm Thurs till Sunday
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It's Teapot Time! Yes the Morpeth Weird & Wonderful Novelty Teapot & Teacosy Exhibition is on again! From 16th – 26th August 2007, 10am – 5pm Every day for 10 days at Morpeth Gallery, 5 Green Street, Morpeth.

It really is a feast for the eyes, a visual extravaganza that will have you reaching for your camera at every turn. Our English Teapot Manufacturers have created some new teapots especially for the exhibition. **The UK based Teapottery has been making teapots since 1978**, radios, pianos and packing cases, tents and toasters... even a teatime replica of the front door of Number 10 Downing Street has been created in the past.



Because each of The Teapottery's teapots is cast and decorated entirely by hand, every teapot they sell is unique and individual. Their off beat designs have been spotted on the TV sets of Absolutely Fabulous, Golden Girls, in pop videos and on collector TV shows such as Bargain Hunt. Teapots commemorating popular companies are favourites with collectors: Colman's Mustard, Farrah's Harrogate Toffee, Tate & Lyle Syrup & Aga Rayburn, whose distinctive stoves turn up in miniature – alongside beds, dressers, fireplaces, wardrobes, cosy armchairs... with which collectors of teapots furnish their teatables.



Teapottery teapots incorporate all the wit and humour of their predecessors (mid 18th century), with the skill and craftsmanship expected of fine English ceramics, and will stand up to a lifetime of brewing. Standard size Teapottery teapots give you around 4 cuppas, and the pots in their one cup range are ideal for everyday use. New designs for this year include the Piano Tea Dance, Magicians Hat, Kitchen Scales, Garden Trug, English and French Picnic's, a Grape Basket, One Cup Rayburn Stove, The Kennel for Sheepdog, The Kennel for Labrador, and a round betty shaped teapot in psychedelic Jukebox colours.

Our second UK Teapot manufacturer Carter's Ceramics have created new teapots in the shape of Liquorice Allsorts, Gardening Bench, Movie Projector basket, Record Player, Recycled Teapot, Titanic, Town House, Life Ring, Sailing Boat & Dressing Table. You will love them all!

Novelty Teapots come in all different shapes and sizes, there's Christmas themes... Santa, Snowmen, Reindeers and Holly, jungle animals and birds such as giraffes, white swan, stylised peacock, parrots and hummingbirds. Domestic animals such as cats, dogs, roosters will feature alongside elegant butterflies, dragonflies and frogs. The Best of the British will be on display – Queen Elizabeth, Big Ben, London Taxis and Red Phone Boxes and Post Boxes.



Liquorice Allsorts Teapot

Drinking Tea from a Teaset is back in fashion and as a result you will discover dozens of different teaset, in popular English colours and designs – pretty pinks, chintzy blues, Ascot greens, blue Willow and Wedgewood whites. Perhaps a teaset shaped like a garden rose will appeal? Most teaset come as a set of three – teapot, sugar and creamer. Their average price is \$90 for the set of three – fantastic value. Some have matching cups and saucers, but part of the fun of drinking tea with friends is to mix and match your mugs, tea cups and saucers – the crazier the better! Some elaborate fine porcelain oriental teaset will appeal to those who fancy drinking their green tea from beautifully designed teapots and cups in rich yellows, deep reds and blues. These sets are for two or four people and come with a silk presentation box. They average at \$135 - \$165 a set.



Madame Monet

Giant \$40 Teapots to make tea for the family, match giant \$40 tea cups and saucers. They'll make you giggle and are practical too. Both may be used as pot plant holders, when you are done drinking your tea! Smaller cup and saucer plant holders for tables are just \$10 each. At the other extreme miniatures smaller than your little fingernail will astound & miniature teaset abound. Average \$18 each. Miniature collectors remember that this year's teapot exhibition may be your last opportunity to purchase Charlotte Di Vita Copper Enamelled Collector Teapots. The price of copper has gone through the roof and as a result this range is no longer in production. Purchase or Layby your favourite teapots at the Exhibition before they sell out. \$80.

The ideal Tea Accessories will be available for sale: Teabag Holders \$3, Tea Infusers \$6, Teapot Brooches \$7, Teatowels \$15, Mug/Coaster/Teabag sets \$20 – all packaged in a clear plastic shaped teabag!! Tea Tastings will be conducted at Tea Lover's Emporium in Morpeth's Main Street.

Fantasy Teapots – Feature Exhibition

We are delighted to feature as part of the Novelty Teapot Exhibition, the teapots of the 2006/7 Year Nine & Ten Ceramics Class at Warner's Bay High School, (a suburb of Lake Macquarie/Newcastle). These creative and talented Year Nine students visited last year's exhibition to gain inspiration for their creations. Now in Year Ten, you can admire the results of 12 months hard work. Their fantasy creations include Surfer Chick, Steve Irwin, Dragon & Eggs, Moulin Rouge Dancer, Gnome Home, Cheshire Cat, Heart, Parcel, Cupcake, Robot and Snowman to name a few!

Steve Irwin Croc-e-tea



Teacosies

Entries have been arriving thick and fast to compete in the annual Teacosy Competition. The competition categories are Knitted or Crochet Tea Cosy, Soft Fabric Tea Cosy, Any Other Material, Novelty Tea Cosy, Animal or Bird Tea Cosy and My favourite Tea Cosy Old or New. All of these teacosies will be on display in the Morpeth Ginger Beer Factory adjacent to the Novelty Teapot Exhibition. The 2007 Teacosy of the Year will win \$500! Keep those entries coming!! Pick up an entry form for the 2008 Competition and you'll have 12 months to design and make your clever creation for next year.

A popular entry last year was "Tea Party Possum" made of wool fabric and embroidered by Kerry Blow.

Devonshire Teas to die for!!

When you have gone potty from admiring all the Teacosies and Teapots, wander down the path for a delicious Devonshire Tea or lunch at the Servant's Quarters Tearoom. Bruce makes the best scones – all light and fluffy, fresh baked everyday. They are served with real cream and chunky strawberry jam. Gaye and the girls will brew you up a pot of your favourite tea with real tea leaves – you really can taste the difference!

Meet Knut Polar Bear at the Sydney Teddy Bear Fair

Just a reminder that you can see Australia's finest collection of teddy bears for sale, by some of the country's renowned bear artists on Sunday 5th August, 2007 at the Southee Complex, Sydney Showgrounds, Sydney Olympic Park, Homebush. 10am – 4pm. Antique Bears, bear making supplies and accessories will also be available. Drive your car straight to the venue or catch the train. Entry is \$10 for adults, \$7 for seniors, \$3 Children. Purchase your ticket at the door. Refer to www.sydneyteddybearfair.com for more information. Morpeth Bears will see you there with the latest bears from Steiff, Herman Red, Settler Bears & Ty Beanie Babies. Remember to bring you Bear Fair flyer for a \$2. discount on entry fee.

You will have heard about Knut, who was born at the Berlin Zoo but was rejected by it's mother and raised by keepers at the zoo. Some people thought he should have been put down rather than raised by humans. There was such an outpouring of sympathy, that Knut has now become famous with shares in the Berlin Zoo rising to an all time high. Steiff took a very compassionate and active role in helping the little chap and designed this 20cm (8 inch) white plush bear, which is licensed by Berlin Zoo. He will be a talking point in your collection or he will make a delightful toy for little ones. Price \$60. Available at Sydney Bear Fair and at Morpeth Bears too!



Steiff Knut – very sooft!



This is the real Knut and his keeper Thomas Dorflein. Until this week Knut has been seen with his keeper for one hour at a time, twice daily and he has just welcomed his 1 millionth visitor. Thomas also became a celebrity and was inundated with public demands for interviews and even marriage proposals! The worldwide outpouring of affection for the cub has helped bring attention to the plight of polar bears in the wild. At 7 months old, Knut is fast becoming a predator rather than a plaything and has been given his own enclosure. He will be fully grown by the Summer/Autumn of 2008 and will then be introduced to a female friend. Thomas has taken a well earned holiday and break from the limelight.

'What's Good For You'. What's the best Chopping Board?

Plastic, marble and wood are all popular surfaces, but which is best to avoid the spread of germs? Bacteria like salmonella & E.coli breed on your board and can cause serious food poisoning. Microbiologist Dean Cliver at the University of California studied how bacteria reacts on the different surfaces. Plastic came out a definite last and

that's because bacteria are able to breed in the cuts left by knives. Marble came in second because bacteria spread everywhere, contaminating the entire surface, and marble lost points for being tough on knives.

In the final wash up, it was wood that blew the competition out of the water. Bacteria grew only where they were applied in the tests, they didn't spread, leaving a much cleaner surface overall. Wood is also a very porous material and the fluid is drawn into the wood by capillary action and if there are bacteria in the fluid they go in and they never come back alive, effectively killing them. Wooden chopping boards are knife friendly, they look great and can last for years. Why not treat yourself to a new wooden chopping board from the wood section at Campbell's Store. There are round, square and rectangular designs to choose from in Australian timbers made in Tasmania. Prices range from \$20 for a small size up to \$60 for a large size.

Dr Red's Rosella Punch for Blood Pressure

Dr Red's are famous for their Ginger Punch to aid in the fight against Prostate Cancer. They have recently launched Rosella Punch, which is a concentrated antioxidant formula based on fresh rosella hibiscus flower, berry concentrates as well as other antioxidant extracts grape, olive leaf and turmeric – all grown on the Dr Red farm near Brisbane. University of Queensland animal studies produced outstanding results and human trials are now underway. You may have seen it featured recently on Channel Nine's, 'A Current Affair'. Rosella Punch when diluted 1:6 with water or soda, is a fragrant, refreshing drink with a dry apple berry flavour – designed to keep you healthy on the inside and your blood pressure in balance. A 750ml bottle is \$45.

Available from Morpeth Ginger Beer Factory.



Miss Rose & Sister Violet Beading, Hand Dyed Lace & Velvet Flowers – use them and it will make your ordinary day fantastic!

Thankyou to everyone who called into the Miss Rose & Sister Violet stand at the Sydney Craft & Quilt Show at the end of June. It was great to hear about all the lamps, handbags, tassels, hairclips, brooches and cushions you had decorated up using Miss Rose's versatile range of beading and flowers, and the items you planned to make next. One lady had even dressed up an antique four poster bed with Victorian Green beading and in the photos it looked divine! I was inspired. I sat in on one of Miss Rose's workshops, which reminded me of just how fantastic her beading and flowers are...



Miss Rose beading is strung closely together, which allows her to design intricate patterns and colour combinations. She uses only quality glass and plastic beads so they hang straight. (To use all glass would make the beading too heavy to work with.) Whilst her mother was a sewer, (like mine) Rose is not, (like me), so everything she makes is glued with a hot glue gun. This appeals to me because unlike a patchwork quilt or cross stitch, everything you make is instant. It's an instant satisfaction. Decorate a lampshade and set it up in your lounge room in half an hour! It's impossible to make a mistake using the 'More is Better' mantra.

Miss Rose maintains she is a 'protector of the past' in choosing violets, delphiniums, peonies and roses in soft pinks, dusky purples and blues and creams for her unique velvet flowers. The first thing she does with them is squash them between her hands to give them an instant vintage feel, before using them. One of the first projects she says you should attempt is to decorate a basket. When you are done, use it, but as Miss Rose says, you wont. You'll pop it in the corner of a room and fill it up with stuff.

Rather you really should take it out shopping with you and be amazed at how many people comment on how lovely your shopping basket is. You'll add a little beauty to their day, and rather than staying a 'wall flower' you will be noticed, and remembered, for your shopping basket. Before you know it you'll know everyone's name down the street and even the check out chick will strike up a conversation with you. Your basket will make you feel good on the inside, you'll glow with happiness on the outside too. Next you'll make a hair clip to wear in your hair and so on...It reminded me of what happens to me when I pick up my Spencer & Rutherford Handbag and walk out the door...



Spencer & Rutherford 2008 Spring/Summer Handbag & Luggage

S&R bags are real conversation starters, "Wow, I Just Love Your Bag"... I get this from plenty of women and more than a few men too. S&R bags are well worth their price tags. My S&R bag went from being just for special occasions to an everyday bag, and they handle the wear and tear very well I might add! Now I purchase a new one every year. (Note to husbands, boyfriends and brothers – buy her Spencer & Rutherford and you will stay in her good books.)

The latest collection of Spencer & Rutherford will be on the shelves mid August.

Entitled 'An Ocean of Dreams', S&R's creative director Kim Michaelides writes, "The seaside has always been a place of contemplation and reflection for me, a place to take time out from everyday life and truly live in the precious moments. The humbling roar of surging waves, the sensation of tiny pearls of water spritzing my skin as they dance on a warm ocean breeze. Hunting for exquisite shells and delicate corals half hidden in the sand, like the beautiful treasures of a careless mermaid. Strolling along the water's edge, my bare feet sink deliciously into soft velvety sand... and so the collection has evolved."

You will fall in love with the costal palette of bleached driftwood, creams and warm sandy neutrals. Translucent turquoise evolves into azure blues and then jade greens as in the ocean. Flowing motifs have been embossed into soft Italian leathers, combined with French brocades. Tinted silks and braids have been encrusted with shimmering mother of pearl and hand beading. *Surrender your credit card and let your heart lead you, as you seek out the perfect Spring/Summer 2008 handbag for you!* Available downstairs at Campbell's Store.

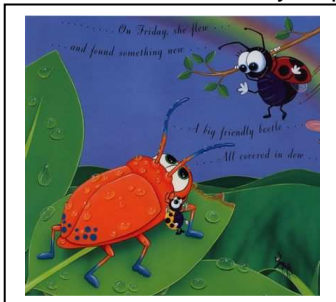


If you have admired the S&R luggage in store (and you will love the new black/brown Atlantic Crossing Colour), **and wondered how it fares when you travel the answer is a big thumbs up.** I've now travelled with mine up and down the east coast of Australia, to Egypt and Greece on trains, flights, ferries and vehicle transports and it's as tough as the Samsonite you've got in your wardrobe. Trade in your old suitcase for Spencer & Rutherford Luggage. It will make you feel great and your holiday a happier one!

****Miss Rose Beading, Lace & Flowers are available on the first floor of Campbell's Store. Our team will guide you in selecting the right bits and pieces for whatever project you have in mind. Oh and a little 'heads up'. The organisers of the Sydney Craft & Quilt show are coming to Newcastle 29th February and 1st and 2nd March 2008. We plan on taking a stand to feature Miss Rose goodies. Make it a Diary Date now, and we'll keep you updated.*

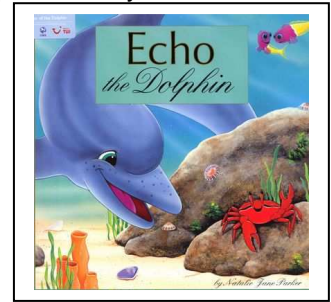
Did You Know 2007 is the Year of the Dolphin?

Prince Albert of Monaco is Patron of the Year of the Dolphin and children in schools the world over are learning about dolphins and other sea creatures as part of their studies. **Hunter Valley Children's Author & Wildlife artist Natalie Jane Parker has written and illustrated a fantastic children's book called 'Echo the Dolphin'.** Echo lives with his family and friends in the ocean, frolicking in the waves and flipping around in the sun, until one day everything changes. Echo's family becomes trapped in an ocean net... Echo and his pals devise a clever way to set them free and safely dispose of the net. Purchase a copy for your kids from Morpeth Gallery for \$15.



Lulu The Ladybird Makes New Friends

'Lulu the Ladybird Makes New Friends' is Natalie's latest children's book. It's a simple story with truly delightful pop out illustrations and a built in lesson about the days of the week. Lulu the ladybird loves to fly through the air, over the flowers and then down to the pond, while making lots of new friends on her way. Lulu Ladybird book is \$18, available from Morpeth Gallery, along with 5 other Natalie Jane Parker Children's book titles.



Echo the Dolphin

Bitter & Twisted International Boutique Beer Festival Morpeth Main Street, Friday 2nd – Sunday 4th November, 2007.

Morpeth's Main Street will be the main focus of this exciting new festival, where you can taste 50-60 boutique beers from around the world, as well as beers from Australian micro breweries. Food stalls down the middle of Morpeth's main street will complement the selection of beers available for tasting. Morpeth's Restaurants, cafes and two hotels will run beer matching dinners, and we imagine there will be plenty of beer soaked, poached and battered foods available. We can't wait to try some of the dazzling dishes being dreamt up! If you are not a beer drinker don't despair – a small selection of Hunter wines will be available for tasting too.

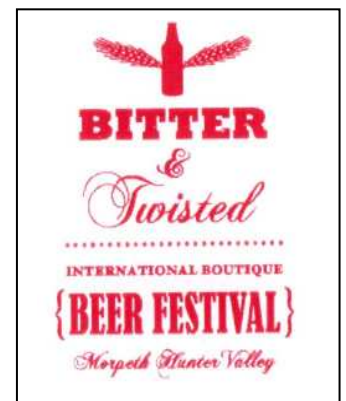
Soak up the atmosphere of Morpeth's Beer Festival with entertainment throughout the day, including children's entertainment, as you browse through craft stalls and Morpeth's shopping boutiques. Shuttle buses will be provided as free public transport throughout the weekend between public transport and key locations and accommodation houses. Coach Tours to the event from Central Coast and Sydney are also being developed.

Entry to the Boutique Beer Festival will be as follows:

Adults - \$15 per adult entry to the festival area. Or \$25 per adult includes entry plus 5 beer tasting tokens, a limited edition Bitter & Twisted plastic chalis and a calico bag.

Children – under 18 free when accompanied by adult. If unaccompanied by an adult entry \$15.

All visitors (including local residents attending) will be required to wear a wristband whilst within the Festival premises. A tasting will be 100ml and one token will buy one tasting. Further beer tokens can be purchased from a number of Token Tents to be located in Morpeth Main Street for \$1 per token. If you wish to buy a larger glass of your favourite boutique beer, simply hand over 3 or 4 tokens at once.



The Boutique Beer Fest will run Friday 2nd: 6pm – midnight, Saturday 3rd: 10am – midnight, Sunday 4th: 10am - 6pm. For more information you will soon be able to log onto www.bitterandtwisted.com.au or contact the Maitland Visitor Information Centre Phone: 02 4931 2800 Email: info@maitlandhuntervalley.com.au

