



December 2022

Merlin Mosaica Newsletter

Glues, Grouts and more

Great Service

Free and easy advice

Absolutely Australian, Definitely Different

Your glass mosaic specialist.

A wide range of stained glass and mirror.

Tiles substrates, glues, grouts, tools & more!

Mosaic Workshops & Courses in Canberra

Greetings all!

We are approaching Christmas - can you believe it? This year has flown by. I wish you all a wonderful year-end, and hope it is a joyous, relaxing time for all.

I relish the opportunity to have a wee bit of down time, and replenish the batteries. I have had a busy year, and am going through a period of change.

2022 - The Year in Review

2022 has been an interesting year, to say the least.

It started out with a re-location of the business into my garage. Merlin Mosaica has taken over the whole space - our poor cars are unfortunately relegated to outside. We got the shelving installed in the nick of time - the next day, we were off the Sydney to collect a large shipment of Litokol grout: Translucent, coloured epoxy, and boxes of StyleGrout Tech. These products continue to sell amazingly well - and you are making incredible works with them!



That was soon followed by the guaranteed re-supply of the QEP nippers, that are now back with me. These have now been upgraded to the QEP MkII - which have a longer bolt, addressing the issue of the loosening fulcrum, that some of you have experienced. **NOTE:** I have replacement bolts available for the older units, at no cost (you just need to pay postage).

I launched my **Walled MDF shapes** mid-year, and these have proven to be very popular as well. They work super well with stained glass and glass tiles, and I have even had some clients use them with ceramic tiles. The results are wonderful. These are really great for workshops as well!

Speaking of workshops - I have long wanted to run them, but my garage just isn't large enough - too much product stashed in there. I have been fortunate to secure a teaching space just 8 minutes drive away from home. I kicked off a trial course in May, and commenced full-blown courses in August. I have only been running courses on Saturdays, but that will change in 2023.

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 Axess 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!

The **Mini Maxi Grinder** was introduced to the market in late 2022. This is a great little unit - very tough - and wired to suit Australian Electrical standards. It has a full warranty, backed by Inland.

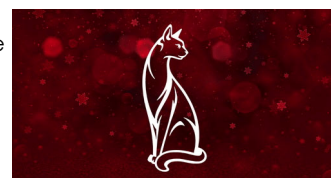
The last major happening of 2022 was my MEGA tile clearance. I know, I know - I have always said no sales, but this was a necessity - I needed space for new stock! The supplier of many of my lovely unique tiles (Northern Lights, Beachy Brights, Exterior Foils, Crystal Subway) has made the decision to cease trading. So this has meant that I have had to source new ranges for you.

It has always been my preference to offer unique stock for sale: to provide you with increased choice. I have spent some time sourcing unusual stock. However, I will also be stocking some more "common" but no less beautiful tiles at a VERY competitive price point.

I have re-vamped my gift voucher program, so that vouchers can now be redeemed for both online shopping from the store OR workshops & classes via Eventbrite.

My Loyalty program has had a facelift, and points now show at checkout, where you can elect to use them, or not! No more having to fuss about remembering a voucher, or looking for the darn email somewhere!

"We are mosaics. Pieces of light, love, history, stars... Glued together with magic and music and words."
- Anita Krizzan



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The website also has had a minor re-vamp - it is far easier to find my Tips & Hints, and I have included an FAQ section. If there is something else you want to know about, just drop me a line, and I'll include it, if I can.

My Saturday beginner workshops at Richardson & Bungendore have proven popular, and bookings continue to build. People have done amazing work!



2023 - The Year Ahead

Early in the New Year, I will be releasing some new tiles to the market. They are on their way to me now. I am working hard to bring you great value for money product, without sacrificing quality.

Individual sachets of the hardener for the Litokol Range of Epoxy Grouts - both the standard Starlike (coloured) and Crystal (Translucent) variants - are on their way. I am also adding to the colour range of the StyleTech Grout, with a white coming in this month, and Charcoal in the next delivery.

I am also working with some new suppliers to offer new products in the new year, whilst continuing to work with my current partners.

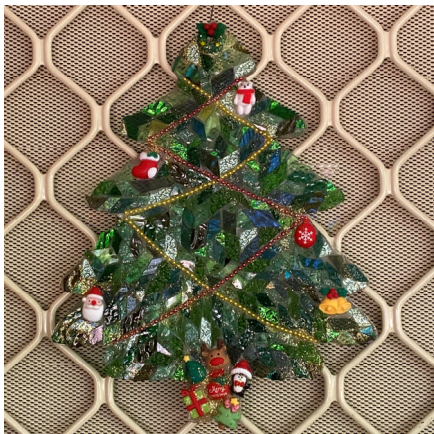
My course and workshop offering will expand in 2023 to include weekday workshops, "sip and stick" evening sessions, and a program of short courses, running over 4-6 weeks. My 2023 workshop and course schedule will be released very soon. I have a number of new subjects coming online. Tickets are available on Eventbrite (<https://www.eventbrite.com/cc/mosaic-workshops-in-south-canberra-1266759>). Details are also on my website at: <https://merlinmosaica.com/events/>

If you have a specific area of concern about your mosaic practice that you would like to work on, please reach out to me. I can tailor a one-on-one session to meet your needs. These could be via zoom or phone, or face-to-face at my premises. Rates available on request.

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

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, and have a wonderful Christmas and New Year!



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