

# Western Cape Craft Sector Newsletter July/August 2006

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## Officially open for business!

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One hundred and twenty VIP guests gathered to celebrate the official opening of the CCDI's new Centre for Innovation. MEC **Tasneem Essop** (right) was enthusiastic in her encouragement for what could be achieved in this dynamic space. **Designers and crafters alike are invited to make use of the Product Development service, the Resource Centre, and the FabLab.** The CCDI AMTS Fablab is the 8<sup>th</sup> in the world, and the 3<sup>rd</sup> in South Africa, but is the first to focus on bringing crafters and designers together.

**Andrew Boraine** (right), CEO of the Cape Town Partnership, was upbeat about the CCDI's new location in the East City. With other developments in the pipeline, this area, east of Adderley Street, will soon add to the vibe and buzz of Cape Town's inner city.



The highlight of the afternoon was a live link-up to the founder of FabLabs, **Prof. Neil Gershenfeld** from Massachusetts Institute of Technology, who offered his best wishes for the new and unique Craft & Design Fablab. 'I'm sorry I can't be there in person; the energy and interest is apparent from a distance,' he said.

**Erica Elk**, executive director of the CCDI was sincere in her thanks to the provincial government and the team from AMTS for the funds and support in getting the CCDI moved into its new premises and getting the Centre for Innovation set up. 'I think this Lab will have an amazing impact on the sector in the province,' said Erica, 'and we're going to have fun along the way...!'

**Karen van Breukelen** from the AMTS programme, Dept of Science & Technology, and funders of the FabLabs in South Africa, expressed hearty congratulations to Erica and her team, with the firm belief that this FabLab was going to be a great success story.

**Amy Sun**, a Masters student from MIT, **was** here in person. 'Wowie, what an amazing and dynamic group at the opening! By far the trendiest/prettiest lab opening (not to mention the gorgeous setting of Cape Town). It seemed that everyone present had great ideas and big plans, and it will be interesting to watch the developing interaction between engineers, artists, and crafters...'

## YOU NEED THE CENTRE FOR INNOVATION, AS MUCH AS IT NEEDS YOU!

As designers and crafters of the Western Cape it is vital that we produce craft that is both well designed and well developed to meet the challenge of sophisticated local and international markets. Innovative product design and creative product development will help you improve the quality and market appeal of your craft products.

This will help you increase your sales turnover, generate more income and create more jobs – and ultimately improve the quality of all our lives.

### Designing for Development

This is what the CCDI's new **Centre for Innovation, Product Development Clinic, Resource Centre and AMTS FabLab** is all about. It is really to assist designers and crafters develop innovative products to meet those market challenges and achieve those sales goals.

The Centre for Innovation has amazing facilities, resources, machinery, equipment and expertise that are easily available to you to add value to your product.

- the **FabLab** is entirely free to users

- the **Product Development Clinic** charges a nominal, highly subsidised, rate - R50 per session for the first three sessions (R150) and R75 per session for the following three (R225)
- the **Resource Centre** gathers and distributes information on design, product and markets, and is also entirely free to users.

The Centre for Innovation assists designers and crafters by -

- developing local design and innovation skills for creating new products and setting new trends
- researching and developing new materials, new technologies and new applications
- providing a platform for cross industry collaboration
- promoting technical excellence, skills upgrading and knowledge transfer
- increasing access to technology and resources.

**The FabLab is open from Monday to Saturday, 9:00 - 5:00**

**Technology Demonstrations, 2 Sessions Daily, 6 days a week! @ 10:00 am and 2:00 pm**  
**Venue:** AMTS FabLab, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor, 75 Harrington Street, East City Cape Town

**Enquiries and bookings:** Chris Wills on 460-3813 | [willic@cput.ac.za](mailto:willic@cput.ac.za) or Mano Reddy on 460-3811 | [redmym@cput.ac.za](mailto:redmym@cput.ac.za)

#### RESOURCE BASE ON INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY & COPYRIGHT

The Centre for Innovation has collated a comprehensive resource base on Intellectual Property Guides, Legislations, Patents, Copyrights, Product-to-Patents, in hard copy, as well as useful websites & addresses for Crafters, Inventors & Designers.

**Visit** the CCDI's Centre for Innovation on the 4<sup>th</sup> Floor, 75 Harrington Street, East City Cape Town. **Contact** Mano Reddy on 021 460-3811 | [redmym@cput.ac.za](mailto:redmym@cput.ac.za) for details.

## Craft Partnership Meeting

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A dynamic line-up of speakers with exciting topics will be speaking at the next Craft Partnership Meeting. The **usual venue:** Seminar Room 2, Admin Building, Cape Peninsula University of Technology, Keizersgracht, District Six; the **usual day,** the **first Wednesday of each month,** 2 August 2006; the **usual time:** 1:30 – 4:00.

#### Speakers:

**Ramese Mathews,** Dept of Economic Development & Tourism – answering your questions on BEE

**Jim Chiota,** crafter, and **Mano Reddy,** Manager Centre for Innovation – a shared lesson on how the FabLab has helped develop new products (a Powerpoint presentation, computer printouts, templates, and a final physical product).

**Eunice Freeman** – overcoming the Stigma of HIV and Aids

**VERY IMPORTANT NOTICE:** The next Craft Partnership Meeting on **6 September,** will be held in the FabLab, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor, 75 Harrington Street, East City Cape Town. This will be in the form of a working demonstration of how crafters can benefit from the facilities in the Centre for Innovation.

## Photo sessions for crafters

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During August the CCDI will once again offer a photographic service to crafters, to place pictures of their craft on the CCDI website. You will need to bring four of your best-selling products to be photographed. To make a booking, please contact Mandisi Kibito on 021 460-3662 | [kibitom@cput.ac.za](mailto:kibitom@cput.ac.za). It will take half-an-hour of your time.

## TRADEnews

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#### TOURISM GIFTS & NOVELTIES RETAIL TRADE DAY

CCDI is organising a Mini Trade Day for craft producers wishing to access the local gifts and novelties retail market. CCDI will invite interested retail buyers. It will also be a valuable opportunity for producers to gather valuable consumer feedback from a captive audience. Interested producers should complete the attached application forms ASAP – space is limited and preference will be given to people with new and innovative products. For more information contact Cathy Wijnberg 021 460 3944 | [wijnbergc@cput.ac.za](mailto:wijnbergc@cput.ac.za).

**Format:** Mini Trade Day – each crafter to set up and staff their own stand. Basic stand structure provided.

**Date:** **Thursday 21 Sept 2006, 09:00 – 14:00**

**Venue:** Centre for Innovation, CCDI, 75 Harrington Street, East City, Cape Town

#### INNOVATIVE CHRISTMAS DECORATIONS

CCDI, Link Africa and Xmas Africa are running a Market Access programme for producers making Christmas decorations. This programme has successfully piloted a project with Woolworths and is now in its next expansion phase. The project seeks **four additional manufacturers** of quality hand-made Christmas decorations (Western Cape only). For more information contact Cathy Wijnberg on 021 460 3944 | [wijnbergc@cput.ac.za](mailto:wijnbergc@cput.ac.za).

#### Product Selection

**Date:** **Thursday 14 Sept 2006, 10:00**

**Venue:** Centre for Innovation, CCDI, 75 Harrington Street, East City, Cape Town

## Forums & Councils

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### CAPE TOWN FASHION COUNCIL

The CT Fashion Council is a newly established body to represent designers' needs and to create a platform for the fashion industry. The Council is working towards creating a National Fashion Council representing designers from the whole of South Africa and aim to work hand in hand with other key regions like Durban and Johannesburg. For more information, contact Stefanie Vieira, Executive Director, Cape Town Fashion Council, on PO Box 979, 6th Floor, Southern Life Building, 8 Riebeeck Street, Cape Town | (0)21 483-9302 | Fax: (0)21 483-7162 | 072-371-5799 | [svieira@pgwc.co.za](mailto:svieira@pgwc.co.za).

### TOURISM BUSINESS FORUM

The first official meeting to be held in the CCDI's own boardroom was that of the Tourism Business Forum. The Forum consists of a number of organisations doing development work in the tourism business sector, who compliment each other with their services. These are the Dept of Economic Development & Tourism for tourism business training (also the Red Door initiative), TEP for financial support, the CCDI for crafter-specific training and support, FNB Bank, SATSA, Fedhasa, CT Tourism and others.

The members of the TBF recently held meetings in the various regions, to introduce the dove-tailed services of

the various TBF members to those interested in the tourism and craft industries.

Pictured here are (back) Yumnaa Firferey (Dept of Economic Development & Tourism), Erica Elk and Ann Weyer (CCDI), Mariette du Toit (CT Tourism), Spetho Siyengo (ITESP), Vuyo Zitha (the **dti**); (front) Shareen Parker (Tourism Enterprise Programme), Vernon Kirsten (SATSA) and Kate Rivett-Carnac (the **dti**).



## Upcoming Events

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### ONE OF A KIND – 10-11 August 2006

Seventeen Western Cape craft entrepreneurs will attend the show, with five crafters showing their products for the third year under the CCDI banner. Six entrepreneurs will be going for the second, and another six for the first time. Participating entrepreneurs were selected based on the marketability of their product, the maturity of their business and their ability to handle large orders. Next year another group of crafters will be invited to participate.

The **dti** has confirmed that 19 overseas buyers will attend One of a Kind with the aim of securing deals.

### CAPE TOURISM SHOWCASE - 15-17 September 2006

The Cape Tourism Showcase provides a shop window to emerging and established business, leisure and events tourism products from Western Cape, Eastern Cape and Northern Cape. Cape Town Routes Unlimited and the Tourism Business Forum has created this platform for the industry to exhibit their products and services and network with tour operators/ buyers and local and international tourism role players. It will be held at the Cape Town International Convention Centre.

If your craft business is linked to a craft shop or tourism destination, and can receive tourists, you could apply to participate to Xoliswa Phenya on 021 460-3652 | [phenyax@cput.ac.za](mailto:phenyax@cput.ac.za). **Deadline:** 13 August 2006.

### ADDERLEY STREET NIGHT MARKET : 16-30 December 2006

The CCDI is again partnering with Adderley Street Night market to offer stands to crafters. The event runs from 16-30 December 2006 (excluding Christmas day), from 19:00 to 24:00. Bay rental is R50.00/night, payable on or before 31 October 2006. **Contact** Xoliswa Phenya on 021 460-3562 | [phenyax@cput.ac.za](mailto:phenyax@cput.ac.za). Book now to avoid disappointment!

### CAPE HOMEMAKERS EXPO : 1-4 September 2006

Established as one of Cape Town's most successful home lifestyle exhibitions, the show covers more than 12 000 m<sup>2</sup> and brims with everything for, in and around the home. The Homemakers Expo is held annually at the Cape Town International Convention Centre. **Features for this year include:**

#### Telkom Touch Tomorrow in Design

View the designs of the finalists in this world-class Chair Design Competition. With entries from all over South Africa, the exceptional high standard illustrates the depth in design capability that exists in our country. The winner will be flown to London in September to attend the 100% Design Exhibition at Earls Court.

#### Lights by Linea Lighting Design Competition

Open only to students at Tertiary Institutions in the Western Cape, this design competition is in its second

year and we are proud to say that the students have made it their own. Their commitment and dedication have driven the standard of design even higher. Most important is that more might end up on a production line, compared to last year.

For information on how to obtain your own stand, please contact 021 465-2200 or email [expo@homemakersfaircape.co.za](mailto:expo@homemakersfaircape.co.za)

## Beads, Beads, Beads and more Beads

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### CRYSTAL AND SILVER BEADS

**FACETS Ladies Lifestyle Centre** presents regular talks on the different products and methods in the art of beading. They recently offered a fascinating talk on the use of crystal and silver beads, discussing the distinctive characteristics of different crystals and silver available on the market today. Unfortunately the notice reached us too late to include in the newsletter, but contact them for further informative talks. Speak to Cara Faye, Creative Centre Head of Facets on (021) 528-8000 fax: (021) 528-8027 | 084-500-4425 | [reative@facets.co.za](mailto:reative@facets.co.za) | [www.facets.co.za](http://www.facets.co.za)

### FRESHWATER PEARLS

We are importing a range of quality graded freshwater pearls for beading purposes from a freshwater pearl farm in China. (A Grade through to AAA+ which is available with certification for jewelers). The pearls (potato/ nugget or rounded) are supplied on a temporary strand. Depending upon the size of the pearl you order, there could be approximately 40 fresh water pearls on a single strand. Different sizes for different applications ie accessories, wedding dresses, cushions, necklaces, etc. If you don't know where to start, send us an email, and we'll enlighten you to the world of beading with freshwater pearls.

**Contact:** Tanya Horsford on 082 4433 697 or [tanya@functionhouse.co.za](mailto:tanya@functionhouse.co.za) or log on to [www.functionhouse.co.za](http://www.functionhouse.co.za)



### RECYCLED GLASS BEADS

The many commercial game lodges in the Sabi Sand Game Reserve generate great quantities of glass bottles. With support from Tiger's Eye, the IDC, Mintek's Small Scale Mining Division, and the Hlulani Farm Trust, Khumbulani Craft have trained a group of women from Lillydale village, bordering the Sabi Sand Game Reserve, to produce a range of recycled glass beads. Individual beads can also be purchased, and ranges can be developed exclusively for our clients. Contact Khumbulani Craft, P.O. Box 67239, Bryanston, South Africa, 2021 | 011 883-7407 | Fax: 011 783-8395.

### BLOMBOS CAVE YIELDS 'EARLIEST JEWELLERY' – THE ROOTS OF OUR CREATIVITY

by Jonathan Amos, BBC News Online science staff

#### The oldest pieces of jewellery made by modern humans have emerged in Africa.

Shell beads found in Blombos Cave on the southern tip of the continent are 75,000 years old, scientists say. The pea-sized items all have similar holes, which would have allowed them to be strung together into a necklace or bracelet. It was at Blombos in 2002 that some of the same scientists announced the discovery of chunks of inscribed ochre and shaped bone tools. These objects dramatically pushed back the date for the first, clear instance in the history of humans for the use of symbolism - the behaviour that would appear to set our animal species apart from all others.

Christopher Henshilwood and his team have told Science magazine the find is probably one of the first examples of abstract thought seen in our ancestors. "The beads carry a symbolic message. Symbolism is the basis for all that comes afterwards including cave art, personal ornaments and other sophisticated behaviours," Professor Henshilwood, of the University of Bergen, Norway, told BBC News Online.

#### String pattern

Until now, the oldest beads in Africa date to about 45,000 years ago. The 41 Blombos shells were found in clusters of up to 17. They come from a tiny mollusc scavenger, *Nassarius kraussianus*, which lives in estuaries. The shells appear to have been selected for size and deliberately perforated - the shape and position of the holes are the same on all them.

The leather or the twine that was used has left a very distinctive wear pattern on the shells," Professor Henshilwood said. Traces of red ochre on the shells also indicate that either the beads themselves or the surfaces against which they were worn were coated with the iron oxide pigment.

#### Group status

Scientists tracing the origin of our sophistication would like to know not just the time when our use of symbolism first emerged but also how rapidly this ability to conceptualise developed. Many researchers believe the use of decorative objects such as jewellery grew out of the need to identify individuals - to determine which social group a person belonged to, or their status within that group. Professor Clive Gamble, from the UK's Centre of the Archaeology of Human Origins, told BBC News Online: "It's all about identity - about changing the way you look. "I'm sure clothing also came along in a big way at the same time. And then there's all that ochre. These people were interested in changing their colour."

## Positions

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### **SUPERVISOR FOR SHOWROOM IN WOODSTOCK**

We are urgently looking for a person to fill a half day position (Mondays-Fridays, 9.30-14.30).

The candidate should have the following skills/experience: Computer literate i.e. email, Word and Excel; Processing of orders and dispatch; Customer and supplier liaison ability (a good communicator); Highly organised and able to multi-task; Perfect English - other languages a plus; Resourceful and able to work independently. Own transport is needed.

Please send CV to [info@africanhome.co.za](mailto:info@africanhome.co.za). For more information, call Claudette Davis on 083-650-1985.

### **BUSINESS PARTNER SOUGHT**

African Home, a small craft company, is expanding and looking for an extra partner to take it to great

heights. Must have the following: marketing ability, experience in sales or running own business, computer literacy, such as email, Excel, Word, and plenty of creative ideas.

If you are interested contact Claudette at [Claudette@africanhome.co.za](mailto:Claudette@africanhome.co.za), or 083-650-1985.

### **PURCHASING AND PRODUCTION MANAGER**

Umtha, a fair-trade business handcrafting beaded jewellery since 1992, is seeking an experienced Purchasing and Production Manager – see [attached](#) job description.

If you are interested, contact Dave on +27 (0)21 447-8113 | Fax: +27 (0)21 448-6652 | 083-703-7977 | [dave@umtha.co.za](mailto:dave@umtha.co.za)

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### **OFF-CUTS**

**Mano Carlo** is offering material off-cuts from cushion covers to anyone who can use them. Contact him on 021 418-6787.

### **WHALE FESTIVAL CRAFT COMPETITION**

The organizers of the Whale Festival in Hermanus are running a competition for crafters. For more information see [attached](#) notice, and contact Julie Woodvine on (028) 313 0928 | [julie@hackypro.co.za](mailto:julie@hackypro.co.za).

### **CAN YOU ASSIST?**

**Lulu Tshoeute** from Umzi Kantu is creating work for unemployed women in Khayelitsha. Her textile craft business has need of the following...

5 industrial sewing machines (even 1 will help)

1 industrial overlocker

A computer, printer, and fax machine

If you are able to assist in any way, please call her on 084-776-8561.

### **YOUTH TOURISM AWARDS**

Please see [attached](#) notice and invitation to nominate a young dynamic person, who is showing a clear contribution to the tourism industry, which includes the Craft Sector, in this province.



### **BLACKSMITH FORGE**

The students from the recent workshop, run by the Blacksmith Forge, have completed their first assignments. The workshop is the only non-profit blacksmith-training organisation in South Africa and provides training and skills development opportunities for unemployed men and women. The focus falls primarily on blacksmithing as a decorative, functional craft.

Contact Dammon Rice for more information on 082-717-0993 | [dammonr@iafrica.com](mailto:dammonr@iafrica.com).