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Welcome to another year. Don't you just love that clean page ahead of you? I fill in the spaces with teaching and shows and travel and then relish the opportunity of all that creative time between. Sometimes it happens and sometimes it doesn't but having the possibilities stretched out before you is a lovely feeling.

Peter and I have been doing lots of dyeing (ok mainly Peter) over the last month with lots of new combinations of colours and some absolutely stunning multicoloured pieces. I have set up pages on the website for the [Crystal Cottons](#) and the new [colourways](#) are here. The Crystal cottons are all unique so when they are sold they are taken off or marked as sold so if you see something you like - grab it as you will never see another. They are all one metre pieces with lots of variations within so really useful pieces.

I have also been working on a new range of products which I know you will like (if feedback from the few who have seen it is anything to go by) but will leave that for a little longer. I know I am a tease.

I have also broadened my surface design range to include a wonderful range of [stencils](#). These two are the Cathedral and Traditional Japanese Sets. They are available individually or in sets and there are other sets available too. They have been really popular already and I am sure you will love them for your design work.

Speaking of surface design items - as I teach my [Textured Treasures workshops](#) I keep adding bits and pieces to our range so if you haven't checked out our [range](#) of tools, stamp carving materials, prepared for dyeing cotton and sateen and metallic foils now would be a great time to have a look.

The fabulous range of [Felt Products](#) we brought in at the end of the year have been really popular too. I think many people received great kits as Christmas presents and many homes were decorated with easy to make garlands. Now is the time to make something for yourself so check out the range. The felt chunks (recycled woolen fabrics cut into perfect applique shapes) are really lovely.

Do you have a wonderful holiday planned this year yet? I have the perfect one for you. I am returning to **Orvieto** in Italy for another week of [Textured Treasures - a Taste of Italy](#). It is 23-29 September and we will be using our perfect Italian surroundings to create fabrics and textures with fabric painting, printing, stamping, foiling, rubbing, beading and anything else I think of. The colours and textures of Orvieto are amazing and incorporating them into textile work with the aid of market food and wine and coffee and cakes is pure heaven. I know a few of you have expressed interest during my travels and classes recently so now would be a great time to make the decision. [Contact Bill and Kristi at Adventures in Italy](#) for more information. Orvieto is only a few hours by train from Rome and Florence and Venice so a perfect starting point for your adventure.

I am also thrilled to announce that I will be teaching at the European Patchwork Meeting in Alsace 14-16th September so would love to meet some of my European friends there. I will be travelling and teaching throughout England and Scotland and Wales before that as well and do have some limited time left available in the UK and Europe for workshops so if you are interested please [contact me](#) ASAP.

I have decided to have a really big special this month. My bead collection is far too large and there is really no way I could ever use them all so this month I am offering my [bead mixes](#) at amazing prices. They are usually \$20 each but for January only you can get 2 for \$30 or 3 for \$50 and a free 40yd Silamide Beading Thread thrown in. There are lots of different colourways on the website but I am happy to make up different colourways. Just ask in the comments section of the checkout. I will adjust the prices at my end so just order as usual and I will confirm the price by email.

So I hope I have inspired you to start your new year creatively and look forward to seeing lots of you over the year.
Best wishes
Lisa

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