



November 2020

Merlin Mosaica Newsletter

In this issue:

- No Days Review
- New In Store
- In the pipeline

Christmas is fast approaching

New products in the pipeline

Planning for the New Year

Hi All,

What a stellar month! And we must offer congratulations to our Victorian friends and family - a sterling effort, and you're out of lockdown!

The French have come to town - the wonderful Parisienne - comes in a sheet, or un-even thirds - that's just the way the sheet cuts. And the lovely French Crackle in Blanc.... Ooh la la.

We are becoming known as the glass specialists - and I am very pleased with the range we now stock. I have collected glass for many years, and have toured glass factories on Murano, attended glass blowing workshops, and private sessions in glass-blowing studios. I may not be a technical specialist, but I do love it and sell a lot of it. We aren't, nor will we be, selling glazed ceramic tile. Our glass range covers tile: some available elsewhere, many unique ones, crackle glass, crash glass, millefiori - sliced, melted and square, sea glass - man-made and "natural", sand-cast tribal beads, and blown beads.

The new generation Loyalty / Rewards program is offering up discounts to you.

We also have some wonderful Mega-packs - in lots of colours! Three price ranges: \$25, \$50 and \$100. Select your colour, your budget, and away you go.

Christmas is Coming:

Yes, Christmas is fast approaching! Have you checked out our Christmas substrates in acrylic, and our lovely Christmas Stained Glass shapes? The acrylic shapes make great Christmas ornaments, especially when decorated with our new transparent range of 10mm tiles. Our Stained glass shapes are wonderful for inclusion in Christmas themed artworks.

Also our range of fused glass Christmas trees and pendants - perfect for Secret Santa's, Teacher gifts or stocking stuffers. Our fused glass products are all handmade in Australia.

Also, did you know that you can now set-up multiple Wish-lists (one for each project), AND you can download them? Leave them scattered about for that other person to find - a not too subtle hint!!

"The soul becomes dyed with the colour of its thoughts."

~Marcus Aurelius.





New In Store:

- Italian **Sicis** Tile - SICIS began its journey in 1987 to become a truly unique company in the world. Born from the intuition of its founder, Maurizio Leo Placuzzi, SICIS has revolutionised the industry of mosaic over the years through continuous research in materials and technology. SICIS is a company that has accumulated – through time and constant research – an enormous know-how that allows for an amalgamation of style, technology and materials aimed to realize avant-garde products. It is well known in the market for reinventing the art of mosaic, with the strength to make every product 100% made in Italy. Each tile is 15mm² and 3.5mm thick.
- **Argent Street** - If you haven't seen this one - you should. Particularly if you like silver. These are the most amazing silver tile - 25mm square, suitable for outside use. They gleam like stainless steel - but are all glass!
- **New Shell tiles** - Coffee-toned square MOP tiles, and a new larger-format black-lipped pearl subway tile. Absolutely stunning
- **Grout Pigment** - 12 glorious colours. I am still waiting on some smaller containers for these lovelies. Remember - less than 10% in your grout! I note that some colour shift (interference), metallic and pearlised pigments are creeping into the market. I have received a sample pack of these to conduct some research. As a painter, I am very sceptical about the performance of these in grout, which is a cement-based product. I shall report on my findings soon.
- **Larger Laser-cut substrates** - If you have a particular design in mind, just contact me - and we can talk about it!
- **Water-jet cut glass shapes** - Just in time for the Christmas market. We have available an angel, a Christmas tree and some packs of stars. Wonderful additions for your Christmas mosaics. At the time of writing, only non-fusible shapes are listed, but I can also supply 96 COE fusible shapes for most - please PM me for details.

Please do let me know what you think of the products, and of the business. I would also really appreciate a recommendation on one of the wider-audience sites.... Word of mouth is the BEST advertising of all!

In the Pipeline:

Lots of the stock mentioned as in the pipeline last month has now arrived. We are still busily unpacking and re-packaging. I am desperately trying to get these onto the web-site for you!! I do try to get at least 2 new products up each week, plus packaging re-stocks of our more popular stalwarts!

- More coloured crystals - a variety of colours
- Bugle beads - gold, silver and more
- Seed Beads - many exciting colours
- More natural ores and stones
- Shells and starfish
- Ball chain - Different colours and weights
- More colours are continually being added to our existing ranges
- Stained glass sheets will be up soon.

Plans for the New Year:

We are going from strength to strength. I am planning a new program to research various products and will have full details in the New Year. There is a re-vamp of the web-site in the planning phase as well. Also:

- More glass shapes. I am designing some exclusive shapes for Merlin Mosaica
- Handmade glass gems - multi-coloured, multi-layered lumps of gorgeousness
- Weathered stone, slate and cinca
- Ores and agate slices
- More tribal beads
- I will get all of my cups on-line for you to use

... and lots more

Till next time..

stay safe,

Ali.

