



Creative Fibre Education

Tutor: Kate Mahoney



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Biography

Kate is a feltmaker who has had work accepted in the World of Wearable Arts, The Norsewear Awards, Fibre & Fleece, and the Hokonui Awards.

Kate studied and taught photography at the School of Art, Otago Polytechnic, graduating with a BFA in 2003. She offers professional photography services, and lectures on how to get the most out of our digital cameras.

She also dyes Merino and Polwarth slivers in beautiful colour combinations which she sells under the name Heavenly Wools.

Workshops

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SPINNING				
2	Art Yarn + Get Batty	Intermediate/advanced	12 hours	Local/area
3	Core Blimey	Intermediate/advanced	6 hours	Local/area
4	Fattening Up	Intermediate/advanced	3 hours	Local/area
5	Get Twisted	Beginner	12 hours	Local/area
6	Get Twisted II	Intermediate	12 hours	Local/area
7	The Wonder of Hankies	Intermediate	3 hours	Local/area
FELTING				
8	Beanie on a Balloon	Beginner/intermediate	6 hours	Local/area
9	Beginners' Delight	Beginner/intermediate	6 hours	Local/area
10	Boot Camp	Intermediate/advanced	8 hours	Local/area
11	Hataganza	Advanced	6 hours	Local/area
12	Ir-resist-able: make an open 3D form	Intermediate	6 hours	Local/area
13	Nuno Beginnings	Intermediate	6 hours	Local/area
14	Wool All Around: Spiral Scarf	Intermediate/advanced	6 hours	Local/area



Creative Fibre Workshop

Workshop: Art Yarn + Get Batty

Tutor: Kate Mahoney



Description

Produce your own unique batts using a drum carder. Learn to spin beautiful art yarns for knitting and weaving, and to make unique art batts to create them. The types of yarns offered can be tailored to the workshop but examples are:

Core yarns ♦ Supercoils ♦ Embedded objects, eg beads, shells etc. ♦ Pigtailed Lockspinning (a type of core spinning) ♦ Bundles and thread wraps ♦ Beehives

This workshop can be split into two separate ones, each of one day.

Available for:	Area/local
Level	Intermediate/advanced
Minimum No. of Participants	5
Maximum No. of Participants	10
Duration	12 hours (6/6 over two days)
Learning Outcomes	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. An understanding of how fibre type and preparation affects the final yarn.2. An understanding of the nature and uses of art yarns.3. The technical skill to experiment with different fibres and spinning methods to produce exciting, novel yarns from various tops, sliver, batts, and fibre clouds.4. How to use your drum carder to produce one-of-a kind batts, blends and gradients. <p>At the conclusion of the workshop, the participants would expect to take away a variety of art yarn samples using different fibre types and preparations.</p>
Materials Required by Participants	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• A spinning wheel in working order (must be ready to use at the outset of the class) with a large orifice.• A lazy kate or substitute.• A niddy-noddy (skein maker) is a useful addition.• One or more bobbins each of fine commercial yarn suitable for thread plying or as a core. The latter should have some 'tooth', eg fine mohair or wool commercial yarn.• Your own prepared fibre (a selection of different fibres and types of prep will be useful) or fibre can be provided by the tutor. Fibre should include at least some exotic fibres such as mohair, silk and glitz. Short fibres for creating noils in batts are useful.• Your drum carder if you have one.
Materials Provided by Tutor	A selection of suitable fibres can be supplied if wanted . Full notes will be provided.
Materials Fee	To be advised.
Advance Preparation	Students must be able to produce a consistent basic yarn with control.
Classroom Facilities	Whiteboard or blackboard; chairs suitable for spinning; a display table for samples and books; 2-3 trestle tables for carders.



Creative Fibre Workshop

Workshop: Core Blimey

Tutor: Kate Mahoney



Description

Learn to spin beautiful core yarns for knitting and weaving. Included as part of the Art Yarn stable of yarns, but eminently useable, core yarns show off your beautiful fibres by displaying them on the surface of the yarn. A unique technique for creating those special yarns.

Available for:	Area/local
Level	Intermediate/advanced
Minimum No. of Participants	5
Maximum No. of Participants	10
Duration	6 hours
Learning Outcomes	Learn to spin beautiful core yarns for knitting and weaving. Included as part of the Art Yarn stable of yarns, but eminently useable, core yarns show off your beautiful fibres by displaying them on the surface of the yarn. A unique technique for creating those special yarns.

At the conclusion of the workshop, the participants would expect to take away a variety of hand spun core yarns.

Materials Required by Participants

- A spinning wheel in working order (must be ready to use at the outset of the class).
- A Lazy Kate or substitute.
- A niddy-noddy (skein-maker) is a useful addition.
- One or more bobbins each of fine commercial yarn suitable for thread plying or as a core. The latter should have some 'tooth', eg fine mohair or woollen commercial yarn.
- Your own prepared fibre (a selection of different fibres and types of prep will be useful) or fibre can be provided by the tutor.

Materials Provided by Tutor

A selection of suitable fibres can be supplied if wanted. Full notes will be provided.

Materials Fee

To be advised.

Advance Preparation

Students must be able to produce a consistent basic yarn with control. Being able to spin with either hand is an advantage, but not essential.

Classroom Facilities

Whiteboard or blackboard, chairs suitable for spinning, two-three trestles for carders and a display table for samples and books.



Creative Fibre Workshop

Workshop: Fattening Up

Tutor: Kate Mahoney

Description

Has your yarn got all thin and wispy looking? Do you long for the old days when your yarn was all chunky? A shorter class to help you spin thicker yarns.



Available for:	Area/local
Level	Intermediate/advanced
Minimum No. of Participants	5
Maximum No. of Participants	10
Duration	3 hours
Learning Outcomes	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• An understanding of how fibre type and preparation can help you to produce thicker yarn• An understanding of how to set your wheel for thicker yarns• The ability to produce chunky singles and thicker two-ply yarns At the conclusion of the workshop, the participants would expect to take away a spun samples of thick singles/yarn..
Materials Required by Participants	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• A spinning wheel in working order (must be ready to use at the outset of the class).• A Lazy Kate or substitute.• A niddy-noddy (skein-maker) is a useful addition.
Materials Provided by Tutor	A selection of suitable fibre preparations for thicker yarn. Full notes will be provided.
Materials Fee	To be advised.
Advance Preparation	Students must be able to produce a consistent basic yarn with control.
Classroom Facilities	Whiteboard or blackboard, chairs suitable for spinning, two-three trestles for carders and a display table for samples and books.



Creative Fibre Workshop

Workshop: Get Twisted

Tutor: Kate Mahoney



Description

How to use your wheel to get the optimum from your fibre. Explore ideas of twist per inch, z-twist, s-twist, end use of yarn and other mysteries such as Navajo plying. Suitable for a two-day event or camp, or can be modified to a one-day shorter workshop.

Available for:

Area/local

Level

Beginner

Minimum No. of Participants

5

Maximum No. of Participants

10

Duration

6–12 hours

Learning Outcomes

- An understanding of how fibre type and preparation affects the final yarn.
- An understanding of short forward and short backward draw and their applications and uses.
- 3An understanding of wheel ratios and how they relate to the singles.
- Be able to do basic plying and understand chain plying.
- Have the knowledge to experiment with different fibres and spinning methods.

At the conclusion of the workshop, the participants would expect to take away two different singles and the information provided to plan and execute basic yarns using the techniques taught in the class..

Materials Required by Participants

- A spinning wheel in working order (must be ready to use at the outset of the class).
- A Lazy Kate or substitute.
- A niddy-noddy (skein-maker) is a useful addition.

Materials Provided by Tutor

A selection of suitable fibres. Full notes will be provided.

Materials Fee

To be advised.

Advance Preparation

None.

Classroom Facilities

Whiteboard or blackboard, chairs suitable for spinning, two-three trestles for carders and a display table for samples and books.



Creative Fibre Workshop

Workshop: Get Twisted II

Tutor: Kate Mahoney

Description

Matching your technique to your fibre. Suitable for a two-day event or camp, or can be modified to a one-day shorter workshop. Expect to produce samples from wool of different types, carded and uncarded, as well as exotic fibres. Organisers may specify which fibres they prefer.



Available for:	Area/local
Level	Intermediate
Minimum No. of Participants	5
Maximum No. of Participants	10
Duration	6–12 hours
Learning Outcomes	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• An understanding of how fibre type and preparation affects the final yarn.• An understanding of several techniques, their applications and uses.• An understanding of wheel ratios and how they relate to the singles.• The knowledge to experiment with different fibres and spinning methods to produce more complex yarns. <p>At the conclusion of the workshop, the participants would expect to take away a variety of small spun samples and the information provided to plan and execute a variety of yarns using the techniques taught in the class.</p>
Materials Required by Participants	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• A spinning wheel in working order (must be ready to use at the outset of the class).• A Lazy Kate or substitute.• A niddy-noddy (skein-maker) is a useful addition.
Materials Provided by Tutor	A selection of suitable fibres. Full notes will be provided.
Materials Fee	To be advised.
Advance Preparation	None.
Classroom Facilities	Whiteboard or blackboard, chairs suitable for spinning, two-three trestles for carders and a display table for samples and books.



Creative Fibre Workshop

Workshop: The Wonder of Hankies

Tutor: Kate Mahoney

Description

Learn at least two different ways of spinning silk hankies (mawata) to use as singles or in exciting textured yarns. A shorter class to show the beauty and ease possible with spinning this simple and portable luxury material.



Available for:

Area/local

Level

Intermediate

Minimum No. of Participants

5

Maximum No. of Participants

12

Duration

3

Learning Outcomes

- An understanding of how to spin silk hankies without undue stress or injury.
- An understanding of how to set your wheel to spin hankies.
- The ability to produce a fine, textured single to use on its own or as an element in a plied yarn.

At the conclusion of the workshop, the participants would expect to take away spun samples of singles and enough fibre to continue practising and produce a useable amount of singles.

Materials Required by Participants

A spinning wheel in working order (must be ready to use at the outset of the class).

Materials Provided by Tutor

Hand-dyed silk hankies (mawata). Full notes will be provided.

Materials Fee

Advance Preparation

Students must be able to produce a consistent basic yarn with control. Participants will benefit from preparing hands with exfoliant to remove dead skin. **Do not moisturise on the workshop day.**

Classroom Facilities

Whiteboard or blackboard, chairs suitable for spinning and a display table for samples and books



Creative Fibre Workshop

Workshop: Beanie on a Balloon

Tutor: Kate Mahoney

Description

Learn to make a basic wet felted beanie or earflap style hat over a balloon.



Available for:

Level

Minimum No. of Participants

Maximum No. of Participants

Duration

Learning Outcomes

Area/local

Beginner/intermediate

5

10

6 hours

1. Be able to construct a 3D wet felted hat form over an object.
2. Have knowledge of various ways to shape and finish the hat.

At the conclusion of the workshop, the participants should expect at the very least to have a completed hat form and have the knowledge to finish it in a variety of ways.

Materials Required by Participants

- Scraps of silk fibres, mohair locks, suri locks, wool or mohair rich yarns (including fine hand spun) for surface decoration. (You will get access to my bag o' scraps).
- I will provide soap flakes, but if you are sensitive to soap, please bring your favourite detergent. A soap bar for felting will be helpful.
- 1 litre plastic jug for mixing soap solution and a tablespoon.
- Two pairs of pantyhose (opaque tights style works best) – able to be reused.
- A small, heavy based bowl, 15–20cm across at the top edge.
- 1 litre milk bottle with a multi-pierced cap – just make sure the lid will stay on! (pierce from inside).
- Old towels and a bucket or small tub to put wet things in.
- A felting board or rattan (not bamboo) blind (cord and fittings removed) for fulling.

Optional

- Squirter (brayer) for solution.
- Felting board or similar (recommended).
- Hat block (some will be available).

Materials Provided by Tutor

Felting wool, balloons and some sample fibres/yarns for embellishment/trim. Full notes will be provided.

Materials Fee

To be advised.

Advance Preparation

None.

Classroom Facilities

Hot and cold water, a sink, one trestle table per student, access to a top loading washing machine with spin cycle is desirable.



Creative Fibre Workshop

Workshop: Beginners' Delight

Tutor: Kate Mahoney



Description

Learn about the properties of wool felt and nuno-felt; the best fibre to use; techniques, ways and means. Make a simple felt scarf. This is a starter workshop that should prepare new feltmakers for any of the intermediate workshops I offer.

Available for:	Area/local
Level	Beginner/intermediate
Minimum No. of Participants	5
Maximum No. of Participants	10
Duration	6 hours
Learning Outcomes	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Basic knowledge of felting theory.2. Grounding in basic wet felting technique.

At the conclusion of the workshop, the participants would expect to take away a sample small scarf in wool with basic embellishment.

Materials Required by Participants	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Scraps of silk fibres, mohair locks, suri locks, wool or mohair rich yarns (including hand spun) for surface decoration. You will get access to my bag'o'scraps.• I will provide soap flakes, but if you are sensitive to soap, please bring your favourite detergent.• 1 litre plastic jug for mixing soap solution and a tablespoon.• Piece of light tulle or mosquito netting about 1x2m (some curtain nettings works, but please pre-test if you're using a different netting to see if it will become fatally embedded in your work).• 1 litre milk bottle with a multi-pierced cap – just make sure the lid will stay on! (pierce from inside).• A longish sewing needle and thread for tacking.• Old towels and a bucket or tub to put wet things in. <p>Optional</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Squirter for solution.• Felting board or similar.
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Materials Provided by Tutor	Felting wool, tulle tool, some sample fibres for embellishment. Full notes will be provided.
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Materials Fee	To be advised.
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Advance Preparation	None.
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Classroom Facilities	Hot and cold water, a sink, one trestle table per student, a sink, access to a top loading washing machine with spin cycle is desirable.
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Creative Fibre Workshop

Workshop: Boot Camp

Tutor: Kate Mahoney

Description

A pair of 3-D slipper boots from a flat template - learn how to make an ankle-height (or higher) indoor boots on a template. Suitable for a camp setting or two-day event.



Available for:	Area/local
Level	Intermediate/advanced
Minimum No. of Participants	5
Maximum No. of Participants	10
Duration	8 hours
Learning Outcomes	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Be able to construct a 3-D wet felted ankle to full calf height slipper over a flat template.• Have knowledge of various ways to shape and finish the slippers.

At the conclusion of the workshop, the participants would expect to take away a pair of felted slippers and the knowledge to finish the pair in a variety of ways.

Materials Required by Participants	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Scraps of silk fibres, mohair locks, suri locks, wool or mohair rich yarns (including hand spun) for surface decoration. You will get access to my bag'o'scraps.• I will provide soap flakes, but if you are sensitive to soap, please bring your favourite detergent.• 1 litre plastic jug for mixing soap solution, and a tablespoon.• Piece of light tulle or mosquito netting about 1x2m (some curtain nettings works, but please pre-test if you're using a different netting to see if it will become fatally embedded in your work).• 1 litre milk bottle with a multi-pierced cap – just make sure the lid will stay on! (pierce from inside).• A longish sewing needle and thread for tacking.• Old towels and a bucket or tub to put wet things in.
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Optional

- Squirter for solution.
- Felting board or similar.
- Slipper last or very clean pair of light gumboots (slipper requires more finishing).

Materials Provided by Tutor	Felting wool, template material and some sample fibres/yarns for embellishment. Full notes will be provided.
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Materials Fee	To be advised.
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Advance Preparation	None.
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Classroom Facilities	Hot and cold water, a sink, one trestle table per student, a sink, access to a top loading washing machine with spin cycle is desirable.
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Creative Fibre Workshop

Workshop: Hataganza

Tutor: Kate Mahoney

Description

Using the template process, make a shaped hat that incorporates imaginative pzazz! Folds, pleats, protuberances – let's get together and make some zany, fun hats – or elegant, chic hats with flair. For experienced feltmakers who are afraid of nothing! 1 day, or could be extended into a fun weekend!



Available for:	Area/local
Level	Advanced
Minimum No. of Participants	5
Maximum No. of Participants	10
Duration	6 hours
Learning Outcomes	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Be able to construct a complex 3-D wet felted hat form over a flat template.• Have knowledge of ways to shape and finish the hat.

At the conclusion of the workshop, the participants should expect at the very least to have a completed hat form (hood) and the knowledge to finish it in a variety of ways.

Materials Required by Participants	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Scraps of silk fibres, mohair locks, suri locks, wool or mohair rich yarns (including fine handspun) for surface decoration. You will get access to my bag'o'scraps.• I will provide soap flakes, but if you are sensitive to soap, please bring your favourite detergent. A soap bar for felting will be helpful.• 1 litre plastic jug for mixing soap solution, and a tablespoon.• Piece of light tulle or mosquito netting about 1x2m (some curtain nettings work, but please pre-test if you're using a different netting to see if it will become fatally embedded in your work).• 1 litre milk bottle with a multi-pierced cap – just make sure the lid will stay on (pierce from inside).• Old towels and a bucket or small tub to put wet things in.• A felting board or rattan (not bamboo) blind (cord and fittings removed) for fulling.
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Optional

- Squirter for solution.
- Hat block (some will be available).
- Bubble wrap if you prefer it.

Materials Provided by Tutor	Felting wool, template material and some sample fibres/yarns for embellishment/trim. Full notes will be provided.
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Materials Fee	To be advised.
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Advance Preparation	None.
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Classroom Facilities	Hot and cold water, a sink, one trestle table per student, a sink, access to a top loading washing machine with spin cycle is desirable.
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Creative Fibre Workshop

Workshop: Ir-resist-able: make an open 3D form

Tutor: Kate Mahoney



Description

A fun workshop exploring the use of resists to create small bags, pockets, vessels or other 3D objects incorporating surface design. Beginner: make a bag, basic hat with a brim or earflap hat. Intermediate: Make a pair of mittens or basic slippers.

Available for: Area/local

Level Intermediate

Minimum No. of Participants 5

Maximum No. of Participants 10

Duration 6 hours

Learning Outcomes

- A grasp of basic felting theory and technique if not previously experienced.
- Skills in designing and making a basic template
- A sample/small finished piece

At the conclusion of the workshop, the participants should expect to take away: a small bag or hat in wool with basic surface embellishment, or an open decorative vessel.

Intermediate only: a bag with a pocket, or a pair of mittens, or soft indoor slippers.

Organisers to nominate workshop subject and level.

Materials Required by Participants

- Scraps of silk fibres, mohair locks, suri locks, wool or mohair rich yarns (including fine handspun) for surface decoration. You will get access to my bag o' scraps.
- I will provide soap flakes, but if you are sensitive to soap, please bring your favourite detergent. A soap bar for felting will be helpful.
- 1 litre plastic jug for mixing soap solution, and a tablespoon.
- Piece of light tulle or mosquito netting about 1x2m (some curtain nettings work, but please pre-test if you're using a different netting to see if it will become fatally embedded in your work).
- 1 litre milk bottle with a multi-pierced cap – just make sure the lid will stay on (pierce from inside).
- Old towels and a bucket or small tub to put wet things in.
- A felting board or rattan (not bamboo) blind (cord and fittings removed) for fulling.

Optional

- Squirter for solution.
- Hat block (some will be available).

Materials Provided by Tutor Felting wool, some sample fibres for embellishment; notes; plastic foam for templates.

Materials Fee To be advised.

Advance Preparation None.

Classroom Facilities Hot and cold water; a sink; access to top loading washing machine if possible. Trestle tables or similar - one for each student. A felting board if available.



Creative Fibre Workshop

Workshop: Nuno Beginnings

Tutor: Kate Mahoney



Description

Combine fabric and fine wool to create a sensuous, beautiful textile scarf or small wrap.

Available for:

Area/local

Level

Intermediate

Minimum No. of Participants

6

Maximum No. of Participants

10

Duration

6 hours

Learning Outcomes

- Basic knowledge of nuno-felting theory and technique.
- Suitable design placement for nuno-felt.
- Knowledge of how to alter nuno-felt shape through design and fibre placement.

At the conclusion of the workshop, the participants would expect to take away a finished nuno-felt scarf or wrap ready for blocking and drying.

Materials Required by Participants

- Scraps of silk fibres, mohair locks, suri locks, wool or mohair rich yarns (including hand spun) for surface decoration. You will get access to my bag'o'scraps.
- I will provide soap flakes, but if you are sensitive to soap, please bring your favourite detergent.
- 1 litre plastic jug for mixing soap solution, and a tablespoon.
- Piece of light tulle or mosquito netting about 1x2m (some curtain nettings works, but please pre-test if you're using a different netting to see if it will become fatally embedded in your work).
- 1 litre milk bottle with a multi-pierced cap – just make sure the lid will stay on! (pierce from inside).
- A longish sewing needle and thread for tacking.
- Old towels and a bucket or tub to put wet things in.

Optional

- Squirter for solution.
- Felting board or similar.

Materials Provided by Tutor

Silk fabric for scarf base (or participants can choose to bring their own for a reduced fee); felting wool, some sample fibres/yarns for embellishment. Full notes will be provided.

Materials Fee

To be advised.

Advance Preparation

None.

Classroom Facilities

Hot and cold water, a sink, one trestle table per student, a sink, access to a top loading washing machine with spin cycle is desirable.



Creative Fibre Workshop

Workshop: Wool All Around: Spiral Scarf

Tutor: Kate Mahoney



Description

Make a signature spiral shaped scarf from fine wool

Available for:	Area/local
Level	Intermediate/advanced
Minimum No. of Participants	5
Maximum No. of Participants	10
Duration	6
Learning Outcomes	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Understanding of fine felt techniques.• Knowledge of how to shape flat felt objects through fibre placement. <p>At the conclusion of the workshop, the participants would expect to take away a finished felt scarf ready for blocking and drying.</p>
Materials Required by Participants	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Scraps of silk fibres, mohair locks, suri locks, wool or mohair rich yarns (including fine hand spun) for surface decoration. You will get access to my bag o' scraps.• I will provide soap flakes, but if you are sensitive to soap, please bring your favourite detergent.• 1 litre plastic jug for mixing soap solution, and a tablespoon.• Piece of light tulle or mosquito netting about 1x2m (some curtain nettings work, but please pre-test if you're using a different netting to see if it will become fatally embedded in your work).• 1 litre milk bottle with a multi-pierced cap – just make sure the lid will stay on (pierce from inside).• A longish sewing needle, and thread for tacking.• Old towels and a bucket or tub to put wet things in.• A felting board or rattan (not bamboo) blind (cord and fittings removed) for fulling. <p>Optional</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Squirter for solution.• Felting board or similar.
Materials Provided by Tutor	Felting wool, some sample fibres/yarns for embellishment. Full notes will be provided.
Materials Fee	To be advised.
Advance Preparation	None.
Classroom Facilities	Hot and cold water, a sink, one trestle table per student, access to a top loading washing machine with spin cycle is desirable.