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# Autumn Willow Newsletter 2023

Hello Willower's, you are receiving this newsletter either because you have attended a workshop with me or signed up for updates, if you have done none of those things then please disregard this newsletter or take a peek anyway !

Autumn is well and truly here and I love this season cosying up in the evening, woolly jumpers, leaves changing colour and longer evenings to be creative without feeling guilty about not being outside! With that in mind, here's a round up of the exciting things I've been working on at HQ and a few things that may be of interest to you.

## Workshop Updates.

It still amazes me how popular willow has become as a craft to learn but I suppose the ease of access to materials, minimal tools required and the popularity of sustainable materials is keeping it in the limelight. Workshop demand has increased and I've been so lucky to go out to other parts of the country this year and meet so many lovely people. I am incredibly grateful for all the opportunities and have started to stretch a little out of my comfort zone and say yes to things I wouldn't have a few years back.

The first new opportunity is a weekend craft retreat that I am running with three other artists in January next year, a fabulous self indulgent weekend where you can get together with us and other likeminded people to learn 4 different crafts whilst being fully catered for so you can really relax. The retreat is being held at The Warwick Arms Hotel in Warwick, starts with dinner with the tutors and an introduction to the crafts for the weekend which include Lino printing, Willow, Ceramics and Bookbinding, all food and accommodation. You can find out more and book with the following link, tickets are limited to 24 so you can get to know each other and the tutors.

## Craft Retreat at the Warwick Arms Hotel

Join us for a wonderful weekend in the heart of historic Warwick exploring four fabulous crafts under expert guidance of talented local artists!

For more information, booking and a full timetable of events please click the link below.

Learn More

Going further afield, Ros and I shall be teaching our joint Hare workshop in East Devon in early spring in a choice of two different materials, Willow or Ceramics. These are open to anyone to book so if your down that way or fancy a sneaky trip away then it would be lovely to see you ! It will be held and the village hall in Branscombe and the booking links are below for more details.

# Mad Hare Day! Branscombe

Join Ros and I on one of our creative Mad Hare Days where we will be running two workshops simultaneously based on the same subject – Hares, but in two different mediums – Willow and Ceramics. Working in the village hall in beautiful Branscombe, there is plenty of parking and sight seeing to do if you fancy extending your stay.

Learn More

# *New Kit Arrivals*

I have some new kits available in my range, these are smaller makes and suitable for any level of experience, they make excellent gifts for gardeners, crafters and anyone that loves natural decorations for the home. You can check them out on the website with the following link.

## Willow Swallow Kit

As the swallows fly away for winter you can make your very own with one of our willow kits !
This is a great introduction to weaving techniques and suitable for beginners. Your kit will make 4 or 5 swallows and

also includes a shape former and soaking bag to keep on using.

Learn More

## Willow Swedish Star Kit

Willow Swedish stars – Using beautiful willow from Somerset you will be able to create up to 5 stars depending on the style you choose. Measuring approx 50cm x 50cm but can be made smaller to suit.

Learn More

# YouTube

If you are a fan of watching videos, I have a small selection on techniques and mini makes available on my channel. I have just finished filming some new ones that will be added shortly, so if you want to know when they are out give me a follow on there!

YouTube Videos

## Dates For Your Diary...

Here is an event that I will be at if your free to pop by :

### The Creative Craft Show
### Birmingham NEC

2nd - 5th November

A great event for all crafters with mini workshops, make and takes and plenty of shopping to fill up on bits and bobs for your hobbies. I will also be running 2 hr workshops each day to make Willow Christmas Trees and Swedish Stars. Bookings and more details are available by

clicking on the banner link below….

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**I think that's enough for now 😂, have a lovely Autumn and I hope to see you soon. Rachel xxx**

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