

# Catwalk spy



Capture the 1920s in your knits to stay ahead of the trends

Image: catwalking.com

There was one trend you really couldn't miss on the spring/summer 2012 catwalks – yes, 1920s cool is back with a bang! Think romantic fringing and beading, pretty boleros, drop-waists and, of course, flapper girl dresses and headbands and you'll be fabulously fashionable for spring 2012!

# Diary dates

Start the new year by learning a new skill at one of these workshops, or stock up your knitting stash at a craft show!

## 10 January

### LEARN TO CROCHET

Spend three evenings in January learning the skills you need to crochet on your own. You'll try all the basic stitches while crocheting a square or circle and you'll learn how to follow a pattern and mix colour yarns, plus heaps of other techniques and tips. By the end of the final session you'll have crocheted a beautiful brooch to take home. This three-part course is taught by Rachel Elwell for Ministry of Craft, costs £65 and takes place in Manchester. **Book online at [www.ministryofcraft.co.uk](http://www.ministryofcraft.co.uk) or call 07850 894752 for more info.**



## 15 January

### LEARN TO KNIT ONE

If your new year's resolution is to learn how to knit, then sign up for this one-day course with the friendly staff at Knit Nottingham. You'll learn how to cast on and cast off, knit, purl and sew up, plus you'll get to make some gorgeous fingerless gloves, perfect for knitting in on chilly days! Classes take place at the Knit Nottingham shop in central Nottingham between 10.30am-3pm and cost £20 to attend. **Call 0115 9474239 or visit [www.knitnottingham.co.uk](http://www.knitnottingham.co.uk).**



## Knitting quirky!

# Celebrity sheep

New Zealanders have said a fond farewell to Shrek the Sheep, who died recently of age-related illnesses. Shrek became a national celebrity back in 2004 after he was found living in caves on the South Island, having gone AWOL six years earlier. Shrek became famous for his giant fleece, weighing 27kg (enough to make 20 men's suits), which was eventually shorn on national TV to raise money for charity. The 16-year-old sheep had a busy career, making high-profile charity appearances, and even meeting the Prime Minister!



Shrek became a national treasure in New Zealand



## 21 January

### INTRO TO KNITTING

Don't know your knit from your purl? Well come along to this introductory knitting course at the Toft Alpaca Shop in Dunchurch and get to grips with the basics.

Whether you're a beginner looking to learn from scratch, or an intermediate knitter looking to practice your technique you'll walk away from the day with new-found knowledge. The workshop costs £45, which includes lunch. **To book your place, call 01788 810626 or sign up online at [www.thoftalpacashop.co.uk](http://www.thoftalpacashop.co.uk).**



## 19-21 January

### CREATIVE CRAFTS

Crafters of all ilk should hotfoot it down to Sandown Park in Surrey this January for a feast of creativity! Whether you knit, sew, make cards, crochet, quilt or cross stitch, you can shop for all your crafty supplies, watch demos, meet experts and attend Make & Take workshops among other things. **Tickets cost £7.95 in advance (concessions available). Call the ticket hotline on 01822 617744 or buy online at [www.sccshows.co.uk](http://www.sccshows.co.uk).**

## 21 January

### CALCULATE YOUR OWN PATTERNS

Amy Twigger-Holyroyd introduces you to her pattern design techniques on this two-day workshop at her studio in Hereford. She'll cover the selection of stitches and structures, taking accurate stitch counts and generating shapes for garments, as well as calculating rectangles, angles and curves. You'll walk away feeling confident enough to start your own hand knit or machine knit designs straight away. **To book your place, call 01432 851162 or visit the website [www.keepandshare.co.uk](http://www.keepandshare.co.uk).**