



## **MEDIA RELEASE**

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### **Meet the raw and funky felt artists this weekend**

This weekend, the two inspiring artists behind the Raw 'n' Funky exhibition in the Living Arts Space will be offering felt-making demonstrations. Pam Hovel and Anna Ashton will be at the Bendigo Visitor Centre from 10am to 2pm on Saturday 13 August for this Meet the Artist opportunity.

Raw 'n' Funky - Fine Art Fashions in Felt features a beautiful array of garments and accessories made from pure merino wool with combinations of silk, alpaca and other fibres, will be sure to interest those who are familiar with the process, and will amaze many who thought they had seen it all when it comes to felting.

On Saturday, Pam and Anna will be demonstrating the art of felting. Members of the public are invited to come along and see how these natural fibres turn into fabric and to learn about the process of shaping and dyeing felt to create unique items to wear and use.

“There will also be the chance to talk to the artist about their work,” said Kathryn Mackenzie, Executive Manager Tourism, City of Greater Bendigo.

“It promises to be interesting, fun and opportunity to learn about felting for all ages to enjoy.”

This current exhibition in the Living Arts Space includes one-off garments by Pam, featuring three unique wedding dresses along with an array of unique wraps and scarves, highlighting her subtle leaf designs and beautiful tones created using organic dyes and chemical-free mordants.

These are complemented by beautifully crafted, colourful items including hats, scarves and various other accessories produced by Anna, which have a playful and expressive nature that will appeal to those with a sense of fun.

The felt items displayed are offset with a selection of traditional, hand-crafted furniture by Greg Stirling, contrasting with the soft and sensuous feel of the garments.

Admission to the exhibition and this weekend's Meet the Artist opportunity are both free. The exhibition is on until Monday 24 October 2011.

The Living Arts Space is within the Bendigo Visitor Centre, which is located in the Historic Post Office Building, 51-67 Pall Mall, and is open from 9-5 daily except for Christmas Day.

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**For media enquiries please contact Aileen Walsh on 0407 706769.**