

## Press release 25-August-2011

### [Getting crafty with radical approach to politics](#)

The Manchester Salon is hosting a discussion on the rise of the DIY craft movement – from guerrilla knitters and gardeners to craft mafias, to seed and yarn bombing.

Once seen as the preserve of the WI and little old ladies knitting doilies, crafts have suddenly become a radical statement by the hip middle classes keen to put their own creative stamp on a traditional pastime.

Seen in many ways as a backlash against our increasingly technological and virtual world, the craft movement is seen by many as a democratic-political tool for community activists.

The success of 'homespun' designers such as Cath Kidston displays a longing to return to a more simplistic way of life while still retaining cutting-edge design. Crafting events, groups such as Stitch Bitch, and the ideas of make-do-and-mend all feed into a revival of the DIY movement.

And the trend has not been overlooked by global brands and major retailers. Brands such as Mulberry and Camper have been quick to inject craft values into their product ranges and marketing, facilitated by big budgets and up to the minute consumer intelligence way beyond the reach of individual craft makers and retailers.

With the likes of artist Perry Grayson putting pottery firmly on the cultural agenda, there could not be a better time to get your creative juices flowing!

Date: Monday, 19 September, 2011, at 7.30pm, £5 charge (£3 conc)  
Venue: The Shakespeare Pub, 16 Fountain Street, Manchester, M2 2AA.

For further details on the event and Manchester Salon's activities, contact Simon Belt at [events@manchestersalon.org.uk](mailto:events@manchestersalon.org.uk)