



The Dunoon Community Shed (DCS) is considering running a series of “Know your sewing machine” sessions and is looking to see if there might be any interest.

Do you have a sewing machine but don't necessarily get the best out of it? Or do you just have trouble using it? Many sewing machines are built for servicing at home by design.



The sessions will be suitable for both novices and intermediate users of sewing machines – once we understand the interest content will be tailored to suit those attending such that everyone is involved and learns something new.

The sessions will be run by Glynn Wilson who is known to many sewing machine users in Dunoon, and currently does all the Sewing Machine repairs and service at The DCS and is an ex-Singer employee. He works magic on machines many people have given up with.

Content may include the following.

How to look after your machine (many are built for servicing at home by design).

How to do a light basic service on your machine (routine lubrication).

Moving onto how to get the most out of your machine

- Needles what size for what fabric? Sizes 70 to 90
- Needle threading and infinite needle position.
- Position of needle: For getting an accurate ¼ inch seam (for quilters) and 5/8-inch seam for general sewing and dressmaking.
- Tension Problems - what causes it and how to check it and fix it -which is wrong top or bottom thread? How to adjust top tension. Should you ever fiddle with the bobbin tension?
- Presser foot - how much pressure in relation to fabric being sewn.
- Understanding stitch width and length for zig zag and straight sewing
- Use of specific feet
 - Piping foot
 - Use of rufflers if you have this foot.
 - Bias binding using the binder foot.
- Bobbin winding.
- Buttonholes
- Feed dogs -raising and lowering of feed dogs for free motion quilting/embroidery. And how to reset for normal sewing.



With some machines costing over £1,000 they need to be cared for to ensure quality finishing and longevity of life.



Whether you have a basic trade or an all singing all dancing machine, Glynn can help you get the best out of your machine.

Don't have a machine at present? Not to worry – The Shed often have a number of machines that have been donated for repair that could be used, so please don't let that put you off.

We envisage running the sessions over a 4-week period, preferably on a Saturday to accommodate those who may work Monday to Friday. Initial timing is flexible depending on those interested, and each practical session would be for 1 hour/ hour and a half with the option of staying on whilst Glynn is at the DCS to practice what you have learned from the session on a test piece, or a small project you may wish to undertake as part of the course.



There will be plenty of opportunity for Questions and Answers / blether. There will be formal Tea and Coffee breaks, but attendees are welcome to avail themselves of the facilities at any time. The toilet facilities at the DCS have recently been refurbished.

The initial course will be run at a discounted cost of £40 which will include membership of the DCS for a 12-month period (and access to all other DCS facilities and activities in that time period) and if required and available use of one of the DCS machines for the sessions.

For further details please contact the Dunoon Community Shed.

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