

# DEAR DIARY



Welcome to our diary feature, where I chat about what I've been up to recently. I made one simple resolution this year, to make more time to do what makes me happy. One of those things is making quilts, which despite being surrounded by them all day at work, I get very little time to create.

So I have been looking at some of the retreats and workshops on offer as I know it's a perfect way for me to learn a new skill, make some new friends and sew like the wind!

I've spent far too much time perusing the retreats on offer at [www.justhands-on.tv](http://www.justhands-on.tv) and trying to decide if I can justify running off to Myanmar (I can hear myself talking to my partner as I'm getting into the taxi for the airport: "I'm sorry, this is work you know, it's not a holiday at all, I don't want to be there...see you in two weeks!" Of course, the idea of a long break to somewhere exotic might be out of reach but France isn't quite as far, and Windsor or Cirencester are perfectly do-able, aren't they?

The Justhands-on.tv Facebook page isn't helping matters, everyone looks like they're having far too much of a great time at these retreats; I have a feeling I'll be booked on to one by the time I'm back next month!



Making friends, sharing knowledge



The retreat in Myanmar looks magical

## *What Katy did for Christmas:*

I intended to make four pillowcases to use as gift bags, a lap quilt for my partner's mum and a baby quilt for my nephew. In the end I gave my partner's mum a quilt I had made earlier in the year, I made the baby quilt (it was very well received) and the children who were getting the pillowcases all asked for money instead of presents so that rendered my gift bag idea useless!



Gorgeous creations from a Justhands-on.tv retreat