

Days for Girls Sewing Day

<http://www.daysforgirls.org/#!australia/c22pk>

On Saturday February 20th, Lesley Jaensch, Gabrielle Scherrer and myself went to the Days for Girls sewing day at Blackwood. We'd heard about this project through SI Eastern Districts of Adelaide, who invited Suzanne Harris and Cheryl Caldwell to speak at their club last year. Suzanne and Cheryl are the local organisers.

Days for Girls is an international project, which provides sustainable sanitary kits for girls in low resource countries. These packs enable girls to attend school for many more days in the school year. Currently, many schools provide no facilities at all, or totally inadequate facilities for girls when they are menstruating. So girls stay home from school, which means they can miss 3 months of schooling in a year.

Such an obvious problem for so many girls and an American woman set her brain to work and found a solution.

Days for Girls has created a simple, hand made material pad which is washable. The pads are put with other essential items in a plastic bag, which is then put inside a colourful draw string bag.

This is a sustainable solution as pads and tampons are not easily disposed of in many countries. Packs are also available for women who have just given birth. Pads for these packs are thicker and larger.



The sewing days are regularly organised and last week's event was like a beehive with sewing machines whirring and other busy women ironing, packing, sorting and folding. It was so enjoyable working with probably 50 other women, supporting this practical project.

There are sewing groups in country towns of South Australia too, as you'll see on their facebook page.

<https://www.facebook.com/DaysForGirlsSouthAustralia>

Suzanne is going to speak with SI Adelaide in March and with SI Southern Districts later in the year.

See also the attachment for the Days for Girls Devonshire tea to be held on April 16th.

