

# Australian Postvention Conference (UNSW)

## 23rd March 2017

## **Creating and Weaving the Continuing Bond**

#### **Diana Sands PhD and Mary Burgess**

We have developed a unique and intimate workshop in response to the frequently voiced question about what to do with your loved one's precious possessions? Whether it's scarves, gloves, items of clothing, a watch, a pen, a favored piece of dress jewelry, photos or cards; these everyday items are intimately entwined and layered with poignant and special memories of shared times together. Diana, a grief therapist with many years experience working in suicide bereavement and Mary, who has a lengthy history of working with weaving and the creative arts, have put their heads together to design this gentle, nurturing and safe workshop as a place to explore the process of transforming these precious pieces in ways that create new and deepening meanings. Your loved one's items come out of storage boxes and bottom drawers to take their place in your life in a way that brings you peace and pleasure. We will support you step by step in this process as you choose to create either a collage, or small art piece that celebrates your relationship with your loved one.

#### What you need to bring to the Workshop

You do not require any artistic skill to participate, however you will need to bring a couple of pieces of your loved one's clothing, and a few of their small items, for example keys, beads, lucky charms, glasses, photos, cards, letters, poetry etc. We suggest you allow yourself permission to bring along a range of items and you can decide at the workshop whether, or what, you will use in your process. Please understand that we are going to take the clothing apart in order to create something new and also small items may need to be reconfigured. You will need to reflect on whether you are ready and willing to do this. Picture frames will be available for purchase to frame your work.

Only a limited number of spaces are available for this workshop. Don't miss out if you would like to attend please put your name down promptly.

Please Contact Dr. Diana Sands Phone: 0414 721 653 Email: dianasands@bereavedbysuicide.com.au