

MEET OUR GUEST SPEAKER **LIZL NAUDE**

Designer, self-confessed homebody, plant-lover, gardener and DIY enthusiast, Lizl Naude is a Social Entrepreneur from Cape Town, South Africa. She heads up her design business Lilly Loompa, a company that creates beautiful homeware made by upcycling waste material.

Born and raised in Paarl, Lizl completed school at New Orleans Senior Secondary School in 1996. She didn't receive tertiary education after school, due to lack of funds and started working in the NPO sector and later joining the corporate environment. This however didn't stop her insatiable hunger to learn and she completed several training courses whilst holding her full-time job. One such qualification is her PR training which she completed at Varsity College. She also received her qualification as an Interior Decorator and graduated top of her class when her first-born was just a few months old.

She has been married to Ashley for nearly 18 years and they have two beautiful daughters, Chelsea (13) and Kirsten (10).

Lizl is a self-taught designer and initially started designing and making furniture because she couldn't afford to buy new pieces to furnish her home. As an Innovator, she lives by her motto: "Use what you have", and this philosophy has led her to start a movement of converting junk into beautiful, usable products. Motivated by frequent mistakes and learning, she is a promoter of positive social change through design and innovation. Lizl has traversed rough terrain on her road to success. After a freak accident in 2004, she found herself bed-ridden, and without work for nearly six weeks. She and her family, have been through turbulent financial times, having lost everything four times in the last 12 years. During these times, Lizl found herself hustling to put food on the table. This has had a profound way of teaching her to live with less. She is also adamant that it instilled in her the philosophy of 'use what you have.'

She is an avid writer and her guest blogs on the Lionesses of Africa Women's Network, receive an average read of 20 000 per article. She and her products have been featured in several publications and she makes a regular appearance on Television as she advocates for greener living.

Her company manufactures a variety of products, from storage holders, lamps, to dinner table accessories, among others. All materials are carefully sourced from waste and sustainably reimagined as beautiful, yet purposeful products. Eco-friendly, handcrafted and 100% South African, each Lilly Loompa piece, once trash, is now a meaningful piece of treasure.

Besides being an entrepreneur, she is a Director of The Chosen Foundation, a Non-profit company focussing on restoring families through facilitated training and travelling.

lizl@lillyloompa.com
www.lillyloompa.com

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