

Passionata : Every woman's dream

Set foot in Passionata, a haven for vintage lovers, treasure hunters and magpies, which opened in Birkenhead last year, and you will instantly be enchanted by what you see.

Passionata is a gift shop with a difference and a dream come true for owner and operator Shannon Chester.

At Passionata you will discover an exquisite array of vintage jewellery, handbags and accessories, boudoir treasures, vintage and new gifts, collectibles and art, colonial and classical furniture, vintage soft furnishings and clothing, and much more.

Comments from customers who have visited the shop range from "this shop is every woman's dream" to "what a beautiful store, I'm coming back with a friend."

Shannon has been an avid collector

of vintage all her life - a love she inherited from her mother. After filling her own home with her precious finds, the next logical step was to open her own shop dedicated to showcasing vintage and romantic items in a stylish setting.

Beautiful items on display include hollow-stem champagne glasses, vintage perfume bottles, vintage lace, antique furniture and vintage and collectible bears to name but a few.

This elegant store is beautifully decorated with dusky pink walls, a deep burgundy ceiling and polished wooden floors. Fabulous chandeliers hang from the ceiling, while the atmosphere is relaxed and comfortable, with Shannon encouraging customers to try on anything that takes their fancy.

Customers are also able to hire out vintage jewellery and accessories for



special occasions such as weddings or balls. And if you can't find what you're looking for in store, Shannon will do her best to source it for you. With ball season rapidly approaching Passionata is the best place to source accessories and that special vintage

gown.

However, not everything in this delightful store is vintage. Customers will also find handmade treasures by New Zealand artists; beautifully presented gift ranges from MOR, Linden Leaves, I Colonial!, and Prince Charles Duchy range. Magpie's Nest Jewellery which is designed and handmade by New Zealand artists, fashionable lingerie by French label Passionata and Italian hosiery.

Passionata also stocks jewellery made with Swarovski from Germany and newly released Fire Jewel, an illuminated Swarovski crystal necklace in 7 different colours. There is an interesting selection of beautifully made sterling silver crosses and rings from Thailand.

Shannon invites you and your friends to Passionata's special Mothers Day Soiree on Thursday 10th

May from 6pm to celebrate being a woman, and of course to honour our Mums over a glass of wine and nibbles. Private soirees at Passionata are also available by arrangement great for girls night out and hens nights for brides. Probus groups have visited for morning tea and have had a fun time exploring the treasures at Passionata.

Private Soirees can be booked with Shannon and use a reward plan for the person or group.

Open Monday to Wednesday from 9.30am-5.30pm, late night on Thursday till 8.30pm, Friday till 6pm, Saturday from 9.30am-5pm, and now Sunday 11:00am 4:00pm.

■ **Information: Passionata is located at 215-217 Hinemoa Street, Birkenhead, North Shore. Phone 480-9709.**

Passionata

9th May 2007: The Aucklander
Living Today: Home & Garden advertising feature