

8 > LIVING // GARDENING



Julie Arkell's craftwork
at Les Soeurs Anglaise

WRITING & TEXTILES Based in the Dordogne **Les Soeurs Anglaise** (www.lessoeursanglaises.com) run a variety of workshops including crime writing and poetry with Roger McGough. Accommodation is a restored *maison de maître* that's set in beautiful landscaped garden with a heated saltwater swimming pool. Good food and wine is also an essential part of the course. The textiles courses are particularly popular and this summer Julie Arkell, one of Britain's leading contemporary folk artists, takes the Mixed Textile workshop. Over a week learn how to combine sewing and knitting using vintage fabrics, ribbons and ephemera to make brooches, picture frames and other objects. Another workshop, taken by Priscilla Jones, teaches you how to use a variety of materials including fabric and wire to make lovely artworks. A new course this year teaches book binding. 'We've had all ages, from twenties to retired,' says Katie Armitage from Les Soeurs Anglaise.