



MARLBOROUGH & DISTRICT BRANCH

www.marlbroughembroiderers.org

NEWSLETTER – MARCH 2019

Welcome to all our members and guests

Happy Reading



REMINDERS FOR THIS MONTH

- MAR 4th BRANCH OPEN DAY**
Meeting/Speaker:
Karen Nicol
"24 Hour Stitch"
- MAR 5th Tutor-Led workshop:**
Jane Fairweather
"Teacup Trees"
(Free Machine Embroidery)
- MAR 19th Design to Stitch (3)**
- MAR 25th Stitch Day**

DATES FOR APRIL

- APR 1st PLOUGHMAN'S LUNCH**
Meeting Speaker:
Vernice Church
Part 2 of talk on:
"Textiles, the Taj Mahal
and Tuk-Tuks"
- APR 9th Young Embroiderers**
- APR 16th Design to Stitch (6)**
- APR 29th Stitch Day**

MARCH SPEAKER: KAREN NICOL



Karen Nicol is an embroidery and mixed-media textile artist working in galleries, fashion and interiors with a London based design and production studio which has been established for over twenty-five years. She uses combinations of Irish, Cornelly and Multi-head beading and hand embroidery in her work which creates a dimensional style unique to her. Her gift is to explore relentlessly the potential of these techniques, pushing the materials to their absolute limits in order to create stunningly unique pieces. Karen's clients have included Alexander McQueen, Jasper Conran, Clements Ribeiro, John Rocha, Anthropologie, Designers Guild, Givenchy, Chloe and Chanel.



In 2015 she was awarded the title of Royal Designer for Industry (RDI) for textile design. This accolade is awarded by the Royal Society of Arts (RSA) to designers of all disciplines who have achieved "sustained design excellence, work of aesthetic value and of significant benefit to society". The RDI is the highest tribute for designers in the UK; only 200 designers can hold the title. They are responsible for designing the world around us, enriching our cultural heritage, driving innovation, inspiring creativity in others and improving our quality of life. Karen's talk "24 Hour Stitch" - showcases the amazing diversity and the possibilities of a journey with embroidery in fashion, interiors and art, and is not one to be missed.

BRANCH OPEN DAY MEETING MARCH 4TH: DISPLAY OF MEMBERS' WORK

Please remember to bring in any work and /or sketchbooks, either completed or works in progress, done at workshops, design to stitch, stitch day, outside courses, competition entries or personal projects throughout the past year. These will be exhibited during the afternoon and will provide an opportunity for members and visitors to see the range of skills demonstrated by our branch.

PLOUGHMAN'S LUNCH – APRIL 1ST: 12.30 for 1.00pm START

The MDEG branch annual ploughman's lunch social is coming up in April. It is a very convivial meeting providing a relaxed atmosphere for members to enjoy each others company over a delicious buffet lunch provided and catered for by the committee members at the very reasonable cost of £6.00 per head. Moreover, this year instead of the usual branch bring-and-buy, **Vernice Church** will be continuing the slide show of her travels to Rajasthan and Gujarat in February 2017, which promises to be a very pleasant adjunct to the afternoon. **Numbers and payment will be needed at the March meeting so please to sign up indicating any special dietary needs.**

TUTOR-LED WORKSHOP: JANE FAIRWEATHER TEACUP TREES

BRIEF DESCRIPTION: Mainly machine stitching on dissolvable film to make a 3D tree which is "planted" in a hand stitched and felted base inside a teacup or other vessel. Places still available. Contact Venice for details on Venice_63@yahoo.co.uk



Jane Fairweather is a textile artist who creates tiny three-dimensional pieces of machine and hand embroidered work in teacups and other vessels. Each piece of work is a labour of love - taking many hours - and is unique. Jane uses her knowledge of art to embroider realistic pieces of textiles such as trees, shrubs, flowers or countryside. The original tea-set was used as the centrepiece for one of the Embroiderers' Guild Capability Brown Exhibitions at Berrington Hall Herefordshire in 2016. As well as tea-sets, Jane also creates wall hangings, miniature landscapes on tiny easels, brooches and needle-felted and embroidered pebbles which she sells in local galleries.

This is **Lindsay Sherwood's** entry - "Coral Reef" - inspired by Blue Planet 2. The 'sea' is a piece of pre-dyed silk, while the 'rocks' are formed by vermicelli machine stitching silk fibres between layers of net. This is embellished with scrim that has been heavily hand-stitched with French knots and also with organza which entraps pieces of broken sea anemone shell for added effect. The 'sea anemones' and 'sea urchins' are machine stitched on an organza background with snippets of felt and then lightly padded to give a slight 3D effect. 'Sea Stars' are stitched with a variegated thread in a tapering zigzag. The 'fern coral' is free machined in a zigzag stitch with a variegated thread.

EG CHALLENGE: LIFE'S RICH PATTERN



YOUNG EMBROIDERERS

Excellent stitching by the young embroiderers, using chain stitch, blanket stitch and a form of fly stitch to embellish these lovely felt needle cases.



On a recent visit to the National History museum in Reykjavik Iceland, MDEG member **Maria Fraser** discovered some beautiful hand embroidered domestic and ecclesiastical textiles from the 15th century alongside some preserved fragments of mediaeval thick homespun cloth, thought to be remnants of clothing.



These lovely cotton patchwork bags were made by MDEG member **Celia Bell**. The centre panel fabric was manipulated, brush painted, and strip pieced within simple square patchwork blocks of poodle printed fabric. Not a surprise to those who know of Celia's canine predilection! Celia recommends consulting Deborah O'Hare's "Small Art Quilts, Explorations in Paint and Stitch" for more detailed information on the techniques used.

EMBROIDERERS' GUILD HOME PROJECT 2019 EXHIBITION

EG members are being invited to create a piece of textile artwork describing what the word 'HOME' means to us. This can be past or present, a single memory of a specific area, period, image, furnishing, fashion etc, or an overall view of a building, street or landmark. The project is open to all EG members, and the deadline for **registration** has been extended until **MARCH 8TH**. The only requirement at this time is a completed registration form, which can be found on the Guild website and a hanging fee of £25. The **submission** date for entries is **AUGUST 31ST**, so this allows plenty of time for planning and stitching. It must be a new and original piece of work, mounted on either the front or back of an artist's canvas, with mirror plates attached for hanging. The size with frame can be anything from A5 to A2, portrait or landscape. For full details and forms: <https://embroiderersguild.com/>



Flags of Thanks is a project to reflect gratitude and support for the Armed Forces Community and is open to all members of the Embroiderers' Guild. Neil Stace the "Sewing Soldier" from the BBC TV programme "The Sewing Bee", is spearheading the project. He is asking the nation to create customised quilted flags that reflect their gratitude and support for the Armed Forces Community, for those currently serving and for veterans. All the flags will be displayed in a public exhibition in Salisbury as part of the Armed Forces Day celebrations. After the display, his plan is to join the flags together to make something useful like quilts. As a gesture of support these will be gifted to veterans who are or have previously been homeless. The quilt is symbolic of having a home and the making of quilts has been a part of the Armed forces, dating back to the Crimean War. Neil believes that receiving such gifts that have been personally made will have a considerable positive impact on the individuals. His target is a 1000 flags! The design can be patchwork, applique, embroidered, drawn or painted with washable fabric ink and should have a military theme or a message of thanks. Full details and making up instructions on EG website: <https://embroiderersguild.com/>



MARLBOROUGH WHITE HORSE BOOKSHOP GALLERY OPEN ART EXHIBITION

The White Horse Gallery will be holding its Annual Open Art Exhibition this year in May. This year's exhibition includes a non-refundable entry fee of £10. All works received which comply with the criteria will be exhibited. Moreover, a First and Second prize will be awarded of £200 and £100 respectively. The winners will be chosen by an external panel of judges. All work must be framed and no bigger than 50x50cm when framed. Only one entry per person. All work should have 'D' rings attached to the upper sides of the frames. Sculpture will be accepted, but will need to be approved before submission, to ensure it can be displayed safely. Deadline for **submission** is **Tuesday 30th April 2019**. All works must be for sale and the White Horse gallery will take a 30% commission on any sales. Contact details:

Tel: 01672 512071 or info@whitehorsebooks.co.uk



THE D-DAY STORY AND THE OVERLORD EMBROIDERY

Venue: D Day Story Museum
Clarence Esplanade, Portsmouth, PO5 3NT
Dates: permanent display since September 2018
10:00-17:30 (17:00 October to March) daily,
except 24, 25, and 26 December.
Entry: Adult £10, Senior £8 <https://thedaystory.com>



The Overlord Embroidery tells the story of D-Day and the Battle of Normandy in 34 extraordinary hand-stitched panels with a total length of 83 metres. Lord Dulverton commissioned the embroidery in 1968. He set up an advisory committee including retired senior officers from the army, navy and air force to help him with the project. Together they decided what events the embroidery would represent. Sandra Lawrence, a young British artist, designed the embroidery. She looked at hundreds of wartime photographs in researching the subjects she had to portray. Her initial designs were small pencil sketches, which when approved were painted in colour measuring 2.4 x 0.9 metres, the same size as the embroidered panels. Finally the outline of each painting was traced so that the embroiderers could transfer the designs onto linen using the 'pricking and pouncing' method. The Embroidery was stitched by a team of highly skilled women at the Royal School of Needlework in London. They used the appliqué technique to recreate the pictures in Sandra's designs. The fabrics were carefully chosen to match the colours in the designs as closely as possible. Sometimes several layers of fabric were layered on top of each other and sometimes surface stitches were added for detail. More than 50 different materials were used including actual uniforms. Everything was stitched by hand. It took five years to complete the work, with the final panel being finished in January 1974. The 34 colour design paintings by Sandra Lawrence now hang in the Pentagon, Washington DC,

TELLING TALES EXHIBITION

Venue: Ilminster Arts Centre, 35 East St,
Ilminster, TA19 0AN
Dates: April 8th- 27th
Mon-Fri 9.30-4.30, Sat 9.30-2.30
Meet the artists April 13th from 11am
Entry: Free
<https://www.themeetinghouse.org.uk>



The group of artists known as "Stitch Textiles" are showing a collection of new and highly creative original work. Places, events, experiences and personal items all provide creative triggers that inspire their individual stories. A rusty mark on a bridge, a letter home, a tangle of brambles in a hedgerow - these are just some of the things that provide a memory or spark the imagination. The artists set out to tell their tales through a rich variety of colour and texture in fabric and stitch.

CONTEMPORARY TEXTILES FAIR

Venue: Landmark Arts Centre, Ferry Road, Teddington
TW11 9NN
Dates: March 23-24, 10-5 Preview Fri Mar 22, 6-8.30
Entry: <https://www.evensi.uk/contemporary-textiles-fair-2019/289646376>



The Contemporary Textiles Fair is an established annual event in the textile lovers' calendar, offering a perfect opportunity to see a diverse range of designer makers showing a stunning array of distinctive and colourful textiles. The range of work on show is beautiful and varied, comprising richly embellished embroidery, hand-dipped shibori, ecoprints, naturally dyed artworks, contemporary knitted homeware, sumptuous silks and handwoven scarves, wonderful handbags and fascinating 3D wall hanging s- as well as wearable and hangable art from the quirky to the couture. There will also be a talk by guest speaker Dianna Springall about her extensive textile collection.

COLOUR NOTES EXHIBITION - STUDIO 21

Venue: Walford Mill Crafts |Knobcrook Road,
off Stone Lane, Wimborne, Dorset, BH21 1NL
Dates: Mar 2-Apr 7, Tues-Sat 10-5, Sun 11-4
Entry: Free <http://www.walfordmillcrafts.co.uk/>



Walford Mill Crafts in Wimborne has long been recognised as a centre of excellence for contemporary craft. There are a number of onsite makers as well as the shop and gallery. Studio 21 is a group of textile artists who bring together a creative and innovative mix of media and stitched textiles. Recently Studio 21 was identified as one of the Top 5 UK textile art groups by TextileArtist.com.

THE CC LAND EXHIBITION - PIERRE BONNARD: THE COLOUR OF MEMORY

Venue: Tate Modern, The Eyal Ofer Galleries, Bankside, London SE1 9TG
Dates: Jan 23- May 6,
Entry: Adult £18, Senior £17 <https://www.tate.org.uk/>

Born 1867, Bonnard was, with Henri Matisse, one of the greatest colourists of the early 20th century. He preferred to work from memory, imaginatively capturing the spirit of a moment and expressing it through his unique handling of colour and innovative sense of composition. The exhibition concentrates on Bonnard's work from 1912, when colour became a dominant concern.

