



Embroiderers' Guild

MARLBOROUGH & DISTRICT BRANCH

www.marlbroughembroiderers.org

NEWSLETTER – MAY 2016

Welcome to all our Members and Guests.

Happy Reading

Reminders for this month

MAY 7th	NAT AGM MANCHESTER CONFERENCE CENTRE
MAY 9th	Speaker: Helen Deighan “ Going Potty ”
MAY 10th	TUTOR-LED WORKSHOP Helen Deighan – “Textile coil pots and baskets
MAY 23rd	Stitch Day
MAY 31st	Young Embroiderers

Dates for June

JUNE 6th	Speaker: Jane O'brien “ Damask, Colour and Collage ”.
JUNE 13th	In-House workshop Nikki Vesey Williams – “ Walnut purses ”
JUNE 20-21st	Tutor-Led workshop: Janet Edmonds “ From Art to Stitch – Van Gogh ”
JUNE 27th	Stitch Day

June speaker

JANE O'BRIEN started her career in interior design and soft furnishings, which she also taught at City and Guilds level. She was drawn into the textile art world after completing Diplomas in both History of Art and stitched Textiles. Jane's inspiration for her work comes from her interest in textiles and the messages that they convey through their construction, pattern and colour. She uses textiles to create a visual response about social culture and the world around us. In her illustrated talk, entitled “Damask, Colour, Collage”, Jane will tell us about the social history of the damask pattern and will recount her own long personal fascination with damask and how it has inspired her own textile art. An alternative perspective for developing our own areas of interest perhaps? Come along and find out. Everyone welcome.

June workshop

Unfortunately, **Jackie Bowcutt**, who was to have tutored the June workshop entitled “Strictly stitch – make your stitches dance”, has broken her wrist and will be unable to take the workshop as planned. We wish her a speedy recovery and hope to be able to reschedule her for some time in the future. In place of Jackie, **Nikki Vesey Williams** who, as you know, is one of our members and who independently runs workshops and gives talks to local groups, has agreed to run a workshop on making “**Hand embroidered walnut purses**”. These miniature, tasseled fabric-covered and embellished walnuts make perfect little hand-made gifts for any occasion. If you would like to book a place, please let Vernice know as soon as possible.

CONGRATULATIONS

Well done and thank you to all our members on a really successful **Ruby Anniversary Exhibition**. The admiration, praise, enthusiasm and interest expressed by everyone attending the exhibition have been completely overwhelming. What a great way to promote our work and our group and to attract new members. We are now firmly on the map as a dynamic, thriving, eclectic, all-embracing community, not only of traditional hand-embroiderers, but also of innovative hand and machine stitchers, textile artists, designers, quilters, needle felters, printers, dyers and inspirational teachers for those who wish to learn new skills or develop existing ones. What an accolade! And well deserved in view of all the hard work that went into accomplishing such a wonderful feat. **BRAVO!**



A big **thank you** is particularly due to **Ann Smith** and her **team** of indefatigable volunteers in the mammoth task of planning, organising, encouraging, publicising, and executing the whole event down to the minutest detail in order to make the chaos behind the scenes appear to be the effortless and seamless occasion that it certainly was on centre stage. Our admiration and warmest appreciation for all their hard work and dedication go to **Ann Smith, Stella Hall, Ros Lomas, Chris Cook, Yvonne Miles, and Margaret Heath**.

A huge **thank you** is also due to **all the volunteer helpers** (too many to name individually), whose help and support were invaluable in the run up to the exhibition, during the exhibition and in the clear up afterwards. Many compliments have been received concerning the helpfulness, warmth and friendliness shown by our members on reception, in the tea tent, on the sales table, by those acting as stewards and hosts and by those who shared their skills in demonstrating techniques.

Special thanks to the **Merchant's House** for providing the Turkey work demonstrations, to **Judy and Roger**, from Sewcraft in Swindon, for providing such a wide selection of trade items throughout the duration of the exhibition, and to **Janet Louth**, Chair of the Friends of Savernake Hospital, for the loan of the Savernake Embroidery, which sparked a lot of interest and conjecture about the famous women who were depicted.

And, of course, the exhibition would not have been possible at all without such a **vast array** of beautifully crafted **exhibits, red squares, tote-bags, sales items, workshop and reception displays, and yards of colourful bunting** provided through the commitment and industry of **YOU – OUR VALUED MEMBERS!**

Furthermore, as an added enhancement to our own exhibition, we were fortunate to have in our display some of the creations initially produced for the Capability Brown exhibition at **Bowood House**.

Well done everyone on such a magnificent achievement!

HOT OFF-THE-PRESS

District and Marlborough Embroidery Guild are in the public eye again!

Marie Lennon on Wiltshire Radio interviewed **Christine Hill, Stella Hall, Ros Lomas and Ann Smith** as a prelude to our Ruby Exhibition giving us free advertising and air time of approximately 5 minutes on each of the weekdays running up to the exhibition. The interviews explored the popularity of 'embroidery' today, the reasons for joining the Guild, the changing concept of 'embroidery', and the inspiration for the red square challenge.

Kim Wright on Swindon's Local Community Radio interviewed **Lorain Lockwood, Nikki Vesey Williams, Ann Smith and Ros Lomas** in a joint discourse in the run up to the exhibition. He was interested in finding out about the 50 year pin awarded for long term membership of the Guild, about Branch involvement with national events such as Capability Brown, about the wide ranging activities associated with embroidery and textile art and about the Anniversary Exhibition displays and exhibits.

Tony Millett from Marlborough News Online attended the Friday evening Members Reception taking a photograph of the Red Square display which was followed up by the picture and an accompanying article on the website.

There are also photos of **Nikki Vesey's** 'New York, New York', as well

as the **'Young Embroiderers'** 'Tree of Hands' exhibit, and some images of the **Savernake Embroidery**.

If you are interested in reading the whole article just click on the link <http://www.marlboroughnewsandherald.co.uk/features/arts-entertainment/reviews/5517-ruby-squares-marlborough-area-embroiderers-mark-their-40th-anniversary-with-an-exhibition>

Alison Phillips from the Gazette and Herald printed a group photograph of some of the members involved in the setting up of the exhibition together with a short article describing the exhibition and promoting the Marlborough and District Embroiderers' Guild Branch. <http://www.gazetteandherald.co.uk/search/?search=Embroidery>



Blackmore Vale Branch Embroiderers' Guild Exhibition of Textile Art and Embroidery

Venue: Bishops Caundle & Caundle Marsh Village Hall, Holt Lane, Bishops Caundle, Sherborne, Dorset, DT9 5NG

Dates: May 28th-June 12th 2016 10am – 4pm Daily

The exhibition is being run in conjunction with Dorset Arts Weeks And will display a variety of traditional and contemporary exhibits, many of which will be for sale. Gift items and light refreshments will be available.

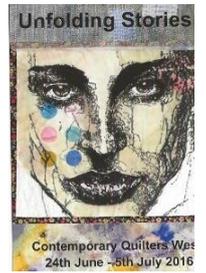
CONTEMPORARY QUILTERS WEST Unfolding Stories 2

Venue: Rook Lane Chapel, Bath St, Frome, BA11 1DN

Dates: 24th June – 5th July Daily 10am-5pm

Admission: Free **Website:** www.rooklane.org.uk

Contemporary Quilters West are affiliated to the British Quilters' Guild and are also members of the internet based contemporary quilt group. This is their second exhibition and it promises to be a diverse and exclusive display of contemporary textile art at its finest. One not to be missed!



ART IN ACTION 2016 FINAL SHOW

Venue: Waterperry Gardens, Waterperry, Nr. Wheatley, Oxon, OX33 1JZ

Dates: 14th July -17th July 10am-5.30pm Gates open at 9am

Admission: Price dependant on ticket type. 10% off online sales up to June 12th

For the past 39 years 400 artists and craftspeople have transported their studios to the grounds of Waterperry to demonstrate their skills and techniques to the public. Each year Art in Action has also hosted, free of charge, a number of guest speakers whose talks aimed to provide an insight into the thoughts, processes and inspiration which lie behind the creation of a work of art. This year will be the **Festival's 40th anniversary**, but sadly, it will also be its **final show!** Falling attendance, financial losses and volunteer staffing difficulties have been cited as some of the reasons for its demise. It almost seems fitting, in a perverse way, that this year also saw the death of Bernard Saunders, the man who was the originator of Art in Action. If you have never been, but have always had a burning desire to do so, don't let this last opportunity pass you by!

White Horse Bookshop

Art Exhibition dates:
April 30 – May 30th

Cloth Rd Arts Open Studio Trail April 30th – May 8th

The Cloth Rd – The notional road that links the numerous former cloth weaving communities of West Wilts for further information go to: www.clothroadartists.com

THE SEWING MACHINE PROJECT

A contemporary view of the iron needlewoman

Venue: Lansdown Gallery, Lansdown, Stroud, GL5 1BB

Dates: May 3rd – May 28th

Times: 10.30-4.30 Tuesday-Saturday 11.00-4.30 Sunday

This exciting project has been put together by the 'Studio 21 Textile Artists' and is part of the SIT Select Textile Festival. 'Studio 21' is a well-established group of textile artists formed in 1997 to develop and extend innovative techniques and to push the boundaries of traditional expectations in textile art and stitch. The Sewing Machine Project is their latest venture. There will be a gallery tour every day at midday by one of the artists. Well worth a visit.

TAKING TEXTILES FURTHER

Venue: Berkhamsted Upstairs Gallery, 268 High St, Berkhamsted Hertfordshire, HP4 1AQ

Dates: July 9th – July 23rd 10am-4pm **Admission:** Free

This exhibition is based on the work of a group of Guild members led by **Janet Edmonds**, a published and renowned textile artist, who meet together in order to develop their own personal creativity within a design led context. This is the second exhibition by the group and will showcase their new work which has been inspired through the use of 'Text' as pattern and texture.

THE BRUNEL BRODERERS' NEW WORKE

Venue: Newark Park, Ozleworth, Gloucestershire, GL12 7PZ

Dates: June 8th – July 11th 11am-4pm Closed Tuesdays

Admission: National Trust entrance prices apply

This is an exhibition of contemporary textile art with the added attractions of storytelling sessions with Michael Loader and Elinor Knapp, and children's silk painting with Julie Heaton. There is an opportunity to meet the artists every Wednesday, Saturday and Sunday

ARDINGTON SCHOOL OF CRAFTS

A beautiful old Victorian school building overlooking rolling downs and grazing farmland has been adapted to provide spacious workshops for the provision of traditional and contemporary craft courses on a wide variety of themes. Not on a par with Urchfont as C&G courses are not on offer. However, if you would like a short course to learn a new skill, this might just be what you are looking for. Furthermore Wantage is near enough to make travelling a relatively easy option. If you do try out one of their courses please write in and tell us how you got on. The programme for 2016 can be found on their website: www.ardingtonschoolofcrafts.com or on tel: 01235 833433

MAKING SPACE EXHIBITION WORKSHOP

My life in Silk led by Paddy Killer 16th July 2016 10am-4pm

Venue: Silk Museum Macclesfield, Roe St, SK11 6UT **Cost:** £45.00

www.62group.org.uk/exhibitions/making-space-exhibition-workshops/

A one-day Saturday workshop experimenting with a process developed by Paddy in which she incorporates silk with other textiles and non-textile materials such as glass and wood using, drawing, painting, bonding and machine embroidery. Participants will have the opportunity to use the museum collections as a source of inspiration. It sounds as though this could be a uniquely different type of experience!

ON LINE DISTANCE LEARNING COURSES

The courses are offered by the Embroiderers' Guild and have been designed to establish and develop one's own personal style of work. They have been written by Embroiderers' Guild Tutors and are available in four stages. The courses have been previously offered as a route to a City & Guilds certificate but have now been improved to the Guild's own standard. There is an option of specialising in hand or machine embroidery. Learning is supported by a personal tutor and assessment is by emailed photos of work and accompanying notes. Detailed information can be found on the Embroiderers' Guild website www.embroiderersguild.com/. If you are looking to increase your textile skills and techniques in a formal way but are constrained by obligations to committing to a regular day and time this may be the way forward for you.

If you have any interesting news items or any other information which can be included in our monthly Newsletter, please pass details to Maria. Also, please advise if you are willing to receive the Newsletter via email to help us cut the cost of printing.

Tel: 10672 515283 or mail: mariafraser2013@outlook.com A copy is also available on our website. www.marlboroughembroiderers.org