



Embroiderers' Guild

MARLBOROUGH & DISTRICT BRANCH

www.marlbroughembroiderers.org

NEWSLETTER – SEPTEMBER 2016

A very warm welcome to all our Members and Guests.

Happy Reading

Reminders for this month

SEPT 5th	Speaker: Isabelle Jourdan "Wild Woman Weaving".
SEPT 6th	Tutor-led workshop Isabelle Jourdan – "Frame tapestry weaving for beginners"
SEPT 26th	Stitch Day

Dates for October

OCT 3rd	BRANCH AGM Speaker: Caroline Kirton "Telling Tales"
OCT 10th	Tutor-led workshop: Mandy Nash "Felt pictures – Nuno and relief, perfect for Stitching into"
OCT 18th	Design to stitch course (1)
OCT 25th	Young Embroiderers
OCT 31st	Stitch Day

October speaker

Caoline Kirton is a textile artist and designer whose work is influenced by the things she observes around her and by her reflections on everyday life. Caroline's teenage daughter and friends have been her main source of inspiration over the years providing an evolving story around issues of physical, emotional and psychological growth and development coupled with changing parental relationships. In her practice she tries to create a sense of autobiography, by recording snapshots of stories, feelings or emotions. She uses a combination of fabric layering, free machine embroidery, applique and screen printing to create a large scale "drawing" of a moment in time. Her pieces often originate from a saying or a snippet of overheard conversation, and can be titled or left to the observer to determine the origin of the starting point. During her presentation entitled "Telling Tales" Caroline will talk to us about her textile art: how she started and where she is now, the inspiration behind her work and a detailed look at her work.

October Tutor-Led workshop

Mandy Nash is the regional co-ordinator and exhibitions officer of the National Feltmakers Association. She has a wealth of talent and skill, which has been recognised through the attainment of many awards and prizes. She set up her workshop in 1983 after leaving the Royal College of Art and in 1990 established her studio in the Model House Craft and Design Centre in Wales. Her work is motivated by colour, pattern, technique and by exploring the potential of different materials. Although she works primarily using anodised aluminium her work has been heavily influenced by both traditional and contemporary textiles, and over the past 15 years she has extended her practice to include working in felt. In the workshop "Felt Pictures (Nuno and relief-perfect for stitching)" Mandy will help us to develop our felt-making skills, with a selection of wool fleeces to create a variety of textures using resists and fabric. The samples made will form a perfect canvas for hand or machine embroidery. If you have ever wanted to try your hand at wet felting this is a perfect opportunity. For a look at what you could achieve go to www.mandynash.co.uk. Interested? Why not sign up?

MDEG AGM

Monday 3rd October 2016 2pm Kennet Valley Hall

It is that time of year again when we are being asked to consider whether we might be able to participate actively in the organisation of our branch by volunteering to stand as a committee member. We have shown this year that we are a thriving, growing branch with an abundance of talent and creativity as well as a huge amount of dynamism and determination. However, to sustain this for the future the branch needs to ensure that new and younger members join the committee. There are currently 10 committee members who are willing to be re-elected for the coming year. A couple more members would be a great asset not only in sharing out the not overly onerous responsibilities, but also in providing fresh ideas to keep the branch flourishing. Please give it some serious thought. The deadline for nominations is **September 26th**.

Branch Outing Reminder

Knitting and Stitching Show Wednesday October 5th

There are still 12-15 spaces to fill on the coach! Please encourage friends and family to join us on this very enjoyable day of exhibitions and retail therapy. If the seats cannot be filled by the day of the meeting on Monday 5th September this will mean that the outing will either have to be cancelled or that the cost per person will be increased! As an added incentive among the galleries showcasing well known textile artists' work there will be an exhibition of new work by Jan Beane and Jean Littlejohn entitled "Double Trouble: 25 Years Then & Now". Other artists include Ann Kelly, Sue Stone, Alice Kettle, Royal School of Needlework and many more! What a pity it would be to miss such an opportunity. Also much cheaper and more convenient as a group.

MDEG Subscriptions September 2016

A reminder that subscriptions are due at the meeting on Monday. The total cost this year will be at the reduced rate of **£45.00** which covers both branch and HQ fees. This has been made possible through a contribution from the proceeds from our 40th anniversary exhibition. The amount payable to HQ this year has increased to **£33.00**. This amount is paid separately from the branch fee, which, with the subsidy will be **£12.00**. Therefore if paying by cheque, please have 2 cheques ready. Thank you.

Prospect Hospice Textile Project

The basic design for the embroidery, which Margaret Heath has been working on, has now been approved by the Prospect Hospice's Director of Resources, and Margaret is ready to oversee the first stages of stitching. If you are interested in being involved in this collaborative work please come along to stitch day on **Monday 26th September** where Margaret will be very happy to provide instruction for any of the techniques involved. **Machine or hand embroidery skills** will be equally required.

IN PRINT – Capability CATCH-UP

If you subscribe to *Stitch magazine* you would have been pleasantly surprised to find that the work of two of our members was showcased as part of a double page spread reviewing the Capability Brown Festival celebrating the 300th anniversary of the English landscape Designer's birth. Congratulations to **Robina Orchard** and **Nicky Vesey Williams** whose respective works "Creating Bowood" and "Rural Idyll" were chosen to be displayed as part of a multi-media exhibition at Milton Abbey in Dorset.

OPUS ANGLICANUM

Masterpieces of English Medieval Embroidery

Venue: Victoria and Albert Museum, Cromwell Rd, London, SW7 2RL

Dates and Admission: October 1st 2016 – February 5th 2017

10am – 17.45 Daily
(closed 24/25/26 December)
Museum admission free.

Exhibition charge; Adult - £12, OAP -£11

This exhibition is a rare opportunity to see an outstanding range of surviving examples of the type of opulent embroidery known as Opus Anglicanum, or more commonly, as English Work. Some of the embroideries have not been seen in Britain since they were produced.

From the 12th to the 15th centuries, England enjoyed an international reputation for the quality of its English work, which, because of its intricacy and opulence, was highly sought by kings, queens, popes and cardinals from across Europe. Paintings, illuminated manuscripts, metalwork and stained glass will also be shown alongside these rare surviving examples to provide a background for the period in which these exquisite works were created.



IN PRINT – INSPIRED by MUSIC

Some of you may remember that in 2013 long standing Guild Member **Kath Danswan** produced 6 wall hangings for the world premier of the **Swindon Choral Society's Atlantic Odyssey** which were exhibited in the Link Centre Library. The hangings were inspired by the music and told the story of the annual migrations of the Arctic Tern. In this month's issue of *Australian magazine Embellish*, under the theme of 'Gone to the Birds', is an article written by Kath entitled *Inspired by Music* which features photographs of the wall hangings and the stories behind them. She will bring a copy to the meeting on Monday. Well done Kath!



World Textile Day West – Rites of Passage

Venue: Salford Hall, Wedmore Rd, Salford, Bristol, BS31 3BY

Venue info: www.salfordhall.co.uk

Date: Saturday October 1st 10am – 4.30pm

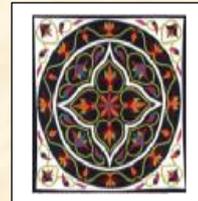
11am Presentation

2pm Show and tell plus 2 short talks

Admission: FREE admission to the exhibition

£2.00 presentation

£2.00 talks



A well as an all day exhibition of stitched, embroidered and woven textiles and artefacts from around the world the day includes a presentation by **Diane Gaffney**, a past treasurer and chairman of the Batik Guild who still takes a keen interest in the Guild. She runs "Textile Traders" which supplies batik equipment, traditional and modern batik fabrics and other hand made textiles from all over the world. In 2013 and 2015 she took study groups to Java to study batik alongside some of the best batik artists and craftspeople in the world. Her presentation is entitled 'Batik and Ikat in Indonesian Life Cycle Ceremonies', and will tell the story of birth, marriage and death through textiles. The afternoon session is both a chance to bring and discuss some of your own work and listen to two short talks with a world textile expert. There will also be a chance to buy worldwide fair trade fabrics directly from the makers. Sounds like a wonderful day out for anyone who loves textiles and in particular Batik!

Game of Thrones: The Hardhome Embroidery Talk

Venue: Victoria and Albert Museum, Cromwell Rd, London, SW7 2RL
The Lydia & Manfred Gorvy Lecture Theatre

Dates: Friday 30 September, 19.00 - 20.45

Admission: £15 Including wine reception

If you are interested in learning about the complexities of developing such an intricate piece of embroidery, as well as a look at how the techniques used in this historical-themed piece are reflected in contemporary embroidery, then this is a unique opportunity not to be missed. As you may remember, the Embroiders' Guild, under the artistic direction of **Anthea Godfrey**, were commissioned by the HBO to create a special artwork, featuring a 'White Walker' to celebrate the Game of Thrones series 5, which is now known as the Hardhome Embroidery. At this present time it is on tour being exhibited at varying venues throughout the country. It is currently on display at the Bankfield Museum in Halifax until September 10th, after which it moves to Farfield Mill in Cumbria until the end of September.



West Country Quilt and Textile Show

Venue: UWE Bristol Exhibition and Conference Centre

North Entrance Frenchay Campus

Filton Rd, Stoke Gifford, Bristol BS34 8QZ

Dates: 11th -13th November 10am – 4.30pm

Parking: Park and Ride Friday. On site Saturday and Sunday

Admission: £11.0



The West Country Quilt & Textile Show is the South West's showcase of patchwork, quilting, sewing, knitting and embroidery. It includes more than 100 exhibitors, trader quilt groups, galleries and workshops, featuring many very well known textile artists such as **Gillian Travis**, **Chris Gray**, **Margaret Beal** and **Alecia Merrett**. Exhibiting her work will also be our very own textile artist **Chrissie Seager**. Although **Chrissie** is no longer a regular attendee of the MDEG she designed the branch website and continues to maintain and update it. She is well known to the group as a quiltmaker who dyes her own fabrics prior to designing stitching and embellishing her work.

This year the west country Quilt Show has partnered with **Justhands-on.tv** to broadcast workshops and interviews live on social media. So if you are unable to get to the show you will be able to follow it on the Just hand on –TV website, youtube or facebook.

Coverage will include news reports from the show at the beginning and end of each day, interviews with leading textile artists and presentations of workshops with world class tutors.

Stitching Sewing and Hobbycrafts Show



Venue: Westpoint Centre, Clyst St Mary Exeter, EX51DJ

Dates: 22nd -25th September 9.30am-4.30pm, 5pm Sat, 4pm Sun

Admission: Adults £8.50, OAP £7.50

This event provides a fantastic opportunity to stock up on all your favourite crafting supplies and to pick up plenty of tips and tricks to take home with you. There will be brand new workshops to take part in as well as a host of demonstrations from the industry's top names and over 180 stands full of crafty goodies!

Starting Points



AN EXHIBITION BY THE OXFORD TEXTILE WORKSHOP
13 September - 1 October

FREE ADMISSION

Vale & Downland Museum
Church Street, Wantage OX12 9BL
T 01238 771447 E vale.downland@gmail.com
Open Monday - Saturday 9.30am - 4pm



Finders Keepers – Tales in Textiles

Venue: Rayleigh Windmill, Bellingham Ln, Rayleigh, Essex, SS6 7ED

Dates: 10th September – 2nd October

Admission: Free.

A donation of £1 per person is encouraged for upkeep of the windmill

In June 2015 **Connie Flynn** was the Artist in Residence at **Sumburgh Lighthouse** in Shetland. During the residency she researched the social history aspect of the keepers and their families who stayed, worked and lived at the lighthouse. **Connie** recorded her findings of quotes and stories in her sketchbook, which progressed into constructing textile wall hangings, each one decorated with hand stitched techniques to represent these tales.



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 Email: mariafraser2013@outlook.com

A copy is also available on our website. www.marlboroughembroiders.org