



Embroiderers' Guild

MARLBOROUGH & DISTRICT BRANCH

www.marlboroughembroiderers.org

NEWSLETTER – OCTOBER 2017

A very warm welcome to all our members and guests.

Happy reading.

REMINDERS FOR THIS MONTH

- OCT 2nd **BRANCH AGM**
Speaker: Meike Laurenson
"Me and My Hats"
- OCT 9th/10th 2 Day Tutor-led workshop: Alex Waylett
"Embroidered Pebble Clutchbags"
- OCT 17th Design to Stitch (1)
- OCT 24th Young Embroiderers
- OCT 30th Stitch Day

DATES FOR NOVEMBER

- NOV 6th Speaker: Annie Hutchinson
"Creature making – Concept to Completion"
- NOV 21st Design to Stitch
- NOV 27th Stitch Day

NOVEMBER SPEAKER

Annie Hutchinson is a Textile Artist who loves all things textile, vintage and animal including the creatures she calls "my family". Recycled memories stitched with found mementoes, parodies of life, rhymes or old time songs are some of the things that inspire Annie to make her weird creatures. Many traditional skills are used in the making of these figures including needle-felting, hand and machine stitching, appliqué and embroidery, simple lino-cut printing techniques and painted images. Although her background is in fine art sculpture and ceramics her love for texture inspired the development of her work, which evolved into textiles in 2002. In her talk: **"Creature making – Concept to Completion"**. Annie will be telling us about the development of the ideas, skills and techniques that have contributed to the creation of her current series of hybrid creatures.



CONGRATULATIONS to SARAH WICKS

In July Sarah was awarded an RSN certificate with merit in 'Technical Hand Embroidery' at Hampton Court Palace. She completed a four part module over two and a half years part time flexible working at the RSN satellite in Bristol. Her final piece, 'Strelizia', partly chosen to fit in with the brief, and partly because of the interesting shape and variety of colours, was executed using silk shading, a technique reputed to be difficult for students to master. Although Sarah found the amount of time required to complete the modules very intensive, she thoroughly enjoyed the course and as a complete beginner found it to be hugely instructive. She says that it has ignited a real passion in her for hand embroidery and is considering working to diploma level. Well done, Sarah!



"PAGE 17" EXHIBITION



KNITTING AND STITCHING SHOW
Alexandra Palace London N22 7AY
October 11-15, 2017

This is a specially created exhibition of textile art where each piece takes a book as its inspiration. The EG has bought together a unique group of artists who bring words to life. This is a one-off exciting display of work, with pieces from well-known textile artists, new names and many EG members from around the country, including **Nikki Vesey Williams** (whose piece is shown on the Guild website), **Lindsay Sherwood** and **Ann Louis Smith** from the MDEG branch. Using diverse techniques, colour, form, design and texture, members have created works which span the contemporary, the literal and the symbolic. Do visit the EG stand at the show to see this amazing diversity of textile art including that of **Nikki, Lindsay and Ann** as shown here



LITTLE RED RIDING HOOD AND THE BIG BAD WOLF

Based on the book 'Favourite Fairytales', Nikki used needle felting, knitting, metallic thread and free machine stitching on a chiffon background, wired machine cording and vanishing fabric techniques to create this beautifully constructed diorama. **Well done Nikki!**

MDEG AGM MEETING OCTOBER 2017 at KVH

It is still not too late to join the committee! If you have not already put your name forward, there is still time to be co-opted during the AGM proceedings. No arduous responsibilities proposed, other than the time commitment of one morning per month and the input of some fresh new initiatives to help keep the branch thriving and active.

MDEG DECEMBER MEETING CHRISTMAS LUNCH

It is that time of year again! As most of you know this is the biggest social event in our calendar. It is an opportunity for members to get to know one another, to enjoy a truly wonderful feast and be entertained by a surprise speaker. Everyone welcome. There is no cost, only the request to sign up on the food list to bring a dish of fare for 8 people. The list will be available at the November meeting. Please contact a committee member if you intend to come to the lunch but can't make the November meeting.

OCTOBER 2-DAY TUTOR-LED WORKSHOP:

Alex Waylett "Embroidered Pebble Clutchbags"

There are still 3 places available on this workshop. Don't miss this great opportunity to learn how to make a beautiful piece of textile with which you will construct a beautiful clutch bag. Perfect for a Christmas treat for yourself or a gift for a friend or relative! See Vernice or Kay to sign up.



CONGRATULATIONS-25 YEAR PINS

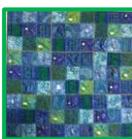
25 year pins and certificates will be awarded to **Margaret Gow and Rosemary Hawes** at the AGM



meeting in October by Julie Stenning acting chair for the South West Region. Rosemary and Margaret joined the Guild in 1991 after visiting an exhibition of embroidery together in the Marlborough library. Mary Greening was Chairman at the time and the subscription was £12.50. They recall enjoyable meetings in the Scouts Hut in Marlborough and workshops in the pleasant surroundings of Urchfont College. However, soon after their joining, meetings moved to the Bowls Club, and before long, as numbers grew, transferred to the current location in Lockeridge with better facilities for both meetings and workshops and delightful views. Over the years they have both been involved with the branch's various workshops and exhibitions, and have worked on several projects including the Marlborough Surgery hanging in 1997 and the Kennet Valley Embroidery which hangs in the hall. The embroidery now used as the reception desk tablecloth was renovated by Margaret and Rosemary from an earlier project made in the 1980s. One particular highlight they both recollect was spending days at Avebury Manor in 2011 helping to complete the embroidered bed hangings.

Rosemary has always enjoyed needlework from an early age. Her mother taught her to knit at age three, and a nun at her convent school taught her to sew and make Brussels lace. She now enjoys making quilts and all types of embroidery, and has been involved with the stitching of the Turkey Work chairs at the Merchant House from its inception. She has also run an Embroidery Group for the U3A for the past 25 years. **Margaret** learnt to sew with her grandmother and still has a handkerchief case embroidered in cross stitch, made in school. She taught herself crewel work and other forms of embroidery, mostly from books of which she now has a large collection; but has also learnt many skills from the various workshops she has attended over the years. She has also spent time on the turkey work project, and is now happily involved in embroidering flowers for the Guild's latest project – the Prospect Tryptich.

"Twenty five years have seen many changes in the Guild but we have both much enjoyed our involvement, have learnt a lot and made many friends, and we hope to continue for a few more years".



SUDOKU Based on page 17 of 'Posh Pocket Sudoku', Lindsay used silk papers, beadwork, piping, lutradur, metallic foil on felt, heat distorted organza and machine embroidery to produce a collage of squares on a canvas base to create this stunning working Sudoku puzzle. **Well done, Lindsay!**



A HANDFUL OF PEBBLES Based on the book by Sara Alexi, 'A Handful of Pebbles', set on the sun-drenched pebbled beaches of Greece, Ann used wax batik, procion and rust dyes together with hand and machine embroidery to create this dramatic eye catching abstract interpretation of a shimmering pebbled sea-scene. **Well done, Ann!**

OLD TOWN BELLES W.I. CRAFT EXHIBITION WITH CREAM TEAS

Old Town Belles WI is holding a cream team with craft exhibition, sales table and raffle **on Sunday 22nd October from 2.00 - 4.00 pm at Christ Church Community Centre in Old Town Swindon. Tickets are £4 each** and include entry to the craft exhibition and a cup of tea (plus refills), a scone, jam and cream. The exhibition will comprise craft work in (sewing, knitting, crochet, paper etc) made by the WI members including some of the pieces recently entered for the group's annual competition on the theme of inspirational women. The sales table will have bags, purses, needlecases, notebooks etc, also made by the members. Last orders are at 3.30 pm when the raffle will also be drawn. All welcome. Please see Sarah Wicks at the October meeting for tickets or contact: oldtownbelle@gmail.com.



SOUTH WEST REGION AGM

21st October 2017 10.30am - 3.30pm
Leigh Park Community Centre
Leigh Park Way, Westbury, BA13 3FN
£5.00 per ticket Free Parking. Bring your own lunch.
Afternoon speaker Alison Hume "My life in stitch".
Raffle, Branch pop-up exhibition, stalls and traders.



RSN SUMMER OUTING

A very big thank you is due to Ann kingdom for organising a truly memorable visit to the RSN for those members who were fortunate enough to be able to go. A great day was had by all. Well done, Ann!

AUTUMN QUILT FESTIVAL MALVERN

Severn Exhibition Hall, Three Counties Showground, WR13 6NW
Fri 20th - Sun 22nd October 10am-4.30pm (4pm Sun)
Entry: Adults £8 (£7 in advance) Seniors £7 (£6 in advance)
This event offers many quilt displays from all over the world and plenty of opportunities to shop for your seasonal supplies from your favourite traders.

TAKE A LINE PROJECT SEPTEMBER 2018

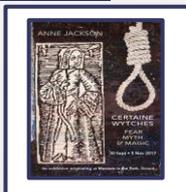
This project, spearheaded by Lindsay, is generating a good amount of interest from members with lots of different thoughts and ideas being put forward. If you did not pick up a handout but would like to be involved please ask Maria for a copy. A question has arisen with regard to the hanging of the canvases. Lindsay suggests using D rings attached at the 20cm mark to give a uniform look. Lindsay has a box full of D-rings and would be happy to do the fixing on all the pieces of work. So keep stitching Ladies, and remember, the work can also be used in the MDEG Branch mini exhibition earlier in the year.

VOLUNTEERS for MDEG BRANCH MINI EXHIBITION JUNE 2018

During the MDEG Ruby anniversary exhibition in 2016 the hidden wealth and breadth of skills of our members became hugely evident. It was clear that many of you have extensive talent and vast amounts of expertise which is not being recognised. In view of this and the enormous success of our anniversary exhibition, it was proposed that a regular display of ongoing work would provide an added incentive to foster this creativity. However none of this can be achieved without some organisation and planning. Ann Smith and Clare Russell are looking for helpers who are able to offer a little of their time to form a small organising team. Please talk to Ann or Clare for more information.

CERTAIN WYTCHEs: FEAR, MYTH AND MAGIC

Venue: The Museum in the Park, Stratford Park, Stroud, GL5 4AF
Dates: Sept 30th - Nov 5th 2017 11am-4pm Mon closed. Preview Fri Oct 6th 6-10
Entry: Admission free. Car parking available.



In Anne Jackson's current project, 'The Witchcraft Series', she presents a progression of work, through the medium of knotted tapestry. She explores the history of witch-persecution in Europe as well as the images evoked in modern culture by the very idea of 'witchcraft'. By way of referenced sources from the earliest printed books warning against the evils of witches, to the repeal of the final Witchcraft Act in English law in 1957, the tapestries explore the imagery and social attitudes that led to the trial and execution of thousands of people, mostly women, across Europe. Anne Jackson's work often depicts evidence given in individual witch-trials, including that of young children encouraged to testify against their mothers. Whenever possible, she reproduces the original printed texts from witch-hunting pamphlets and trial accounts as part of the tapestry composition, seeing this as a kind of ventriloquism, giving a voice to individuals from the distant past. Several tapestries also use the representation of 'witchcraft' to reflect upon our sense of powerlessness in the face of current fears and concerns, such as climate change. What a potentially bewitching concoction of textile art, history and 'brew' for thought!

EG MEMBERS CHALLENGE COMPETITION 2017-18

UNDERFOOT



UNDERFOOT - the new Members Challenge 2017/2018 is open to all members of the Embroiderers' Guild. The subject has great potential for interpretation - walking through meadows, standing in the sand on a beach, in a puddle, in the snow or a forest floor, walking over stones, an old tiled floor or a patterned rug. It could be the soles of your feet, Australia even! The judges have no preconceived ideas and hope to be surprised and excited by a wide range of entries. **The closing date is February 28th 2018 but members are requested not send their entries in before January 8th 2018.** Awards will be given for the most outstanding piece, the best use of colour, the best hand stitching, the best machine stitching, the best composition, drama and creativity and for innovation. Final pieces should all measure 30x30cms and be ready to hang. Full details can be obtained on the Guild website and will be posted on the branch noticeboard. Happy stitching!

A HISTORY OF FASHION IN 100 OBJECTS

Venue: Assembly Rooms, Bennett Street, Bath BA1 2QH
Dates: Showing until January 1st 2019
Entry: Adults £9 Seniors £8 museum entry and exhibition



This is a major exhibition celebrating fashion from the 1600s to the present day. Showcasing 100 star objects drawn from the Fashion Museum's world-class collection, these displays give visitors an instant insight into the era-defining outfits and headline pieces that have shaped our wardrobes over the past 400 years. Fashion touches everyone's life as it is intrinsically linked to society. A History of Fashion in 100 Objects references moments in history as well as more personal stories. Graceful silk robes and embroidered and tailored coats for men, the styles fashionable during Bath's Georgian heyday are on show, along with Regency fashion from the time of Jane Austen and dresses by the big names of fashion history, including the House of Worth and Christian Dior. The exhibition also includes ten shoe 'moments' throughout history, from Georgian silk shoes to Nike Air trainers as well as a children's trail featuring ten 'historical fashion' looks for kids from the 1700s to the 2000s.

PRISM at HOXTON ARCHES - ANOTHER VIEW

Venue: HOXTON ARCHES 402 Crémier Street, London E2 8HD.
Dates: OCT 17th-29th Daily 11am-6pm
Thurs 11am-9pm Sun 29th 11am-5pm
Entry: Free



The Prism exhibition group was founded in 1999 by the late Julia Caprara and exhibits annually in central London. From 2009 the group entered a new independent phase, retaining a focus on showcasing high quality fine art textile practice and craftsmanship. It is their aim to bring work of the highest quality to the public and also to challenge notions of the textile as decorative and domestic. Members of Prism are drawn not just from the UK but from across the world. It is this wide range of cultural and geographical contexts that brings interesting and diverse interpretations to their exhibitions.

THREADS THROUGH REVELATION EXHIBITION

Venue: SALISBURY CATHEDRAL,
The Close, Salisbury, SP1 2EN
Dates: Sept 7th - Nov 5th 9am-5pm Daily
Entry: Free



Threads through Revelation has been created by Jacqui Parkinson, a textile artist based in Devon. It comprises 14 panels totalling 33 metres in length making it one of the largest embroidery works done by a single artist. Each panel starts as an ordinary, old cotton bed sheet. The sheet is wadded and painted. It is then covered in several layers of silk. The top layers are cut through, to reveal the lower layers of silk and paint. On this detailed background, the final design elements are stitched, using silks and metallic leathers. It is a highly labour intensive process which generates dramatic results! A must for your calendar!

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