

MARLBOROUGH & DISTRICT BRANCH

www.marlboroughembroiderers.org

NEWSLETTER – NOVEMBER 2018

Welcome to all our members and guests

Happy reading



DATES FOR DECEMBER

DEC 1st Young Embroiderers
DEC 3rd **CHRISTMAS LUNCH AND SURPRISE SPEAKER**
12MD for 12.30PM

REMINDERS FOR THIS MONTH

NOV 5th Meeting/Speaker: **Lydie Gardner**
"Creating Puppets and Dolls for Film,
TV and pleasure"
NOV 20th Design to Stitch (2)
NOV 29th Stitch Day

COMMITTEE ELECT FOR 2018-2019

This year we welcome two new members onto the MDEG Branch committee making a total of twelve committee members for the coming year. This is very encouraging for our branch as some of the longer serving committee members will be standing down in the coming year or two. Although our branch is thriving and vibrant at the current time, with an involved membership, and a proactive committee, to be sustainable in the future young blood and new ideas are essential. Therefore a big welcome to:

Ann Kingdon and Annie Fellows.

The new committee and their current main roles comprise:

Ann Louise Smith: Joint Chair
Hostess for speakers
Tea rota and kitchen supplies

Clare Russell: Joint Chair
Hostess for speakers

Susanne Stedman: Secretary
Minutes

Stella Hall: Treasurer

Chris Cook: Membership Secretary
Magazines
Design to Stitch Tutor
Equipment hire

Vernice Church: Programme Secretary
Speaker/ Tutor Workshop liaison
Hall Hire

Ros Lomas: Publicity
Website Blog

Christine Hill: Young Embroiderers

Kay Francis: Workshop bookings

Maria Fraser: Newsletter and Noticeboard
Raffle prizes

Ann Kingdon: Outings

Annie Fellows: To be confirmed

Non committee members with regular roles include:
Margaret Steers, Celia Bell: Young Embroiderers
Annie James, Marie-Jose Milnes: Raffle tickets
Ann Johnson: Library

Christmas Party



It is that time of year again when we take the opportunity of the approaching Christmas season to get together as a branch to enjoy a very pleasurable social occasion with a drink, some festive fare and the tantalising expectation of a surprise speaker. As usual Vernice has been able to secure a celebrity who will not fail to please and entertain. Be sure not to miss out on this enjoyable experience and add the date to your diaries before they start filling up with other Christmas commitments. But most importantly, as most of you are aware, the MDEG branch relies on the generosity and culinary flare of its members to provide the gastronomic experience that we have come to regard as being 'par excellence'. The list for contributions will be available at the next meeting, so if you are planning to come along to the party please don't forget to sign up. We can't do it without all your invaluable help. When signing up you should also state whether you have any specific dietary needs, other than vegetarian, eg: nut free, gluten free, dairy free etc so that this can be managed appropriately.

MDEG BRANCH LIBRARY

The committee would just like to remind members and especially our newly joined members that the branch has an extensive library of books and DVDs on all aspects of stitching, embroidery, textile art and design which are available on loan to our membership for a small fee of 50p per item for one month. There is a straight-forward self-service system which involves filling out your name and the item's name and author in the book provided on the table by the library, putting your fee into the tin, then signing it back in on return. The committee is aware that many resources are now freely available on the internet, and it is getting more and more difficult to provide up-to-date information in hard copy, however the library can still be an invaluable source for browsing seminal works, finding out about different artists' work and techniques and acting as a springboard for our own ideas. Do take a look. You may be surprised. The library is open during the speaker sessions on the 1st Monday of the month (come early and have a browse) and there are plans to open it up during stitch day too. The committee would welcome any suggestions from members regarding the library as it is due to have an overhaul in the new year.

OCTOBER STITCH DAY

FELT CHRISTMAS DECORATIONS

Members wishing to make decorations with Clare Russell should bring along some pieces of felt, hand sewing thread and any decorative notions that you may wish to use.

PROSPECT HOSPICE TRIPTYCH

Margaret Heath will be at Stitch Day and would welcome help from members to work on the Prospect Triptych. There are several jobs which need to be done so Margaret can accommodate about 5 stitchers to work on the various pieces. Members can come in and help for an hour in the morning or the afternoon, or all day but any help at all would be greatly appreciated.

NOVEMBER STITCH DAY

There will be an opportunity to create your own stitched, and/or printed cards for Christmas. More information will be available at the next meeting.

EQUIPMENT LOAN

New members may not be aware that there are several pieces of branch equipment that can be hired at a cost of £5 per month on Stitch Day. These include an embellisher, an overlocker, a smocking machine and a cord winder. An extra charge is made for embellisher needle breakages as they are expensive to replace. If you would like to borrow a piece of equipment please discuss with **Chris Cook** beforehand. She will also be happy to provide tuition on any unfamiliar equipment or to arrange an alternative day for pick up. Do take advantage as it is a perfect way to incorporate a different technique into your work without the added cost of buying an expensive piece of equipment.

CREATIVE WITH WORKBOX MAGAZINE

Creative with Workbox is now being issued monthly. All members signing up for their annual subscription through the branch should bring a cheque payable to MDEG for £42 to the November meeting

FABRIC AFRICA: STORIES TOLD THROUGH TEXTILES

Venue: Bristol Museum and Art Gallery, Queen's Rd, Bristol, BS8 1RL
Dates: Ongoing until May 19, 2019, Tues-Sun 10-5, Closed Mon.
Entry: Free <https://bit.ly/2J8iCZj>

Fabric Africa is a stunning snapshot of the diversity of modern and historic textiles from across the continent of Africa. Highlights from the Museum's World Cultures and British and Empire and Commonwealth collections will reflect the variety of patterns, colours, materials and techniques created as well as focusing on the personal and provocative stories they can tell. The selection of textiles and clothing dates from the late 1800s to the present day and come from Nigeria, Ghana, Kenya, South Africa, Sudan, Mali and Swaziland amongst others. From mud cloth to adinkra, barkcloth dresses to kanga cotton prints, 'royal' kente cloth to huge embroidered agbadas, this exhibition will give you a taste of the amazing ingenuity of the textile artists of Africa and explore the importance of cloth in social and political lives of those who wear them.



ARCHIVAL MATERIAL: BATH TEXTILE ARTISTS

Venue: Bath Royal Literary and Scientific Institute(BRLSI)
16-18 Queen Square, Bath, BA1 2HN.
Dates: Wed Oct 24 -Tues Nov 6, 2018.
10.00-4.00 Mon – Sat
Entry: Free www.bathtextileartists.com

An exhibition of work by Bath Textile Artists, inspired by books and objects from the collections. They are a select group of professionals who combine years of experience in the fields of embroidery, felting, quilting, costume, weaving, dyeing, stitching and silk painting. Two of the artists are well known to the MDEG branch, being current members with a huge involvement in our group. **Chris Cook**, who has run the Design to Stitch course for many years and has been a great source of knowledge and inspiration to many of us, and **Margaret Heath** who has provided the aptitude and technical skill to organise and oversee the creation of three collaborative public textile artworks within the branch, one being the current Prospect Hospice Triptych. It may be short notice but it is near enough for a day trip to tie up with a spot of Christmas shopping in the lovely city of Bath.



SCYTHIA FIBRE ART

9TH INTERNATIONAL BIENNIAL EXHIBITION DEADLINE FOR ENTRIES FEB 1ST 2019

Venue: Ivano-Frankivsk, Ukraine
Dates: May 21 to June 04 2019
<http://scythiatextile.com/events-2019-2020.html>

This is an International juried exhibition of both mini (30x30x30cm), and micro (5x5x5cm) textile artworks. Artists from all over the world, working in any textile technique, are invited to take part. The International Biennial Symposium and Exhibition on Textile Art "Scythia" is the only one of its kind in Ukraine which includes artistic, educational, fashion and cultural heritage groups as well as professional workshops. The events are biennial, alternating yearly between the masterclass exhibition with conference, and the mini/micro exhibitions open to everyone. It is a highly prestigious initiative and is the first privately organized international art event in Ukraine, which is free from any kind of cultural or political pressure. Contact address for brief and entry form: scythiatextile@gmail.com

SOME EXHIBITS FROM 2017



ZERO 3 - SIGNATURE X EXHIBITION

Venue: Menier Chocolate Factory,
51, Southwark St, London, SE1 1RU
Dates: Nov 27th-Dec 1st 2018, 11-6
Entry: Donation
www.paintingsinhospitals.org.uk/Event/zero3

Zero 3 is a group of 9 artists working together with the shared aim of making contemporary work and actively promoting and exploring modern fibre art, whilst respecting traditional standards of craftsmanship. As a group, they are committed to making cutting-edge work that finds its roots in classic stitch and that respects traditional standards of craftsmanship. Their common theme is the use of cloth and other fibres used for innovative mark-making and surface design on fabric. Signature X will showcase a range of inspirational, contemporary work.



SELECT WINTER EXHIBITION AND OPEN STUDIOS

Venue: Lansdown Gallery, Lansdown, Stroud, GL5 1BB
Dates: Tues Nov 20 – Sun Nov 25 2018,
Tues-Sat 11-5, Sun 11-3
Entry: Free www.sitselect.org/

The Winter Exhibition will comprise work created by 24 local artists and will include a mixed display of paintings, jewellery, ceramics, prints and textiles. Drinks and refreshments will be available to all visitors on Saturday November 24th between 10am and 1pm.



ARLINGTON: SAVING THE SILKS And WHY HAVE COTTON WHEN YOU CAN HAVE SILK EXHIBITION

Venue: Arlington Court and the NT Carriage Museum,
Barnstaple, Devon, EX31 4LP
Dates: Sat and Sun only until Dec 23rd 2018
Entrv: £11.60

This year the National Trust launched an ambitious large-scale conservation work to help save the rare silk hangings in the beautiful Boudoir. The crimson and gold silk damask, one of the few surviving original decorative features in the house, was in danger of being lost. Over two hundred years of light damage and natural wear and tear have taken their toll. The work is taking place in situ as it is too fragile to remove from the walls. This offers visitors a unique opportunity to see specialised conservation work in action. A special partnership silk exhibition has also been installed, highlighting some of the problems and conservation methods associated with caring for precious silk artefacts. The exhibition includes previously unseen items from the costume and textile collection, including a dress made from 18th century silk, and explores how silk was used not just for luxurious clothing but also for furnishing textiles and the interiors of carriages.



NOVEL STITCHES

Venue: Newbury Library, The Wharf, Newbury, RG145AU
Dates: Oct 11- - Nov 9 2018, Mon-Wed & Fri 9-5,
Thurs 9-6, Sat10-4, Closed Sun.
Fee: Free <http://www.newburv-embroiderers.co.uk/>



A Newbury Embroiderers' Guild Exhibition displayed in the Carnegie room of Newbury Library, with an emphasis on embroideries and textile art inspired by novels, both old and new.

LADY SEW & SEW: 40 YEARS OF ROWAN

Venue: Farm Road, Henley on Thames, Oxon, RG9 1EJ
Dates: Nov 10-22, 2018 Mon-Sat 10-4 **Entry:** Free
<https://ladysewandsew.co.uk/autumn-rowan-yarn-launch/>



Rowan Yarns are celebrating 40 years of the garments and styles that have made them famous with an anniversary exhibition. Lady Sew and Sew, is the only venue outside London where you will be able to see the exhibition in its entirety. It features designs and yarns from across the decades and is totally fascinating.

ANTIQUES TEXTILES & TRIBAL ART FAIR

Venue: Olympia Hilton Hotel, 380 Kensington High St,
London W14 8NL
Dates: Sun Nov 11 2018, 10.30-5
Entry: £5 www.pa-antiques.co.uk/

The fair is in its nineteenth year and gathers about fifty leading specialist dealers offering for sale a dazzling array of unrivalled genuine antique textiles, vintage costumes, carpets, aubussons, lace, fine linen, tapestries, quilts and tribal art. It promises to be an exciting, rewarding and enjoyable experience for all.

