



Embroiderers' Guild

MARLBOROUGH & DISTRICT BRANCH

www.marlboroughembroiderers.org

NEWSLETTER – JANUARY 2016

*Wishing all our Members
A very Happy and Healthy New Year*

Reminders for this month

- JAN 4th.** Meeting/Emily Jo Gibbs:
"Stitching, a love story. My creative Journey"
- JAN 11th.** *Bunting making day*
- JAN 19th.** Design to Stitch Course (3)
- JAN 25th.** Stitch Day and *Bunting making day*

Dates for February

- FEB 1st.** Anne Griffith:
"Diamond Stitches"
- FEB 15th.** Y.E.
- FEB 16th.** Design to Stitch Course (4)
- FEB 29th.** Stitch Day

Christmas Lunch

Again a hugely successful festive lunch. As usual, the **excellent** food, generously provided by all who attended, was greatly enjoyed, as was our surprise speaker, **Elenor Kapp**, embroiderer, poet, writer and storyteller. Elenor provided a series of very entertaining and interactive stories strung together from myth, legend history and everyday phrases, the common thread being - textiles!

A very big thank you to you all for your generosity in providing a wonderful banquet and to all those involved in the smooth running of the day by helping behind the scenes with setting up the tables, laying out the food, making drinks and packing and clearing up. **WELL DONE EVERYONE!**

LORRAIN LOCKWOOD: Val Rowe, acting chair of the SW Regional committee, awarded **Lorrain** with a 50 year pin and certificate at our branch Christmas party for continuous Guild membership since 1965. Lorrain was inspired to become a member of EGHQ in 1965 following a visit to an embroidery exhibition in Leeds. Access to a wealth of embroidery books in the HQ library and affiliated membership of the Yorkshire Branch were added incentives. Initially work precluded full involvement in Branch activities. However, in 1976, following her marriage to John, a move to Marlborough, and a change in domestic circumstances, she was able to attend many talks, workshops and exhibitions, and this stimulated her enthusiasm and creativity. Lorrain's early work for the 1977 and 1978 Chairman's challenges can be seen in the next issue of 'Creative with Workbox'. Over the years Lorrain has been involved in various projects including the refurbishment of Avebury Manor, working on the bed hangings and a close stool. Through wide ranging study her skills have continued to evolve, initially under the tutelage of Jane Lemon, and later through City and Guilds Creative Embroidery levels 1 & 2 and through her work on EG Portfolios. Even now she continues to expand her skills through courses at Denman College while working on a piece for the 'Capability' Brown tricentenary celebrations in 2016 for the display at Bowood House.

Congratulations, Lorrain, on such a very special achievement.

We look forward to your continuing contributions to the Guild for some time to come!

2016 Ruby Anniversary Exhibition – 22nd April - 25th April 2016

Our Ruby celebration Exhibition of Textile Art and Embroidery is in print! 'Creative With Workbox' journal has published a very informative article promoting the branch, its work, history and upcoming exhibition written by our very own in house tutor and Regional Representative, **Chris Cook**. Chris was assisted by our longest serving Guild member **Lorrain Lockwood**. Several items of Lorrain's beautiful pieces of work from past exhibitions are mentioned together with some photographs. The large red embroidery featured is one of **Lyndsay Sherwood's** beautiful anniversary squares.



The article will be in the Jan-Feb issue 2016

Reminder. BUNTING MAKING



JANUARY 11th AND 25th 10-4PM at KVH Ann is

organising 2 **FUN BUNTING DAYS!**

Members are invited to come and help with the mass production of Bunting to decorate the outside of the Hall during the Exhibition. Please bring lunch, sewing machines and scissors and any suitable reasonable weight cotton fabric, all colours and patterns.

Simple instructions will be provided. A nice opportunity to chat and shake away any January blues.

Please drop in for an hour or two if you can't make the full day-everyone welcome!

Workshops

MAR 8th "The sketchbook" – Cas Holmes

Please see **Vernice** or **Kay** to make a booking.

A list of requirements will be provided.

NB. -In house workshops are provided by tutors who are also Branch Members.

-Tutor led workshops are provided by outside tutors

Capability Brown Exhibition at Bowood House



If anyone else would like a piece of work to be considered for entry into this national exhibition please contact **Robina**.

All entries are required to be submitted by the **end of February 2016**.

Any work *not* accepted can be exhibited in the Branch Ruby Anniversary Exhibition.

2016 Branch Programme

Printed copies will be available at the January meeting for any Branch Member who didn't get one at the Christmas lunch. The programme details will also be available to download from our website:

www.marlbroughembroiderers.org/

Summary of Committee Discussion On EGHQ Document

Branch Membership:

Although a few were uncertain, the majority of committee members would wish MDEG to be a 'partner' branch. This is because we already operate in many of the ways suggested by the proposals. We also wished to promote the charitable aims of the EG.

Comments made:

- The regional set up was not deemed to be very helpful, being too big. Also none of our neighbouring guilds with whom we could usefully liaise is in our region.
- Would being a 'partner' branch make any difference to us?
- Would we lose our autonomy? Would we have to do everything the EG suggests?
- Clustering in a rural area would present problems for distance travelling
- Difficulties could be seen to arise from widening the accessibility of talks and workshops for all age groups, without increasing the costs and without involving further organisational investment to the branch, of time and resources.
- To encourage wider participation, circulating our programme to other organisations eg: WIs was considered.
- Would the proposals be cost effective for the EG? ie: is there a business plan?
- How exactly will it work? A detailed time scale of changes might ideally be needed.
- Would there be more contact time from EG? Would they visit? What would we receive from EG in return for a closer relationship?

Individual Membership:

It was thought that the 'Supporter' model would be the most popular, and that if we had to have a 'Fellow' member on the committee, the branch could pay the extra fee. But with difficulties in finding committee members and branch officers, this could be problematic.

An open discussion will be led by **Claire** at the January 2016 general meeting

The document can be found on the guild website:

www.embroiderersguild.com/

You will need your branch membership number to log in.

Winter Weather Reminder

As previously mentioned – if it becomes necessary to cancel any meeting due to bad weather we will endeavour, if possible, to advise members by email and would appreciate this information being passed on to others. Members not on email are requested to check with **Suzanne** or **Maria** (see contact details on back of programme).

***We look forward to seeing everyone soon
And please don't forget to wear your name badges.***

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.marlbroughembroiderers.org