



Embroiderers' Guild

# MARLBOROUGH & DISTRICT BRANCH

[www.marlbroughembroiderers.org](http://www.marlbroughembroiderers.org)

## NEWSLETTER – MARCH 2016

*Welcome to all our Members and  
Guests. Happy Reading*

### Reminders for this month

- MAR 7th** BRANCH OPEN DAY  
Cas Holmes – “Magpie of the mind”
- MAR 8th** TUTOR LED WORKSHOP  
Cas Holmes – “the Sketchbook”
- MAR 15th** Design to stitch course (5)
- MAR 21st** Stitch Day

### Dates for April

- APR 4th** PLOUGHMAN'S LUNCH
- APR 5th** YE
- APR 9th** SW REGIONAL FESTIVAL DAY
- APR 11th** Planning meeting for anniversary exhibition
- APR 19th** Design to stitch course (6)
- APR 22nd-25th** 40<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY EXHIBITION
- APR 21<sup>st</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup>** Set up and clear up days

### March Speaker and tutor led workshop

**Cas Holmes** is one of the UK's most renowned textile artists. She describes herself as being like a magpie in that she collects ideas, objects, materials - the often overlooked or 'hidden' places and objects - and makes sketches and photographs as she goes. This diary of photographs, sketches and notes records the things that catch her eye. She refers to this process as 'Magpie of the Mind'. In her workshop Cas will be encouraging us to develop our own magpie instincts and to find inspiration to be creative from our findings and observations. There have been a couple of last minute cancellations for the workshop, so if you are inspired to attend please see Vernice at the March meeting.

### Open Day

As always **guests** are welcome at all our meetings. However, our open day is a particularly good opportunity to introduce new or would-be members to our group. Not only can they hear a nationally acclaimed textile artist but they can also see the varied work being done by our own members, both for the Ruby anniversary exhibition and at branch workshops, while, at the same time, enjoying a cup of tea and a piece of cake!

### Ploughman's lunch and Bring-and-Buy Sale

It's that time of year again! Don't forget to sign up for our upcoming ploughman's lunch social event. No speaker, just an opportunity for all our members, old and new, to get to know each other better and enjoy a lovely buffet provided by the committee at **£5.00 per head**. If anyone has a **special diet** please flag this up when you sign up. This is also an opportunity to dig out and bring along to our **bring and buy sale** all those threads, pieces of unused fabric, wool, beads, sequins, sewing notions, embroidery books and other textile paraphernalia which are in need of a fresh pair of eyes to give them a new lease of life!

### Our 2016 Ruby Anniversary Exhibition

The countdown is now starting in earnest!

**ONLY 8 WEEKS TO GO!!!** Keep those **red squares and tote bags** coming in! Both the **quality and variety of work** are remarkable.



Keep it up! **BUT** - don't forget to keep working on your **display pieces** at the same time and even if they are still only in their embryo stage ensure that you **complete a submission form** with a sketch or photo of your work attached and hand it in at the March meeting.

**FORMS** can be found on the **website** or at **meetings**.

Remember also to make a **red flower** if you are helping out!

**Further Call for Volunteers:** A **volunteer list** will be available at the **Stitch Day** and **March meetings**.

**Please sign up. We can't do this without YOU!**

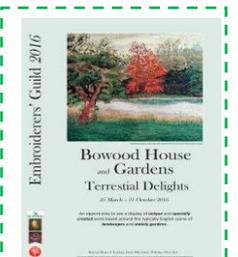
**An Update Sheet** will be available at the **March meeting** and will also be posted on the **website**.



### BOWOOD EXHIBITION CONTRIBUTIONS

What a truly inspirational array of work created by **Robina Orchard, Nikki Vesey, Linda Wells, Lorrain Lockwood, Judy Joiner and Lyndsay Sherwood**. They will, no doubt, be worthy contenders for the select display in the exhibition commemorating the 300<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the birth of Lancelot 'Capability' Brown at Bowood House, which will be open to the public between: **March 25<sup>th</sup> and October 31<sup>st</sup> 2016**.

**Robina** will keep us informed **GOOD LUCK!**



## SUMMARY OF EQHQ COUNCIL COMMUNIQUE

### **Members and Branches consultation:**

No consensus was identified from the member consultation to inform redefining of either the Branch or the Membership model. The Board will be considering the outcomes of the consultation exercise with a view to looking at ways of making significant savings in overheads and in administrative costs.

### **Branches at risk of closure:**

Whilst some of the smaller Branches are folding it has also been recognised that some are among the most stable and committed. Regional chairs are being asked to monitor and inform HQ of impending problems in an effort to forestall further closures.

### **National celebration of Stitch Day: 6<sup>th</sup> August 2016**

It is hoped to raise the number of branches participating from 65 to 100 this year. A **common theme** will be provided which will be designed to link in to the Capability Brown Festival. This is to be announced in May.

### **National exhibitions:**

Branches are encouraged to publicise widely both the 'Capability Brown' and 'A Game of Thrones' events as they have potential to raise significantly the profile of the Guild.

### **Inspired to Stitch Hand Embroidery Course Level 1:**

This new course has been developed by the EG along with two others and are ready for Branches to run or can be offered via EG Distance Learning. More information is available in issue 41 of Contact magazine.

### Publicity in Embroidery Magazine

Great News for Marlborough and District Branch! We are thrilled to see that our **Ruby Exhibition** has been advertised **twice** in the current issue of **Embroidery Magazine**, firstly in its 'what's on page' and further in the **listings** at the end of the magazine! It also has a lovely picture of one of **Lindsey Sherwood's red squares**. The whole advert is very impressive. This sends out a very positive message to the readers, suggesting that not only are we a Branch of long standing, but we are, moreover, a very thriving group. **Well done, Ros, and thank you for all your hard work in achieving this!** Long may this well-deserved recognition of the work that our branch is doing continue through all our members' efforts!

### National AGM:

#### **May 7<sup>th</sup> at the Manchester Conference centre**

This one day event looks to be a very full and favourable one. Various **awards** will be presented for contributions, achievements and excellence. One of these will include a presentation to the overall winner of the **members' challenge**, this year's theme for which was 'Looking Through'. The speakers include **Susie Vickery** and **Sian Martin**. Both these talks promise to be both engaging and thought provoking. Susie is currently working on a project on Art and Health with women in the slums of Mumbai and her talk is entitled '**Bottle-tops and pompoms: Handicrafts for change in Asia**'. Sian in her talk; '**Sharing the Family Business**' will be looking at the influences that shape artists and their passions. Not a day trip, but should you find that you are heading up North to visit friends or relatives at that time take the opportunity to book a place.

## Invitation from the Cotswold Branch

There are spaces available on forthcoming **workshops:**

**Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> April:** 'Hand stitching a William Morris Style Robin' with **Nicola Jarvis**. Fabric printed Robin provided at a cost of £5.00.

**Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> April:** 'Developing Sketchbooks as a Rich Recourse' with **Amanda Hislop**.

**Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> May:** 'Hidden Treasure - a Glint of Gold' with well-known local artist **Angela Bentley**.

All workshops are **10am-4pm** and are held at: **The REDDINGS COMMUNITY CENTRE, NORTH RD WEST, CHELTENHAM, GL51 6RF** £23 for members, £28 for non-members Bring **Lunch** and a **Mug**.

Booking Secretary: **Janet Williamson**

Contact details:

Tel: **01242 570883**

Email: [williamson24cotswold@gmail.com](mailto:williamson24cotswold@gmail.com)

## Events

### 'Elements of Capability' outdoor sculpture

**30<sup>th</sup> April - 22<sup>nd</sup> May**

Fox Talbot Museum, Lacock Abbey, Lacock

[www.nationaltrust.org.uk/events](http://www.nationaltrust.org.uk/events)

Fox Talbot Museum, grounds and Cloister is a National Trust site. Members are free of charge. The event is free but normal admission charges apply to the venue: Adults £9.90. Open daily 10.30am-5.50pm.

This intriguing outdoor sculpture display has been created to reflect the central elements of Lancelot Capability Brown's landscape garden designs.

### Threads through Time

**2<sup>nd</sup> February - 2<sup>9th</sup> May**

Upper Gallery, Radstock Museum, Waterloo Rd, Radstock, Somerset, BA3 3EP

[www.radstockmuseum.co.uk/events-and-talks/](http://www.radstockmuseum.co.uk/events-and-talks/)

Admission: Adults £5.00, Concessionary £4.00. Closed Mondays.

Saturdays 11am-5pm otherwise 2pm-5pm.

A display of embroidery from local groups and also exhibits of contemporary and vintage lace and embroideries from the West Country.

### Threads of Meaning

**30<sup>th</sup> April - 22<sup>nd</sup> May**

Guildford House Gallery, 155 High St, Guildford, Surrey, GU1 3AJ

[www.guildford.gov.uk/threadsofmeaning](http://www.guildford.gov.uk/threadsofmeaning)

Monday-Saturday 10am - 4.45pm.

Sunday 11am - 4pm. Admission Free.

A textile exhibition from the Wey Valley Workshop, a group of talented textile and mixed media artists promoting good design and craftsmanship. The exhibition will include a display of experimental work called 'The Comfort Zone Challenge'. Many works will be for sale.

## Hand and Lock Competition

This is an annual competition and this year there is an **open textile art category!** If you are an expert **hand embroiderer** or **textile sculptor** and would like to show off your skills this is an ideal opportunity. The Brief is: '**Objects of Desire/Artist's Heirloom**'. Judges will be looking at originality, embroidery technique, execution, construction and overall presentation. The product should be well crafted. Creativity with materials and processes to achieve quality design to last and withstand the test of time will be the ultimate consideration. You will be able to find more detailed information on the Hand and Lock website:

[www.handembroidery.com/about-the-prize](http://www.handembroidery.com/about-the-prize)

## OUTINGS REP NEEDED

We are still looking for one or two people to take on the role of 'Outings Rep'! It would be a shame to forgo organised outings, which I know many of you have found very enjoyable in the past. I know that it has also provided an opportunity for some members to get to events that otherwise would have been impossible for them to attend. However, it is understandable that the task might appear onerous, and therefore we are mooting the idea of having a list of members who would be happy to work on a rota basis, perhaps in pairs, and to provide support to one another during their 'turn'. As we only have one or at the most two outings a year this would mean minimal involvement. **Please give this some thought!**

## Quilts UK

**19<sup>th</sup> - 22<sup>nd</sup> May**

Three Counties

Showground

Malvern WR13 6NW

Tel: 01406 372600

[www.grosvenorshows.co.uk/html/quilt-shows.html](http://www.grosvenorshows.co.uk/html/quilt-shows.html)

10am-5pm (4.30 Sunday).

Adults £9.00 (£7.00 in advance).

Concessionary £8.00 (£6.00 in advance).

Spectacular displays of 100s of quilts with trade stands and an open competition on the theme of 'Where the heart is'. A must DAY OUT for all quilt enthusiasts!



## **A REMINDER OF IMPORTANT DATES:**

**Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> April:** Setting up heavy items - strong men required both at Aldbourne and at KVH! **Times to be confirmed.**

**Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> April:** General set up of exhibition - those with previous experience particularly needed.

**Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> April:** Members evening reception **5.00-7.00pm**. All welcome but numbers needed for catering of refreshments.

**Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> April to Monday 25<sup>th</sup> April 2016 10.00am to 4.30pm.** Exhibition Days needing help with stewarding and catering.

**Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> April:** Dismantling of the exhibits, tables and stands. Again some strong men will be required for the heavy items.

Please see an exhibition committee member if you can press-gang any strong able bodied males into helping!

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](mailto:mariafraser2013@outlook.com)

A copy is also available on our website. [www.marlboroughembroiderers.org](http://www.marlboroughembroiderers.org)