

MARLBOROUGH & DISTRICT BRANCH

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NEWSLETTER – APRIL 2017

*Wishing all our members and guests
a very Happy Easter*



REMINDERS FOR THIS MONTH

APR 3 rd	PLOUGHMAN'S LUNCH
APR 11 th	YOUNG EMBROIDERERS
APR 24 th	STITCH DAY
APRIL 25 th	DESIGN TO STITCH (6)

DATES FOR MAY

MAY 8 th	Speaker: Anna McDowell "History Of Dorset Buttons"
MAY 9 th	Tutor-led workshop "Making Dorset Buttons"
May 22 nd	Stitch Day
Mav30 th	Young Embroiderers

MAY SPEAKER

Anne McDowell's interest in the Dorset Button industry was developed during her time as Chairman of two museums; the Shaftesbury Abbey Museum, and the Garden and Gold Hill Museum. Social history has always been an interest of hers and Dorset Buttons stemmed from this interest. Having read the available history on these small simple buttons, and having seen them in museum collections, Anne realised how important they were in shaping the livelihoods of ordinary people living in East Dorset. This interest grew into a passion, and she not only learnt how to make Dorset Buttons, but also researched their history and the impact of national events on this cottage industry. During her talk she will be giving us an insight into this very interesting history

MAY TUTOR-LED WORKSHOP: MAKING DORSET BUTTONS

For those of us who are fortunate enough to have a place on [Anna McDowell's workshop](#), we will be acquiring the basic skills of this age old craft for ourselves by learning how to make two different Dorset 'Thread' Buttons using thread and hollow brass rings, known as a Dorset Cartwheel Button and a Blandford Crosswheel Button. If you are inspired sign up now to avoid disappointment.

KELMSCOT MANOR LECHLADE

In advance of next month's talk on May Morris, the daughter of the founder of the Arts and Crafts movement, William Morris, why not visit the Morris Manor Museum. In 1871 it became a place of relaxation and inspiration for William, and houses a number of collections including tapestries and needlework displays as well as the embroideries designed for the iconic Red House at Bexleyheath. The collections span more than 300 years and reflect the history and creative legacy of the time. For more info at: www.sal.org.uk/kelmscott-manor

PLOUGHMANS LUNCH

APRIL 3rd 12MD for 12.30 START

Please note the early start of this event. No regular meeting. Just Food, Fun and Friendship! Don't forget to bring those superfluous textile sundries for the "Bring and Buy". The proceeds will go to assist in Conserving the EG Collection, which you will have an opportunity of seeing on DVD during the afternoon. **PLEASE LET SUSANNA KNOW IF YOU INTEND TO COME BUT HAVEN'T SIGNED UP.**

MARLBOROUGH OPEN STUDIOS PREVIEW SHOW

Venue: The Mount House Gallery,
Bath Rd. Marlborough SN8 1PA
Dates: April 21st – April 28th
Daily 10am – 5pm Free entry

As a taster of things to come in the Open Studios Art Trail during the summer, The Mount House Gallery will showcase the Preview event. This is the perfect way to see a sample of all of the open studio artist's work in one place. The exhibition will comprise artwork from all art disciplines and from locally and internationally recognised artists.

Amongst these will be Textile Art pieces by [Textile Artist and MDEG member, Ann Louise Smith](#). Ann uses traditional printing skills such as batik, screen printing and linocuts alongside more contemporary digital printing techniques to create designs and artwork, which convey her passion for colour, print and stitch.



One of Ann's exhibition pieces is this colourful textile which she has batik dyed and embellished with machine stitching and gold foil. It was inspired by a summer garden theme.

NEC OUTING

A well earned thank you goes to [Ann Kingdom](#) on behalf of all our members for a truly well organised and executed outing to the triple event show at the NEC [Well done Ann](#). Bravo to [Lindsay Sherwood](#) and [Nikki Vesey Williams](#) for their amazing contributions to the roaring 20's competition. We all wish you much luck in future events.

ENID MARY BURNETT

Some of our long serving members may be saddened to hear that Enid Mary Burnett, died at her home last week after a short illness. She was an active member of the MDEG branch serving on the committee as Treasurer between 1992-95. Because she was confined to a wheelchair for many years, having contracted polio as a child, committee meetings were often held at her home in Lockeridge. Subsequent to her leaving the Guild she was a frequent guest, and was known as a very lively, characterful lady, loved by all, whose great passion was knitting for charity. Being disabled she relied heavily on her black retriever, who predeceased her and I am told is buried in the KVH grounds.

THE PEACOCK by SARAH WICKS

This beautiful goldwork piece comprises Sarah's 3rd completed module for the Certificate in hand embroidery run by the RSN in Bristol. Those of you who were at the NEC may well have seen it exhibited on the RSN stand as an outstanding piece of work. The piece was inspired by a design in Sarah's late Mum's book. It was worked on a background fabric of silk and supported by calico. The techniques Sarah used included: couching gold thread over layers of felt and soft string; individually stitching tiny hollow bead like chips of gold thread onto layers of felt; and decorative cut work. It was a complex and laborious



process taking Sarah about six months to stitch. We look forward to seeing her final module piece [Well done, Sarah!](#)

WHITE HORSE BOOKSHOP ANNUAL OPEN ART EXHIBITION MAY 2017

If you are planning on entering a piece of work to the exhibition now is the time to put those finishing touches to your work and to think about mounting or framing it. [The deadline for entries is April 17th](#). All entries will be displayed, and all exhibitors will be invited to the preview, with wine and nibbles, on May 4th. Please let me have photos of your entries for the newsletter.

SIT SELECT FESTIVAL 2017 and TRAIL

VENUE: The Museum in the Park, Stratford Park, Stroud, Glos., GL5 4AF

DATES: April 29th-May 28th Tues-Fri 10-4 Sat-Sun 11-4
Stroud International Textiles (SIT) Select Festival celebrates contemporary textiles and crafts, bringing national designer makers to the region to exhibit their work and to offer debate on global issues that have an impact on our lives.

The programme includes:

The Textile Study Group presenting 'DIS/rupt' May 2nd-21st

First established in 1973 under the guidance of Constance Howard, the Textile Study Group is a highly respected consortium of internationally recognised textile artists and tutors. The festival exhibition explores themes such as global conflict, with the related problems of migration and the refugee problem; climate change and ecological disruption; conflict within domestic relationships; and disruption within traditional fabric making processes. Each group member has produced individual responses to their chosen theme through the influence of stitched textiles, but not exclusively with fabric and thread. Furthermore, a programme of linked workshops, run by members of the Textile Study Group, will be offering an opportunity to learn a new skill or technique. More information about these can be found on the festival website.

Select Trail 6th&7th, 13th&14th May 11am-6pm On the trail there will be a wide range of crafts to observe as well as an opportunity to meet the artists and find out more about the ideas behind their work and the techniques that they use.

New Collectives Fair

20th&21st May Sat 10.30-5 Sun 11-4 Lansdown Hall Stroud GL5 1BB

Two days of textiles and crafted artefacts with talks from leading innovators.

More Exhibitions in : Meme Art Café, Malthouse Kitchen Bar, Miserden Nursery

A Surprise Shop Trail Competition: No information, as this is a surprise!

Select 2017 brochure

For further information on all the events a hard copy of the festival brochure is now available and can be obtained by sending postage for £2 and your name and address to:

SIT select 49 Bisley Road Stroud GL5 1HF website info: www.sitselect.org



DIVERSITY-TEXTILE ART "10 EXHIBITION"

VENUE: Old Fire Station Gallery, Gravel Hill, Henley-on-Thames, RG9 2AG

DATES: MAY 11TH - 16TH 10am - 5pm Closed Sunday

Diversity is a group of ten textile and mixed media artists who exhibit together on a regular basis. The artists' aim is to produce work which provides a fusion of contemporary and traditional textile art for exhibiting, while continuing to develop and experiment with their own ideas and techniques. Many of the members are also affiliated to other groups and societies. This helps to promote even greater diversity in their work. 2017 is the group's 10th anniversary and they will be celebrating with an exhibition which will present textile artwork created throughout their ten years as Diversity including their most recent pieces. Go along and be inspired whatever your area of interest.



ANOTHER VIEW

TEXTILE INSPIRED ART by PRISM

VENUE: Royal Birmingham Society of Artists

4 Brook Street St Paul's, Birmingham B3 1SA

DATES: April 29th-May 13th Daily 10.30-5.30 Sat 10.30-5 Sun 1-5

The Prism exhibition group was founded in 1999 by the late Julia Caprara. It is their aim to bring work of the highest quality to the public arena in order to highlight the breadth to which textile practice can extend, and also to challenge preconceived ideas of textiles merely being decorative and domestic. Members of Prism are drawn from across the world and also represent all regions of the UK. It is this wide range of cultural and geographic backgrounds that gives such an eclectic interpretation to the theme of their exhibition. Definitely worth the journey.



LACE IN FASHION EXHIBITION BATH



Venue: Fashion Museum Assembly Rooms Bath

Dates: Feb 4th 2017-Jan 1st 2018 Mar-Oct 10.30-5.00 Nov-Feb 10.30-4.00

Entry: Adult £9 Senior £8 Exhibition included in museum entry cost

Lace has been a symbol of style and elegance since the sixteenth century; from fine luxury garments worn by the royals and aristocracy to machine-made items for everyday wear. This brand new exhibition for 2017 will display both the techniques and the top names that have made lace such an enduring fashion trend. Featuring 50 historic treasures and designer dresses, the exhibition is the culmination of a two year project to catalogue the Museum's extensive archives of lace dating from the 1500s to the present day, supported by Arts Council England. The oldest object in the exhibition will be a smock dating from around 1580 with Flemish bobbin lace on the sleeves and collar, one of the earliest pieces in the Fashion Museum collection. Another of the Museum's rarest treasures will also appear in the show; the Silver Tissue Dress which dates from the 1660s is trimmed with exquisite parchment lace, a rare and delicate fabric made using tiny strips of parchment or paper wrapped in silk. Other highlights include a lace dress worn by actress Lea Seydoux in the James Bond film Spectre, as well as elegant evening gowns by top fashion names Balmain, Balenciaga and Molyneux. An excuse for a visit to Bath is never needed, but this exhibition would well justify a special treat. You can also go to the website to the lace design gallery and design your own lace, which will be added to the online gallery!

CRAFT FOR CRAFTERS SHOW

VENUE: The Bath and West Showground, Seniors £7 Free Parking Shepton Mallet, Somerset, BA4 6QN

DATES: April 6th-8th Daily 10-5.00

ENTRY: Adults £8

Visit the Craft4Crafters Show and satisfy your crafting passion! Pick up or brush up on your skills and get involved in the trend of Make, Do & Mend. There will be over 100 national and local businesses under one roof! The show offers a chance to purchase all your essential Hobby & Needle craft supplies as well as attending workshops, watching live demonstrations, meeting designers, taking part in competitions and browsing display galleries. Park for free or travel by train and use the free shuttle bus service running from Castle Cary train station. A great day out!



12"X12" CHALLENGE "WHERE IN THE WORLD"

Looking for your next project? Do you enjoy combining quilting with embroidery? Have you visited or planning to visit Midsomer Quilting in Chilcompton? Then you would be eligible to enter their 2017 mini quilt challenge. There is no age limit so young embroiderers could display their skills alongside seasoned stitchers! The title is left to your own interpretation and there is an option to email an explanation of your interpretation (70 words maximum). There is no limit to the number of entries from one individual or group and no fee for entering. No sleeve is required for hanging. The deadline is **NOVEMBER 2nd 2017** and all entries will be exhibited in the shop between **NOV 24th and DEC 18th**. All quilts should be labelled with your name, address, telephone and email address, and whether they can be offered for sale by secret auction during the exhibition in aid of Dorothy House Hospice. There is no expectation that the quilts are offered for sale. The whole exercise is meant to be fun and non-judgemental whilst at the same time raising money through the exhibition for the Hospice. More info on: www.midsomerq.com/12x12ex.html or ch.kippy@talktalk.net

TOM HICKMAN: FOLLOWING THE THREAD

VENUE: Victoria Art Gallery, Bridge St, Bath, Avon, BA2 4AT

DATES: 25 Feb-10 May Daily 10.30-5

ENTRY: Adults £4 Seniors £3.50

At his home in the small coastal village of

New Tolsta on the Isle of Lewis, creating has become a way of life for self-taught artist Tom Hickman, from dry stone walls to wool-work pictures and everything in-between. Whatever the material, he follows his impulse to capture the whimsical, embellish the practical and express the emotional. Using reclaimed Harris Tweed wools he stitches complex high relief stump-work embroidery as well as jovial images of local crofters' sheep! If you are planning a trip to Bath why not take time out to browse this quirky exhibition.



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