

MARLBOROUGH & DISTRICT BRANCH

www.marlboroughembroiderers.org

NEWSLETTER – MAY 2018

*Wishing all our members and guests
a very warm welcome and happy reading*



REMINDERS FOR THIS MONTH

- MAY 14th** Speaker: Heather Everitt
"Butterflies and Banners"
- MAY 15th** Tutor-Led workshop:
Kathleen Murphy
"Thread Salad"
- MAY 21th** Stitch Day
- MAY 29th** Young Embroiderers

PROSPECT TRIPTYCH

The work is going on apace but some help is still needed on stitch days, particularly from stitchers who would be happy to do some not so very exciting but essential stitching-down of pieces. Do come along even if it is only for an hour or two. You may find it a very enjoyable and social occasion! There will also be an opportunity to work on the bigger picture at Margaret's home for a few of the more experienced hand and machine stitchers.

DATES FOR JUNE

- JUN 4th** Meeting/Speaker:
Christine Chester
"Afterwards....."
- JUN 11th** Pre-exhibition flower and
badge making works
- JUN 22nd-24th** BRANCH SUMMER EXHIBITION
- JUN 25th** Stitch Day

JUNE SPEAKER: CHRISTINE CHESTER

Christine confesses that she has finally achieved her ambition and is doing what she has always wanted to do: work as an artist and teacher. The last few years have been a particular personal success for Christine because several of her quilts were accepted into major, prestigious, adjudicated contemporary art quilt shows, as well as into curated exhibitions, which gave her the confidence to open her own teaching studio. She is also a member of 'Quilt Art', the international quilt group pushing the boundaries of quilting, and a founder member of 'unFOLD', a contemporary textile art group which works through experimentation, reflection and collaboration. During her presentation entitled "Afterwards...." Christine will talk us through some of the key moments of her journey in textiles as well as telling us about some of her work based on dementia.



GLIMPSES OF THE MOVIES 2018

OVERALL WINNER - NICOLA VESEY WILLIAMS

Congratulations to Nikki for a well deserved result on her hugely imaginative and creative piece of work. Nikki was judged overall winner by Madeira and Husquvana representatives as well as by Pat Tempest from the Embroiderers' Guild, who plans to write an article on Nikki in Contact magazine. Her photograph will also be in the next issue of Stitch. Well done, Nikki! Her prizes, which comprise a Sapphire 930 Husquvana sewing machine, a chest of Madeira Threads and the 'Crystal Rose Bowl' trophy, were presented by the UK CEO of Madeira Karen Burrows. Although ever hopeful, Nikki was completely overwhelmed by the result and is still finding it hard to believe. She says that her inspiration was stimulated by the iconic film and figure of Mary Poppins from her childhood days and the seemingly bottomless carpet bag and its contents presented a 3D challenge! The bag, took 10 months to complete. Nikki bought a vintage brief case in a charity shop and reworked it using recycled fabrics from the Wiltshire scrapstore by embroidering various images from the film. Integral to her work, particularly in the making of the contents, was the technique of needlefelting and the recycling of household items such as foil wrappers, ring-pulls, a champagne cage, a knitting needle, and many more. Nikki's background includes a one year art foundation course followed by a degree in graphic design. She subsequently worked in advertising for 15 years before changing direction. Between 1997 and 2001 Nikki completed C&G courses in both embroidery and in needlefelting to such a high degree that her work was exhibited at the V&A Museum for 6 months! When asked if she has a style, Nikki was hard to pin down as she says that she never makes the same thing twice, though her passion is free machining, mixed media and 3D, with recycling at the core of her work. She draws her inspiration from nature and history, and from famous artists such as Klimt, Turner and the Pre-Raphaelites. Most days she spends at least 4 hours in her purpose-made studio designing, creating and stitching on one of her 8 operational sewing machines or on one of her two embellishers. Nikki is also a collector of Victorian machines, of which she currently has 10 on display. There is no holding her back now that she has tasted success. She tells me that she has already started working on next year's



MDEG BRANCH SUMMER EXHIBITION JUNE 23rd-24th



EXHIBITION UPDATE - SAT 23RD-SUN 24TH JUNE.

IMPORTANT DATES FOR YOUR DIARIES:

Stitch days - April 30th/May 21st and June 11th (extra exhibition day stitching):

This is an opportunity to come and make some flowers to decorate the hall during the exhibition. It is also an ideal time to bring any exhibition related work you would like to share or talk about with other members.

May 14th meeting:

Latest date to bring in your completed entry forms together with photographs of finished pieces (or works in progress) of your exhibition submissions.

Friday June 22nd

All exhibits to be brought to Kennet Valley Hall for the setting up of the exhibition. Times will be announced at a later date.

Saturday June 23rd

Members summer celebration party

All members are invited to come together for drinks and nibbles following the opening day of the exhibition to celebrate our ongoing accomplishments as a branch.

Monday 25th

All exhibition pieces collected and hall tidied. Any queries Ann will be at stitch days or you can contact her on annlouisesmith@hotmail.com

VOLUNTEERS

Members are still needed for help on the day with: serving refreshments; acting as stewards; running the Tombola; supervising the reception desk; performing demonstrations.

SALES AND PRIZES

Please keep stitching or embellishing those calico bags for the MDEG sales table. See Stella if you don't have one or if you would like more.

Keep stashing away any suitable prizes for our tombola stall. Lots will be needed! Remember if you have personal items that you would like to sell, eg: cards, stitched notebooks, hand made items, books, stitching notions etc please book a table space and make arrangements to supervise your space.

ONLY 8 WEEKS LEFT! BUT IF YOU DON'T HAVE A PROJECT, IT IS NOT TOO LATE TO START STITCHING. WITH SPRING WELL AND TRULY ON THE WAY THERE IS LOTS OF INSPIRATION OUT THERE.

IT'S PARTY TIME



YOUNG EMBROIDERERS FLOWER-MAKING WORKSHOP

During the Easter break a small group of young embroiderers met under the guidance of Christine Hill to stitch their contribution of flowers for one of the many garlands that will be required to decorate the hall for the branch Summer Exhibition. I think you will agree that they are stunning and set a high



NEW GENERAL DATA PROTECTION REGULATIONS (GDPR)

The law on data protection changes on May 25th 2018. This will affect how the Guild, the Region and the Branch deal with members' data.

Clare Russell is the MDEG branch GDPR contact.

EGHQ is compiling a statement for each member to sign. This will cover the following points:

1. Recorded permission to collect, record, process and store members' personal data.
2. Information about why the data is needed and what will be done with it.
3. Storage of personal data in a safe place eg: password protected PC or locked box or file
4. Sharing of data on a strictly need-to-know basis.
5. Deletion/destruction of data as soon as it no longer has any use, is not required for audit purposes or a request is made by the member to do destroy it.

MARLBOROUGH OPEN STUDIOS PREVIEW SHOW 7TH-10TH JUNE

Venue: The Mount House Art Gallery
Bath Road, Marlborough

Dates: Thurs-Sun 7th-10th June, 10-5.
The Open Studios artists' work is being showcased at the preview and is an opportunity for the public to decide which studios they would like to visit. As usual there will be many different art forms on display, including textiles and multimedia artworks from Ann Louise Smith. More details about the venues and trail times will be available next month, but in the meantime do have a look at what will be on offer.

1718 SILK COVERLET DISPLAY

Venue: The American Museum
Claverton Manor, Bath BA2 7BD
Dates: April 10th- July 29th Tues-Sun 10-5
Closed Mondays

Entry: Adults £7.25 Seniors £5.75
www.americanmuseum.org/whats-on/1718-silk-patchwork-coverlet/

The American Museum is proud to display the oldest known, and date inscribed, patchwork coverlet in Britain. Made in 1718, long before the United States existed, the coverlet will be joining the Museum's own world renowned textile collection this year to celebrate the coverlet's 300 birthday. The 1718 Silk Patchwork Coverlet is on loan from the Quilters' Guild Collection. The museum is also pleased to announce that it can offer managed access to the Textile Room in the Manor House. If you would like to see the quilt collection, please let the receptionist know so that a timed slot can be provided. No need to book ahead, this can be arranged on the day.



JOURNEYS EXHIBITION

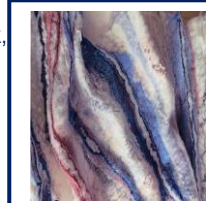
Venue: The Oxfordshire museum
Fletcher's House,
Park St., Woodstock,
OX20 1SN

Dates: May 5th-June 3rd
Tues-Sat 10-5,
Sun 2-5, BH 12-5

Entry: Free
Tel: 01993 811456

www.2.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/event/oxford-textile-artists

The Oxford Textile Artists are celebrating their 25th anniversary with an exhibition which promises to take us through a wonderful range of colour, texture and stitch in both traditional and contemporary textile art.



GATHERING MEMORIES PROJECT

Venue: Willis Museum and Sainsbury Gallery
Market Place, Basingstoke, RG21 7QD

Dates: Jun 30th-August 4th
Entry: Free Tel: 01256 465902

www.gatheringmemoriesuk.wordpress.com

The Willis Museum is hosting a most unusual textile/mixed media exhibition and Silent Auction

in aid of the Alzheimer's Society. The 'Gathering Memories Project' was launched in the Spring of 2017, with Memory Projects Kits being offered for a minimum donation. The kits contained a variety of materials together with a silk strand gathered with gold thread. Taken from an original installation called 'Gathered Memories' these strands were a representation of the twisting, turning and interweaving of precious memories. Using all or part of the silk strand and gold thread from their kit, individuals have been inspired to create an A5 size piece of artwork based on their own personal memories. Well over a hundred thought provoking memory artworks have been created by both amateur and professional textile artists alike, and may now be acquired by bidding in the Silent Auction in order to raise further funds for The Alzheimer's Society. Bidding forms (minimum starting bid £20) will be available at the Willis Museum throughout the exhibition and bids can also be placed via the website. Bids will not be opened until the close of the second exhibition (Southampton Art Gallery) and the winning bidders will be informed by the end of October 2018. Please let me know if any member submitted a stitched memory into the project.



EG MEMBERS CHALLENGE COMPETITION 2018-19 'LIFE'S RICH PATTERN'



Another challenge with great potential for interpretation! Following last year's response the judging panel are hoping for even greater creativity and imaginative portrayal of a subject which promises even more inspiration for infinite possibilities. Suggestions put forward include: tattoos, the internal body, cultural and religious pattern, rhythm of life, mosaics, patterns in nature, the changing seasons, to name but a few. If you are interested in submitting an entry full details can be found on the Guild website and on the branch noticeboard. The closing date is February 28th 2019, so there will be plenty of time once our branch exhibition has finished to focus on a new project. As there are 7 awards in total, given for various aspects of merit, there is also potentially a greater scope for

WHITE HORSE BOOKSHOP ANNUAL OPEN ART EXHIBITION

136, High st., SN8 1HW
May 3 - May 26
Mon-Sat 9-5.30 Sun 11-4

WORLD TEXTILE DAY CENTRAL

Venue: King's Sutton
Millenium Memorial Hall,
Astrop Rd, King's Sutton,
Banbury, OX17 3PG.

Dates: June 2nd, 10-4.30

Entry: Free, but charge for presentations:
£3 for one or £5 for both

www.worldtextileday.co.uk

Working together is the theme for this year's event in which world textile experts will look at how families, villages and communities around the world co-operate to produce their wonderful textiles. There will also be an exhibition of woven, printed and embroidered fabrics.

**11am SPECIAL GUEST PRESENTATION.
SOCIAL FABRIC: TEXTILES AND TEAMWORK IN
EAST AND SOUTHERN AFRICA.**

Chris Spring is an author, artist and curator of the British Museum's Africa collection.

2pm A FAVOURITE TEXTILE.

World textile experts will discuss one of their most treasured textiles followed by a short talk. All day refreshments will be available on site.



TRANSFORMATION: EARTH MATTERS EXHIBITION

X111 MAKERS

Venue: Bristol Guild Gallery, 68,
Park St Bristol, BS1 5JY

Dates: Apr 28-May 19 Mon-Sat 10-5
Closed BH May 7th

Internationally acclaimed and award-winning quilters Claire Passmore and Liz Brooke Ward are among 13 south-west artists showing at Bristol Guild Gallery. Through a variety of tapestries, weavings, quilting and embroidery, the exhibition explores evolutionary, natural change as well as artistic interventive change to create new uses for found objects. Jeweller Rosemary Cochrane works with silver metal clay to create sophisticated, almost pure silver jewellery in textures and patterns that express seasonal transformations. Tapestry weaver Deborah Pawle has integrated discarded plastics in works both of beauty and functionality. Lizzie Godden makes her own plant-based dyes, dyeing and over-dyeing, incorporating found and forgotten objects in gorgeous



UNDERPINNING EXHIBITION THE BRUNEL BRODERERS

Venue: Town Hall, Market Square, Bampton
Oxon OX18 2JH

Dates: June 2-23 Tues- Sat 11.30-4.30 Sun 2-4
<http://www.westoxarts.com/exhibitions.html>

The Brunel Broderers are a group of artists based in S. W. England who work in a variety of textile media and methodologies. They have built up a following within the textile world in challenging the expectations of traditional 'embroidery'. Their work is defined by a title which encompasses a diverse range of approaches, methods and materials to create a series of ideas for thematic projects and



SUZY WRIGHT OXFORD ARTS WEEK

Venue: 5, High St, Eynsham, Witney OX29 4HA

Dates: May 5th-27th Wed-Sun 11am-6pm

Entry: Free www.orangethread.co.uk

Suzy is a textile artist who produces cotton drawings on a calico surface painting a variety of colours with a needle. She takes her inspiration from the forest and the sea. From the fresh catch on the fishing boats coming into harbour to the assortment of mushrooms the foragers bring home, Her aim was to create a series of work that felt real and came to life. When Suzy finishes a picture she leaves the embroidery thread hanging loose, leaving the fabric to distort under the pressure. She likes to give the picture the freedom to distort in its own way.

