



MARLBOROUGH & DISTRICT BRANCH

www.marlbroughembroiderers.org

NEWSLETTER – SUMMER 2019
Wishing all our members and guests

A very Happy and Relaxing Summer Break



REMINDERS FOR THIS MONTH

JUL 1st Meeting/ speaker:
Victoria Riley
"Traditional and
Regional Indonesian
Batik"

**PLEASE NOTE: THERE WILL BE
NO STITCH DAY IN JULY AND NO
MEETINGS AT ALL IN AUGUST**

DATES FOR SEPTEMBER

SEPT 2nd Meeting/ Speaker Jennifer Hughes:
"Protected Heads and Bound Feet"
Sept 3rd Tutor-led workshop:
"Inspired by Chinese Ethnic
Embroidery" (Hand stitch workshop)
Sept 30th Stitch Day
(Theme to be announced at the
September meeting)

JULY SPEAKER: VICTORIA RILEY

TRADITIONAL AND REGIONAL INDONESIAN BATIK

Victoria spent many years in Indonesia from childhood to early adulthood. She became passionate about the Javanese culture and went on to study Batik in Yogyakarta, the historical and cultural capital of Java and the most important centre for classical Javanese fine art in Indonesia. Victoria went on to obtain a BA (hons) in Fine Arts in the UK where she settled but has remained passionate about her love of Batik. Indonesia is an archipelago of more than seventeen thousand islands with a rich and varied culture. In her talk Victoria will show how the regional practices and customs have influenced and shaped the development of batik over time and she will describe the traditional methods of waxing and dyeing, the tools, fabrics and dyes used and consider the history and cultural melting pot that led to the rudiments of Batik spreading around the world.



**BRANCH AGM MONDAY OCTOBER 7th 2019
KENNET VALLEY HALL LOCKERIDGE**



It is that time of year again, when, as members of an active and thriving branch, we are being asked to consider giving a little something back by offering a modicum of time but more importantly by sharing some of our numerous talents and skills to ensure that the branch continues to both survive and flourish. Imminently in **October 2019** there will be a vacancy for the role of **Young Embroiderers' Tutor** and in **October 2020** there will be vacancies for the roles of **Treasurer, Minutes Secretary, Programme Planner** and **Workshop Co-ordinator**. These are all key responsibilities without which the branch cannot exist. There has been an unprecedented increase in membership during the past year, which suggests that we are providing a valuable resource for the Marlborough and District Textile Art and Embroidery community. **Please do not let this branch fold through lack of support.** Do approach a committee member at the July meeting to find out what would be involved. The Newsletter Compiler, Membership Secretary and Design to Stitch Tutor roles have been filled. More information about nominations will be made available at the July meeting.

"CREATIVE TEXTILES"

As you are all aware **Chris Cook** is standing down from the committee and from her role as in-house tutor for Design to Stich. Starting from October 2019 **Design to Stich** is changing its name to **"Creative textiles"** and will be run by **Ann Smith** and **Lindsay Sherwood**. During the six sessions many techniques will be covered including image transfer, fabric manipulation, drawing with the sewing machine, and hand stitch to create texture and colour. Please speak to Lindsay or Ann if you would like more information. Fuller details will also be available on the workshop table at the July meeting.

SEPTEMBER SPEAKER: JENNIFER HUGHES PROTECTED HEADS BOUND FEET

Many of you will remember Jennifer from last year when she presented a fascinating talk about the Thai Hill Tribe culture and textiles. Originally a geography teacher, Jennifer also has a background in needlework design. She is a member of the Embroiderers' Guild, the Associated Guilds of Weavers, Spinners & Dyers, and the Textile Society and has had numerous articles published. Some of her textiles were displayed in the 'Silks of the Ancient Kingdoms' exhibition at the 2004 Knitting and Stitching Shows. On this occasion she will be describing the centuries old Chinese custom of binding the girls' feet from birth. Unable to walk they sat and embroidered their tiny shoes to show their skill, and later their children's hats, which protected the head of the wearer from evil spirits. Jennifer will bring a selection of hats & shoes to display.



MDEG CIRCLES EXHIBITION AT WEST OF ENGLAND QUILT SHOW



More stunning contributions for the UWE exhibition in August. They comprise **Annie Fellows** 'Unnamed', **Jean Freakley's** 'May Time', **Judy Joiner's** 'Have you got any Os', **Nikki Vesey Williams'** 'Dandelions at Sunset' and **Ros Lomas'** 'Kaffe Galaxy'.

Last call for 'Circle' exhibition contributions. Could anyone who still has a piece of work for the display please bring it to the meeting in July as this will be the last meeting leading upto the exhibition. However, if the work is still in progress Lindsay would be agreeable for the canvas to be dropped off at her home in Calne when completed. Please see Lindsay to arrange. Although there are currently sufficient numbers of stewards to cover the stand throughout the exhibition, if there is anyone who could be called on should there be a last minute cancellation, please see Lindsay at the meeting for details.

TUTOR-LED WORKSHOP: JENNIFER HUGHES INSPIRED BY CHINESE ETHNIC EMBROIDERY

Jennifer has developed a new workshop especially for our branch which specifically relates to her presentation of the previous day. This will be a hand stitch workshop in which she is hoping to include several interesting stitches used largely by the Miao in their costumes. These include ancient and double ancient chain stitch, open stitch, pulling stitch (worked with two threads), interlacing stitch, folded piecework techniques and couched handmade braids. Some or all of these will be used to stitch various auspicious Chinese symbols, such as the Butterfly, Fish or Dragon. The technique for the Fish, the symbol of abundance, is a folded patchwork piece with edgings of fabric & handmade braid. This kind of motif is often applied to jackets and hats by the Miao people, one of the larger ethnic minority groups of South China.



**BRANCH OUTING TO
ALEXANDRA PALLACE
THURSDAY OCTOBER 10TH 2019**



Ann Kingdon is currently planning the autumn branch trip to the much looked forward to Knitting and Stitching show at the 'Ally Pally'. The price will be in the region of £25 per head based on a full 52 seater coach. Ann will be taking names at the July meeting. Payment in full will be required at the September meeting. An email with the full details will be forthcoming from Ann within the next two weeks.

FLAGS OF THANKS EXHIBITION CONTRIBUTIONS



These individually designed flags are the branch's contribution to the Exhibition at Salisbury Cathedral which is due to finish on Sunday. They were made by **Ann Smith, Celia Bell, Vernice Church** (who made three), **Christine Hill, Maria Fraser** (who made one in support of the Ukrainian soldiers fighting in East Ukraine) and **Eva and Barney Fraser**, both members of the Young Embroiderers'. They are being displayed along with almost 1000 other flags of thanks created by groups and individuals throughout the country. As well as the flags of thanks a magnificent quilt known as the Armistice quilt is also on display.



The Armistice Quilt was created by 3 **Chepstow quilters Debbie Heap, Vicky Thornton and Karen Williams** to commemorate 100 years since Armistice Day. It depicts the history of conflict from 1914 to the present day highlighting the tragedy of the belief that the Great War was to be the war to end all wars. There are 99 12" squares measuring a total of 10' x 12'. This is a traditional size for the quilted squares and is the same as each of the flags of thanks. The quilt has been donated to Albare Homes 4 Veterans and is to be moved to the new 46 bed veteran campus which opens later this year.

**WINDSOR AND MAIDENHEAD EG BRANCH
DAY SCHOOL: NOV 09 2019
STITCH A METAL PANEL IN A DAY**

Venue: Village Hall, Hurley, near Maidenhead, SL6 5LT
Date: November 8th 2019, 10-4
Cost: £30 Members, £35 Non-members
Tea and coffee provided. Bring own lunch



Windsor & Maidenhead are very lucky to be having **Alysn Midgelow-Marsden** both as a speaker and a tutor. Alysn now lives in New Zealand but is visiting the UK later this year and has agreed to do a talk and to run a day school. She will be speaking on November 8th and running the day school the following day, during which you will learn how to stitch into metal and to use soluble film utilising the reflective, light-catching surfaces of copper, aluminium or pewter metal shims and your sewing machine to create a unique panel with a lively, highly textured surface for your wall. Please contact Clém Gilder to book a place and to learn about payment options. clemence.gilder@sky.com

**SEPTEMBER STITCH DAY THEME:
THERAPY HAND PUPPETS AND WORRY MONSTERS**

Knit-for-Nowt is a charitable service which supplies those who work with vulnerable children with hand knitted, crocheted or sewn items to help them heal. Hand puppets, worry puppets and worry monsters are used to aid recovery from traumatic events such as abuse, neglect, bereavement and other serious problems. If you feel you would like to help this very worthwhile cause, patterns and ideas for fabrics can be found on their website: www.knifornowt.org. Vernice will put together a small display for the September Meeting in preparation for September Stitch Day for those who would like to work as a group. There is no deadline for completion.



SALES TABLES: JULY 1ST MEETING

There will be another sales tables this month **Nikki Vesey Williams** will be raising money for 'Arts Together', a pioneering charity which works to improve the health, well-being and quality of life of older people through the provision of a range of participatory arts projects. Since 1999 Arts Together has been bringing together professional artists and older people for weekly arts workshops, creative activities and cultural events throughout Wiltshire. Through its creative approach 'Arts Together' plays an important role in countering loneliness and isolation, and enhancing the well-being of older adults. Do bring along some spare cash to boost your own stash and to support this very worthy cause.

**ANN LOUISE SMITH SPECIAL EVENT:
WEDNESDAY 10TH JULY 10am-5pm
MARCH HOUSE CARDIGAN RD MARLBOROUGH SN8 1LH**

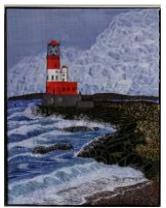
Please join Ann for Tea, coffee and biscuits in her studio as well as taking the opportunity to use some of her printing tools and paint to create your own colourful paper background to take away and embellish with your own stitch designs.



'GLIMPSES OF ISLANDS' MADEIRA COMPETITION 2020

Members from the Marlborough and District Branch Embroiderers' Guild have twice received an award in this annual Madeira sponsored competition. **Nikki Vesey Williams** entry was judged overall winner last year, and **Lindsay Sherwood** was the visitors' choice winner this year. This coming year's theme is entitled "Glimpses of Islands". Full registration and entry details will shortly be released in next month's Stitch Magazine and on the ICHF website: www.ichfevents.co.uk/competitions/ and on the branch noticeboard. If interested, why not start putting your ideas together now.

Lindsay Sherwood has already been hard at work putting together her competition piece which is entitled 'Longstone Lighthouse, the Farn Islands'. Lindsay created her piece using some upcycled silk from an old oriental top for the sky, cotton for the lighthouse and layered organza for the rest of the seascape. The whole was then intensely free machine embroidered. A great inspiration to us all, Lindsay.



Nikki Vesey Williams has also been busy working on two entries for 'Glimpses of Islands'. The first one which is now complete is based on Fingal's Cave on the Island of Staffa, while the second one, which is a work in progress, will be centred on the Island of Mauritius with a theme of climate change and species extinction. No photos are available for the present.

WORK IN PROGRESS FOR MEMBER LED WORKSHOP

Nikki has also been working on possible themes for the member-led workshop, which she will be running in the New Year. She is currently experimenting with collage and 3D petals. Watch this space!



MEMBERS' EG CHALLENGE 2019-20: MY FAVOURITE THINGS

This annual stitching challenge for EG members is an opportunity to have a piece of work publicly displayed at an ICHF show as well as the chance of winning one of the nine prizes. As with every year, the theme is open to diverse personal interpretation and style. The Guild offer suggestions for interpretation such as: collections, mementos, stitches, textiles, gardens, people, cultures, still lives of much loved objects, places, stamps, food – the ideas are endless. Awards will be given for: the most outstanding piece, the best use of colour, the best hand stitching, the best machine stitching, the best composition, as well as for drama and creativity, for innovation and for metal thread work. For the first time due to popular request there will be a Members' Challenge vote from the floor at the next AGM in 2020. The closing date is 28 February 2020. The full brief and challenge entry forms can be found on the Guild website: www.embroiderersguild.com, and on the branch noticeboard.



HOOKED WORLDS CONTEMPORARY CROCHET WORKS

Venue: The old Chapel Textile Centre, Maine St,
Greenham Business Park, Newbury RG19 6HW
Dates: July 16 – Aug 22,
Tues-Thurs & 1st Sat of Month 10-4
Entry: £4 www.nationalneedleworkarchive.org.uk/



Textile artists Gemma MacLennan and Barbara Touati-Evans use the medium of freeform crochet to show the artistic possibilities of this traditional yarn craft. They will combine two very different approaches to their work in this vibrant exhibition.

FROME & DISTRICT EG BRANCH EXHIBITION: STITCHING TIME

Venue: Black Swan Arts, 2 Bridge Street, Frome,
Somerset BA11 1BB
Dates: July 2nd -14th 2019, Mon - Sat: 10am - 4pm
Entry: Free



'Stitching Time' is an exhibition by the Frome and District EG Branch which aspires to build awareness of stitch and textile art. It highlights different techniques and styles in both traditional and experimental embroidery. Stitched items and cards will be available to buy.

WEST COUNTRY QUILT AND TEXTILE SHOW BRISTOL

Venue: UWE Exhibition and Conference Centre
North Entrance, Frenchay Campus, Filton Road
Bristol, BS34 8QZ
Dates: August 29th, 30th, & 31st 2019, 10-4.30
Entry: £12 Free Parking
www.westcountryquiltshow.co.uk



The show will feature a huge array of workshops and classes alongside the amazing galleries, exhibitors and traders on each of the three days, including the 'Circles' exhibition from the MDEG branch! There will be several quilt entry competition categories and a separate scarf and shawl competition. Do go along and support our branch, and while you are there take in a workshop or just browse the exhibitors' stands for inspiration.

WORLD TEXTILE DAY WEST

Venue: Salford Hall, Wedmore Rd, Bristol, BS31 3BY
Dates: Oct 5th 10-4.30 Tel: 01225 874081
Speaker Presentation 11am, Talk by expert 2pm
Entry: Exhibition Free, £3 per session or £5 for both
www.worldtextileday.co.uk/venues/west-of-england



This is a free exhibition of world textiles with experts on hand to describe to visitors how families, villages and communities around the world co-operate to produce their wonderful textile. The event will also feature a morning presentation by guest speaker Isabella Whitworth, natural dyeing artist, historical dyes expert, teacher and lecturer, entitled 'Deeper than Dyeing'. The afternoon talk entitled 'A Favourite Textile' will be by one of the world textile experts whose role is to travel the globe researching, documenting, and buying high quality textiles, costume and artefacts thereby supporting ancient traditions and creative innovation, as well as making a difference to the lives of families across Asia, Africa, South America and Europe.

INFOCUS STITCHING: GREAT WESTERN EMBROIDERERS EXHIBITION MAY 28 – SEPT 7

A reminder that this exhibition is still ongoing. The current work of the GWE group is a response to Swindon's historic photography collection in the museum. Some of the group will be well known to our members, so please support them and take in the Connections exhibition at the same time.

Venue: Swindon Museum and Art Gallery Bath Rd, Swindon, SN1 4BA
Open: Tues – Sat 11am – 4.30pm www.swindonmuseumandartgallery.org.uk



CONNECTIONS: AN EXHIBITION BY GROUP 7 JULY 30 – SEPT 7 2019

This is a group exhibition from 7 artists who share an interest in abstract and expressive painting with a strong use of colour. They are all committed to drawing, painting and printmaking. The exhibition showcases their recent work.



ZANDRA RHODES: 50 YEARS OF FABULOUS EXHIBITION

Venue: Fashion and Textile Museum
83, Bermondsey Street, London SE1 3XF
Dates: Sept 27 2019 - Jan 26 2020, Tues-Sat 11-6
Thurs 11-8, Sun 11-5, closed Mon.
Entry: Adults £9.90, Seniors £8.80
T: 020 7407 8664 www.ftmlondon.org



The acclaimed British designer Dame Zandra Rhodes DBE founded the fashion house named after her in 1969 with a small collection. Her prints were Pop Art-infused commentaries on the world of Sixties Britain. She believed that within every pattern there was a natural structure that could work with and enhance the shape and construction of a garment. With this concept as a starting point and with her distinctive approach to cut and form, the house of Zandra Rhodes soon became one of the most recognisable labels in London. In celebration of fifty years of the Zandra Rhodes' label, the Fashion and Textile Museum presents Zandra Rhodes: Fifty Years of Fabulous. Looking back, this exhibition will highlight 100 key looks, as well as 50 original textiles. This comprehensive exhibition will explore five decades of the distinguished career of a British design legend.

THE GOLDEN THREADS OF LIFE EXHIBITION

Venue: Nature in Art Museum and Art Gallery
Wallsworth Hall, Main A38, Twigworth
Gloucester, GL2 9PA
Dates: Aug 20 – Sept 08 2019, Tues-Sun 10-5
Entry: Adults £5.25, Seniors £4.75
www.natureinart.org.uk/



This promises to be an inspirational exhibition displaying the magnificent richness of gold and metal thread embroidery. The technique is 2000 years old and continues to this day to capture the imagination and to encourage creativity. This unique and rare exhibition includes pieces from around the world which represent elements from nature. It is a must for anyone who has a passion for goldwork. Furthermore, each day during the exhibition, a member of the Embroiderers' Guild will be demonstrating goldwork techniques and answering questions. There will also be an opportunity to buy small goldwork items in the Museum shop.

THE DEAR WARPAND WEFT AT HAMMERSMITH: A HISTORY OF KELMSCOTT HOUSE

Venue: The William Morris Society,
The coach House, Kelmscott House,
26 Upper Mall, Hammersmith W6 9TA
Dates: April 18- Oct 26 2019, Thurs-Sat 2-5
Entry: Free www.williammorrisociety.org/



This 18th century riverside house, where William Morris spent the last eighteen years of his life, is one of the most significant of his homes. Whilst living at the property he began carpet weaving, wove his first tapestry 'Acanthus and Vine' in his bedroom and continued his innovating approach in to design as well as printing and dyeing techniques. This is the first exhibition of its kind about Kelmscott House, and will feature original Morris & Co. designs, textiles and wallpapers, complemented by beautiful photographic prints. The exhibition will faithfully convey the atmosphere of the property bursting with creative energy and artistic activity. Many influential Victorians visited the property including poet Alfred, Lord Tennyson, writer Lewis Carroll and art critic John Ruskin.

Please note that Kelmscott House itself is privately owned and not open to the public. The Society is based in the Coach House and Basement.

MIDSOMER QUILTING 2019 12"X12" CHALLENGE "ONE DAY"

Looking for your next project? Have you visited or planning to visit Midsomer Quilting in Chilcompton? Then you are eligible to enter their 2019 mini-quilt challenge. There is no age limit so young embroiderers can display their skills alongside seasoned stitchers! The title is left to your own interpretation. 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 Nov 1st 2019 and all entries will be exhibited in the shop between Nov 29th and Dec 22nd. All quilts to 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. This is not a competition, but a fun exercise to raise money through the exhibition for the Hospice. More information on: www.midsomerg.com/12x12ex.html or chkippy@icloud.com