

Cotswold Embroiderers' Guild Branch Newsletter

New Year 2015

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A belated Happy New Year to you all as we celebrate our Golden Anniversary year.

Branch News

Xmas Social: this was well attended and we all enjoyed hearing our speaker Fiona Warin who was extremely entertaining. Congratulations to Karen Hughes on winning the Christmas decoration competition.

Workshops: we have a really interesting programme of workshops this year so make sure you book early to ensure you get to the workshops of your choice.

About 3 weeks prior to a workshop any vacancies will be offered to other branches as we need to ensure each workshop is full to cover our costs. Please follow the Workshop Bookings Procedure on pages 6 & 7 in your 2015 programme when booking. We hope everyone will enjoy their chosen workshop.

Reminder: if you are booked on a workshop but find you cannot attend for any reason, please ring our Bookings Officer to cancel and your place can then be offered to someone on the waiting list.

January: many thanks to Jan Evans and Angela Bentley for providing materials and inspiration to help us get started on pieces for our Autumn exhibition. We had the chance to play with a number of techniques and try out different things. A fun day!

February 14th *'Gardens of Glorious Golden Flowers' with Bobby Britnell.*
This workshop is now full.

March 14th: *'Pile and Plunder – Machine Reverse Applique' with AbbyAnne Searle*
This workshop is booking up fast but at the time of writing places are still available.

May 9th: *'Petal Power' with Sue Rangeley.* Those of us who went to The Big Stitch last Autumn will have seen Sue's wonderful work. Places are still available to book.

Socialise & Sew

The next meeting is on Friday 6th February from 2.00 – 3.45 at the home of Maureen Steffen: 23A Arle Rd, Cheltenham, GL51 8JT Tel: 01242 321676

Hold the date : Saturday 1st August is National Stitch Day 2015. We hope to do some stitching in public as we did last year – watch this space for more information.

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### Hosting tutors:

From time to time our workshop tutors need to be accommodated on the Friday night prior to the workshop. It is a lovely opportunity to get to know a tutor before the workshop and have the chance to ask questions and explore their world of working in

textiles.

We would prefer to offer accommodation in a member's home rather than in a local hotel, so if you feel you would be able to offer such accommodation on an occasional basis please let Judith or another member of the committee know.

### **SW Festival 18th April 2015**

You should by now have received information together with a booking form for this event (please let Judith know if you haven't received this information).

I hope many of you are planning to come along – especially as it is right on your doorstep.

There are various ways that you can be involved in supporting the success of the day as members of the hosting branch:

- ***Advertising the event:*** The day is open to both EG members and non-members, so if you know of anyone who may be interested, please tell them about it. You may have seen our event fliers – if you know of anywhere that may be willing to display a flier or where you can put a few for people to pick up, please do so. Fliers will be available at the next workshop or you can contact **Janet Williamson**, our Workshop Bookings Officer and she will get some to you.
- ***Making owls:*** We want to put an owl (it can be used as a pin cushion) in the goody bag that each person attending the SW Festival will receive on arrival. We know some of you are making these already – if you are, please can you let **Judith** know how many to expect – if you aren't yet and would like to, the tutorial can be found on: <http://efemera-ink.blogspot.co.uk/2010/06/wise.html>.

We need around 250 and so far have 10% of this number. They are quick to make up – using small pieces of fabric, so good for stash busting!

Completed owls can be sent to Judith at:

99 Naunton Crescent , Cheltenham, Glos GL53 7BE or can be brought to the February or March workshops.

- **Submitting work for Cotswold Branch display at the Festival:** it is customary for the host branch to have a display of work to showcase the range of textile work undertaken by members. It can be related to a workshop that you have attended – but not necessarily. Please let **Judith** know if you have pieces of work you would like to include in our display – we need to know how many to expect. Please label your pieces clearly with your name – and also it would be helpful if you could attach some brief information about your inspiration for the work and the technique/s you have used.
- **Stewarding on the day:** if you would like to be more involved with the day and feel you are a real part of it then volunteer for some stewarding – it may be something like helping to sell raffle tickets, manning the Lucky Dip, overseeing the displays of work, or just generally helping out on the day. If you can offer some time, please contact **Alison Miller** on: 01242 577695 / email: [alison-miller1@virginmedia.com](mailto:alison-miller1@virginmedia.com) who is organising the stewards rota.

### Stitching opportunities in 2015

#### ***SW Regional Festival Day Competition entitled : 'Festivals'.***

Information about this exhibition was included in with the booking form.

Members attending the SW Festival will judge this competition and a prize will be awarded to the winner.

#### ***Our own Golden Anniversary Exhibition 6<sup>th</sup> - 22<sup>nd</sup> October 2015 : 'As I walked out...'***

This exhibition at Nature in Art has nature as it's theme – what do you see as you walk out?

However as the exhibition is to be held in the Autumn there will be a strong Autumnal / Golden theme running through the exhibition which you may wish to consider within your piece/s.

Janet Stevens is leading a small group organising the exhibition and I hope you have all received the guidelines she has put together.

Watch out for more information during the year.

### News from the Region

- Ann Hampton will complete her term of office as Regional Chairman in Autumn 2015 – nominations for this role are still welcome. Please contact Ann (see below).

- The regional committee is also looking for a secretary or minuting secretary. If anyone feels they can help with this or would like more information, please contact Ann Hampton on 01452 503640
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### **Guild HQ News**

Keep an eye out for the next issue of Contact magazine for information about some proposed changes to The Guild – and the opportunity to share your opinion on this.

**Jane Lemon** – the information below is taken from the EG website.

We are very sad to report that Jane Lemon, one of Britain's most celebrated embroiderers, passed away on 6th January 2015.

Jane was an Honorary Member of the Embroiderers' Guild who had served for many years on the Executive Committee. Most recently she completed a set of three display hangings to promote the Embroiderers' Guild at shows and exhibitions.

After years of experience as a costume designer for BBC Television and in the theatre, in 1978 Jane co-founded and was Chairman of the Sarum Group at Salisbury, particularly noted for the design and working of ecclesiastical embroidery. After spending several years developing and teaching the art of embroidered box making, she achieved her ambition of working entirely in ecclesiastical embroidery. Her designs may be seen in the Cathedrals of St Albans, Exeter, Salisbury and Wells, Bath and Sherborne Abbeys and other churches around the UK as well as two venues in the USA. She was also President of West Country Embroiderers until a year ago.

Jane also worked with The Royal School of Needlework at Hampton Court Palace on her designs for the altar frontals for Wells Cathedral. In 2004 Jane was appointed Member of the Order of the British Empire for her services to needlework. She commanded the respect of all those who were fortunate enough to know her and her work.

Her funeral will be held on 6th February 2015 in Horsham.

### **What do I get from the Guild?**

We sometimes hear members say that they don't know what the Guild (ie HQ) does for them with the subscription they pay. Here are just a few:

- The Guild is an educational charity so by paying your subscription you are supporting the promotion of our craft to the public and to new stitchers as well as supporting the development of new tutors. Our subs also help with the maintenance of historical records such as the collection held at Guild House and the Folios – examples of which we recently had to view.

Items from the collection make up the travelling exhibitions that are sent around the country – such as the one that was displayed when the National AGM was held in Cheltenham in 2013

- Maintenance of the library at Guild House – which is available for any member to use.
- Support for members' competitions such as the Members' Challenge – the number of entries for which significantly increased last year and the DVD of which we enjoyed at our AGM.
- Development of Distance Learning courses such as the 'Power of 5' and EG level 1 & 2 courses. Information about these is regularly published in Contact magazine and is available on the Guild website.
- Support for branch activities – eg the DVD we had at our AGM and the folios. Other DVDs are being developed. Also HQ offer a leaflet and poster design and printing service to branches. More support for branches such as a directory of speakers is in the pipeline.
- Insurance to cover our events.

This is just a taster – there is much more.

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### **WHAT'S ON**

#### ***Rock, Gem 'n' Bead Show: 14<sup>th</sup> & 15<sup>th</sup> February 2015***

Pittville Pump Rooms, Cheltenham

Sat 10.00 – 5.00 Sun 10.00 – 4.00

#### ***Bristol Branch Embroiderers' Guild Exhibition: February 20-22nd 2015***

Stoke Lodge Adult Education Centre

Shirehampton Road

Bristol BS9 1BN

Open: Friday and Saturday 10am -5pm Sunday 10am-4pm. Admission £3

Light refreshments. SalesTable.

More information : [EmbroiderersGuildBristol@googlemail.com](mailto:EmbroiderersGuildBristol@googlemail.com)

#### ***Creative Craft Show : 26<sup>th</sup> - 28<sup>th</sup> February***

Three Counties Show Ground, Malvern

#### ***Fashion Embroidery & Stitch: 19<sup>th</sup> - 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2015***

NEC Birmingham

9.30 – 5.30 (Sun 5.00)

#### ***Bath Textile Summer School – Monday August 17<sup>th</sup> – Friday August 21<sup>st</sup>***

This will include 9 two-day workshops with an exciting events day on the Wednesday.

For more detailed information on the tutors, workshops and events please visit the blog which will be updated during the year, and sign up for email updates

[www.bathtextilesummerschool.co.uk](http://www.bathtextilesummerschool.co.uk) or contact Lynne Roche on 01225318042

#### **Lending scheme**

If you wish to borrow a named book, resources on a specific technique, or books by a named artist then please contact Judith stating what you are interested in borrowing, together with your contact details. I will then publish your request in the newsletter & anyone willing to lend such resources can contact you directly. Such an arrangement will be made solely between the lender and borrower.

### **Future Programmes**

The development of our programme of workshops and events is ongoing and we aim to put on events that you would like to come to.

Please do let the committee know of particular:

- ▲ Tutors you would like us to book for workshops or talks
- ▲ Styles of stitching / textile art that you would like to be incorporated into the programme
- ▲ Places of interest or exhibitions we might like to visit
- ▲ Any other topics or events you think would be of interest to members.

It is really helpful to have your suggestions – probably what you would like us to organise is what many others would like too. Please send in suggestions at any time.

### **News of members:**

**Gill Griffiths** has now left hospital and moved to a care home in Gloucester. So far she has only made limited progress since her stroke. One or two members have visited her but she is very frustrated by her communication difficulties. Ann Hampton continues to keep us informed.

If you have any news of members please pass it on to one of the Branch committee so that we can make contact and help out if needed.

### **Reminder:**

**Judith** needs to know the following from you:

- If you are making owls for Festival goody bags
- If you are submitting pieces of work for the Branch Display at the Festival
- If you haven't received your Festival booking form
- If you are able to host workshop tutors

**Janet Williamson** needs to know if you need fliers for the Festival day

**Alison Miller** needs to know if you can help with stewarding on the Festival day

Please send me any items you would like to be included in future newsletters - notices, information, events, exhibitions etc. This is the newsletter for all Cotswold Branch members so your contributions are always welcome.

Happy stitching,

Judith  
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