



Embroiderers' Guild

December  
Newsletter  
2018

Brighton Branch



**We can confidently say that our Sale on December 1<sup>st</sup> was a great success. It was almost too much of a success as the queue to get in started at 8.30 a.m. and we had sold the bulk of our stock within the first hour. By mid-day we found ourselves apologizing to customers as we had so little left. It was our first attempt at anything like this and we learnt a lot. A very big thank you to all our members that brought items for sale and those who made cakes and biscuits for the coffee bar. One of the main pluses was that we**

**made several hundred pounds profit for the branch and all those who put items in the sale went home with enough money to buy some more fabric! We need to have a discussion at our January meeting. Do we want to do the same next year? Should we change the date? Several people have suggested November would be better.**

Our November meeting was a really enjoyable lesson from Diane on sewing wheels. Not only did she share her extensive knowledge, but she supplied kits, materials and a sheet of notes.

We are all looking forward to our January meeting where we will be testing our skills with furnishing fabric. There will be a selection of templates of toys, bags etc., If you have any of your own please bring them to share. A selection of fabrics including some by William Morris will be there for you but bring anything from your stash you think others would enjoy. Please bring any toy stuffing you may have as well as a sewing machine or hand sewing kit

**Stitchfest at Ardingly.** July 13<sup>th</sup> seems a long way away, but it is not when you remember our branch is taking a table stand to show off our skills and recruit new members. Our theme will be boxes of every shape, design and size. We know that standards at Stitchfest are high so we want a great display. Start thinking and working now. We have reserved our May meeting to share ideas and keep stitching, the room will be open from 10a.m. to 4p.m. and the Guild stash of threads, fabrics and embellishments will be there for you to help yourselves.

## News from the South East Region

*The annual Summer School will take place on the 14<sup>th</sup> – 16<sup>th</sup> June at Roffey Park Institute Forest Row Horsham RH12 4TB. A three-day residential or non-residential course with well-known and creative tutors. **Ruth Isset** on creating a variety of stitched surfaces which are then dye painted to your own colour scheme. **Sue Waldron** teaching crazy patchwork blocks incorporating ribbon, lace, beads or anything else your imagination brings. **Fay Maxwell** All your favourite stitches, and many more. Using them three dimensionally and as added texture. Traditional techniques are reapplied using a variety of threads, all of different weights. Thinking back to all those old friendly stitches, and bringing them up to date with all the varieties of threads now available to us. A weekend to indulge in doodling with our favourite styles.*

*To book contact Jan Ford : [jenford@globalnet.com](mailto:jenford@globalnet.com)*

## 2019 Programme

### **January 5<sup>th</sup> - Furnishing Fabric toys.**

We all have a stash of bits of furnishing fabric. Turn some of it into amusing stuffed toys (patterns provided) way-out bags or anything your imagination comes up with. William Morris rabbit anyone?

### **February 2<sup>nd</sup> - Workshop.**

Isobel Moore will be showing us how to make an image by constructing a background from patched fabrics and layering up scraps to create a stunning vase of flowers. We will also learn how to make thread flowers using machine embroidery. Isobel is all about colour, lots of it, so it should be an exciting day.

### **March 2<sup>nd</sup> - "Stitches back in time".**

Sue Lacey will bring with her, and talk about, work done by her Mother and Grandmother. We are hoping that Guild members will also bring along some heritage pieces for us to share.

### **April 6<sup>th</sup> - Workshop with Barbara Powell Jones.**

If you thought you knew all about scrap pictures think again. Barbara has a technique using running stitches and a clever combinations of fabrics. Join us in a memory picture workshop (materials provided).

**May 4<sup>th</sup> - In House workshop** We will be making boxes of every description for display at the Guild stand at the Ardingly show (July 13th). It is our chance to shine. Show what we can do and encourage new members. Our display will consist of boxes the more complicated, jeweled and exotic the better. There will be a selection of templates for you to borrow and fabrics and threads from the Guild stash.

### **June 1<sup>st</sup> – Garden Party**

It would not be June without our fabulous garden party at the lovely home of Di Bunyan. Cakes and a needlework kit to work on, sitting in the sunshine, what a lovely way to spend a summer afternoon.

### **July 6<sup>th</sup> - Beautiful sari silk**

. . for us to embroider into, embellish, whatever you choose you will end up with something beautiful. Fitting into this theme Frances will show photos of her textile tour of India and bring along fabrics purchased in the villages.

### **September 7<sup>th</sup> - Workshop**

Many of you will know the work of Laura Sparks she is one of the most sort after teachers. She will be holding free-hand machine embroidery workshop with 29 different themes to work from. These are hand-drawn stencils which are the starting point to designing a piece of work. The finished piece can be made into a lampshade (you can buy a kit from her for £9 to £12 depending on size), cushion cover or picture.

### **October 5<sup>th</sup> - AGM**

Activity to be decided

### **November 2019**

Making Christmas gift people will be delighted to receive

### **December 2019**

We hope to have a joint exhibition and sale with Patcham Arts again but let's get this Christmas Exhibition and Sale over then we can think about it.