

Over two thirds of the membership turned out on a wet cold afternoon to attend the Brighton Branch AGM. That says a lot for the enthusiasm of the membership. The officers reported on a successful year despite that fact that we had a new chairman and treasurer



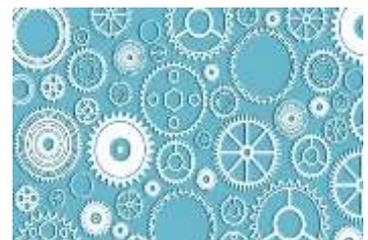
mid-term. A small but enthusiastic team kept the show on the road. Helen, our new treasurer, is working hard to produce the year end accounts but is waiting for the bank mandate to come through before she can finalize them. Our member Louise offered to join the committee and was elected but we failed to find a volunteer for the post of secretary so if you know of anyone who could fill this post the team would be delighted to hear from you. The New Committee is Carolyn Brown - Chair, Helen Stark - Treasurer, Frances Lindsay-Hills – Programme Organizer, Sue Lacey Young embroiderers, Rosalie Sinclair-Smith, Janet Walford,

Kath Barker and Louise Mabbs - committee members. Frances outlined the programme of events for next year - see the list on page 2 of this newsletter. There will be an increase in the cost of all day workshops but at £25 -£30 they are still amazing value for money.



After the AGM we had the privilege of exploring three of the National Guild's portfolios. The Collection is an exciting record of embroidery from the 16th century onwards and is worldwide in its content from Britain through Europe to Asia and beyond. Ranging in date from Coptic times to the present day and gathered from around the world, these embroideries give insight into how embroidery has been made and used in the past and present cultures around the globe. A substantial part of the collection was donated by the late Queen Mary.

At our next meeting on Saturday November 4<sup>th</sup> we will be exploring the art of sewing wheels with Diane. She will be bringing along her usual helpful instruction sheets. Members will need to bring with them 6- or 8-inch hoop, plus fabric, large crewel needle, large tapestry needle, 2p piece, pencil, scissors and any interesting threads or fine ribbons that you would like to use.



Many of you will have heard that Janet Summerton died recently after a short illness. A celebration of her life was held on Sunday 7th October. There was a beautiful display of her work and her friends and relatives enjoyed reminiscing about a beautiful and talented lady.

## What does the National Guild do for us?

No longer just the domain of fabric and thread, textile art now embraces (amongst other things) the world of mixed media, dyeing with rust and plants, print and videos. The Guild holds an historical collection, aids research, supports students of all ages, and publishes "Stitch" and "Embroidery" magazines. Members around the country are involved at whatever level they choose in meeting regularly to listen to speakers, attend workshops, learn new skills or build on existing ones. They also participate in local, regional and national projects.

## 2019 Programme

### **January 5<sup>th</sup> - Furnishing Fabric toys. 2pm to 4pm £3 members, £5 Guest**

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. 10am to 4pm. £25 fee**

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". 2pm to 4pm £3 members, £5 guests**

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. 10am to 4pm. £25 fee**

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. 10am to 4pm** 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. Assistance will be given!

### **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 2pm to 4pm. Members £3, guest £5.**

. . 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 10am to 4pm. Fee £35**

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 Laura 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 gifts 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.

**Don't forget to start sorting out items for the big sale on December 1<sup>st</sup> this year. All you have to do is price the item and add your name or initials. Customers will pay as they leave and the Patcham Arts treasurer will keep a record. 25% of your take will go to the Guild to help pay for the room and 75% will be yours to keep.**