



# The Wellington Embroiderers' Guild Inc

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**February 2020, Issue 490**

## March Meeting – Wednesday 11 March

The Loaves and Fishes Hall, St Paul's Cathedral, Hill Street. Hall opens at 7.00pm; meeting begins at 7.30pm. Tea and coffee available after the hall opens at 7:00pm.

Our speaker for March is Amber McIntosh who is Head of technology at Sacred Heart College, Lower Hutt. Her love of textiles brought her to this position where she also teaches amongst other things embroidery and quilting to the students. She will share her embroidery journey and samples of her students work with us.

Amber was a member of our guild briefly in 2016/17 before moving to Whitby and joining the Mana guild. She is also a member of Coastal Quilters where she organises a fun block of the month and is also the class liaison. I'm sure she will be an interesting and entertaining speaker

The Theme for this month is Embellished Useful eg clothes, bags, boxes, curtains, cushions, table cloths etc, etc.

## Felt Teddies for Wellington Stillborns

Stitching little felt teddies (or angels or animals), are part of our social outreach. Grief tends to stop you in your track, while the world races on around you. These Teddies are given to grieving families of stillborn, miscarriages or tiny babies and we hope they help in a small way.



We need 100 a year. It is a lot of work we know, but such a worthwhile thing to do.

***Susan Wright***

(Teddy Pattern is included on last page of newsletter.)

## Regional Workday 21 March

At the February meeting we circulating lists for various duties involved with the Regional Workday. These lists will be available again at the March meeting. If you won't be at the meeting you can also email the Guild to volunteer - [wembroidersg@gmail.com](mailto:wembroidersg@gmail.com)

When you attend the Workday please bring along a plate for morning/afternoon tea, your lunch and your stitching.

Do remember that you can enter the Viewers' Choice and/or Diana Parkes awards. The stitching for the Diana Parkes must be a unique piece and for either award the piece must have been completed in the last two years.

Please also remember that parking will be difficult, so we recommend public transport where possible. If you do drive either use the Park and Ride or local side streets and watch for the parking restrictions.

## Marie-Nui Biss 1934–2020



Sadly another Guild member has died. Marie-Nui Biss, known to most of us simply as Nui, a former Correspondence School teacher and enthusiastic supporter of the Guild. Among other things Nui worked behind the scenes one year to ensure the Guild's continuation by recruiting committee members well before the AGM rolled around. She was President for one year and she was joint co-ordinator with Louise Day of workshops for Conference 2002. Nui was good at seeing what was needed and she instigated The Sherries, a support group for people wishing to undertake a NZ Certificate of Embroidery (ANZEG) although it was not compulsory to do so, and yes, there was a small glass of sherry offered at each monthly Sunday afternoon meeting. The Hedebo Group was set up following the visit of a Danish tutor. The first meeting was held at Nui's home but quickly moved to the Hutt Art Society to accommodate numbers. In 1998 Nui encouraged a group of us to volunteer once a fortnight at the Visual Resource Centre in Kelburn (now

BLENNZ) to make illustrated books and resources for blind and partially sighted children. That group continued for 21 years until the end of last year. In 2000 there was a Teddies for Tragedy project organised by Nui sending knitted teddies to war-torn countries including Mozambique and Laos, transported courtesy of the NZ Army.

Even though Nui and her husband Ralph moved to New Plymouth in 2007, Nui retained her membership of, and interest in, The Wellington Embroiderers' Guild. I will miss her enthusiasm and support and her excitement at the possibility of seeing her friends.

*Lyn Duncan*

## Valerie Carson 1936 – 2020



Like many other embroiderers, Valerie Carson originally trained as a School Dental Nurse. She was a past President of the Guild and in 1979-80 she went to London to study at the Textile Conservation Centre, then based at Hampton Court Palace. This was the opportunity of a lifetime and Valerie began her second career as a Textile Conservator, first at the National Museum and then Te Papa until she retired 27 years later in 2007. During this time and after her retirement Val took on private textile conservation work covering a wide range of items from historic samplers and christening gowns to All Black jerseys and a Judge's wig.

Another of Val's loves was travel and she led several group tours on the Silk Road and to India. Along the way she assembled an extraordinary collection of textiles from the tiny Uighur cap on her woven willow casket to a deep blue top-to-toe burqa with an embroidered mesh face oval.

As well as being an accomplished and lifelong embroiderer, Valerie was a stylish woman who loved her work with all aspects of embroidery and textiles.

*Lyn Duncan* (With thanks to Anne Packer for some words from *The Eastbourne Herald* Jan 2020)

## Solstice 20-21 June

With the success of last year's two day event we will continue with a two day event this year, with a get together on the Friday night to meet the tutors. Planning is well underway, so if you have a suggestion for a tutor, or would like to tutor a class we need to know ASAP. So please let one of the committee know at the March meeting or email to our email address [wembroiderersq@gmail.com](mailto:wembroiderersq@gmail.com).

## Vision 2020

The guild is working on a guild display for Vision 2020. We will base it on the banner we had at the Makers Faire 'We ♥ 2 stitch'

We will have more information at the next Guild meeting. If members agree with our suggestion we ask that you take a letter or leaf shape and stitch it however you like. It will then be applied to a backing fabric. More details to follow.

## February Meeting

Our February speaker is Kirsty Jackson from CanInspire [www.caninspire.org.nz](http://www.caninspire.org.nz) who provide Art Therapy in the form of jewellery making classes to people experiencing illness, trauma or loss. Kirsty spoke passionately about her interest in making jewellery starting in her teenage years. While reluctant at first to get involved she became a convert on attending a workshop run by Sarah Clifford who founded CanInspire 10 years ago, Sarah was given a jewellery kit while she was undergoing treatment for melanoma and made numerous necklaces which she auctioned off making \$3000 for the Cancer Society.

CanInspire provides jewellery classes for a diverse range of groups eg Cancer patients, Skylight Trust, Multiple Sclerosis, Eating Disorders, Women's Refuge and many others, as a form of Art Therapy. What all these groups have in common is the participants have



experienced illness, trauma and /or loss. Each participant receives a kit bead with a soft mat and 3 new tools. Various beads are provided to the participants and all make at least one necklace during the session. At the end they are provided with wire and beads to continue making jewellery at home.

How can we help:

- By providing any unwanted beads, beaded clothes or jewellery that can be broken down
- Saving 2 litre ice cream tub lids
- Making Kit bags. (Pattern available at the March meeting)

For our Theme of Holiday Stitching we had one piece on display from Charmaine D, 'Midsummer Midnight' based on a holiday photograph, machine stitching, stitched 2006

## 2020 Exhibitions, Events and Workdays

**10 December to 27<sup>th</sup> April 2020 Suffrage in Stitches Summer Exhibition** Wellington Museum

**7 March 2020 Colbert Embroidery Class by Lyn Heath** Community Leisure Centre, Ferguson Street, Palmerston North Cost \$40 contact Gloria at [manawatueg@gmail.com](mailto:manawatueg@gmail.com)

**13-16 March 2020 Sophie Standing 4 day workshop** Bernina NZ Lower Hutt. Details in February Newsletter

**21 March 2020 WEG Regional Workday**



20-22 March 2020 Wanaka Embroidery School <https://www.oegembroideryschool.co.nz/>

27 – 29 March 2020 Great Escape 2020 Orewa – paper and on-line catalogues are available.  
[www.embroiderersgreatescape.com](http://www.embroiderersgreatescape.com)

20 –21 June 2020 Solstice

10 – 16 July 2020 Vision 2020 – Biennial Conference to be held in Masterton

## Creative Fibre Exhibition

Two of our members Caroline S and Suzi P recently had pieces entered in the Creative Fibre Exhibition held at Pataka. Congratulations to Caroline who won the Nancy's Stitch Studio Award with her piece "The Inbetweens"



Caroline S Whariki iti harakeke - fibre for all seasons ,Seasonal basket "tree" ,The In-Betweens photos Lyn Duncan



Suzi P Spring - hooded poncho - Blossoms flowers and new life, Summer - crochet bag - fun and sun, Autumn - knee rug, Winter - felted picture - snow ski and keas photos Lyn Duncan

## Drop in Stitch-in – Wellington Museum

A reminder about the new Drop in Stitch-in group held at Wellington Museum on the first Saturday of the month from 10am to 4pm. Pop in with your stitching for an hour or several. Whether you are a beginner or experienced, all are welcome. Next stitch-in **7 March**.

## 1st TEG – 5 March

Something to become nostalgic about this month and be inspired by too.

We will visit Katherine Mansfield House & Garden. More colour has recently been introduced to the house through paintwork and soft furnishings and it is most appealing. The textiles and wall papers are fascinating from the Aesthetic Movement and Art Nouveau. So much of interest including a display of dolls houses which shows a fascinating and very imaginative house made by Barry.

And in the garden there is a medlar tree whose fruit is still being made into jelly today.

There is a charge for all this delight - \$8.00 for seniors \$10.00 for others!

We will meet at Le Marche for lunch and then a 5 minute walk to KMHG.

I suggest parking near Le Marche or travelling by bus. Bus stop to alight is close to Nancy's.

12.00 Le Marche, The Woolstore Design Centre, Level 1, 262 Thorndon Quay, Thorndon

1.00 Katherine Mansfield House & Garden, 25 Tinakori Road, Thorndon

*Louise Day*

## Guild Groups

You and your friends are always welcome at these Guild groups.

<b>Drop in Stitch-in</b> Contact: TBC	<b>10am – 4pm</b> Wellington Museum First Saturday of the month. Ask at Reception when you arrive for directions. Tea and coffee will be available from the kitchen (which is opposite the room).
<b>Johnsonville Stitch-in</b> Contact: Marie Trethowen 237-6344	<b>1.30-4.30pm</b> at Johnsonville Community Centre (third Saturday of the month). Gold coin koha for afternoon tea. Please bring a piece of work for show and tell.
<b>Lower Hutt Stitch-in</b> Contact: Lynn Newman 566-1561	<b>1.00pm-4.00pm</b> (second Saturday of the month) at the Hutt Art Centre, cnr Huia and Myrtle Sts. Cost \$6.
<b>1<sup>st</sup> TEG</b> <b>First Thursday Exhibition Group</b> Contact: Louise Day 568-8088	On the first Thursday of the month we visit an exhibition and meet for lunch beforehand at a nearby café. An email is sent out to members the weekend before the first Thursday of the month.

## Committee

**Anne Whitehead** Ph. 476 7227 (President)

**Sara Keppel** (Treasurer)

**Judy Wright** (Committee member)

**Caroline O'Reilly** (Committee member)

**Marjorie Thomas** (Treasurer Understudy)

**Almoner: Joan Adam** [hjadam@xtra.co.nz](mailto:hjadam@xtra.co.nz) If you know of anyone needing congratulations or a kind word

**Marie Cassino** (Secretary)

**Mary Trounson** (Newsletter Editor)

**Judy Johnson** (Committee member)

**Sally Ross** (Committee member)

## 2020 Meetings

Meeting Date	Theme Display	Newsletter Deadline
11 March	Embellished Useful eg clothes, bags, boxes	<b>28 February</b>
8 April	Surface Embroidery	<b>27 March</b>
13 May(AGM)	Harvest	<b>1 May</b>
10 June	Repurposed	<b>29 May</b>
1 July	Winter Blues	<b>20 June</b>
12 August	Oriental Embroidery	<b>31 July</b>
9 September	Urban Chic	<b>28 August</b>
14 October	To Have and to Hold	<b>2 October</b>
11 November	Holiday Season	<b>30 October</b>
9 December	Viewers' Choice	<b>27 November</b>



## New Work February



Marie C – 'Death by Cross Stitch' designed by Jools Line of Long Dog Samplers



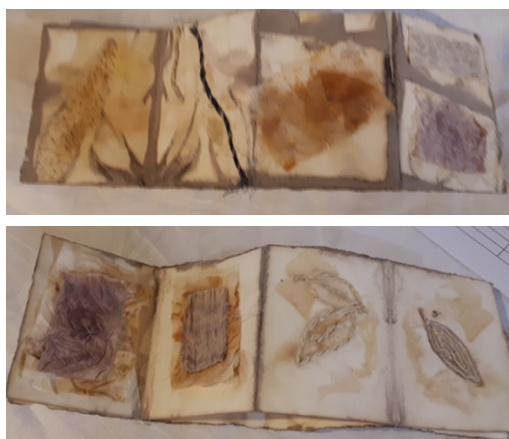
Marie C – Tiny Treasures designed by Liz Almond of Blackwork Journey (square version)



Mary T – 'Or Nue Paisley Design from Inspirations 104 – own photo

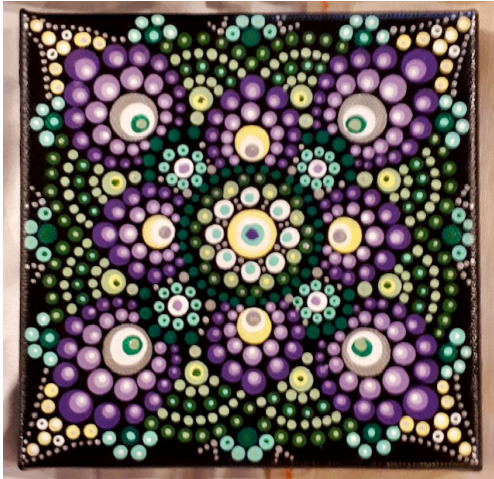


Maria C-F eco dved sample books



All Photos by  
Marie Cassino  
unless otherwise  
specified





Rhiannon McK Painted Dot Mandalas



Caroline S –Felted Kuzo Paper from Extension workshop



Mary T – Tui by StitchSmith made into cushion

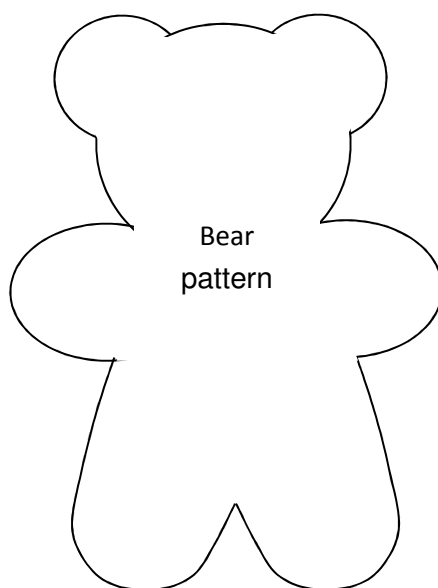


Mary T Bee Joyful quilt Christmas Present for Mum – own photo



## Teddies for Wellington Stillborns.

Each teddy goes with a label saying that a guild member made it. You can add a touch of embroidery if you wish.



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It's the little things people say and do that matter most.