



The Wellington Embroiderers' Guild Inc

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February 2021, Issue 500

Next Meeting – Wednesday 10th February 2021

The Loaves and Fishes Hall, St Paul's Cathedral, Hill Street. The hall opens 7.00pm. Tea and coffee available soon after the hall opens. Meeting begins 7.30pm.

Hope you all had a wonderful Christmas and New Year break and got time to do some sewing. I spent time tidying and decluttering my workspaces. A couple of friends hit their spaces as well. You'll find links to two podcast series later on in the newsletter. I found them both useful in helping me target what I needed to keep and what I could let go.

Thank you to Felted & Stitched <http://www.feltedandstitched.co.nz/> and Country Stitch <https://www.countrystitch.com/>. It was hard to resist all that beautiful wool and thread.



Lyn Duncan won the Christmas Raffle.

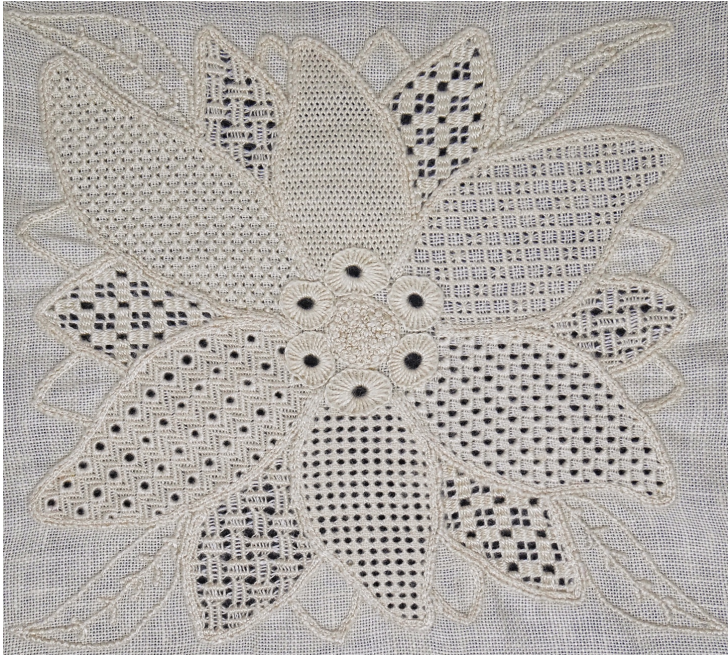
It was no surprise who ran away with Viewers Choice prize this year. Well done Jane Campbell for her Goldwork insect box.

Check out the wide selection of work at the end of the newsletter.



We will be joined at the meeting by Sue Swann who will be talking about her work and Sandra from F&S will be at the meeting again to discuss Schwalm; useful for those that missed it in December. Also we will be starting to discuss plans for the 2021 Solstice workshops.

Schwalm Stitch-along



This year's stitch-along is based around pulled and drawn thread work.

We selected contemporary Schwalm as a means for doing this. Schwalm is traditionally a whitework technique characterised by filled in motifs outlined in both coral stitch and chain stitch. The design has six pulled thread filling stitches and two drawn thread filling stitches.

The stitch-along will be spread over seven months. In the first month, participants will stitch the outline of the design using coral and chain stitch. In each of the following six months, participants will be given one filling stitch with full instructions.

Although Schwalm is traditionally done white on white, if you want to take a contemporary path, colour can be used. However, particularly when using pulled thread filling stitches, as it is the holes created by the movement of the fabric threads that form the pattern rather than the stitches themselves, people often use a thread colour similar to the background colour to get the best effect.

The sample has been stitched on 32 count linen, but other counts, such as 25 count, can be used. If a smaller count is used, you can decide whether to increase the final size of the sampler, or simply stitch fewer repeats of the pattern in each petal.

Johnsonville Stitch and Chat

Our first stitch in will be on Saturday 20 February starting at 1.30pm. Everyone is welcome. If you haven't been before you will find us at the Johnsonville Community Centre, Room 1, entrance in Frankmoore Avenue. There is some parking outside the entrance for Community Centre users and other street parking on Moorefield Road. It is an easy walk from Johnsonville Railway Station and bus stop. We provide a cup of tea or coffee and some biscuits for afternoon tea and ask for a gold coin donation to cover this.



For our first meeting we would like to have a session on making Temari balls, but you can also bring your own stitching if Temari isn't for you. Please let me know if you would like to join in the Temari making and I will send you a list of suggested things to bring.

Lyn Duncan lynpatduncan@hotmail.com

Featured Shop – Last chance to shop at Fabric Direct

Fabric Direct in 97 Ghuznee Street, Wellington has closed as the owner has sold the building.

Good news they will be reopening Wednesday to Saturday during February. Phone 04 385 6767 for opening hours. They will open other days if you arrange an appointment. This will be your last chance to get high-quality furnishing fabrics and linen at reasonable prices. I picked up some beautiful 3.00 metre wide 100% linen for \$25 a metre. They have some Copenhagen oilcloth at \$10 per metre in if you need to protect worktop tables when working with fabric dyes and paints!

<https://www.fabricsdirect.co.nz/>

November Sales Extravaganza at Karori Arts and Crafts

Arty Bees gave us \$400 for the books we didn't sell at the November sale. The funds will be used to purchase new books for the library. If you have any suggestions for titles, please let us know.

Decluttering your Sewing Space

In November one of the quilters from the Wellington Fabric Hoarders group recommended a podcast on decluttering. With 10 days holiday and the dining table needing to be reclaimed for Christmas dinner I set out to tidy and organise my space using Nadia Arbach of **Clear the Decks Professional Decluttering and Organizing** (<http://clearthedecks.co.uk>) podcast. Nadia, a quilter and sewer helps subscribers make the most of their sewing space through declutter and organising.

<https://www.stitcher.com/show/declutter-and-organize-your-sewing-space>

<https://podcasts.apple.com/au/podcast/declutter-and-organize-your-sewing-space/id1351785043>

The podcast helpfully identifies the seven mindsets that make us hold onto stuff: Money, overinflated value, sentimentality, sense of duty, identity, overwhelm and disorganised thinking. Friends joined in with their own declutter once I started. We all agreed knowing why we collected and kept things was key to letting go of individual items.

The result: I didn't dispose of much but I did box everything up thanks to my dear partner who bought me 10 big black crates and a bug spray to stop moths getting my wools and silks. I put things together so I knew what I had and I started a spreadsheet to keep a track of what I buy in the future and what I make/repair. I am definitely more focused, sewed a load of new items and repaired things as soon as they need fixing.

Last week I came across Karen Brown from **Just get it done quilts** declutter challenge. I immediately hit the book shelves and magazines and was finally able to put two piles of new books away.

<https://www.justgetitdonequilts.com/post/declutter-challenge>

Featured Artist – Chiharu Shiota

Renowned for her otherworldly and intricate 'drawings in space', Shiota has created an installation at Te Papa, Wellington using countless intertwined strands to connect numbers across time and space. The thread installation leads visitors through winding tunnels into a two-storey-high artwork built in Level 4 and Level 5 of Toi Art.



Chiharu Shiota was born in Osaka, Japan in 1972 and now lives and works in Berlin. Shiota's inspiration often emerges from a personal experience or emotion which she expands into universal human concerns such as life, death, and relationships. She redefines the concept of memory and consciousness by collecting ordinary objects such as shoes, keys, beds, chairs, and dresses and engulfing them in immense thread structures, exploring the sensation of a 'presence in the absence'.

Marie Cassino reflections of the exhibition *It was interesting walking around as particular numbers appeared to jump out at you, one of my friends kept seeing 8 and I noticed 5. Walking around you associate the black wool as being part of a spiders web with the numbers appearing as food caught in the spider's larder, or as you move through the piece, the wool threads get more dense and if you look up its like viewing a forest canopy or a dark sky with infinite possibilities. As it is part of the permanent collection, it will be interesting if they display again in a few years time as to how it will be displayed as it is quite organic*

[Time lapsed video](#) of the installing of Shiota's work at Te Papa

[Selection of work](#) from installations and exhibitions from the last 20 years

<https://www.chiharu-shiota.com/>

Links to global exhibition, articles and websites

Weather is warming up so time to get the **indigo vats** out. Find out more [here](#) . Clare Smith also has a one day dying course running at Tawa <https://www.tawacommed.co.nz/Course,Indigo-dyeing-Shibori-Wellington,4050>

[Online workshop](#) with Debbie Lyddon, a textile artist from the UK.

Fiber Talk www.wetalkfiber.com have a weekly programme on a Wednesday evening US time, normally available 12-2pmish Thursday NZ time. Last week they interviewed Hazel Blomkamp, author of Crewel Intentions amongst others. They also have a YouTube/FlossTube page where they will show exhibitions. This month on 4th Feb they will be showing NSW Embroiderers Guild's "Festival of Lace".

Note from a happy customer

To whom it may concern

We are the Grandparents of a 3 day old, first Granddaughter born in Wellington hospital. Our daughter in-law moved to the birthing centre at Paraparaumu yesterday and was given a Christmas stocking filled with awesome garments, a Christmas quilt for baby etc. We are blown away by the generosity, kindness and quality of all the items.

THANK YOU THANK YOU THANK YOU WHF and Wellington Embroiderers Guild. You are doing a wonderful, life-giving thing. Be encouraged and keep up the great work!

Doting Grandparents Stuart and Janet Helms

2020 - 2021 Exhibitions, Events and Workdays

Japan Festival	6th February Celebrating all things Japanese from Traditional to contemporary including textiles. TSB Arena, Free Admission
Final Days - World of Wearable Art Up Close	Last days – open until 14 February Exhibition at Te Papa featuring some of the most breathtaking wearable art garments
Veranoa Hetet: Creating Potential	Until 28 Feb Featuring work by Veranoa Hetet, a master Māori weaver and kaiako The Dowse, Lower Hutt
Samoa no uta' - A Song about Samoa by Yuki Kihara	Until 28 February Bringing together two culturally distinctive artforms - Samoan siapo (barkcloth) and Japanese kimono. Pataka Art Museum, Porirua; Mon-sat 10-5, sun 11-4.30. Free entry. February 20th Artist Talk - a one-off illustrated lecture
Modern Living – Modern Design in 1950s NZ	Until 26 April Te Papa, 55 Cable St; 10am-6pm; free entry
Fool's Gold	Until 6th May Fool's Gold explores some of the yellow, ochre and golden artworks that have been collected and treasured over the past fifty years. The Dowse, Lower Hutt
Chiharu Shiota, Web of Time	Until 20 Dec 2021 An installation by Japanese Artist Chiharu Shiota, creates a vision of a night sky studded with constellations of numbers. Te Papa, 55 Cable Street, free entry. Level 4 https://www.tepapa.govt.nz/visit/exhibitions/toi-art/chiharu-shiota-web-time

Great Escape Orewa 2021	Website with details: https://embroiderersgreatescape.com/ Classes: https://embroiderersgreatescape.com/classes-2021/ Registration form: https://embroiderersgreatescape.files.wordpress.com/2020/09/2021-registration-form.pdf
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Meet your committee members: Anne Whitehead

When did you start stitching? Hated it at school. Embroidered my cooking hat and apron!! Went to sewing in 3rd form and the sewing teacher was enough to make me walk out and go to art classes instead. When I joined Willian Collins Publishers in the early 80's I took it up and then went to Wellington High night school classes with Dulcie McDonald and joined WEG in the late 80's.

What is your favourite stitch/style of stitching? That is a difficult one to answer. It often depends on what I am working on. Sorbello, seed and running are up there.

Who are your favourite stitch artists/designers and/or books? To ask me that is very hard. After 40 years in the book industry I have far too many books and it often depends on what I am currently working on as to what books I refer to. Constance Howard's Book of Stitches is often pulled out, but many others are referred to for inspiration and to



Committee

President	Anne Whitehead Ph. 476 7227
Treasurer	Marjorie Thomas
Secretary	Marie Cassino
Newsletter Editor	Caroline O'Reilly coreilly@gmail.com if you have anything for the newsletter
Committee member	Judy Johnson
Committee member	Sally Ross
Committee member	Caroline Birkinshaw
Committee Member	Glenda Manning-Fogg
Almoner:	Joan Adam hjadam@extra.co.nz if you know of anyone needing congratulations or a kind word

We'll be looking for new Committee Members next year and Anne will also be stepping down so we will also be looking for nominations for a new President. Interested, please let Anne or Marie know.

2021 Meetings

Meeting Date	Theme Display	Newsletter Deadline
February 10th	Architecture	29th January
March 10th	New Places to visit in New Zealand	27 February
April 14th	Earth, Wind and Fire	29 th March
May 12th	Homage to your Favourite Artist	29 th April
June 9th	Stars - Sky and Screen	29 th May
July 14th	Tasty morsels	29 th June
August 11th	Birds and the Bees	29 th July
September 8th	Tuneful melodies	29 th August
October 13th	The Stitched word	29 th September
November 10th	Unusual materials	29 th October
December 8th	Viewers' Choice	29 th November

Guild Groups

Your friends are always welcome to Guild groups

Drop in Stitch-in Contact: TBC	10am – 4pm 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).
Johnsonville Stitch-in Lyn Duncan 04-562 8722 or 021 1428915 lynpatduncan@hotmail.com	1.30-4.30pm 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.
Lower Hutt Stitch-in Lynn Newman 04-566-1561	1.00pm-4.00pm (second Saturday of the month) at the Hutt Art Centre, cnr Huia and Myrtle Sts. Cost \$6.
First Thurs Exhibition Group Louise Day 04-568-8088	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.

Viewers Choice 2020

Winner – Viewer Choice: Jane Campbell, Alexander beetle and Goldwork insect box



Runner up in Viewer's Choice: Marjorie Thomas, Sue Spargo quilt





Anne Whitehead, Boro and Hardanger



Judy Johnson 3D Christmas Tree

Sara Keppel, Kapiti Island as viewed from a bach (looks Tiffany inspired)





Alan Armstrong, Geometric wolf quilt



Alan Armstrong, Animal games quilt



Rhainnon Mckinstry, purple woven tunic



Mary Trounson, Frozen rocks in time



Joan Adam, Reticella notebook cover



Pam Bailey, Pohutakawa Trees