



The Wellington Embroiderers' Guild Inc

<http://www.weg.org.nz/>
wembroidersg@gmail.com

December 2022, Issue 521

Next Meeting – Wednesday Dec 14th, 2022
The Loaves and Fishes Hall opens at 7.00pm for 7.30pm

Can you believe it is December already and Christmas just around the corner? Certainly the weather wouldn't indicate such. I hope everyone is looking forward to our last meeting of the year, fun is the theme plus two retail opportunities as well as our sales table so looking forward to seeing you all. Planning is well underway for Solstice next year with the committee looking at some amazing tutors.

Christmas is always a time for reflection on those less fortunate and this year we are supporting the House of Grace, a charity for young mums. There will be a big box available at the next meeting for toiletries and personal items so let's make it a really special Christmas for these teens with some pampering. I wish everyone a wonderful Christmas and New Year with friends and families, if I don't see you on the 14th and I will look forward to catching up in the New Year.

Caroline

January Stitch In

I would like to invite anyone who would like to have an extended chance to embroider to join me at an extended Stitch In at Karori Arts & Crafts on 27 January 2023 from 3.30pm to 8.30pm. As we do at Solstice we will be able to bring our own dinner or go across to one of the takeaway places in Karori to sample.....

I am keen to ensure that we get as many people as we can and hopefully we will be able to offer a ride share to those who may need to be picked up from work or town to get out and back to Karori.

Some of you are already members of the Karori Arts & Crafts Society and there is no extra payment needed to attend the evenings of stitching. Those who are not members are charged a reasonable \$5.00 per session.

We are hoping to have some in house tutoring (learning stitches or other embroidery related items, dressing a frame etc. and although I haven't discussed it (yet) with Susan I am sure she won't mind if we all stitch a wee teddy or two.

Cathy Trewby

Christmas Meeting

Our December meeting will have a festive buzz with a fun quiz about embroidery, a raffle and of course good food and company. Please bring yourselves and

- a small plate of goodies to share with others, but don't panic if you forget. We know there are many of us who have busy working weeks – a packet of biscuits would be fine.
- your usual small stitching kit. We will have some felt and thread available to make some small Christmas decorations or teddy bears for Margaret, while we are doing the quiz. The quiz will be very easy.... and there will be a prize for the winning table.
- some coins for the raffle. The tickets will be \$2 each or 3 for \$5.
- a piece of work that you have completed this year. There will be a viewer's choice prize for the favourite.
- your Schwalm work project and any Dorset buttons you may have completed throughout the year. Both these projects can be part of the viewer's choice competition above.
- A donation for our chosen charity this year, House of Grace. This could be a cash donation or toiletries (soap, toothpaste, toothbrush, razor, etc.) and toilet bags. Please bring any toiletries unwrapped.



THE HOUSE
Of GRACE

<https://www.thehouseofgrace.org.nz/waystohelp>

- Some dollars to spend with our two merchants, Felted and Stitched and Catherine Rosenthal and of course for our fabulous sales table. Always a bargain to be had there!



Heritage Week at Old St Pauls



Stitching at Old St Paul's followed on from our successful outing to the Seatoun Village Heritage event. Thankyou to all the volunteers that helped to make the event so successful. We had a continuous stream of the public sit down to add some stitches, including some from the cruise ships that were in town on the Sunday. The Wellington Beaders group, who share the Wellington Museum venue with the Guild on a Saturday morning also came to hold their beading session on the Saturday morning. Their work was very detailed and very impressive! It was such a beautiful place to stitch and there was much interest in the Guild from the participants. Jane Nye, the event manager was delighted with the event and hopes that we will return on another occasion.



Communal stitching on a frame could be a great way of using our Slow Stitching techniques. It was a great way to meet new people too.

Jo Dixey Courses

Thank you to those who have registered their interest for the Jo Dixie courses to be held in March. The course cost of \$35 is heavily subsidized by the Guild for members. The first class is already full. For those people who have already registered with Marjorie and received a confirmation email of your interest, please pay \$35 directly into the WEG bank account 03-0510-0719226-00 by the end of January. Alternatively you can pay Marjorie cash at the December meeting. Please use JODIXEY in the reference. Please also email Marjorie to say you have made the payment.

For those who have not yet registered please contact Marjorie to confirm a place is available before any payment is made. Please note the Friday class is already full.

weg.tres@gmail.com

Friday 10 March: Course1 CLASS FULL

Designing from Old Textiles and Lace

This workshop is suitable for beginner stitchers and those ready to take the step into designing your own work.



This workshop is designed as a stress free introduction to designing your own piece of surface embroidery.

The first part of the class will be spent drawing from various pieces of textiles and lace, looking at the tiny motifs that make up the designs. These shapes will then be combined together to create an original design ready for stitching.

Bring threads and fabric you already have, the main focus of this class is the creating a design and working out how that could be stitched, you may not start a masterpiece during this class but you will learn the process of moving from design idea to stitched piece that can be transferred to any idea you have in the future.

Needs list

Pencil and sheets of A4 paper

Embroidery hoop

Background fabric to fit hoop

Washed calico - size to fit hoop

Selection of threads, stranded cotton, wool or cotton perle.

Mixed pack of embroidery needles

Normal sewing kit.

Saturday 11 March: Course 2

Embroidery 101



This workshop is designed for beginner stitches or those moving from counted thread to surface embroidery.

During the day you will learn a collection of basic surface stitches and create a sample cloth to refer back to during your stitching journey.

Needs list

Embroidery hoop no smaller than 8 inch

Washed calico to fit hoop

Selection of stranded cotton - you can use one colour or a range of colours

Mixed pack of embroidery/crewel needles 5-10 or 3- 9

Notebook and pencil

Sewing kit

Sunday: Course 3

Embroidery Masterclass

This class is designed for those stitchers that wish to take the step into working from their own idea or those that have a burning idea that they don't quite know how to start. The student could also bring along a piece they have already started but need a bit of help with.

The piece could be surface embroidery, blackwork or metal thread. This class is designed for those that already have some knowledge of the technique they wish to use. I will not be teaching technique just how to use that technique to create a piece of your own work.

If the student is starting on a piece of work, samples may be worked in the class ready to start on the piece when they get home.

Needs list

Collection of ideas or the design you wish to start

Embroidery hoop 8 inch if working samples or larger if you are working a larger piece of work.

Selection of threads that match your design, could be stranded cottons, crewel wool, or metal threads.

Washed calico to fit hoop

Background fabric to fit hoop

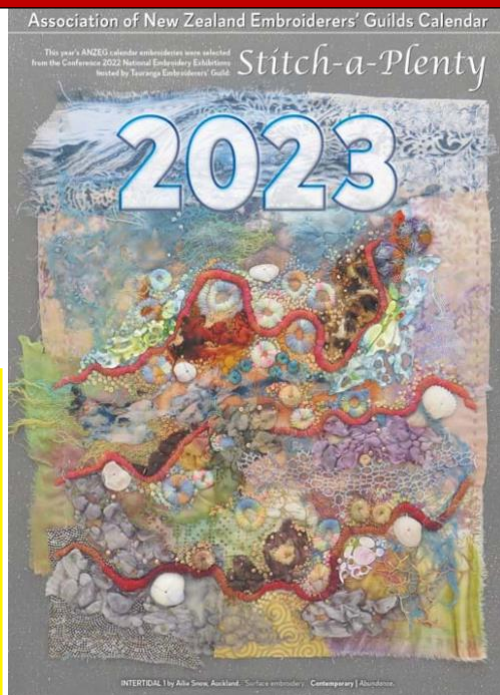
(If doing blackwork just bring some even weave fabric and black stranded cotton)

Normal sewing kit including a selection of needles

Pencil and sheets of paper.

My email is dixey soul@gmail.com if you wish to talk to me about a design/idea before the class.

ANZEG 2023 Diary and Calendar



embroiderynz.co.nz/2022-diaries
embroiderynz.co.nz/shop

2023 DIARY AND CALENDAR ORDER FORM

All Guild or Individual orders are very welcome.

Orders will be processed by a volunteer once a week (usually on a Saturday)
for dispatch via post or courier, on a Monday.

I would like to order:	SUB TOTAL	+FREIGHT	SUB-TOTAL	TOTAL BANKED:
A6 diaries # @\$5 ea	\$#_____		\$#_____	
A4 calendars # @\$10 ea	\$#_____ + \$7		\$#_____	\$#_____

*Calendars are \$10 each plus \$7 postage per order; ie, if you order 3 calendars the sub-total will be \$37.
Diaries are \$5 including postage.*

Please pay via direct credit to: ANZEG Threads, 01 0771 0176530 00

Guild (if applicable) _____
c/- Name _____
Address _____
Email _____

Remember to email this form to: embroiderynzwebsite@gmail.com
or post to: ANZEG Threads, c/- Amanda Sherman, 4 Galt St, Hawera 4610

If you would prefer to order them at the meeting you should provide cash payment, and a slip with your name and order on it.

A Snippet of History

Stitching a Guild Together by Nancy Maxwell

I came to live in Petone in 1958. At that time, my mother (Invercargill) was a “lone” member of the Embroiderer’s Guild Wimpole Street, London, and they sent out 2 other “lone” members addresses and telephone numbers, thinking my mother would automatically know them.

I telephoned the Lower Hutt member, June Starke, and so began a regular get together and lasting friendship. Over the next few years other keen stitchers joined us. Marty Walker, Helen O’Neill, as well as others. Other groups in the Hutt Valley, like Jean Stevens (St James), Mrs Carter (Belmont), Chris Roach, sometimes joined us at Penrose Street. Often the talk and discussion was about the possibility of forming an Embroiderer’s Guild and how we would be able to make that happen.

Helen O’Neill had a typewriter and could type, and came along to one group meeting with a sample “notice” that could be put out into the daily newspaper, The Evening Post. Everybody agreed we should go ahead to see if there would be sufficient support from the stitchers in the Wellington area.

Mary Walker, whose husband was Managing Director of Fruit Distributors, was a friend of the American Ambassador and Mrs Powell, and it was through that connection that the invitation was extended to us to have the first public meeting at 38 Fitzherbert Terrace, Thorndon in June 1966.

We estimated/guessed perhaps 20-25 people interested in embroidery might attend, however when 40 arrived it was an encouraging and supportive “surprise”. I still have the Post notice and write up as a record.

That evening a committee was formed and the aim and objectives were discussed, settled and typed out later, so that everyone had a copy.

The growing membership during 1967-69 required a spacious venue and St Michael’s Church Hall., Kelburn was reasonably central and with good light.

Those members with teaching experience and knowledge were keen to set a quality standard for all classes, and used as a guide the Correspondence Courses form London that some members had already worked through, e.g. linen table mats, church embroidery.

During the early years of the Guild we were entitled to a “travelling box” sent out from the Guild headquarters in London. These showed how and where to use a stitch in many sizes, with threads on different background fabrics. These boxes were popular and some were used in classes as teaching aids.

The enthusiasm and keenness at meetings was evident when any practical class was offered and there were already a “waiting list” of students.

Books and magazines were gifted to create a library and once the bank balance was healthy the committee agreed to subscribe to one or two overseas publications. At that time all stitchers were so reliant on books.

The membership continued to grow, i.e. 40-50 members, as well as other Guilds in other parts of NZ.

St Pauls Cathedral had gathered 10-14 stitchers and they were keen to learn to work together and make the altar line cloths as a “group project”. They were in the process of changing from

the old style fine linen with raised satin padding stitching with crotchet end panels, to a modern Swedish counted thread linen fabric which required a different design decoration and different threads. At this time the main altar was moved to be “free standing” and moved away from the back wall.

Cynthia Marks had moved to Wellington and had recently trained at the Royal School of Needlework and was persuaded to plan, guide, and advise the stitchers for the new altar cloths. Many, many stitch samples were tried out and when the fabric arrived from Germany, it was decided to use the pale grey crotchet cotton for the first 4 metre altar cloth.

This meant that everyone in the group had to work on a smallish adjustable frame including 2 left handed stitchers. The aim was to have everyone adjust their working tension and so the completed altar cloth would have a uniform look and look good in candle light and electric light.

It takes many willing hands hours of tacking 5 or more tacking lines and then the design stitching, to meet accurately on the grain around a 4 metre cloth. The five design crosses are placed at the corners to allow the spaces for the candle stands.

Once the main altar cloth was underway, the under cloth was also planned and a finer linen was purchased. A simple plain hemstitched hem was chosen as the only decoration.

That altar cloth and under cloth are both still used at St Pauls, Molesworth Street, Wellington , after nearly 56 years of continued use.

The first exhibition was held in the Rothmans' Cultural Foundation, Sturdee Street, Wellington in 1987 and showed 286 pieces of a great variety of needle and thread design, from nearly all the 110 members.

If any present day Embroiderer's Guild members would like to check if family “foundation names” are included in the catalogue, please contact me.

Nancy Maxwell

17 North Street

Greytown



38 Fitzherbert Terrace, Thorndon. Constructed in 1926, this was the last house of the western side of Fitzherbert Terrace before it intersected with Molesworth / Murphy Street at its southern end. Demolished shortly after this photograph was taken in 1967 for the construction of the Wellington Urban Motorway. From the collection of Charles Fearnley.

2022 Upcoming Exhibitions, Events and Workdays

Karori Arts and Crafts	 <p>Slow Stitching - a new group 1st and 3rd Friday 6.30 - 8.30pm</p> <p>The group will be free to members of Karori Arts and Crafts and \$5 to non-members. Spread the word around your friends and family - age 13+.</p> <p>2 December 6.30pm - 8.30pm 16 December 6.30pm - 8.30pm</p>
Hutt Art Society	<p>https://www.huttart.co.nz/copy-of-classes-3</p> <p>Classes are now open for Xmas decorations</p> <p>Kutch Christmas Stars, Christmas Mice and Goldwork Kiwis</p> 
Mana Embroiderers Guild, Tawa	<p>WORKDAY</p> <p>Saturday 18 March 2023 Doors open 9.45am</p> <p>Don't forget <u>The Beryl Callaghan Memorial Challenge</u></p> <p>Door fee and 3 raffle tickets \$5.00. Bring your own lunch. Morning and afternoon tea will be provided</p> <p>Contact managuild@gmail.com or phone Beverley on 04 478 3849</p>
WEG Karori Arts and Crafts	<p>Jo Dixey</p> <p>10, 11, 12 March 2023</p>
Upper Hutt Guild	<p>WORKDAY</p> <p>20 May 2023</p>

WEG Karori Arts and Crafts	Save the Date Our Solstice stitching courses will run on Sat 24 June and Sun 25 June, 2023. And of course we'll be having our usual Friday evening social stitching session to kick off the weekend
Regional Retreat	6-7 May 2023 Masterton
Ōtepoti Dunedin Embroidery School	https://www.oeg.org.nz/otepoti-dunedin-embroidery-school-2022/

New Work



This incredible piece was presented at September's meeting. The photo doesn't indicate the scale of the work, but I know many of you have seen Barry's work before and find it as incredulous as me. The stitches are so tiny. Thank you for bringing it in to show us and hope we get to see it when its finished.



Anne Barr's' detailed etui. It's always inspiring to have beautiful things to work with.



Maria Champion-Forster's bowl made at Solstice with Caroline Smith.

Guild Groups

Your friends are always welcome to Guild groups

Drop in Stitch-in Contact: Rhys Garton weg.sec@gmail.com	1pm – 4pm Wellington Museum First Saturday of the month . The December meeting will start at mid-day. 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	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. lynpatduncan@hotmail.com
Lower Hutt Stitch-in katrine@xtra.co.nz	1.00pm-4.00pm (second Saturday of the month) at the Hutt Art Centre, cnr Huia and Myrtle Sts. Cost \$6.
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.

Committee

President	Caroline Birkinshaw
Treasurer	Marjorie Thomas weg.tres@gmail.com
Secretary	Rhys Garton
Newsletter Editor, Committee Member Deadline for newsletter content last day of the month	Cathrine Lloyd c.lloyd@xtra.co.nz
Committee Member	Glenda Manning-Fogg
Committee Member, Almoner	Cathy Trewby