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Dear Guild Members

## Regional news

I've heard of some great ideas for **Stitch Summer**. Do take photos and share them with us. The primary aim of Stitch Summer is to promote embroidery. If someone wants to know more about guilds **the regional brochures have just been updated** and are available from your guild.

Thanks to Catherine Rozendaal from Country Stitch for a significant contribution towards sponsoring the updated regional brochure. The remainder was paid from the Taranua Regional Account.

The first **Taranua Region Stitch Hui** is being hosted by Wellington Guild on 14 March at Johnsonville Community Centre, 10am – 3pm.

## Regional Retreat 2026

I've just sent the registration forms for retreat to your guilds. Closing date for registrations 2 April. Looking forward to seeing you there.

**Congratulations Wellington Guild for achieving 60 years of being a guild.** In the early days many people were learning design and stitching techniques with great enthusiasm and members of Wellington Guild later started the other guilds in the region so they could have guilds closer to home.

## ANZEG news

### Conference

Several workshops have been withdrawn due to low numbers. Although some workshops are full, there are spaces in several if you'd still like to go. <https://www.embroiderynz.co.nz/conference26-workshops> Closing date 31 March. Accommodation is still available at Massey University.

**Exhibiting?** – check out Jo Dixey's "Tips for entering ANZEG exhibitions", page 72, Threads October 2025

Heather Lofthouse is planning the **Thanksgiving Service** at conference and would like input from members around NZ in keeping with the conference theme, "Threads of Connection". Her request is on page 4 below.

**Raffle tickets** have been sent to guilds for a gorgeous embroidered quilt and cushions as a fundraiser for conference. Please keep selling them. Extra tickets can be obtained through your guild committee or directly by emailing Felicity. [conferenceraffle@gmail.com](mailto:conferenceraffle@gmail.com)

Post conference workshops “Indian Inspired Textiles” with ANZEG travelling tutor Amarjeet Nandhra will be held in Christchurch, New Plymouth, Waikato and Auckland. There are definitely spaces in the Christchurch workshop 18 – 19 July so I’ll send out details with this memo. If the other workshops aren’t filled by locals I’ll advise you of any spaces.

## Educational opportunities

### Hutt Art

The Textile Art Group has recently published their classes for 2026 and there are plenty of opportunities for learning - see <https://www.huttart.co.nz/textileart>

### Karori Arts & Crafts

Indigo Dyeing with Clare Smith 8 March

<https://www.kacc.org.nz/store/products/indigo-dyeing-with-clare-smith>

## Teshigoto - Japanese Handicrafts – this may interest some of you who are interested in Japanese embroidery techniques

Thistle Hall, 293 Cuba St, Te Aro, Wellington Tuesday 3 March 2026 - Sunday 8 March 2026

<https://www.eventfinda.co.nz/2026/teshigoto-japanese-handicrafts/wellington?>

Teshigoto is a small, Wellington-based group that loves sharing Japanese-inspired handmade work. Our name comes from the Japanese words te (“hand”) and shigoto (“work”)—and this exhibition is a celebration of handwork, slow making, visible stitches, and objects that carry stories.

Join us at Thistle Hall for a week-long immersion in traditional and contemporary Japanese handcrafted artistry.

- Vintage kimono upcycling, cartonnage & doll making: Exquisite vintage materials transformed into contemporary clothing, accessories, and delicate handmade dolls.
- Kogin-zashi (counted sashiko) embroidery: Intricate geometric patterns created through traditional counting-thread techniques, blending antique heritage with modern style.
- Tsumami-zaiku: The meticulous art of folding and pinching small silk squares into complex, three-dimensional flowers.
- Japanese mask art: A display of theatrical and traditional masks

While the exhibition is a cultural showcase, most of the unique handcrafted pieces on display will also be available for purchase.

### Events & Workshops:

- Tue 3 March (from 5:30pm): Opening Event – Hina Matsuri (Doll Festival)
- Wed 4 March & Thu 5 March (after 4pm): Chiku-Chiku Café (social stitching - bring your own project!)
- Fri 6 March (5:00pm): Kogin Embroidery Workshop
- Sat 7 March (2:30pm): Kogin Embroidery Workshop

Opening Event Tea Ceremony Booking: <https://www.eventfinda.co.nz/2026/teshigoto-2026-hina-matsuri/wellington>

Kogin Workshop Booking: <https://www.eventfinda.co.nz/2026/kogin-embroidery-traditional-japanese-counted-sashiko-workshop/wellington>

## Interesting articles/links

<https://www.hollandroad yarn.co.nz/collections/embroidery>

<https://www.rnz.co.nz/life/people/yarns-pottery-woodwork-and-happy-mail-the-rise-of-analogue-hobbies>

Lots to inspire and do.

Susan

## Diary dates

### Exhibitions

- 18 October 2025 – 15 March 2026 Softy: Textiles from the Dowse Collection, Dowse Art Museum <https://dowse.org.nz/exhibitions-and-events/exhibitions/2025/softy-textiles-from-the-dowse-collection>
- 6 December 2025 – 8 March 2026 Tivaivai exhibition, Pataka, Porirua <https://pataka.org.nz/whats-on/exhibitions/tipurepure-au-vaine/>
- 31 January 2026 - 19 April 2026 Caroline McQuarrie: “The land, again” Aratoi, Masterton <https://www.aratoi.org.nz/exhibitions/2026-02/caroline-mcquarrie-land-again>  
*In ‘The land, again’ artist Caroline McQuarrie challenges us to consider how we view land and landscape.  
Utilising weaving and cross stitch at an expanded scale, the works reflect both human-centric ways of viewing landscape, and the differing ways we conceptualise land as its cultural value changes when economic imperatives shift.*

### 2026

- 1st Sunday monthly - Kapiti Extensions Group - open to members from all guilds, meets at Waikanae Arts & Craft Rooms. Contact Donna Kennedy 0212550519 donna.kennedy72@outlook.com
- 28 February Stitch Summer
- 1 March Tararua Extensions 9.30am at Waikanae Arts & Crafts Society Rooms
- 14 March Tararua Region Stitch Hui hosted by Wellington Guild + Diana Parkes Award
- 22 March Tararua Regional Group (Presidents & Secretaries) Meeting, 10 – 2.30, Greytown
- 27 - 29 March - The Embroiderers’ Great Escape <https://embroiderersgreatestescape.com/classes-2026/#C1>
- **2 – 3 May Tararua Region Guilds’ Annual Retreat, Copthorne Solway, Masterton**
- 4 - 9 July – ANZEG Conference, Palmerston North
- 2 August Tararua Extensions at Waikanae Arts & Crafts Society Rooms
- 10–14 August Fibre Arts Australia ‘Landscape Fragments’ in Hamilton. All details and registration: <https://www.fibrearts.net.au/julia-wright.html>
- 10 October Tararua Region Stitch Day hosted by Kapiti Guild
- 24 October – 22 November Wairarapa Guild Exhibition, Aratoi
- 1 November Tararua Extensions at Waikanae Arts & Crafts Society Rooms

**Threads of Connections**  
**Conference 2026**  
**A Service of Thanksgiving and Celebration**

Kia ora koutou, Greetings everyone

I am beginning to plan this service and would welcome involvement from across all seven regions.

The theme for the service will be threads of connections. What are the threads that connect us to our national body, to our regions and to each other. There are so many connections that bind us together which can all be celebrated at our biannual thanksgiving service during conference.

What is it that connects us and how might this be expressed through our Christian faith in bible reading, reflection, song, hymn, music, prayer, poem. I would welcome participation from across our regions choosing and delivering what ever it is that speaks to you of the Threads of Connections. It will be a true celebration of all that brings us together around our love of embroidery.

Can each region circulate this information asking those interested in being part of what promises to be a wonderful service of thanksgiving to get in touch with me with any ideas by the 1<sup>st</sup> June 2026. I am open to all suggestions.

Ngā manaakitanga nui Heather

Heather Lofthouse

New Plymouth Embroiderers' Guild

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