

**THE NEWSLETTER
FOR THE SOUTH EAST REGION**

WEB SITE: www.southeastembroiderers.co.uk

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Embroiderers' Guild

SEE THE NEWS!

CHAIRMAN'S LETTER

Dear Members,

I hope you enjoyed Christmas and New Year and are looking forward to some drier weather. At the end of January we had a stand at the Creative Craft Show at Sandown Park. We used the Rainbow Squares as decoration and they received their usual attention and praise. A number of visitors expressed an interest in learning to embroider and we passed on details to their local branches. Thank you to the members who helped on the stand for the three days. The squares are available to branches for their exhibitions; just let me know when you would like them.

From March 13th to 16th the Spring Knitting & Stitching Show is on at Olympia. The acting Young Embroiderers vice chairman, Jamie Chalmers (Mr. X Stitch), is running an inspiration station at the show. Children pay £5.00 in advance for tickets to the show and it is possible to get a group discount for adults to £9.00 if there is 10 in the group. Call 020 7688 6830 to book.

We are planning a Summer Garden Party for chairmen and one other member, possibly the branch liaison officer on May 11th at EG House. Terry Murphy has asked to address all branch chairmen so please make a note of the date now. We will be sending out invitations soon.

I hope your plans for your display at the Regional Day on July 12th are progressing well. I have been told of your main colour by some branches but would like to know the others.

If you would like to know more about our main speaker, Michael Brennand-Wood, you can read an article in the September/October 2012 edition of Embroidery (pages 22 - 29). There are lots of pictures, some of which we have used in our poster for the event.

The pieces of work done in Fay Maxwell's giant workshop on the day will be made into a wall hanging for a children's hospice in Guildford, so we hope you will all support this.

I hope to see some of you at the National AGM at Wyboston Lakes on April 4th to 6th. There seems to be lots to do and hear.

At the AGM the new chairman on the South East region will be announced. I am standing down after 6 years in the job. Anyone who would like to join the regional committee will be very welcome and can be appointed at the regional AGM. Bring us your new ideas and help to shape the future of this region.

Best wishes
Jackie Rayer

A National Celebration of Stitch Day
Saturday August 2nd 2014

Following on the interest created by the Great British Sewing Bee, we would like as many members as possible to make themselves visible by sewing on this day. There will be posters available from Pat Tempest at EG house. You can go to a place in your home area where people are passing, with a group of friends and sit and sew. Let the public see that there are plenty of people who stitch and love it.

If your branch meets on this Saturday you could have an open meeting or you could go to a local fete or sports match. If you have an exhibition invite the local press in on this day. Last year my branch sat under sunshades outside the community centre sewing and chatting to passers by. It was fun.

So think about it and let me know what you are doing and take some photos. Thank you,
Jackie Rayer

Coats Competition 2014
A Card From the Front

Remembering the First World War is going to be a theme for many programmes and events over the next few years. One of the aspects which interests me are the silk postcards bought as souvenirs by the troops or sent, by military post, back home.

The first such postcards were seen at the Paris Exhibition of 1900 and called Stevengraphs. However, they became popular during the WWI. They were made by local French and Belgian women, who hand embroidered on silk gauze, usually in multiples of the same design. As demand increased machines (in the home) were used and finally production moved to factories. An estimated 26 million cards were made. Some of you may have an example sent to your family.

For this years Coats competition I am asking you to make a card inspired by these simple expressions of love and patriotism. They could be from any conflict which has involved British Troops and use any type of embroidery, but should convey a simple message. You can decide what size your embroidery should be.

The competition will be judged at our AGM on 27th September 2014.

Jackie Rayer

Touchwood Boxes Competition

In September members of the South East Region were given the opportunity to enter a unique competition to design, and possibly win, a custom made, free standing sewing box.

Mr. Roy Johnson of Touchwood Boxes made the offer and sent examples of the boxes to the Regional AGM in Purley last year, where they were much admired by the members present.

To create their design, members had to select items from the component parts as described and illustrated on the website (www.touchwoodboxes.com) to create not only a sewing box to treasure but one custom made to your needs for storage of threads, equipment and projects.

The winner of this competition was Muriel Smailes of the North Kent branch and she has received the box of her design.

Branch Exhibitions

Brighton Branch

Brighton Open House Arts Festival

The Brighton Branch is thrilled to announce that we will be exhibiting again at the Arts Festival but this time at our very own Patcham Community Centre, where we meet each month. Along with art groups from the Patcham area of North Brighton, we will be displaying work completed by our embroiderers.

Our theme title for this exhibition is 'Art Goes Wild' displaying new work from our group, as well as some of our historical pieces and many of our embroiderers will be hanging pieces marked up for sale.

You are warmly invited to attend the Open House Exhibition
Patcham Community Centre,
Ladies Mile Road, Patcham,
Brighton BN1 8TA

11 am to 4 pm on Saturdays and Sundays
10th - 11th, 17th - 18th and 24th - 25th May 2014

Isleworth Branch

Exhibition entitled 'Twists and Turns'
St. Paul's Church, Brentford TW6 0PN

10.30 am to 4 pm
May 24th to June 8th 2014

Horsham Branch

Exhibition of our member's work to celebrate our first 10 years as a branch

Horsham Museum & Art Gallery
9 Causeway, Horsham, West Sussex RH12 1HE
www.horshammuseum.org

10 am to 5 pm
May 8th to June 20th

Harrow Branch

Exhibition
The Cow Byre Gallery, Bury Street, Ruislip HA4 7QL.

Opening times Sunday 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Monday - Saturday 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.
29th June to 5th July 2014

REGIONAL CALENDAR

2014

Thursday 7th (Preview Evening Only) -
Sunday 9th March 2014

Contemporary Craft Fair

Over 76 designers making and selling a diverse range of distinctive and colourful textiles.

Landmark Arts Centre, Ferry Road,
Teddington TW11 9NN
Telephone 020 8977 7558

13th to 16th March 2014

Spring Knitting & Stitching Show

Specialist suppliers, unrivalled galleries from major textile artists, workshop programme, traders etc

See website for details and booking tickets
Open 10 am to 5.30 pm
Olympia, Hammersmith Road,
Kensington W14 8UX

4th to 6th April 2014

National AGM

Wyboston Lakes Conference Centre,
Great North Road, Wyboston,
Bedfordshire MK44 3A
See Contact Issue No. 35 for full details and booking form

27th & 28th April 2014

Brockenhurst Needlework Fiesta

A popular event for all textile enthusiasts with many well-known traders, Textile Art exhibitions and on-going demonstrations
Village Hall, Brockenhurst, New Forest National Park
Tickets £2.50; free parking; refreshments
Saturday 10 am to 5 pm
Sunday 10 am to 3.30 pm
More details on: www.brockenhurstfiesta.co.uk

11th May 2014

SE Region Summer Garden Party

For branch chairmen plus one other branch member at EG House
From 2.30 pm
Talk by Terry Murphy

13th to 15th June 2014

Regional Summer School

West Dean College, West Dean,
near Chichester, West Sussex PO18 0QZ
Tel 01243 811301

Tutors Sophie Long & Kim Thittichai
Some places still available - contact Jen Ford for booking forms on 01372 327206 or at jenford@globalnet.com

12th July 2014

SE Regional Day

Chichester College, Westgate Fields,
Chichester, West Sussex PO19 1SB
Branch Challenge
A Chance to work on the Regional Wall Hanging Project designed by Fay Maxwell
Speaker - Michael Brennand-Wood with his talk entitled 'Pretty Deadly'

2nd August 2013

National Celebration of Stitch Day

A chance for a group of members from your branch to stitch in a town centre or other public space.

27th September 2014

SE Region AGM

Hosted by Dorking Branch
Mickleham Village Hall, Dell Close,
Mickleham, Surrey RH5 6EE
Wheelchair Access & Disabled Toilet
Talk by Anthea Godfrey
Annual Coats Competition

Your Regional Newsletter

This newsletter is your forum to share branch news, for a member to submit an article or to share an experience of an exhibition or show.

Similarly if you know about a forthcoming exhibition please let me know.

CONTACT THE EDITOR!

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