



Chainstitch

Otago Embroiderers' Guild Inc

May 2019

A message from our President, Mary Flaherty

As I begin to write this article I am looking out at a very cold, dark, wet day which is ideal weather for stitching. My mind floats back to a month ago when I was in Hong Kong and Vietnam and the temperatures were 29 to 33 degrees. It was almost too hot. I had an amazing time in Da Nang, Hoi An and Hue and as always great fun in Hong Kong. I spent a number of hours exploring the Imperial Palace in Hue which had been partially destroyed during the Vietnam War. Many of the beautifully embroidered hangings had been saved, thank goodness, as they had been exquisitely worked. The embroidered garments worn by the Empress and her court were also very interesting to see. I was really impressed by the way the halls had been divided up so they were much more liveable. Hoi An was a great place to explore and to have clothing made if you so wish. Also there were lots of hand embroidered goods for sale. Handmade suits and shoes were an attraction for many visitors. We loved eating out in Da Nang especially vegetarian food and loved the Vietnamese people who were gentle, kind and very willing to make your visit memorable.

Claire Orbell's talk on the Suffrage Panels at Toitu was excellent and drew a good crowd of members. It was fun to have a day stitching at a different location and I know many of you enjoyed working on the small projects Sue Lucas had taken from some of the samplers on display.

It was wonderful to see such an enthusiastic crowd at May Day. Your committee worked hard to make this a special day for everyone and it was good to have positive feedback. The advertisement in the Star, an interview with Jeff Harford on Oar radio and being listed on the Community Notice Board plus placing our poster in schools helped to attract new faces. It was good to have a small article in the Otago Daily Times too with a lovely photo of Bev Gardiner - stitching in time.

This is a reminder to those who might like to go up to the North Otago Friendship Day on the 25th of May that it is a chance to meet members from another guild and embroider. I know that we have a group that go each year and really enjoy a day out stitching.

Our next meeting is an evening meeting on May 23rd. If you have any UFO's you need help finishing Eunice McLeod will be offering guidance.

As the evenings draw in and we settle into the warmth it is an ideal time to do some stitching. I do hope the number of projects I have to complete starts to get shorter over the winter months. I am sure I am not the only member who feels this way.

The theme for our Show and Tell table this month is Stitched Birds. This does not however, mean that you cannot bring other items to Show and Tell

An extract from 'Birdland' by Brian Turner

and the few remaining waxies
with their porcelain silver around their eyes
and light velvety green feathers
that I would love to stroke since they look like
smooth lustrous velour



2019 COMMITTEE

President	Mary Flaherty
Vice President	Cathrine Waite
Immediate	
Past President	Brenda Burton
Secretary	Di Daly
Treasurer	Jane Carroll
Chainstitch	Cathrine Waite
Catering	Christine Cook
Library	Vicki Miller
Programme	Sue Lucas
Treasure Chest	Jenny Madill
Website	Shelley Scoular

CONTACT INFO:

Secretary email: otago.guild@gmail.com
Website: www.oeg.org.nz
Guild postal address: Otago Embroiderers' Guild,
PO Box 5732,
Dunedin 9058

If you could like to share information with OEG members via Chainstitch please email Cathrine Waite at cate.waite@gmail.com

MEETING INFORMATION:

Guild Meetings:

Leith Bowling Club, 2 Duke Street, Woodhaugh. Meetings in 2019 are as follows:

Thursday evening meetings; doors open 6.45

January 24

February 28

March 21

May 23

October 24

November 28

Saturday meetings; doors open 9.30

April 27

June 22

July 27

August 24

September 28

Thursday Workshop:

Contact: Jan Letts, 021 254 7816

Senior Citizens Rooms, Lower Octagon, every Thursday from 9.30 a.m. - 11.45 a.m.

To attend workshop meetings you must be a member of the Otago Embroiderers' Guild. There is a \$1 charge for tea/coffee.

Project Group:

Contact: Sharon Evans, 027 665 4590

Meetings are held in the Mornington Presbyterian Church hall

Second Thursday evening of the month; 7.00-9.30 p.m.

Christmas Group:

Contact: Pearl Stenhouse, 021 262 8289

Meetings are held in the Mornington Presbyterian Church hall

Third Wednesday evening of the month; 7.00-9.30 p.m.

Subs: a note from our Treasurer, Jane Carroll

If you have not already paid your Subscription then unfortunately you have missed the cut off for reduced rate and payment is now \$60. Subscriptions can be paid to the Treasurer.

Full annual membership: \$60 (reduced to \$55 if paid by 31 March 2019)

Country Membership: \$45 (\$40 if paid by 31 March 2019)

Associate Membership: \$30. This category is for members of other guilds. Please state the name of your Guild on form.

Student membership: \$20 if aged between 13-18 years; \$2 per session if aged between 5-12 years.

Payment methods:

Cheque: made out to 'Otago Embroiderers' Guild'

Please hand to Jane at a Guild meeting; in an envelope with your name on the outside

Or you can post your cheque to:

The Treasurer

Otago Embroiderers' Guild

PO Box 5732, Dunedin 9058.

Online into bank account 03 1732 0001345 00

Payee: Otago Embroiderers' Guild

Particular: YOUR NAME

Code: subs

Reference: membership type, e.g. full, country, associate or student

NOTICES

A wee treasure from May Day



This piece was done by Sophie at the May Day beginners' class. Sophie went home and worked on it completing the cat, paw prints and fish without help from anyone. On Monday she took it to school to show her friends and will be coming to our next Saturday guild meeting. Well done Sophie!

May Evening Programme

Do you have any unfinished projects? Not sure how to do a certain stitch or technique? Bring it to Guild on Thursday 23rd May and Eunice McLeod will help you through the tricky part. Make sure you bring the pattern and piece to be guided in the right direction. A great chance to maybe finish a project or two.

Modules Group -

A quick catch up to see how we are going and where to next.

Around the World Part 4

This month we are moving on to Romania to discover Romanian stitch, Romanian leaf and crossed Romanian stitch, and then we then cross the border into the Hungary to discover the Hungarian stitch.

New Books in Library

Mount Felix Tapestry: the story of a Community Project

The Art of Chinese Embroidery by Margaret Lee

First Aid certificate holders

Do any of our members hold Level 1 or Levels 1 and 2 of First Aid Training? We are conscious that there may be times when we have to call on a first aider to assist a member

during a meeting or workshop. If you hold any certificates in First Aid can you please email Di Daly.

Evacuation Procedures

Can you all please ensure that you check the notice on the wall in the Bowling Club rooms re Evacuation procedures and meeting points.

In Case of Snow on a meeting day

If you are in doubt that a meeting is being held due to inclement weather then please check the guild website and listen to radio cancellations.

Soup at winter meetings

Due to commitments of committee members we will no longer be providing soup for the winter meetings. We are sorry to disappoint some of our members. If other members feel strongly about this then we welcome offers from you to make some soup and a roster can be arranged.

Meeting roster

We will have the meeting roster available at our meeting on Thursday 23 May. As previously mentioned there are a lot of gaps where we need your help. In particular can you look at your diaries for Saturday 27 July, Saturday 24 August and Saturday 28 September. Currently we have no one helping with catering, raffles or library on any of those days. We also need helpers for Treasure Chest on 24 August and 28 September. We sincerely thank those members who have already signed up.

Our Own Rooms; from Jane Carroll

Recently a complex came up for sale in Mornington - an old brick church and adjoining relocatable building that had been used as a Child Care centre. I know that the ultimate aim for the Guild was having their own rooms so I investigated this property and took the figures to committee. Why we didn't pursue this complex further is because the numbers did not stack up and would have resulted in taking on considerable debt as well as long term commitments to building upkeep etc. The property had been designated as "commercial" - rates were over \$3500 per year. The brick church probably required earthquake strengthening (I didn't look into this aspect as I just saw dollar signs stretching far into the future). The mortgage we would have had to commit to for 30 years (if we got the complex for the asking price and used our funds for the deposit) was a minimum of \$610 per fortnight. If we were planning to hire out the hall then the kitchen would have also required a major revamp to commercial grade. If anyone have any questions you are welcome to come and chat to me.

OEG EXHIBITION 2020 PRESIDENT'S CHALLENGE

The Power of Poetry

Embroider a line or lines from a published poet and then embroider your interpretation to represent the imagery in the lines. The piece must be titled – An extract from (title of the poem) by (poet). This can be presented in different ways to fit within a 5 inch (13cm) by 8 inch (20cm) radius. It can be much smaller provided it fits within the measurements provided. It could be a plaque, or a needle case, or a small box or a little book. That is entirely your choice.

e.g. An extract from 'Hunger' by Laurence Binyon

I am Hunger

Embroider examples of physical, mental or spiritual hunger.

Or

An extract from 'To Autumn' by John Keats
Seasons of mist and mellow fruitfulness
Close bosom friend of the maturing sun
Embroider images of autumn literally or figuratively.
Children's poetry, humorous poetry and NZ poetry are wonderful sources of inspiration.

REMINDERS

ANZEG CONFERENCE 2024

Call for CVs if you are interested in convening or helping with this event

It is a possibility that we will be asked to host this conference in Dunedin in 2024.

Because of the complexity and importance of this the committee would like to call for applications from anyone interested in being involved in the planning of this event.

Please send a CV and a letter outlining any relevant skills or experience you have to the Otago Embroiderers' Guild by the **end of May 2019**. Your letter can be posted or given to Mary, Di or Cathrine at a meeting. You can also email to our Secretary, Di Daley.

NORTH OTAGO FRIENDSHIP DAY

Saturday 25 May.

Introducing two past presidents of our Guild:

Carol Montgomery



During the 1980's I began going to classes taken by Jenny Bain in Mosgiel, thinking to continue my interest in cross-stitch. But we painted on fabric and did colour exercises! She encouraged me to join the Guild.

I have now been a member of the Otago Embroiderers' Guild since 1992. During Shirley Holdaway's presidency I joined the committee, spending time on rosters and programme duties over several years, as well as teaching the occasional guild and Mayday class.

I never intended to hold anything other than a committee position, but never the less at the 2001 AGM I found myself president. What an honour from such a creative talented group of women. How ever would I manage?

Fortunately I had 3 great advantages: a husband who could help with his knowledge on how to hold meetings, Marion Caffell as secretary par excellence, and not least 130 keen women all willing to help. I especially wanted to promote an atmosphere of welcome and friendship for all. I had already realised I had a bossy streak and this was put to work as I like to see problems solved and to make improvements where needed, generally making sure everything runs as smoothly as

possible. This helped to meet the Guild's function of promoting high standards of embroidery knowledge for all members.

During this time I was on the Wanaka Embroidery School Committee as the Guild representative. I learned a lot during those 3 years and later was asked to go onto WES again as Tutor Liaison. This time it was for 6 years and it was a fantastic time – finding and meeting tutors from New Zealand and around the world to teach at Wanaka. The camaraderie of working with the Guild committee and the Wanaka organisers is a highlight of my life. Eventually daughters in London began producing babies and with my increased absence felt I should resign. It gives me much pleasure to see the current committee working so well together, continuing nearly six decades of the Otago Embroiderers' Guild.

Gaynor Chronican



I have always been interested in crafts and my interest in embroidery started with a class at the polytechnic in 1979 with Jan Wilson. My mother was/is a very competent embroiderer and encouraged me to come along to the Wanaka Embroidery school 30 years ago. One of the early classes was with Dorothy Clarke who taught me Elizabethan Embroidery and then Jane Nicholas classes learning stump work. My passion is raised work. I have been lucky to take classes with many international tutors which has stimulated my love of embroidery. I have taught a lot of different techniques to guild members, Wanaka School participants, regional and national guilds as well as ANZEG

conference workshops. I started on the guild committee preparing Chainstitch for 2-3 years as well as some time on the Wanaka committee and then I took on the role of President in 1999. For the last few years I have been on the Wanaka Embroidery School committee as secretary and in the last year as chairman.

ROSTER FOR MAY

Catering: Jan Wilson and Ingrid Emerson

Raffles: Barbara Blake

Treasure Chest: Judy Mason

Hostess: Carol Montgomery

Library: volunteer please

Check out our website at

www.oeg.org.nz