

Embroiderers Guild Exeter & District

Minutes for AGM – 10th September 2016

Committee:-

Dee Priest (chair)

Lynn Bennett (Membership Secretary)

Nicky Peterkin(Treasurer)

Alison Carder (YE Leader)

There were 28 members present for the meeting.

Apologies:-

Rowena Light(Secretary)

Liz Moon (Workshop Secretary)

Sue Benyon-Tinker (Day school Secretary)

Ruth Chappell

Toni Tope

Paula Faulkner

Rosie Beckham

Betty Gledhill

Gwen Hartley

Ann Martin

Minutes of Previous AGM: -

The Minutes from the AGM on 12th September were circulated and approved. Judith requested that Lynn send her the minutes again so that she could put them on the website. Lynn duly did this.

Matters Arising: -

There were no matters arising. Dee duly signed the minutes from the last AGM.

Chair's report: -

Chair's Report for 2015-16. AGM 10.09.16

This has been a really busy year with so much going on for Capability Brown and lots of change for the EG nationally and at Head Office. I have asked a lot of you in various ways and you have risen to the challenge brilliantly. Thank you.

The quality of work going to Ugbrooke House was outstanding. They were seriously impressed and so was Val Rowe our Regional Chair.

Over the year, in many ways' we have worked closely with other branches of the Embroiderers' Guild in the South West. Part of this is because I have been regional representative and also because of Capability Brown. We are establishing habits of cooperation with the two shows at Westpoint which I hope will mean that the pressure is off us a bit. I intend to continue to foster those links even though I am stepping down as Regional Representative.

We've gained several new people this year who have quickly become valued members of the group. Welcome again to them and thank you to everyone for being so lovely that people want to come back.

Although Capability Brown has dominated this year it hasn't all been about him. Earlier this year we were lucky enough to be invited to Castle Drogo to see the amazing restoration of the Char de Triomphe tapestry. The talk was excellent and an added treat was that they had an original Grayson Perry tapestry hanging opposite it! The juxtaposition of ancient and modern should have been bizarre but they fitted so well together! We thought that was it but then we had boxes and boxes of historical fabrics, costumes and accessories brought out for us to examine. It's the best £5 I've ever spent! Thank you so much to Marilyn for organising it. We hope we will have more opportunities like this.

The year ahead will be my last as chair of Exeter and I've been reflecting on my time so far. I know I get enthusiastic about new projects and that you encourage me and tone me down in equal measure but the key word to describe this group is 'support' It's been a time of great turbulence but everyone has come together in large and small ways

which is why we are such a success. Most of our members have had difficulties of varying degrees but we can come to meetings and be supported overtly or subtly. Isn't it wonderful to be part of this group?!

Thank you, Dee Priest Chair 10.09.16

Treasurers Report: -

We have had a good year as we have kept a float with a new treasurer. Thank you to Teri-Anne Hornby for a successful handover last September.

We have two accounts a savings one with Unity Trust Bank and a current account with Lloyds.

In the savings account we have £1571.00 and in the Lloyds account we have approximately £1600.00. I am unable to give exact figures for this, as the statement for the end of year will be printed on Monday (12th Sept)

This means we are into last year's money by about £150.00

Spends for this year include: -

£100 # Ugbrooke House Project

£56 # Embellisher cable

£22 # New plates for the BIG SHOT

£43 # Stitch/Workbox Subscriptions

£3050 #workshops and day schools - £1534 being allocated for our rent.

£74 # library books

£60 # paper and printing

£92 # Insurance

This doesn't really allow us any savings opportunities.

The Guild want us to change our bank however due to FSCS restrictions if there were to be a banking crisis.

They would like us to bank with Unity Trust completely. Having investigated this option, it would cost for this year approximately £100 or £200 if we choose to use internet banking. This would have meant that we eroded last year's fund even further. They charge for £6.00 per month and then 10p per cheque written or banked and 20p per £100 deposited or withdrawn on the current account; the savings account is free; just a postage stamp.

Our options are: -

1. Pay the fees of £100 and bank with UT and close Lloyds.
2. Keep a small amount of money in the Lloyds account to clear us monthly; put our membership funds for 2016/17 in the savings.

If you have any ideas for a daytrip or you would like us to purchase something so everyone could use it at meetings, then let me know and I can take it to the committee.

Nicky Peterkin Treasurer.

Matters arising from treasurer's report:

Dee then asked for comments from the members and told us that from October there is no chair or treasurer so we are not able to obtain advice. But the Secretary for the Region has been a treasurer so we may be able to obtain some advice from her. She also suggested contacting Julie Stenning the South Devon Treasurer. Teri-Anne Hornby said she had opened the Unity as it was free but found the same as Nicky that their charges were too much so had carried on with the Lloyds accounts.

Alison Carder suggested writing one cheque at the end of each year to Unity and keeping Lloyds account for all other transactions.

Marilyn Baker and Teri-Anne Hornby voted the treasurers report in.

Janice Richmond suggested having profiles of the committee on the website.

Trips suggested: - Killerton, Knightshayes, Castle Drogo and RAMM

Capability Brown.

Dee said that the people at Ugbrooke didn't quite understand the concept of the exhibition. It was not arranged well; the spacing was bad on McMillan day. The Orangery was not accessible to look at the exhibits. Dee said she could not get in to check on things but did eventually. She has had a lot of talks with the promoters. Regional Chair had called them

regarding loss of some exhibits – which the promoters said they knew nothing about. Regional Chair gave them a lecture about what the exhibits were actually about.

There didn't appear to be anything about the exhibition on Ugbrooke's website although they had been give the information and the Local press knew nothing about the Capability Brown Exhibitions in the area.

Capability Brown exhibits will be on show at the Craft4Crafters show in February.

Membership Report: -

We now have 52 members which is very good. We have gradually increased our numbers over the years and hopefully this will continue.

At present I am not sure how much we will need to pay for the coming year but as soon as I know I will be in forms for completion and let everyone know.

If anyone would like a list of members, please let me know and I will let you have one. AS you will appreciate not everyone likes their details made public, so this is the reason I have not given them out.

All the committee members have list so if you need any information please ask me or one of the other committee members. Please come and check that all emails are correct during the day.

If anyone has any queries or questions about membership, please ask and I will do my best to answer them.

I will a start to collect the coming years fees in October.

Lynn Bennett Membership Secretary

Dee advised Lynn that the Head Office fees are now £33.00 which is an increase of £3.00. So this will make the total fees for membership to this branch £51.00. Lynn will get the forms ready for October.

Day school Report.

Sue Benyon-Tinker resigned owing to family problems. The Day schools have been good and have broken even over the year. There will only be three next year, as the Vicar needs the Fourth Saturday of the month for church functions.

Workshop Report: -

Liz is away for the AGM but she has booked a good program for the next year. She has initiated the 'Stitch of the Month' which some people are very interested in and other are not so sure about it. Dee would like to have a photo of the stitches taken each month for the website.

Young Embroiderers Report: -

Another brilliant year with the Young Embroiderers. They have produced some amazing work. Their work has been displayed at

2 Westpoint Shows – September and January

SW Festival

Ugbrooke House.

They get a certificate for displaying their work and another for stewarding.

Members number have held steady increasing by two over the year to 12. We have lost some members but they were replaced by new members (No boys though)

We have another exciting programme for next year with new and challenging projects but also some of the stalwarts that the girls love doing e.g. silk painting and printing.

Thank you to the EG members who have come along to help/observe what we do as the children love seeing you. Please continue to drop in as available. Thank you for your support with the group.

Alison Carder – YE Leader.

Lynn advised the members that she has been validated as a participant in the Children's Passport Scheme which some school are participating in. This means she can stamp their passports to show they have taken part in activities outside of the school and they are presented with certificates at their schools for the number of hours they tot up. She will be making posters for the children to take to their individual schools to advertise Young Embroiderers.

*Alison has also suggested that YE do the 'Stitch of the month' and possibly take part in the Travelling Books idea.

Election of Officers: -

Day school Secretary – Sue Benyon-Tinker resigned

Pam Shead was nominated to take her place.

Proposed by Sally Westcott and Seconded by Annie Moore.

Secretary – Rowena Light resigned

Judith Venning was nominated to take her place.

Proposed by Gill Cable and Seconded by Dee Priest.

Judith will also be the point of contact for Head Office.

Westpoint Shows: -

The Stitching, Sewing & Hobby Craft Show 22nd – 25th September 16

Craft4Crafters – 16th-18th February 2017

Unfortunately, the exhibits from Ugbrooke will not be available for the September show but we can use them at the following February one.

Cornwall and Plymouth branches will help with stewarding at the September show.

Partnering Branches

Dee has done a lot of work with South Devon as their numbers are down. Terry Murphy was not in favour of branches helping each other but after a long email between them regarding the problems. South Devon have now sorted things out and they are progressing well.

Tavistock also have the same problems with numbers dwindling but have things on track.

Dee has proposed the premise of partnering branches is a good idea and is fostering the relationship between each of these. She has also suggested that they let us and other branches know when they have Day schools so if they don't have enough 'takers' other branches can make up the numbers.

Marilyn Baker said that Dee underestimated the influence she has had in sorting out the problems that these branches have had.

Regional AGM: -

The Regional AGM is in Salisbury – St Georges Hall on 15th October. They request that you take your own packed lunch.

Cost for All day is £7.00 and the Speaker is Anthea Godfrey (The Life & Work of Margaret G Nicholson)

Arrival 9.30 for coffee AGM 10.30.

Contact: Lynda Harrison landrh108@googlemail.com

Travelling Books: -

Dee said we did it twice in the past year and they were very successful.

There are several groups: -

The book is passed to another member of the group. They do an embroidery in your book. The next month the books are brought back to group and the embroidery is shown to the owner. It is then passed onto the next member in the group and this is repeated until everyone has made an embroidery in each other's books.

These books could have a theme or can be random, it is up to the group or the individuals themselves.

The commitment is that you pass the book to the next person in the group and if you are away you must get the book to the next person.

A list to start travelling books for a new journey will begin next month (October).

St. Thomas Church Project.

We have been asked by the Vicar if we can make a tapestry for the Church. Dee has asked everyone to look at the list and if they can come up with any ideas. Lynn will bring in some books on Exeter.

The list is as follows: -

Ideas for the Cowick tapestry

Past history

Romans- Isca and bridge

Saxons – farmers

Normans – Cathedral

1st St Thomas on the bridge 1215

Floods

Exe Island

Monks of Cowick

2nd St Thomas 1405

Prayer Book rebellion – Robert Welshe

Civil war and destruction – Fairfax

Rebuilt in Commonwealth

Growth of St Thomas – Grandfathers Reynolds, Gordon, Butler

Victorian/ Georgian expansion

Coming of the Railway

Bread riots

2000 expansion

AOB

Penny – Dee's daughter has set up a Facebook page – Embroiderer's Guild Exeter Branch. It is a closed group – which means no-one can go onto the page unless they are a member but no members' details will be available.

Dee is consulting with Judith.

At Day schools' members are forgetting to put their £2.00 in to cover Tea & coffee expenses. Nicky has the same problem at the Workshops so will be going around at lunchtime to collect the subs.

Christmas Meeting: -

Janice Richmond suggests everyone make a gift and having a lucky dip.

Dee said not everyone will be able to do this so the item must be sewing related but not necessarily hand made.

Dee asked if we would all like a subject to stitch as at the last Christmas meeting. This was a resounding success and it was agreed to do this again.

Teri-Anne Hornby thanked the committee for all the hard work they have done over the year. This was met by applause from the members.

The meeting was closed.