



Embroiderers' Guild

sharing opportunities for discovery and creativity

SOUTH WEST REGION NEWSLETTER – December 2019

contact: swregionchair@embroiderersguild.co.uk

Hello all - Christmas seems to have come around very quickly this year. We hope all your Christmas projects are finished on time, and that it stops raining for a few hours! However, inspiration can strike from a variety of places, and it may be that the soft focus on nature seen through a showery curtain will result in beautiful new embroideries. We wish you all the best of the season, good food, good company and of course time to stitch!

In this newsletter, there's an update on our new branch, Ross on Wye, more details about the regional competition for Craft4Crafters, and a number of dates for your diaries. Don't forget, if you have a branch event of any kind, please send us a report to share with others.

Judith, on behalf of the regional committee

NEW BRANCH - ROSS ON WYE

The planning meeting for the new branch was very well attended, and it was agreed to start the new branch. A committee was formed and have subsequently met to produce a programme for 2020. It was agreed to have two monthly events - a meeting on the fourth Saturday of each month, and a sit-and-stitch on the fourth Wednesday.



Twenty-six people attended the first meeting, a 'make a name badge' workshop. Skills and makings were shared, and lively conversation took place. New friendships were made and old friends reunited.

A good number also attended the sit and stitch, where members showed off a wide variety of skills and work in progress. We believe the branch is off to a flying start!

The final meeting for 2019 takes place this coming weekend, with a talk by Richard Box and a 'bring a plate' buffet. We are looking forward to taking the branch forward in the New Year - and to looking at potential sites for other new branches.

MEMBERS' CHALLENGE 2019/20

A reminder that there's still time to enter the members' challenge for this year - the subject is 'My favourite things' and the closing date is 28th February 2020. Further details can be found on the Guild website.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Next year's AGM will be held on Saturday 25th April at the Priory Rooms, Quaker Meeting House, Birmingham.

National Stitch Day 2020 will be on 20th June.

CRAFT 4 CRAFTERS COMPETITION 2020

The region will be taking a stand at Craft4Crafters in Shepton Mallet from 2nd to 4th April 2020. As part of our display, we organise a competition - entries are shown on the stand and members of the public will be asked to vote for their favourite piece. The competition is open to all members of the Guild who live in the South West Region.

The theme is 'Floral' - entrants may interpret the theme as they wish. Entries must be displayed in an 8-inch diameter wooden embroidery hoop. The piece should be no more than 5cm/2 inches deep including the frame. Any combination of techniques can be used as long as the piece can be considered 'textile art'. If you wish to take part please email Julie at <mailto:swestregionchair@embroiderersguild.co.uk> by **February 1st 2020**.

Completed pieces can be posted or delivered to members of the regional committee in Churcham, Gloucestershire arriving by 30th March at the latest, or (by prior arrangement) delivered to Craft4Crafters on 1st April.

Prizes are awarded by the organisers and the winner will also be presented with the Regional Competition Shield.

CRAFT 4 CRAFTERS 2020

We will be at Craft4Crafters from April 2nd – 4th. As well as the competition entries, mentioned above, we have a tombola. This is to raise funds to cover costs and for the regional and national Guild. Everyone wins a prize, and tickets are £1 each. Last year's was so popular we sold out by 3 p.m. each day. Please could you help us by making some tombola items. Contact Julie at swestregionchair@embroiderersguild.co.uk for information about delivery.

We would also like help with stewarding. We are hoping for 18 volunteers so we can cover 9 sessions of 2 hours each. If we don't have enough people, then we will have to do 6 sessions of 3 hours each. We always enjoy the show and it is a great opportunity to talk to visitors and other members of the Guild. Also, you will receive free entry into the show and a car parking pass. Julie is organising the rota, so please contact her at swestregionchair@embroiderersguild.co.uk if you think you can help.

25 and 50 Year Pins

This year, our region had several people who have been members of the Guild for 25 or 50 years. They each received a certificate and a silver or gold pin. We haven't asked permission for their names to be included in the newsletter, so I will just list their branches: 2 members from Cotswold and 1 member from South Somerset received 50-year pins. 1 member from Avalon, 3 from Blackmore Vale, 2 from Bristol, 2 from Cornwall, 1 from Cotswold 1 from Plymouth and 1 member from South Somerset all received 25-year pins. Congratulations to all of you.

YOUR REGIONAL COMMITTEE

The committee currently consists of myself, Judith Mortimore, Secretary; Julie Stenning, Chair and Penny Hill, Treasurer. If anybody would like to join us to help organise regional events, please let us know. With modern technology, we don't have to physically meet to make plans and share good ideas! If you want to volunteer, please contact us at the regional email address swestregionchair@embroiderersguild.co.uk.