

## NW Region Newsletter March 2020



Hi, I hope you are all happy & healthy, and that the terrible flooding has not affected any of you. Roll on the Spring!!!

Please remember to send in your booking forms for tickets, monies and the competition forms to Merseyside Branch so you can enjoy a great day on **25<sup>th</sup> April** at L.A.C.E. Conference Centre, Croxteth Drive, Sefton Park, Liverpool L17 1AA. Details and forms are on the NWR website -<http://www.nwregionembroiderers.org/>

Please remember to send me any news, forthcoming events eg. Exhibitions and reports, to enable me to add to the NWR blog. You will find details & posters etc on loads of exhibitions on the blog- well worth a visit.

I have received some requests for 25yr & 50yr badges, so please ensure if you have not already done so, that you contact me in good time as I need to order the badges and certificates from HO.

National Stitch Day on **Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> June** will be based on 'Birds' and as soon as any further information appears on the Guild Website I will pass this onto branches. I really would like to know what branches have planned, and it would be great if after the event you could send me a short report with Jpeg photos for the NWR website.

Glossop branch are hosting 2021 Regional Day on 24<sup>th</sup> April. Make sure you put that date in your diaries.

We may also have volunteer branches for Regional Day 2022- so watch this space!! Happy Days.

I am aware that some of you have experienced a problem with accessing our NWR website. This is a problem caused by google, and we are trying really hard to address this. It may mean slightly amending the URL, and if this is the road we go down I will immediately inform all branches.

I am in the process of visiting NWR branches, and recently visited Wirral and had a great welcome, and I will this week attend Warrington branch's meeting. I have also received several invitations to branch's special events- please continue to invite me as this is the part of the job I really enjoy the most.

You should all now have received details on my NWR Chair Challenge, based on **POSITIVITY**, and I hope that your branch is organising how you are going to proceed. It is a great opportunity to develop a useful piece of work, which can be displayed at every meeting on your welcome tables etc. I know that several branches are joining in, and I look forward to viewing the results on 24<sup>th</sup> October.

The Guild will be bringing out a pamphlet outlining our charitable aims, which should be read by all members and displayed for members & visitors to read at meetings and events.

On that point, one of the aims '[be recognised as the national voice for embroidery in the UK](#)'. Is not necessarily being met, and with that in mind our 'AGM' format on 24<sup>th</sup> October is going to change.

We are not holding a formal AGM which normally entails a business meeting. Instead, any voting for Regional Committee officers will be by proxy votes, which will be in the form of an email to all branch chairs. We are rebranding the day, by calling it 'Embroidery & Textile Open Day' and inviting the public to attend. We are going to invite all NWR branches to have a stall on which they can exhibit work, sell items and generally promote their branch. We should be proud of our branches, and the talent and dedication that goes into running meetings- so let's show it!!!

We still intend to have the 'stitchery session' after lunch, but will invite the public to join in. We will have a raffle & interactive stuff etc- more on that. We will still be holding the Broderers Cup competition for which members of the public can also vote on, and the Amy Williams Award which will be chosen beforehand by the Regional Committee.

I will be sending more detailed info on all of this after the August Regional Committee meeting.

Please also be aware that branches can apply to Terry for a welcome pack for prospective or new members.

Again, I will reiterate that the Gift Aid query has now been clarified and **branches can only claim on the portion of subs apportioned to the branch.** This then excludes the portion sent to the Guild.

A hard copy of Contact highlighting all the year's good bits, is being published and should soon be going out to members, and hopefully we will also receive the choices of new name & tag line to vote on for the Guild. I believe both are in the pipeline.

I am using this opportunity to include some vital information from our Regional Treasurer -please take this on board and pass onto your branch treasurer.

**'I would like to point out that we hope to have a more effective system in place for paying Insurance and sending out Insurance certificates in September / October 2020. It is important that Branch Treasurers wait for the relevant forms and information before sending any money. I will contact all of the treasurers with the information when it is time for the Insurance to be paid. I hope this will make for a much more efficient completion of the payments. This will enable Anne Waldon Mills to do her job effectively and for all the payments to be processed efficiently.**

I am still awaiting some levy Payments for 2018-19 and would appreciate if the Levy for 2019-2020 could be paid by all Branches before the end of April 2020.

Meanwhile I do recognise what a really challenging time many treasurers have had in the last many months and appreciate all of the work that all Treasurers do for the Region'

Many Thanks to you all- Marguerita

As mentioned in my last newsletter we really do need more Regional Committee members, as we are currently a small committee who do work well together but could do with extra bodies.

Although we do work hard on your behalf, it is also a very rewarding job, and we do have fun and a lot of good laughs (and great cake thanks to Bev)

**So please give this serious thought and contact me or an existing Regional Committee Member.**

Sue -NWR Chair