

NW Region Newsletter May 2020



Hi, strange times, and I hope you and yours are healthy and keeping safe. What a difference two months make since my last newsletter!!

As you should all now be aware, NW Regional Day for 2020 has been postponed, and will now be on **Saturday 24th April 2021**, still hosted by Merseyside branch at L.A.C.E. Conference Centre, Croxteth Drive, Sefton Park, Liverpool L17 1AA. Luckily Merseyside have managed to rebook the same speakers, and therefore apart from the date change, everything remains as before.

I believe some members have asked for a ticket refund, and those have been arranged. Otherwise Merseyside will retain all payments until next year, and obviously your tickets will now be sent to you early next year.

I will arrange for the amended booking forms for tickets and competitions for new applicants to appear on the NWR website -<http://www.nwregionembroiderers.org/> when available.

However. the original booking forms for tickets along with any competition forms will still stand and be utilised for **2021**, as the Rosebowl Competition theme will still be **'All You Need Is Love'**.

Regional Day for **2022** will be hosted by Glossop branch and the chosen theme for the Rosebowl competition is **'Northern Landscapes'**

In theory we have just shunted Regional Days along to the following years.

Our thanks go to Merseyside branch for all their work, and how they have accepted the disappointment in having their plans overturned, which I know must have been soul destroying, and also to Glossop branch who kindly agreed to relinquish their role of hosting 2021 Regional Day, and have now managed to rebook their venue for 2022.

We have now heard from the Manager of Waddow Hall, and following Government Guidelines they have decided to keep the Hall closed until June 30th. This means that NWR Summer School 2020 has now been cancelled.

We realise that this is a huge disappointment, however safety of our members is paramount.

Hilary is in contact with the venue and has asked that the deposit already paid for this year be used against the booked dates of **25th to 27th June 2021**. If that is agreed to, she will then contact the tutors which were booked for this year, to advise them of the situation and to see whether they are available for next year's dates.

When we have a clearer picture, we will contact all students booked on this year's Summer School and give them the option of refunds of their payments paid to date, or permission to hold their payments against 2021 Summer School. Please watch this space-----

Obviously, we have not been holding Regional Committee meetings, and therefore our 'Embroidery & Textile Open Day' (as described in my March Newsletter) due to be held in October cannot be discussed in great detail. This was planned to be a new event which would include a great deal of input from the branches, which is now problematical, as branches are not currently meeting. In fact, I suspect that some will not meet until September. Again, we will have to get back to you on this.

It's not all doom and gloom though, as this lockdown has given most of us the opportunity to create- by completing UFO's, experimenting with new techniques, using those goodies we bought ages ago but never got around to actually trying, and working, as in my case, on exhibition pieces for next year.

Please use this opportunity to work on my Regional Chair Challenge 'Positivity' as it is currently even more important to give thought to our branch activities, the Guild and our friends. Obviously, there is no deadline now, so you have plenty of time to collate your squares into a concertina book or hanging when you next meet. If you need further details, please contact me.

I know some branches are meeting in the 'virtual world' which is fantastic, but it's not quite the same and does not always work for technophobes or those without laptops etc. However, I know that all members will be thinking of their branch friends and keeping in touch somehow.

Please remember you can still send me articles in Word format and jpeg photos to add to the NWR blog. If you have any events, exhibitions or news I will add them to the blog. It's another way to communicate and pass on information to all members.

I know some of you maybe working on scrubs etc for the NHS or helping someway or other- it could be serious or something funny. Please let me have details as I am sure NWR members would love to know about it. Just send me a short Word doc report and possibly some Jpeg photos.

National Stitch Day is still planned for **Saturday 20th June** and will be based on the theme of 'Birds' and as soon as any further information appears on the Guild website I will pass this onto branches. This is all obviously subject to Government lockdown easing and whether your planned venue is still available. Again, we will have to see.

However, if some branches go ahead I really would like to know what you have planned, and it would be great if after the event you could send me a short report with photos for the NWR website.

Guild HO has been closed for a while now and staff are working from home if possible. I would ask you to bear with them and only to contact them with urgent queries. Please check on the EG website for updates.

Pat Tempest is doing sterling work and is managing to complete and send out monthly CONTACT magazines to all members. If you are not receiving yours please let Pat know ptempest@embroiderersguild.com

You can also send Pat articles, photos etc and if possible, she will include them in future editions.

April's edition has now been sent out and is well worth reading as it shows the winning photos of 2019/2020 Members Challenge 'My Favourite Things'. Please note Liz Smith's and Nikki Parmenter's winning pieces.

If you spot anymore NWR winner's pieces of work in Contact please let me know.

The Members Challenge for 2020/2021 is 'Exquisite Containers'- come on NWR members you are a talented bunch and it's an inspiring theme.

I thought this would be a short newsletter, but I seem to have rambled on a bit!!! My brain is slightly puddled, and I really want to carry on with my latest project, which is not admin or housework! I'll give you one guess!!! – it will of course be fuelled by Chocolate.

Keep safe and in-touch.

Sue -NWR Chair