

NW Region Newsletter January 2020



A very Happy NEW YEAR to you all, and I hope you all had a great Christmas.

Personally, I'm going back to the diet now, as my clothes are all getting that bit too tight. I wonder why?

Let's hope the next twelve months bring us all inspiration and creativity, especially as I must start on a new body of work towards the exhibition my textile group are holding in 2021.

The NWR have a lot to look forward to this year, with our Regional Day being hosted by Merseyside on **25th April** at L.A.C.E. Conference Centre, Croxteth Drive, Sefton Park, Liverpool L17 1AA , National Stitch Day on **Saturday 20th June** and our 'AGM' on Saturday **24th October** at Barton Village Hall.

Summer School is on **5th – 7th June**, and I am pleased to say is fully booked yet again. Much of this success goes to the hard work by the Regional Committee and especially Hilary Cresswell our Summer School Coordinator, I think also changing the dates to June has also helped.

The booking forms for 2020 Regional Day tickets and a poster have been sent to all NWR branches, and competition forms and criteria will be sent out in the next few days. You can also find all the forms on the NWR website (see below)

Glossop branch are hosting 2021 Regional Day on 24th April. Make sure you put those dates in your diaries.

Please continue to look at the NWR website as I have been adding news, branch reports and information on a regular basis. The address is <http://nwregionembroiderers.org/> . Please encourage your members to look on the website, especially programme secretaries, as it contains the NWR tutor/speaker list.

If you have any exhibitions or events, please let me know.

I will again be approaching branches for a report on any special event, anniversary etc- WATCH THIS SPACE!!

Nearly all the branch programmes have now been added, and hopefully all contact details are correct. If there are any errors, please let me know and I will ensure they are corrected. This information is very useful for members of other branches and the public, as the system also brings up a google map of the venue, details of the programme and a contact point. This is great news when attracting new members.

My visit to Merseyside's 'Christmas Do' went extremely well, I was given a lovely welcome, presented Vicky Williams with her long overdue 25yr badge and certificate, won loads of prizes and joined in a couple of hands-on projects. I didn't get very lost, so bonus all round!!!

I am conscious that I have not yet visited some of our branches, so **please contact me to arrange visits if I have not yet managed to get to you yet.** I really enjoy these days out, meeting members and seeing how each branch runs, and I don't bite!!! (only cake-hence the diet)

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

This can then be seen by members and visitors and will act as a reminder to members on why we are in the Guild, and hopefully inspire visitors and prospective new members to stay.

If you haven't received the information and instructions on this project, please ask your committees to pass it on, or look at the NWR website.

We get so much from being in a unique organisation which promotes the traditions of stitch, educates and encourages, and of course looks after our priceless collection of embroideries, under its Charity status.

On that subject, please ensure that your branch websites make it clear that the Guild is a charity, and that members are aware of this. I have checked the NWR website and it does point this out. This means we must meet the Charity Commission regulations etc.

Val Coleshaw visited the Knit and Stitch Show in Harrogate and was extremely impressed with the pieces of work exhibited by two of our members. Marian Jasmik from Bolton branch and Dianne Derbyshire from Pendle branch.

Marian's work is beautiful and will probably be included in January Contact magazine and Embroiderer.

Dianne is a Lacemaker, and also produces lovely pieces of work. Well done to both ladies.

I have included a report with photos on the NWR website, so please find time to have a look, and be wowed.

Please ensure that your branch chair details have been passed to the Guild, and that the recent Guild email titled '**Transfer of Role Based Emails**' dated 28th November has been actioned. This contained information on how you advise the Guild on details of any change of Officer Roles where a generic email address (embroiderersguild.co.uk only) has been passed onto a new branch Officer, or if a change of roles within the branch committee has taken place. The email contained a link and incorporated a transfer form for download.

The new Guild database will be up and running early Spring, and branches will be able to view the new members list in January. I am sure more will follow on that.

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

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.

I have received great news regarding a very exciting Guild project- 'Inspired to Create' which is being set up & looks extremely well thought out and easily accessible. I will send out more detail on this when properly launched in the Spring.

National Stitch Day 2020 will be on Saturday 20th June and the theme will be BIRDS. I am sure more will follow on that.

The Guild have received 68 choices for a new name for the Guild, and as most of the suggestions contain similar details, they have narrowed it down to 3

Choices of name and 3 tag lines. We should shortly receive those, and the most popular suggestions will be actioned.

This being my third year in the role of Regional Chair, means that I have the option to roll off in October or do further service up to an additional three years. I will have to see how it goes, but we do need more Regional Committee members, as we are currently a small committee who do work well together, but new blood is essential.

A couple of the members have also worked on the committee for a good length of time, and are considering rolling off next year, **so we really need you.** Although we do work hard on your behalf, it is also very rewarding, and we do have fun and a good laugh(and Cake)

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

Sue -NWR Chair