



WITWATERSRAND EMBROIDERS' GUILD NEWSLETTER

September 2023

Hello everyone,

I hope you are enjoying this beautiful weather. As always in Johannesburg we can safely say that Spring is a thing of the past, and we are firmly in Summer. I love the hot weather and the chance to be relaxed, and warm, with no worries about feeling cold. However, it seems clear that unusual weather events will be with us from now onwards. The recent ocean storms which affected almost the whole of our coastline, is a clear indication of that. I hope that those of you who are down at the coast have been safe and secure during this frightening time.

*"I love summertime more than anything else in the world. That is the only thing that gets me through the winter, knowing that summer is going to be there." **Jack McBrayer***

BIRTHDAYS IN OCTOBER

Veena Singh 8th October
Pushpa Sukha 17th October
Judy Roberts 17th October
Estelle Bosman 20th October
Nadia Cajee 30th October

**IF WE'VE LEFT YOU OUT PLEASE LET US KNOW SO WE CAN UPDATE OUR
RECORDS.**

WORKSHOPS

EXTERNAL/BEGINNERS

Beginner's workshops are still running in alternate months, on a Saturday. In October Alice will be running a follow up workshop, teaching another 5 basic stitches, for anyone who would like to learn more skills. If you know someone interested in embroidery, please give them either my contact number or Alice's.

Alice 082 926 9704

Danny 082 565 6401

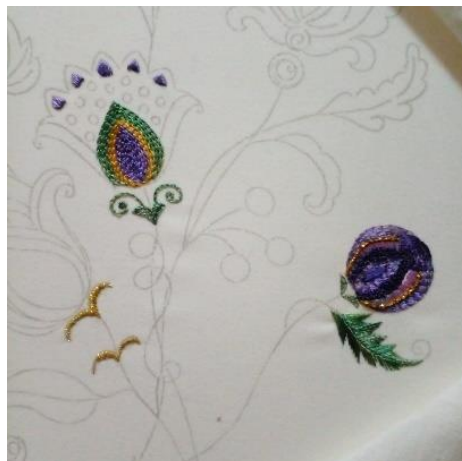
INTERNAL – GOLDWORK

Jenni Langford ran a wonderful and well attended goldwork workshop in September



Jenny's example from the workshop. Those of you who have been at guild in the past two weeks will have seen Jenny's work. She is making several pieces which are going to lucky family members. Jenny took a day's leave to come to Guild this past Tuesday and be available to help those who needed it. Thank you very much Jenny

Alice Per chose her own design and is proceeding cautiously although it's absolutely gorgeous:



I loved the workshop and especially the satisfying feeling of making the stuffed bit of gold leather. (excuse the highly technical language) Very different but really delightful. Jen has promised to investigate a Stumpwork Workshop next year. That sounds equally exciting.

Goldwork certainly is something special and very different. It's a connection to those embroiderers of centuries past who stitched gorgeous garments, and other works of art, for kings and queens. We are lucky to live in a time where this type of embroidery is available to all of us. Thank you especially to those who came to the workshop and shared their goldwork stash, and their knowhow, with the rest of us.

TUESDAY WORKSHOPS

Please would those who are available consider facilitating workshops for the Tuesday morning meeting? We really want to be able to offer workshops at both meetings but without a facilitator it's not really possible. We are a small committee and cannot stretch ourselves to run workshops on both Tuesdays and Saturdays.

Jenni Langford: 082 489 1624

A note about the management of workshops:

To clear up any misunderstandings, I thought I would let you know how we organise communications regarding the workshops.

We put a call out on the WhatsApp group – another reason to remain on the group – and those interested should please send a PRIVATE message to the workshop organiser(S). Please do your best to send a private message, do not answer on the general group. The reason for this is that your answer may get lost if you do that, which can lead to tears and heartache if we don't put you on the list.

Once we have a list of those who want to do the workshop, we will create a separate group for that workshop, and all further communication will be on that group (as far as possible). Of course we are not an army, and rules are not rigid, but this is what we are trying to do. It means that you can refer back to dates and other notes where necessary, as well as seeing the pictures of the work as it progresses.

SMOCKING

Helen O'H will be running decorative smocked ball workshop in November. She will send out details shortly. Helen +27 62 742 1232 (new number)



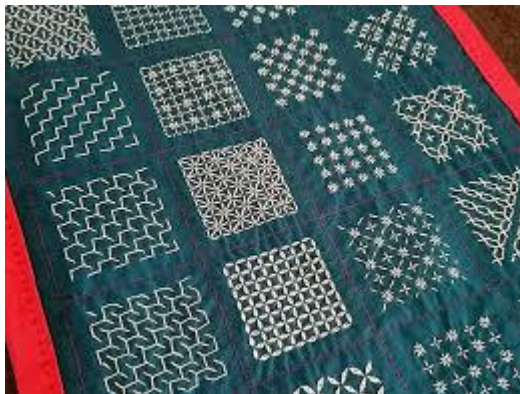
SASHIKO

Alice Per and I are doing a Sashiko Workshop -for once on a Tuesday- in October. There are two sessions, the 3rd, and the 17th, and those doing the workshop are free to come to one or both. We have also prepared a number of kits for those who don't want to do the workshop but want to do the stitching.

Sashiko is a type of traditional Japanese embroidery or stitching initially used for functional reinforcement of cloth and clothing but now used decoratively as well. Sashiko literally means 'little stabs' and refers to the manner of stitching. It is beautifully simple and also complex, and very satisfying. It feeds well into the new ethic of repairing and reusing, which we embroiderers are well suited to.

Initially Sashiko was a way to make prized cloth last longer, the stitching reinforced the cloth in areas where it became most commonly worn out, or where repairs were necessary. While the traditionally work is white thread on blue fabric, it has evolved to include work of many colours, and many forms of design.

At the workshop we are making coasters, which is a lovely way of using up small pieces of fabric. But very large and beautiful decorative pieces are also made.



Some examples of Sashiko coasters:





I love this!

SALES

A reminder that our Guild sales Tables are held on the last Tuesday and 4th Saturday of the month. Please contact Alice Per or Linda Putter if you would like to sell your own things. An 'honesty' donation to the Guild of 10% of what you sell is all that you need to pay.

Linda 072 4069842 Alice 082 9269704

OTHER SALES

Toni will be selling on the first Tuesday and the first Saturday meeting each month, including Chameleon and House of Embroidery threads. Toni offers us an amazing service through these sales. Toni will supply people who are not in JHB. Please contact her if you want to know more.

Toni 0824527311

FROM THE COMMITTEE

Agness continues to be very ill and is at home now, with Irene and her family. Agness dear, our thoughts and prayers are with you at this time. We are sending you love and strength.

The committee meets each month, usually before the first Saturday meeting of the month. If you would like to bring something to our attention, or ask us to consider anything, please either put it in the suggestion box, or message any one of us, or you can email it to witsembroidery@gmail.com

Please will anyone who wants to be on the Market sub-committee or assist in another way on the committee, please let one of us know. Please volunteer; we are a small committee and are already stretched thin. The more members who help, the better we will be able to serve the Guild. Thank you to those who have already volunteered.

COMMITTEE

Danny 0825656401, Helen 0627421232, Jenni 0834891624, Diane 0721194938, Agness 0812708581, Alice 0829269704

Linda Putter for Sales 0724069842 and Ciairan (Tea) 0729964030 (alternate)

MEMBERS' NEWS

Neith Thompson has been very ill and although she is getting better it is a slow process and she needs a lot of rest. We can't wait to see you back at Guild dear Neith!

Veena Singh is celebrating an important birthday this month. I hope the party is wonderful Veena!

Please send me any news you would like to, and may, have published here.

TEA TABLE

Please volunteer to do the eats for tea if you have not yet done so. There are lists up in the tea cupboard.

THINGS TO DO IN OCTOBER: J.S.M.E MARKET AND OPEN GARDENS



MINIATURE FESTIVAL
HOSTED BY J.S.M.E.

dollhouse miniatures, model trains,
model aircraft, scale models,
matchbox car dioramas, bonsai, teddy bears,
polymer clay creations, 3d printing, etc.

SATURDAY, OCT 7, 2023

Trinity Methodist Church
Corner of 5 Ave and 5 Str Linden, Johannesburg

R10 per person
(Pre-schoolers free)

10AM - 4:30PM

Johannesburg Society of Miniature Enthusiasts
J.S.M.E.

EMAIL: JSME1978@GMAIL.COM
WWW.J-S-M-E.WEEBLY.COM



**The Johannesburg Garden Club
Open Gardens**

07 08 OCTOBER 2023 | 10AM - 5PM
R50 at the gate
Free entry for children under 12

22 Pallinghurst Road, Westcliff
Garden Viewing, Tea Garden, Champagne & Smoked Salmon Bar & Rose Sales

9 Christopherson Road, Dunkeld
Garden Viewing & Barista

We will be running a raffle - tickets will be sold in both gardens.
R30 each or R100 for 4 tickets.

All proceeds raised will go to Joburg Child Welfare.

VISA

100 years
An incredible legacy
dedicated to caring for
Joburg Child Welfare

The JHB Miniaturists, who are colleagues of ours at the Rec Centre, are having a market on Saturday the 7th of October, at Trinity Methodist. It looks like there will be many lovely craft items to see, and to buy and it promises to be a lovely morning. The Garden Club Open gardens continue this month with two very lovely gardens to visit. In this wonderful weather it is well worth it, and for a very good cause as well.

YEAR-END FUNCTION

12 o'clock on 2nd of December 2023

Roosevelt Park Recreation Centre

Please save the date.

R100

The year-end function arrangements have been finalised. We are having a 3 course catered lunch at the Rec centre on the 2nd of December 2023. The cost per head is R350 but the Guild is covering R250 of that, which means that we are asking you to pay R100. We will send out a formal invitation very soon. In the meantime, please save the date.

In the past there has been a 'Secret Santa' however this year please bring a gift for a child. We will be donating them to the children at the Abram Kriel Children's Home. Please be sure that your gift is suitable for children and is nicely wrapped. Thank you for your generosity, in advance.

Have a happy October. I am so delighted with what we have achieved over the past year.

Lots of love

Danny

1st October 2023