



# WITWATERSRAND EMBROIDERS' GUILD NEWSLETTER

**April 2024**

**AGM to be held on 13<sup>TH</sup> April at 12 o'clock. Please further on for details.**



Hello everyone,

We have just commemorated Easter, and Eid and Pesach follow shortly in April. All three festivals allow us to celebrate our shared values of hope, renewal, and compassion, and to build bridges of understanding and respect. At the guild we know through experience that a shared love of our craft unifies us in a very beautiful way. Attending a meeting means experiencing the love and kindness of other members, a chance to show people who care what we have been making, and so importantly, to laugh! At every meeting there are groups who laugh and laugh. I have been known to refer to them as 'the naughty corner' which elicits even more laughter. How lucky we are to share this wonderful craft, and the friendship of such wonderful people.

## BIRTHDAYS IN APRIL- HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

Amina Ebrahim 7<sup>th</sup> April  
Johanna Roberts 7<sup>th</sup> April  
Helen O'Hanrahan 10<sup>th</sup> April  
Amishi Ghandi 17<sup>th</sup> March  
Neith Thompson 25<sup>th</sup> April

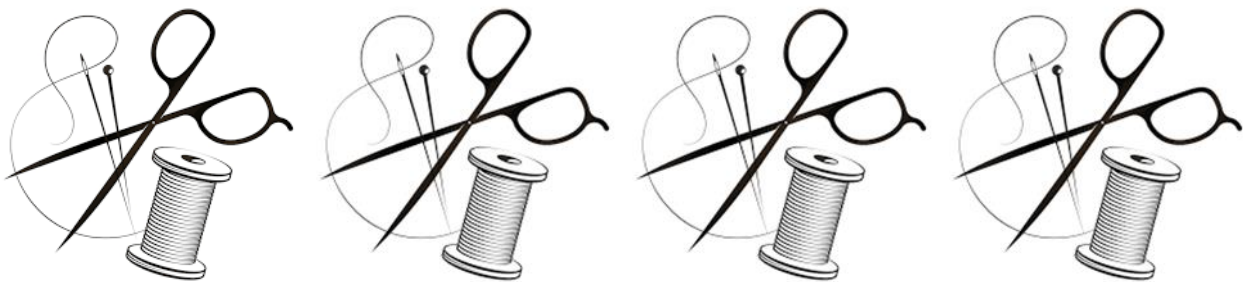


## WORKSHOPS

### EXTERNAL/BEGINNERS

Alice Per remains prepared to run beginners workshops so if you have a friend who wants to learn how to embroider, please give her Alice's number. We are always looking for ways to share our knowledge and introduce newcomers to our craft. Please let us know if there is something you are particularly interested in.

Contact either Alice, or Danny (see number under the committee paragraph)



### OTHER WORKSHOPS

The workshops planned for 2024 are on the following page. They will be held on both Saturday Guild meetings during the months below and are subject to change. Jenni has already done a lot of organising and communicating about the Candlewick workshop.

April	June	July	Aug	Oct	Dec
Candle Wicking	Chicken Scratch	Smocking Balls ("Christmas" in July)	Shadow Stitch	Slow Stitch	Year End Craft
Jenni L		Helen			

The cost of each workshop will depend on the cost of the relevant materials and may change from workshop to workshop. The minimum for 2024 will be R50.

If you feel able to help with workshops, please contact Jenni to discuss it.

**PLEASE POP YOUR SUGGESTIONS FOR FUTURE WORKSHOPS INTO THE SUGGESTION BOX IN THE TEA CUPBOARD THIS HELPS WITH PLANNING FOR 2025.**

## IGHALI SALES

Toni will continue to have items for sale for Ighali. She will bring these to each Saturday meeting. Please support her.

## OUTINGS

The outing to the Wits Art Museum was a great success and those of us who came along were thrilled by the incredible textiles on display. The parking outside the museum was easy, and safe, and the staff were thrilled to see us.



Just a few of the amazing textiles on display.



## ROOSEVELT PARK RECREATION CENTRE STAFF.

This month we are featuring Tumelo Sihlabela, who works for the Rand Gym but is always available to help in all sorts of ways. It is a privilege to be able to bring you his story.



Tumelo Sihlabela was born on the 15<sup>th</sup> of May 1994, in Nelspruit, Mpumalanga. His mother died when he was very young, and he never knew his father. After spending his early years with his mother's family, not in the specific care of anyone, he came to Johannesburg in 2002, when he was 8, to live with his auntie. However, things were very bad for him there, he was maltreated, starved, and abused by his aunt. Within two years he ran away to live on the streets. One of the many homeless children we see every day, He lived by his wits until 2011, when he was found and helped by Turning Point, a children's home in Brixton. There he managed to reach Grade 10 and was sent by them to WestRand College, where he completed a bricklaying course. He worked for a while for a company called Bupilong, mending roads for 6 months, before getting a job at Rand Gymnastics, at the Roosevelt Park Recreation Centre, again through Turning Point.

Tumelo, as we all know, helps out whenever he can, at the centre, and is unfailingly cheerful and polite. He says he loves working at the centre and being able to help. He lives by himself, in Dobsonville, Soweto where his son, Themba, who is 7 and lives in Ellis Park with his maternal grandmother, visits during school holidays. While he doesn't have a partner at the moment, he does intend to marry one day, when he has found the right person.

In his spare time, he loves watching series and shows on Showmax, his favourite one being The Wife. He is also learning how to write a business plan as his dream is to open a laundry in Soweto. He is saving all he can to buy a washing machine, to start this business.

Tumelo is an inspirational young man, and one whom we are all proud to know.



## SALES

### GUILD SALES TABLES

Sales tables are operating as usual and Alice and Linda still have some 'Lucky Packets' containing fabric, threads, other materials, and a crafting magazine. They are R50 each, to supplement Guild funds.

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.

In the next few weeks we will be selling some books and magazines from a former embroidery teacher who no longer embroiders because of Rheumatoid Arthritis. While we can still embroider, let's remember those who no longer can and make the most of our time.

Here is a brief report from Alice and Linda:

*The Guild gratefully received many donations from deceased estates and people downsizing. Whilst being a challenge to sort threads, fabric, books, magazines, etc, it has been a pleasure getting to know our members and seeing their beautiful projects. There have been many laughs and we appreciate the support we have received. We look forward to meeting members at the sales table and to another year of embroidery.*

*Alice P and Linda P*

## OTHER SALES

Toni still sells certain items via the phone – contact her if you are interested and would like to buy something from her stock.

Toni 0824527311

## FROM THE COMMITTEE

Subscriptions should have been paid before the end of March 2024 for you to attend the AGM. If you haven't done so, please pay as quickly as you can. The Yocco machine is available, or you can pay directly into the bank account provided you also use your name as a reference.

**ABSA Bank  
Cresta branch  
Savings a/c  
9362064660**

## ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

This will be held on Saturday the 13<sup>th</sup> of April 2024 at 12 o'clock. We have not received any nominations, or other resolutions, and the meeting will be very short. We will be confirming the present committee, accepting the notes of last year's meeting and the financial statements. If anyone would like to see any of the other reports, please let me know and I will send them to you.

## COMMITTEE FOR 2024/2025:

**Chair:** Danny Wimpey

**Tuesday Vice Chair, External Workshops and Sales:** Alice Per

**Saturday Vice Chair and Library:** Diane Walker

**Treasurer:** Helen O'Hanrahan

**Workshops and Website/Social media:** Jenni Langford

**Tuesday Library:** Christina Landsman

**Website:** Katy Alexander

**Sales Table:** Linda Putter

**Tea and general support:** Ciairan O'Hanrahan

**General support:** Dot Gibbons and Cuki Imran

## COMMITTEE CONTACT NUMBERS

Danny Wimpey 0825656401, Helen 0627421232, Jenni 0834891624, Diane 0721194938, Agness 0812708581, Alice 0829269704, Cuki 011 493 3777, Dot 082395 3308, Christina 0769158726, Katy 0716832311  
Linda Putter for Sales 0724069842 and Ciairan (Tea) 0729964030 (alternate)

## DONATIONS

The Abraham Kriel Bambanani Childrens Home is still receiving suitable donations; contact Darlene on 011 839 3058

If you have any sewing items, needles, fabric, cotton, or anything that can be used by the ladies at our Lesotho project, please bring them to a meeting We will continue to collect throughout the year.

## MEMBERS' NEWS

Estelle Bosman is recovering at home after suffering a heart attack. Please get better soon dear Estelle, we can't wait to see you back at guild.

Susan Alexander has recovered very well from her shoulder replacement and is already knitting again and working at getting fitter, as prescribed by her doctor.

PLEASE SEND ME ANY NEWS YOU MAY, HAVE PUBLISHED HERE.

## TEA TABLE

There are a few days that we need volunteers for. The lists are on the cupboard door for you to add your name to.

Lots of love, Danny