

20 August 2025

Dear Guild Members

We have a feast of exhibitions and activities in our region over the next couple of months so do make time to see some of them – see below under “Exhibitions”. Flyers and information have been sent to guilds on “Glimmers of Gold”, ANZEG “Colour Challenge Blue” & “Petals and Threads”.

Regional News

Stitching in public is catching on and members of the public are showing interest. I’m aware two local guilds stitched in public on World Embroidery Day, 30 July and another is regularly stitching in different cafes. Good on you - you never know what this will lead to. I joined Mana Guild 20 years ago after being inspired by an exhibition at Pataka and talking to Charmaine Duxfield while at it. Sometimes it may be years before a person actually joins a guild. I’d thought about it on and off over the previous 20 years, despite going to classes & exhibitions, but other things got in the way.

For many of you who know Mary Self, I thought you’d be interested in this recent article. Earlier this year Mary was the Friends of the Wellington Botanic Garden’s artist in residence.

<https://www.thepost.co.nz/home-property/360772531/wellington-textile-artist-inspired-fight-save-begonia-house>

Fabric a Brac is on 20 September 10am – 1pm, St Anne’s Hall, Emmet St, Newtown. A chance to add to your stash! <https://fabricabrac.com/wellington/>

ANZEG News

Guild reports for “Threads” are due in before Friday 29 August.

Conference 2026

It’s now less than 12 months until the “Threads of Connection” Conference in Palmerston North.

- October “Threads” will have information on the 2026 ANZEG Conference, including classes. I hope many of you will be able to attend with the conference happening so close to home.
- Revisit the Exhibition categories and criteria and take up the challenge of entering an exhibition. The Te Wero Tuia design is a great way to enter an exhibition if you haven’t done so before.
- Several Tararua guilds have already started planning their guild display for conference.

Educational opportunities and Exhibitions

Classes still available at Hutt Art Centre include:

Help with finishing projects, Boro, Contemporary Or Nue Landscape, Stitch a Still Life, Delectable Strawberry & Temari Ball. <https://www.huttart.co.nz/copy-of-classes-3>

2 August - 27 October. "My Last ABC". Whirinaki Whare Taonga, Upper Hutt tells Jeanette Verster's love of visual storytelling through layered works of fabric, stitch, handmade paper, and collage. Inspired by children's alphabet books, this series playfully reimagines the concept as an ABC for the unyoung. I saw this last Friday and it's worth seeing - a bit quirky and cleverly done.

While there, have a look at the stunning photos **"Microsculpture: The Insect Portraits of Levon Biss" 14 June - 14 September.** A groundbreaking photographic exhibition of science and art, presenting insect specimens like never before. Sue Swann referred to this in her email I recently forwarded to guilds. Inspiration for stitching insects.

30 August - 21 September, 10 – 5 daily - Taranaki/Whanganui/Manawatu Regional Exhibition "Road Trips". Te Manawa, Palmerston North. Manawatu Guild's Regional Workday is being held in Palmerston North on 13 September at Palmerston North Community Leisure Centre, 569 Ferguson Street, so you could combine a trip to the workday and exhibition.

1 - 30 September, Jo Dixey's exhibition "Glimmers of Gold", 79 tiny humans. Old St Paul's, 34 Mulgrave St, Wellington, 10 – 4 daily. Entry by donation.

19 - 28 September Wellington Guild in conjunction with Kate McAlpine - "Petals and Threads", at Te Auaha, 65 Dixon St, Wellington. 8.30- 6.00pm during the week and 10.00-3.00 at the weekends.

Two hands-on workshops at Te Auaha during the exhibition:

Embroidery workshop 1pm on 20 September. Beginners welcome, all materials provided

Plant art workshop 1pm on 27 September. All materials provided but feel free to bring plant material from your garden!

For more information & to register for workshops go to: <https://weg.org.nz/whats-happening/#events>

22 September – 12 October, 10am – 2pm, ANZEG Colour Challenge Blue – Inverlochy Art School, 3 Inverlochy Place, Te Aro, Wellington.

If you're in Auckland between 25 August to 21 September 2025 the Northern North Island Region is holding an Exhibition "The Embroiderers Art", at Estuary Arts Centre, Orewa, 10am – 4pm.

If you're in other parts of NZ, check the ANZEG calendar for events & exhibitions
<https://www.embroiderynz.co.nz/calendar>

Enjoy the opportunities to look, learn and stitch.

Susan

Diary dates (also see Calendar page 4 in “Threads” and <https://www.embroiderynz.co.nz/calendar>)

- 1st Sunday monthly - Kapiti Extensions Group - open to members from all guilds, meets at Waikanae Arts & Craft Rooms. Contact Donna Kennedy 0212550519 donna.kennedy72@outlook.com
- Until 5 October “Margery Blackman: Weaving, Life” surveys the life’s work of artist and textiles scholar Margery Blackman. Dowse Art Museum
- 2 August - 27 October. “My Last ABC”. Whirinaki Whare Taonga
- 30 August - 21 September Taranaki/Whanganui/Manawatu Regional Exhibition “Road Trips” at Te Manawa, Palmerston North
- 1 - 30 September, Jo Dixey's exhibition "Glimmers of Gold", Old St Paul's
- 13 September Manawatu Regional Workday, Palmerston North Community Leisure Centre, 569 Ferguson Street, Palmerston North
- 13 – 14 September - Otepoti Dunedin Embroidery School – www.oeg.org.nz
- 19 - 28 September Wellington Guild in conjunction with Kate McAlpine - "Petals and Threads", at Te Auaha
- 20 September. "Petals and Threads", Embroidery workshop
- 20 – 21 Sept “What a Weekend”, Nelson
- 22 September – 12 October, ANZEG Colour Challenge “Blue” – Inverlochy Art School
- 24 -28 September - Alysn Midgelow-Marsden Workshop, Nelson -
<https://www.takingtextilesfurther.com/find-a-course>
- 27 September. Plant art workshop "Petals and Threads"
- 4 October – Tararua Region Stitching Day at Coast Community Church, 57 Hinemoa St, Paraparaumu, hosted by Kapiti Embroiderers’ Guild
- 5 October ANZEG Extensions at Waikanae Arts & Crafts Rooms
- 18 – 19 October HobbyEx at Whirinaki Whare Taonga, Upper Hutt
- 1 November – Tararua Regional Group (Presidents & Secretaries) meeting Hutt Art Centre
- 27 - 29 March 2026 - The Embroiderers’ Great Escape
<https://embroiderersgreatestescape.com/classes-2026/#C1>
- **2 – 3 May, 2026 Tararua Region Guilds’ Annual Retreat, Copthorne Solway, Masterton**
- 4 - 9 July 2026 – ANZEG Conference, Palmerston North