Waikato and Bay of Plenty Region

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August Regional Report

Hi Everyone,

Here we are in August, and slowly we are starting to feel Spring in the air. It's still feeling crisp some days, but it's lovely to see all the spring bulbs coming up.
In my world, I am extremely busy balancing my new district nursing role with a move into a new house, not to mention parenting two teenagers. It's a wonderful time, but it's hard to find time to get everything done some days!
In the embroidery world, some of us spent a wonderful 2 days studying with Amarjeet Nandhra in her post-conference teaching tour. While others may have celebrated World Embroidery Day or World Cross Stitch Day with their guild or friends.
Also for anyone who didn't get to the 'your mind on embroidery' talk from conference. You can find a link to this talk on the -Stitching in NZ facebook page. Details are later in this newsletter.
No matter how your month has gone, I hope you have found some time to put a few stitches in your favourite project.
Until next month

Happy Stitching.
Racheal Clark (Stringer)

Waikato BOP ANZEG regional rep

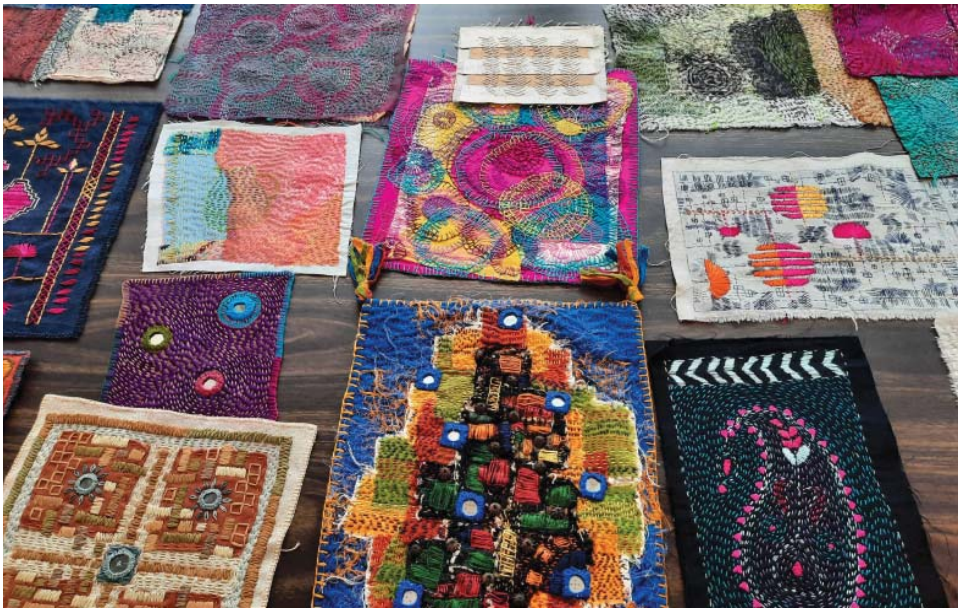
World Cross Stitch Day



Glennys Hodgson and Ann Reeves from Taupo guild stitching in their local library on world cross stitch day.

Amarjeet Nandhra's post conference class

In late July, a few of us were lucky enough to attend a two-day class with Amarjeet Nandhra.



Amarjeets sample pieces.

Amarjeet set out to teach us three main Indian embroidery techniques - Phulkari, Kantha and Banjara (Shisha or mirror work is a part of Banjara embroidery).



We started with pieces of fabric which we cut and layered together to create a base fabric.



We spent some time choosing and swapping fabric to create our own individual pieces which we then started stitching on.



Amarjeet then taught us a variety of different stitches and mirror work (Shisha), which we then covered our fabric with.



- Barbara Rosenburgs work in progress

Finally the pieces would be covered with multiple running stitches (Kantha) to create movement and stability.



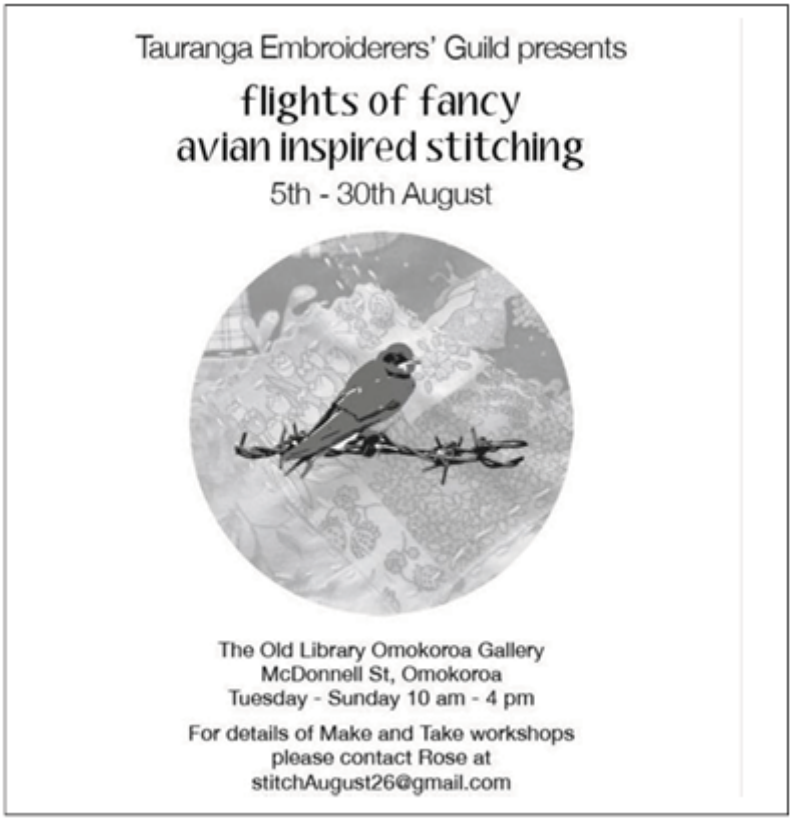
Close up showing details of kantha work



Everyone's work at the end of day two. They all look so different!



Wendy Vallers work in progress



Stitchbirds Exhibition

Stitchbirds is a group of 4 stitchers who met through being members of the Tauranga Embroiderers Guild. Our work has evolved from our common desire to work in the medium of stitch, anything that may derive from it, and extending ourselves. Since our first exhibition 10 years ago, we have at times, been on independent pathways. However, our common desire to work in concepts through stitch and beyond, has enthused us to showcase our works as a group.

Stitch Forward is our 4th exhibition, the first one being at the Cargo Shed in Tauranga, the next 2 at The People's Gallery at the Historic Village, also in Tauranga. With one of our members now living in Cambridge, it has given us the opportunity to show our work in another area, hence coming to the Morrinsville Gallery this time.
This exhibition highlights our respect for each other's practice as we challenge ourselves through the art of the needle.

We invite you to view our works at:
The Morrinsville Gallery, :
Tue 15 September - Sun 11 October
Open Tuesdays - Sundays 10am - 4pm except Sunday 11 Oct 10am - 3pm. N.B. Closed Mondays.

Liz Wilson, Pauline Shilton, Jo Ann Ingram. Linda Inglis

ANZEG Archive

While at conference we had a discussion about the importance of having a record of our embroidery history preserved for the future. This brought up the idea of collecting and storing a digital history. With the backing of the ANZEG committee i went out and purchased a ring light and microphone. At conference i then started the first of what i hope will be many interviews to create an ANZEG archive of our members knowledge, experience and history.

As part of my guild visits i will be offering to do interviews and also to train anyone who might like to start doing these interviews within their own guild.

I will be asking all guilds to think about which members in their guilds they would like to have interviewed. Consider those who have been members for a long time or those who have a interesting or significant embroidery history.

Our region will be a starting point for what we hope will become a national project.

Stitching in NZ

I have been considering a lot what i can do as a regional rep that will be the most useful to you. I have heard a lot about difficulty with attracting members, promotion and social media and i have come up with this.



This is a facebook page where i will be posting interesting and educational videos. I will also be posting short videos telling people why they should take up embroidery and join a guild or stitching group. I will also be addressing myths about guilds and embroidery. The goal is to be a bit light and tongue in cheek at times.

I am planning to post pictures of stitching and tell people about events and exhibits. Once it is more established your guild can choose to connect their own facebook pae to my page and autopost its content. This will mean your page will have constant content being posted.

Later on this page will be able to be linked to instagram, tik tok and others.

For now if your guild does one thing this year make sure you have at least a facebook page! Get in touch with me if you need help setting this up.

New bookmarks

At conference i was given a full set of the new bookmarks. They come in 5 new designs and are just lovely. I will bring these out to the guilds when i visit and will also

have them at stitch tui. If you require some before then just let me know and i will send you some.

Recent Guild Changes

If you have recently had your AGM or changes to your committee, please remember to update your details with ANZEG.
You can update the Office Bearers using the following link
https://www.embroiderynz.co.nz/update-guild-details

Dates to Remember

2026
August 5th to 30th - Tauranga Guild Exhibition - Flights of Fancy - The old library - Omokoroa Gallery, McDonnell St, Omokoroa
September 15th to Oct 11th - Stitchbirds Exhibition Morrinsville Gallery
Friday 9th - Sun 11th Oct - Stitch Tui Retreat