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Morning All

I hear that the South Otago Friendship day on the 31<sup>st</sup> January 2026 was a great day enjoyed by all. Fingers crossed I can get to the next one.

Southland Embroidery Guilds Friendship Day last Saturday was also a great day with some very amazing Steam Punk Guest speakers. Certainly opened my eyes and increased my knowledge!

I know that Guilds put a lot of time and effort into hosting these days so do please continue to support them when they are within travelling distance to you.

Stitch Summer: Hopefully your guilds are back in action and have plans for Saturday February 28 th in place to show our craft off in style. Jo Dixey is passionate that we use this day to

advertise ourselves. She advocates we sit stitching in visible areas in only two's or three's so the public can approach us to ask questions.

Ideas are:

- Sitting in a public area on a bench.
- In your favourite café.
- Book a carpark in the street or the supermarket.
- At your local library.
- Outside a craft shop.

If you take any photos – please send them to me to include in my report for Threads. Fingers crossed the weather is conducive to being outside this year!

Conference is not too far away. Do pop onto the website if you are undecided about attending. There are a few places left in some of the classes and you will kick yourself if you miss out by delaying. Registrations close on the 31<sup>st</sup> May.

Guild displays for Conference. How is yours going? Shortly you will get notification from me or the Executive about confirming whether you are putting in a display. Two things to remember. It can be up to one metre square and must have fluffy Velcro on the back. The boards provided have the loops. Don't make it too heavy or the Velcro might not support the display!

There has been a request from Heather Lofthouse who plans the Service of Thanksgiving and Celebration. She would like involvement and help from across all seven regions. If you

can help please email her. Her letter is attached to the end of this newsletter.

Post Conference Class with Amarjeet is being held in Christchurch on the 18/19 July. This is the only class in the South Island. Please get in touch with the Canterbury Regional Rep to secure your spot.

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And hopefully you have all been working on your Conference Exhibition pieces. The relevant forms are now up on the website. It's not too late to get cracking.

Save the date – 11<sup>th</sup> April for the annual (not to be missed) Garston Friendship Day. More details to come as this is just a whisper at the moment!

The next Colour Challenge is Green and the size is 200mmx200mm. Time to get planning and designing for 2026! It will be Exhibited at Left Bank Art Gallery, Greymouth. See page 6 of Threads for more info.

Here's what I've been inspired by lately –





Until next month – If you didn't get it from the horses mouth stop listening to the ass who told you.

### **Dates to Remember**

**2026**

28 February Stitch Summer

27-29 March Great Escape Orewa

11 April Garston Friendship Day

4-9 July ANZEG Conference Palmerston North

18-19 July Post Conference class Christchurch

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Threads of Connections

Conference 2026

A Service of Thanksgiving and Celebration

Kia ora koutou, Greetings everyone

I am beginning to plan this service and would welcome involvement from across all seven regions.

The theme for the service will be threads of connections. What are the threads that connect us to our national body, to our regions and to each other. There are so many connections that bind us together which can all be celebrated at our biannual thanksgiving service during conference.

What is it that connects us and how might this be expressed through our Christian faith in bible reading, reflection, song, hymn, music, prayer, poem. I would welcome participation from across our regions choosing and delivering what ever it is that speaks to you of the Threads of Connections. It will be a true celebration of all that brings us together around our love of embroidery.

Can each region circulate this information asking those interested in being part of what promises to be a wonderful service of thanksgiving to get in touch with me with any ideas by the 1 st June 2026. I am open to all suggestions.

Ngā manaakitanga nui Heather

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New Plymouth Embroiderers' Guild

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