



# Embroiderers' Guild

sharing opportunities for discovery and creativity

May 2020

Hello everyone, well the 75th VE day celebrations were very different to the plans previously made. I have spent some time trying to understand what the government is proposing on the way forward. The latest document says group meetings won't be allowed till Step 3 which will not be implemented until at least 4th July and which rules out our June and July meetings. We cannot yet be certain how things will stand by September. I wonder how many people would be able to meet online. Obviously not everyone as some newsletters are still posted out.

## Rainbow Squares

Meanwhile the presence of multiple rainbows has suggested a new challenge for members. Joy has provided some photos of the previous rainbow squares project which was of embroidery on a single colour of the rainbow. Can you produce a 4 inch = 10cm square on the theme of 'Rainbow'? You will need a piece of good quality cotton of any plain colour as background large enough to allow mounting.





Closer detail

### **'Reasons to be Thankful'**

Alternatively, the National Artistic director has suggested working 4inch (10cm) squares on white or pale blue background with the theme of 'Reasons to be Thankful' in gratitude to the NHS to form wall hangings in hospitals. Bleach has been mentioned. I would say washable robust materials to be used. although differential fading could produce interesting 'Experimental ' Embroidery. You should have all had a communication from Head Office but if not one of us could print the Entry forms from the Guild Website. Closing date is 30th June 2020.

Personally, as a retired doctor I am impressed by the more practical sewing contributions which some sewers have been able to make. There are other artistic endeavours such as the Heart Project. You make two identical hearts one to stay with the patient and the other to stay with their family as a virtual contact during a stay in Intensive Care Units. I hear that the North Tees and Hartlepool hospitals and Queen Elizabeth Gateshead are accepting Hearts. They have been sewn, knitted and crocheted.

### **National Guild AGM has been postponed**

Proxy votes have been destroyed. At present the plan is to keep it at the same venue, Priory Rooms in Birmingham at some future date.

### **Other AGMs**

Head Office says there is no legal requirement to hold other AGMs but many of us feel that the AGM of Branch and Region are important to allow discussion. We don't yet know what will happen in the Autumn. Regional Committee had been hoping to roll over competitions and sale of keyrings from the cancelled Regional Day. The plan is to have pictures of the works already started on the Regional website under exhibitions (It doesn't yet work for me) .

### **The National Members Challenge**

For 2020/2021 the challenge is Exquisite containers. Maximum size is 30cm square and up to 10cm thickness. Any sort of bag that fits the criteria. (That excludes my recorder case then.)

### **The Folio Service**

The service has been suspended. Joy is still in possession of Folios which she is unable to share except by some photographs which she has sent for the Members to view.

### **The Programme**

Joy has been keeping in touch and watching the situation. Region has sent out the potential speaker list, but we can't move until we know whether we will be allowed to meet in September. Some organisations have been trying Zoom or You Tube talks (with members signing in.) Anyone who feels that they could present on Zoom or YouTube or Facebook would be very welcome.

### **Members Work**

Clare has sent an account of natural dyeing which we heard about from a recent speaker.

### **New Branch Website**

Gloria has the new website in hand. Unfortunately, the lock down has kept young people with computer skills busy elsewhere.

I sincerely hope that we will be back together for a September meeting. In the meantime if you have any photographs of work in progress or that you've completed and which you would like to share with members please forward them to either myself or Sandra.

Julia Goudge  
Chairman Darlington Branch

Darlington Branch Facebook page: [www.facebook.com/DarlingtonEG](https://www.facebook.com/DarlingtonEG)  
Darlington Embroiderers' Guild is compliant with current regulations relating to data handling and storage (GDPR May 2018)