

November 2020

## A Message from our Chairperson

Welcome to the November edition of Runaround. My name is Pauline Oldershaw and I am the Acting Chairman of the North East Region. I am a member of Richmond and Leyburn Branch and have been on the NER Committee since 2016. Our officers this year are Secretary - Sheelagh Barker (Alnwick) and Treasurer - Pat Dickenson (R&L). We have three other committee members but would welcome more! Thank you to each one of them for their hard work and support.

In the current circumstances, there will inevitably be changes to some of our planned events for 2021 as noted elsewhere, but we will keep you informed. We are, however anticipating that our Natural World Exhibition will be able to go ahead so hope you are all busy stitching.

Thank you for sending us your branch news. It is good to know that some branches have organised projects to suit our current restrictions and that many members are keeping in touch via email, zoom and social media. There is much to be said for a telephone conversation too! We are here to support one another so if you would like some advice on setting up something new, we will do our best to help. Do look at the 2020 Virtual Exhibition gallery on our website <http://www.ner-embroiderers.co.uk/> and send in images of some of your own work. Happy stitching!

Pauline Oldershaw [chair.nerembguild@gmail.com](mailto:chair.nerembguild@gmail.com)

## Congratulations to Durham Branch

Durham City Branch has celebrated 25 years with an exciting group project and has created an E-book sharing the story behind it with detailed photos of each section.

It has been e-mailed out to members from Headquarters but if you have missed it you can find it in the Members Room on the Guild website along with some other interesting E-books.

Do take a look.

## A Special Birthday

Rene Bailie from Hexham Branch recently celebrated her 99<sup>th</sup> birthday – here she is with her daughter on the day. Possibly the oldest member in the Region, Rene is still stitching beautiful embroidery. Many Happy Returns Rene!



## Regional Day 2021

Unfortunately, due to Covid and social distancing requirements, we will not be able to hold Regional Day in 2021. The number of participants allowable in our usual venue would be less than a third our usual attendance and a sufficiently large venue would be beyond our budget.

We are hoping to be able to hold our other usual events though – please see below for details of the first one.

## **Durham Spring School 14<sup>th</sup> - 16<sup>th</sup> April 2021**

The North East Regional Committee need to ascertain the likely demand for the proposed Durham Spring School. It is hoped that the pandemic will be under control by April 2021 but we cannot be sure.

Would you be willing to attend the Durham Spring School in 2021?

We would normally send out the booking form for the Spring School in November. We have booked **Deborah Campbell** ('The fine art of textiles' mixed media with stitch) and **Kate Barlow** (hand embroidery including silk shading, raised embroidery and goldwork techniques) as tutors. Further information is available upon request.

At the moment, we are unable to confirm the venue due to covid19 restrictions. But to facilitate the likelihood of being able to house the courses at Ushaw College, we are proposing to hold this school for the normal three days as a non-residential course. The sessions would run from 10.00am to 5.00pm on Wednesday, Thursday, probably finishing at 4.00 pm on Friday. You can attend as a day student or, if you wish, find your own accommodation. It is likely that Ushaw College will be able to provide bed and breakfast but they may not be able to offer an evening meal. Members would have to make their own arrangements with the College. The suggested cost will be £195 plus accommodation and kits.

We realise some of you may be reluctant to attend such a course so we would really appreciate some feedback before proceeding to arrange the courses.

Please let me have your views by December 16<sup>th</sup> – either 'Yes I am interested in attending Durham Spring School in 2021' or 'No, I am not willing to attend such a course in April 2021'. Contact me by email, [chair.nerembguild@gmail.com](mailto:chair.nerembguild@gmail.com) or telephone 01748 886790.

If we get sufficient expressions of interest we will publish the details and booking form in January, asking for full payment initially. This will be fully refunded if the course cannot proceed.