



Poole Bobbin Lace Circle

NEWSLETTER 255
2nd November 2024

EDITORIAL

The editorial is always the last thing I do when compiling the Newsletter and I usually have to rack my brains to think of something to write. Not this time, though. It just remains for me to wish everyone a Happy Christmas and hope you will get some really nice or useful lace related items. *Editor*

TODAY'S MEETING

The Pillow Party will be from 10.30am to 1.30pm in the large hall, followed by the regular PBLC meeting. 2.00pm – 4.00. Our Speaker is Claire Richards and her topic is Raffia Craft, from plait to bags, hats and more.

SEPTEMBER MEETING

Our guest at this meeting brought large display boards showing a variety of high-quality lace, which had been collected by a friend. Tina Mitchelmore explained that she wasn't a speaker but would gladly answer any questions. After introducing herself and telling how she became involved, Tina proved that she was indeed a speaker (and a good one at that.) *Liz Pass*



OCTOBER PILLOW PARTY

The morning saw a goodly group of PBLC lacemakers working busily in the small hall, most of whom stayed all day. The afternoon session was punctuated by excited noises from the large hall, where a small child's birthday party was being held, complete with bouncy castle. If you've never been to a pillow party, you should try it. You don't have to stay all day, just the morning or afternoon, as you wish. Just like Tuesday mornings we only need to pay towards the rent.



VISIT TO BLANDFORD FASHION MUSEUM

On 19 September 2024 twelve members visited Blandford Fashion Museum. When we arrived Valerie was there to greet us and made us welcome. She explained what we were going to do. Half the group went for coffee and homemade cake, while she took the other half round the museum. Valerie explained the exhibits in all the different rooms and answered any questions, which was very good. When this group finished the other group was taken round. Once both groups finished their tour they could go round on their own. Everyone said this was very interesting the way it was done.

Sue Baker

PBLC members have made several visits to the museum over the years, but this time it was a little different. As well as coffee and cake, the guided tour was the icing on the cake. There were new themed exhibits: sport and the Olympic Games, including Tanni Grey-Thompson's racing bike and her kit; some of Dame Barbara Hepworth's kaftans; a display of clothes from the 1930's which contrasted upper and lower class items. Our guide described each item in turn, and mention was made of the Liberty Bodice. (Two of us confessed to wearing one of these objects as small girls.)

Liz Pass

COMPETITIONS 2025 etc.

The **Lace Day Competition** will be for a piece of lace to fit into a 4" square. Your lace can be any shape.

The **Annual Competition** is for a piece of lace to wear. It doesn't have to be massive like a dress! It can be something much smaller - say a piece of jewellery. What can you come up with?

3rd Lace Challenge – hearts Please make a heart in any lace, any colour, any size, individually or many. Therefore, it can be a brooch, a card, an edging or anything you can think of with a lace heart in it! Lots of patterns are available, particularly in the Christine Springett books. There will be 4 prizes of Chocolate Oranges as before. This time the groups will be 1. an individual heart, 2. more than 1 heart, 3. your own design and 4. your ticket number 'raffle' The winners will be chosen by our Charity Speaker at the January meeting. Why not have a go?

Jenny L.

DACA 25.

The committee have decided on lace umbrellas. Please can you look out any patterns you may have (open, partly open, closed). We will be sorting out the sizes we need by the January meeting.

I hope lots of you will enter this and the other competitions, but please remember any piece of lace can only be entered into any PBLC competition once.

CONGRATULATIONS TO DI PEMBERTON

on her outstanding achievement of teaching lace making for 30 years for the U3A class (Poole) The class is held in Branksome Library on Thursday afternoons. The group surprised Di with a pair of engraved bobbins, balloons, flowers and also enjoyed lunch at a nearby pub.

Carol Kennedy



Jean Organ has completed her Danish Whitework sampler. We were advised to wash the sampler when finished to 'set' the design, but it didn't work too well for Jean! Well done, Jean.

PS I've just started the 2nd row of the pattern.

WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS

Hello all!

I'd like to introduce myself, (I'm Gill Barrett) although I've had the pleasure of meeting and chatting to some of you at both the Lace Day in June and at the AGM in July. I will confess to feeling slightly nervous beforehand (those "what if no one speaks to me" fears!) but I was delighted to be made so welcome and to be introduced to so many friendly faces.

So, to share a little bit about myself.....I first had a go at lacemaking many years ago, back in 1989. I had recently married and moved away from my hometown of Bournemouth. My husband was in the army and was stationed in Bordon, Hampshire at the time. We had gone to a local crafts fair and I stood mesmerised by a lacemaker working with an impressive number of bobbins. I must confess I'm not sure what attracted me most: her obvious skill; the beautiful piece she was working on or the colourful and varied bobbins! I've always had a weakness for turned wood so the latter might have been the biggest draw! I distinctly remember saying to my husband, "Oh, I'd love to be able to do that!" Fate was obviously on my side as a couple of weeks later the prospectus for local evening classes dropped through my letterbox and joy of joys - one of them was lacemaking!

I'd like to be able to say I came along in leaps and bounds and today I can happily turn my hand to just about any type of bobbin lace but alas, no.

To Be Continued

JANE COX

It is now three years since I joined Liz's Thursday lace group as a complete lace novice. I have been a crafter for most of my life, knitting being my favourite, and will try any discipline, but lacemaking had always seemed an unattainable goal. Thanks to a couple of emails to the Lace Guild and PBLC I managed to get in touch with Liz and so began my apprenticeship.

My inspiration to master the bobbins comes from my late Aunt, Pat Boulby. Pat was a founder member of Tor Lace group in Plympton, Devon, who still meet today. She was an accomplished Honiton lacemaker (her favourite) and I recall the swarm of beautiful bumblebees that she created for my cousin's wedding veil, plus a couple more for her own hat, just for good measure! My uncle told me that one of the things he missed most about her was the clicking and gentle thudding of the bobbins on her pillow in the evenings and the occasional, barely audible, "tut". I am pleased to have inherited a few of her precious Honiton bobbins.

I feel fortunate to have found a lovely community of skilled lacemakers and am looking forward to building on what I have learnt so far. Liz is a wonderful teacher with seemingly endless patience; I am grateful for all the help and advice. Perhaps one day I'll progress to the skill of Honiton lace - a distant ambition maybe? One

thing at a time. I may just take it slow and steady, just like a piece of lace.

Jane Cox

FORMER MEMBERS' OBITUARIES

JEAN NATHAN

When Jean died last October and I had agreed with her that on behalf of her husband Bill, I would dispose of her vast collection of lace making equipment. I am now able, with the agreement of Bill, to donate £850 to the Forest Holme Hospice. I could not have achieved this without the help of Jane de Pearle, Jayne Frampton, Jenny Lewis, Josie Mitchell and Pompey Parry but most of all yourselves – members of PBLC, CLS and the Moordown Lace Group - for your generous donations.

Together with Bill, my thanks to you all.

Anne Vernon

DIANE NEX

Diane Nex passed away recently after being diagnosed with cancer. Although not a member for many years, she was an excellent lacemaker and embroiderer. In addition she was a talented and efficient administrator, both in her daily employment and also as PBLC secretary and a co-opted member of the Lace Guild Exhibition Sub-committee. It was in this role that Diane contacted and met the then Chairman of the Japanese Lace Guild, Yusai Fukuyama and his partner, Saiko. When Diane heard that both men would be visiting this country, she invited them to stay with her and arranged for some PBLC members to meet the two gentlemen, to talk lace and to sample Japanese cooking. Both the men wore traditional kimonos which they made themselves.

Another of Diane's talents was teaching. She used to take her lace pillow to work on during her lunch break. One of her colleagues saw this and persuaded her to teach him. Not only did he learn to make lace, but he learned well enough to complete 'Miss Channer's mat' – Oh, and his name, of course, was Malcolm, another PBLC member who is no longer with us.

CRYPTIC CROSSWORD CLUE from Newsletter 254

No.2 *Lace she made at this west London College of Arts? (7 letters)* This was yet another anagram of *Lace she*, and was solved by new member, Jane Cox, who won the chocolate bar. Jane actually had two solutions, *Chelsea* and *leaches* but only one fitted the clue.

There isn't a cryptic clue this time, but hopefully there will be another before too long.

Liz Pass

FORTHCOMING EVENTS AND DEMONSTRATIONS

Date	Event
Thurs. 31 st Oct. 2024	Tesco, Fleetsbridge Demonstration in the Community Room from 9.30am to 11.30am
Sat. 2 nd Nov 2024	Pillow Party 10.30am – 1.30pm. PBLC meeting 2pm – 4pm. Speaker – Claire Richards Topic – Raffia Craft, from plait to bags, hats and more.

Date	Event
Thurs. 7 th – Tues 12 th Nov. 2024. (not Sun.)	Newbury Bobtails 40 th anniversary Lace and Craft exhibition. www.newburybobtails.org
Sat. 9 th Nov 2024	Craft Fair 10am – 4pm Moordown Community Centre
Sat. 16 th Nov. 2024	Havant http://www.havant-suppliers-fair.com Please accept my apologies for an incorrect date in the last newsletter. <i>Editor</i>
Sat. 9 th Nov.	Handmade Fair and Craft Destash. 12.30pm – 3.30pm St. Michael's Church, Hamworthy BH15 4HR
Sat. 30 th Nov. 2024	Blandford Fashion Museum demonstration 10.00am onwards
Sat. 30 th Nov. 2024 Sun. 1 st Dec.2024	Christmas Makers Market 10am – 4pm Upton Country Park
Sun. 1 st Dec.2024	Handmade Christmas Fair and Craft Destash. BH17 7EP Parkstone Grammar School
Sat. Feb 1 st 2025 Advance warning	ALL-DAY PILLOW PARTY FEB 1 st , 2025 Please note that PBLC will be joining with St George's Craft and Chat, 10am to 3pm. Entry £5. Tea and coffee available all day with scones, bacon buns and cakes available for a small charge. There will be a cake stall, 'bring and buy' for unused craft items and a raffle. See you there! <i>Jenny L</i>
8 th June 2025	WORKSHOP There will a workshop on Sunday June 8 th , 2025 (following Lace Day) Tutor Judith Cordell on Rosaline Perle Lace. More details, costs etc to follow, but please book the date.

Our next full meeting is on **Saturday, 2nd November 2024**, see above, and will be a Pillow Party in the morning with the usual meeting at 2pm. If you would like to come along but need a lift, please let us know and we'll do our best to organise something for you.

Committee

NEWSLETTERS

If you receive your newsletter by email but are unable to print it, you may ask for a hard copy to be collected at the meeting. Please speak to Carol, Membership Secretary.

Copy DATE

Items for the January edition of the Newsletter should be with Liz Pass by **15th December 2024**.