



## Poole Bobbin Lace Circle

NEWSLETTER 263  
7<sup>th</sup> March 2026

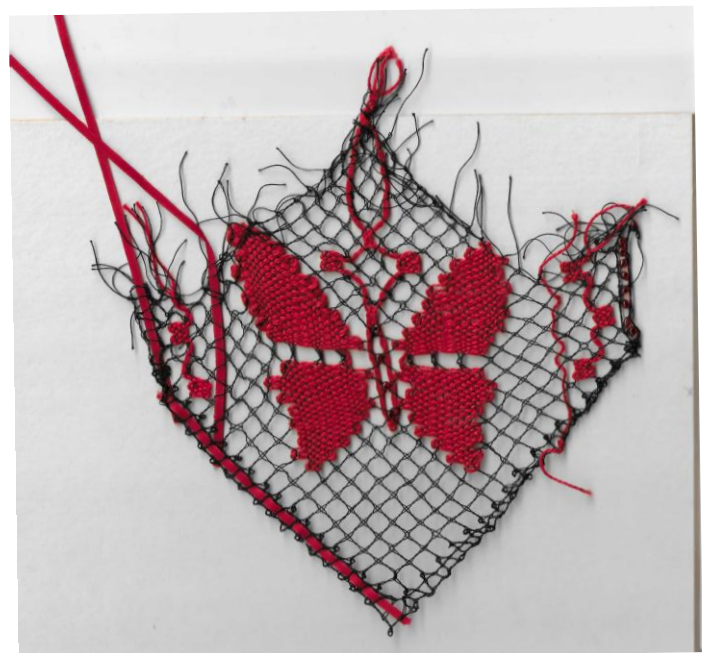
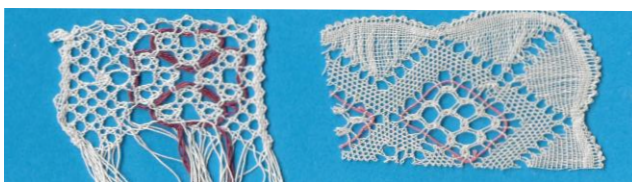
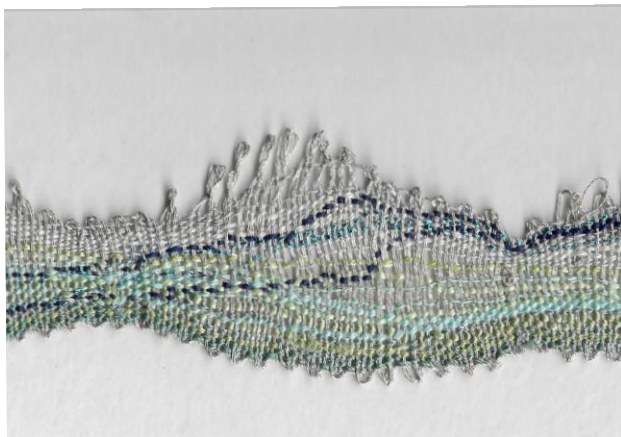
### EDITORIAL

I was recently asked the question, “Have you every made any textured lace?” I couldn’t think of anything that I’d made that might be called ‘textured’ so I decided to do some research. I started with the dictionary to find the definition of texture.

Two basic definitions explained the word as follows:-

- the feel of something
- the appearance of a textured surface which is actually flat.

I googled textured lace, but mostly came up with machine made. These two definitions started me thinking. What descriptive words could I apply to hand-made lace? The obvious one was Flat. Next came Smooth. After that, there was White, Ecu, Black. I thought that all of these could be modified to become textured. I found some basic Torchon samples that I had made over the years, when I wanted to make it more interesting. Four words sprung to mind – thread, ground, colour and gimp. I often try out ideas on new-to-me prickings, using some of those essentials. Below you will find some of my experiments.



If my humble efforts have made you want to experiment, go ahead, there's nothing to lose. And maybe there will be a good number of entries for the Lace Day competition.

Finally, I hope our speaker at Lace Day will be able to enlighten us with her talk "Contemporary Lace Textiles." *Editor*

## **JANUARY MEETING**

Our first monthly meeting of the year was a quiet one with only 11 people at the morning pillow party (perhaps due to the miserable weather!) and 19 for the afternoon meeting. It was, however, a wonderful day with Emma Cross, from our chosen charity this year, giving a very interesting and informative talk about their work for children with Down's Syndrome.

"Downright Perfect" is a small but very active and indeed much needed charity; providing resources, help and information to parents and children in a multitude of ways. This includes support from the outset of diagnosis, with information packs available in hospitals and ongoing activities such as home visits, play parties, day trips and social events. Access to professional support and therapy is available via grants and there is a continuous major initiative to visit local schools with an intention to inform both staff and children about Down's: an important aspect as many children with Down's are now in mainstream education. Emma's PowerPoint presentation was very informative and I was fascinated to note that with advancing medical practice children born with Down's in today's world can hope to live to 60 plus years, a huge step forward from the previously anticipated age of as little as 12 years back in the 1940's.

Our thanks go to Emma for such an enlightening talk and I for one felt pleased we are supporting Downright Perfect in our group. *Gill Barrett*

## **BLANDFORD FASHION MUSEUM**

After a foggy start, Penny and I arrived at the museum at 10am, as they opened up. Just inside the front door on the right was the display we had really come to see. The dress with PBLC lace was on the left with the original dress from the 1700's and used in Mrs Penny's Cavalcade of Costume on the right. Our lace looked splendid around each sleeve cuff. The lace around the neckline, whilst looking just as splendid, did not show up so well, as round the mannequin's neck was a white shawl collar. Nevertheless the whole effect was stunning.

After coffee and cake, which was delicious, Penny and I looked at the rest of the displays. I loved the 1960's display, I can't believe I used to wear dresses that short! We also saw a small display of kimonos and hand painted silk by Elizabeth

Frink. The new and largest display was all 'wedding' related, and was quite fascinating how wedding dresses have changed over the years.

The whole visit was well worth it and I highly recommend it. *Linda King*



### **REMEMBERING PAM CHAPMAN**

Pam Chapman (known to her friends as Little Pam) passed away peacefully at home following a few months of ill health on 19<sup>th</sup> December 2025. Pam was an accomplished Lacemaker, in both Bobbin and Needlelace, always doing something incredibly fine. Milanese Lace was a particular favourite and I was fortunate enough to see some of her completed pieces at her home. Pam had enjoyed making Lace at Eileen Deacon's house, when she had held classes there and then later when we both joined Sandford Lace. This was even better for Little Pam as it was held in the Community Hall at the end of her road! Pam enjoyed her Saturday mornings at Sandford and the afternoon monthly Needlelace meetings at Canford Heath library run by Liz Pass, continuing to attend both until things became too difficult for her.

Pam had been a member of PBLC until about 2 years ago, when coming to meetings became more problematic. We had some good days out at the Havant Lacemakers Fair, where she enjoyed seeing suppliers she knew from attending similar events in her previous home in the Brentwood area and having a good catch-up chat. Plus spending some money of course.

Pam's funeral was attended by a lovely number of family and friends, who had all come together to remember a very kind and clever lady. *Pam Brown*

*A collection in memory of Pam for "Dorset Hedgehog Rescue" will take place at the meeting*

**DACA ENTRY – TOUR DE DORSET.**

Our entry to Dorset Arts and Crafts this year is to be Tour de Dorset, a line of bicycles with lace wheels, each bike to have a wire rider in (where possible) the same colour as the wheels. The bike and rider will be made for you – you don't have to do that. The wheels are made with lace in a bangle, which most of us have done before as a Christmas decoration or as an entry into our challenge of 2024.

We would like you to make 2 matching wheels (or share with someone and make one each matching) for a bike. Some patterns are available, mostly using DMC Special Dentelles. You don't have to use one of these patterns - you can use any suitable pattern you have, but we do need you to use the bangles we are providing, to ensure they are all the same size. We just ask that the wheels look like wheels i.e. with the pattern radiating from the centre like spokes, and we would like both wheels for your bike to the same colour.

Bangles and patterns are available at any PBLC meeting (including Tuesday Lace) and we would like them completed by June to give time for the bikes and riders to be made. If you are unable to get to a meeting but would like to take part, contact any member of the committee and we will endeavour to get the bangles to you.

*Jenny Lewis*

### **RIDER OF THE STORM**

In May last year, on a very blustery day, I arrived at St George's for the PBLC meeting clutching in one hand a box with my entry for the annual competition. In the other hand was a plastic wallet into which had been very carefully placed my completed lace umbrella lady for PBLC's DACA entry. What could possibly go wrong?

Just a couple of steps from the car, there was a tremendous gust of wind. In an instant, the plastic wallet billowed wide open and one lace lady was snatched from inside and carried away on the wind; so began the Grand Tour of St George's car park. After my initial shock and disbelief, I set off in (not so hot) pursuit but every time the wind dropped my precious piece of lace was whisked away again out of reach.

Eventually the wind subsided and, what was now a crumpled ball of threads was retrieved and stuffed back into the plastic wallet. After a quick look around (hopefully no one was watching our escapade) we set off for the hall and once



inside and out of the wind, the lace umbrella lady was able to regain her composure.

*Jean Organ*

### **WOOL CHARTER FAIR 2026**

This annual event will be taking place on Saturday 9th May, 2026 in the Millennium Square in the village of Wool from noon till 4.30 pm. Apparently the fair originated in 1280 and has recently enjoyed a resurgence of interest in the Dorset calendar.

We will once again be demonstrating there; the date is in my diary and I would love to be joined by some of you, so please let me know if you can attend. It will be my first attendance there but I have been reliably informed that it's a great day out and a lovely chance to demonstrate our beautiful craft. A gazebo, tables and chairs are all provided by the organisers, so we just need to turn up with our own equipment and I will bring along a "have a go" pillow and our information boards. Period costume (Victorian) is optional but encouraged by the organisers.

*Gill Barrett*

### **POTENTIAL FURTHER DEMONSTRATIONS THIS YEAR**

We are hoping to demonstrate at the Visitor Centre at Hardy's Cottage, Higher Bockhampton again this summer - I hope to have some more information shortly. I will also be enquiring about demonstrations at the Courtyard Craft Centre, Lytchett Minster. Does anyone have any suggestions for other possible venues please? All ideas will be considered!

*Gill Barrett*

### **PROPOSED CHANGE TO PROGRAMME 2026/2027**

At the recent Committee meeting next year's programme was under discussion. The first meeting of 2027 will fall on Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> January which, for some members, may possibly still be part of the Christmas / New Year holiday period. This year there were only 19 members at the meeting on 3<sup>rd</sup> January to hear the speaker from Downright Perfect, our Charity for this year.. It has been decided that in future the Charity Speaker will be invited to the first meeting of our year 2026/2027 which will be on Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> September.

The meeting on Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> January 2027 will now become an all day Pillow party and the meeting with speaker will be held on Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> February. A similar problem arises in 2028 as the first meeting will fall on Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> January which will be a Bank holiday weekend and Members may have other commitments and so feel unable to attend PBLC. It is proposed to cancel this meeting altogether, the February date would become a morning Pillow party and afternoon Meeting with speaker.

Please would you give any comments you wish to make to any Committee member or email me at [derek@broadstone.me.uk](mailto:derek@broadstone.me.uk) Thank you.

*Jenny Harris*

## FORTHCOMING EVENTS

The yearly programme of events has already been sent out by e-mail. Paper copies will be available at the meeting.

<b>Date</b>	<b>Event</b>
Sat. 7 <sup>th</sup> March 2026	<b>Pillow Party</b> 10.30am – 1.30pm. <b>PBLC Meeting</b> 2pm – 4pm. PBLC sales table. Suppliers – Jane and Alan Lewis, patterns, books, crafted wood.
Sat. 3 <sup>rd</sup> April 2026	<b>THERE WILL BE NO PILLOW PARTY AS IT IS EASTER SATURDAY.</b>
Sat. 2 <sup>nd</sup> May 2026	<b>Pillow Party</b> 10.30am – 1.30pm <b>PBLC Meeting</b> 2pm – 4pm Working meeting. PBLC sales Cream tea. Please wear a hat. Annual competition entry - a colourful bookmark.
Sat 6 <sup>th</sup> June 2026	Lace Day – Tickets £8 on sale the May meeting. Speaker Jan Tregidgo talks about contemporary lace textiles.. Suppliers – Roseground - general supplies Dee Carver - bobbins Competition – a textured piece of lace.

Our next full meeting is on **Saturday, 2<sup>nd</sup> May 2026**, 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 Kennedy, who has agreed to act as Membership Secretary even though she has served six years on the committee, so needed to stand down.

## COPY DATE

**ITEMS FOR THE MAY EDITION OF THE NEWSLETTER SHOULD BE WITH LIZ PASS BY 15TH APRIL 2026.**