



Poole Bobbin Lace Circle

NEWSLETTER 264
2nd May 2026

EDITORIAL

Unlike previous newsletters for the past few years, this newsletter hasn't got any photos in it. That's because no one has sent me any !! sniff, sniff !! boo hoo !! If you see anything connected with lace when you are on your travels, please take a photo if it's permitted. Add a little caption to go with it. Recommend interesting places that you've visited and think of me, racking my brains to write something for the newsletter. I would be so grateful.

Editor

ROYAL CHRISTENING DRESS ON DISPLAY.

If you are thinking about a trip to London in the next few months, you may be interested in the latest exhibition in the King's Gallery, which is right next to Buckingham Palace.

It's called *Queen Elizabeth II: Her Life in Style* and features dresses, hats, shoes, jewellery, coats, and accessories, as well as a bridesmaid's dress, the late Queen's wedding dress and the Coronation robe. In addition there are gowns from various occasions, both royal and personal, including the Honiton lace robe which had been ordered by Queen Victoria for the christening of her eldest child, Princess Victoria, in 1841. After that it was used for 62 royal babies until it began to succumb to the ravages of time. In 2004 it was decided that a new dress was needed, so after more than 150 years, a replica was made, and has been used for all royal christenings since 2008.

A video has been made showing the conservation of the original dress,

<https://www.rct.uk/collection/conservation/queen-elizabeth-iis-christening-robe>

Tickets are not exactly cheap, but can get you repeat visits free for a year. More details here.

<https://www.rct.uk/visit/the-kings-gallery-buckingham-palace>

Liz Pass

MARCH MEETING

Unusually, the March meeting was a working meeting. This brought back memories of the early days of PBLC when alternate meetings were always working meetings. However our suppliers were a little shy and preferred not to speak to the whole group, but they were chatty enough on an individual basis. Jenny and Alan Lewis had a wonderful selection of prickings and a variety of wooden items. Those members who did not attend missed a treat, - suppliers who were new to most of us - but they will be one of the suppliers at our Lace Day 2027.

Liz Pass

DACA ENTRY – TOUR DE DORSET.

I hope you are all getting on with the wheels for our bicycles. 20 people have asked for bangles so that will be a long line of bikes!

If possible could you bring the finished wheels to the Lace Day on June 6th to give time for them to be assembled as bicycles. We will accept them in July if you can't bring them before, but we want to get as many as possible done in plenty of time rather than at the last minute. Thank you. *Jenny Lewis*

LACE DAY 6th JUNE 2026

Have you bought your ticket yet? If not, you will be able to buy one at the meeting on Saturday. It will be a good day with **Jan Tregidgo** speaking on Contemporary Lace Textiles. The competition is a Textured Piece of Lace (suggestions were in the March newsletter) The suppliers are **Dee Carver** – bobbins, **Roseground** – general lace supplies, **Lacey - Mays** – haberdashery and **Buttons and Bows**. I hope to see you there. *Jenny Lewis*

NOMINATIONS FOR NEW COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Jenny Harris will be stepping down from the post of PBLC secretary at the AGM in July. Gill Barrett will be taking on the responsibility for secretary from that date. The Committee will be down to 5 people doing the work of a recommended 9 strong committee. To continue with the annual programme as in previous years your support as a Committee member is requested. The Committee meets once a month except in August and December. If you feel able to offer your time please speak to any Committee member. Their names can be found on the back of your copy of the Annual Programme.

Jenny Harris retiring secretary

ANNUAL COMPETITION 2026 – A COLOURFUL BOOKMARK

Please bring your entry to the meeting this week, if possible in a plastic pocket so that they can all go to the judge in a file. You should have received an entry form by email earlier this week. Please bring it ready completed although help completing it will be available if necessary.

Entry criteria - the bookmark does not need to have been completed this year, but it must not have been entered previously in any PBLC Lace Day competition or any PBLC Annual Competition.

I'm looking forward to seeing lots of entries!

Jenny Lewis

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

HARDY'S VISITOR CENTRE AT HIGHER BOCKHAMPTON

I am pleased to confirm that, as per last year, PBLC have been invited to demonstrate lacemaking at Hardy's Visitor Centre at Higher Bockhampton near Dorchester. These will again be on the first Wednesday of each month:

Tables and chairs are provided - please let me know if you would like to volunteer. All skill levels will be welcome as it's particularly important to show this can be a rewarding hobby for all, not just the very proficient!

See dates below.

Gill Barrett

STOUR LACEMAKERS

We have been invited to join Stour Lacemakers on July 25th to enjoy a day of making lace with friends. They now meet at Lydlinch Village Hall, Sturminster Newton, DT10 2JA so we will be asking people to share transport. Cost is £3 which includes tea and coffee. There will be a raffle. If you would like to go, please let me know by the July meeting so that I can send them the numbers.

Jenny L

FORTHCOMING EVENTS AND DEMONSTRATIONS

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

Date	Event
Sat 9 th May 2026	Wool Charter Fair to be held in the Millennium Square. Demonstration from noon till 4.30pm.
Sat 16 th May 2026	St. George's Craft and Chat – Lacemakers welcome whether making lace or another craft. 10–3pm £5 entry
Wednesdays 3 rd June 2026 1 st July 2026 5 th Aug 2026 2 nd Sept 2026 7 th Oct 2026	Hardy's Visitor Centre From 9.45am to 3pm. Please see Gill Bartlett to sign up if you can demonstrate on any of these dates.
Sat 6 th 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.
Sat. 4 th July	Pillow Party 10.30am – 1.30pm PBLC Annual General Meeting 2pm – 4pm Presentation of awards for the Annual Competition – a colourful bookmark
Sat 25 th July 2026	Stour Lacemakers invitation to make lace with friends . Lydlinch Village Hall, full details above.

Date	Event
Sat 8 th August 2026	Farnham Street Fair, Dorset 12 noon to 4pm. Stalls, music, tea and cake etc. Also includes flower festival in the church decorated with displays of fabric, textiles, bobbin lace and other artwork.

RETURN OF TROPHIES

If you were a trophy winner from last year’s competition and are holding this at home can we ask that you return this at or before the May meeting please. Many thanks!
Gill Barrett

NEXT FULL MEETING is on **Saturday, 4th July 2026**, and will be a Pillow Party in the morning with the **Annual General Meeting** 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 JULY EDITION OF THE NEWSLETTER SHOULD BE WITH LIZ PASS BY 15TH JUNE 2026.