



Poole Bobbin Lace Circle

NEWSLETTER 219

3 November 2018

FROM THE CHAIRMAN

Welcome back to Saturday afternoons, let's hope for some nice dry days for our meetings. The speaker this afternoon is our own Lily Wills so we are in for a real treat. As we didn't have a speaker at the last meeting half the fee will go to our charity 'MyTIME. We are also in the process of putting together an 'Emergency Kit' quiz box so that in the rare event we have a speaker no show at very short notice again we will have options! As well as everything listed below taking place at today's meeting can I remind you of the Raffle for our charity...donations of prizes are always welcome. The demonstrations are continuing successfully and are well attended with only a couple of places left for volunteers at Blandford Fashion Museum, the afternoon slot, so if you can offer a few hours on Saturday 24 November starting at 12.30pm, please see Linda King today.

Ruth Oldridge and Penny Stevenson

WHAT IS HAPPENING AT TODAY'S MEETING

- Our speaker is Lily Wills who will be giving a talk entitled 'Playing with Colour'
- The supplier is Sarah Jones Painted Bobbins
- The display consists of lace depicting the season of AUTUMN
- Penny will be collecting any outstanding membership renewal forms
- Jean will be distributing tickets for Havant Lace Day on Saturday 17 November
- Ruth will have samples and order lists for our MyTIME charity bobbin
- The sign up list for the proposed trip to Honiton will be at the Sales Table

SALES TABLE

Our sales table will be in operation at today's meeting. Please ensure that any items are marked with the price you would like to receive for them. If there is no price on the item we will presume that we can let it go for a donation. Finally, as always, please stop by the Sales Table at the end of the meeting and take any of your unsold items home with you.

Also on the Sales Table will be the list for members to sign if they wish to volunteer their time at any future meetings.

Ruth Oldridge

SOUTHERN COUNTIES LACEMAKERS AND NEEDLECRAFT FAIR

Saturday 17 November 2018

The pre-ordered and already paid for tickets will be available from Jean at today's meeting. It is not necessary to have booked a ticket. Entry is £4.50 and tickets are available on the day at the entrance.

The Committee

PBLC TRIP

Wednesday, 15th May 2019

Please join us next year for a day trip to the Honiton Lace Museum. We will be given a guided tour by one of Pat Perryman's ladies. We are planning to travel there by coach and the approximate cost will be £13.50 per person (entrance to the Museum is free), non PBLC members are very welcome too. There will be two pick up points. The first at the Asda store on Canford Heath at 9.15am, the second at Dorchester – Top of the Town at 9.45am. Lunch or coffee of your own choice in Honiton. We will depart Honiton at 3.30 pm arriving back into Dorchester then Poole about two hours later (please note that all times are approximate).

The Committee

A BUSY YEAR

By the end of 2018 we will have demonstrated at 10 different venues over 29 days and 60 demonstrators will have sat in pleasant surroundings, chatting and making lace. It really has been a busy year and I thank every single one of the demonstrators for their commitment to PBLC.

If you would like to demonstrate at any of next year's venues (all dates to be confirmed) then please see me at any of our meetings, I am sure you will have an enjoyable time.

As well as two dates at Walford Mill we have two more demonstrations this year, Blandford Fashion Museum on 24 November and Scaplens Court on Sunday 2 December. I would very much like pieces of lace to display at Scaplens Court. The theme will be 'Christmas'. So if you have any suitable pieces please bring them to our meeting on the 3 November or to Needlelace on November 24. Failing that please phone me and I will arrange collection. I will endeavour to return your lace to you before Christmas so your tree will not be bare!

Linda King

EBB 'N' FLOW EXHIBITION PREVIEW

Jane Atkinson held a preview of her exhibition on Saturday 15 October at Walford Mill. It was well attended and gave people the chance to view her exhibition and meet some of the people who had contributed to it and who would be giving some of the workshops taking place over the exhibition's six week duration. It was a lovely event with people mingling, chatting and viewing with a welcome glass of something. Jane gave a short talk which was well received during which she presented a commemorative bobbin to workshop organisers and people who had helped in the general pulling together of the organisation of the exhibition. Two members of PBLC were recognised – Liz Pass who has helped with the Children's Workshop and Lily Wills who, along with her husband Clive, has hosted some of the visiting presenters.

Linda Burn

LACE NECKLACE IN GOLD THREAD WITH DENISE WATTS

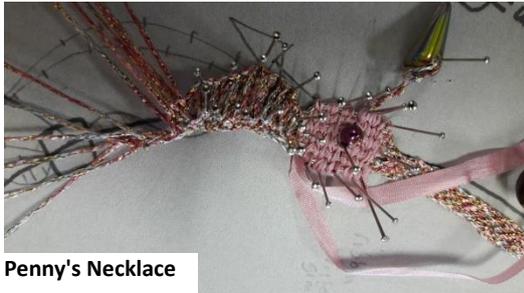
I was attracted to this workshop, which was part of Jane Atkinson's Ebb 'n' Flow Exhibition, as I just love jewellery. Three members of PBLC (Penny Stevenson, Eileen Deacon and I) joined Jane Atkinson and a complete novice, Sue, to make lace on Saturday 6 October at the Priest's House Museum as part of Denise Watts' workshop.

Working on our Projects



That first morning several of us were apprehensive about what would be involved and initially I wondered if I had chosen wisely. Denise encouraged us to explore embellishments and stitches that could be incorporated into designs for a contemporary necklace and then showed us examples of her necklaces. Before creating our own designs we had an opportunity to practise plaits – single, double and even treble incorporating beads,

sequins and narrow silk ribbon. This was a great help and we all discovered a variety of different techniques that we wanted to include in our necklaces. We had the opportunity to purchase 2% gold thread, which is a core of silk wrapped with metal foil that incorporates the gold.



Penny's Necklace

Denise was an excellent tutor instructing us where necessary but allowing us to experiment and to follow our own train of thoughts. By the end of the first day I felt very confident and was ready to design. Denise sent us away with a brief to design what we would like to make on Sunday. She also suggested that we wind our bobbins, but although I had taken the bobbins home I forgot the thread! Several of

us used a slightly thicker thread than Denise had given us. I, for one, thought that the tension was so important that a slightly thicker thread would allow me to tightly tension without breaking the thread. In future designs I would try a finer thread!

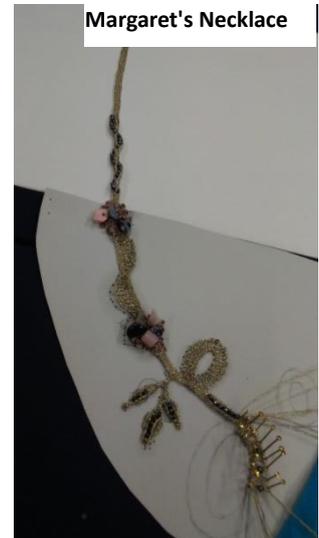
Sunday morning arrived and we were all eager to begin. We each in turn showed Denise our designs and she demonstrated a few more techniques. By our first coffee break most of us had completed our six pair plait plain section from the necklace finding to the start of our design. The day passed far too quickly but we had all made a significant start and were confident and comfortable in what we were doing.

I took plenty of photos and a sample of our work is included in this report. At the debriefing session we all agreed that the workshop had been a wonderful opportunity, allowing us to experiment and choose

our own design path and ask the question 'What if we did this or if we did that?' This being a complete contrast to following a rigid lace pattern, which most of us do! We were all very complimentary about the way in which Denise taught us and we can certainly recommend attending a course in the future led by her.

At our January meeting Eileen, Penny and I agreed to display our necklaces on the Brag Table, so please look out for them!

Margaret Eaglestone



Margaret's Necklace



Eileen's Necklace

THE OIDFA CONFERENCE 2018

INNtel Hotel



Clive and I drove to The Netherlands this summer for the OIDFA conference in Zaandam, Amsterdam. Unfortunately I didn't get a place on a course, so we had time to do some touristy things instead during the beautiful summer weather that we experienced this year. We explored the town centre with lace exhibits in many shop windows, found the tourist information and the INNtel Hotel hosting some of the events. What a surprising building! A collection of traditional houses piled together with a very modern inside. We also watched both very large and small boats negotiating the two locks...a clog being lowered to the small boats to collect payment!

Fine Lace

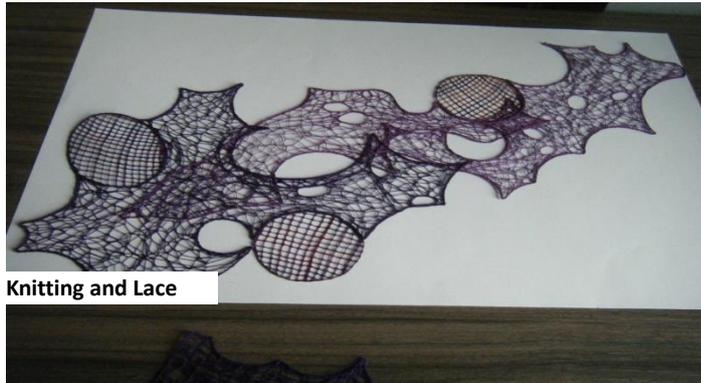


We drove to an historical centre not far away with traditional houses bordering the water seeing many windmills still in use. At the end of the day we watched them fold the sales and secure them for the night. Earlier in the day we had admired some of the museum's exquisite collection of old local lace – such fine threads.



Traditional Houses

On the last morning of the courses we invaded the busy rooms admiring the results. It was lovely to see some familiar faces, hearing about the work, both the delights and difficulties. I loved the results of the course I had applied for which was knitting and lace. The knitting



Knitting and Lace

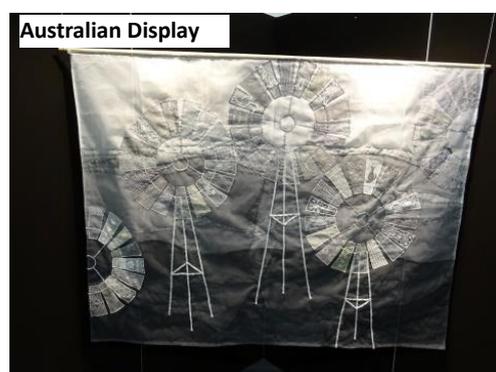
looked like wild ground with addition of more regular lace. Participants had been expected to do homework overnight! Well worth the effort. The combination of stitching and lace too showed some impressive results.

The serious part of this international event started on Friday with the General Assembly. Then all the exhibitions opened and the traders were open for business. I am just mentioning a few personal highlights

or this story would go on and on! The National Stands are always a treat...so many ideas and different laces. Finland showed typical houses (3D) made completely in lace – walls, roofs, doors, windows, and gardens.



Japanese Display



Australian Display

The Japanese display was bold and striking. Australia had made a panel with several of their windmills the sails of which showed different lace techniques.



UK's Display

A rough outline of Britain with lace centres and their styles shown was our own country's entry. The winner was Slovenia. Their display showed rows of wineglasses with tracing paper shades decorated with lace – such diversity making a united display.

The Slovenian Display



Children Playing



Whale

The competition display was a revelation. So many interpretations of 'Water - Land'. Many thinking especially of The Netherlands' perpetual fight against flooding. I'd just like to show you two examples. A delightful little picture showing two Dutch children playing with toy boats on a pond, and a scene showing land and sea divided by a whale.

This orange hat for Little Princes' Day appealed to me because of the combination of thick wool, striking colour and copper wire lace.



Orange Hat

During the traditional dinner we had a real surprise. First we saw this slightly opaque balloon expanding and shrinking to music. Eventually it grew big enough for the lady inside to stand up straight. She then proceeded to play a rousing tune on her violin. At the end of the music she pricked the balloon, revealing herself completely. Later she walked between the tables like the rat catcher of Hamelin, followed by six children of graduated sizes, also playing the fiddle.

We really had a good time, seeing so much good lace, catching up with international friends made over the years. We were still re-living the event during our long car journey down to Switzerland.

Lily Wills

THE JOYS OF DEMONSTRATING

I have grouped the next three articles together as they report on some of the demonstrations that members of PBLC have been involved in over the last three months. We are fortunate to have these opportunities to demonstrate our lacemaking and show the public that the craft of lacemaking is alive and well in Dorset.

Demonstrating at DACA

On the opening Friday Linda Burn, Sharon Moore and I were demonstrating in The Purbeck Hall. As Linda was only there before lunch Sharon and I were able to take a long break to view the exhibits elsewhere. The weather was very hot but there were plenty of visitors, particularly in the morning although it did become quieter after lunch and the shortage of children was noticeable. We had a lot of interest in our 'Colours of Suffrage' display and a few brave souls had a go on the snake pillow.

As usual the standard of the exhibits was high, particularly the quilts, embroidery and knitting. A Panorama of London Landmarks especially caught my eye. Some of the paintings were very tempting and the subjects wide ranging. The outdoor demonstrations and craft stalls attracted a lot of attention and seemed to be quite busy selling. Back indoors the photography exhibition was of its usual high standard with several outstanding and tempting items.

Our congratulations go to Eve Morton for winning the Royal Doulton Lacemaker Figurine trophy. As there were insufficient entries the Portman trophy wasn't awarded. How sad! We must try to enter more next year.

Margaret Cormack

Demonstrating at Hardy's Cottage



Laura and Debbie at Hardy's Visitor Centre

Monday 1 October was one of those beautifully bright days that we have been lucky enough to have experienced during the extended summer of 2018. Debbie Davies, Linda Burn and I made our way to Hardy's Cottage Visitor's Centre at Higher Bockhampton to do the last demonstration of the season. It is an ideal venue – light, spacious, warm and situated right next to the cafe that serves tea, coffee and all manner of delicious homemade cakes and snacks!

In spite of it being a Monday, with the good weather there was good footfall and some uptake on the 'Have a Go' pillow. Two charming gentlemen from Oxford with a beautiful dog named Poppy were very keen to try their hand at lacemaking. As was a young girl from Weymouth who had made a good recovery from feeling so unwell earlier in the day that she was unable to attend school! There were still tourists making the most of the weather who were keen to stop

and chat as well as local people who use the centre as a stopping off point on a walk from Tolpuddle.

We thoroughly enjoyed our day stopping for half an hour at 12.45 to eat one of the tasty snacks prepared at the cafe for lunch. It is a beautiful venue and I can really recommend anyone to take the opportunity to go next year.

Laura Navrady-Pitcher

A Morning Demonstrating at Walford Mill



Jane's Wall Hangings

My turn on the PBLC rota to demonstrate at Jane's Ebb 'n' Flow exhibition was on Wednesday 10 October...a sunny and warm day. As it was just me I set myself up with my lace stand in the middle room where the majority of the exhibition is housed. Throughout the morning there was a steady flow of visitors who were very keen to chat.



Glorious Hanging in the Window

They were, without exception, bowled over by Jane's work however they found it hard to take on board that the small piece of Torchon that I was working on my travel pillow used the same stitches and techniques as Jane's magnificent hangings. The morning passed all too quickly. What was so lovely about doing this demonstration was sitting on my own, facing Jane's stunning four piece design – 'Oxygen' depicting Stanpit Marsh. HEAVEN

Linda Burn

PILLOW PARTY – SATURDAY 6 OCTOBER

There couldn't have been a better day to sit, enjoy friendly company and make lace. The morning and early afternoon had been windy, rainy and cold so we were pleased to come in to the small hall at St George's which was lovely and warm.

As always there was a variety of lace being made. Sheila was working on her 'demonstration special' – her lovely Torchon edging in pink thread. Sue and Shirley were both embarking on new types of lace for them. Sue starting a Bedfordshire rose in a ring and Shirley beginning her own design using Rosaline lace. It was great to have a visit from Liz who came to visit her two pupils. Ruth continued with her Torchon fan while Linda K worked on a two part Torchon scarf working it in beautifully soft baby alpaca wool. Jayne, hoping for the summer to continue, was working on her beach hut scene, again in Torchon. Margaret C worked on a table cloth edging in glorious colours while Maureen Walsby's stunning Torchon runner was almost at completion. First time Pillow Party attender Angela worked on her Torchon collar.

Lily was beginning a new 98 Lace Group project. Although in its early stages it looked very interesting – 3D leaves in a variety of threads and wools on a grid frame. The title of the upcoming exhibition should have us racing to get the dates in our diaries...'50 Shades of Grey and One Colour'. Maureen Woodruff was working on an interesting premise too. Something blue and glittery that could end up being 2 or 3D. We will eagerly await the finished piece.

Tea, coffee, apple and lemon cake as well as lemon biscuits (courtesy of Margaret C's recipe printed in the March 2017 Newsletter) were much appreciated by us all. Angela's husband Colin saved the day by producing a large knife to cut the apple cake (he doesn't just walk around carrying sharp knives...Colin and Angela have a camper van!). A lovely afternoon of lace, chatter and laughs was enjoyed by all and as we walked out of the hall at 4.30 pm the sun was beginning to break through.

This is a good time to remind members of PBLC that there are three Pillow Parties throughout the year (October, February and April). They are a lovely social gathering as well as an opportunity to make lace. So please try to support them. The next one will be on Saturday 2 February.

Linda Burn



Nature Inspired Scarves

NEXT MEETING

Our next meeting will take place on Saturday 5 January 2019 at St George's Church. The speaker will be Joanne Barker from our charity 'MyTIME'. The supplier is Claire's Lace...always a popular visitor to PBLC meetings so you will be able to purchase your supplies to make your entries for the 2019 competitions. The Annual Competition theme is 'A Pair' and the Lace day subject is 'Seaside/Coastal'.

The Committee

EXHIBITIONS AND EVENTS

- 16 Oct – 25 Nov** **Whitchurch Silk Mill - 'Inspired by Machinery'** - organised by the Westhope Group. The Silk Mill is open daily 10.30am to 5pm (closed Mondays). Usual entry fees apply. Further details: www.whitchurchsilkmill.org.uk and www.westhopegroup.org.uk
- Saturday 17 November** **The Southern Counties Lacemakers and Needlecraft Fair** 10am to 3.30pm. Group Tickets available at £4; Individual Tickets £4.50.
www.havant-suppliers-fair.com
- Saturday 17 November** **Dorset Arts and Crafts Christmas Fair** - Allendale House, Wimborne, BH21 1AS. 10am to 4pm. Free Entry
- 2019**
- Saturday 9 March** **Newbury Bobtails Lace and Craft Day** - Chieveley Village Hall near Newbury RG20 8TE. 10am to 4pm. Entry £4
- Saturday 6 April** **South Oxfordshire Lace Day** - Benson Parish Hall. 10am to 4pm. Entry £4.50

EDITORIAL

As I write this editorial the balmy late summer weather has disappeared and we are in the throes of Storm Callum. Certainly time to get out the lacemaking equipment! The late summer of 2018, although a memory of beautiful weather, produced lots of opportunities for lace experiences – some of which are written about in this newsletter. There will be, I hope, further articles in the January newsletter.

The new committee is becoming settled in their new and extended roles. If you have suggestions that you would like the committee to look into please use the Suggestion Box which is always situated by the noticeboard at every meeting. Failing that have a word with a committee member. Don't forget too, to sign up on the volunteer list if you feel that you can offer any help at future meetings.

I'm not sure where the year 2018 has gone! Any items for the January 2019 edition please get them to me using the usual means. **The deadline date is Monday 17 December 2018.**

Linda Burn