



Poole Bobbin Lace Circle

NEWSLETTER 224

6 September 2019

FROM THE CHAIRMAN

Sadly we start this first newsletter of the year with the news that Jean Lane passed away on Sunday 4th August, Jean Organ has written a lovely piece about Jean for the newsletter.

This month we welcome two new committee members, Pam Brown and Carol Kennedy who will be taking on the roles of Sales and Assistant Demonstration Secretary respectively. Ruth will be helping Linda Burn as Editor and Competition Secretary prior to taking over from her at the end of this year.

Ruth and I would like to congratulate everyone involved with DACA last month. Firstly we would like to thank everyone who loaned pieces for the display. Apologies if we didn't get to use your lace, we had some very difficult decisions to make on set up day! Secondly to all those who helped set up, demonstrate, steward and take down the exhibition a very huge vote of thanks. We couldn't have done it without you. And finally our thanks go to Linda King who, as Demonstration Secretary, had the stressful job of collecting, cataloguing and looking after all of the loaned pieces. The exhibition was a great success for PBLC, not just the display but for all who entered the competition – well done to all.

Ruth Oldridge and Penny Stevenson

WHAT IS HAPPENING AT TODAY'S MEETING

- Our speaker is Dinah Warnock – speaking about 'The History of Black in Fashion'
- Our own Sales Table is the supplier with Pam and Ruth
- PBLC entries into DACA form the display
- The Brag Table has Margaret Eaglestone's sunflower ...bring your sunflower if you have made one
- Jayne Frampton will be on the door and Lucie will be taking Membership Renewals
- Sue will be selling raffle tickets for our 2019 – 2020 charity Forest Holme Hospice
- Carol will have demonstration lists for National Lacemaking Day on Sat, 14 September
- Linda B will be serving coffee and hoping to fill the refreshment rota for the year
- Jean will have lists for Havant, October Pillow Party and the Blandford Fashion Museum

MEMBERSHIP FEES 2019/2020

Just a quick reminder for anyone who has not yet renewed their subscription, the renewal forms can be found with your July newsletter or online at www.poolebobbinlace.com

There will be a separate table for renewing at the meeting on Friday, so please sign in as normal and renew at the designated table. If you are unable to come to the meeting you can of course send your renewal to Penny Stevenson (address at the top of the renewal form), together with your A5 SAE, stamps (if you wish for the newsletter to be sent if you cannot make it to a meeting) and fee. Please make cheques payable to PBLC. Many thanks.

Penny Stevenson

SALES TABLE

It's that time of year again! At this September's meeting we have our own Sales Table. So please get sorting through your unwanted lace items and bring them with you to, hopefully, be sold on Friday evening. Do price up your items, unless you want them to be considered a donation. At the end of the evening, please remember to collect any unsold items. Also, don't forget to have a look at the many **books** we have for sale to fill those possible gaps in your collection.

Pam Brown

PBLC TRIPS

Trip to Blandford Fashion Museum: There is still a chance to join the visit to the Museum on Friday, 27th September 2019 at 10:00 a.m. Meet at 9:55 a.m. at the Blandford Fashion Museum, Lime Tree House, The Plocks, Blandford Forum, Dorset DT11 17AA. Adult is £7:50 and Concession is £7.00 (price includes entry and shortbread with coffee/tea).

This year's display features Heather Toomer's collection of whitework including a Georgian apron.

Havant Lace Fair Tickets: A block of 10 tickets for the Havant Lace Fair at £4 each (a reduction of 50 pence on the door) will be purchased. So do book a ticket at the meeting.

Upcoming PBLC Trips: At the time of writing there are two possible trips that could be taken in the upcoming year depending on dates, cost and uptake. The first is the exhibition of Trolley Lace at Exeter Museum that Carol McFadzean spoke about at our Lace Day in June. The second is a visit to Buckingham Palace during the 2020 open season. The committee will look at possible dates and getting transport then report back to members.

The Committee

AWARD OF POOLE TROPHY

At the Lace Guild's Triennial Competition, the Poole Trophy for a young lacemaker aged 12 to 17 years of age was awarded to Slovenian Nina Bajic for her entry entitled 'Discover Slovenia'. Nina is nearly 15 years of age and her winning entry features a map of Slovenia worked in Idrija Lace and cleverly presented as a board game with dice and tokens to follow around the map.

Does anyone know the history of the Poole Trophy that is when was it donated and what it looks like as many members are probably unaware of its existence?

DEMONSTRATIONS – PAST AND FUTURE

Half the year has gone, along with the demonstrations at Avon Heath Country Park, Wimborne Model Town, Farnham Street Fair, Hardy's Visitor Centre and of course 'the big one' DACA. I thank everyone who demonstrated upstairs as part of our display and especially Dorothy Brown and Ann Bray who advised and helped with the display at DACA. Thanks too to everyone who so willingly lent pieces of lace for the display to make it so stunning.

Still to come...Hardy's Visitor's Centre in October and Scaplens Court in December, date to be arranged.

Date & Time	Location	Details
Saturday 14 September	Wimborne Library and possibly Poole Library	NATIONAL LACEMAKING DAY Two venues Times tbc
Saturday 30 November	Blandford Fashion Museum	Times tbc

Once again I thank everyone who has demonstrated, without you all the demonstrations that we do would not be possible. If you have never demonstrated or would like to in the future, please contact me.

Linda King

JEAN ELSIE LANE ~ 6 SEPTEMBER 1930 – 4 AUGUST 2019



It was back in September 1983 that Jean Lane, along with Ann Ewart and Jean Organ, joined Wareham Lace Class. Little did they realise the impact that lace would have on their lives.

Jean Lane was born in North London, a city that Jean loved and never missed an opportunity to visit. When the Blitz of London began during the Second World War, Jean and her cousin Wally were evacuated to Newquay. Shortly afterwards Jean's mother and younger brother moved to Newquay. Her builder father stayed in London as part of the war effort but after an illness he was sent to recuperate in Newquay where the family settled. Jean developed a love of dancing and musicals.

It was at a dance that Jean met her husband Geoff and they were blessed with two sons. She became a Navy wife moving to Wales then Portland. Married quarters on Portland was a step too far for a London girl like Jean so Geoff left the Navy for civilian life and the family moved to Wareham where Jean seemed to know everyone.

After the 'boys' had grown up, Jean joined the evening class run by Dorothy Brown then Ann Bray. Jean set up her own production line of lace, always making a lace gift for every event for family and friends but every Christmas there would be a special lace gift for Wally and his wife. She joined the PBLC Committee as Demonstrations Secretary and, supported by Geoff, she excelled at going out and talking about bobbin lace to anyone who would listen. The two Jeans and Ann became firm friends celebrating family events and going away together to lace events. This friendship survived despite Ann's move to Guildford and Jean Organ's time working in central London. Countless days were spent demonstrating bobbin lace (that is having a good gossip and day out) across Dorset. There were trips to Lace Guild Conventions at Exeter, Weston Super Mare, Llandudno, Scarborough, Norwich, Reading and Eastbourne, plus overseas trips to the Lace Conservatory at Bayeux and the OIDFA Convention in Prague. Two special days out not to be missed were the annual Poole Lace Day and Lace Fair at Havant.



Jean continued making lace and was an enthusiastic member of PBLC well into her eighties but a succession of broken bones took their toll. In the last couple of years, Jean and Geoff became increasingly housebound but Jean remained cheerful and was always pleased to receive visitors. Sadly she died after a short illness, leaving her husband Geoff, sons Ian and Alan and grandchildren Elle and Ronnie.

Just a few years ago, while driving home after an enjoyable day out at the Havant Lace Fair followed by a meal at Ann's, Jean commented as if thinking out loud "Best thing I ever did joining that lace class."

DORSET ARTS AND CRAFTS 2019

Setting up on Wednesday



From July 29 to August 1 the Purbeck School in Wareham was a hive of industry as organisers, exhibitors, judges and scribes worked hard to prepare everything ready for the opening of the 2019 DACA Exhibition on Friday August 2. PBLC was no exception and a group of members met on the Wednesday to set up our display in the upstairs Sixth Form room. Our given area was a real bonus and we made use of all the space. Members past and present had been so generous in lending items for the display and after several hours of putting things out, and then moving them only to move them back again to their original place, our display was complete and looked stunning...ready to receive visitors on Friday August 1.



Have A Go Pillow



Have A Go Pillow

We had a very good flow of visitors every day some of whom signed our visitors' book which is on the display table this evening along with the majority of our entries. It was a joy to be upstairs, not only was it spacious but the light for lacemaking by the demonstrators was perfect and surprisingly not hot at all. The 'Have a Go Pillow' was put to good use on all five days.

Meanwhile, also on that opening day, the display of lace entered for the DACA competition was able to be viewed for the first time.



Jenny's Award Winning Lace



Margaret's Award Winning Lace

This year PBLC had 24 entries comprising 20 from the PBLC competition and four from the Lace Day competition as well as special entries from Eve Morton and Margaret Eaglestone in the Champion of Champions Class. Well done to all our entrants with special congratulations to Jenny Lewis and Margaret Eaglestone who won trophies for their entries.



Part of PBLC's Display

From speaking to other visitors and members of PBLC there seemed a really good 'vibe' to the whole event this year. Items entered into the craft competitions as well as local crafts for sale were of a really high standard demonstrating the talents of people working on crafts throughout the county of Dorset. The venue itself is good with plenty of free parking and the food for sale at the in-house

cafe was good too! Our thanks to Jenny Gurden and the DACA committee for allocating PBLC the upstairs exhibiting area. We will look forward to the 2020 exhibition!



Part of PBLC's Display

Linda Burn

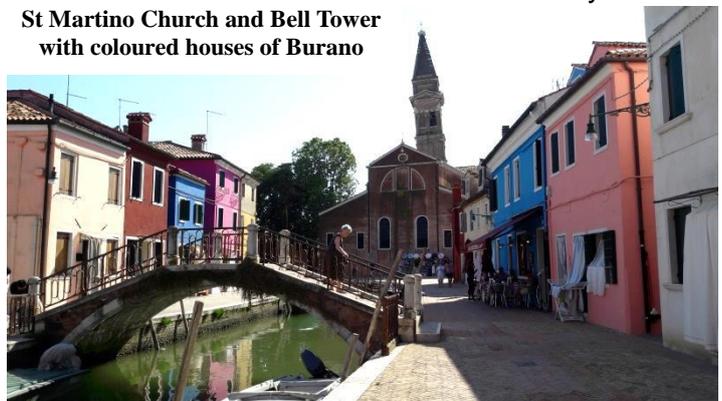
YET MORE LACE ENCOUNTERS

David and I holidayed in Italy this summer and as planned we visited Burano especially for the needlelace, but to my surprise before reaching Burano we had discovered two other laces! The first being Alençon Needlelace.

We took the night time ferry from Portsmouth to Caen, arriving at 7am (French time). There was no time for breakfast before we left the ferry so we decided to travel first and stop for breakfast at an 'Aire' (service station) near Alençon. The French maps usually give the names of each aire and this one was called 'Dentelles d'Alençon'. Interesting...I thought and I was not disappointed as in the foyer was an excellent display of lace. Alençon lace or point d'Alençon is sometimes called the 'Queen of Lace'. Lace making began in Alençon during the sixteenth century and the local industry rapidly expanded during the reign of Louis XIV when a Royal Workshop was established in the town to produce lace in the Venetian style in 1665. The purpose of establishing this workshop was to reduce the French court's dependence on expensive foreign imports. The local lacemakers soon modified the Venetian technique and Alençon emerged as a unique style around 1675. There is a lace museum in the town which I must visit when we are next in that area of France for a longer stay. This year we were only driving through France to Italy so we stayed focussed on the driving, on motorways of course and what a stress-free experience compared with crowded British motorways, but they are mainly paying!

On our second day we crossed the border to reach Italy, driving through the Frejus tunnel. Our first stop in Italy was in the region of Liguria on the Italian Riviera. What a wonderful area it is, not one of the most visited parts of Italy, most people outside Italy don't know very much about this wonderful region where the mountains plunge down to the sea and some of the villages are only accessible by train or boat. And that is where I encountered lace for the second time, in Portofino. Portofino is very picturesque but it is a town for the rich and famous – designer clothes shops aplenty and large private yachts moored in the harbour. There was little evidence of lace making as there would have been over a hundred years ago when Portofino, like Burano, was famous for fish and lacemaking. Women would sit on cushions under the porticoes with their bobbins clicking away. We did however find, in a back street, a little craft shop selling examples of handmade bobbin lace. It was similar to Torchon lace so I did not purchase any, although the gentleman in the shop tried to persuade me to buy a pricking diagram for 28 euros – I declined!

**St Martino Church and Bell Tower
with coloured houses of Burano**



Lace from the Museum

After Liguria we travelled north staying on the Venetian Lagoon at Fusina. From there we took the ferry to Venice. Venice was crowded, especially with visitors from the cruise liners docked in the lagoon, but having visited on several occasions before we avoided the really touristy areas. From Venice we took the water bus over to the islands, firstly Murano, where we visited the glass museum, in fact we purchased a joint ticket to both the glass and the lace museums, then on to Burano. The island still has the magical atmosphere with each house well maintained and painted in vibrant colours. The lace museum was well set out chronologically in four rooms. There were drawers full of rare and

precious lace which offered a complete overview of the history and artistry of the Venetian and lagoon's laces, from its origins to the present day, all displayed in picturesque rooms decorated in typical colours of the island. It was a real privilege to view such beautiful and exquisite pieces of lace.



Lace from the Museum Shop

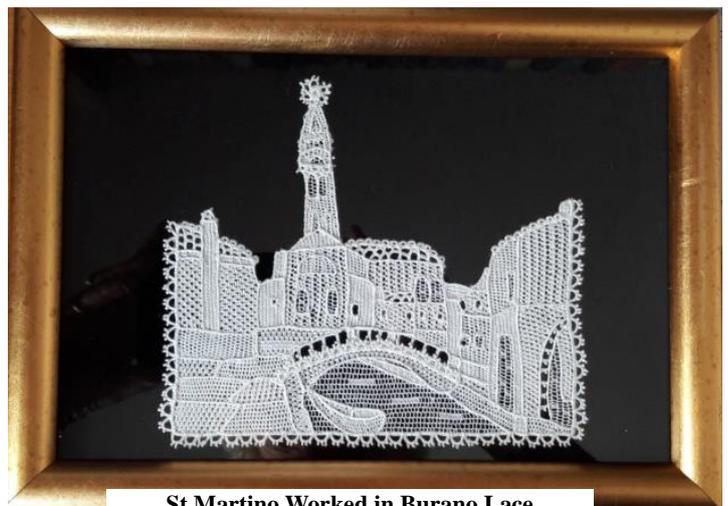
My wish, before going on holiday, was to visit the lace museum again and also buy another piece of Burano lace. Opposite the lace museum was the shop I purchased my lace in 2002, so I decided to pay the shop a second visit and I was not disappointed. As well as cheap factory lace from the Far East there was a lot of genuine Burano lace as well as ladies demonstrating making the lace in the shop. I wanted something different from my first piece and was looking especially for the view of St Martino church, the leaning bell tower, canal and bridge in the foreground. I was spoilt for choice as there were at least three framed pieces. The lady who served me took us upstairs where the shop has its own little museum. I remembered that from last time and also the draw full of lace mats, it was from there that I chose my original piece.



Lacemaking in the Shop

After Venice we travelled west to Lake Garda and stayed on the west side of the lake for the first time. All in all it was a wonderful holiday in searing temperatures, at least 10 degrees hotter than the average for that time of the year and with the high humidity in Italy it felt even hotter!

Margaret Eaglestone



St Martino Worked in Burano Lace

SUNFLOWER

One of the ladies in my Lace Class, Emma, asked if I could find a pattern for a Sunflower, which I duly did. It is Slovenian lace and I believe Idrija. I really liked the design so decided to make it myself first. Emma was going to make it using appropriate shades of brown, yellow and green, whilst I decided to use just white and mount it on an orange silk background. It is displayed on the Brag Table today. A few members from Liz Pass' class liked it too perhaps they will make one.

If anyone today would like a pricking diagram for the sunflower I can provide details of where to find the pattern.

Margaret Eaglestone



Idrija Sunflower

EXHIBITIONS AND EVENTS

- 7 Sept – 12 Oct** **Always Threads Exhibition 'AMAZING ARCHITECTURE'** at The Red House Museum, Christchurch. Open Tuesday to Saturday 10am to 5pm (4pm on Saturday). Free admission
- Sat 14 September** **Marston Magna Lace Group – 30th Anniversary** 10am to 4pm at Marston Magna Village Hall, BA22 8BY
We're celebrating 30 years of making lace with lots of pairs of bobbins. Some are wood and some are bone along with thread our lace has grown. So come and join us for the day with pillow and lunch, without delay!
- Sat 21 – Sun 22 Sept** **Broadmayne and West Knighton Art and Craft Showcase.** Broadmayne Village Hall. Saturday 11am to 5pm, Sunday 11am to 4pm. Crafts on display include painting, bobbin lace, mosaic, glasswork, papercraft and much more. Demonstrations, work for sale and refreshments. Entry £1.50 under 14 years – free.
- Sun 22 September** **Canford Needlework Festival.** Hamworthy Recreation Club, Magna Road, Wimborne BH21 3AP. Entry £3. Plenty of free parking.
www.candfordneedlework.co.uk
- Sat 28 September** **Dorset Guild of Weavers, Spinners and Dyers Open Day.** Holy Trinity Hall, Sunninghill Preparatory School, Culliford Road North, Dorchester DT1 1QG. Come along and see members working at their crafts. Free entry. Sale of equipment.
- Sat 16 November** **Southern Counties Lacemakers & Needlecraft Fair,** Havant. 10am to 3.30pm. Special exhibition of lace by Sandy Woods. Judith Cordell is demonstrating Rosaline Perle Lace. Entry £4.50 at the door.
www.havant-suppliers-fair.com

NEXT MEETING

Our next full meeting is on **Saturday 2 November at 2pm**. The speaker is Dr Helen Walter talking about Children's Wear. Before that on **Saturday 5 October is our first Pillow Party** of the year. If you think you are able to attend please sign the list that Jean will have at tonight's meeting. If you would like to come along but need a lift, please also let us know and we'll do our best to organise something for you.

EDITORIAL

Another full newsletter with information for upcoming events as well as reminiscences of the summer just gone – and so begins another PBLC year with a programme to look forward to. The PBLC competition in 2020 is 'Twenties'. In the May edition of the newsletter Jean wrote a lovely selection of subjects that would fit the bill. I have reprinted that information here:

This could be something from your own 20s or something from the 1920s. Perhaps you spent your twenties dreaming of swimming with dolphins, riding elephants or sipping cocktails on a beach in some far-flung place but the reality was making birthday cakes, playing with trains, making dolls clothes and holidays spent building sandcastles at Blackpool. All could provide inspiration for your entry.

In the 1920s, post-World War 1 Britain was quite a contrast with the decadence of the 'bright young things' and the poverty leading to the General Strike and the Wall Street Crash. Some of the notable things were the Art Deco influence on fashion, jewellery, and architecture; the publication of Winnie the Pooh, Noel Coward plays Hay Fever and Fallen Angels; silent movies; Cole Porter musicals; the building of Castle Drogo; the discovery of Tutankhamun's tomb; flapper girls and those magnificent men in their flying machines. It was a time of innovation in the car industry. Finally, but not least HM Queen Elizabeth 11 and Sir David Attenborough were born.

For Lace Day next June the competition subject is Flowers/Floral. It would be lovely if we could match or maybe surpass the number of entries for our own competition and DACA next year. PBLC will again fund our entries into the DACA exhibition.

This first year of entering pieces into the DACA Exhibition has been a steep learning curve for me as I had never gone through the process before. I am truly indebted to Liz Pass for the help that she has given me in taking and collecting all the entries to the Purbeck School. I have made careful notes to remind me what to do next year!

On display this evening, as well as the usual Display and Brag Table are the PBLC Scrapbooks. They were at DACA but just in case you didn't go, or get a chance to look at them they are here this evening for you to peruse.

Those of us who went up to Stour Lacemakers on Saturday 24 August had a splendid time. There will be a full report with photos in the November newsletter. It was lovely to see the Stour ladies and the ladies from Marston Magna who were also there. I would draw your attention to their 30th Anniversary event to which they generously invited us. Details are in the **Exhibition and Events** section.

Finally copy date for the November newsletter is slightly earlier than normal – Friday October 11th. Please get any items to me by this date (Jean may be able to accept things a bit later) by the usual means.

Linda Burn