



# Poole Bobbin Lace Circle

NEWSLETTER 237

6 November 2021

## EDITORIAL

It was lovely to see so many of you at the AGM in September, that being our first outing since lockdown ended, and a time for chatting and catching up with everyone. The presentation of bobbins to all winners again a year later than planned took place; we also presented bobbins and a bouquet to Linda Burn and Lucie Meersseman, thanking them both for their time and effort on the PBLC committee. Thank you to Liz Pass for again providing us with a mystery object, also to Linda King, Pam Brown, Linda Burn and Penny Stevenson for their contributions to this November newsletter. Something new for this month, we have a competition, a chance for everyone to have a go and win a Poppy painted bobbin. We have a lovely afternoon waiting for you to enjoy, our speaker Sarah Delves will be talking about handbags, our supplier Claire's Lace will be there and Diane Fosbery with her display of lace.

I would also like to mention an email that I received from Rosanne McLaren in Australia, she was surfing the internet and came across the PBLC website, and with her permission I have included it in this newsletter.

*Ruth Oldridge*

## TODAY'S MEETING

Today's guest speaker is Sarah Delves from 'Bags of Glamour' she will be talking about Antique, collectable and luxury handbags.

Claire's Lace will also be in attendance but with limited stock, hopefully you will all have received the email sent that if you require anything in particular to contact Claire direct.

Jean Organ will have a list available for you to put your name down if you are interested in the Pillow Party on December 4th 1.30 p.m. at St George's.

Bring along your lace for the Brag Table and also for today's display on the theme of 'Accessories'.

And lastly we also have some lace displayed by Diane Fosbery.

*The Committee*

## LACE DISPLAY

Joining us as a guest at today's meeting will be Diane Fosbery, who is a former member of PBLC, originally taught by Dorothy Brown.

Diane contacted us via the PBLC website, saying she would like to show our members Lace that had been passed onto her, made by her late friend Pam. Diane initially helped Pam to learn Lacemaking, from where she flourished into a proficient Lacemaker drafting her own patterns.

Do make time to have a look at her display.

*Pam Brown*

## FORTHCOMING DEMONSTRATIONS AND EVENTS

At this present time there are no demonstrations planned for 2021 or 2022.

On Sunday, 19<sup>th</sup> June 2022, PBLC will be hosting a **Milanese Lace Workshop with tutor Sandi Woods**. See Page 3 for more information.

*The Committee*

## **NOVEMBER COMPETITION**

This year celebrates 100 years of the Royal British Legion's Poppy appeal and for November we have decided to run a competition. We thought it would be a lovely idea for members to make a Poppy in either 'bobbin lace' 'needle lace' or 'tattooing' whether it be freestyle or from a pattern of your choice.

You have until the January meeting at which time we will ask you to bring your competition entry with you to be judged, similar to lace day. We will be asking those PBLC members present at the meeting to vote for the best one. At the end of the meeting, the winner will be presented with a Poppy painted bobbin, as shown in this picture. PBLC will donate £1 to the Royal British Legion for every Poppy entry submitted. So let's get those little grey cells working.



Poppy Bobbin

*The Committee*

## **PBLC ANNUAL COMPETITION 'TWENTIES'**

After a delayed competition from earlier this year, we will be going ahead with this year's competition, 'TWENTIES' in 2022.

Some of you may have already made, or started a piece, if not there is still time. Pam and I will be collecting all the pieces at the May meeting

At the time of writing we do not know whether we will be taking the pieces to D.A.C.A. Of course when D.A.C.A. have decided what the exhibition will consist of then we can arrange for our entries to be included.

*Linda King*

## **BLANDFORD FASHION MUSEUM**

We are planning to organise a trip to the Blandford Fashion Museum in the New Year, possibly around April 2022. Those of you who have been before know that a cup of tea or coffee and a scone starts off this visit nicely. The museum will be closing 27<sup>th</sup> November 2021 and reopening 15<sup>th</sup> February 2022 allowing them to plan and update the displays during their 'closed time'. More information about the trip is to follow in the New Year.

*The Committee*



## **MILANESE WORKSDOP**

A date for your diary. Following on from next year's 'Lace Day' Sandi Woods, who is to be our guest speaker, will be holding a Milanese Workshop on Sunday 19th June at the Sandford Community Hall, Keysworth Drive, nr Wareham, from 10.30 am to 3.30 pm. If you wish to express an interest in attending, please contact either Penny Stevenson or Jean Organ who have already started a list. Patterns to choose from are shown below.



**1. Fishy on a Dishy**  
Basic Cloth stitch, Half stitch and Ten stick



**2. Fishy on a Posh Dishy**  
Cloth stitch, Basket weave, Orchid 3



**3. Fishy on an even Posher Dishy**  
Cloth stitch, Lattice 3 (var)



**4 Fishy on the Cat's Dishy**  
Cloth stitch, Fishbone, Ribbon (var)



**5. Red Herrings**  
Double end start, Cloth stitch,  
Basket weave, Half stitch plaits

Lacemakers may choose whichever pattern suits their whim and experience.

Please also check out Sandi Woods on her website [www.sandiwoods.com](http://www.sandiwoods.com) for more information.

*The Committee*

## **MYSTERY OBJECTS - SEPTEMBER AND NOVEMBER**



**September's Mystery Object (Top) and  
November's Mystery Object (Bottom)**

The brass object (top) is a buttonhole cutter. The sharp steel blade could be pushed out to the desired width, using the numbers along the central slot as a guide to size.

The lower object conceals the mystery. What do you think is inside? All will be revealed in the next newsletter.

*Liz Pass*



## **FIRST PILLOW PARTY SINCE LOCKDOWN**

In the week preceding the first Pillow Party in over 19 months, there was much organising and arranging of lifts to make it a good party. Little did we know that 'the god's' were conspiring against us'. Saturday dawned and the rain that started at around nine in the morning had reached almost biblical proportions by lunchtime accompanied by strong winds. Thanks to the shortage of tanker drivers delivering fuel to petrol stations, many people were short of fuel to make journeys for pleasure and joining long queues to fill up at petrol stations that had had deliveries was the norm. On top of this there had been a multi car traffic accident closing the Upton bypass creating traffic chaos around the Poole area and the A31 (Ferndown bypass) was closed for emergency gas works!!!!



**Jenny at her Pillow**



**Angela at her Pillow**

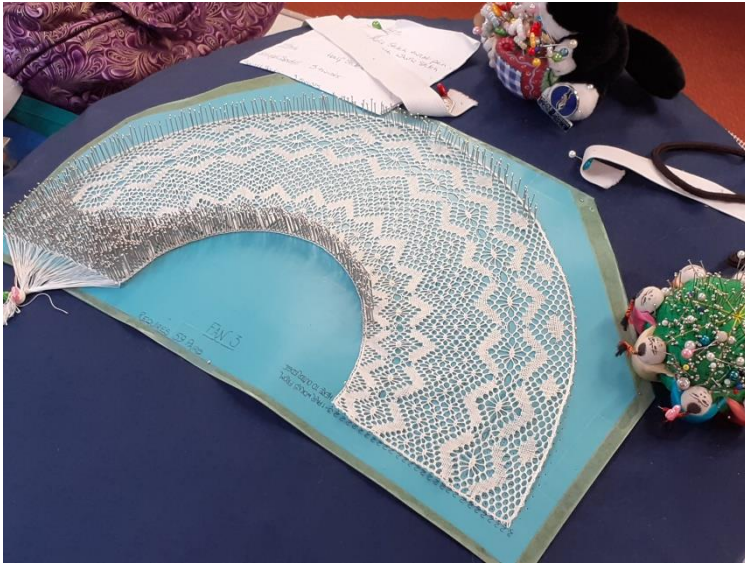
Few in number but keen to make some lace, it was a lovely interlude in a thoroughly miserable day and it was still pouring with rain when we left.

However five hardy souls showed up to make lace and lovely it was too, Ruth and Penny our joint Chair, Jenny Lewis, Angela Smith and me. Although few in number, we worked (and chatted) hard. Ruth deserves special mention as she has finished the fan that has been keeping her busy for some considerable, while Angela was working on a table runner. Jenny continued working on her waistcoat and we were able to see how it was being worked as a continuous piece and how it would eventually join up. She is now over two thirds of the way to complete it. Penny was working on her 'Twenty' piece for the 2021/22 PBLC competition (carried over from 2019/20). I was busy removing a recently completed piece that had been on my pillow since 2016!!!!

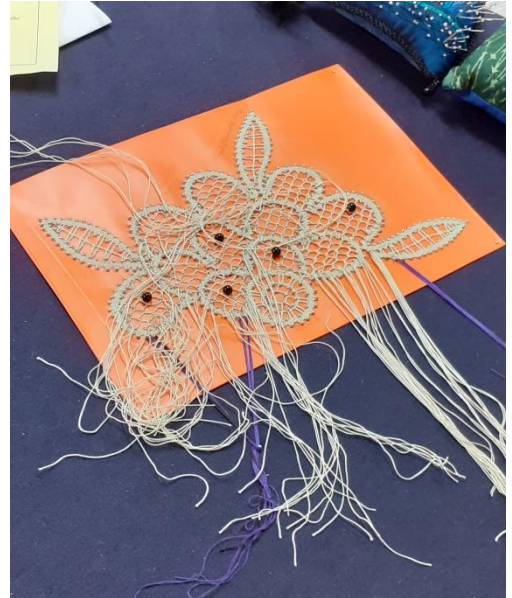


**Ruth and Penny at their Pillows**





Ruth's Fan



Linda's Motif

Linda Burn

### **EMAIL RECEIVED FROM ROSANNE MCLAREN IN AUSTRALIA**

Hello Ruth,

Today I found the Poole Bobbin Lace Circle recent newsletters on the Internet, as I have been reminiscing about our trip to England 40 years ago. I saw a photo of Dorothy Brown who was my Tutor for a Bobbin Lace course at the English Lace School, Tiverton in October, 1981. Both Dorothy and Sue Cox were very kind to me and my family, and I have happy memories.

I live in Brisbane now, (originally in Hobart, Tasmania) Australia, and understand about lockdowns and etc. At present our State border is closed, we are all hoping that it will be open for Christmas with our family.



Rosanne is on the right



I send my Best Wishes to you and the others in your Circle.

Sincerely

Rosanne McLaren



## **SILVER CLAY COURSE**

After the success of my resin course, when the 'Skills & Learning' leaflet popped through my letterbox, I was very excited to try my hand at silver clay and duly booked myself onto a one-day course.

So on Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> October I found myself outside the Library in Dorchester and, following COVID procedures, made my way up to the classroom. There were 10 pupils in total of varying age groups and as we introduced ourselves it was soon apparent that we were all beginners, helping everyone to relax. After the usual safety briefing our Tutor, Theresa Barton, gave a brief talk about the history of metal clay which originated in Japan in 1990. It is a suspension of fine metal particles held in a clay binder which can be moulded and dried, and then the clay is burnt off leaving only the metal. It can be a variety of metals such as gold, silver, copper and bronze.



**Silver Clay Feather**

The morning was spent practising with an air-drying clay as the silver clay is quite expensive (£23 for 10g). Teresa showed us how to make moulds from a product called 'Silligum' which is a two part compound and, when it is mixed, is pliable enough to press objects into and it firms up after ten minutes ready to be used with the clay. We had great fun trying out different methods of imprinting and embossing, using a variety of shells, leaves, charms and even lace, thankfully a shop bought piece!

After lunch we were unleashed onto the silver clay. A little unnerving at first but we soon relaxed as we began choosing the piece we wanted to make, I decided on a peacock feather. Theresa then showed us a few ways of embellishing our work and how to add jump rings etc., I added a little glass bead that could withstand the firing process. We were quite quick at making our pieces because of the practise done in the morning. Normally you would then leave the piece to dry for several hours or even overnight but an inspired use of a tray on a panini sandwich toaster sped up the process considerably. Then came the most daunting part (for me at least), using a cook's blow torch to sinter the clay until hot enough to burn off the binder. This meant heating the clay until it glows almost orange and then keeping the torch on the piece for a further 2 – 3 minutes depending on the thickness. When completed the item is quenched in a bowl of water and is then ready to use.

It was a lovely day and although very busy there was still time to enjoy everyone's company and chat with like-minded people as you learn new things.

*Penny Stevenson*

## **NEXT MEETING**

Our next full meeting is on **Saturday, 8 January 2022 at 2pm**. The speaker is Brian Kennedy talking about PBLC's charity, Dorset Search and Rescue (DORSAR). Before that on **Saturday, 4 December 2021 at 1:30 p.m. is our Pillow Party**. If you think you are able to attend please sign the list that Jean will have at today'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.

*The Committee*

## **COPY DATE**

Items for the January edition of the Newsletter should be with Ruth Oldridge by 15<sup>th</sup> December.

*The Editor*



# Poole Bobbin Lace Circle

## MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING HELD ON FRIDAY, 3<sup>RD</sup> SEPTEMBER 2021 AT ST GEORGE'S CHURCH HALL, DARBY'S LANE, OAKDALE, POOLE, BH15 3EU.

At 7:15 p.m. Penny Stevenson presented a commemorative bobbin to the retiring members of the PBLC Committee Lucie Meersseman and Linda Burn. Penny Stevenson presented a commemorative bobbin to the Trophy Winners of the 2019 Annual Competition, the theme of which was 'A Pair'. Linda King took a photograph of Penny and Ruth Oldridge with each recipient. A list of Trophy winners was published in the July 2019 Newsletter.

The Theme for the Annual Competition in 2021/2022 is 'Twenties'.

### **The AGM commenced at 8:00 p.m.**

31 Members attended the AGM. No junior members attended the AGM.

#### **1. Apologies for Absence**

Apologies for absence were received from: Sue Baker, Carol Bale, Dorothy Brown, Jenny Green, Jenny Lewis, Sharon Moore, Di Pemberton and Val Saunders.

#### **2. Minutes of the PBLC AGM 2020**

Minutes of the PBLC AGM 2020 were published in the September 2020 issue of the PBLC Newsletter. These minutes were accepted as a true record of the PBLC AGM 2020.

#### **3. Signing of the Minutes of the PBLC AGM 2020**

The PBLC Chairman, Penny Stevenson signed the Minutes of the PBLC AGM 2020.

#### **4. Matters Arising from the Minutes of the PBLC AGM 2020**

There were no matters arising from the Minutes of the PBLC AGM 2020.

#### **5. PBLC Chairman's Report**

The PBLC Chairman's Report is appended to these minutes.

The PBLC Chairman's Report was accepted by the Meeting.

#### **6. PBLC Treasurer's Report**

The Balance Sheet for the year 2020 to 2021 was supplied to members. The PBLC Treasurer, Lucie Meersseman, explained in detail the Balance Sheet as at 15<sup>th</sup> June 2021. The Annual Balance Sheet recorded a deficit of £134.38. The PBLC Treasurer's Report was accepted by the Meeting.

#### **7. Reappointment of Verifier for End of Year Accounts**

Rachel Binnington was reappointed as the Independent Verifier.

Proposer: Ann Bray

Seconder: Margaret Eaglestone.

#### **8. PBLC Committee**

There were no nominations for new PBLC Committee members; so there are only six members on the PBLC Committee.

#### **9. Charity for 2022/2023**

- a. **Birds of Poole Harbour:** Proposed by Linda King for which 14 Votes were counted;
- b. **Blandford Fashion Museum:** Proposed by Jenny Harris for which 12 Votes were counted.
- c. **Dorset Wildlife Trust:** Proposed by Penny Stevenson for which 5 Votes were counted.

The PBLC Charity for the year 2022/2023 will be Birds of Poole Harbour.

## 10. Any Other Business

**PBLC Scrapbooks:** Ann Bray requested photos (or photo-sized hardcopies from digital photos) for the PBLC Scrapbooks. For the period since 2000, there are only four photos.

Members thanked the PBLC Committee for their efforts over what has been a difficult year for everyone.

The meeting closed at 8:25 p.m. approximately.

Signed by the Chairman .....

## Doole Bobbin Lace Circle

### CHAIRMAN'S REPORT FOR PBLC SEPTEMBER 2021

A warm welcome to you all, it is so lovely to see you all again after what has seemed a very long 18 months.

This is probably going to be one of the shortest Chairman's reports we've had but it could be one of the most welcomed? We had a very strange and challenging end to 2020 and start of 2021. In July our AGM consisted of voting forms and a quorum of the committee met in the grounds Upton Country House, which, typically of an English summer, had to be moved from the Saturday to the Monday, at least the weather was on our side by then.

In September there was a glimmer of hope that we might be able to restart meetings and Tuesday group did manage to hold a few before we were rushed back into lockdown! Sadly this made us very nervous about future meetings but we did think we could start planning Lace day. However in February, after the Government's announcement, the committee had the difficult decision to make whether to risk carrying on or cancel. As you all know we decided to cancel Lace Day as it would have been a lot of work wasted for both us, the suppliers and the speaker which turned out to be the correct decision.....but we don't want to keep reminding you of what we should have been doing, suffice to say that in 2020 there was a lot of reflecting on what should have been!

On a more positive note, we continued to collate and send out the newsletter, thank you to all of you who helped with articles and suggestions for the newsletters. I must also apologise to anyone who would normally have received a postal copy but my printer has been playing up since last year which has meant I have been unable to print a legible copy to send out.

The committee would like to thank Margaret Eaglestone for her work as webmaster; we hope many of you will be sending her photos of your work undertaken during lockdown. Also our thanks to Lily for carrying on with printing the Newsletters plus extra work due to my faulty printer, everyone who has helped with the teas and coffees and the volunteers who help out. Thank you all for your patience with and acceptance of the work that the committee has been carrying out on your behalf.

Finally, Ruth and I would like to give heartfelt thanks to the committee for all their hard work, often going above and beyond to help, so please join us in showing your appreciation.

*Ruth Oldridge and Penny Stevenson*