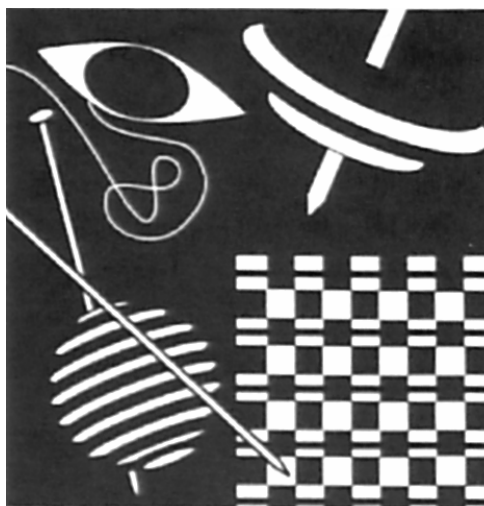


**EAST SURREY GUILD  
CREATIVE FIBRES**

**NEWSLETTER**

**December 2009**

Chairman      Janice Russell  
Secretary     Betty Newman  
Treasurer     Janet Freeman



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*Merry Christmas  
&  
Happy New Year*

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**Chairman's Message**

Thank you for supporting your guild and all our events during the year. Our aim was to give a varied and interesting programme and we hope you feel this has been achieved. The programme for 2010 should prove to be just as enjoyable.

***Janice***

***RECENT MEETINGS***

**DOMINO KNITTING - Saturday 19th September 2009**

The day with Fiona Morris at Headley Village Hall was a great treat for all involved. As always she was such an enthusiastic and generous teacher and the day flew by with the group making good progress with their sample squares.

Fiona arrived with huge bags brimming over with her sample garments; several we recognised from recent articles in 'Knitting' magazine. When we took a breather from the knitting we were able to browse her pattern archive and purchase some of her original designs.

The cushion we tackled during the day looked daunting at the start, but with patient guidance we all eventually got into the swing of it. The first square comprised 22 rows with alternate garter stitch ridges and stocking stitch furrows and it was possible to get different effects with colour and yarn changes.

The cushion design comprised three large overlapping patchwork squares surrounded by twenty-six smaller ones. Clever choice of colour in Fiona's original design gave the larger squares a 3-D effect.

The written instructions we were given were easy to follow, but despite that some of us managed to join a new square to an existing one in new and innovative ways until we engaged our brains properly!

At the end of the day it was fascinating to see how every example produced was unique in size, shape and colour. We all went home having picked up new skills and many small tips from a satisfying day with a special teacher. Thanks Fiona, and please can I book my place now for your next visit?

It is possible to view the original cushion on Fiona's web-site.

***Norma Halder***



**Fiona Morris in her domino waistcoat - see [www.distanceknitting.com](http://www.distanceknitting.com)**

### **OPEN DAY - Saturday 17th October 2009**

We were kept very busy with the many visitors who came to our open day. The visitors showed a lot of interest in all the crafts being demonstrated, some having a go themselves. Thank you very much to all of our members who attended and helped on the day.

## **GENERAL MEETING - Saturday 21st November**



This was the last meeting of the year. Members brought in some Christmas ideas. These included Sandy who showed us the Japanese way of wrapping 2 bottles of wine and Christina with her Christmas tree made from plastic milk bottle tops.

Mince pies and cakes were served with afternoon tea.

## ***ASSOCIATION SUMMER SCHOOL, LINCOLN***

The Summer school was as usual, well organised and very enjoyable. I was lucky enough to get a place in Anne Dixon's Inkle weaving class, but there were lots of other options available for those wanting to improve their skills.

Many of you know Anne, and her expertise in Inkle Weaving, as she once taught a workshop for us, but this was an opportunity to spend a whole week learning a wide variety of techniques. Anne had planned a carefully structured course, ensuring we covered a lot of ground: After the basics, like reading a draft, setting up, beating, good selvages, we rapidly moved on to explore wider possibilities, like incorporating beads fringes and tassels.

On the second day we started work on pickup designs. We learnt lettering (Anne's own method, which differs from that in most of the books), moving on over the next few days to Baltic patterns (my favourite), and South American Pebble Patterning. Throughout, Anne was explaining some of the techniques she has developed herself – embroidery, "Runic" pick-up, scrunching, scribbling, mock shibori, mock ikat.... Throughout, we were encouraged to design our own patterns.

Lincoln is a beautiful city. My one regret of the week, is that we had only one free afternoon to explore it.

If you have never attended the summer school, do consider it next time (2011). There is always a good selection of classes, with really top-rate tutors, and it is a chance to spend a week really concentrating on learning. The tutors work the usual hours, but usually the work space is available in the evenings for you to work on at your own pace. Do send your application in good time, however. There is usually a ballot for places on the most popular classes.

***Sandy Jessett***



*Sandy's inkle samples*

*In future newsletters there will be more articles from other members who also attended the summer school.*

## **MEETINGS FOR 2010**

**Saturday 16th January - General Meeting with a Sales Table**

**Saturday 20th February - TBA**

**Saturday 20th March - AGM + Talk by Jim Storrar "Folklore and Medicinal Use of Local Wild Flowers"**

**Saturday 17th April - Braiding with Shirley Berlin \***

**Saturday 15th May - TBA**

**Saturday 19th June - General Meeting and Sales Table**

**Saturday 17th July - Jennifer Hughes "Flower embroidery on a hand-painted background"\***

**Saturday 21st August - General Meeting and Sales Table**

**Saturday 18th September - Diana & Chrissie of Bound to be Beautiful - Bookbinding \***

**Saturday 16th October - Open Day**

**Saturday 20th November - Knitting with Fiona Morris \***

*\* Numbers are restricted on these workshops so be sure to book early.*

## **An Appeal for Help!**

Stitch and Creative Craft Show

Friday 22 to Sunday 24 January 2010

10am to 5pm each day (Sunday until 4pm)

We have again been offered a stand at the show in January. If you would be willing to steward on the stand for one day then please would you let Sandy know by 16 December.

If you have never done this before, it can be great fun. You just have to chat to members of the public, explaining or demonstrating some of what we do. You will get free admission to the show as well, and provided we have plenty of volunteers there will be ample time for you to explore.

Please, also would you bring any items you are willing to lend for display, to our January meeting (16 January). We always try to have a good display of things done at the year's workshops, but please don't limit yourselves to that. Anything incorporating spinning, weaving and dyeing would be good.

### ***DATES FOR YOUR DIARIES - 2010***

**22nd - 24th January - Stitch and Creative Craft Show, Sandown Park, Esher**

10am - 5pm each day (Sunday until 4pm)

**7th March - Textile Society's Manchester Fair, Armitage Centre, Fallowfield, Manchester**

Antique & vintage costumes & textiles. Open 10am - 4.30pm £6 or £4 (students & senior citizens). More info from [www.textilesociety.org.uk](http://www.textilesociety.org.uk) or Kay Bryant on 01491 572126

**25th - 28th March - Sewing for Pleasure, NEC Birmingham**

**26<sup>th</sup> - 27<sup>th</sup> June - Celebrating Surrey, Losely Park, Nr Godalming**

This event will showcase various arts, crafts and musical groups and soloists found in Surrey. Our guild is hoping to participate - more details later.