

News and Views

Wonderful Wowies' Work

Here are some of the fantastic results achieved with our 'Maggie's Purse' Kit. After some initial discussion about how to split the rods – all my fault for not being more specific in the instructions – great pics started coming in to our members only Facebook page. It is most useful for such queries as these, so well worth joining. There is a blog, too, if you are not a Facebook person. Here are some of the results from the kit.

Sara Hansson has made a lovely job of the stitching and has added beads and further hand stitches, not to mention a classy fastening device. The bag, shown right, is big enough for two mobiles (two Sara?) and a purse.

Below left, we have Eileen Carkett with more excellent stitching and an imaginative design with a flap. Machine patterns enhance the strips here. The piece, below right, is from Lea Dishot, showing the front and back. Lea added further embellishments made from silk paper. I love the contrasts here.



Jan Seys produced a splendid bag and said, 'Finished my kit' (right) 'I then discovered that it was big enough to fit my Kindle, so it has become a Kindle cover. This is the first time I have worked with silk rods and metal shim, and I am really pleased with the effect. Thank you.'

You are very welcome, Jan! I have so enjoyed seeing the results of everybody's efforts and it confirms my view that WoW has some of the best stitchers on the web. We will have new kits for you to try – in this issue there is one associated with Lynda Monk's article (see next page). We now have a gang of kit testers to ensure that all runs extra smoothly! Maggie.



September Kit - Lynda Monk's Lacy Leaves and Seed Pods

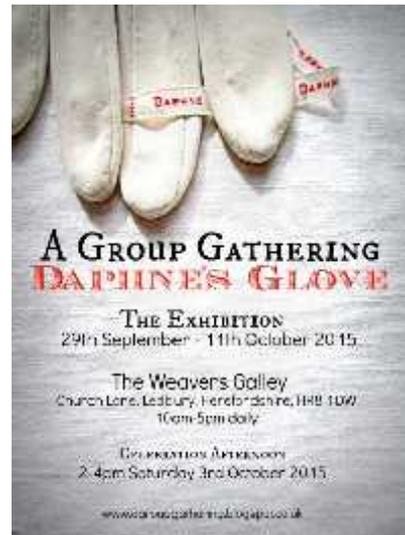
Following the success of Maggie's Silk Purse Kit from the June issue, we are delighted to announce that we have another Kit to accompany Lynda Monk's fantastic workshop in this issue.

Lynda has been kind enough to provide us with her own Thermofax Screens to enable you to follow her workshop and make your own lacy leaves and seed pods.

In this Kit, you will find a Thermofax Screen, Heavyweight Lutradur a pot of Expanding Medium and cotton covered wire, all for £12.00 plus p&p. You can order this here - http://www.onlineshop.workshopontheweb.com/wowshop/cat_966521-Kits.html (no need to register or login - just add the Kit to your basket and checkout).

We look forward to seeing the results on our Facebook page and Blog.

Kathleen Murphy – Murgatroyd and Bean



We have a very exciting announcement to make! Later in the autumn, we shall be launching a very special extra onto our members only Facebook and Blog pages. Kathleen Murphy, the creative force behind Murgatroyd and Bean and hand-stitching genius, is going to be writing a special article. It is an incredibly detailed step-by-step workshop on how to make an Autumn Garland and will be available in several parts on Facebook and the Blog. Kathleen has organised the 2015 'A Group Gathering', which has its next exhibition, 'Daphne's Glove' at the end of September.

We are delighted to announce that there will also be a special Celebrity Interview with Kathleen to learn more about her own work, the exhibitions and sewing groups she organises.

In order to gain access to the Interview and Workshop, you will need to have joined our Member's only Facebook page or Blog. You should have received an email inviting you to join the Facebook Group but if you haven't, please email fiona@workshopontheweb.com for further details.

In Residence at Art Van Go

Several textile artists were in residence at Art Van Go in July. Lynda Monk, Clare Bullock (middle) and Sharon Osborne (right) were demonstrating their skills to visitors on 9th July. Lynda had escaped for lunch when I got my camera out, so she's inadequately replaced here by her sample book. Clare was demonstrating felting techniques and Sharon, her mixed media work and machine-stitched figures, which were fabulous.



Lynda talked about her current work with her Cameo Silhouette, Thermofax machine and handy bamboo cane. She is getting in touch with her 'dark side' and is working on pieces based on people who have died saving others. She is also working on pieces about the Sedlec Ossuary in Prague which is a Church decorated with the skulls and bones of older remains that had been exhumed from the cemetery when it was overflowing.

Lynda was using leaves made from the technique used in her article in this issue, to create leafy poles as part of 3D work being created for her exhibition 'It's a Paradox' with Pauline Verrinder. This will be at Art Van Go from 22 September – 31 October 2015.



Lynda, Clare and Sharon will be In Residence at Art Van Go on Thursday 10 September from 10.30 to 4 and Saturday 7 November from 10 to 3.

End of Term

Following the June issue, many end of term shows were happening. Missenden Abbey had their City & Guilds exhibitions and Gina Ferrari, teacher of Machine Embroidery, sent us a few pictures.

Mara Webb (below left) has been nominated for a Medal for Excellence. You can see Scilla Capton's work here (below right) and Tracy Fernandes' (bottom pic).



Annette Morgan's C&G Diploma students' work can be seen here with the work of Carol Gurney (below right), Helen Lynch (middle) and Jane Rogers (below right).



Although *New Designers* covered the gamut of graduate work, the Bucks New University Textiles degree show was also worth a visit.

Catherine Disney was particularly good. She had created futuristic textiles for a population living in 2100 who would need a reactive 'second skin' to change with the weather and climate (below left).

Caroline Browne produced some fabulous cut paper sculptures and futuristic clothing (middle) and Alice Richards laser cut fabric and metal (right) was amazing.



Cathy English had worked on the metamorphosis of caterpillar to butterfly and created some elaborate collars, showing much imagination and application of skills (below left and right).



eBooks

Maggie says 'A couple of months ago, with my d4daisy hat on and in the interests of market research, I posted the following question on my Facebook page.'

What do we think about ebooks? It seems to me that something like my 'Textile Translations' book - which offers ideas about turning sketches or images into textiles - would be a way to go. It could also have printable black and white pages for 'instructions' on a particular technique. How many of you use ebooks - would this work?

I was delighted to get so many comments, although there was certainly a resounding thumbs down for ebooks – at least for textile techniques. Here are just a few of the responses:

“ I LOVE real books, the feel, the weight, the smell but, because I now live in the tropics, ebooks and emags are now my preferred option for archiving.

I read a lot of textiles PDFs, e.g. Workshop On The Web and the Cloth Paper Scissors books on my kindle and the kindle app on my ipad. I find it very convenient to have them with me and I love the ones with embedded videos, etc - that's something printed books can't do! I think downloadable add-ons like templates would be very useful.

Personally, I love to read on the go, and ebooks are fantastic for that. The detail you can get by zooming in is great. I review a lot of books on PDF and don't have a problem with it. But I will always buy the hard copy of the books I love the most!

I'm not a fan of ebooks. I like the real page, particularly for books that are strong on visuals. For me, there is something about the way you interact with a real book and, for a creative book, that seems doubly so. I like to carry them around, dip in wherever I am. There is something more real about images on paper and that helps my inspiration.

I have several ebooks but they just don't do it for me. Flipping backwards and forwards is an issue. You can't book-mark the pages for future reference and a real book doesn't time out.

Holding a beautiful book is priceless. To see gorgeous colourful pages of texture is bliss to me. I'm not a fan of ebooks as you can guess.....one piece of technology is enough and that's my iPad. Perhaps I'm wrong but most of us textile girls love the real thing

I'm going to weigh in on the ebook side. Easier to store (and find again) and I can zoom in on the text which rests my eyes. Also it's joyous to be able to zoom in on the gorgeous images and see details I would miss at normal size. The potential for video content is also an advantage.

I have ebooks for some theory books and some workbooks, but not my textile books. That is not to say I never would. I think offering the choice is a very good idea and, with a very good book like Textile Translations, I would be tempted to have both.”

Conclusion

Pretty much everyone is on the side of 'real' books and I have to confess that I don't own any ebooks on art or textiles, although I love my Kindle and do agree that books take up a lot of space. At present, we include lots of online extras for d4daisy books and this research has given me the idea of including on the site some easy-print 'technique outlines' backed up with videos.

Many thanks to all who commented on the post and if anyone has anything more to add to the discussion do email me – maggie@d4daisy.com.

Maggie.