

## What a Year!

The year started with two new acting Chairs – Sandie and Margaret. They had taken the helm at short notice (or thrown themselves in at the deep end).

A big thank you to both of them for all their hard work in positively promoting and supporting the group and for aiding its progression and growth throughout the year.

### Website Goes Live

Margaret has been extremely busy and has spent many hours developing the new website. It provides updates and information about the Preston Group, a monthly blog and it also has a wonderful gallery exhibiting a selection of work completed by it's members.

[www.prestonembroiderersguild.co.uk/](http://www.prestonembroiderersguild.co.uk/)

### September Workshop Requirements



#### Folded Books

Pencil, rubber, scissors, pva, pritt stick, double sided tape, cutting board, knife, spare blades, ruler, bone folder, old catalogue/phone directory, quilter's rule or square, old map, old book or old sheet music. Usual sewing kit. Book your place via Gina **asap** as there are only 16 places available.

**September 16th to 22nd 2014 is an important date for your diaries.**

Preston Embroiderers Guild Exhibition to be held at Barton Grange.

The title of the exhibition is 'Follow the Thread' and all exhibits must be new pieces of work using this title as your inspiration

# Sylvia Maudsley—My Life in Embroidery



My life in embroidery began with being taught running stitch, chain stitch and stem stitch by an ancient Aunt when I was 5 years old. From these beginnings I developed a love of stitching of all kinds, despite a teacher at junior school telling my mother that I would never be able to stitch properly if I lived to be a hundred (getting there!) After marriage and the arrival of my children, I developed a love of dressmaking, mainly at this stage for the children. This, however, led to my first City and Guilds in Fashion and Design, which I duly completed.



which I duly completed.



My interest, however, was embroidery, and after an enforced rest with a broken ankle and the present of a book called "Needlework School" I decided to try my hand at my own design. Spurred on by what I thought was my first success in free design, I signed up for the City and Guilds Embroidery with Design.

Struggling to the top storey of Gawthorpe Hall with sewing machines, all ones work, as well as a flask of hot drink on cold, dark Tuesday evenings for four years took some doing, but we survived - making life-time friends in the process.

I first joined the Guild in 1976, but have had the odd year or so out; my first branch Whalley and District became too far to go when we moved to Brinscally, so we started a small craft group in the village. This is where I met Sandie, who persuaded me to come to Preston Branch. At the time I was taking the Patchwork and Quilting City and Guilds at Horwich, and felt I had enough on. However, on completion I came to Preston, where shortly afterwards, the same Sandie decided we should take the Stumpwork City and Guilds. Glutton for punishment were the words that sprang to mind as we battled with the vagaries of CGLI instructions and their tendency to move goalposts halfway through the course.



My favourite techniques are almost anything that is hand embroidered, silk shading, Casalguidi, needlelace and general surface embroidery. I also like layering techniques, using sheers, scrims etc. I have done some machine embroidery and admire the skill involved but never felt very comfortable with it as a medium for myself.

***I cannot imagine life without something to stitch, but am quite happy never to go near another City and Guilds.***



### **Items of interest**

Don't forget you can buy a £5 voucher to be provided as a raffle prize. Only one will be given as a prize each month.

The Agnes Wilson and Trudy Goodenough Trophies are being donated to the Harris Museum Preston.

National Sewing Day August 2nd 2014 will be a big day—more info when it is available

Planned summer trip to Macclesfield Silk Museum in 2014 more details when arrangements finalised.

Ribble Creative Stitches are organising a coach to the Knitting and Stitching Show Sat 23rd Nov 2013. Cost is £21—contact Sandie if you are interested.

### **Subscriptions**

Subscriptions for the forthcoming year will be £32

### **Regional Day Rose Bowl Titles**

2014 Black Magic

2015 Something Old Something New

### **Honorary Members**

Florence and Kath have had been made honorary members of the Preston Branch. Florence has previously served as Programme Secretary, Treasurer and Committee member. Kath has tutored many workshops and dayschools and both have supported the branch for many years. Unfortunately they are no longer able to attend as they would wish and this will allow them to remain involved and informed.

### **Christmas Party**

Competition this year is a Christmas Bangle.

There will be a Secret Santa this year of an embroidery related item for £5.

Caterers will again provide lunch—menu yet to be confirmed.

The topic for the Christmas lecture is Steven Simpson Goldwork Factory Preston.

### **Sue Rangeley 1 Day Workshop**

#### **Fashioned with Stitch**

**6th September 2014**

The workshop offers techniques to inspire fashion, textiles and artful embellishments for creative embroidery. Those attending will explore a range of processes to include: machine stitched lace using soluble stabilizers, applique and cutwork sheers and fabric manipulation.

Requirements for the workshop:

Sewing machine, embroidery hoop, machine needles and feet eg darning, applique etc.

Machine threads, eg viscose/rayon, metallic—Madeira or Coats brands recommended.

Polyester for stitching rouleaux—bring a selection to link with a colour theme.

Water soluble stabilizers eg films and voiles (some available in class)

Marker pen or 2h pencil

Fabrics: sheers, organzas, metallic, organzas, chiffons, nets. Plain fabric eg dupions, satins, taffetas for making rouleaux (silk sheers and other silks for sale in class).

Fine wire 34 or 28 gauge, embellishments—beads, sequins.

Fabric paints or paint materials prior to class—some will be available

Preparation required: Some sample boards will be available but photos, sketches etc of eg bright flowers, or pale delicate blooms, exotic hot house, woodland moss/lichen/leaves etc for textures.

A complete list will be available at meetings



**One Step On  
Woodland Exhibition  
At Astley Hall  
Chorley  
7 September 2013  
To  
17 October 2013  
Saturday and Sunday  
only  
12.30pm to 4pm  
Meet the Artists  
Sunday 8 September**



## Key Dates

Northwest Regional AGM  
19th Oct 2013

Regional Day 2014 Rochdale  
Branch—Norton Grange  
Hotel Sun 27th April

## 2013 –2014 meetings

Sept	7th	Folded Books and AGM
Oct	5th	Stitched Maps
Nov	2nd	That Darned Stitch
Dec	7th	Christmas Party/Linda Barton Talk/Stephen Simpson Goldwork
Jan	4th	Sandie Mayer Stumpwork
Feb	1st	Talk and stitch and chat day
Mar	1st	Sue Abbot Canvas Gardens/ Pulled Threadwork/pm Marie Lewis Boutis Talk
April	5th	Shelley Rhodes Edge to Edge - machine stitches
May	3rd	Judy Fairless Contemporary Quilt Project, Sylvia Maudsley Sashiko
June	7th	Marie Lewis Boutis

## Forthcoming events

- Threading Dreams Exhibition
- One Step On
- Preston Festival of Light 20th Sept
- National Sewing Day
- Knitting & Stitching Show

**St. Andrew's C of E Church Hall,  
240 Tulketh Road (off Blackpool Road)  
Ashton-on-Ribble,  
Preston,  
PR2 1ES**

[www.prestonembroiderersguild.co.uk](http://www.prestonembroiderersguild.co.uk)