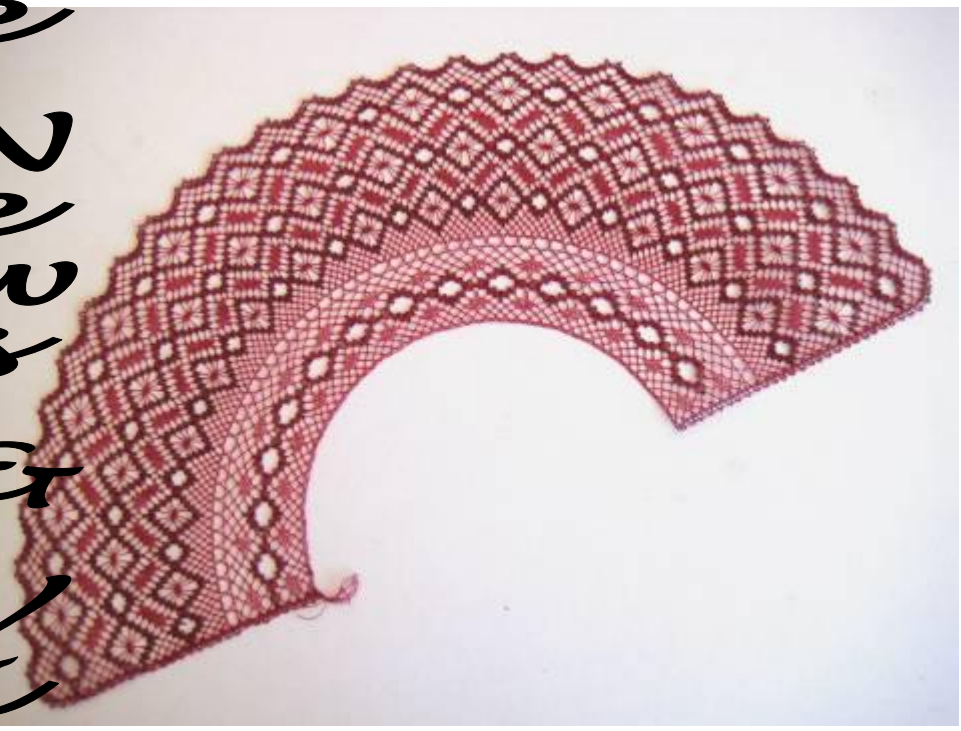


Spring 2009

Lace
News
&
Living



Newsletter of the Australian Lace Guild
New South Wales Branch, Inc

N.S.W. Branch Programme for 2009

Linnwood Hall

25 Byron Road, GUILDFORD.

September 20-27	AGM week in Brisbane
October 4	Lace Day at Linnwood Hall
October 16-19	Creative Lace-In, Kentucky (Vicki Taylor)
December 6	Lace Day at Linnwood Hall

Committee meetings are held at the Powerhouse Museum on the 3rd Saturday of January, March, May, July, September and November, commencing at 10.00am. Any member may attend committee meetings as an observer. Please check with a committee member in advance in case of a change of date or venue.

OCTOBER LACE DAY

Date:	Sunday, 4 th October, 2009
Venue:	Linnwood Hall, 25 Byron Road, Guildford
Cost:	\$5
Refreshments:	Epping Group
Workshop:	Christmas Decorations for Large Rings – Ethel Zuccolotto
Activity/ Talk:	The Library – Erica Brooks
Display:	Most recent finished piece (samples included).

Doors open from 9.30am. Announcements are at 11.30am. Raffle and door prize will be drawn at 1.30pm. Speaker/afternoon activity commences 2.00pm Committee Meeting from 2.00pm Suppliers will be in attendance. Bring your own lunch and a mug. Tea and coffee are provided. Please remember to bring and wear your name badge.

DECEMBER LACE DAY

Date:	Sunday, 6 th December, 2009
Venue:	Linnwood Hall, 25 Byron Road, Guildford
Cost:	\$5
Refreshments:	Westies and Central Coast + volunteers (contact Ethel Zuccolotto first)
Activity:	Make a (Tiny) Fish for OIIFA Display
Display:	Christmas Tree Decoration Challenge

Doors open from 9.30am. Announcements are at 11:30am. Committee Meeting 12.30-1.30. Raffle and door prize will be drawn at 1.30pm. Afternoon activity from 2.00pm Suppliers will be in attendance. Bring your own lunch and a mug. Tea and coffee are provided. Please remember to bring and wear your name badge.

NOTE: Deadline for next N&V 10th December, 2009

Cover Photograph: Red lace fan by Margaret Small, photo courtesy of Maureen Watson.

FROM THE PRESIDENT

I think I might finally honour my promise to Rochelle to limit my ramblings to one page or less this time, since I am writing this part-way through packing for my departure to Queensland for a holiday before the AGM.

I would like to welcome Narelle Quinn to the Committee as the new Secretary. The remaining committee members are the same as last year and we will use this opportunity to consolidate some of the initiatives that are still in their infancy from last year.

It gives me great pleasure to announce that Glennie McCartney is the winner of this year's open competition for the Biennial award. And I would like to remind any lacemakers who started making lace after the AGM in 2006 that next year's competition is open only to you. The next open competition is in 2012.

Whilst the Australian Lace Guild celebrates its 30th birthday this year, the NSW Branch was not formed until late in 1981. I think it was possibly the first Lace Day that I had attended so memorable. The silence in response to requests for ideas, information, feedback is deafening, but it won't stop me asking. Does anyone have any suggestions for how we might celebrate. I know that the Western Australian Branch having a 30 year anniversary in 2010 and they are treating themselves to a long weekend of residential lace workshops with a dinner on the Saturday night.

I would like to finish with a brief explanation about the "make a fish" activity at the December Lace Day. Some of you may know that Adelaide is hosting the OIDFA Congress in 2014. In 2010, the congress will be held in Kobe, Japan and this is the first venue outside of Europe to host the congress. Each country presents a small display of lace made by their members and at this stage we are especially keen to make an impression to encourage OIDFA members to come to Australia in 2014. It has been decided that the Australian display will have the theme of coral reef / fish for the Kobe congress in 2010. I am in the process of playing with the pattern for the "Make-A-Fish" beginners' activity to make it suitable for 50 Presencia thread, approximately the thread weight being used by those making bigger fish for the display. I am proposing that NSW Branch members make a school of small fish to contribute to the display. We will use a set of 5-6 colours, with an individual choice of how to arrange the colours. Depending on the numbers who want to participate, a contribution of 50 cents towards the cost of the thread would be appreciated. The pricking/s will be supplied, but please bring your pricker and 10 pairs of empty bobbins as well as empty pillow and any other lacemaking equipment. It is likely that you will finish 2, possibly 3, fish in the session. If anyone would like to make the original fish in pearl cotton (with or without modifications to the original pattern to give a "point" snout and an eye), there will also be prickings for it - please bring 6 pairs of bobbins wound with No 8 Perle Cotton. Lacemakers/groups who are too far away to attend Lace Days and Linnwood but would like to participate, please contact me and I will provide you with the information.

I have just remembered that I asked Annette Meldrum to send a report on the Archives for the AGM and then forgot to bring a copy to the meeting. So, it will be published in "News and Views" instead.

Christine Johnson

Please remember, if you have a change of address details – you need to contact the National Membership Secretary NOT the Editor – the new list for mail outs is compiled and sent from the National Office

THE MEMORIAL AWARD

This biennial competition was first held in 2002 and is held every second year, with a competition for novice lacemakers (4 years experience and less for the purpose of this competition) alternating with an open competition.

In 2010, there will be a competition restricted to lacemakers who started to make lace no earlier than 2006. **So, start thinking about and working on your entry.**

Workshop Coordinators Report

August 22nd/23rd Lace RxP workshop was presented by Ruth Budge at the Powerhouse Museum to 9 lacemakers. Ruth showed great patience with several of us who had computer lace programmes but really hadn't played with them. Evaluations showed that everyone enjoyed the workshop and learnt new things. Thank you, Ruth.

October Lace Day: Ethel Zuccolotto will present – Christmas Decorations: Large Rings (9.30am to 3.30pm)

Only 2 people have booked. This will be at Linnwood. Cost \$55.00

February Lace Day at Linnwood: Possibility of Wire Lace with Rosemary Shepherd

April Lace Day at Linnwood: Linen Work & the Perfect Mitred Corner with Margaret Stephens (10am to 4pm)

Powerhouse Museum: Two weekends with Joyce Mackey – Honiton Lace. 6th/7th March 2010 and 13th/14th March 2010

The PMQ Lace Group will be holding a workshop on 9th, 10th, 11th November.

Topic: Milanese Lace with a Larrikin Touch

Tutor: Vicki Taylor

Cost: \$30 per day, including lunch, morning and afternoon tea

Venue: Port Macquarie SEa Rescue HQ, on the banks of the beautiful Hastings River

There may be some billets available

For more information, please contact Glennie McCartney, or Sam Dobner

The Creative Lace-In, 16th-19th October at Kentucky.

Vicki now has nearly 20 people booked into the Lace-In which is great. Bobbin lace makers will be joined by a felt maker, an embroiderer, an encaustic artist and a textile artist. Levels of skills and artistic experience will be varied and, most importantly, all are coming with enthusiasm!

Participants have been asked to bring along certain photos, pictures, ideas and answers to some questions that they have already received. It will be 4 full days of networking and experimenting.

If anyone else would like to join in please contact Vicki Taylor

BOOKING A PLACE IN A WORKSHOP

The procedure for booking a place in a workshop is as follows:

1. Complete the booking form in “News and Views” and post/hand it to the Treasurer **together with** a cheque or direct deposit receipt for the \$20 deposit (or full payment if you prefer) **and** a stamped self-addressed envelope.
2. If the workshop is already full, all monies paid will be returned with a notice that you have been placed on the reserve list.
3. Full payment is due by the date stated in the workshop advertisement (6 weeks before the workshop). If you have not paid in full by this time, your place may be allocated to someone on the reserve list.
4. Reserve list participants notified of a place after the deadline for full payment will be required to pay within one week to secure their place in the workshop.
5. The list of requirements/venue information/prickings will be sent to you at least 4 weeks before the workshop or when your final payment is received, whichever is the later.

Note that:

- The deposit is \$20 regardless of the number of days of the workshop.
- The deposit of \$20 is non-refundable unless the class is cancelled, in which case all fees paid will be refunded.
- If a student drops out of a workshop after the date for final payment, the balance of the fee will be refunded only if their place can be filled from the waiting list or in case of extenuating circumstances.
- Places in the workshop are allocated by the Treasurer on receipt of payment.
- The only place the Workshop Co-ordinator can allocate you is on the reserve list.

NSW BRANCH OF THE AUSTRALIAN LACE GUILD

WORKSHOP BOOKING

Name:.....

Address:.....

Telephone Contact:.....

E-mail Contact:.....

Name of Workshop:.....

Tutor:.....

Date/s Attending:.....

Amount Enclosed.....being a deposit/full payment (delete whichever does not apply)

Would you consider negotiation of a higher workshop fee to allow a workshop that would otherwise be cancelled to proceed with a low number of students? **Yes/No**

For workshops at the Powerhouse Museum only, do you need a parking space organised?
Yes/No

ILUKA LACE GROUP WORKSHOP

On 1st and 2nd of May, twelve lacemakers from Northern Rivers attended a workshop held by Jenny Rees. There were two topics – ‘starts and finishes’ and Torchon Australian flowers.

We all had a great time learning new techniques. Jenny was a very patient teacher, explaining clearly any difficulties we encountered.

Lace suppliers sent a lovely selection of goods for us to see during breaks and all found something special to buy.

Food and friendship was abundant and the venue proved very pleasant. All in all a great workshop, thanks to Jenny and all who attended.

Betty Opie.



Left: Ina le Bas with Pat Milne at Toonumbar Waters Retreat Lace Workshop, photo courtesy Barbara Stokes. Right: Iluka ladies hard at work with Jenny Rees, photo by Betty Opie.

New England Lacemakers

After missing the deadline for the last N&V I thought I would get the sack, but no, I'm still on the job.

We have had our AGM and the status quo was maintained with the positions unchanged except for the addition of an extra workshop coordinator, as our area is so widespread. Beatrice Bashford is our Convenor, Maureen Watson, Secretary and Publicity, Margaret Small, Treasurer, Maryanne Graham and Pam Cork, Workshop Coordinators, Annemieke English looks after our Newsletter and Diane Cherry looks after our extensive library.

As reported in *Australian Lace* Pat Milne's Fan workshop, held in Inverell, was well received and enjoyed by the participants. Some comments on her project appear below. A photo of Margaret Small's completed fan (see cover)

I used Gutermann's cotton in two colours. This is a bit finer than the recommended thread but I only had that in white (boring!) Because I didn't look hard enough at the picture which Pat gave us of the completed fan, mine has cloth stick lozenges in the outer section, which should have been half stitch. I think I prefer the cloth stitch. (I wasn't alone in this - Margaret Hedges made

the same error in her inner lozenges). The trails around the spiders and at the edge are a slightly darker colour than the passives, because I ran out of the lighter thread and the shop had no more - panic! In the event the darker workers were a definite plus - easier to keep track and looks better. As I didn't have a pillow large enough for the pricking I was faced with the prospect of moving it all, a terrifying thought. At Sam's suggestion I made a sort of "hill" from graded pieces of felt which I put under the pricking at about the middle. When I had worked up onto the top of the "hill" I was able to easily prise the whole thing up and reposition it. I actually needed to do this twice, but it worked well, except that I didn't position the "hill" under the pricking very well, which caused the odd problem as I didn't think to grade the felt in all directions, so at one spot I had a "cliff" rather than a gentle slope to work down. I was quite concerned that the fan would not lie flat because of this, so when I finished I pinned it all back onto the pricking and first misted it with water, then sprayed it with hair spray to give a bit of body. Perfectly flat! While lacemakers with keen eyesight will pick many errors, I'm immensely pleased with the result and am now on the lookout for an old fan to recycle for the spokes.

Margaret Small

Our other Margaret (Hedges) has been on a wonderful trip overseas since the 25th June. She has visited Russia and Scandinavia and has been in Canada for the past few weeks. While visiting a thread shop in Montreal she found a young lady who was trying desperately to learn bobbin lacemaking, but no-one would respond to her requests for information. Margaret gave her the address of the hotel at which she was staying and invited her to come round for a lesson when she was finished work. The invitation was accepted and Margaret gave her a lesson and some bobbins to replace some of the clothes pegs the girl was using. She was also able to give her some addresses of people to contact. Hopefully another passionate younger lacemaker will soon join the ranks.

Helen Dickins, our member whose miniature porcelain dolls were featured in our N&V report a year or so ago, has been busy creating more exquisite pieces. A visit to Helen's website is a very worthwhile experience. See beautiful dolls, rocking horses, gorgeous dolls house toys and much more at Halcyon Hours, Helen's site at www.halcyonhours.com.au

Earlier in the year Annemieke English and her husband, Peter went on a long journey of 10,000 kms to North Queensland, the Northern Territory, W.A. and home via South Australia. They had a wonderful time, enjoying so much of our beautiful country. Whilst in Kununurra, Annemieke was able to visit a fellow lace maker – Jenny Brandis. The group there is quite small but very active – Jenny and Alice Cunningham demonstrate at the markets and both are very popular. Annemieke was fortunate to be the recipient of bobbins for wire lace made by Jenny (with a lathe which she bought for her husband, but due to his lack of spare time Jenny has had to master herself). Jenny makes and also sells her bobbins at the markets in Kununurra and Alice sells, amongst other things, hand towels with bobbin lace decoration. Jenny has a very interesting website – www.brandis.com.au/craft - worth looking at. She is a lady of many talents.

Maureen Watson - Publicity NEL



Glennie McCartney from Port Macquarie who won the Biennial Award. Photo courtesy of Barbara Stokes.

2009 SYDNEY CRAFT & QUILT FAIR

It was my first time as a demonstrator at the Craft and Quilt Show at Darling Harbour. I enjoyed my time and was really pleased to see the interest in the Lace Guild Stand.

Lace demonstrations (particularly bobbin lace) always fascinate people and the Craft and Quilt Show was no exception. There were all the usual comments –

How do you know which bobbin to use?

How do you know where to go next?

I couldn't think of doing that – I couldn't cope with all those bobbins!

I was surprised at the number of ladies who said they had bobbins at home (hopefully they will now be inspired to start again with their lace making) and also those who wanted details of local lace making groups or where they could learn lace making. I hope some of these people will follow up and join some of our groups. Jean Clark

I believe in seeing the big picture. This is me! And I can only talk about the events from my own experience. This was my very first show as coordinator and it was amazing.

I was immersed in five wonderful days, sharing our kindred spirit of lace. The show was in a convenient location which gave an open window to a wide variety of textile oriented people of all ages, from high school students to professionals in the industry. It was fantastic to see so many people interested in our art.

Our demonstrators had the opportunity to answer a vast array of questions, but I noticed some questions were continuously repeated: When did you start making lace? How long does it take to do this piece? How much lace can you make in an hour? We were overwhelmed by the response we received from the curious public. We were able hand out 400 pamphlets designed by Judy, with information about the Linwood lace day, which included the contact names of the groups and teachers in their area.



Jay Ekers helping a young woman on a try it out pillow with Jean Clark demonstrating, Photo courtesy Jean Clark.

I must confess that I'm very happy with the results of the show but I do not feel that I can claim any credit for organizing this year. It was a team effort with so many enthusiastic Lace Makers involved. We had a wide variety of pieces from which to choose from for our displays. Many Thanks to pieces provided by Anja Browning, Alice Vokac, Erina Brooks & Ethel Zuccolotto. It's was a fantastic collaboration made by all.

I would like to pass on a big thank you to the following who generously gave their time & efforts: The group day's coordinators Jean Clark, Narelle Quinn & Christine Johnson, who looked after all the demonstrators, set up the stands early in the morning and packed them up in the afternoon. Edna Boyd, Mary Green, Alice Vokac, Janelle Cliff, Helen Mewett, Judy Hammod, Noreen Taylor, Helen Marsh, Jay Ekers, Norma Warnecke, Doreen Harland, Jill Monro, Marilyn Stapylton, Helen Parsons, Betty Stucken, Molly Macinante, Erina Brooks, Marlene Hay, Judy Giesaltis, Jennie Connolly, Jean Clark, Narelle Quinn & Christine Johnson who showed the public the basics of Lace making direct from the hands of experience. These ladies have made a great contribution to try and preserve this beautiful art for futures generations to come.

Finally I would like to thank everyone from the bottom of my heart for all their support and enthusiasm. I hope to see you all at the next show!

Carmen Maria del Carmen Bofarull-Vila
Demonstration co-ordinator.

CHRISTMAS TREE COMPETITION

Special Event

December Lace Day Celebration.

Theme: CHRISTMAS TREE DECORATIONS

The aim of this competition is to encourage excellence & creativity in lace making. This is a great opportunity to share your creative skills with other lace making colleagues. Decorations can be small, large, simple or complex; everyone will be very welcome and fully appreciated.

Categories: ALL TYPE OF LACE

Conditions:

- Must be a Christmas tree decoration.
- Any type of lace may be used, no restrictions.
- Dimensions: maximum 30 x 30 cm.
- Competition is open to all financial members of Australia Lace.
- Each participant can submit as many pieces as they like.
- Technical information needs to be attached to every item:
 - Number of bobbins (if bobbin lace used)
 - Thread used
 - Information about the patterns: Details of original design or where it's adapted from. If copied from published work (name of the magazine)

Competition Deadline: All entries must be received Linnwood Hall by 9.30 a.m. in December Lace Day (06/12/09).

Awards: Judging is by popular choice at the December Lace Day event (committee members, are not permitted to vote). Prizes will be donated by our dedicated supplies & distributed to the winners.

Thank you to JOSCO Lace Supplies (Joanne Scowcroft), KIPARRA (Margaret Livingstone) and EDDIE Giesaitis.

Please give me a ring if you need more information.

Carmen

Maria del Carmen Bofarull-Vila

Demonstrator Coordinator

Archives Report

The last few months have been unusually quiet with no donations. I have had some interesting conversations with a few people who are willing to help me get the Archives online which would be great and I will be following this up as soon as I can. The Archives consists of substantial print based material as well as lace and it would be great to be able to offer online searches to members in the same way that we can look up library books.

Meanwhile if members are interested in studying a particular type of lace and want to see what we hold in the archives, they can either approach me at Lace Days or send me an

email and I can arrange for these items to be available at the next lace day for your inspection.

It is your Archives, so please ask to see items as often as you like. Our lace is not generally museum quality but there are interesting items that you might like to take a pattern from or use as inspiration for designing. Our books are mostly old and out of print, so unrestricted copying is allowed.

I look forward to receiving your requests.

Annette Meldrum

Update from the NSW Steering Committee - September 2009

The NSW Steering Committee has now had 3 meetings and we are getting to know each other better and are working our way forward. We are starting to plan for three AGM and Workshop weeks 2011 – 13 when NSW will be convening the Australian Lace Guild NAC as well as the other day to day administrative activities for the Australian Lace Guild 2011 – 1013 after NSW takes over from Queensland. Your Steering Committee is asking for ideas and suggestions from any Guild members regarding themes for the Triennial Award in 2012, for workshops or tutors you may be interested in, as well as ideas for talks or mini-workshops at the three AGM and Workshop weeks.

From the editor

Thank you to all my contributors, what a busy winter! An especially big thank you to those who did not format, it significantly reduced the time it takes to put the News and Views together. Please keep it coming. Next deadline is set for the 10th of December, get your news in in plenty of time and you will have it for Christmas. Rochelle Sutherland