

Calling All Guild Members – Let's Show Our Appreciation to the NHS

I'll tell you a tale that's been recently written,
Of a powerful army, so Great it saved Britain.
They didn't have bombs and they didn't have planes,
They fought with their hearts and they fought with their brains.

They didn't have bullets, armed just with a mask,
We sent them to war, with one simple task.
To show us the way, to lead and inspire us,
To protect us from harm and fight off the virus.

It couldn't be stopped by our bullet proof vests,
An invisible enemy, invaded our chests.
So we called on our weapon, our soldiers in blue,
All doctors, all nurses, your country needs you!

We clapped on our streets, hearts bursting with pride,
As they went off to war, while we stayed inside.
They struggled at first, as they searched for supplies,
But they stared down the virus, in the whites of its eyes.

They leaped from the trenches and didn't think twice,
Some never came back, the ultimate price.
So tired, so weary, yet still they fought on,
As the virus was beaten and the battle was won.

The many of us, owe so much to so few,
The brave and the bold, our heroes in blue.
So let's line the streets and remember our debt,
We love you, our heroes, lest we forget.

Matthew Kelly aka Matt Kelly

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bllq3m_RW5s

Reasons to be Thankful

We are inviting all Guild members to contribute to a series of wall hangings to be offered to hospitals throughout the 10 Regions of the Guild

Create a 4" (10cm) finished square of fabric that conveys your message of thanks

- Your design must be personal, touching, evocative... perhaps conveying what the NHS means to you.
- Your design could be celebrating a life, demonstrate the horror we are going through or celebrating the work of all those involved. In fact, any aspect of this extraordinary moment in time.

To take part in this Guild project...

- Create an original piece of embroidery on a piece of white or sky blue fabric.
- Stretch your embroidery over a piece of stiff card using the lacing method.
- Print and complete the entry form, including a paragraph describing the reason for your design and the methods used.
- Send the form by post with your piece to:
Anthea Godfrey, 32 High Street, Hoddesdon, Hertfordshire EN11 8BS
- **DEADLINE 30th June 2020**
- The pieces will be organised into Regions and joined together as hangings.
- *Enquiries should be addressed to:* artisticdirector@embroiderersguild.com

Subject to numbers received these will be offered to Hospitals and Care Homes within each Region.

The Context for our Expression of Thanks

The times we are living in are challenging and hard. We are all doing our bit to stay safe but it means that we are unable to see our loved ones and friends. We are unable to do all the things we love doing.

Fortunately for us we have one thing we love to do and can do at home and we can say the things we want to say through the medium of stitch.

All of us are suffering from the effects of COVID 19. We know the rules and we certainly don't want to catch the disease, however some of us have become ill and we are reliant on medical help. An increasing number of us are thankful for the amazing NHS

Our NHS doctors, nurses, support staff, carers, paramedics, ambulances and police along with all the other service men and women, have been there for us and are still committed to caring for those who follow. Trainees and retired staff are all coming together to support their dedicated colleagues.

Many have joined those of us who have sent heart-felt thanks to these amazing people but we feel that there must be something that we as The Embroiderers' Guild can do to show our support and appreciation. If they know that we are stitching for them we hope they will feel supported through this difficult and challenging time and when they see the fruits of our labour in their places of work, they will know that our thanks go on for ever.

The embroidery from you all will serve to remind everyone of the crisis, but also thank our selfless NHS staff across the nation for their personal sacrifice.

We know that you are all engaged in the business of survival but could you join us in the act of support for the service which is an example to the world?

Anthea Godfrey – ArtisticDirector@embroiderersguild.com

EMBROIDERERS' GUILD

'REASONS TO BE THANKFUL' - A *thank you* to the NHS

Please print and complete this form

E.G. Membership Number:.....Registration No:.....
(leave blank)

NAME:

ADDRESS:

.....

.....POSTCODE:.....

EMAIL:

LANDLINE:.....MOBILE:

REGION:.....

- Branch Member? Y/N.....BRANCH NAME:
- Individual Member? Y/N.....

DESCRIPTION: The story behind your design and a note of the materials and techniques used:

IMPORTANT: *Before placing your piece in an envelope it must be treated with an anti-bacterial spray immediately before it is posted to reduce the risk of the virus being transmitted on the piece and still be there when the envelope is opened.*