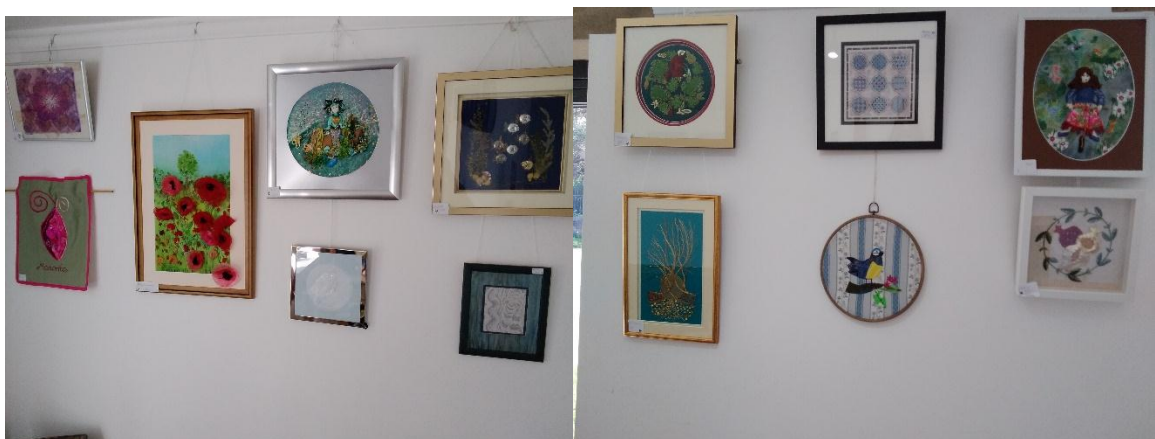
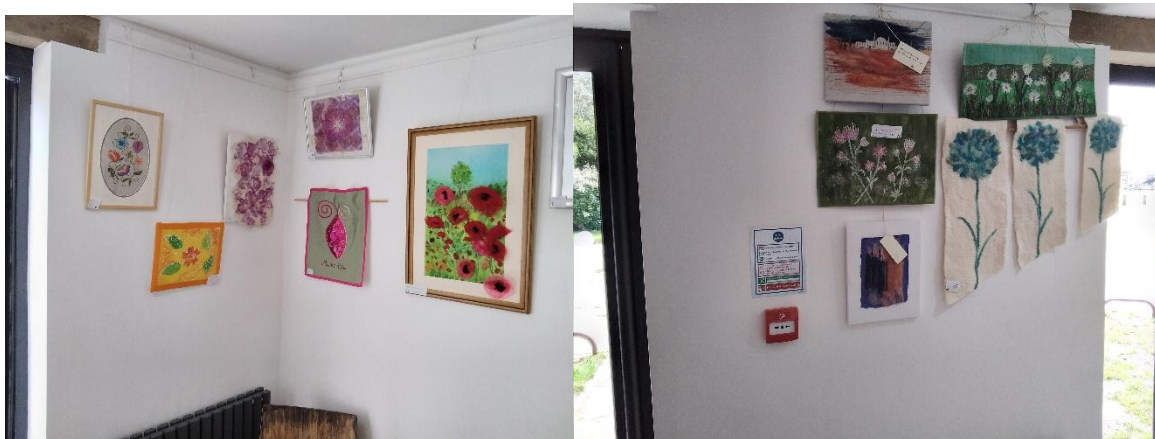


Hello everybody

Hope you are all well and able to enjoy the relaxation of coronavirus restrictions. We still have no word as to when All Hallows hall will reopen and when it will be safe to resume our meetings in person. In the meantime I hope many of you will continue to join in with our virtual meetings via zoom which have proved to be popular. The next zoom meeting is on 19th September and will be a talk by our member Maggie Pearson, as usual costing £5.

As you know, we recently held a pop up exhibition and sale in Waterloo Sunset café.

Brenda kindly took some photos for us and tells us that she had an enjoyable afternoon. The display looked good and attracted some interest, and some items had been sold. The folding doors onto the main cafe were open wide, so she and a friend ate lunch in comfort on a very hot day.





I think the variety and workmanship of the pieces on display clearly showed the talent in our branch. The embroidered cards were popular as were the bags and there were a variety of techniques on display. We hope to raise funds and perhaps attract new members and dispel the somewhat old fashioned ideas around embroidery.

Our chair, Vicky, has said

“Many thanks to the members who provided items for our Pop Up sale in the Waterloo Sunset Café. Over 50 pieces were put on show for a week and a number were sold. The café proprietor kept an eye on them all which freed us from needing a rota; the charge was 15% which was very reasonable. We hope to repeat the exercise in other places. £150 was raised for branch funds.”

In addition to the display some of our members have been busy stitching away.

Hilary says

"I recently designed a cushion in reverse appliqué as a gift for a friend based on their original artwork. My friend was very pleased as it was a surprise to mark the recent lockdown period."



This such a unique gift and I'm not surprised her friend was pleased!

Eileen has also been busy. She tells us

"Following on from the projects I wrote about last time, I took the set of 8 flowers in for framing, not had them back yet but have seen the provisional results and very pleased with how they've turned out.

I did the little cactus for the shelf and to keep it company my daughter-in-law made me a little crochet one. I also did the blackwork Celtic knots and put it in an old frame I liked, it matched the style quite well.

I then started a large project that has been planned (& partly worked) for several years. It's based on a photo of the dog and is very fiddly, the poor dog has had a lot of times recently of being made to "sit & stay" while I attempt to match various threads to her very diverse brindle coat. She looks a bit bemused but as there's usually either a walk or a treat afterwards I don't think she minds too much. The design is being worked on very fine thread, in several colours at a time and is growing very slowly, so far I have 2 legs, a chest, a tongue and half a collar! Unfortunately I keep getting bored with it so have to keep breaking off and filling in with other small ones.

The first break was a blackwork butterfly and then the small rosebud. I then re-visited one I did last year and which was intended for regional day. It's the blackwork Tudor rose, it's sort of "blackwork meets bling" in that it's all done in metallic threads. It was originally bigger with a stem and leaves but I didn't like them, it's had a few tweaks with more leaves or side stems added but in the end I decided that as every gardener knows sometimes the only way to improve a rose is chop the head off. I think it works better on its own in a circular frame. Unfortunately that then left an empty frame and a bare space on the wall, and obviously both had to be re-filled, so I then did a blackwork poppy which was worked in variegated thread to give the shaded effect.

I've also gotten ahead of myself and done 2 little keepsakes for upcoming family events, an 18th later this year and a silver wedding next year, but have now run out of filler items so in the meantime it's back to the dog, watch this space for the end result."



I have also been busy. I finished my lockdown book and adorned it with "jesters" made from silk cocoons. I always loved the hand dyed colours of these cocoons, but was never quite sure what to do with them-well now I know! I had great fun playing with all the different techniques as well and particularly enjoyed eco printing with leaves. I now have a stash of printed fabric and need to decide what to do with them!



I have also recently made an art deco fashion book



And a stitch book



MEG Newsletter 4 25/8/2020

So ladies, once again over to you. Please stay connected and send me some information, with or without photos, we'd love to know what you've been stitching. I can be contacted at youngembroiderers@megonline.co.uk . Hope to hear from you soon.

Mal Ralston