



Friends in Stitches

The Australian Quaker Narrative Embroidery
Australian Quaker History in Crewel Embroidery

Friends in Stitches December Newsletter

cstitches@quakersaustralia.info

Dear Friends

Many apologies for the late appearance of this newsletter. As Mary Grbavac would say, I am suffering from too much busyness! That affliction does come with this end of the year but I should not make excuses. It has been my goal to get this newsletter in your mail box on the first of the month. You probably are also struck down with busyness and you haven't noticed!

Firstly, a plug for calendars. They are still available and I want to sell them all and not be left with any on New Year's Day.

Here is one of my favourite pages: June.

I especially like the advice where it asks us if we are aware of oppression and injustice? Do we feel our own light diminish until we take action?

I have often felt this when I have heard Jason McLeod talking about West Papua. On December 1st members of my Meeting raised the West Papuan flag in Market Square in Devonport to show our solidarity with West Papuan people. We joined others all over the world to mark International Morning Star Flag Raising Day.

We have formed a Friends of West Papua group in our neighbourhood. We are a small group but my Light has certainly been diminishing and pushing me to take action!

I displayed this panel at the Empire Hotel in Deloraine for one of our Jason McLeod meetings over a year ago. So it's good to know the advice is finally bearing a result.

You can order your calendar at cstitches@quakersaustralia.info



I wish to thank those friends who have supported Friends in Stitches by buying calendars already, and especially those who bought 5 copies! Three people have organised to have them sent overseas. It costs about \$13 to send them to the UK and would make a lovely Australian present for your loved ones there. Easy too, because I do all the work! I love to think of our calendars being displayed in far off places.

Secondly, I am dying to tell you about a new idea! I am reading Paddy Manning's book *Inside the Greens*. Quakers get quite a few mentions and in particular, of course, Jo Vallentine features as an important early Green. Paddy mentions a photo which apparently appeared in *The Melbourne Age* of Jo meditating in front of Parliament House. My eyes and ears pricked up as I saw that image in the central place on a panel. I have tried to find that photo in Trove but without success. Perhaps someone of you in WA has a copy of it? And then he quotes her saying that really she follows 'Holy obedience' and not civil disobedience because she is following a higher authority. This panel is firming up in my imagination!



An elated Senator-elect Jo Vallentine at the Quaker peace committee meeting yesterday.

Canberra Times, Jan 3, 1985, Page 7

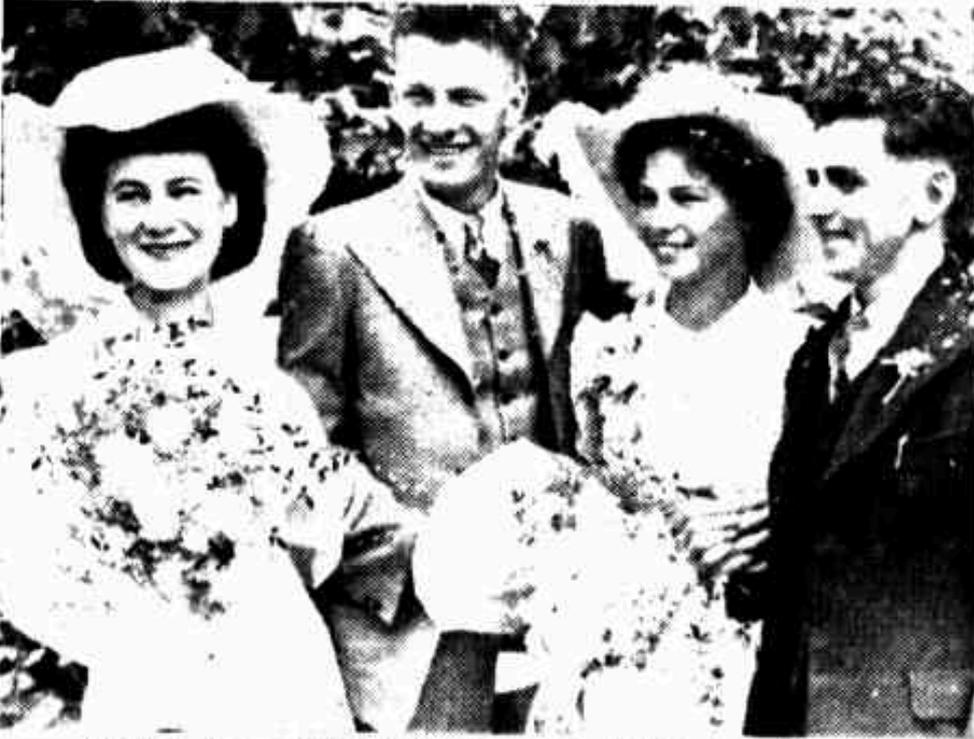
Wishing you all a simple and sustainable Christmas.

love Sally

Meanwhile Mary Grbavac is thinking about a Queensland panel.

The Telegraph, Brisbane, Sat feb 27 1943, page 3

**FIRST DOUBLE
QUAKER WEDDING**



What is believed to be the first double Quaker wedding in the Commonwealth took place at 11.30 am today at the Friends' Meeting House, Makerston Street. The above picture shows Mr. H. [unclear] was the recipient of a scroll

Dear Friends,
I have just been put in touch with a researcher of Paxton Farm, by the daughters of Barbara Bostock, who had lived & worked there, as it was set up by her family. She & a brother had a double wedding in the Meeting House, from the farm I believe. I had so much more told me, that I have to check items again.

It came about as we finally received Barbara's Testimony, which mentions Paxton quite a lot. I rang Margaret to congratulate her & her sisters for the magnificent work it was. We then talked about Paxton & of Bill's interest. He is meeting with Dianna today out at

Logan Library, but I cannot make that.

He is a professor of Griffith Uni, & connected to another one, in the history area I think. He hopes to view the Quaker archives in Brisbane. I now have his full details on an email from him, & will be able to meet with him a bit later.

By taking to Kathy yesterday, I found out that there is a video of the farm & family, which I think can be accessed via Facebook. When I have more information I will pass it on.

My question is, how far have we got with the design of Paxton, & would we want to revise it if more details were known?

Your thoughts on all this would be welcome.

Peace & love,

Mary