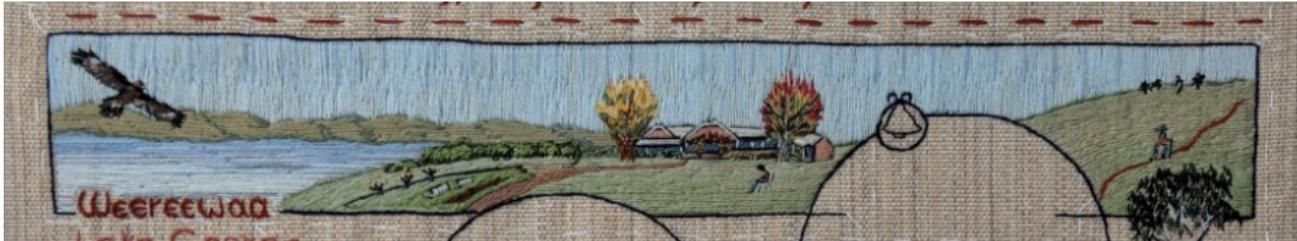


Friends in Stitches

The Australian Quaker Narrative Embroidery

May, 2019. Newsletter
sowheel@gmail.com

<https://www.quakersaustralia.info/Stitches>



Dear Friends,
I am short of copy for this newsletter, plus there is an election and as well, I am going to England this month - so short of time as well as copy.

I am including here our 'Documents in Advance' Report for Australia Yearly Meeting in July. It gives a good over view of where we are at.

NAME OF COMMITTEE/WORKING GROUP/ASSOCIATED BODY:
Friends in Stitches : Australian Quaker Narrative Embroidery

ACHIEVEMENTS/ACTIVITIES/EVENTS

Completion of *Burundi Friends*, *Spiritual Comfort in the Mountains*, and the *Elizabeth Fry Retreat*. Finalisation of the *Kelvin Grove* design and commencement of stitching. *Cherish Our Place*, stitching commenced. *Silver Wattle* design completed and stitching well underway. *North Adelaide Meeting House* design finalised. *350 Years Exhibition* and *Allawah Grove* panels sent east from WA to Victoria for finishing.

Gathering in Adelaide in November.

On going discussions about the first edition of the book and preparation of the 2nd edition, to be launched at YM 19.

Production and sale of 110 FIS Calendars.

Newsletter produced monthly.

Web page maintained and expanded to include location of each panel and 'items for sale'.

ISSUES/ANALYSIS We are happy with the on going, although slower growth of our project. New panels are still being designed and stitched. However, some groups have folded, WA, Tas and Qld. As embroiderers age they are having to lay down the work. How do we revitalise the project and involve new Friends?

Another issue for Friends in Stitches is the on going storage of the panels. We now have over 20. Should they be kept together? Where? Should they be distributed around the country for easier storage and easier display in Meeting Houses and private homes?

We begin our public exhibition after YM in Hobart with an exhibition of all the panels at the Moonah Arts Centre. Where next for public exhibitions?

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PART B: RECOMMENDATIONS

We will discuss these issues with interested Friends over YM.

Committee members:

Tessa Spratt, Sally O'Wheel, - Convenors.
Barney Roberts - book editor.
Jacque Shultz - exhibition organiser.

There are two items of particular note: A new edition of the book will be launched at Yearly Meeting. Tessa and Barney have been very occupied and we thank Julie Walpole for her help. There will be a public exhibition of the panels in Hobart in August.

Growing our Skills

Thanks to Heather Stuart who posted about this workshop on our Facebook page. On the 15th of June, hosted by the National Wool Museum, Geelong, will be a workshop entitled Illustrated Embroidery Workshop with Hooray Hoop. You can book tickets and find out more about it at this link.

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/118731048189715/>



JUN
15

Illustration Embroidery Workshop with
Hooray Hoop!

Public · Hosted by National Wool Museum Geelong

Last Saturday I attended a workshop run by the Devonport Embroiderers Guild where I learned how to make a bird like this.



It is a Golden Whistler. Others in the group made blue wrens. I feel quite clutzy compared to the other experienced embroiderers but I know that I am learning and my panel will benefit. There will be a place for the Golden Whistler in my Tasmanian rain forest! We had to use very fine thread and doing the wings meant threading two different coloured threads into one tiny needle eye. I practised button hole stitch, couching and fly stitch - which is a member of the chain stitch family. The body of the bird is done in a split stitch so I felt quite comfortable with that.



And the last word, from Barney.