



THE SIXTY TWO GROUP OF TEXTILE ARTISTS

# NEWSLETTER

July 2011  
Issue # 27

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STOP PRESS



Ann Goddard  
*Habitat*

THE SIXTY TWO GROUP OF TEXTILE ARTISTS

[www.62group.org.uk](http://www.62group.org.uk)

**LETTER FROM THE CHAIR**

Dear Members,

Sunny days to come and some well-earned time off for all of you, I trust!

The **fantastic** news is that we have secured a grant from the Arts Council of over £4,000 towards our exhibition programme next year. As the Arts Council are only responding positively to 36% of applications, we feel very fortunate to have been successful and can all breathe a sigh of relief knowing that the exhibitions can be funded, with each venue having its own budget.

January 2012 still seems a long way off but I am hoping that many of you will be submitting work for the Platt Hall exhibition. The title of the show is 'Interventions' - 'New work by The 62 Group of Textile Artists celebrating their 50th Anniversary'.

Miles Lambert, the director, expects all the work to respond to the Costume Collection and he wants good size pieces to hang in the Gallery, the stairwells or within the actual display cabinets (although space will be limited here). The Platt Hall Costume Collection website is very comprehensive but if you want to visit Platt Hall in person, please arrange with Miles if there is something specific that you wish to access from the Collection ([m.lambert@manchester.gov.uk](mailto:m.lambert@manchester.gov.uk))

Most of the arrangements are in place for next year including the final Grand Bash or to put it more tastefully, The Event. This will happen on Nov 24th 2012, at Harrogate, during The Knitting and Stitching Show. We will start in the afternoon with 'Meet, Share and Converse' when members of The 62 Group, along with the public, will join together to discuss topics relevant to Textile Art. Then we will move on to a Reception and Dinner in the evening at the Old Swan Hotel, Harrogate. Within the next month or so, you will receive a request from Andrew Salmon (Creative Exhibitions Director) asking if you wish to attend.

Now back to today and thanks to all of you have sold Raffle tickets to help raise funds towards our 50th. Anniversary Book 'Radical Thread'. The prizes will be drawn at the Knitting and Stitching Show in Harrogate at the end of November this year, the main prize being £350 worth of Anchor machine embroidery threads kindly donated by Coates. There is still plenty of time to sell more tickets so please contact Audrey Walker if you think you can help.

Progress on the book '**Radical Thread**' begins in earnest very soon. **We are nearing the deadline of July 30th when all the images for your individual page need to be with me.** Oh! these dreaded deadlines! The provisional date for publication is December 1st. this year, so 'Radical Thread' will be available for sale right at the start of 2012.

In the meantime, good luck with progress on your own creative work!

Jae Maries

## **CHANGES TO THE 2011 MEMBERSHIP LIST**

Exhibiting Members

**Helen Banzhaf:** new e-mail address: <mailto:h.banzhaf@hotmail.co.uk>

**Joanna Kinnersly-Taylor:** new e-mail address: <mailto:joanna@joannakinnerslytaylor.com>;  
new website <http://www.joannakinnerslytaylor.com>

**Heather Belcher:** new address and phone number:  
Flat 4, 3 Zetland Road, Manchester, M21 8TJ  
tel: 0161 860 0904

### **Committee**

**Sumi Perera:** Sumi has stepped down from the Committee

**Sue Stone:** Sue has agreed to join the Committee as a co-opted member.

## **FORTHCOMING EXHIBITIONS**

### **Platt Hall Update**

**Statements:** Please send a 50-word statement to Ann Goddard by 30 November 2011

#### **Sending In:**

To arrive at Platt Hall between Wed 12 December 2011 & Tues 3 January 2012

**Selection:** Wed 4 Jan 2012 at Platt Hall

**Install work:** Thurs 5 Jan

**Exhibition open:** Wed 11 Jan – 28 April 2012

**Private View:** Fri Jan 13 2012, 5-7pm

**Collect work:** Mon 30 April & Tues 1 May

### **Please Note**

Following a recent meeting with Miles Lambert, members are now encouraged to submit large work.

Fund raising idea - If members wish, they can donate small pieces of work under £100 for selling in the gallery shop. All proceeds will go towards group funds. (This is replacing the donation of small works for sale at K&SS Show)

### **Knitting and Stitching Show Update - Package Tour**

Packaging for the Knitting and Stitching Show 2012

Members will want to know the type and measurements of the boxes which the committee have chosen for this touring show. All work for this show must be packed in one or more of these boxes.

Three sizes of these polypropylene storage boxes have been selected:

Really Useful Box      Dimensions: length x width x height

	External	Internal
84 litre	710 x 440 x 380 mm	605 x 370 x 355 mm
64 litre	710 x 440 x 310 mm	605 x 370 x 280 mm
33 litre	710 x 440 x 165 mm	605 x 370 x 145 mm

These boxes are supplied by Really Useful Products of which all details including prices, stockists (eg Staples, Amazon, Ebay, etc) can be found online at:

<http://www.reallyusefulproducts.co.uk/uk/html/boxdetails.php>

A typical price online for a 64 litre clear plastic box would be around £16.50 but you may be able to do better, delivery and p&p varies according to suppliers.

Really useful boxes come in two different strengths of plastic...Clear (for normal use) and white strong (for courier& air freight). Members might like to consider the white strong ones which are a little more expensive but will be needed for the 2013 exhibition in Japan.

The disadvantage is that the Really Useful retail shop charges £11.99 p&p (for one item or several) and these strong white ones are not so easy to find in other suppliers. Members who live near each other might like to get several items sent to one address and split the postage.

The prices are as follows:	clear	inc p&p	white strong	inc p&p
33 litre	£12.22	£24.21	£13.45	£25.44
64 litre	£15.15	£27.14	£16.67	£28.66
84 litre	£18.04	£30.03	£19.85	£31.84

See web links below. To get white strong select from drop down menu where it says Buy.

[http://www.reallyusefulproducts.co.uk/uk/html/onlineshop/rub/b84\\_0litre.php](http://www.reallyusefulproducts.co.uk/uk/html/onlineshop/rub/b84_0litre.php)

[http://www.reallyusefulproducts.co.uk/uk/html/onlineshop/rub/b64\\_0litre.php](http://www.reallyusefulproducts.co.uk/uk/html/onlineshop/rub/b64_0litre.php)

[http://www.reallyusefulproducts.co.uk/uk/html/onlineshop/rub/b33\\_0litre.php](http://www.reallyusefulproducts.co.uk/uk/html/onlineshop/rub/b33_0litre.php)

Members are encouraged to think creatively about the challenge of packing - thinking inside the box for a change!

### **Exhibition Reminder**

In 2012, to celebrate our 50th anniversary, there will be three exhibition opportunities: Platt Hall, Holden Gallery and the Knitting and Stitching Show.

**For the purposes of membership qualification**, the three exhibitions will be treated as one. This means that members will only need to have work selected for one of the three exhibitions in order to gain their membership qualification "hit" for 2012.

Members may send in work for one, two or all three of the exhibitions. It is a matter of individual choice.

The same piece of work **CANNOT** be exhibited in Platt Hall and Holden Gallery because they are both in Manchester, but could be eligible for the Knitting and Stitching Shows. We will waive the "tour" rule because we have three exhibitions within the space of a year.

Please bear in mind that, not only is the exhibition space at the K&S limited but work will need to fit into the standard size boxes for ease of transportation between venues - see above details

**2012 ANNIVERSARY PROGRAMME****EXHIBITIONS** New Details and amendments are in red.

VENUE	DATES	'Working' TITLE
<b>PLATT HALL</b> Gallery of Costume Platt Fields Park Rusholme Manchester M14 5LL  Director: Dr Miles Lambert	11 Jan - 28 April 2012  <u>Sending in Dates:</u> 12 Dec 2011 - 3 Jan 2012  <u>Selection date:</u> 4th Jan 2012 PV: 13th Jan 2012 5.00-7.00	<b><u>'INTERVENTIONS'</u></b> A Response to the Collection by the 62 Group of Textile Artists in their 50th Anniversary Year
<b>HOLDEN GALLERY</b> Grosvenor Building Cavendish Street Manchester M15 6BR  Director: Stephen Gartside	16 July - 17 August 2012  <u>Sending-in dates:</u> 9 - 12 July 2012  <u>Selection date:</u> 13 July 2012 PV: 20th July 2012	<b><u>'62@50'</u></b>  New Works Celebrating The 62 Group of Textile Artists' 50th. Anniversary
<b>THE KNITTING AND STITCHING SHOWS</b>		
VENUE	DATES	TITLE
Alexandra Palace London	11 - 14 October 2012  <u>Sending-in Dates:</u> To be confirmed  <u>Selection Date:</u> To be confirmed	<b><u>'PACKAGE TOUR'</u></b>  New work celebrating the 50th Anniversary of The 62 Group of Textile Artists
Dublin	1 - 4 November 2012	'Package Tour'
Harrogate	22 - 25 November 2012	'Package Tour'
<u>Final Event</u> (The Old Swan Hotel, Harrogate to be confirmed)	24 November 2012 Afternoon - event Evening - dinner	

Each venue will have a Group member in charge who will head up a team to run the exhibitions.

**Platt Hall:** Ann Goddard: <mailto:anng220@hotmail.com>  
**Holden Gallery:** Penny Burnfield: <mailto:penny.burnfield@andover.co.uk>  
**Alexandra Palace:** Shuna Rendel: <mailto:rendel@lineone.net>  
**Dublin:** Elaine Megahey: [elainemegahey@talktalk.net](mailto:elainemegahey@talktalk.net)  
**Harrogate:** Clyde Olliver (exhibition): <mailto:clydeolliver@hotmail.co.uk>  
Helen Weston (afternoon/evening event): <mailto:h.weston@talk21.com>  
Rachel Gornall (afternoon/evening event): <mailto:rachelgornall@gmail.com>

We would like as many members of the Group to be involved as possible and although this seems early days, do please offer to help.

New Travelling Expenses arrangements, agreed at recent Committee Meeting: 14p per mile for car use and 70% of cheapest ticket on public transport to a maximum of £ 50.00 per return journey.

### **Pink Wood Update**

I have arranged to meet up with Hannah Streefkerk and Penny Burnfield at Pink Wood on 24th September 2011 (Bruton, Somerset). We hope others can join us. Time to be arranged depending who can make it. Hannah is flying over specially. Siân Martin  
Please contact Sian for more details: <mailto:sian@distantstitch.co.uk>

FOR THE LATEST GO TO **STOP PRESS** ON THE LAST PAGE

### **AGM REMINDER - FOR YOUR DIARY**

St Anne's Church, 55 Dean Street, London, W1D 6AF  
Sat 3rd December 2011 AGM from 11.0 to 3.00pm  
Committee Meeting from 9.30

### **RADICAL THREAD - THE 2012 BOOK.**

By the time you read this Jae should have received your discs with images and captions for your pages - deadline July 30th. IF NOT PLEASE SEE REMINDER, BELOW. This is really important. Lesley will only have August to write her essay and select text, (from your Questionnaire answers) to go on your pages - a huge task. You will be getting proofs of your pages.

It will be essential that you respond immediately if we are to meet the publication date. Sorry to sound a bit strict but it will be really frustrating if I have to chase individuals for any of this.

FUNDRAISING - we have exhausted all possible avenues for major sponsorship and so we are now relying on the Raffle for any more money. Andrew Salmon has agreed that we can have a small space at THIS YEARS' K&SS shows to publicise the book, to take orders for it and to sell raffle tickets.

Many thanks to all of you who are working so hard with me on this project,

Audrey

P.S. Amanda Clayton and Colette Dobson were at the West Midlands Embroiderers' Guild meeting recently and Amanda says "We both had a great day and we sold all the tickets. Quite an experience meeting lots of people I have taught over the years - and I didn't let them get away without parting with their money. It was so good I am very tempted to start freelance lectures and workshops again!"

### **IMAGES FOR THE BOOK - A REMINDER**

**RE:** Your double spread pages in the 2012 book

The images you provide will be crucial in the design of the book. We had hoped that a research grant would allow us to commission Michael Wicks to do most of the photography but this is not now possible. This means that we must each make our own arrangements.

The deadline for the receipt of your images is: **NO LATER THAN 30th JULY.**

The designer of the book has sent the following specifications:

The finished size of the book is 225mm (h) x 220mm (w). In order to ensure the best quality reproduction of photographs, image files must be provided at a minimum size of 240 x 240mm at 300dpi in RGB.jpg format. This will allow the designer to best position work on a full page and retain print quality.

You may submit more than one image of your piece and include some detail images, but all photographs must conform to the above specification. Remember, you only have 2 pages so please do not overcrowd them.

**Each image must be captioned with the following information:**

Your name  
Title of the work  
Size specified in metres  
Materials  
Photographer

The caption should be supplied in a separate Word document (.doc)

**PLEASE SUBMIT IMAGES AND CAPTIONS FILE ON A SINGLE CD OR DVD DISC CLEARLY MARKED WITH YOUR NAME AND SEND IT, AS SOON AS YOU WISH, AND NO LATER THAN 30th JULY TO:**

**Jae Maries, 7 Lucastes Lane, Haywards Heath, West Sussex, RH16 1LB**

If you have any queries about the designer's specifications, you can email [gerry.diebel@directdesign.co.uk](mailto:gerry.diebel@directdesign.co.uk). His website is [www.directdesign.co.uk](http://www.directdesign.co.uk)

## **FUNDRAISING**

The committee discussed the pros & cons of selling small, donated works at the Knitting and Stitching Show. A vote was taken and carried to drop this idea in favour of concentrating on the marketing and selling of the book.

However there is an opportunity to sell small works in the shop at Platt Hall. Members are encouraged to send in pieces - suitably mounted - to be sold for Group Funds at this exhibition. (Platt Hall will deduct 33% commission from the selling price)

Thanks to Jan Miller who sold 62 Group raffle tickets at the annual Bead and Textile Fair on May 1st at John Innes Institute in Norwich. The local organiser very generously gave us a free 'trade' space and agreed that she could sell whatever textile related studio clear-out 'jumble' she could gather, for 62 Group funds. She made £375! Thank you to all who donated jumble!

We are also grateful to members who have sold raffle tickets. They are still available - please contact Audrey.

## **62 GROUP ARCHIVES - FROM KAT PETERSON**

In February this year, I saw an advert that the 62 Group were looking for an archivist. It was a perfect coming-together of two of my favourite things – archiving and textiles – so I applied. Luckily, my enthusiasm impressed rather than frightened, so here I am now, looking after your archive. By way of introduction:

I have been working in archives and records management since 2003, at various institutions like the Churchill Archives Centre in Cambridge, the India Office Records and Modern Literary Manuscripts collections at the British Library and Royal Parks. I am currently working as records manager for a private sector company, and I am also studying part-time for an MA in Archives and Records Management at UCL.

That's the work part – the textile part is what happens in my spare time. I mostly knit and sew, but I also dabble in embroidery, spinning, dyeing, felting and beading. I've been lucky to travel and live in some exotic parts of the world and learn traditional weaving techniques in Laos and Guatemala. I also have a tenuous link with the 62 Group – one of my best friends is Beryl Chapman's grandson!

I am full of ideas for the archive, which I would love to see used as a historical resource, an inspiring source of creativity, a testament to everyone who has been involved with the 62 Group, and perhaps most importantly as an on-going place for you all to preserve your history and stories which is accessible to everyone who is interested.

My overall vision is a catalogue of the archive that can be approached in a number of different ways – for example, by artist, by year, by exhibition, by type of material – and I have already spent some happy days with the various boxes of "stuff" at the Constance Howard Centre (full of folders labelled with such archivists' favourites as "miscellaneous papers" and "correspondence – to be sorted").

But I'd like to work *with* you as well as *for* you – so if you have ideas, suggestions, questions, please let me know – I'd love to hear from you. You can e-mail me at <mailto:kat.petersen@gmail.com>, and I will also be blogging about archiving and the archive at

<http://62grouparchive.wordpress.com/>

### **FROM THE TREASURER - JULIA BURROWES**

Your subs are due on 31st August.

Julia Burrowes, The Hollies, Hollybush Hill, Stoke Poges, Bucks, SL2 4PX

The subs remain at £45.00 despite the extensive plans for 2012 as we are aware that members will have more expenses to pay out over the year. However the late payment fee still operates.

Payment after 31st September will incur a £ 5.00 penalty:	£50.00
Payment after 31st Oct will incur another £5.00:	£55.00
Payment after 31st Nov:	£60.00

### **ANYONE WHO HAS NOT PAID THEIR SUBS BY CLOSE OF THE AGM WILL FORFEIT THEIR MEMBERSHIP.**

If anyone has difficulty in paying should contact the Treasurer. I hope this doesn't sound too draconian but it makes doing the books really difficult when cheques dribble in over the year. Early payment is always welcome.

If you could pay by direct Debit this would be a great help. Bank details:-

Branch Nat West Heaton Chapel  
44, Heaton Moor Road  
Heaton Chapel  
Stockport  
SK4 4NY

Sort Code 01039  
Acc.no 87623846  
IBAN GB83NWBK01039387623846  
BIC NWBKGB2L

## **62 GROUP COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES**

Committee meeting held on Saturday 25 June 2011 at 11 am, The National Theatre, London

**1. Present:** Jae Maries (Chair), Heather Belcher, Lucy Brown, Penny Burnfield, Julia Burrowes, Ann Goddard, Marilyn Rathbone, Shuna Rendel, Fiona Rutherford, Sue Stone, Helen Weston

**Apologies:** Sian Martin, Rachel Gornall

### **2. Committee Change**

Sumi Perera has stepped down from the committee. Sue Stone has become a co-opted committee member. Sue was welcomed & introduced to committee members.

### **3. Minutes of last meeting (26-2-2011)**

No matters arising. The minutes were agreed

### **4. Treasurer's Report**

#### **a) Arts Council Grant – Budgets for 2012 exhibitions and events**

- Jae and Julia were congratulated on getting Arts Council funding for the 2012 exhibitions
- £5780 was applied for, £4750 has been offered. The contingency amount was turned down.
- We will receive the grant in two parts.  
27<sup>th</sup> December 2011 - £4,275  
25<sup>th</sup> December 2012 - £475
- As part of the Arts Council requirements two copies of any publicity material must be sent to them 4 weeks before each exhibition.
- Each exhibition team & the Harrogate event will receive a budget.  
Platt Hall - £2025  
Holden Gallery - £2200  
K&S overall - £2025 (£675 per venue)  
Harrogate event - £790
- Allocation suggestions have been provided for the leaders. No extra money will be available.
- Current balance is £8841. Julia has calculated that projected income minus exhibition costs leaves us with £1! (Projected income includes the grant, subs, submission & hanging fees based on 30 members submitting work for each exhibition).

#### **b) Update on Book funding**

- Julia provided figures showing the small difference in print run costs between 1000 & 1500 copies in relation to potential profit.
- Different retail prices were considered.
- After a long discussion a decision was made to print 1500 copies to be sold at £19.50.

- Despite much hard work and many applications Audrey has been unable to secure any funding towards the publication.
- We may have a shortfall of almost £10,000. Audrey Walker has very kindly & generously offered to lend the group the shortfall amount. We have decided to take Audrey up on her offer. The loan will be repaid by book sales.
- Audrey put forward another fund raising idea for selling at the K&S Show – high quality tea towels printed with members' drawings. While it was considered a good idea it was thought it could dilute book sales. Decision was made to concentrate on selling the book.
- Due to the previous decision, the pros & cons of selling small, donated works at the K&S Show were reconsidered. A vote was taken on dropping this idea in favour of concentrating on the marketing and selling of the book. This was carried.

### c) Travel Expenses

- As money is tight, it was agreed that members would only be reimbursed 70% of travel expenses
- Mileage rate for cars - 20p per mile (when 70% rule applied = 14p per mile)
- Receipts will be collected for travel expenses related to the 2012 exhibitions as they have to be sent to the Arts Council as part of our grant conditions.

## 5. Exhibitions 2012

### a) Expressions of Interest

25 members have replied so far. Most of those members are intending to submit work to all three exhibitions.

Platt Hall - 23 members, Holden Gallery - 25 members, K&S Show - 22 member

### b) Platt Hall

- 2 members have requested the use of the DVD facilities for their work.  
**Action** - Ann will check that we can use both of the gallery screens and find out if they use computers or DVD players.
- The DVD facility will not now be used for a group slide show so members don't need to photograph work in progress
- One member has volunteered to produce work for the stairwell.  
**Action** – Ann will check whether she will be using both sides of the stairs
- Fundraising idea – It was suggested that members could donate small pieces of work to sell in the gallery shop if they wish. Pieces should be £100 or less. Proceeds would go towards group funds.
- A 50 word statement will be required
- As pieces will be spread through the museum, a numbered list of artists & statements may be necessary to indicate where work is displayed. This would match up with a numbered logo next to each work. Time will be tight to produce this as the selection is very close to the exhibition opening.
- Three or possibly four education events are to be arranged. The gallery have asked that workshop leaders have work in the exhibition. Lucy is liaising with the gallery.

### c) Holden Gallery

- Instead of education events at this venue we will be starting to develop a 'handling box'. This idea was included as part of the funding bid for the Arts Council. Lucy will provide further details later.
- It was felt that as this is our major exhibition we should have a curator. Unfortunately we can't afford to pay a professional. Jae suggested we ask a member of the group with curating experience.

### d) K&S Show

- Shuna has sourced a selection of stackable, plastic 'Really Useful' boxes. The cheapest place for single orders was Viking. There were some cheaper companies for bulk orders but this would cause problems with distribution to members.
- Members will purchase their own box.
- Sue Stone offered to research Really Useful box sizes as she has ordered many in the past.  
**Action** – Sue to send info on boxes to committee next week
- Aim to have the box size decided in time for the next Newsletter.
- 

### Dublin

- Jae will be helping Elaine Megahey in Dublin
- As the budget is tight, members who offer to help may have to subsidise their air fares and accommodation costs.

### Harrogate Event / Dinner

- Date - Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> November 2012
- Andrew Salmon has very kindly offered the Group the use of the basement area at the Harrogate Conference Centre for our AGM & the afternoon event
- The AGM will take place in the morning
- The event will take place 2-4pm
- Title: In discussion with ...
- The aim will be to meet, share & converse
- Still in the early stages of planning.
- Suggested focus groups: History of the 62 Group, Diversity of Practice, Professional Development, Future directions, Anniversary book, Profile & Perception of Textiles, Curating
- Helen & Rachel are arranging focus group leaders
- The event will be advertised with the K&S Show in Harrogate
- Andrew is arranging hotel packages.
- Dinner in the evening will be £24.50. Members have to pay for their own dinner
- The Group will fund wine

### e) Sending – in Forms

Sue Stone has kindly agreed to organise the sending in forms for all the exhibitions

### 6. Publication / book – progress

- Deadline for images to be sent to Jae 30<sup>th</sup> July
- Fiona will concentrate on marketing
- Pre-orders will be available through the website. We will need to arrange for payments to be made through Paypal.
- Jae will be writing an article for the January edition of Embroidery magazine. She will put an order form for the book in the magazine.

### **7. 2013 – Pink Wood**

- Hannah Streefkerk will be visiting the wood on 24<sup>th</sup> September 2011.
- A few members will be joining her.
- The visit will be at the same time of year we will be exhibiting.

### **8. Archives – new appointee**

- Kat Peterson has started work on our archive. She is doing one day a week when she can. She isn't claiming travel expenses
- Goldsmiths have kindly supplied archival quality conservation boxes
- Kat has started a database & we now have labelled boxes
- She is starting a blog on what she is finding & pictures of how the archive was & how it is now
- When Kat finishes she will leave us with a plan of how to proceed.
- If any members have photos of our exhibitions they can be put in the archive.

### **9. Newsletter content**

There was a discussion on what will be put in the Newsletter. The deadline is the first week in July

### **10. AGM Venue 2011, 2012**

2011 – Sat 3<sup>rd</sup> December at St Anne's, Dean St, London

**Action** – Julia will book venue

2012 – Sat 24<sup>th</sup> November at Harrogate Conference Centre

### **11. AOB**

- Anthea Godfrey is no longer the Chairman of Trustees at the Embroiderers Guild so the shared history exhibition at the K&S Show may not go ahead. Jae will be following this up.
- Japan exhibition – we will be looking at funding for this at the beginning of 2012

**12. Date of next meeting** - 11 am, Saturday 1st October, National Theatre, London

## **MEMBERS' NEWS**

### **LESLEY MILLAR HONOURED**

We are delighted to report that Lesley Millar has been awarded an M.B.E. in the recent Honours List "for services to Higher Education"

On being congratulated by Audrey, Lesley said this was even more surprising as she sees herself as a subversive force in that area! And "I think it is a real validation of the creative arts in education at a time when universities are under such pressure "

**Heather Belcher** has been appointed as Senior Lecturer in Embroidery at Manchester Metropolitan University.

**Paddy Killer** is exhibiting/demonstrating at [Art In Action](#).  
Waterperry House and Gardens, Near Oxford, 21-44th July 2011

### **FROM SUE STONE**

**7 STRANDS - Gate Gallery, Grimsby - 2 June to 23 July 2011**

**7 STRANDS at the Minster 16 June to 17 July 2011**

**7 STRANDS Textile Symposium 12 July 2011**



Sue Stone - *Sons of Grim*

It was in early December 2010 that Vicky Hartung at Gate Gallery in Grimsby first approached me about curating a textile exhibition at her gallery. When she first mooted the idea for the exhibition earlier in the year I had suggested that she put out a call for artists through the 62 group website which she duly did in January.

I was not sure what, if any, response she would get from the membership to show work in Grimsby but seven members, including myself said 'Yes' and so she had the makings of an exhibition. As the replies came in she passed them on to me and I was thrilled to see the variety of work she would have to display. I was delighted that she wanted me to curate the exhibition. I have curated a number of exhibitions for her before so I knew the space first hand and could visualize how great it was going to look.

The exhibition sparked off the idea that we should hold some sort of textile event running alongside the exhibition and Grimsby Minster was suggested as the venue for a small Symposium. The Minster gave us a beautiful setting and when Jo Middleton (from the Minster) suggested a second exhibition in the High Altar area of the church I jumped at the chance and invited the 7 Strands artists to show some larger pieces of work. Tilleke Schwarz agreed to come to Grimsby to give a half day workshop and an illustrated lecture about her work and Lucy Brown also offered to travel up north to give a talk so the event was gradually taking shape.

Vicky applied for some tourism money to support the event but was thwarted in the attempt at this as a textile symposium was deemed to be too specialized for Grimsby. Not to be defeated I decided I would apply to the Arts Council for funding myself. I had a successful bid a couple of years ago so I was fairly optimistic that I could manage to write the bid and after a few sleepless nights and much hard work putting it together I was again successful in getting the award.

The response to the 7 Strands exhibition at Gate Gallery has been incredible with visitors coming from far and wide and I have had bookings for the Symposium on 12 July from as far afield as Woking, Hastings and York. I would personally like to thank all the artists involved in the 7 Strands project for their support. The artists are: **Lucy Brown, Helen Banzhaf, Dorothy Ann Daly, Ann Goddard, Christine Gornowicz, Tilleke Schwarz, and myself.**

Special thanks to Lucy Brown and Tilleke Schwarz for agreeing to venture to the wilds of Lincolnshire for the Symposium. 7 Strands at the Minster and the 7 Strands Symposium are supported by the National Lottery through Arts Council England.



Helen Banzhaf – *Untitled No 4*



Tilleke Schwarz - *New Potatoes*

## LYNN SETTERINGTON

### CONTEMPORARY RESONANCES, SIGNATURE CLOTHS OLD AND NEW

Over the few last years my work in textiles has changed direction several times, no longer framed by the references to Kantha quilts it has been known for. Preoccupations however remain including documenting and highlighting the undervalued and overlooked, be it objects, people or folk tradition. Thus when I caught sight of an early signature cloth whilst on a research fellowship at the International Quilt Study Center in Nebraska last year, connections were made and a new chapter began. I became fascinated by the history of these hand-embroidered cloths using signatures in all manner of configurations. The cloths record the lives of ordinary individuals and were/are made as fundraisers and records of community from the 1850's onwards. Having seen over 50 examples during my fellowship, some of which were truly wonderful textiles, I decided to explore the extent of these cloths at home on my return to Britain.

In the autumn of 2010 I began searching museum collections and made visits up and down the country from Bankfield Museum in Yorkshire to the Imperial War Museum and British Red Cross archive in London. The picture that is (still) emerging is of cloths with embroidered signatures in a variety of compositions, there are some similarities to the US examples but many differences. Two cloths in UK collections that stand out are the heartrending Day Sage embroidered bed sheet in the IWM, made whilst Sage, a nurse, was interned in Stanley Prison in Singapore in the Second World War. Also the Self Supporting Convalescence Homes Bazaar coverlet from 1905 in the Rachel Kay Shuttleworth collection at Gawthorpe Hall, made to raise funds for an early form of workers health care - individuals paid to have their signature sewn into the cloth.

Having worked collaboratively with groups for a number of years, the possibilities for signature cloths as a form of contemporary communal engagement appeared obvious and thus, over the last six months, I have worked alongside several groups to create a series of 21<sup>st</sup> Century signature cloths. One of the first joint projects was a Facebook cloth made up of Setteringtons found on the Internet. Instead of getting the real signatures, a slow and unreliable procedure, I asked friends and colleagues to pick a name and "create" a version of the signature for me to stitch. The results are interesting and like social networking, sometimes people are not what or who they seem.



Lynne Setterington – *Blackpool Wedding Quilt*



Lynne Settrington - Facebook Family

The two latest ongoing collaborations are again very different. One involves weekly sessions at a refugee project in East Manchester where the client group varies from week to week. People come from all over and countries range from Nigeria, the Czech Republic to China and Eritrea. Most participants have wonderful sewing skills and simply sit and sew amid the hectic atmosphere of the centre. My idealistic Western viewpoint of the signature as a marker of identity and belonging, is of course tested as some of those visiting the project have had little or no formal schooling, so whilst they can sew beautifully, producing a florid signature or marker is only possible with help from compatriots. The final quilt will, I hope be a fitting tribute to and advert for Rainbow Haven and all those unsung heroes involved with it on a day-to-day basis.

The other collaboration is with the Whitworth Art Gallery as part of Who Cares Exhibition dealing with mental health awareness. It involves weekly drop in sessions in the exhibition space so participation is random and none selective. This piece is a tablecloth filled with signatures positioned to create a question mark, a response to the exhibition theme. The signatures are a mix of “donations”- written signatures to be sewn by me as well as home sewn ones, where individuals join in and “sew their own”.

Women’s art and especially textiles remains both undervalued and under represented not only in British society but many others, marginalised in our cultural heritage. Of course having the names on the cloths enables us to identify contributors and maybe the makers. With the help and expertise of colleague Alison Slater, we are tracing signatories on a few key early examples. I am also curating an exhibition and book on this rich subject. We may never know the full story, the names of those who both instigated the making and painstakingly sewed all the signatures, but let's hope creating new cloths and making the old ones visible helps to raise awareness and interest.

## **EXHIBITION OPPORTUNITY**

### **THE 9<sup>TH</sup> INTERNATIONAL BIENNIAL SYMPOSIUM AND EXHIBITION ON TEXTILE ART - "SCYTHIA 9"**

Kherson, Ukraine, June 19-24, 2012

- International juried exhibition.

Open to all techniques and textile materials, format is limited to size 3x3x3 meters. Full spectrum of fibre arts. Works must have been completed within last 4 years. Awards.

Deadline for applications: February 1, 2012.

International conference on textile art.

The papers will include all aspects of textile art.

Art to wear show

Original works, cross-cultural, traditional and non-traditional materials are welcome.

Workshops.

Original proposals are welcome.

Deadline for all applications: February 1, 2012.

For information and entry forms: [anschnei@public.kherson.ua](mailto:anschnei@public.kherson.ua)

<http://anschnei.public.kherson.ua>

## **NEWSLETTER TEAM**

We hope you are still enjoying our digital newsletter with the colour images.

**Deadline for October Issue is: 30th September 2011**

Sian, Paddy and Penny

## **STOP PRESS**

PINK WOOD PROJECT September 2013

Somerset Arts Week organisation would like to include a 62 Group event in Pink Wood, Somerset, as part of its 'Events & Exhibitions' in – 2013.

Pink Wood has open access and has clear paths through it, with laminated maps at the main gate. There is also a central clearing which is a good base to explore from. It is suggested that we use this environment to create or place work within. You can search for 'Pinkwood Lane Bruton Somerset' in Google Maps and then follow the lane, parallel to the railway line, and you will find the wood (on your left if approaching from Bruton). A gathering is being organised to invite all 62 Group members who are able and who might wish to take part to visit the wood and spend some time to see if it interests them.

SITE MEETING 2011, 24th September

This will enable us to take a look at the area at the same time of year as our proposed 'event'. Please bring picnic, camera, sketchbook. If you would like to join us in this 'reconnoitre' please email Siân at <mailto:sian@distantstitch.co.uk> who will be able to give you a more precise meeting point.