

CONNECTING US

This is not the official newsletter of the Australian Guild of Rugmakers

This is an additional newsletter compiled by Miriam Miller, President Emeritus

Sent to Australian Guild Members, Overseas Rug Makers, and Friends

March 2017- Newsletter No. 18

ENGLAND- Nottingham –

Priscilla Cameron.

A place to hang your small projects'

You always need plenty of space to hang your pieces of work and wall space is limited even if you have a studio. My wall space here in my studio is quite limited for those smaller wall hangings. I did have one space that I felt was not being used to its best and after much thought I decided an office notice board might be the answer. I looked on the internet and finally found one the perfect size 36"x48" and cost around £20. It is a permanent fixture as it had to be screwed into the wall but it is perfect for pinning smaller pieces. They are easy to pin on and you can move them around. As you will see from the picture I have 10 hangings plus a valance at the top and a crocheted bunting at the bottom.

I find the board really useful when I am teaching as I can hang appropriate pieces up for students to see. The boards come in different colours I preferred the blue.



OUTDOOR HOOKING WEEKEND. 2ND – 4TH

June. Contact Priscilla for details email priscillacameron1@googlemail.com or www.ragrugsuk.co.uk The venue is a beautiful rural location. 4 acres to set up camp. Bring your caravan, campervan or tent, or if you prefer there are cottages, hotels and B&B all within 6 miles of the venue. We will be outdoors but if the weather is wet we can hook in the large barn. There will be a pop up shop selling rug making equipment. And 2 pubs and a shop are within walking distance. Besides pleasant walks by the river.

CANADA –Ontario - Susan Sutherland

The only new piece I've finished is my Inuksuk piece. An inuksuk is a rock formation that a human builds to indicate either direction, welcome, etc. It originated with our northern Inuit population but now Inuksuks can be seen being built all over the place. Ken and I built one at our home in Baden for Canada Day celebrations. We liked it so much we moved it from the front yard to our back yard where it proudly sits between two houses. I used it as my inspiration for a piece for an exhibit coming up the end of May called Hooked on our Heritage. I took a class with Gail Dufresne in September where we used a lot of different fibres. So in my inuksuks (there are three of them) I have a quill, velvet, braiding, needle felting, yarn, sculpting and regular hooking. The background which was done to resemble the Northern Lights was done in reverse hooking. This gives a 3-D effect for the inuksuks. The lettering at the top is in Inuit and it means Inuksuk. Here is a copy of my piece.

REVERSE HOOKING (I asked Susan how to do reverse hooking
Here is her explanation)

Reverse hooking is quite simple. You turn your work to the opposite side to pull the loops. You can make any pattern you like depending on where you pull up your loops. I usually pull a loop, count over 4 or 5 holes, then pull the next loop and so on until the end of the row. The second row, I pull up a loop and then pull another loop and then count over 4 or 5 loops. This gives a diagonal loop. You can do any kind of basket weaving look depending on where you pull up loops. You have to check the back frequently to make sure you are covering the backing correctly. I usually skip a row and then pull up the loop. I will see if I can take some photos of me doing it to help explain it. I've done it many times and it gives a nice 3-D effect for wall hangings, etc. Cheers Susan

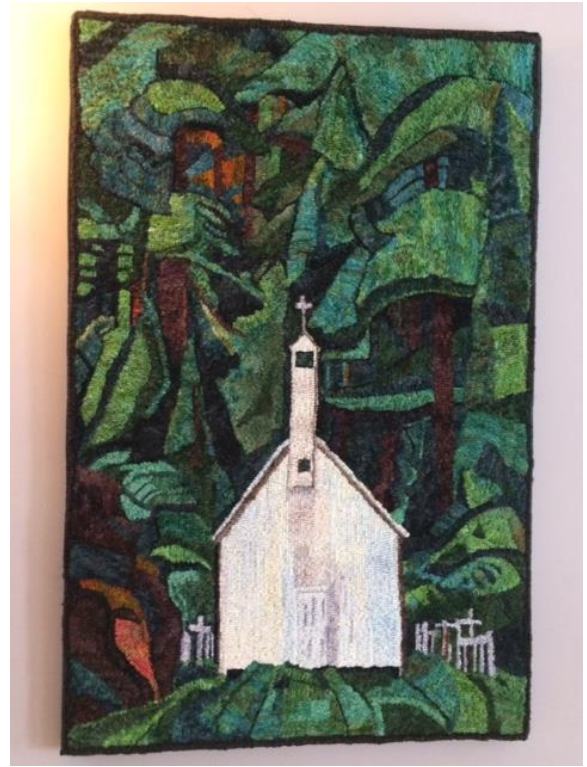


NEW SOUTH WALES –AND SOUTH EASTERN AUSTRALIA

According to the website 'Climate Reanalyzer' for three days Thursday, Friday Saturday 9/10/11th of February, New South Wales and parts of South Eastern Australia were the hottest in the world. We lost five cows on this dairy farm, and 40 were lost in the Shoalhaven caused by the extreme heat. Is it any wonder I keep telling my overseas friends it is hot.

CANADA –Vancouver Island- Sheila Stewart
(Past president The International Guild of Handhooking Rugmakers_)

I am enclosing a picture to show you. I finally finished my Emily Carr piece. Called 'Indian Church'



13th Annual Woolly Thyme Hook-in.
We had our annual rug hooking retreat in January where we had 75 rug hookers from all over British Columbia.



Doesn't it look an exciting place to be, I can feel the buzz of friendliness from the photo

Miriam

JOKE

Trying to be impressive

A young lawyer, starting up his private practice, was very anxious to impress potential clients. When he saw the first visitor to his office come through the door, he immediately picked up his phone and spoke into it, "I'm sorry, but my caseload is so tremendous that I'm not going to be able to look into your problem for at least a month. I'll have to get back to you then." He then turned to the man who had just walked in, and said, "Now, what can I do for you?"

"Nothing," replied the man. "I'm here to hook up your phone."

WESTERN AUSTRALIA – Albany – Keira Mead.

In my last newsletter there was a piece of Kira Mead's work. Because of the interest from some readers of the newsletter, Keira sent me this information.

From Keira.

If you are on facebook you will find me here, and this is where I share current work and work in progress: <https://www.facebook.com/AccidentalRugmaker/>

This is my web page which shows a lot of my work and I really need to update it with my more current pieces: <https://accidentalrugmaker.wordpress.com/>

There are two books I know of ,that explain quilling.

1. Traditional Shirred and Standing Wool Rugs by Diana Blake Gray. Released in 2009

2. Coils, Flds, Twists, and Turns: Contemporary Techniques in Fiber by Tracy Jamar. Released 2017.

The second book has quite a few pages dedicated to current artist's work, including my own.

I haven't seen the book in person yet, so I don't know how much detail Tracy goes into, but I believe there are a few projects.

Kira Mead

(I am unsure if the second book is available in bookstores in Australia, but it is available on Amazon).

WALES – Bette Collins. I had two rugs of Bette's in the February newsletter No. 17. The rooster rug was designed and drawn by her husband Brian Collins, and the Welsh Tea party rug was designed and drawn by a friend inspired by a tea towel given her by Bette

Bette said, thought you would like to see this also.

Small mat taken from a child's drawing.

Original is on the 'fridge' of my friend.

Her granddaughter was 8 when she drew this. I have always liked it, and put the piece in my friends stocking last Christmas. B.



A THOUGHT

Whenever I am disappointed with my lot in life, I stop to think about little Jamie Scott. Jamie was trying out for a part in the school play. His mother told me he'd set his heart on being in it, though she feared he would not be chosen.

On the days the parts were awarded, I went with her to collect him after school. Jamie rushed up to her, eyes shining with pride and excitement. "Guess what Mum" he shouted, and then said those words that will remain a lesson to me..... I've been chosen to clap and cheer.

NEW SOUTH WALES – BELLINGEN –

BELLINGEN RAG Rug group. Sent by Maxine Keyes



Rug to the right made by
Lyndal Edsall using recycled track
suit material, size 60cm x 115cm

Below.

Two cushions made by
Ann Nickle with recycled
blankets.



This rug (pictured left) from Vika who lives in Fiji, was a lovely surprise for me. Ash brought her along to our group one day, not sure of the whole story but Vika was over here after hurricanes and I think had lost a lot. I gave her a hook and one of your books. Anyway that was the result of one lesson and your book, so she has done really well. I think she also said she would be able to get scraps for free from factories, so maybe make some sort of income or just for her pleasure, so we have now spread to Fiji.

Love Maxine

NEW SOUTH WALES – Milton

MILTON SHOW 3RD AND 4TH March

written by Jacqui Thomson

The theme of the 148th Milton Show held 3/4th March was **"Our Feathered Friends"**.

One of our members Helen Mennie kindly lent us three of her large rugs which featured farmyard scenes including ducks, geese and chooks. They had all won prizes at previous Milton Shows and greatly added to our display this year.

There was keen interest shown in the demonstrations set up to encourage members of the public to try their hand at rugmaking. Helen Mennie, Narelle Reynolds, Janet Walker and Christine Alexander and other members gave demonstrations over the two days.

Ilka Landahl won 1st Prize and Champion Ribbon with her hooked rug, Janet Walker 1st for a proggy floor rug, Ann Schafer for "Any item not otherwise mentioned", Maggie Whyte for a wall hanging, and Claire Ridley, for "Under 18".

Unfortunately, rain almost wiped out the Show this year, (4 inches) thus gate taking were down. The

Dog Show went ahead, but the beautifully groomed dogs looked bedraggled and wet. All Ring Events were cancelled, as was the Woodchop and MotorX stunt riders. The Cat Show was a success as it is held indoors. On Saturday afternoon the rain had lifted and the Showgirl and Junior Stockman competition went ahead. However, there was plenty of interest for those who braved the weather to view in our two pavilions.





VICTORIA -SOMEONES CRAFT ROOM.



I AM ALSO SENDING THE LATEST RUG-AID NEWSLETTER

Please advise me at narrawillyfarm@shoal.net.au if you no longer wish to receive my newsletter

THE END