



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

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

March 2019 number 39

CANADA -Nancy Simpson.

[Nancy sent me this message.](#)

Could you ask in next newsletter for hookers in Quebec City to contact me? Maybe one person from a group. I had the pleasure to show a person how to pull her first loop and away she went being "hooked" tackling a self-designed rug similar to what her preschool kids would paint. A beauty. Now on third rug using a Fitzpatrick rug pattern of Nova Scotia houses by the sea. She lives in the Quebec City area and wants to connect with other hookers and where to purchase materials. Thanks. Nancy email

nsimpson36@gmail.com

(I am not sure if my newsletter goes to anyone in Quebec, so please if you know someone there would you forward on this newsletter to them)

WESTERN AUSTRALIA – Jo Franco.

Hello Miriam – have you ever taken on a hooking project and then wondered how you were going to manage to make it work? Well just before Christmas I did just that and it has been quite challenging!

Enquiries often come in through the Guild website or Facebook page from people looking for rug hooking instructors. The last one was from a lady in Brisbane who'd purchased a kit (20 years ago) and was looking for someone to hook it for her, she didn't want to be *hooked* up with an instructor. Since it was so close to Christmas, knowing members would be too busy to answer my emails, I offered to hook it myself but what to charge? I contacted rug hooking friends in the USA and discovered a "formula" published by one of the groups which I'll send to you as others might be interested.

As I was looking for a simple project to fill my evenings over the holidays – so quoted a small price because the kit contained everything; a pattern printed on Hessian and all the wool (even a colour plan), so there was nothing for me to do except hook it. Easy right?

That's what I thought 😊 I did wonder if all the yarn would still be there - if it had been at my house for that long, I'd have probably "appropriated" bits of it during that time for other projects. The many hanks of yarn were tagged with numbers corresponding to those on the colour plan. There was only one ball of wool supplied to outline the basket, so I opted to hook the basket outline first to make sure I'd have enough wool as I don't normally hook with yarn and wasn't sure about my tension. It turned out one ball was just enough. Opening the kit, I didn't care for the

colours of the wool so was keen to hook a few fruit and flowers in the central motif to see how it worked up. It looked nice so I just kept hooking, before I knew it the basket, fruit and flowers was complete without checking to see if the border was drawn straight on the weave of the backing fabric. I later discovered the side borders were way off! not drawn in the “gutter” of the backing weave. Using wool fabric strips I hooked a straight line in the gutter up both sides and discovered the 6 inch border, both sides needed to be moved across – but if I did that, the central motif would be out of alignment and since it was all hooked – it couldn’t be re-drawn :(



More time was spent contacting friends in the USA who hook with wool – the consensus was don’t re-draw the pattern – just hook it as is. So that’s what I did hooking the grey background “around” the central pattern. I’m hooking this on a lap frame - you can guess what happened I hooked too following the curve of the design, I packed my loops too tight and finished up not having enough grey yarn to fill all the gaps! What to do?

Pull out all the grey and re-hook in straight lines with more space between. Voila! the grey background is complete. Now I’m ready to finish the border. What I thought would be such a simple kit turned out to be quite a lot of work

and instead of being finished at the end of January – I’m just getting ready to tackle the border.



I can see now why so many of these “kits” can be found partially finished in Op Shops. Although I must say I have enjoyed working with yarn and not having to stop and cut strips - following a “paint by number” plan has been rather fun and relaxing even with the hiccups which I’ve described to give others something to think about before they dive in and start hooking up an Op Shop find.

Jo Franco, Australian Rugmakers Guild, Editor & Membership Chair.

ENGLAND – Cornwall. Diane Cox

Dear Miriam,

Thank you SO much for your mention of our book in your newsletter!

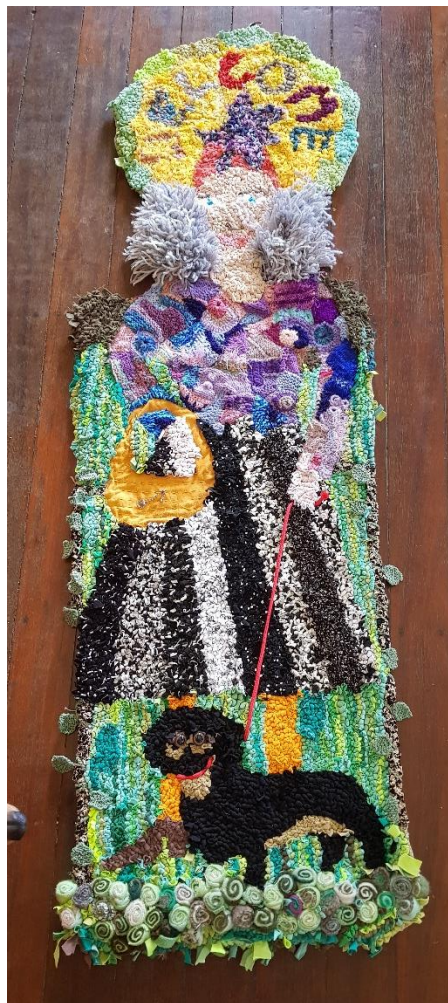
We have realised we need a public platform for our book, so have set up a Facebook page called “Doing what we can”, with details on how to buy one, plus photos etc., but we are going to expand this with other things such as hints and tips on how to make the most of what we have, how to help to counteract the use of plastic etc etc. It’s quite exciting Below is the link to the group Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/groups/328366591256180> and you can also buy the book by emailing Diane Cox at rubyrugs@btinternet.com

Isn’t it lovely how you meet such “soul sisters” through Rug Hooking and textiles?

We have had such wonderful messages from all around the world, and truly feel heartwarmed by them. Diane

W=

QUEENSLAND – Mt Glorious – Cynthia Nicklin



As I have only made floor rugs, this is my first wall hanging – so

Mellofano

Her name? As a child, I overheard my mother and aunts speaking about their mother (my granny), who raised eight children during the Great Depression. “Do you know,” they chorused, “She can live on the smell of an oil rag?” My child’s mind thought this was a wonderful and admirable thing. This little woman looks nothing like my Granny (Untidy hair? - never!!!) But my effort is named for my Granny: the sMELL OF AN Oil rag.

The idea for this piece was born at the TIGHR welcome gathering at St Andrews’ church at Grinton, a neighbouring village to Reeth. Amongst the huge amount of rag rug exhibits were several of these figures – my first introduction to mixed media. Enchanting figures, all completely different: laces, patchwork, doilies, beads, crocheting, textured wools, ribbons. Leather strips, everything that could be used was used. Some figures were bright and confronting, some were welcoming, all beautifully created – a favourite of mine wore a starched white embroidered apron. So Mellofano came into being at my hands. Her shirt was an unfinished scrumpled beanie, adjusted to sit flat; the fence posts were a glittery evening top, the dog lead once held up some pull-on pants, her handbag was a serviette. I prodded, hooked, knitted, crocheted; she is backed with a heavy duty cotton curtain.

One day I might give her some earrings and get rid of that noticeable pink circle on her left shoulder, and a visit from a hair stylist might not go astray.

QUEENSLAND -Kingaroy =Judith Brook



The chook tea cosy.
Well I had some interesting yarn that looked a bit like a feathery chook so knitted it up using two sets of circular needles and rejoined again at the top and did a flattened cheeks head shape and sewed and stuffed it. Judith

CANADA -New Brunswick- Sussex. Mary Alexander.

- We had a pot luck and some fun



I think you might like the ginger bread man and felted hearts and chocolates Glenna Cameron made

□

QUEENSLAND – Kingaroy. Judith Brook

Judith's various chair pads.



□

NEW SOUTH WALES Jindabyne - Spinning weekend.



Miriam and Jacqui knitting. Anne spinning. A wonderful way to spend a few days. Spinning, knitting, talking, walking, and sharing ideas Plus catching up with friends from other areas. Jindabyne is a ski resort, but this is the off (summer) season.

Jacqui Admiring the rug spun and knitted by Jane from Alpaca fleece, all natural colours.



To the right a chair made from old skis

JOKE

“I would like vitamins for my son,” a mother said. “Vitamin A, B or C?” the pharmacist asked. “It doesn’t matter,” the mother replied. “He can’t read yet.”

CANADA – Ontario – Lorna Vogel.

Hi Miriam, I am sending a picture of a pillow I finished this year. Feel free to include it in one of your newsletters. The whole pillow is made from fifty 100% silk men's ties. I finished the back with strips of ties and I also piped the edges with ties. All of my ties were purchased at a local thrift store. I should mention that I am from Kitchener Ontario and my first teacher was Susan Sutherland.



Next page continuing work by Lorna Vogel.



Hi Miriam, It is a real cold stormy day in Southern Ontario so this is filling my time. This rug is hooked with yarn, silk ties and taffeta. It was a lot of work but a lot of fun to do. I applied the taffeta to my backing like you would with standing wool. The little rosettes are also silk ties. I also did some couching



ENGLAND – Reeth. Heather Ritchie.



Just finished this cushion for Maisy (My granddaughter) who is wolf mad . It was a ready printed picture I found on the internet in America, did running stitches and padded the wolves. Heather

Sorry it is sideways, but I could make it bigger that way. Miriam

THE NETHERLANDS – Amersfoort – Carien Holvast-Loovy

(I asked Carien a comment about her work and this is what she wrote).

It's embroidery work with cross- stitch for many, many weeks. A patiencework with two thin threads.

I bought the design of the ' Red Deer at Dawn' in a great handkraftshop. Love, Carien.



I have to add Carien is 90. I hope we can all do as well, and see as well when we reach this age.

WESTERN AUSTRALIA Fiona Remeti Send by Patricia Schultz



It's Fiona first rug, all with dyed blanket on hession we were both over the moon for her effort she's all fired up to do another. Patricia

ENGLAND – Reeth. Heather Ritchie. (Photos taken in The Gambia.)



The people Heather supports to make rugs and sell them, with her Charity in The Gambia.



IT APPEARS I AM NOT THE ONLY ONE HAVING TROUBLE SENDING THINGS THAT GO TO SPAM

"Australian Rugmakers Guild News"

News about a FREE rughooking/textile event in Strathalbyn, South Australia will be sent to all Guild members, (current and past) and can be shared with friends interested in "textiles" - even if they're not rug hookers. The email will come from rughookingaustralia@gmail.com and "Subject" line will contain: "Australian Rugmakers Guild Meeting and Weekend event"

Depending on how the security on the recipients computer or iPad/phone is set up, this email may go into the SPAM/Junk box instead of the Inbox.

If you haven't received the email, please check check your SPAM - if you find it there - just mark it as "not spam" and it will appear in your Inbox.

You could also add the email address - rughookingaustralia@gmail.com to your address book or contacts list and show it as "Rughooking Australia" rather than Australian Rugmakers Guild which some people may have blocked due to passed computer problems. :(

If it's been a while since you had any emails from the Australian Rugmakers Guild and you've changed your email address and you'd like to receive more information about this event please send an email with your updated email address to rughookingaustralia@gmail.com

THIS IS AN ATTACHMENT SENT OUT TO AUSTRALIAN GUILD MEMBERS BUT AM INCLUDING IT IN MY NEWSLETTER BECAUSE WE ARE HAVING SUCH DIFFICULTY REACHING PEOPLE, AND MAYBE MY NEWSLETTER WILL REACH PEOPLE WHO ARE NOT GETTING IT DIRECT. Miriam

Dear (Member's first name)

October last year was the 10th anniversary of the formation of the Australian Rugmakers Guild and would have been the time for a General Meeting and celebration.

With so many of the original members overseas in the later part of 2018 it was decided to hold the General Meeting this year, combined with an event the StrathMatters are planning in Strathalbyn, SA on the weekend of 5th & 6th October.

will take place in the Town Hall on High St, Strathalbyn on the 5th & 6th of October

This event will be **FREE** and open to the public with hands on demonstrations and conversations about different forms of rugmaking and the global travels of rug hookers.

- Rugs and items made using the various rug making techniques will be on display.
- Current Guild members are welcome to bring or send any of their rugmaking works they'd like to exhibit.
- A "Sale" table will be available where members can sell their rug making related materials or tools, or display information about their future workshops or events.
- Tea and coffee will be provided to the public for a gold coin donation in the supper room in the Town Hall.
- Many of the Guilds members are also spinners, weavers, knitters and crocheters, and most people are interested in up-cycling, so you will find an interesting array of art/craft.

It's a "long weekend" in South Australia when this event will be taking place.

The Strathalbyn Show will be held on the Monday holiday, so there should be a good crowd from which to draw people into the Talks and Demonstrations by Guild members – a great way to publicize the craft.

Following the weekend event, the StrathMatters will hold their annual social/hooking retreat in Tanunda, about an hour's drive from Strathalbyn in the Barossa Valley and members of the Guild have been invited to join them - more information to come on this.

Retreats and Hook-ins are common in the USA and Canada where there are large numbers of rug hookers.

In Australia, distance, travel cost and fewer rugmakers make getting together not so easy to arrange. This is your opportunity to meet, socialise and learn from those with rug making experience who have travelled internationally.

Maybe you have a friend or contact in an associated textile craft who would be interested in donating their time to speak or show their work at this event?

If so, please contact Judith Stephens (Guild President) by email studioblue20@gmail.com

To keep this organisation going and connect members, Guild membership is required.

Dues are still only \$20/year and can be paid by mail or online bank transfer - Membership Application/Renewal attached.

Looking forward to seeing you in Strathalbyn -

Cheers, **Josephine Franco** Editor/Membership Chair, Australian Rugmakers Guild

| rughookingaustralia@gmail.com |

www.rughookingaustralia.com.au | Perth, Western Australia

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION OR RENEWAL FORM ON FOLLOWING PAGE.- NOT APPLICABLE TO Narrawilly Ruggers. We pay in May.

Australian Rugmakers Guild Membership/Renewal Application*

www.rughookingaustralia.com.au

<https://www.facebook.com/australianrugmakersguild>

NAME PHONE (.....).....

ADDRESS.....

CITY.....STATE.....

POST CODE EMAIL ADDRESS

SKYPE NAME

Membership fees: \$20 per year due 1st January each year.

(A receipt will be emailed to you—if you require a printed receipt, please send a stamped addressed envelope)

Cash: \$ **Cheque:** \$..... **Money Order** \$..... ***Direct Deposit** \$

***Online payment (direct deposit/bank transfer)** Account Name: Australian Rugmakers Guild

BSB Number: 065 515

Account Number: 1008 4911

Reference: (Your Name)



Renewals please complete this form and mail or email if there are any changes in your contact details.

Privacy Notice: Please note your email address, street address and phone number is listed in the Membership Directory. This information is not sold or provided to any business and only made available to other Australian Rugmakers Guild members with your prior permission.

Mail application to: Jo Franco, PO Box 2212 Clarkson, Western Australia 6030 or

Email: rughookingaustralia@gmail.com

Are you interested in forming, or being part of a rug hooking group in your local area? Yes []

Please indicate your suburb or the distance you're willing to travel to join a group - our Membership Chair will endeavour to connect you with other Guild members in your area.

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CANADA New Brunswick. Sussex. Mary Alexander

Dear Miriam,

Finished the "Loons" cushion for the:

"Barachois Historic Church project entitled <<200 hooked cushions for this 200th birthday>> "The Barachois Historic Churchopened its door in 1826, and is still standing after nearly 200 years. It was disaffected in the late 1970 and reprieved from demolition in 1980. Transformed into a local Museum, art gallery and summer classical concert venue.....In order to be more comfortable on the old wooden pews, many take a cushion to cultural presentations. This has inspired the Historic Church to ask for cushions and this is to become the first permanent collection of the visual arts"



The material on the back of my cushion is the same material hooked for most of the water on the front. Don't know if I told you about the loon that swam around my kayak with two baby loons on its back. It was the first time I was on the lake last summer and each time I went back to this lake I saw these loons.

NEW SOUTH WALES – Milton -Narrawilly Proggy Ruggers



A photo of the tidy shelves, work of Christine and Jacqui.

Just reminding everyone these are all recycled fabrics.

FRANCE – Normandie - Alençon Laurence

I learnt to make rugs with Joanna : my first one was made of circles with different colours. My best friend saw that and said : it's so beautiful/pretty !! Then I had the idea to do one for her birthday. She was going to be 50 years old so I wanted to give her a good present !! I thought of a rug with 50 squares for her 50 years :



each were made with a different color.

She loves this rug so much that she wasn't able to put it on the floor so she hung it on the wall of her bedroom.

Hope to make a bigger one, for 80 years old or more !!

Laurence from
Alençon, Normandy,
France

THE INTERNATIONAL GUILD OF HANDHOOKING RUGMAKERS.

Greetings from Gandar Newfoundland.

This message is a gentle reminder to those TIGHR members **who membership has expired December 31, 2018**. Please consider renewing your membership (if you haven't already renewed) .. By doing so, not only will you continue to support TIGHR, but you will be kept fully up to date on the upcoming Triennial Conference being planned now for 2021 in St.John's, NL. Thank you in advance for your continued support. If you have any problems renewing your membership - please do not hesitate to contact Diane Hodder, your membership Director at hodder_diane@hotmail.com.

Ning members whose membership is not renewed soon will lose access to the Ning site and in particular the Newsletter.

Sincerely - Patricia (Pat) Parsons - Communications Chair 201-21 TIGHR

PS- If you have renewed in the past few days please ignore this friendly reminder.

If you have joined TIGHR for the first time- welcome and thanks ..

Visit The International Guild of Handhooking Rugmakers at:
http://tighrmembers.ning.com/?xg_source=msg_mes_network

An Addition.

Apologies - I neglected to state in my previous message that you can renew your 2019-2021 Membership right away , by going directly to www.tighr.net and Clicking on " Membership".

Under that heading you will find all the information about renewing your membership - including the Membership Application Form and the options for payment.

Thanks again for your continued support.

Regards,

Pat Parsons- Communications -TIGHR

NEW SOUTH WALES – Milton – Miriam Miller

A rug I have started
inspired by the book
"Doing What We Can" by
The Mrytles.

ENGLAND – Nottingham – Pricilla Cameron

**Hooked Door Curtain**

I needed a door curtain for my studio door as there is a chill that comes through during the winter. Hooking a door curtain seemed a good idea as it would be thick and warm and keep the chills out. I used a variety of material wool material as is, hand dyed, new and recycled, yarn, cotton t shirts. The cuts were mixed but a lot of it was cut wide about 1/2" so it did hook up quickly. Of course we have had a mild winter so the curtain hasn't been hanging on the door as much as I expected Cilla



THE END.