



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

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

Newsletter number 48 - January 2020

COPYRIGHT. (reminder by Susan Feller)

When you see a rug, painting or design you like to make into a rug and you are interested in copying some or all, ALWAYS contact the designer, using their website/store or if not a business the person directly. If told NO you cannot reproduce it, then that is the answer, and go on to something else. "For personal use" is not a reason to make a copy

CANADA – Ontario -Pontypool Katherine Cornthwaite

. I finished the Robin & Red Currant Rug this week and was inspired to finish this wee pig mat that I hooked in 1991. I have three more hooked pieces that I need to finish the edges, also I need to finish hooking my large horse rug too. Alas I have begun another rug to carry with me. This one is a Christmas theme and I created the pattern! I will send you a photo of it in a separate email!



Continued Katherine Cornthwaite

This is my travel rug that just makes me smile!

The pony is going to be gingerbread coloured, a grey and white snow man with a fanciful tree. The sky is going to have a swirl of green and purple northern lights and the snow will be Cream with blues swirled into it!

I think the outline will be a warm charcoal with a touch of brown in it and the letters will be red!

Can't wait to start! Katherine

**QUEENSLAND Kingaroy.** Judith Brook

I don't know if I sent u the pick of the rug I made for Glenda. Glenda just gave me a list of colours. Magenta Purple. Lime. Gold. Orange. Yellow. Red. Dark green. Turquoise.

.. I thought that was pretty mad. And she likes things a bit quirky so I just went through my stash gathering colours and cutting strips then made this. She says she loves it.

And I deliberately made it a quadrilateral instead of rectangular. AND I hooked right to the edge, like mum and Nana used to do and their rugs lasted for 50 to 60 years with hard wear.

I'm always worried about people that say they whip the edges with wool. How can the wool be as hard wearing as the rug?



AMERICA- California – Gene Shepherd

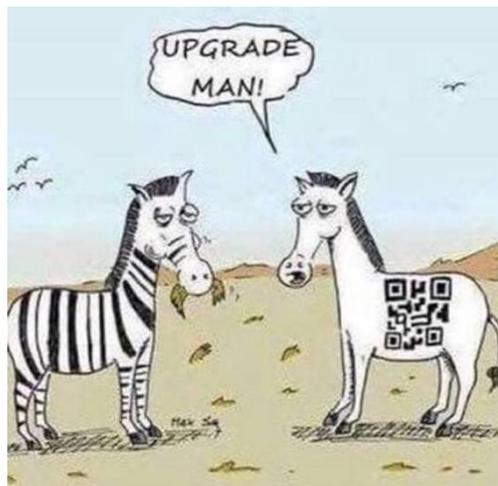
I could sure use you and Jacqui later this week. My church always does a big community Christmas event for about 20,000 to 22,000 people. As they like to feature church members who do interesting things, I have put together a recycled fibre area for children. I have been told to prepare for about 2,000 children who I will get to make and take home an clear plastic ornament that they artistically fill with cut wool worms, as well as shredded silk and other fibres and a bit of tinsel. (I was able to make mountains of them from donated fabric that wasn't particularly great for hooking, yet could be overdyed into pretty colours). 2 We'll have a needle punch station that can accommodate 6 kids at one time, punching a 60" wide by 26" solar system design I created for them. Again, I repurposed all sorts of unloved or unwanted rug yarn that I have been given over the years. We hope to completely punch this piece over the 3 night event. It is going to be permanently hung in the lobby of one of our big children/family rooms at the church. 3. We'll also have a weaving project to make another wall hanging made with recycled wool selvages and men's silk ties. Kids will help me and the other weavers by picking the ties and helping us beat in the silk and the wool. It is really creating a very funky and (pictured) quite colourful piece. I particularly like it since nearly all the ties were donated by "grandpas" in the church, making it a cooperative intergenerational piece. I've also noticed that several ties have designs on them that tell stories about the men who owned them - sports teams, skills (woodworking items), places they have been, patriotic and religious designs, etc. For that reason, some of those ties will irregularly hang out the bottom so viewers can see them and get the visual story. (I've included a photo of that.) 4. I will have a display for both kids and parents to look at featuring hooked, prodded and woven things I own - all made with mostly recycled items. I think I could fit you and Jacqui in as helpers in almost any of these spots ... or just give you your own spot to make a 5th station!



Please give my best to everyone. Best wishes to you all a wonderful holiday season. Gene Shepherd

JOKES

SENT BY
Walter.



AMERICA – Missouri, Marionville Rita Hood.

I sent a couple wreathes that I have done for the holidays. The red one is done in Proggly and stretched over a wire frame. The second green wreath is done in the same manner as a woolly tree on a grape vine wreath, I also made all the berries and pine ones out of wool as well.



Jokes sent by Walter.



A.C.T. – ISAACS CANBERRA. -Diana Heins



Diana Heins, Australian Wildflowers
 45.5 x 34.75 inches (115.5 x 88.25cm)
 West Lakes Shore, Adelaide; Hughes, Canberra; Candelo, New South Wales

In January 1979 I bought 54 x 36-inch (137 x 91.25cm) burlap from Pam Whitehead in Elizabeth, South Australia and scarlet, bronze green, bright green and yellow dyes. The blue wool came already dyed from a neighbour who may have bought it from Pam Whitehead on one of our Sunday gatherings at Elizabeth. The background is cream baby flannel from Onkaparinga woollen mill, which was dyed in five-colour swatches for the flowers and leaves using gradations of Cushing powder dyes.

The flower outlines were traced and transferred to the burlap from drawings in the Australian Golden Stamp books of *Australian Wildflowers* and *More Australian Wildflowers*. For the flower and foliage colours I collected pictures from cards and took photos of the Silky Purple Flag in Western Australia. Margaret Rowan's shading charts from Rittermere Crafts Studio in Vineland, Ontario, Canada had no Australian wildflowers, but they provided sufficient guidance on techniques of shading. Some Australian wildflowers such as gum blossom, wattle and bottlebrush have fluffy flowers, which would have been hard to hook even with thin wool strips. So I chose flowers with petals, tubes or bell shapes.

The first flower was the Sturt Desert Pea. It was difficult to get a deep enough red and so there is not sufficient difference between the flowers. Satisfying achievements were getting the colours right for the Kangaroo Paw and the white highlights on the Waratah.

I kept a diary of dyeing measurements as this project progressed slowly over 25 years. In between I completed three smaller rugs: Tortoise, Eskimo and First Snow and a larger rug Malaga 50 x 38 inches (127 x 96.5cm).

The wildflower rug was finally completed at Candelo on 5 February 2004. It won a prize at the Candelo Show in January 2006. In 2013, I gave my rug-making materials and tools to the Narrawilly rug-making group.

Diana Heins Isaacs, Canberra 5 December 2019



INTERNATIONAL RUG HOOKING DAY

Narrawilly Proggy Ruggers. Milton N.S.W.

Our numbers were smaller today because of the bushfires locally. Several were unable to be here because roads were closed, or they have gone to stay with friends or relatives out of the danger area. We were very happy to welcome Sue Gilmartin from Cumbria UK. It made the day seem more international.

Mostly we seemed to talk although Janet did manage to get some people to work on the rug we are making to raffle. The money will go to Heather Ritchie for her charity Rug-Aid. We also enjoyed a sumptuous lunch.



Above left Sue and Elaine working on the rug to raffle.

Left Miriam Sue and Jacqui

Above Janet, instigator of the rug to raffle.



Judy and Elaine looking serious

Finished Rug hooked by Christine. Very inspiring.

QUEENSLAND – Sunshine Coast Rug Crafters -Annette White.



I attached some photos of my latest creations. I made some quilled Xmas decorations and gave them to my Rugging friends at our Christmas get together at Judi's .

MARY'S BREAD. From Mary Alexander Canada. New Brunswick.

3 1/2 cups water

½ cup molasses

4 tablespoons butter

2 teaspoons salt

- ½ cup water
- 1 teaspoon white sugar
- 1 tablespoon yeast

Add sugar and yeast to ½ cup lukewarm water; let it rest while mixing other ingredients together in a large bowl.

In large bowl place a heaping hand full of: dried cranberries, walnuts, chia, flax, bran, sunflower seeds, oatmeal (if I have ½ a cup of: leftover cooked mashed: squash, sweet potatoes, oatmeal, apples, OR anything like this I add it to the dough), ½ cup molasses, 2 teaspoons of salt, 3 ½ cups lukewarm water, 4 tablespoons butter and about 4 cups of flour. Mix, add yeast mixture and stir; add another 2 or 3 cups of flour (enough flour to make mixture ready for kneading). Unload mixture in to well floured surface. Knead 100 times. In a large bowl pour enough olive oil to coat the bread mixture so it does not stick to the sides of the bowl while it is rising. Place bread dough in bowl and move it around in the bowl to cover the dough with oil. Place bowl in a stove oven with the light on. Let rise for 2 hours, punch down. Let rise another hour; remove bowl from oven and drop bread dough onto a well floured surface. Divide mixture into 3 loaves; place each in a bread pan that has butter or oil on surface to prevent bread from sticking to pan. Let bread rise for about 90 minutes. Cook in a 375 degree oven for 45 minutes. This mixture can be divided any way that will fit pans that are available. Sometimes I use part of this mixture to make pizza dough, or use it for rolls or sticky buns.

CANADA – Ontario -Susan Sutherland

Miriam,

As promised here is my finished hooked purse. I'm very pleased with it. I hooked the circles on each side of the purse slightly differently. The design is by Elaine Cathcart from Tennessee. The pattern was distributed by Woolley Fox Rug Hooking, Ligonier, Pennsylvania. I bought the pattern at a rug hooker's estate sale in Ontario, Canada. The lining which I show in one of the photos was fabric a Florida friend gave me. I used the lining colours as my

inspiration for the hooking. It was a fun project although sewing on the straps (which I bought in Florida) was quite tedious.



Continued Susan Sutherland purse.



CANADA – Nova Scotia. Donna Gass

Miriam, I have sent you a photo of a bird. Now to find out how to do them, you can go on You tube and in the search spot put in yarn birds, or go to craftbits.com (yarn birds) we all have extra yarns and is a fun way to use up some. I did find that "wool" yarn has more body and works better for form and shape.,whereas the acrylic is softer



and brighter colours

. Your pick. Donna

Continued Donna Gass.



JAPAN – Fumiyo

Hilltop Farm – Lake District Cumbria U.K.



About the picture, the title is Hill Top. In 2018, I visited the Lake District before the TIGHR conference at Reeth. I could find Beatrix Potter was great to keep the nature as it is, offering her lands to the National Trust. I put Peter Rabbit stealing carrots in front of her house and Beatrix at the door. I think that the UK is beautiful country, and I hope I will be able to visit again. Fumiyo

A REPORT FROM MIRIAM I want everyone to know I am feeling well again, since last May I have had some health problems and really lost my enthusiasm for life, so I want to tell you I am as near to 100% as an older person can be, and I have back whatever was missing,. Even starting hooking a rug.

FIRES 2nd Jan.

I know everyone has been seeing horrific pictures and reports of the fires in Australia. Well they are all true, it is as shown. Truly frightening. We are alright at the moment, although had a worrying day on 31st, Tuesday. when Westerly winds brought the fires close to our farm. We could see it coming, and even though my grandson was protecting my house with sprinklers and watching for spot fires, we decided the safest was to leave. We evacuated to Jacqui's house in Milton. Jacqui took in 5 Millers 2 cats and a dog. There was a wind change, a strong Southerly, so that took it away from us, but unfortunately to others, 89 houses were lost in Conjola, just over the ridge north of us. A very dear friend lost her house on a farm just a km from here. I find it hard to take in. Another friend's house was only saved by her son, and she lost shed and garage. The electricity went off, and in a modern world everything closes down. The shops had to shut as no cash register and no bar code scanner. Petrol pumps would not work at garages. A few shops opened later and only accepted cash, and the ATM cash machines were out. No TV, no mobile phones, no electricity, so we did not know what was happening.

After 2 days the power is back on again. And the road opened north this morning. All tourists are advised to leave the district, so there is an endless line of cars slowly going north. Saturday is forecast to be another terrible day, 43 degrees and strong westerly winds, so my son is advising me again to be ready to leave. If the internet comes back before then I will send this out. Miriam

Continued. Sun 5th Jan -Still no internet, so you are having another fire report. Saturday yesterday, was a bad day. I had the sprinklers on for hours Friday and Saturday early, damping all around my house. My grandson blocked the downpipe, so we could fill the house gutters with water. I removed all furniture from the verandah and moved burnable objects away from the house and then left. I stayed with a friend at Mollymook, at the beach. Jacqui, her daughter and sister, joined us in the afternoon. Jacqui was able to return home by late evening, but I could not return until this morning. The fire was just yards from my house, coming up the hill. My grandson David, my son Robert, and my neighbours the Beasleys stopped that fire. Robert was very stressed fighting spot fires but all seems well, parts of the farm burnt, fences pasture, and baled silage. but no stock lost.

Also just had a phone from him this morning, and said my house is still vulnerable I have to keep watch for the fire smouldering in the patch of rainforest to the west and to the northeast. We just need some rain. And I am frustrated cannot send my newsletter. I think the tower is down or burnt. No internet connection.

At last internet connection. (Tuesday 7th) I can send out this newsletter. We are now preparing for hot days Sat and Sun. Will it never end, well we all know it will take rain and lots of it. It is so dry.

THE END.