

CONNECTING US

NARRAWILLY FEBRUARY 2022 Number 73

A.C.T. Canberra. I am attaching a lovely pic of Jenny, daughter Penny and friend Alison. -Lynne Johnson



(The rugs in the background were all knitted by amazing knitter Lynne)

IF YOU KNOW OF ANYONE WHO NO LONGER GETS THIS NEWSLETTER, BECAUSE ACCIDENTLY THEY HAVE DROPPED FROM MY LIST, PLEASE TELL THEM TO CONTACT ME AND I WILL ADD THEM AGAIN, OR IF YOU KNOW ANYONE WHO WOULD LIKE TO RECEIVE IT. Miriam

AMERICA New Hampshire. Sally Gilbert

Here is my Vintage St Nick which I started February 2021 in a class taught by Ruth Downing from the Rug Hooking Guild of Nova Scotia. Ruth provided the pattern and the #2 cuts of wool used on the face. The rest of the colour planning and cutting were done by me. Although I never hooked with anything smaller than #4, Ruth provided detailed written instructions as well as excellent "Zoom" instructions during the 5-day workshop. I used a #4, #5 to complete the rest of the rug. It is on unbleached linen, wool strips and some wool yarn on Santa's hat, collar and snow on the pine trees. The finished rug measures 25x18 inches. After consulting with my rug hooking friends, I decided not to add a border, but whipped the edge and bound it with rug tape. I also added a label to the back- something I usually forget to do but know it is a very important feature.



WESTERN AUSTRALIA – Jo Franco

<https://www.rughookingaustralia.com.au/wp-content/uploads/2022/01/Presentation-for-TIGHR-2.pdf>

Click on the above to see the presentation that Jo Franco and Judi Tompkins, put together for the International Guild of Hand hooking Rugmakers. It is a colossal effort and I thank them for this. Make yourself a cuppa and enjoy.

VICTORIA — Annie Dunlop.

Annie very cleverly makes cushions from photos of people's pets. Mostly the pets are deceased, so the cushion gives great comfort to the owner.

CANADA, Ontario -Helen Houghton



A couple of hooked coasters and an ornament for a group gift exchange. Wool cloth and some wool yarn.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA – Maxine Keys. This cardigan spun and knitted from two different fleece



I used the parts of two fleece because when I started knitting, I seemed to be using the wool very quickly, also misreading the pattern which was 20 rows as repeat 4 times instead of repeat 4 rows. Brain fog.

Went and got another fleece from the grower of the first fleece who matched it up for me and I was very happy with the match. duly spun that, then did 2 rows of each, well most of the time, sometimes 4 rows would creep in.

Also, because the wool was thicker than the 8-ply used larger needles, well the cardigan just grew and grew, so lots of tweaking.

Ended up much longer than was meant to be but daughter loved it.

QUEENSLAND – Jennifer Walton

Completed the Dragonfly rug design & dying all the wool ready to start. Below are the colours I'm going to use for the water lilies. I've cut nearly all the wool but so far I've only done a Lilly pad. I'll start again next winter.



I'm enjoying doing this memory vase, it's lovely to do. Using all the little things around the house that trigger fond memories. Bits of broken jewellery that I'm unable to part with, trinkets & what nots...

So far, I used old worry dolls; a red button from a cardigan my mum knitted herself (when I close my eyes, I can see mum as she was then, when we lived in England nearly 60 years ago 😊), my daughter Elizabeth's favourite pearl bead necklace, shells, the top of a floral hat pin from my aunt, a brooch made my students at a special development school where I used to work, so many pieces that all hold precious memories for me. Early days yet I've got heaps more to do. Work in progress. I'll send you a photo when it's finished. Jennifer



Above. Items Jennifer makes from palm tree sheafs.

White lipped frog. – Queensland

Covid saying



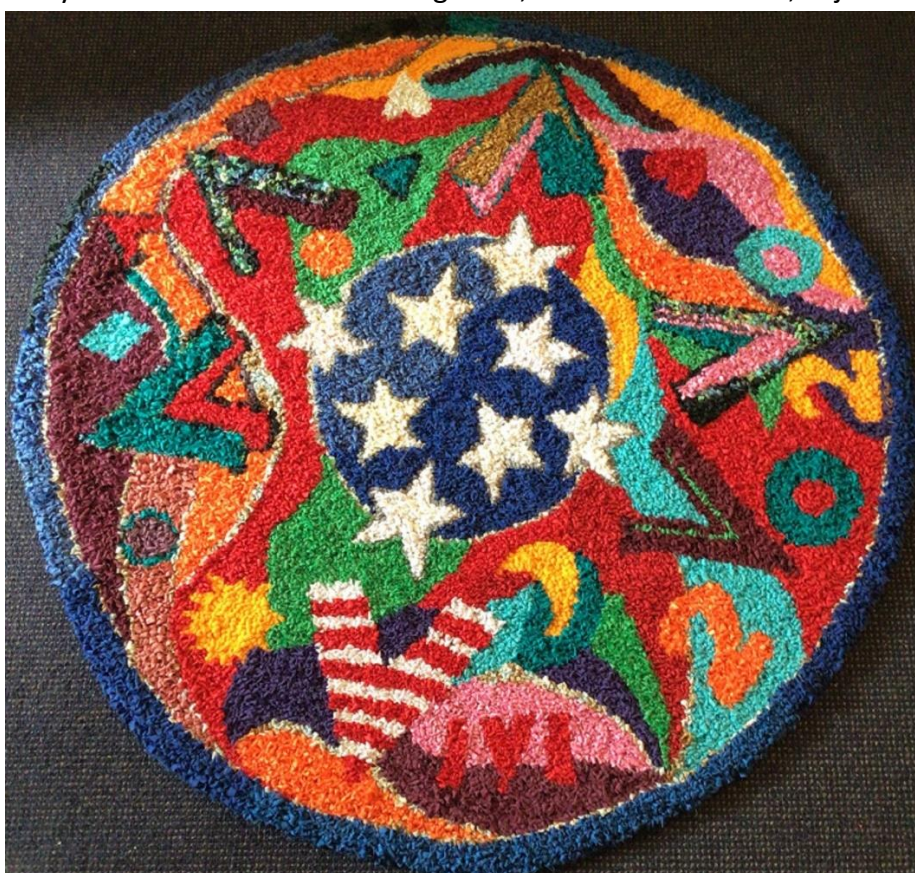
Now is not the
right time to
surround yourself
with positive
people.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA - Adelaide: Gai Dudley sent by Jo Franco.

A beginner rugmaker's first rug! How good is this, Gai found the Aussie Rugmakers site while looking for foundation material, and has shared this image and description with me of her first hooked rug which took most of this year, 2021 to finish, and is a present for her American/Australian granddaughter, Vivi, born in New York in August 2020, but who she's yet to meet, apart from Facetime.

The rug is a metre across and the design is loosely based on the American flag, with Vs for granddaughter Vivi and victory for the Democrats' election, and a nod to those old ticker tape celebrations in New York. Working from the perspective that rug hooking is a "thrift craft", most of the fabric strips Gai used was her husband's old silk shirts, any scraps from her work room, odd bits found at Vinnies, and remnants bought.

Gai also said she's always wanted to learn how to rug hook, and now is on a roll; "I just love the quiet, slow,



meditative action"

CANADA. Nova Scotia. Sydney Forks -Cathy Komourdjian



To right

NEW SOUTH WALES –

Braidwood. Maggie Hickey

Table runner



NEW SOUTH WALES. Milton -Narrawilly Proggy Ruggers- Elke Smith-Hill



Here is my new rug. Just finished today, 31.12.

Dimension is 40 by 50cm

Or 16in x 20in



NEW SOUTH WALES Gerringong Christine

Hello Miriam.

Many thanks for the Newsletter, the beautiful work is always a pleasure to see and it reminds me that whichever textile medium craftspeople are using colour unites us all!

I was especially interested in the Koala piece as Glenora Weaving supplied the wool yarns for this new Australian tartan!

Marie and Fred are lovely people and brilliant weavers who purchase most of their yarns from us, they have woven this unique tartan using wool, silk or cotton yarns with beautiful results.

My best wishes for 2022, may it be a safer and more relaxing year for everyone.

Warm regards, Christine.

It's very prestigious for the Lawsons to have their Koala Tartan included in the official Tartan Register in Scotland!



A.C.T. Canberra

Lynne Johnson

Clare wearing another of Lynne's marvellous knitted creations. This time starting from the centre.



Right. Regular Narrawilly Proggy
Ruggers meeting day 7th January

Clare working on her piece.



NEW SOUTH WALES – Milton Narrawilly farm
Marama picking sunflowers



GUERNSEY – -The Rugrats - Sue Seymour

Happy New Year from Guernsey. I have attached a couple of photos of a poem and a prodded rug, written and made with recycled fleece jackets by one of our group, Linda Coutu. She has just completed this rug, which is so soft, light and colourful, but she wrote the poem back in 2011.

After the sudden death of Alison, our group leader last summer, we are missing her so much to inspire us all. But there are 5 of us who meet twice a month and are enthusiastic about keeping the group going and inspiring each other to keep hooking/prodding.

I thought you might like to put this in your next newsletter, as many of your readers knew Alison.

We are in the middle of a huge Omicron surge of Covid infection here on the Island, but we take precautions and test before meeting in groups and wear masks in enclosed spaces. Most of us are all triple vaccinated and life must go on. Sue



Continued next page

Continued Guernsey

The Hookers

Do you know I am a hooker and very proud to say
I joined a hookers group and we hook every day
Our leader is called Ali and she hooks all the time
In fact she only stops when her husband Ted calls "time"

We meet every other Tuesday at a local church hall
We hook away and chat a lot and generally have a ball
The highlight of our evening, apart from our cup of tea
Is when Ali gets her boot out and we all pay 50p

Ali puts her hand in and draws a winner out
And soon the lucky hooker begins to scream and shout
That means the evening's over and we are sorry to have to go
But pack up all our bits and bobs and then say cheerio

We are a jolly crowd of girls of that there is no doubt
And we love to hook and prod and generally gad about
If you are not a hooker then we are sorry for you
So come along and join us and be a hooker too!

(Linda – a hooker who usually prods!)

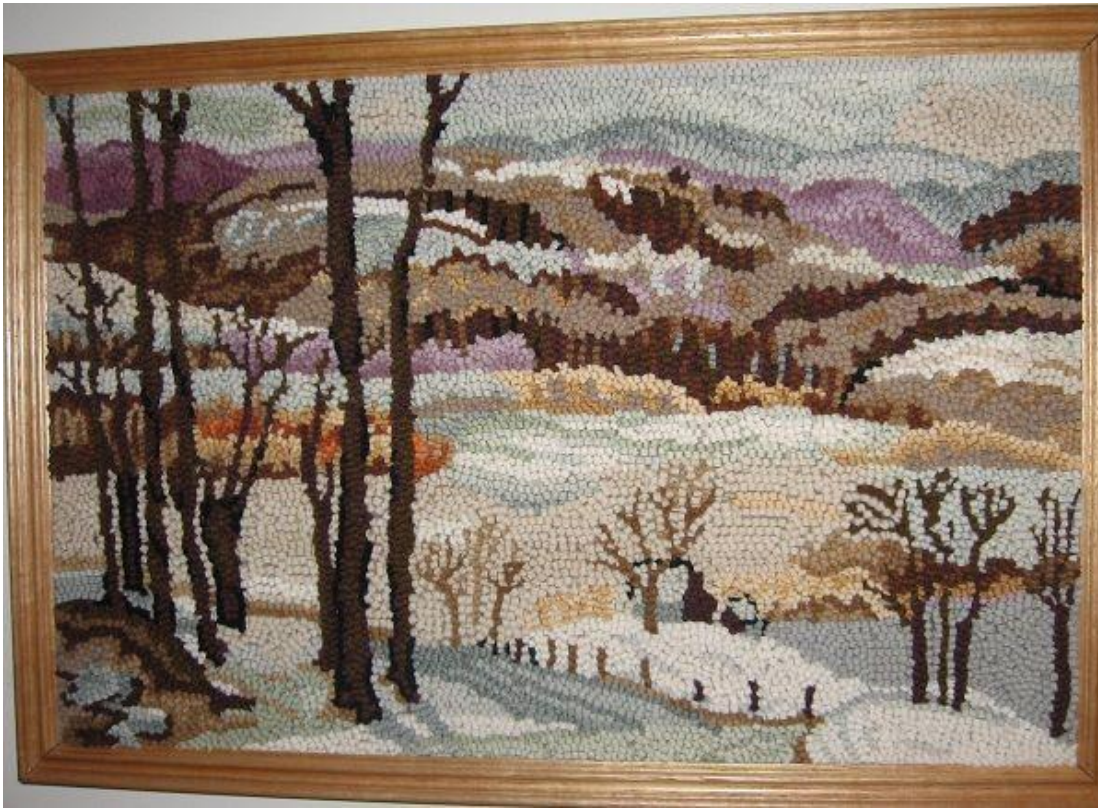
26th October 2011

CANADA Vancouver Island. -Sheila Stewart

. I am enclosing my latest rug, a design based on the art of Lisa Ferguson in Ontario. Not much is new here with Covid numbers escalating every day, I am hunkered down. I hope it is soon over and life can get back to normal. Sheila



NEW SOUTH WALES – Diana Heins, I have a First Snow rug hooking too. When we travelled



back to Canada in September 1983, we visited Rittermere craft studio where I bought this kit. It took years for me to finish this picture. Later it reminded me of the scene from Government House looking out over Scrivener Dam to the blackened stumps of the Stromlo pine forest burnt in the Canberra

bushfires of 18 January 2003. It is 20 x 13 inches.

ENGLAND – Hastings – Jayne Watkins



I made these little angels at a Christmas fete. I don't think I've done any pottery since school Jayne

NEW SOUTH WALES. Braidwood. Gail Nichols

An Abundance of Recovery

2022, new and recycled fabric hooked on primitive linen, 160 x 100 cm

In an explosion of colour and texture, this rug celebrates the role of nature in leading our recovery from bushfire, COVID or whatever ails us.



WESTERN AUSTRALIA – Wink Lindsay

We decided that our gifts for Christmas should be handmade, then the focus would be on the thoughtfulness of the gift rather than simply the need to go out and purchase something. As a family, we feel blessed to have so much and really don't 'need' anything. Whether it is simply getting older or the current state of the world, it seemed to be more meaningful. I made a few of my stash of rugs into cushions for gifts. As always, the bushland near my home inspires my hooking. I love walking and observing as the months pass, there is always something new. The *Banksia grandis* (Bull Banksia) tree is well known for its knobbly cones and bright yellow 'pillar candle' inflorescences in summer. However, I particularly love the new growth that forms in spring. It is almost velvet-like and gorgeous shades of purple. I loved hooking this purple so much, that I made a pair of matching mug rugs. I enjoy using a mix of yarns and up-cycled fabrics. I am still experimenting with textures and shading, there is always something new to learn and try. The final piece is never exactly how I envisage it, most of the time it is much better!



Spring growth on the
Banksia grandis, photo
credit Wink Lindsay



Banksia grandis pillow and matching mug rugs. Designed and Hooked by Wink Lindsay



New South
Wales.
Narrawilly
Milton

View from my
verandah this
lovely damp
morning 12th
January

Miriam

CANADA -Patricia Parsons

I finally completed this big mat for a lady that had bought it 1/3 hooked from an antique Store in Nova Scotia. I had no idea of how big it was! Only the house, tree and peacock were hooked. I was pleased with the finished look. Very cold up here now, minus 15 today but milder weather coming on the weekend.



Size 48in x 25 in or 122cm x 64cm

CANADA -ONTARIO – Susan Sutherland

Here is my hooked word for 2022. I chose the word Breathe because I find I need to relax and calm myself with better breathing. Ironically, I don't have to worry about breathing when I hook rugs. I believe that pulling loops calms me both physically and emotionally. I used a pattern as the backdrop for my word I purchased from Martina Lesar Rug Hooking Studio, Caledon, Ontario. I used a wide variety of fibres in the piece: off-the-bolt fabric, yarn, roving and sari silk. I started it the end of December and finished it in the first week in January. Size is 10 inches by 20 inches.



I am sending you two photos - one of the finished hooked piece and one that shows the wide variety of fibres I



NEW SOUTH WALES. MILTON – Christine Alexander's finished proggy rug.



Made with overdyed blankets.

THE END

