

CONNECTING US

NARRAWILLY MARCH 2024 NUMBER 98

AUSTRALIA – NEW SOUTH WALES. MILTON

Helen Stinson member Milton Spinning Group.



Helen knitted this Teddy Bears Picnic. My photo does not do it justice. The little flowers on the green, the basket of goodies which includes tiny knitted sandwiches and cakes. The tartan knitted rug plus the bears themselves, are all amazing. The green base is pulled up into a bag and the bears heads just show. What young child would not be delighted with this. These are all separate pieces.



This is a memorial rug for Flash, who was a much-loved pet. He loved to sun-bake among the sunflowers in the backyard.

Alana

Size 110cm x 90cm

In last

“Connecting Us”

Alana was on the ladder looking for blanket to dye for the sunflowers. You can see she was successful.

Narrawilly Proggy Ruggers continued.



Cushion made for Milton Show Theme. "Home Grown" The different Cosmos in my garden- Miriam

AUSTRALIA NEW SOUTH WALES- SYDNEY Diana Tilley-Winyard



Have recently began lino cutting classes at WEA and send a couple of early efforts.
Diana

Continued Diana



AUSTRALIA NEW SOUTH WALES – Milton - Jane



Dyeing day at
Narrawilly

AUSTRALIA. VICTORIA. HIGHLETT - Annie Dunlop



Photos of bag made of Tunesian crochet using all left over scraps of tapestry wool, regardless of short lengths.

AMERICA – FLORIDA. VENICE Eleanor

I made replica tobacco baskets for my double front doors a while ago. Last summer, I started hooking 10-inch squares to put in them to hang on my doors seasonally. The pictures I sent are of Mr and Mrs Snow, who are hanging on the doors for January and February, our winter months here. So far, I have hooked 3



sets, flowers for summer, and a turkey and Indian corn for November, besides the snow couple for winter. It is a fun project, does not take too long, and makes my doors look a little different from the ordinary. I have a niece who is very artistic, so I have enlisted her help in designing the squares for March and April. I sent her rough sketches, and she is to draw them to size for my 10-inch squares. We'll see how that works out. Eleanor.

**AUSTRALIA – NEW SOUTH WALES.**

Narrawilly Proggy Ruggers regular day

16th February. A keen helper.

BRAIN TEAZERS.

Good example of a Brain Study: If you can read this OUT LOUD you have a strong mind. And better than that: Alzheimer's is a long long, way down the road before it ever gets anywhere near you! Take your time!

7H15 M3554G3
53RV35 7O PRoV3
HoW oUR M1ND5 C4N
Do 4M4Z1NG 7H1NG5!

1MPR3551V3 7H1NG5!

1N 7H3 B3G1NN1NG
17 WA5 H4RD BU7
NoW, oN 7H15 LIN3
YoUR M1ND 1S
R34D1NG 17 4U7oM471C4LLY
W17HoU7 3V3N
7H1NK1NG 4BoU7 17,

B3 PROUD! oNLY
C3R741N P3oPL3 C4N
R3AD 7H15!

PL3453 FoRW4RD 1F
U C4N R34D 7H15.

If you can raed this, you have a sgtrane mnid, too.

Can you raed this? Olny 55 people out of 100 can.

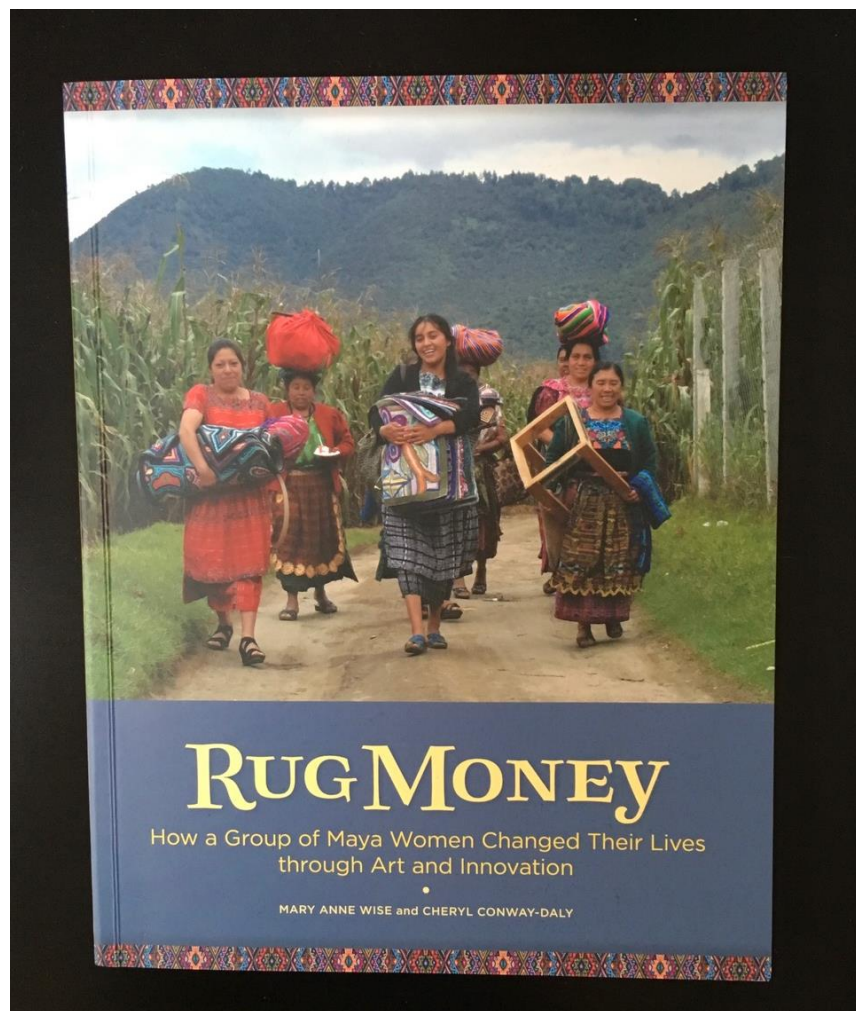
I cdnuolt blveiee that I cluod aulacly uesdnatnrd what I was rdanieg. The phaonmneal pweor of the hmuan mnid, aoccdrnig to a rscheearch at Cmabrigde Uinervtisy, it dseno't mtaetr in what oerdr the ltteres in a word are, the olny iproamtnt tihng is that the frsit and last ltteer be in the rghit pclae. The rset can be a taotl mses and you can still raed it whotuit a pboerlm. This is bcuseae the huamn mnid deos not raed ervey lteter by istlef, but the word as a wlohe. Azanmig huh?

Yaeh and I awlyas tghuhot slpeling was ipmorantt! If you can raed this forwrad it.

CANADA. ONTARIO - Susan Sutherland

Hi Miriam,

The Multicolores Guatemala Rug Hooking tour I took recently was something that I've wanted to do ever since I read the book **Rug Money**. This non-profit organization, started in 2009, introduced rug hooking to Maya women as a means for them to make money and to hook their stories at home while having their work sold in North America. Maya women have always been experts in the art of weaving and embroidery and have been doing these two crafts for a long time. So, for them to learn rug hooking using cut-up second-hand clothing was a natural fit for them. Once they started incorporating their stories and art into their rugs, they were off and running. Multicolores Guatemala is an amazing success story for the women who are part of the group. For more information about them, how to support them, and even how to sign up for their next yearly tour, here is the website: <https://multicolores.org/>



I felt very honoured to be part of 16 women from Canada and the USA who went on the first tour since February 2020. Besides being taught how to design and hook the Multicolores way, we were also invited to some of the homes of these wonderful Maya women where we met their families, saw their lifestyle and heard stories of how Multicolores Guatemala has helped them not only financially, but also emotionally and mentally. For me, seeing how this North America settler craft that helped women in the early 20th century bring money into their homes by selling hooked mats, now being replicated in Guatemala, was a very moving experience.

Here are a few photos of me hooking with my Multicolores teacher, Irma de Leon. We designed a mat, bought second-hand clothes for the piece, and hooked on the mat, all in a very short time frame.

Multicolores believes collaboration is a big part of the learning experience. One of the photos is me showing a technique of a

chain stitch that can hide the backing that shows between the last row of hooking and the fabric they sew onto their backing and turn under for the final finish. The photo with the four hoops represents the two Maya rug hookers' work and my work and my travelling partner, Donna Wright's work. Needless to say, Donna and I need to 'practica, practica, practica' to get our loops as even and uniform as theirs! This was a trip of a lifetime and one I will never forget. Susan Sutherland

Continued Susan





CANADA. NOVA SCOTIA. — Cindy Noble.



Hi Miriam, I finished my latest hooked piece. It was designed by Jane Steele. Called "Captain of Your Ship." It is a monochromatic with a punch of colour. Her designs are so much to do. I plan to have it framed with a grey barn board. That will make the finished edge look rustic and it will complete the rug nicely. Cindy

GUATEMALA - Bartola Morales Tol (photo by Joe Coca)



Artist Statement: This design depicts fifteen nahuales, Mayan glyphs that symbolize the different elements in a balanced spiritual ecosystem. Nahuales are part of the Maya cosmovision, our ancestral understanding of the world. For me, nahuales remind me of my ancestors. The geometric designs recall our traje (Maya traditional dress) that we use and wear every day, and with which we identify ourselves. I used colours that reflect the many cycles of the earth: flowers blooming, leaves changing colours, weather changing from sunny to cloudy to stormy, lunar eclipses. The presence of all these different colours together reminds us of the moments of rain and the moments of sun, and nature's gift of the beautiful rainbow. Bio: "Learning something new, like rug-hooking, was daunting at first. But as I became more confident in my artistry and technique, I also became more confident in myself. Each time I draw a new design or play with colour in a new way, I feel myself becoming stronger. Every rug is part of my learning process and represents new discoveries. Being able to share that confidence with other women in my rug-hooking group is very meaningful am excited and grateful that you can look at my work, I hope to touch the hearts of many people. I wish you can feel the same joy and inspiration that I feel when I see a bird or witness the colours of the sky during sunrise and sunset. I want to share with you the moments that bring me joy and convey the beauty and richness of my culture and home."

Bartola's artwork has been exhibited in the U.S. and Guatemala. Her pieces are recognizable for their keen sense of colour, detail, and balance. Bartola lives with her husband and young daughter in the hillside community of San Jorge La Laguna, close to Lake Atitlán.

AUSTRALIA VICTORIA Yarra Valley Rug Makers - Warrandyte.

We had our first get together for this year on 24th February. We're only a small group but great to see everyone as it had been a while and as always, lively conversation along with an enjoyable shared lunch.

The first photo is Lee's rug made entirely of woollen sock off-cuts. A combination of hooky, loopy and cut loops creating different, layered textures.

The second photo is Ann Marie's rug she is hooking for inside her front door. She used her hand dyed woollen blanketing for the flower.



For a little bit nonsense



Have you ever wondered where certain sayings come? Pictured here in a basket weaving studio taken on one of my travels, is a life-sized basket in which is placed the body of the dearly departed at a wake. Hence the saying "he/she was a basket case".

AUSTRALIA- SYDNEY - Theresa

I have been part of the Sydney group since Martha first set up at Epping Creative centre. I have attached a few photos of my creations from the past few years. I mainly use recycled clothing and love to include lots of colour.

I was first introduced to hooking by Di Cox in Penzance UK. Di was married to my Dad and Di sadly passed away too soon. I grew up in Penzance then moved to Brighton before emigrating to Sydney 20 years ago.

My hooked flower creation is a work in progress.

I really enjoy meeting up with the other ladies in our group once a month Theresa.





JAPAN – Marama.

These stools were recently spotted by Marama in a Daimaru Department Store in the Ginza in Tokyo.

They were part of a designer section of the store which was dedicated to the designs of the innovative Japanese company called M&Kyoko.

The collection includes clothing and accessories (including socks, bags, scarves and brooches) using beautifully dyed yarns to make knitted and felted clothes and accessories. The yarns come from a spinning mill and knitting factory located in the countryside of Japan at Sagae, Yamagata.

You can find out more at this link

<https://www.mkyoko.com/en/about/>

(Photos next pages.)



CONTINUED Japan



CONTINUED Marama



THE END.