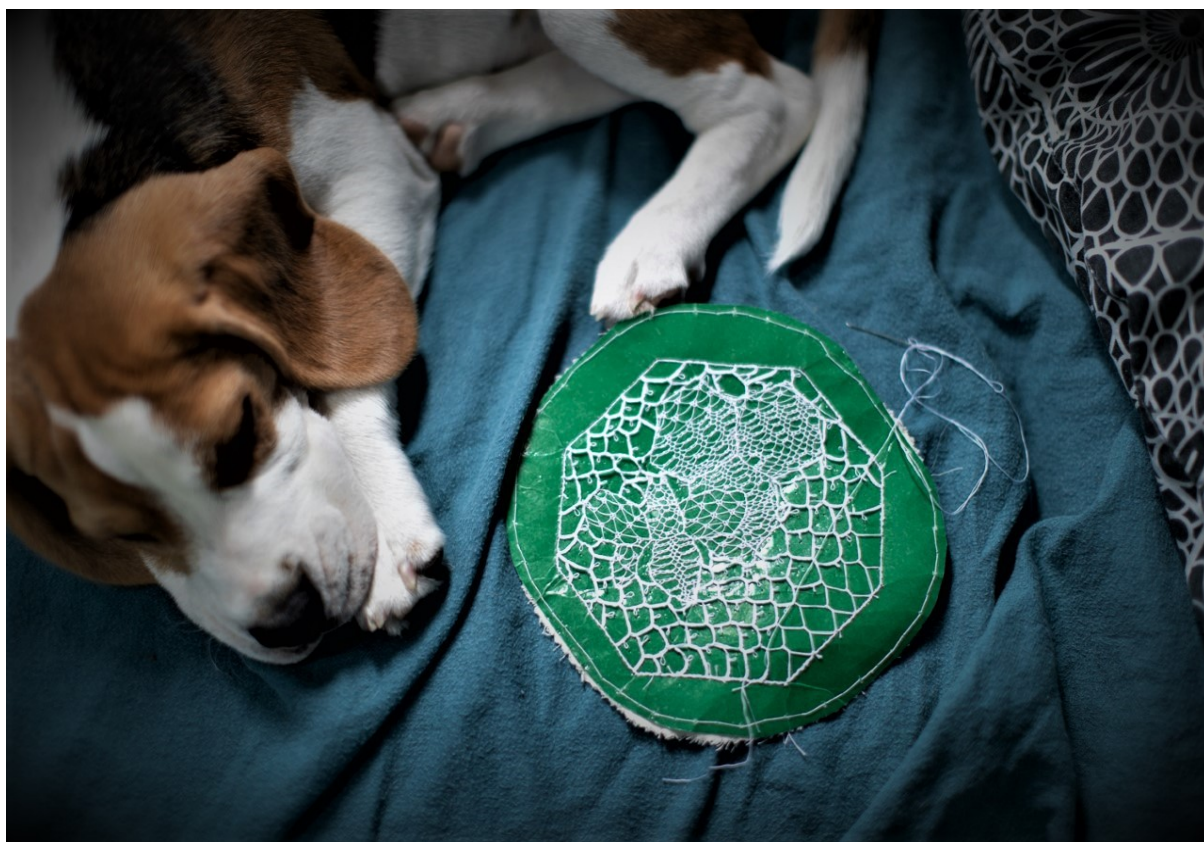


iSOLACE

No. 2 - April 2020



Lisa's WIP is a needle lace piece which she's trying to complete for her last lesson with Helga from Qld as part of the Needle Lace Correspondence Course. She is enjoying her time at home with her puppy Rufus, a good little beagle who likes to sleep on the lounge while Lisa works on her lace.

Dear Members,

Welcome to the second edition of isoLACE, the ALG NSW Branch's coronavirus update. IsoLACE will continue for as long as you are willing to forward photos and information. We hope it keeps you entertained and informed in these times of social isolation.

While our official, printed News & Views remains on holiday, we continue to let you know what your colleagues are up to. We hope that you in a position to keep making lace, for the sake of your own mental health as well as to inspire others as well!

When we are in a position to pass on any news about NSW Branch or NAC, we will do so. Keep an eye on the NSW Guild website and the NSW Guild Facebook page in the meantime.

While some Lace Groups, such as Queanbeyan and Cooma, continue to meet regularly online using Skype or WhatsApp (contact Stefanie if you want to join in), others are turning to Facebook to keep in contact with the lace community. Bobbin Lace Down Under has 200 members and Bobbin Lace Makers nearly 8000 members.

A NSW Branch Facebook Group has been set up to maximise interactivity among members. Instagram now features photos of members' work and TikTok for short videos has also been established. Contact Stef if you want photos of your work uploaded.

We trust you are working on your 2021 Royal Easter Show competition entries or are making making white/ecru bookmarks for the 2021 Triennial Award, if not for our State display at this year's AGM display in September.

OIDFA has been postponed till 2021, with the same dates as 2020. OIDFA welcomes any contributions of lace patterns – let's get behind the great work being done by Australians on the OIDFA Board!

An erratum from our last edition: Maggie's needle lace piece is entitled "Self portrait".

If you are making lace, we'd love to hear from you. Send photos of your work-in-progress or finished lace (along with details of threads, dimensions and the lace designer, where possible) or your lace making gear or lace setup at home or lace book reviews to rodbyatt@hotmail.com.

Stay safe and well!

– NSW Branch Committee

Pandemic

Some thought in year Two Thousand
The end of world would come
But it's taken a few years more than that
For things to come undone.

First way down south where Ozzies live
Fires burnt through so much land
While meanwhile in the northern half
The floods got out of hand.

And now we have a virus
That is spreading day by day
And the only way to stop it
Is self isolate, away.

But hang in there, lacemakers!
It's what we've all trained for!
We've bought the bobbins, books and thread
We hardly need some more!

If one is to be stuck at home
There is so much lace to do!
New projects we had set aside
And a UFO – or two?

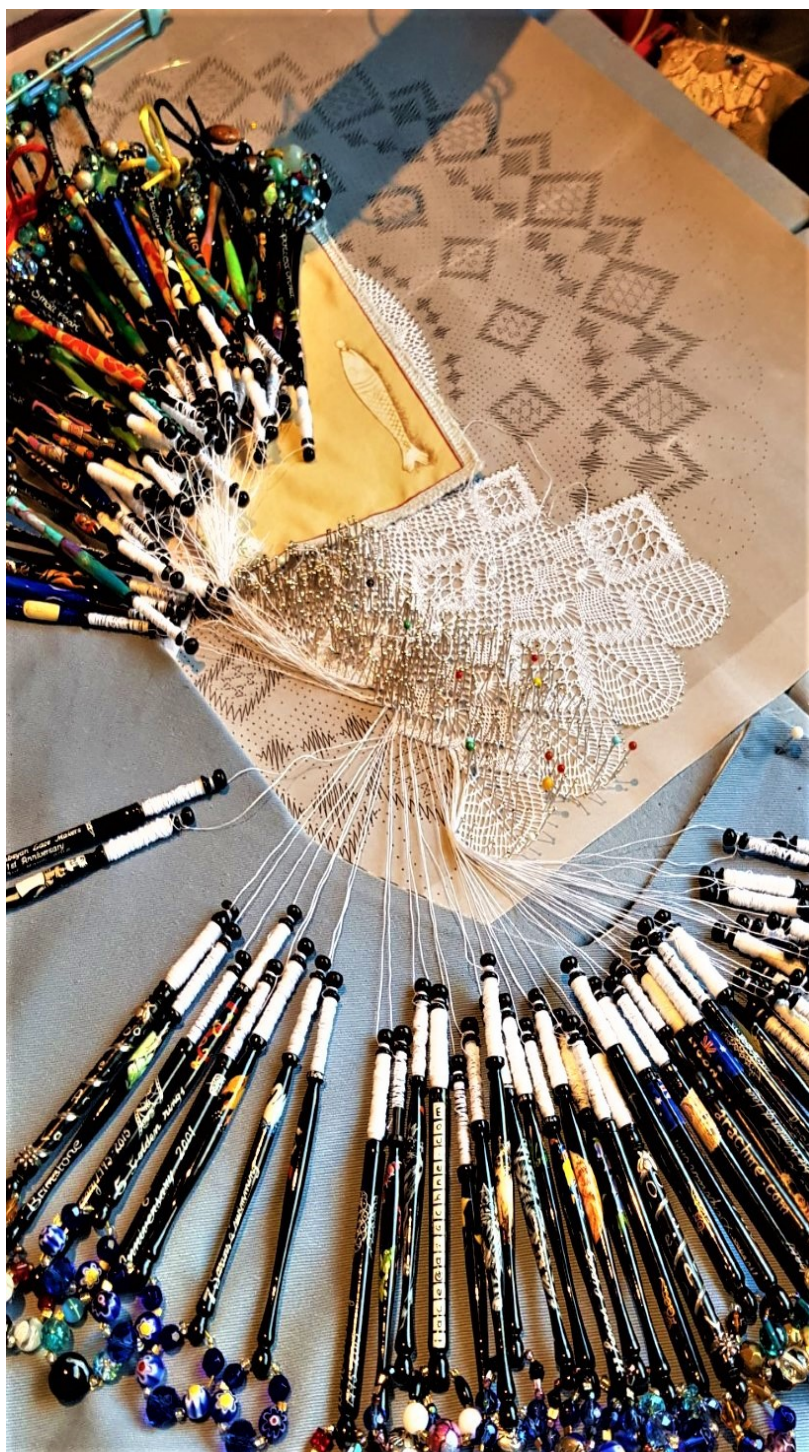
A different style of lace to try
A different type of thread
Challenges abound with lace
It's lack of time we dread.

So when bad times come, I seek my lace
And leave my cares behind.
Creating lace, so calm and quiet
And delight in peace I find.

*Noelene Lafferty
The Angle, NSW, Australia
22 March 2020*



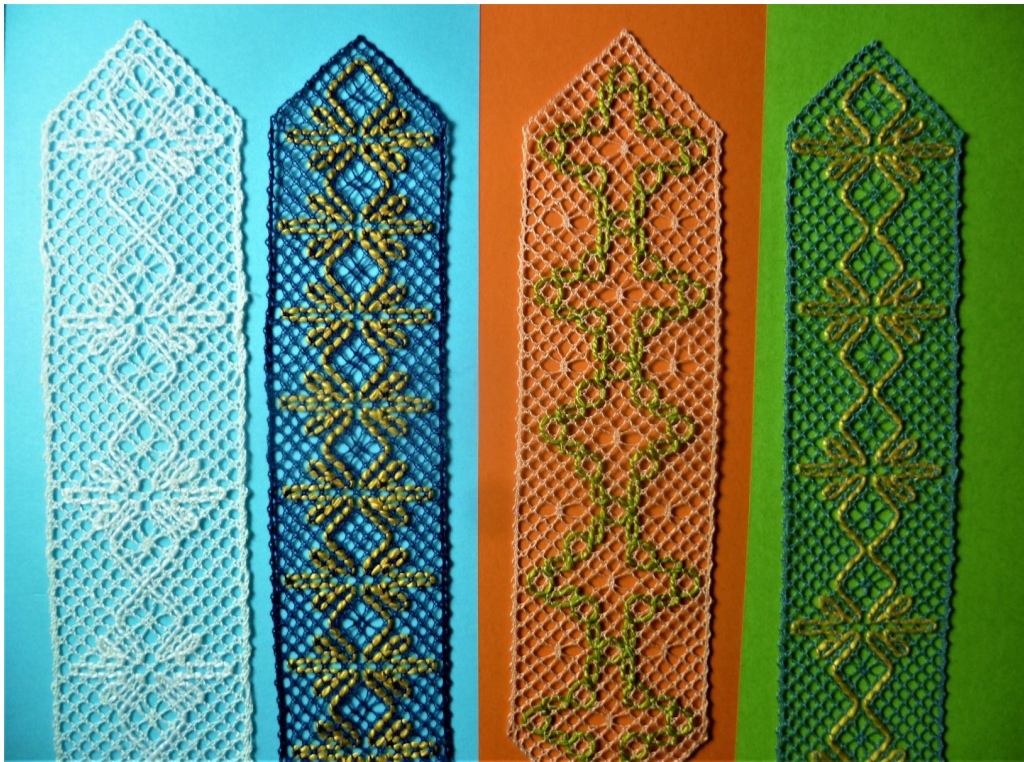
Marlene has been working on Christine Johnson's *Fire and Ice*. See Christine's original in *Australian Lace* Autumn Vol.40 no.3, p.17.



Noelene is working on a 45cm diameter mat from a pattern in a folder entitled "Rondom Kant", published in The Netherlands. There is a review of the folder under "Book Reviews" on the Lacegumnuts website. She is working with Bockens linen 80/2 thread. Noelene advises, "The original was made in three sections, with each section sewn together by a unique method of sewing twice into a twisted loop. As all ground stitches are CTCT pin CTCT, the double sewing makes the join indistinguishable from the ground. The most remarkable (to me) factor of this round mat is that it is not made on a regular polar grid; every few rounds, additional pinholes are introduced very skilfully in the form of extra pinholes at the side tips of diamonds, or in asymmetrical spiders."



Pauline has been working on crochet lace.



Rod has been working with colour lately, re-visiting some of Christine Johnson's gimp and Old Ground exercises in Gutermann 100% Cotton 50. After done a first attempt in white, he's doing a second in colour, discovering how both the tonality (lightness or darkness) of the colour is critical, as is the background colour behind the lace, not always enhanced by the traditional use of a white, black or blue background. Background colours seem to work either as complementaries (e.g. red on green, or purple on orange) or adjacents on the colour wheel (e.g. green on yellow, or purple on blue).



Barbara Underwood

We have just received notice that Barbara Underwood passed away on 23 April, 2020.

Many here would have known her, attended various workshops all over, and of her wonderful books, including *A Bedfordshire Lace Collection*, *Introducing Bedfordshire Lace in 20 Lessons* and *Traditional Bedfordshire Lace: Technique and Patterns*.

I'm told she spoke with deep affection of her Australian students after each trip. She will be sadly missed by us all, and we send our thoughts and condolences to her family at this sad time.

May she rest in peace.

What's up?

- Contact Pauline Garland (em: polly3009@optusnet.com.au) if you are interested in learning crochet lace using Zoom.
 - Follow the OIDFA Congress website at oidfa2020.org. The dates for the 2020 Congress have been moved to 2021 as follows: Congress: 30 July – 1 August 2021; Workshops: 26 – 29 July 2021; Tour: 2–5 August 2021.
 - For your lace requirements, Roseground (UK) is open for business - order online by card or PayPal and British VAT is deducted.
 - Lace in the UK is still classed as “viable”, unlike other crafts which are Extinct, Critically Endangered or Endangered. For more, see <https://heritagecrafts.org.uk/redlist/>
 - ALG NSW, Website and weblog - <https://www.facebook.com/groups/489032435165805/> G NSW, Website and weblog - <http://www.lacemaking.com.au/sydney.html>
 - ALG NSW, Facebook page - <https://www.facebook.com/NswBranchAustralianLaceGuild/>
 - ALG NSW, Facebook group - <https://www.facebook.com/groups/AusLaceGuildNSW/>
 - ALG NSW, Instagram - www.instagram.com/nsw_lace_guild
 - Queanbeyan Lace Makers, Facebook - <https://www.facebook.com/groups/QBNlacemakers/>
 - Bobbin Lace Downunder, Facebook - <https://www.facebook.com/groups/1010713895962787/>
 - Bobbin Lace Makers, Facebook - <https://www.facebook.com/groups/bobbinlacemakers/>
 - Needle Lace Australia, Facebook - <https://www.facebook.com/groups/489032435165805/>
 - Lace8 lace design software, Facebook - <https://www.facebook.com/groups/Lace8Users/>
 - While Belgian borders are closed, affecting mail-outs from Kantcentrum Bruges, see them on Facebook at *A P-lace Together* (1,300 members), currently featuring free weekly challenges in a variety of lace styles (Torchon, Bruges Flower, etc.):
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/299120214389826/>
- The Lace Centre in Brioude, France, has posted a bookmark pattern in 50/2 thread (useful if you want practice with dropping in/out colour) on their Facebook page::
<https://www.facebook.com/hoteldeladentellebrioude/>
- Bruges is hoping to hold an exhibition of the challenges later in the year. Brioude hopes to spread a bit of cheer and also honour frontline workers with pattern, Email rodbyatt@hotmail.com for a pdf of patterns and send in photos of your attempts for publication in *isoLACE*.
- Jenny Brandis (WA) has YouTube videos, lace patterns (including her Pattern-of-the-Month – the one in May is based on Honeycomb) from Etsy - <http://www.brandis.com.au/>
 - See the Heart Challenge 2020 and four spider patterns by Maribel Albert (also her tote bag pattern) for *Bolilleras* magazine on the international Lace Day (5 July 2020) Facebook page - <https://www.facebook.com/groups/InternationalLaceDay/>
 - Expertise Events has announced that the Sydney Craft & Quilt Fair has been postponed to October 29 - November 1, 2020 at the ICC Sydney, Darling Harbour to allow planning for the event to take place with more certainty. The event will be held over four days, rather than five.
 - For news from Textile Support about their lace events in Italy in 2021, see <https://www.textilesupport.net/textile-tours>
 - Covid-19 Global Quilt, drawing on contributions of virtual squares from textile artists around the world – @covid19quilt on Instagram.