

isoLACE

Issue #30 | June 2022

Announcement

Join us on our next Lace Day at Linnwood in August.

Inside This Issue

- NSW Lace display
- Commemorative Award
- Crochet Flowers Workshop
- Traditional Czech Tulle Lace
- Linnwood Library and Sale of Work
- Handspun Cotton and Lace

Front cover image credit: Alice's different styles of bobbin lace

Dear Members,

Welcome to the 30th edition of isoLACE, the ALG NSW Branch's coronavirus update.

We look forward to meeting for August Lace Day. In moving forward from the COVID-19 isolation and past lockdowns, let's start thinking of a new name for our monthly newsletter. Please [email us](#) with your suggestions as we would like you to vote during our next meeting,

We're also excited to announce a workshop by Pauline on crochet flowers, you'll find more details on page 4. Also, Rod's self-help lace group on traditional Czech tulle lace will have short catch-up session – it'll be lovely to see the works-in-progress and finished pieces!

As you will all be aware from previous notifications, we are having a sale this lace day so there will be plenty of bargains to be had. We have advertised outside the guild for this sale so hope to see you there but remember to be more aware of leaving your possessions unattended.

We continue to field calls from people interested in starting lace in their local area. As events unfold, keep an eye on the NSW Guild website and the NSW Guild Facebook page.

While some Lace Groups, such as Queanbeyan and Cooma, continue to meet regularly online using Skype, lace makers continue to maintain contact through social media: NSW Branch Facebook Group, TikTok and Instagram. Queanbeyan Lace meetings have restarted for fully vaccinated members. Please contact if you would like to join in on Skype or the in-person meetings qbnlacemakers@gmail.com or join the Queanbeyan Lace Makers on Facebook.

Heartfelt thanks to all those contributing work to isoLACE. 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.

Since 2023 is fast approaching, we're now welcoming suggestions for workshops, demonstrations, talks, activities, and events for future Lace Days. We encourage you to email us: lacguildnsw@gmail.com.

NSW Branch Committee



Calendar of Events | Linnwood Lace Days 2022



7 August 2022 | Lace Day @ Linnwood | Pauline's Crochet Flowers workshop | Traditional Czech Tulle Lace with Rod

2 October 2022 | Lace Day @ Linnwood | Robyn's Sale of Work

NSW Lace Display

We would like NSW members to dust off their bobbins/shuttles/needles/hooks and make one or many butterflies or flowers. They will be used for the NSW display which, fingers crossed, will happen later in the year.

We need you to submit your lace(s) by the August Lace Day as we'll need to get it ready for the NAC.

They will then be used as a special gift for one of our members - more info in future months. The brief includes any type of lace bobbin, tatted, crochet, knitted, needle, any colour or size, and can be 2D or 3D.



Commemorative Awards

The Commemorative Award is a Biennial Award created in 2000 in memory of members who are no longer with us, who have made a significant contribution to the Guild.

Initially, on alternate occasions new and experienced lace makers were invited to submit lace of any type and in any form, from a bookmark to a bedspread for competition.

The winner will be decided by popular vote at the Annual General Meeting. This year, due to circumstances, all lace makers will be eligible to enter. You may enter any type of lace (not necessarily recently made) and any article of any size.

The Award was usually held in even years, but due to matters mostly beyond our control, there has been a lapse over recent years. This is an opportunity to showcase the work being done by members and for entrants to have the chance to win a worthwhile prize if successful.

This competition is to be held at the August A.G.M and the winner will be decided by popular vote. Entries need to be brought along to the A.G.M. in August (no entry form, no entry fee).

Don't think you are not good enough! It is not necessarily the best made piece of lace which wins this award but the piece which has the most popular appeal!!



Crochet Flowers Workshop

Come and join us to make mini lace flowers with Pauline. You can also consider contributing your crochet flower to the NSW Lace Display (if you wish).

The aim of workshop is to teach participants how to make flowers with the use of crochet for a dimensional effect.

The requirement is a knowledge of basic crochet stitches. You will also need a steel small crochet hook of size 3UK/1.25mm or 4UK/1.00mm with thread such as Mercer 20 or 40 (may be too fine).

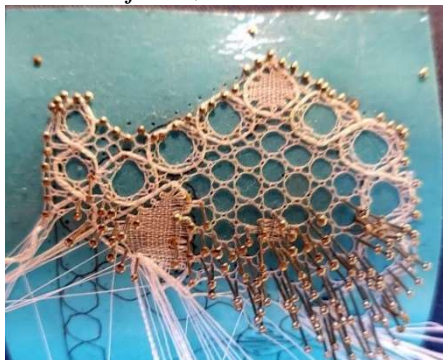


Traditional Czech Tulle Lace – June Lace Day



Thanks to Phil for bringing the Bobbinlacee resources to our attention. Where would we be without her antennae out for events in the global lace community. In this resource, Germany provides Starts & Finishes; Austria has a Torchon lavender bag pattern and France has a spectacular polychrome leaves pattern. Thanks to everyone who came along and showed such enthusiastic curiosity and collaborative sharing of ideas. Before the session, several participants had prepared the pricking and threads and started work on Projects 2A and 2B of the Czech Republic Handbook from the www.bobbinlacee.edu website; others scoped out the project and are likely to attempt in Finca 20 and 30. Key learnings included: intended function (something practical or something decorative) will dictate thread size and scale of the pricking; the lack of a closed pin in the ground was new for some: cross, pin, twist-twist-twist for the ground; given the openness of the lace, make as secure and strong a start as possible: secure the threads with a couple of twists at the start pins; start upper LH corner with 2 passive pairs left footside and the other 2 pairs forming the straight edge, turning, then become the right edge footside; braids are called for in the footsides because of the big distance between pins (Twist, Cross, Twist, Cross, etc.), otherwise TT borrowed from Torchon.

At the August Lace Day we will have a brief photo opportunity of finished/WIP. For those wishing to explore the traditional foundation of the two contemporary pieces, consider Project 1, as illustrated.



For further information, contact Rod Byatt at rodbyatt@hotmail.com or 0455 172 933.



Linnwood Library

From Maureen

Dear All,

I'm sure there were a lot of very exhausted people on Sunday night. I do hope those of you who were transporting car loads of books, pillows, cottons, etc. all made it home safely.

I would like to say how impressed I was with the teamwork that was shown on Sunday - some other Lace Guild members other than those receiving this email were also part of that teamwork. What seemed like an impossible task was achieved. All the prior planning of collecting, sorting, pricing the donated goods, packing, and storing the contents of the library, organisation of the storage, discussions with council and other behind the scenes planning that I'm not aware of seemed impossible - but not for this group!

Thanks, and recognition of time and energy must also be extended to the brothers, husbands and other non-members who helped on the day.

The determination of members of the NSW Branch of the Lace Guild to overcome the many obstacles of the last couple of years is admirable and commendable.

Hopefully there will be more certainty in the future regarding the library and contents for the trading table at Linnwood and we can all relax and return to what we love doing - making lace!

The Maid's Room

In 2005, over eighty members of the Guild met for the first time at Linnwood House, Guildford. Since the early 1980s, NSW Branch Lace Days had been held at Annandale Public School. It was a central venue for many members, but it's one drawback was the absence of a permanent library space, since the school could provide only one cupboard. The library books had to be brought to the school for each lace day and as the library grew, it had to be divided into several large storage boxes and stored at several members' homes.

Friends of Linnwood, who manage Linnwood Hall, a heritage house dating from 1891, agreed for the Guild Branch to use the house for our lace days. As well as the large main room, kitchen and hallway, Friends of Linnwood also made available a smaller room, the Maid's Room, to use as storage for our resources.

The lace archives were stored in three map cabinets, kindly donated by the Roads and Traffic Authority. Additional shelving was acquired after a generous grant by the National Administrative Committee of the Australian Lace Guild.





Sunday 10 July 2022. Open Day, 11am-4pm. Stallholders: various arts & crafts and community information. On the front lawn: American Independent Car Clubs (Studebaker, Packard, Hudson-AMC, Willys Overland vehicles); Italian Made Social Motoring Club (Alfa Romeo, Fiat), FX-FJ Holden Car Club. In the front of the house: Parramatta Brass Band (11.30am-1.30pm with a 20min break). Inside the house: Display of World War II domestic memorabilia.

Sunday 4 August 2022. Public Meeting and Annual General Meeting, 2pm. Guest Speaker, Ronda Gaffey on Parramatta Female Factory.

Sunday 11 September 2022. Open Day, 11am-4pm. Stallholders: various arts & crafts, and community information. On the front lawn: Mustang Owners' Club; Shelby Car Club. In front of the house, City of Holroyd Brass Band. Inside the house: display of the Carnival Glass Collectors Association.

Sale of Work – October Meeting – Sunday 2nd October

At the October meeting I will be bringing a wide range of items for sale. Towards the end of the year my handmade goods are sold in a number of places as it draws closer to Christmas. Many of these handmade items would make lovely gifts for Christmas or other celebrations. All of the following items are handmade by myself and I always receive many compliments about my work.

- Children's toys and items for play
- Dolls for children
- Cushions
- A wide range of useful baby items for gifts
- A range of Christmas items and gifts
- A wide range of gifts for friends and family
- Children's library bags and kindy hand towels
- Handmade lace items for gifts
- Market and storage bags
- A variety of hair decorations for girls
- Swimming pool bags for children
- A variety of aprons
- Embroidered items

These will be displayed at Linwood House for you to peruse. I will not have any credit facilities if you wish to purchase items, so you will need to bring cash. I will have change on the day

Robyn Cocks

Handspun Cotton and Lace

By Lisa Halden

During the lockdown in 2021, I started to learn to spin cotton. I was introduced to cotton spinning with Rochelle (lacemakingsupplies.com.au) and thought it was just amazing! Then I took a few workshops using a Takhli spindle because it was less intimidating than using a spinning wheel. I was determined to make some lace weight yarn and wanted to make lace out of handspun yarn. I ordered a beginner's kit which included different types of cotton fibers, a Takhli spindle and bowl from [Spinners' Cotton – 100% Australian Cotton Fibres \(spinnerscotton.com.au\)](http://spinnerscotton.com.au). When I started spinning, the cotton became quite fine – I ended up with cotton thread.

It was interesting to be introduced to different types of cotton because the staple length and colour vary accordingly. Why's this important? It does help with the spinning experience - some types of cotton are easier to spin than others. Basically, Pima cotton is a long staple cotton while the Upland cotton is short staple. It's easier to spin with Pima cotton because of the staple length and it doesn't pill. It's like how we see marketers say, 'Egyptian cotton, it's high quality and durable'. However, I do enjoy working with the naturally coloured cottons too, it comes in a beautiful cinnamon (brown) or green!

Interestingly, white cotton is much preferred in the fast fashion industry for various reasons, especially so it can be bleached and dyed. But lace is a slow art form so I'm enjoying the process from start to finish. I've sampled some Pima cotton in needle lace, and you can see the process from spinning singles and plying in the photos below. I'm spinning quite a bit of cotton to work on a major piece (a collar) – you will see it eventually. One day, I will also try bobbin lace too, maybe tatting, and crochet.





What's up?

Please refer to the website for the What's up segment: <http://www.lacemaking.com.au/whats-up--important-links.html>