AUSTRALIAN LACE GUILD
NSW BRANCH INC

Lace_E News
Volume #22

NEWS FROM THE PRESIDENT

FINISH READING ON PG. 3

WELCOME

Our 22nd edition of Lace_E News - the ALG NSW Branch's monthly newsletter.

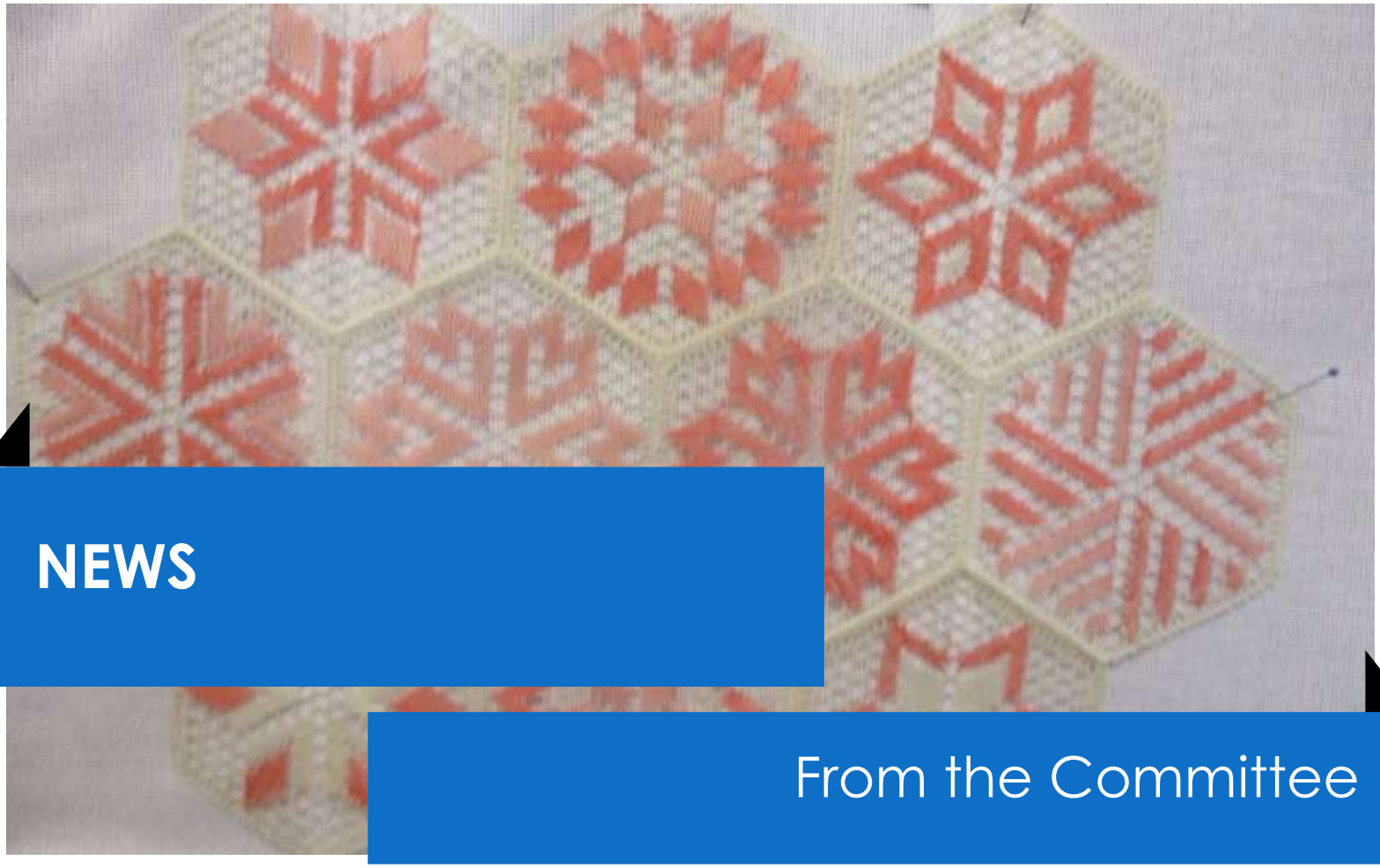
Website:
https://www.lacemaking.com.au/

THE STORY OF FRIENDSHIP WITH NORMA

FINISH READING ON PG. 5

LACE UPDATES FROM MEMBERS

FINISH READING ON PG. 6



NEWS

From the Committee

Dear Members,

Welcome to the August edition of Lace_E News! We had a wonderful Sydney Lace meeting in August as we enjoyed social lace making. Members also received a free lace making (lace related) book on arrival, participated in a competition and shared some pieces of lace during the 'show and tell'.

Most importantly, the AGM provided insight to the guild's current updates, and we've elected committee members. Please see the President's message.

We also have some very sad news to share with you. With sadness wish to inform you of the passing of three lovely lacemakers. Sheila Price was a very active member in the NSW Kurri Kurri Area. Nolene Lafferty is another well-known member, poet and admin for Gumlace and Facebook groups Bobbin Lace Downunder and Queanbeyan Lacemakers, and creator of Cooma Lacemakers. Additionally, since the last Linnwood meeting Norma Warnecke's health has deteriorated, and she has sadly left us. She will be missed not only in the lace guild but all the other groups she also supported. Robyn has kindly written an article on Norma so please continue reading on page 5. All three lace makers will be missed.

Please remember to get in touch with the committee if you have anything you'd like to share for our future newsletters by emailing: laceguildnsw@gmail.com

Thank you,

NSW Branch Committee

From the President

I hope the recent dangerous weather has not affected you. The wild weather certainly came as a shock after days of warm to hot weather here in Bathurst.

The August meeting at Linnwood included the AGM and it was lovely to see members step up to fill all the positions on the State Committee. The new Committee are:

- President: Elizabeth Stoneman
- Vice President: Ann Kintominas
- Secretary: Elizabeth Barnett
- Treasurer: Maureen Gibson
- Committee members: Barbara Stokes, Pauline Garland, Elizabeth Allen, and Robyn Cocks.
- Editor: Lisa Haldon
- Librarian: Christine Johnson
- Public Officer: Rochelle Sutherland.

At the AGM, the winners of the Jenny Rees Service Award were announced. The committee decided to give two awards as the judging was evenly split.

The winners are Norma Warnecke and Alice Vokac.

Thank you to the members who took the time to nominate a person for this award.

"The story of a friendship with Norma."

Norma

From Robyn

How do you describe the life of Norma? A best friend to me and probably a best friend to many, many people. She was a 'people person'.

This tribute could also be called, "The story of a friendship with Norma".

I met Norma many years ago stewarding lace at the Castle Hill Show. She looked after the bobbin and needle lace, whilst I looked after the tatting. We spent a week together each year, every busy day doing our stewarding duties so that the lace could be judged and displayed. So, I got to know Norma pretty well as we chatted whilst doing our work, and after the first show I came away with a good friend.

Norma was passionate about lace and worked to make lace making known to as many people as she could find. This passion showed in a number of ways.

Norma passed on her lace making knowledge to many people when asked to help. She was an 'expert' that people would go to when needing help with their problems with lace. A lot of times at Epping meetings she would not have much time to make any lace for herself.

Also, she would go around her lacemaking groups checking out who was preparing lace for the next show. If not, then she would work her magic, finally getting the person to commit to making something for the upcoming show. I have even seen her fill out an entry form, get the person to sign it, and then Norma would occasionally pay for the item to enter the show, in order to get enough entries. Before the show she would collect the items, and take them to

the show and return pieces and any prize money afterwards to the competitor. 'Twisting people's arms' was done in a very gentle way.

She twisted my arm to join the Australian Lace Guild as well as ATASDA. It took awhile for me to join ATASDA, but eventually I paid up and went along. We sat together, and spent many happy hours at Epping (ATASDA and Lace) and Linnwood (Lace) in Guildford, doing our craft. I am so happy that Norma introduced me to ATASDA

Communication between us was often, by phone and email sending photos of what we were doing and chatting about things we wanted to make. When going through a very difficult recovery last year, Norma was the person who talked me through some of the dark days and I could ring her at any time. I just loved my friend.

Last year we decided to travel to Melbourne and then on to Bendigo (mainly to see the Bendigo Woollen Mills) where we hoped to 'buy more wool'. It was scheduled for March this year, but events that occurred meant that it was postponed to September this year. So, we booked and then as the year went on, it was apparent that maybe Norma was not well enough to go. She cancelled. So, as I sit here and write this tribute to 'our' friend, I find it incredible that I leave for the holiday in Bendigo this afternoon, but not with my friend. I will remember her each day on the trip, and buy some wool in her honour. I am sure that her empty chair at craft meetings and classes will be a reminder to you of the utmost 'gem' we have lost.

TATTING TIP BY Robyn Cocks

Travelling with my tatting

For the last dozen or so years my husband and I have travelled all over the world. When we fly, I like to have my tatting with me and am so happy that I can carry some work in a small container which allows me to work on long flights.

I purchased this glasses case in Prague – a city which I adore, having visited it several times. The case is made from metal and has been painted. I just love it as it reminds me of travels and it is so small but compact in order to fit in my tatting requirements.

Of course you are not allowed to travel on planes with scissors, needles or crochet hooks, so I have some alternatives.

A few years back I purchased an item which allows me to cut thread but does not have any pointy ends. It is shaped like a flower and has small cutting blades which are just visible without sticking out and causing problems. It does not always cut with a clean cut, so I cut with it when I finish an item and am able to make a cleaner cut when we have landed as I carry a small pair of scissors in my large suitcase which I am able to use later.

Crochet hooks are useful, so instead I carry shuttles which have a pointy end. This allows me to join tatting as well as undo some errors.

My last piece of equipment which I put into my glasses case is a pin. I have squashed a small end of crochet thread on a circular piece of cardboard, and I have placed the pin into the cardboard where it has never been discovered or removed by security. I take it with me so that very difficult errors in my tatting may be easily undone, so that I don't have to wait till we have landed to go on with my tatting.

Usually, my glasses case contains a couple of large sized shuttles so that I can store thread without having to take a ball of thread. My balls of thread can be stored in my large suitcase which goes into the hold of the plane.

Finally, my glasses case contains some small items. I often work on small motifs, or else carry a few butterflies – to give away if someone is interested enough to come and ask questions or talk about what I am doing. A lot of men seem to want to come and tell me that their mother or grandmother did this "crochet stuff" – so that I have to explain that it is called "tatting" and how it is different to crocheting. I give them a choice of taking a small butterfly if they wish.

Member's lace

Gabriel showed a lovely Shetland Shawl made around the 90s and other treasures.

What a beautiful win!

Image and photography credit: Sheila, Barbara, members, Stefanie, and Lisa.