AUSTRALIAN LACE GUILD
NSW BRANCH INC

Lace_E News
Volume #33

NEWS FROM THE PRESIDENT

FINISH READING ON PG. 3

WELCOME

Our 33rd edition of Lace_E News - the ALG NSW Branch's monthly newsletter.

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

NSW DISPLAY

FINISH READING ON PG. 5

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MEMBER UPDATES

FINISH R3EADING ON PG. 4

NEWS

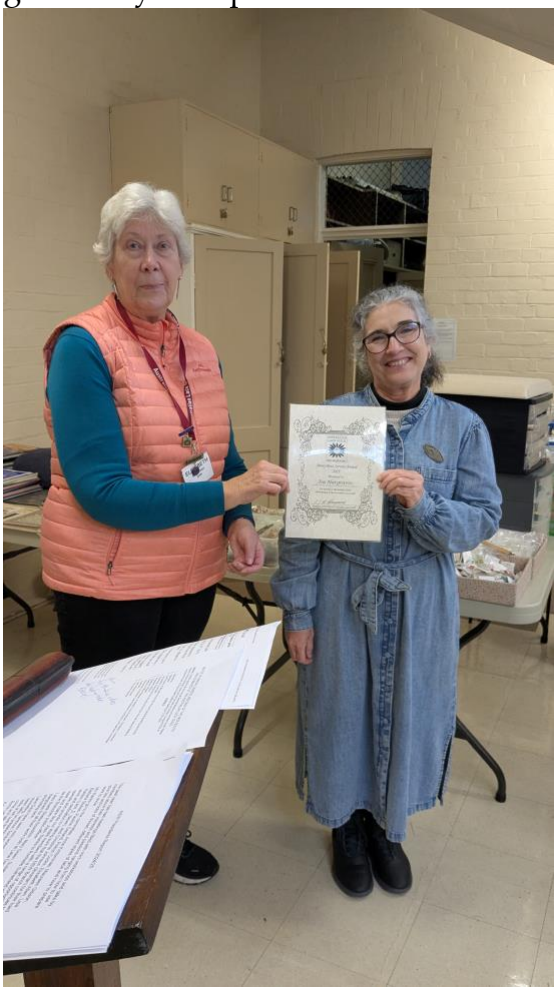
From the Committee

Dear Members

Welcome to the August edition of Lace E News. We are looking forward to Spring and seeing more warmer weather and maybe some time outside to make some lace!

Committee Members for 2025/26
Following the AGM held at the August Lace Day the committee for 2025/26 are:
President: Elizabeth Stoneman
Vice President: Anne Kintominas
Treasurer: Maureen Gibson
Secretary: Vacant
Committee Members:
Barbara Stokes
Robyn Cocks
Pauline Garland
Elizabeth Allen
Librarian: Christine Johnson
Editor: Lisa Halden
To contact the NSW Branch committee please email laceguildnsw@gmail.com

We would like to congratulate Isa for her dedication to lace and her invaluable support of the Guild. This year, Isa was recognised as the winner of the Jenny Rees Award. She is a powerhouse volunteer at the Textile Centre, running monthly workshops there, as well as sessions at our Linnwood meetings. Isa also leads a group at her local library, assists with the Somersby group, and actively promotes Australian lace by entering both local and international competitions. Her workshops at Lace Days have been especially well received, and we are very grateful for her enthusiasm and generosity. The photo below features our President, Elizabeth, with Isa



Please 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

The past year has had meetings filled with mini workshops and talks by members about their interests and passions ranging from how to use your bits and bobs of thread, different styles of lace and how to prepare work to show.

My thanks go to the committee, Anne Kintominas, Maureen Gibson, Barbara Stokes, Pauline Garland, Robyn Cocks, Elizabeth Allen, Lisa Halden (Lace_E_News), and Christine Johnson (librarian) for their hard work and dedication to making sure that the NSW Branch continues to operate and provide our state members with a range of opportunities to meet and make lace. Also, thanks to Rochelle Sutherland who stands as the Branches public officer.

I also thank Sheila Bowditch, Mary Green, Suzanne Slattery, and Isa Hargraves for all their work both at Lace Days and out in the community promoting lace.

Lace Days have seen mini workshops on many laces including crocheting, Tambour, Torchon, and even Japanese Braiding. There have been talks on preparing items for Shows and how to use the bits and bobs of left over threads. We were fortunate to have Annette Meldrum come and talk about Borris Lace, including her find of a large piece of Borris Lace at the Goulbourne Catholic Cathedral. A special mention to Barbara Stokes who ran a very successful Lace making day at the Embroiderers Guild and thank you to those members who assisted Barbara at the event.

To our members who continue to support lace at the Powerhouse Museum, both at Ultimo and Castle Hill, a big thank you for your dedication to this project despite the difficulties caused by the closure of the main museum.

The group convenors around the state who support their community of lace makers, the NSW Branch would not exist without your dedication and support/promotion of lace in your community. These groups demonstrate lace making in their communities and support members and beginners in lace making. Two new groups have started this year, one by Isa and a second one at Bathurst.

It is with sadness that I mention Norma Warneke and Pat MacDonald who have passed away. Both ladies were long time supporters of the Lace Guild, quiet achievers, who are much missed at Lace Days. They are not the only members who have either retired or passed away this year, who are missed by their fellow lace makers.

SUMMARY OF TREASURER'S REPORT TO AGM

As of 30 June 2025, the NSW Branch had 174 financial members.
The rent for Linnwood House for the Lace Days is $1,188, paid to Cumberland Council.
Total income for 2024/25 was $ 7,547.00 which included $ 2,093 from the Trading Table and $ 1,134 refund of rent for Linnwood House.
Over 2024/25 a total of $ 3,894 was raised for the Jenny Fisher Scholarship Fund.
Total Expenditure was $10,697.64 which includes the $ 3,894 raised for the JF Scholarship Fund.
The current balances for the NSW Branch are:
General account $ 5,046
Incentive Saver Account $60,412

NSW Display at 2025 National AGM: The Sheep - a Flock or a Mob?

This is a reminder that the theme for the NSW display at the National AGM in September is sheep. The photo shows some of the sheep on display at the June Lace Day at Linnwood. The deadline for contributions has been extended to the August Lace Day and while most of the flock so far have been made in conventional "sheep-ish" colours, at least one has had an encounter with a whole lot of coloured paint and our single black sheep has since gained a couple of companions. The lace for the sheep may be in any colour, lace style or thread that you fancy. It is a great opportunity to test out a ground or other thread/pattern idea on a small scale and contribute to the NSW display at the same time. The lace needs to be 8cm x 10cm - no smaller and preferably not much larger. All lace will be returned to the contributor (or retained in a stash for future group displays if the maker doesn't want it back).

Lace Retreat May 2026

Proposed Dates May 15 – 17 or 29-31

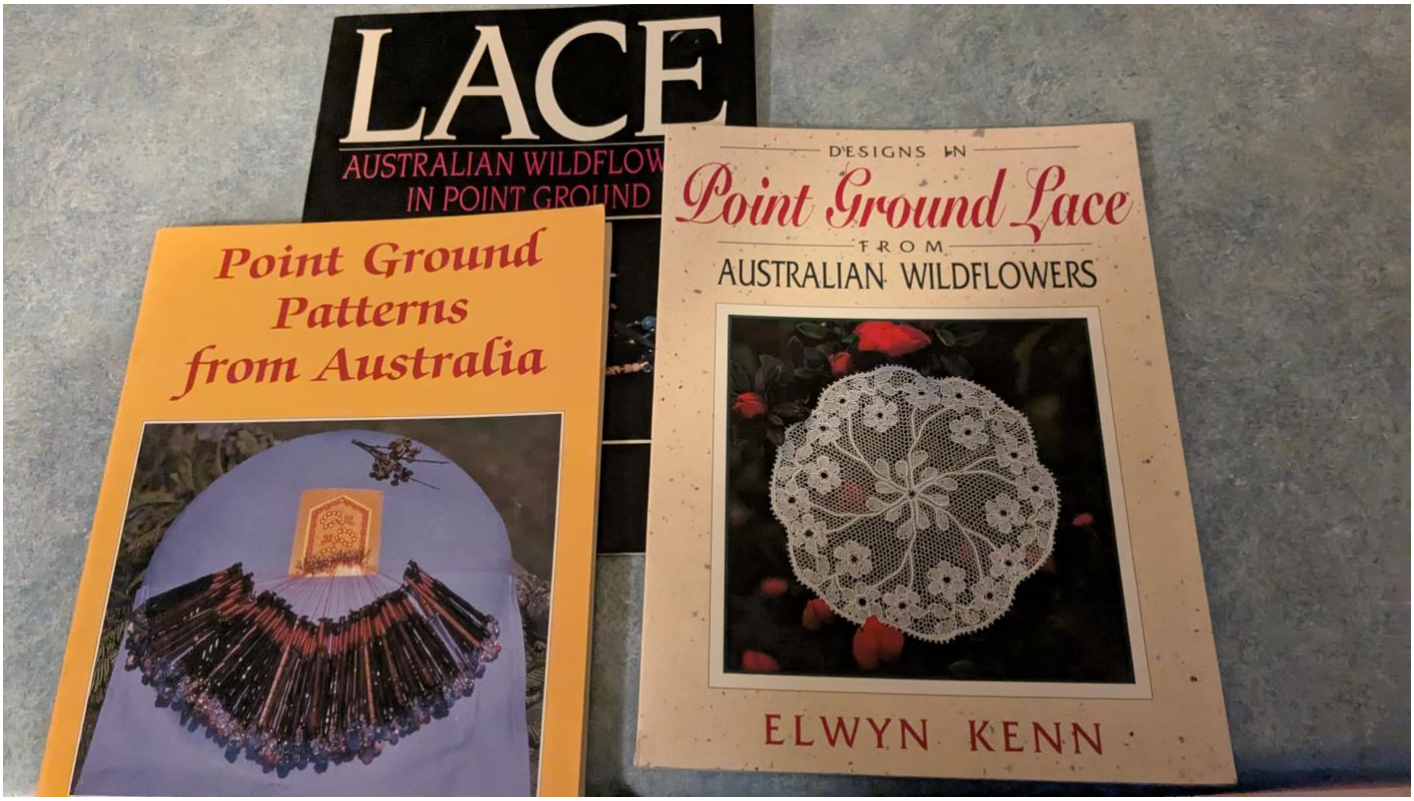
Location Winborne Edmund Rice Retreat Centre, Mulgoa Valley, 1315 Mulgoa Road Mulgoa.
Facilities: 3 cottages with each cottage having 8 twin share rooms with ensuites, a common area with TV, lounges, dining table, and chairs.

Cost per night $ 88 per adult twin share or $132 per night single.
Catering can be self-catered or use catering at $220 per night.
Transport: there is a bus from Penrith Sation that stops at the gate.

Items for Sale

Looking for a neatly shaped pricker? Try this soft-sided blade knife from Fiskars — simply replace the blade with a needle and you're ready to go! Currently available from Spotlight for $12.75.

We also have several of Elwyn Kenn's books for sale. So, if you're wondering *wattle* you make next, why not consider these? A second-hand set of three is available for $50 (including postage). Contact laceguildnsw@gmail.com if interested.



Member's Lace and Updates

Barbara facilitated a mini workshop for staff at the Powerhouse Museum on Monday, 11th August. As it was held during lunchtime and aimed at beginners, 12 pillows were prepared, and work was started.

The below was made by Barbara Stokes, it includes lots of unintended variations. Torchon sampler designed by Lia Baumeister-Jonker.

Our Lace group meets in Earlwood Public Library on the second and fourth Thursday of the month, 6pm. These are some of our displays this year.

Lace workshop in the Powerhouse Museum - Castle Hill:

Bookings are available in the link below.

https://powerhouse.com.au/program/lace-workshop-2025#a-part-of

The same workshops that are offered during the Guildford Lace Days are run on the second Saturday of the month at the Powerhouse Museum. They are free, but bookings are essential.

September: Egg. [12 pairs] Isa Hargraves original design.
Advanced technique: Taking the bobbins outside. [12 pairs]

October: Halloween ghost [16 pairs] Isa Hargraves original design.
Advanced technique: tallies on half ground. [16 pairs]

November: Surfboard bookmark [8 pairs] Isa Hargraves original design.
Advanced technique: Chaos ground. [8 pairs]

December: Christmas tree [6 pairs] Adapted design from Veronica Sorenson published “75 Quick & Easy Bobbin Lace Patterns”.
Advanced technique: Honeycomb filling. [22 pairs]