

WHAT'S ON MARCH 2026

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

THE GUILD'S OWN EVENTS

Our events programme of workshops, talks and demonstrations, is well underway and we hope you'll find lots to tempt you during 2026!

NEW! Exciting in Person Workshop News

We are delighted to announce we are teaming up with Hobby Craft to provide beginners' workshops in their stores.

Starting in the Harlow store with Trustee Anthea Godfrey stitching freeform motifs on **25 April, 17 May and 6 June all at 10.30-12.30** - 7 places available per workshop.

Plus Trustee Lucy Barter will be in the Chelmsford store teaching basic stitches using a choice of four patterns on **25 April, 16 May, 13 June all at 10.30-12.30** - 7 places available per workshop. Please note workshop participants must be 16 years or over. More details can be found here: **In Person Workshops - Embroiderers' Guild**

Short Workshops

For Guild members workshops or demonstrations cost £2.99. Workshops for non-members cost £15, whilst demonstrations cost £10. We record our workshops, demos and talks. These are available on demand around 14 days after the live event. Those who have purchased a live ticket for an event will automatically be emailed a personal link to the



9 May 2026 Ruth Parkinson-Johns



25 April 2026 Caroline Homfray

event recording. On Demand recordings can be found here: **On demand - past talks and workshops, Embroiderers' Guild**

The Guild annual membership fee is £42 or twelve payments of £3.95 per month. If you fancy doing three or more workshops it's worth considering becoming a Guild member. More details here: **Membership Options - Embroiderers Guild**

Members' Discount Codes for Workshops and Demonstrations

The discount codes are in the members' area of the Guild website under Member News, and the link you need for the workshop discounts is: **Member discounts for Workshops and Demonstrations - Embroiderers' Guild** - you will need to be logged into your members' account for this link to work.

Coming up next in our 2026 programme:

Workshops

25 APRIL 2026 FROM DOODLING TO DESIGN IN UNDER TWO HOURS WITH CAROLINE HOMFRAY

Follow along with Caroline as she guides you through playful techniques for generating embroidery designs using simple drawing processes. Create interesting and unique designs quickly without subject matter or previous drawing experience.

9 MAY 2026 PAINT, PRINT AND STITCH LANDSCAPES WITH RUTH PARKINSON-JOHN'S

Watch your creativity evolve as you experience Ruth's intuitive and relaxed approach to developing an atmospheric landscape using mixed media and hand embroidery.

HANDMADE Oxford

The International Contemporary
Craft Festival

12—14 June 2026
Waterperry Gardens

Shop From Over 175
Designer—Makers

Craft Demonstrations

Learning Workshops

Artisan Food & Music

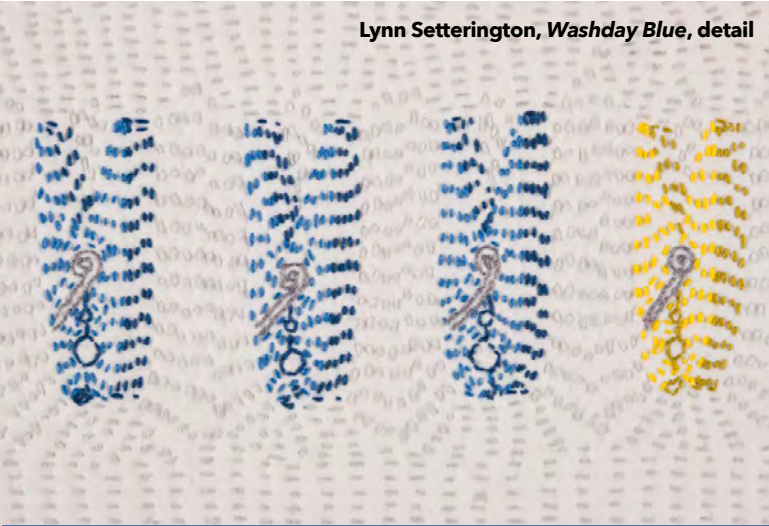
Call-out for Professional
Embroiderers to exhibit

For show details, and to apply,
handmadeinbritain.co.uk

Organised by
HANDMADE
in Britain



Lynn Setterington, *Washday Blue*, detail



20 May 2026 Lynne Setterington

Thread Talks

A series of online lectures. Speakers talk about inspirations, community projects and other textile art related topics. They also discuss creativity and how they create their pieces. *Talks coming up:*

15 APRIL 2026 THE DARNINGS WITH JENNI DUTTON

Join Jenni's exploration of time, memory, identity and loss, as she shares the personal and emotional story behind her 16 portraits "Dementia Darnings".

20 MAY 2026 TACTILE SOCIAL HISTORY WITH LYNN SETTERINGTON

Enjoy a snapshot of key projects and drivers from Lynn's long career, ranging from the small early vignettes of home to kantha quilts and her more recent collaborative projects.

6 JUNE 2026 DECORATIVE TEXTILES AND DESIGN THEMES OF THE XHOSA PEOPLE OF THE EASTERN CAPE, SOUTH AFRICA WITH MARY SLEIGH

Enjoy this beautifully illustrated talk as Mary guides you through her collection of traditional Xhosa textiles and beadwork whilst celebrating identity and adornment.

18 JULY 2026 A FREE TALK FOR GUILD MEMBERS - LIFE IN A SINGLE STITCH WITH HELEN STEVENS

Let Helen entertain you with an account of an adventurous lifetime in embroidery. From Anglo Saxon influences to the modern cyber age, enjoy the immersive narrative of a life in stitch.

Demonstrations

20 JUNE 2026 SPOTS, STRIPES, BEADS AND TASSELS - EXPLORING IDEAS BASED ON A XHOSA THEME WITH MARY SLEIGH

Following on from Mary's Thread Talk discover how Xhosa traditional textiles and decorative arts can inspire idea development, innovation and experimentation in your work.

Fabulous Feedback

We are always delighted to hear your feedback and this month we can share with you some of the comments received following Polly Woolstone's Thread Talk "From Sketchbook to Final Piece":

"I really enjoyed Polly's talk, she is so inspirational. I have been fortunate enough to hear her talk and do a workshop with her but I still learn something new and inspiring from listening to her. It was an absolute delight to attend Polly's Thread Talk and hear about her textile journey, as well as seeing so many examples of her work. I've been inspired to go out with my sketchbook this weekend. (Carole B)

I really enjoyed Polly's talk. Super work and wonderful to listen to such a fluent speaker. (Margaret)

*You can still access Polly's talk online On Demand: **THREAD TALKS: Polly Woolstone: From Sketchbook to Final Piece Tickets, Wednesday, Dec 17, 2025 to Monday, Aug 31, 2026 | Eventbrite***

Find more details and how to book these talks at: embroiderersguild.com/thread-talks

Recorded events will automatically be made available to all ticket holders within 14 days.

Our On Demand Recordings of previous talks can be found here: embroiderersguild.com/on-demand-past-talks-and-workshops

Other Guild Events

GUILD COLLECTION EXHIBITION 2026 SEW DAINTY: THE ART OF TINY STITCHES

This exhibition explores how miniature stitches and tiny designs are used to express creativity in the form of embroidery. Take a closer look to appreciate the extraordinary detail hidden in the smallest of things. In addition to the announcement of this exciting new exhibition, the Embroiderers' Guild Gallery has relocated downstairs, just off the Discover Bucks galleries.

Embroidery Gallery: Sew Dainty - Discover Bucks

OTHER EVENTS OF INTEREST

Current Events

BEDFORD UNTIL 19 APRIL 2026 UKRAINIAN FOLK ART AND HERITAGE EXHIBITION

An exhibition of beautiful, colourful, regional antique costumes of Ukraine curated by a local Ukrainian artist. Ukrainian folk art workshops will be run during the year. The Higgins Art Gallery & Museum, Castle Lane, Bedford, MK40 3XD. **Exhibitions**

Sew Dainty

The Art of Tiny Stitches

**10 January 2026 -
December 2026**

This new exhibition celebrates the beauty and skill of producing textiles on a small-scale.

For more details please scan the QR code or visit
discoverbucksmuseum.org



Supported using public funding by
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ENGLAND**



BRUTON UNTIL 11TH APRIL 2026

'BALANCING ACT' ALICE KETTLE

In this dynamic interplay of thread, Kettle explores lived experience where rupture and renewal are in a perpetual balancing act. Bo Lee Gallery, West End, Bruton, BA10 0BH. **Alice Kettle: Balancing Act | 7 February - 11 April 2026 | Bo Lee Gallery**

FORFAR UNTIL 30 MAY 2026 'NOVEL IDEAS': DUNDEE STITCH & TEXTILE GROUP EXHIBITION

Gallery open Friday to Monday only 10.30 to 4pm, free entry. MEFFAN GALLERY, 20 W High Street, Forfar, DD8 1BB.

LONDON UNTIL JUNE 2026

DIVINE AND MYTHICAL CREATURES FROM THE RSN COLLECTION & ARCHIVE

Featuring imaginary earthly and celestial beings, both human and animal spanning multiple centuries and continents. Hampton Court Palace, London, KT8 9AU. **Divine and Mythical Creatures from the RSN Collection & Archive - Royal School of Needlework**

LONDON UNTIL 21 JUNE 2026

WOMEN IN PRINT: 150 YEARS OF LIBERTY TEXTILES

William Morris Gallery, Lloyd Park, Forest Road, Walthamstow, London, E17 4PP. **Women in Print**

LONDON UNTIL 31 MAY 2026

CANTICLE OF THE BIRDS

A mixed-media exhibition inspired by the Sufi poet Farid ud-Din Attar, bringing together artists from the UK and beyond with artisans and young people in creative collaboration. In partnership with the Kings Foundation School of Traditional Arts, Royal School of Needlework, Drawing for the Planet, Songbird Survival and Kings Cross Academy. Aga Khan Centre Gallery. 10 Handyside Street, London, N1C 4DN **Canticle of the Birds - Aga Khan Centre**

LOUGHBOROUGH UNTIL 18 APRIL 2026

GROWTH: DESIGN NATION NOTTS

Mixed craft exhibition, Sock Gallery, Market Place, Loughbrough, LE11 3EB. **Design Nation Notts - Designer-Makers from Nottinghamshire and the surrounding area**

SOMERTON UNTIL 11 APRIL 2026

"FLIGHT" ART TEXTILES: MADE IN BRITAIN

An exhibition exploring the many meanings of flight as movement, freedom, and imagination. ACEarts, Market Place, Somerton, Somerset, TA11 7NB. The exhibition then moves to Mandell's Gallery, Elm Hill, Norwich, NR3 1HN 25 April until 23 May 2026.

GROUP Exhibitions

ULSTER UNTIL 17 SEPTEMBER 2026

"ASHES TO FASHION"

Marking 50 years since the 1976 Malone House fire that destroyed its entire costume and textile collection. The exhibition reveals how the team rebuilt that collection from scratch, featuring five centuries of garments and the only surviving original piece: the 1712 Lennox Quilt. Ulster Museum,

17 September 2026 Ashes to Fashion



Curator Charlotte Reynolds

Stranmillis Road, Botanic Gardens, Belfast, BT9 5AB, Northern Ireland. **Discover Together | Ulster Museum**

WARWICK UNTIL 11 APR 2026

FUSILIER MUSEUM: FOLLOWING THREADS

EXHIBITION: EXPLORING REGIMENTAL EMBROIDERY IN THE VICTORIAN AGE EXHIBITION.

An exploration of the embroidery work undertaken by members of the Royal Warwickshire Regiment in India and other locations, during the late Victorian period. More details here: **The Fusilier Museum, Warwick.**

Upcoming Events

ARUNDEL 28 MARCH UNTIL 23 APRIL 2026

"SPARKS OF HOPE TULIP EXHIBITION" ARUN CREATIVE STITCHERS

A textile and mixed media display. 10am until 4pm. Arundel Museum, opposite the entrance of Arundel Castle, Mill Road, West Sussex, BN18 9PA. **Sparks of Hope: Tulip Exhibition - Arundel Museum**

BANBURY 3 MAY UNTIL 5 JULY 2026

VISUALISE AT SULGRAVE MANOR

An exhibition of contemporary stitched textiles, Sunday, Monday and Tuesday, 10.30 until 4pm. Sulgrave Manor, Manor Road, Sulgrave, Banbury, OX17 2SD.

BATH 22 MAY UNTIL 6 JUNE 2026

'THE STITCH THAT BIT BACK'

An international textile exhibition exploring how traditional stitch continues to evolve in contemporary practice. Opening night: Friday 22 May, 6pm-late. Part of Fringe Arts Bath Festival, Bath, UK. Further information: www.fringeartsbath.co.uk/stitch

FONTWELL 23 UNTIL 25 APRIL 2026

'THE TREE OF LIFE': CREATIVE TEXTILES GROUP

An exhibition of embroidery and textile art, Denmans Garden, West Sussex, BN18 0SU.

The tree of life exhibition



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Offers & Giveaways



Psst! Embroidery magazine new promotion. Not yet a Guild member or Embroidery magazine subscriber? Look out for a limited edition pack of Mar/Apr *Embroidery* magazine plus a voucher for one of the Guild's online demos worth £10. Priced at £9.99 it can be found in Tesco

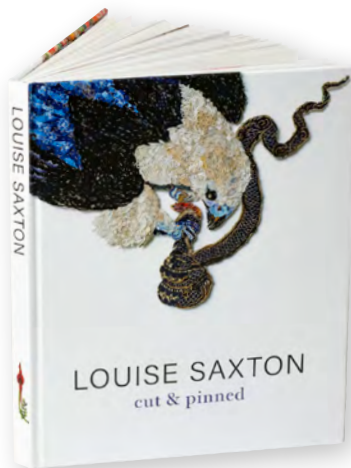
extra or WHS Travel (airports and railway stations). Numbers are limited.

Congratulations to Carole Batchcott who won our January giveaway, a pair of Koma and Metal Thread Embroidery book. Pam Feeser who won our February giveaway, Threads Through the Bible Souvenir guide (we have several copies to buy **here**) and Karen Newbrook who has won a copy of the NEW book from Phillipa Turnbull 'Crewelwork Then & Now'.

Louise Saxton 'Cut and Pinned' Book

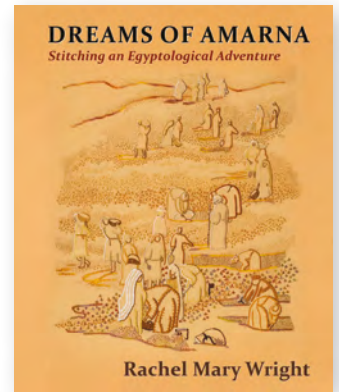
Reduced from £37.50 to £25: To purchase visit **Embroidery Merchandise - My Magazine Subscriptions**. Louise Saxton's gorgeous book Cut & Pinned reflects the artist's collecting, reclaiming and re-imagining

discarded needlework. Her reclaimed 'cut & pinned' needlework assemblages, make a significant contribution to the long line of artists seeking to level the playing field between what is considered fine art and what is dismissed as craft.



Guild member Rachel Mary Wright's Book offer 10% off:

Embark on a mesmerizing journey through the sands of time with Rachel as she reimagines ancient Egyptian art and history in embroidery and paint. The book priced at £28 plus p&p is available on the Guild merchandise page. A discounted price of £25 plus p&p is available to Guild members and Embroidery subscribers via this link: <https://bit.ly/468nhXR>



Search Press Books Offer: Use the code **EGBOOKS25** to get **25% off** your purchase. P&P is free for book orders that are over £25 after the EG discount offer has been applied. Using the discount code helps the Guild too as we get a small commission every time you use the code. Thank you.

Crewelwork Company Kit Discounts:

The Crewel Work Company have kindly provided an exclusive offer on the associated kits for the NEW Then & Now Book by Phillipa Turnbull & Hazel Blomkamp.

Guild members can take advantage of **10% OFF** the Blue Bird, Phoebe's Vineyard, Traditional Eagle & Greedy Squirrel kits.

Available to buy **here**. Use code: **EG-CWC** at the checkout.

This offer is available until the 31 March 2026.



LONDON 17 UNTIL 26 APRIL 2026

DICTIONARY: PRISM

An exploration of hidden meanings in embedded words. Open daily 11.00 to 18.00. The Art Pavilion, Mile End Park, London, E3 4QY.

2026 exhibition – PRISM TEXTILES

LONDON 10 APRIL UNTIL 10 MAY 2026

TEXTILE ART REDEFINED

Curated by Helen Adams, Saatchi Gallery, Kings Road, London. Free entry.

Textile Art Redefined » Saatchi Gallery

ROWSLEY 18 UNTIL 26 APRIL 2026

NOW AND THEN TEXTILE ART BY ART THROUGH TEXTILES

Peak Village, Chatsworth Rd, Rowsley, DE4 2JE.

For those travelling further afield

NORWAY UNTIL 5 APRIL 2026

THE DREAM BALLAD

Draumkvedet (The Dream Ballad) is the last of Torvald Moseid's major embroidered works, completed 7 years before his death. Kunstsilo, Sjølystveien 8, 4610 Kristiansand, Norway.

The Dream Ballad

USA UNTIL 11 APRIL 2026

SOURCE MATERIAL: LESSONS IN RESPONSIBLE FASHION

Drawing from The Textile Museum Collection, the exhibition highlights how cultures across time have cherished the resources needed to make textiles. The George Washington University Museum and The Textile Museum, 701 21st St. NW, Washington, DC 20052, USA.

Source Material: Lessons in Responsible Fashion | The George Washington University Museum and The Textile Museum | The George Washington University

Other opportunities

OPEN CALL THE STITCH THAT BIT BACK, FRINGE ARTS BATH FESTIVAL

Textile artists working in embroidery, weaving, lace, fibre art, or experimental stitch-based practices are invited to submit work for consideration.

To submit your work: please email the curator stitch@fringeartsbath.co.uk, visit **Fringe Arts Bath - The Stitch That Bit Back** for details how to apply. **Deadline:** 10 April 2026

OPEN CALL THE NATIONAL TRUST AND SUSSEX CONTEMPORARY

Submissions now OPEN for creatives to submit works for a 3 month exhibition at Standen House July 2026. The exhibition will celebrate contemporary responses to Standen and the Arts & Crafts Movement. An opportunity to have work curated within the main exhibition, or displayed throughout the house alongside the properties significant collection. We welcome work that

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[embroiderymagazine.co.uk](https://www.embroiderymagazine.co.uk)

engages with a contemporary response to the Arts & Crafts movement with a particular focus on:

- **Craftship, Nature, the material culture of home, Interior objects**

Submissions Open: 12 December 2025,

Submissions Close: 31 May 2026, **Exhibition**

Opens: July 2026. Visit the Instagram post

Instagram for more information on applying or email enquiries@thesussex.co.uk

HANDMADE OXFORD EXHIBITION

OPPORTUNITY:

Applications are now being accepted for professional embroiderers to exhibit at the 6th edition of Handmade Oxford. Established as one of the most respected craft fairs in the UK, Handmade Oxford continues to champion exceptional contemporary craft and design, bringing together leading designer-makers and discerning collectors in the beautiful surroundings of Waterperry Gardens in Oxfordshire.

The show will once again present a highly curated selection of over 175 established and emerging makers working across ceramics, jewellery, furniture, sculpture, fashion, textiles, glass, art and homewares. The 2026 programme will include live craft demonstrations, hands-on workshops led by makers, and live music.

Visit www.handmadeinbritain.co.uk for details and to apply.

Show dates: 12th-14th June 2026 (Set-up day on June 11th.)

For any other enquiries please email Dan Goode, Consultant Director of Handmade in Britain, at dan@handmadeinbritain.co.uk



FESTIVAL OF QUILTS

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NEC, Birmingham

World-renowned
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thefestivalofquilts.co.uk

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*T&Cs £2 off standard adult / concession tickets. Offer not valid on two-day, VIP or child tickets. Offer not valid on Sunday 2nd August. Transaction fee applies per order.

Artist: Daisy Aschehoug

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EVENTS CALENDAR 2025-26

TICKET AVAILABILITY KEY: AVAILABLE NOW (AN) COMING SOON (CS) ON DEMAND (OD)

TALKS

16 September - Kirstie Macleod - *The Red Dress* OD

14 October - Marion Plumb - *The Hidden World of the Geisha* OD

11 November - Cas Holmes - *Making Connections* OD

3 December - Polly Woolstone - *From Sketchbook to Final Piece* OD

7 January - Tanya Bentham - *Opus Anglicanum* OD

14 February - Anthea Godfrey - *Care & Presentation* OD

23 February - Phillipa Turnbull - *An introduction to Crewelwork* OD

5 March - Wendy Dolan - *A Change of Scale, the challenges of commissioned work* OD

14 March - Lucy Barter - *Victorian Needlework: From Domestic Decoration to Military Insignia* OD

15 April - Jenni Dutton - *The Darnings* AN

20 May - Lynn Settington - *Tactile Social History* AN

6 June - Mary Sleigh - *Xhosa Design Techniques of the Eastern Cape* AN

18 July - Helen Stevens - *Life in a Single Stitch* CS

5 September - Linda Hadden - *Samplers* CS

SHOWS 2025-26

Look out for **The World's Longest Embroidery** coming up at future shows.

Knit+Stitch featuring Graduate Showcase, Members' Challenge & Members' Project, Guild retail stall

- Alexandra Palace, London 8 - 11 October 2026
- Harrogate convention Centre, Harrogate 19 - 22 November 2026

Guild Collection Exhibition at Discover Bucks Museum, Aylesbury - *'Sew Dainty: The Art of Tiny Stitches'* from January 2026

***If you fancy doing three or more workshops or demos it's worth considering becoming a Guild member. More details here:**

Membership - Embroiderers' Guild

For more information and to book any of our events see our website: Activities - Embroiderers' Guild

WORKSHOPS & DEMONSTRATIONS

JUST £2.99 FOR GUILD MEMBERS*

13 September - Melanie Missin-Keating - DEMO: *Dyeing to do the Colour Wheel Demo* OD

25 October - Sarah Boardman - DEMO: *Small Steps in Swedish Weaving/Huck Embroidery* OD

1 November - Batool Showghi - DEMO: *Image transfer onto fabric prior to stitching* OD

24 January - Nicola Panteleo - WORKSHOP/DEMO: *Shibori inspired Furoshiki Cloths using natural dyes and modifiers* OD

3 February - Anne Brooke - WORKSHOP/DEMO: *Stitched Paper Book in a Box* OD

21 March - Helen Birmingham - *Mindful Stitching Process or Outcome?* OD

25 April - Caroline Homfray - WORKSHOP - *From Doodling to Design in under 2 hours* AN

9 May - Ruth Parkinson-Johns - WORKSHOP/DEMO: *Paint, Print & Stitch Landscapes* AN

20 June - Mary Sleigh - DEMO: *Exploring ideas based on a Xhosa theme* AN

MEMBERS' ACTIVITIES

MEMBERS' CHALLENGE: Theme for 2025-26 is *'Feast'*

- Entries judged and winners announced during **April 2026**
- Entries exhibited at Knit+Stitch Shows 2026 and Fashion & Embroidery Show 2027

MEMBERS' PROJECT: Theme for 2025-26 is *'Look In, Look Out'*

- Registration for Members' Project 2025-26 by **31 March 2026**
- Deadline for submission of completed entries **31 August 2026**
- Entries exhibited at Knit+Stitch Shows 2026 and Fashion & Embroidery Show 2027

Annual General Meeting: Online Saturday **18 July 2026 10.30am BST**

AWARDS & SCHOLARSHIPS

Three Guild scholarships: under 30, over 30, & Education application deadline is **28 June 2026** for the 2026-27 scholars

Graduate Showcase: applications from colleges and universities by **30 June 2026** for the 2026-27 graduate showcase

PENGUIN FUNDRAISER ONLINE AUCTION FOR THE SOUTHERN AFRICAN FOUNDATION FOR THE CONSERVATION OF COASTAL BIRDS (SANCCOB).

Organised by Wildlife Embroidery Artist Janine Heschl a number of artists will be donating artworks to be auctioned on Instagram between the 22nd and 26th April, as part of an international effort to raise awareness and funds for the conservation of endangered African penguins. Follow [@janine.heschl](#) to find out more.

THREADS OF A CITY: MANCHESTER TAPESTRY PROJECT

is a community embroidery initiative that will capture the spirit, stories, and heritage of Manchester in textile form. It will be a celebration of Manchester's diverse communities, a living archive of memories and milestones, a creative bridge between generations and a showcase of the extraordinary talent within the embroidery community. The finished large-scale tapestry will be part of the re-opening of Manchester's Town Hall in September 2027.

The project is calling on embroiderers of all levels from seasoned professionals to enthusiastic beginners to help bring this vision to life.

Volunteer opportunities include: Stitch Contributors - beginning September 2026 and Research & Story Gathering - happening now.

To express interest in volunteering or collaborating, contact the project lead Lisa Gold at: tapestrymmu@gmail.com

FOR SALE: BROTHER STELLAIRE INNOV-ÍS XE1 EMBROIDERY MACHINE - DISNEY CUSTOM TOUCH

<https://sewingcraft.brother.eu/en-ie/stellaire-innov-is-xj1-xe1>

Recently serviced and in great condition. Includes Brother carry case - ZSASEBXJ Trolley set for Stellaire series, Brother Stellaire embroidery frames.

Offers c£2750. Please contact Gerry Radjen: gerryradjen@gmail.com for more information.

Want your event to appear in the next What's On?

Deadline for the next issue of What's On is **10 April 2026**
for events taking place after **27 April 2026**

Please send copy and/or images to
contactnewsletter@embroiderersguild.com

Please remember to include your name, and whether the item refers to an ISG and/or a Guild member. For events, please include the date(s), title, artist(s)/ group, venue and admission charge.

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The Embroiderers' Guild is registered charity. We may ask for a small donation or fee to cover overheads associated with producing What's On. Affiliated Independent Stitch Groups and Guild members can advertise their not-for-profit events free of charge. Donations can be made via the Embroiderers' Guild website: <http://bit.ly/3Vw5PXt>