



# Doole Bobbin Lace Circle

**NEWSLETTER 159**

**November 1<sup>st</sup> , 2008**

## EDITORIAL

Last week I gatecrashed a couple of lace classes. All the 'pupils' allowed me to take a close look at their work and filled me in with why and how they had chosen their projects. I was struck anew how fortunate we are with our teachers in this area, who bring out their student's personality and help them realise their dreams. Sometimes this means re-designing a pattern from scratch, sometimes just adjusting the scale of the pricking. The choice of threads to be used is another minefield for some and adding new techniques and stitch combinations to expand their experience takes some thought. Three cheers for the teachers in our midst!!

The other advantage of working in a group is stimulation, companionship and solving problems. I am really pleased that the self-help group meeting on a Tuesday morning seems to be flourishing. For some time I had been thinking of a similar project of regular meetings, but haven't found a way with my frequent absences. So thank you Jenny and Eve for taking the plunge and may the group go from strength to strength.

Thank you for your contributions, and if yours hasn't made it into this newsletter, it's because I will be with my daughter's family the two weeks before the November meeting, and therefore this newsletter has to be put to bed very early for once.

## TODAY'S MEETING

Today Patricia Godwin is speaking on 'Anything Goes', reflecting on the fashion of the 1920's. Sallie Reason is selling bobbins and Brenda and Sandy their beady creations. Today's group display comes from Ann Bray's class and of course we expect you to fill our Brag Table again.

## [PBLC SWEATSHIRTS AND T-SHIRTS, LAST CHANCE TO ORDER](#)

[Today is your last chance to order your PBLC Sweatshirt or T-Shirt in a range of colours. Gill Kingsbury will have the catalogue and the order list. If you haven't made it to our meeting, you can phone her until mid November with your order.](#)

## HAVANT, SOUTHERN LACEMAKER'S FAIR

We will try to arrange a car share for Saturday, November 15<sup>th</sup>. Come and talk to us if you would like a lift or can offer a lift. Give us a contact phone number if you cannot organise it today, and we will do our best to team you up with someone. This is a real opportunity to purchase all the bits and bobs one needs (or doesn't, but wants) for making lace and mounting it. The exhibition this year is by Ann Collier: 'A fantasy with fans'. I have heard that Ann has designed and made 100 fans in the last century and has every intention to produce another 100 this century!!

## **DECEMBER PILLOW PARTY AND CHRISTMAS WORKSHOP**

Don't forget our pre-Christmas get-together with coffee and mince pies. This year Eve Morton has designed a decoration to fit inside a metal bangle for hanging in the window or on the tree. She has brought some finished samples and the corresponding prickings today so you can choose and prepare your bobbins and the pattern for December 6<sup>th</sup>. Talk to Eve about the level of difficulty and the threads needed. Remember Havant, where you may just get what you'll need in time.

You don't have to do the workshop. If you prefer, just bring your lace in progress, work in peace and catch up with friends during the day. Come for a long or a short time and bring your lunch if you are staying all day.

## **THE WISH LIST CHARITY COFFEE MORNING**

Support our charity with a cup of coffee and a raffle ticket at Dorothy Brown's home. This is another opportunity to chat, reminisce and talk lace (or other subjects) and take a little time out from busy Christmas preparations. 10am-1pm at 22 Montacute Way, Merley, Wimborne. By then Canford Bridge should be open to traffic again, doing away with a big detour for us from the 'North'. See you there on December 16<sup>th</sup> !!

## **CHALLENGE FOR THE JANUARY MEETING**

How many different bobbins can we show on January 3rd? If you have a favourite, a foreign or a special one, please bring it in January for a truly remarkable display of lace making tools. Please label your bobbin with your name and any information about it. We can supply a small number of tags for your use. British bobbins come in all shapes, sizes and materials, old and new, with or without spangles. And for those travelling abroad, how many countries' bobbins can we gather today? We will trust everyone not to walk off with any exhibits! It would be lovely to be able to touch and feel though!

## **MOUNTING LACE WORKSHOP, 18/19 APRIL 2009**

If you intend to come to this very useful workshop, start thinking now about which piece of lace you would like to mount on the day/s. Perhaps you have several finished pieces and are struggling to know how best to present them. Or you are just starting, or thinking of starting, a project. Don't wait too long. As I know to my own cost, lace always takes longer than you think, especially if you want to make an excellent job of it; and one has to sleep sometime.

Barbara will take names from today for the workshop, Price to be announced in January.

## **TRIP TO THE ROYAL SCHOOL OF NEEDLEWORK at HAMPTON COURT**

Thursday May 7<sup>th</sup> is the date for this exciting outing. We hope many of you can make that date, work permitting. The charge for coach and entry is £30 for PBLC members, £32 for non-members. If we fill all the places there will be a refund, the amount depending on the surplus income.

Barbara will take Names and deposits of £5 from today. To secure your place, the final payment needs to be made in March. We will give PBLC members priority. If there are spare places friends may be invited to join us for the day.

## A 'FAIRY TALE'

Barton Lace Group were asked to show their work at New Milton Library in July. We had a few months to finish existing pieces, but we also decided to make lace fairies to interest the children. 'Harlequin' supplied the basic dolls and some prickings, but we also dressed fairies in knitted and needle lace, crochet, tatting and tape lace – thirty nine altogether.

One was a Tooth Fairy with iridescent needle lace wings but, after knitting a matching handbag for her, I just could not find a tooth to go in it. Just in time, my



local laundry lady produced one from her grandson! It was amazing to see how each member of the Group interpreted the same pattern with colour and decoration.



After nearly three days of demonstrating, answering questions and getting the public to 'Have a Go' it was decided that the venture had been successful in spite of being such a large commitment for a small club.

Edith Cansdale

## ONE THING LEADS TO ANOTHER

Earlier this year my parents moved to live in a Nursing Home. During my visits I began to know many of the other residents and in due course the question arose "What do you do?" On the spur of the moment I said "I make lace".

This resulted in a stunned silence while the reply sunk in. Then came the questions! Nobody, I have to say, mentioned tatting, but they were so intrigued that I eventually asked them if they would like me to bring in my lace to show them. "Yes" was the unanimous answer!

I then had words with the Activities Manager, Tony, and offered to give a display of lace and a demonstration. He willingly agreed as "they always like something different" he said. So I was duly booked into the programme for one afternoon in June.

Then it occurred to me - what had I let myself in for! It was surprising how much there was to think about.

So I set out a presentation. I first showed them all the different types of "lacey" things there are - from tatting to needle lace, from bobbin lace to crochet. Then I showed them samples of English laces and moved on to Continental laces and more modern examples. All this was set out on Christchurch Lace Society's "Swan" Tablecloth which fascinated them.

I then started on a brief history of who makes lace, but by now it was time for tea! I could take a breather, I thought - no such luck - as the questions continued, particularly from a very interested Ruby! By the time I had resumed with a little more history of the rise and fall of lace through the centuries there was only a short time for me to demonstrate! It was a very rewarding couple of hours and even now they still talk to me about "your lace".

To finish this article where I started "one thing leads to another", I have now had two inquiries: "do you give talks on lace"? So what did I say - "Yes!" of course!

Anne Vernon

PS Since writing this article I have been given £30 from one of the groups I have spoken to and I am dividing this equally between the PBLC and CLS charities.

**A THOUGHTFUL INTERLUDE** sent in by Pat Gilbertson

A drunk man in an Oldsmobile  
They said had run the light  
That caused the six-car pile-up  
On 109 that night.

When broken bodies lay about  
And blood was everywhere,  
The sirens screamed out eulogies,  
For death was in the air.

A mother, trapped inside her car,  
Was heard above the noise;  
Her plaintive plea near split the air:  
Oh, God, please spare my boys!

She fought to loose her pinned hands;  
She struggled to get free,  
But mangled metal held her fast  
In grim captivity.

Her frightened eyes then focused  
On where the back seat once had been,  
But all she saw was broken glass and  
Two children's seats crushed in.

Her twins were nowhere to be seen;  
She did not hear them cry,  
And then she prayed they'd been thrown free,  
Oh, God, don't let them die!

Then firemen came and cut her loose,  
But when they searched the back,  
They found therein no little boys,  
But the seat belts were intact.

They thought the woman had gone mad  
And was travelling alone,  
But when they turned to question her,  
They discovered she was gone.

Policemen saw her running wild  
And screaming above the noise  
In beseeching supplication,  
Please help me find my boys!

They're four years old and wear blue shirts;  
Their jeans are blue to match.  
One cop spoke up, They're in my car,  
And they don't have a scratch.

They said their daddy put them there  
And gave them each a cone,  
Then told them both to wait for Mom  
To come and take them home.

I've searched the area high and low,  
But I can't find their dad.  
He must have fled the scene,  
I guess, and that is very bad.

The mother hugged the twins and said,  
While wiping at a tear,  
He could not flee the scene, you see,  
For he's been dead a year.

The cop just looked confused and asked,  
Now, how can that be true?  
The boys said, Mommy, Daddy came  
And left a kiss for you.

He told us not to worry  
And that you would be all right,  
And then he put us in this car with  
The pretty, flashing light.

We wanted him to stay with us,  
Because we miss him so,  
But Mommy, he just hugged us tight  
And said he had to go.

He said someday we'd understand  
And told us not to fuss,  
And he said to tell you, Mommy,  
He's watching over us.

The mother knew without a doubt  
That what they spoke was true,  
For she recalled their dad's last words,  
I will watch over you.

The firemen's notes could not explain  
The twisted, mangled car,  
And how the three of them escaped  
Without a single scar.

But on the cop's report was scribed,  
In print so very fine,  
An angel walked the beat tonight on  
Highway 109.

He who has a thousand friends has not a friend to spare. This morning when the Lord opened a window to Heaven, He saw me, and He asked: 'My child, what is your greatest wish for today?'

I responded: 'Lord please, take care of the person who is reading this message, their family and their special friends. They deserve it and I love them very much.'

## DEMONSTRATIONS

This is our last one of the year and I believe there are enough willing demonstrators, thank you. If you go to find your Christmas presents, please say hello to our stalwarts.

Upton Country Park

Saturday/ Sunday

November 22<sup>nd</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup>

## EXHIBITIONS AND EVENTS

Nov. 15<sup>th</sup>

Fans

**Southern Counties Lacemaker's Fair** at Havant Leisure Centre, Havant, Hampshire, 10am-4pm, special exhibition: Fantasy with by Ann Collier. Entry £3

Nov.20<sup>th</sup> -23<sup>rd</sup>

**Divergence**, Exhibition by the West Hope Group at the Knitting and Stitching show, Harrogate.

December 6<sup>th</sup>

**The National Christmas Lacemaker's Fair** at Cranmore Park, Solihull, Cranmore Ave. Shirley, West Midlands, B90 4LF, 10am-5pm, Contemporary lace presented by the 98 Lace Group, (10-12 advance tickets only, 12-5 tickets available at the door) £7 entry. Tickets from J. Ford, 'October Hill', Upper Longdon, Rugeley, Staffordshire, WS15 1QB, until Nov 26<sup>th</sup> .

December 16<sup>th</sup>

**Coffee Morning with Raffle in aid of 'The Wish List'** at Dorothy Brown's, 22 Montacute Way, Merley, Wimborne. 10am-1pm.

## BARTON LACE GROUP

The next meeting date of this group is November 17<sup>th</sup> , at New Milton Junior School. 7-9pm.

## NEXT MEETING

This will be in the new year already: Saturday, January 3<sup>rd</sup> at St.Mary's Church Hall, our usual venue with a speaker from our chosen charity for the year – The wish List - . Our charity bobbins will be on sale and 'Exclusively Yours' bring their hand made beads. Dorothy Watson's Group stage the display and we are looking forward to seeing your bobbins. Please still bring in your lace for the 'Brag Table'.

## NEXT NEWSLETTER

Please send any information, articles or notices for inclusion in the next Newsletter to: Lily Wills, 14 Highland Road, Wimborne Minster, BH21 2QN or by e-mail to [lacewills@talktalk.net](mailto:lacewills@talktalk.net)