



# *Stitchery Do*

Creating with fabric and thread

## **Report for Blisworth Parish Council 7th May 2019**

We meet every first Thursday of the month from 10 am until 2 pm. From May until September we take the opportunity to rent the Blisworth Scout Hall so that we can use at least 20 sewing machine work stations. From October to April we rent the Blisworth Chapel Coffee House, where we enjoy the cosy atmosphere mainly hand sewing. We have a steady flow of new members joining us throughout the year and at present we have 34 members. We normally have approximately 21 members at any one session.

This year we have created another challenging programme for our members which I think is key to keeping our stitchers up to date with the new techniques and bringing some fresh ideas to the monthly workshops. January we had a talk on natural dyes and how to process from one of our members Rita March. February we enjoyed opening up the Leisure Hall for more space where we could design our own fabrics using wooden block printing. March we challenged everyone to bring their largest knitting needles and in fact some managed to get their husbands to make them from broomsticks. We had a varied number of interested knitters trying out new yarns and designs to make a wall hanging in knitting. In March we also took a group of stitchers to visit the NEC Birmingham Craft Show and we were able to use the new Scout Mini Bus which was a great success. Not only convenient but more cost effective for our members. In April we tried out hook and rug making and shared our skills. In May we tried our Sewing Machine skills with Zentangles and learning to stitch a paradox. Zentangles are created with repetitive patterns and are meant to be abstract. They are supposed to encourage mindfulness, intuitive thinking and empowerment. Free motion embroidery could be used if skilled members wanted to create their own patterns.

June we have organised a Fun Craft Challenge followed by a visit to Lady Sew & Sew in Henley on Thames. July we are learning machine and hand applique shared skills. We have two group trips out in August. 1st August to the NEC Festival of Quilts and on 17th August a visit to Westbury Arts Fabric and Fibre Show. September we will be trying out sewing skills out on Cuddly Toys knitted, sewn hand or machine, followed by October Embroidery to the Extreme - Gold threads and couching. November and December we will be entering Christmas Decorations around the World! We will have to see how many countries we can find to stitch.....

We are a very friendly group of stitchers from both the village and surrounding areas including Northampton Town. Why not come along to see what we get up to. Your first visit is Free! Workshops cost £4 per session which includes refreshments and sometimes materials and threads.

This is an opportunity to learn new skills and meet like minded new friends!

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