

# Chiltern Embroidery and Textile Group Programme 2025

All meetings are at 7.30pm on the second Monday of the month unless otherwise stated, with summer meetings held at Tylers Green Village Hall. Get in touch via [ContactUs](#) if you would like to join an online talk and we'll send details of how to pay the £7 charge for a single talk. The programme may be subject to change and will be updated as soon as confirmed.

Click or tap on the artist's name to go to their website.  
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## **Monday 13<sup>th</sup> January 2025 online talk**

### **Jo Mabbutt – Gilded Glories**

[www.jomabbutt.co.uk](http://www.jomabbutt.co.uk)

Jo is a decorative artist who hand-gilds antique and vintage lace and crochet, working to commission and selling through galleries and exhibitions. She brings new life to preloved items to create contemporary framed pieces and prints, jewellery, cards and Christmas decorations. Upcycling antique lace, vintage crochet and tatting by refashioning into precious pieces, she also uses most items as a printing medium which leads to intriguing prints and textures which are often enhanced with variegated gold and copper leaf.



## **Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> February – 2.30pm**

### **Social Meeting**

A social meeting at Tylers Green Village Hall where all are welcome. A chance to chat with friends and stitchers and for visitors to learn more about CETG.



## **Monday 10<sup>th</sup> February online talk**

### **Toni Buckby – Re-embroidering Blackwork**

[www.tonibuckby.com](http://www.tonibuckby.com)

[www.blackworkembroidery.com](http://www.blackworkembroidery.com)

Toni Buckby is a contemporary artist specialising in fine hand embroidery. Her current Ph.D. research focuses on the 16th-century blackwork embroideries housed at the Victoria & Albert Museum. Toni will present an overview of the blackwork collection and a selection of pieces from her studio research practice including "*an unstitched coif...*", a collective embroidery project undertaken by over 70 needleworkers in 2023.



## Monday 10<sup>th</sup> March **online talk**

### **Tanya Bentham – Medieval Embroidery for the C21st**

<https://www.opusanglicanumembroidery.com/>

Tanya Bentham is all about medieval embroidery with a modern twist. She uses the techniques of Opus Anglicanum to create images for the current age. "I understand the Middle Ages, but my mind is that of a 21st century woman. There's a lot of humour in medieval art and that's largely what I'm drawn to. I never know where my imagination will go next, but I'm very much in love with the technical possibilities of Opus Anglicanum as a living style of embroidery."



## Monday 14<sup>th</sup> April

### **Anne Griffiths – Diamond Stitches**

<https://pocketmouse.co.uk/>

This talk will focus on Anne's science/art public engagement projects as lead artist and Artist in Residence at Diamond Light Source, located at Harwell in Oxfordshire. Scientists at Diamond produced an image known as a diffraction pattern by illuminating a crystallised protein with a powerful beam of light. The image was used to create a huge textile hanging called 'The Largest Diffraction Pattern in the World'. The background for the design contained contributions from over 5000 people on an indigo dyed background using a variety of blue hand dyed and commercial threads. Anne is also the organiser of the Oxford Summer School.

<https://oxfordshireartandcraft.co.uk/>



## Monday 12<sup>th</sup> May

### **Alex Law – The Power of Stitch**

<https://www.elaraembroidery.com>

Alex has been stitching as long as she can remember and loves to champion its mental health and general wellness benefits. Alex will share some of her personal experiences of how stitching has helped her through challenging times as well as drawing on examples through history of people using stitching for empowerment, community and taking control of their wellbeing.



## Monday 9<sup>th</sup> June

### **Isabella Rosner – English Samplers 1600-1900**

<https://isabellarosner.com/>

For centuries, English girls (and some boys) were taught to embroider by stitching samplers. Studying these samplers reveals vibrant, rich stories of girls and women and the world in which they lived. Dr Isabella Rosner, curator of the Royal School of Needlework and research consultant for Witney Antiques, will explore 3 centuries of English sampler making held in a variety of museum collections in the UK and US.



**Monday 14<sup>th</sup> July**

**Deb McGuire – Quilting Memory: Old Ideas/New Perspectives**

<https://plainstitch.co.uk>

Deborah McGuire employs traditional quilting methods in a flat frame to create elegant modern British quilts. Drawing from her recently published academic research, her own creative practice and quilt collection, Deb will be asking why textile history matters, illustrating how study of the ways that makers made and used quilts in the past offers a unique portal into understanding their lives, but also suggests new perspectives on many of the issues that modern society also addresses.



**Monday 11<sup>th</sup> August**  
**Social Meeting**

A social meeting where all are welcome. This will be a themed event where attendees are invited to bring along their own textile treasures and share stories about them. There will be tea and home-made cake.



**Monday 8<sup>th</sup> September**

**Suzanne Ely-Wright – Vibrantly in Stitch**

<https://www.instagram.com/orangethreadsuzy/>

Suzanne has always had an eye for colour and beauty. Happiest when stitching buried under a pile of threads, calico and drawings, she creates detailed and vibrant stitched tapestries that resemble paintings through layering and blending threads. She will talk about how she started out, her passion for the subject, the process and how her work evolves through watercolour to stitch.



**Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> October AGM 2.00pm**

**Jane Charles – 78 Derrnagate**

<https://www.smallbeans.co.uk/>

Textile work inspired by Charles Rennie Mackintosh and his wife Margaret (who was not often credited). Jane Charles started playing with batik around 15 years ago whilst teaching for adult education. Early in 2023 she had the opportunity to create work for 78 Derrnagate, the house in Northampton which was redesigned in the 1920's by Charles Rennie Mackintosh. Jane will also talk about her work with local primary schools since the Derrnagate project, working with batik, calligraphy and 16<sup>th</sup> century inspired embroidery.



**Monday 10<sup>th</sup> November online talk**  
**Hannah Crump – Finding Myself through Nature and Thread**

<https://www.juniper-forest-embroidery.com>

Having struggled to understand her place in the world since childhood, discovering embroidery and a love of nature gave Hannah a new sense of identity. Suffering with anxiety from an early age and recently diagnosed with autism, finding balance in her daily life by engaging with the natural world has been invaluable. Her embroidery designs are heavily influenced by our role in the natural world and how engaging with nature can improve our physical and mental health.



**Monday 8<sup>th</sup> December online talk**  
**Suzette Smart – Textile Connections**

<https://suzettesmart.com>

Suzette has been described as a stitch storyteller as whatever the piece of stitch there is always a tale to tell. Ideas and themes are drawn from connections within a landscape and the paths that lead through and home. This creates a strong sense of place within each piece of work. Suzette will share some of the inspiration and techniques she uses to create her multi layered and heavily stitched pieces of work.

