

CETG ARCHIVE

The Bunting Project

2016-2017

In late 2016 the Committee came up with the idea of creating bunting for display at meetings, exhibitions, fairs and similar events. It was conceived as a collaborative project to involve as many members as possible. Based on an abstract design painted by Janet Edmonds, each participant was to produce their own interpretation in stitch of a small section of the main design.

The first stage was the stitching of the individual pieces, which began at a social evening of the group on 10th October 2016. The task for the evening was to create a small piece of embroidery using four different stitches. This gave the membership a chance to practice those that were familiar or learn some new ones. The stitches were Fly, Running, Chain and Sorbello. Everyone was given a square of calico; a needle and a selection of threads were available on each table. While the size of the finished piece and the pattern should follow the original design, stitchers were free to use whatever colours and thread types they chose.

Twenty four pieces of stitching were completed and sewn together and photographed ready to scan to obtain some digitally printed fabric from which the bunting will be made.





Making the Bunting

A paper pattern was drafted using graph paper and a card template to make the marking out easier. The fronts of the flags were cut from the digitally printed fabric and the backs from commercially coloured fabric. Letters for the Group's title were cut from black cotton fabric using card templates. Bondaweb was ironed onto the fabric before cutting out the letters and then attached to the flag fronts ready for stitching.

At the June meeting the individual flags were shared around the group for stitching. Instructions given were to zigzag with black thread around the letter first, before putting right sides together, one front to one back, and stitch together using a 3mm seam allowance. The point was trimmed before turning right side out and pressing well to finish. The points were tricky and needed a bit of encouragement to get them to lie flat and true.

The Group rallied round and all flags were taken for stitching and returned as requested the following month. It was decided to join the words together singly rather than as a long strip to give some flexibility for use. Wide bias binding was bought from Workaid in a mustardy yellow to blend with the colours in the fabric. Liz Smith generously offered to stitch the bunting together to complete.



The Bunting had its first outing at the Amersham Heritage Day on 10th September 2017. It was a fine addition to our stand and we hope to use it again many times in the future.

Photos © Janet Edmonds, Liz Smith