

## Blog #83 - Christmas in July

Thursday, 25 July 2019

My second planned exhibition - Christmas in July - opened on the 6th of July.  
And as it's title suggested, it was all about Christmas.

Lots of lovely new items were on display and available for purchase - Nativity Scenes, Christmas Greenery, Stocking Hangers, Christmas Tree Ornaments, Candles & Candle Holders, Home & Tableware Décor, Angels, and, of course ..... Santas.

And randomly placed amongst all the items for sale were the many Christmas designs I have stitched over the past twenty odd years.

I set everything up in what will be my new Needlework Gallery opening some time in the new year - date yet to be determined.

To follow are some pics of the various displays.

The Tableware /  
Décor tables -

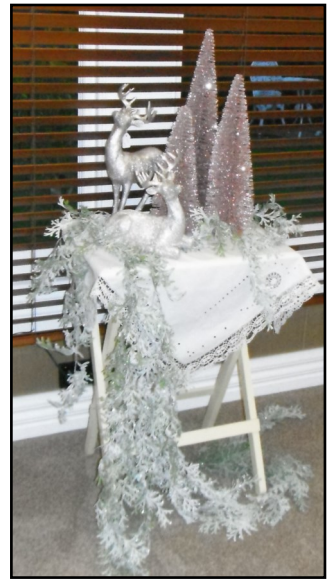




and a few more ... the 'Nativity Scenes' table -



and the future 'point of sale' area -



And to follow are a few pics of just a few of the stitched models -

**Mr. & Mrs. Claus**



Design Title: Snowman & Santa  
Design Code: SWT:T 155  
Design Title: Rudolph & Mrs. Claus  
Design Code: SWT:T 156  
Price: \$25.00 each



\* **Three Santas : NOEL** \*  
\* **French Country - Santa** \*  
\* **Teenie Christmas Angel** \*

**Christmas Bell**



Design Title: Christmas Bell  
Design Code: SWT:T 079  
Price: \$25.00

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Design Title: Three Santas  
Design Code: SWT:T 072  
Price: \$25.00  
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Design Title: NOEL  
Design Code: SWT:Q 004  
Price: \$37.50  
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Design Title: French Country - Santa  
Design Code: JBW 310  
Price: \$22.50  
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Design Title: Teenie Christmas Angel  
Design Code: SWT:T 161  
Price: \$25.00  
\*



and a few more stitched models ....



Design Title:

**French Country - Christmas Stocking**

Design Code: JBW 170

Price: \$22.50

Model stitched over two threads  
with Simply Shaker Sampler Thread : 050 - Baby Spinach

Model stitched over one thread  
with Sampler Thread : 0390 - Buckeye Scarlet

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Design Title:

**French Country - Reindeer Stocking**

Design Code: JBW 243

Price: \$22.50

Model stitched over two threads  
with Simply Shaker Sampler Thread : 7082 - Piney Woods



Various Designs

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Joyful Hearts

Sampler Motif Tree II

Christmas Purse

Joyeux Noel

French Country - Petite Stocking

A Christmas Tree Sampler

Antique Christmas Trees



and a few more ....

Models stitched with red coloured thread -

Design Title: Red Stocking Collection I

Design Code: JBW 232

Price: \$15.00

Models stitched with green coloured thread -

Design Title: Red Stocking Collection II

Design Code: JBW 233

Price: \$15.00

Thank you for your donations to the Rehoboth Girls' Orphanage ~ India!

Thank you to everyone who visited the 'Christmas in July' exhibition and especially for your generous donations.

As per the last exhibition, I asked each visitor to the exhibition for a small monetary donation of \$5.00 - these proceeds going to the Rehoboth Girl's Orphanage in India.

In addition to these funds, over the past three months myself and many, many 'Heirlooms' friends have been stitching and creating Christmas tree decorations/ornaments.

For an additional \$20.00 donation each visitor to the exhibition could choose one of these ornaments for themselves or to give as a gift to someone else.

All of the proceeds from these ornaments was also for the orphanage.

Thank you again to everyone - stitchers and visitors - for making this event possible. There are a few decorations/ornaments available if you would like to send a donation.

To date, total donations for the orphanage amounts to \$1,120.00.  
Awesome!



Pictured above is **one** of two Christmas trees decorated with the hand-stitched ornaments worked by many friends of 'Heirlooms'

On the next two pages are a copy of the 'Thank You' note given to visitors to the 'Christmas in July' exhibition. It gives an insight into the orphanage and our New Zealand missionaries that work there.

A little explanation. Someone commented to me about the amount raised at our last exhibition for 'Door of Hope' as not being very much. Possibly it does not sound very much, but \$340.00 equates to 68 visitors to the exhibition, and for this number of visitors to come to the Needlework Gallery, I am grateful and thrilled with your support. Thank you. You will be blessed for your financial gift and for the time you gave to visit.

I still have news to relate about an exquisite item of needlework and some pics of this beautiful piece to show you, but these will have to wait until my next blog.

Next Thursday I leave to travel to Taupo for the awesome 'Sampler Gathering' weekend with the car loaded up with needlework models and needlework products (designs, threads, fabric, etc.) plus all the display items (easels, cloths, etc.). Plan to arrive there late in the afternoon and begin setting up that evening and then finishing the setting up the following morning. Thankfully Melissa is joining me on the Friday and so I will have help during what is always a **very busy** time. Looking forward to it though as there is something special about spending time with other ladies who have the same passion for needlework, especially samplers, as myself.

Finally, I must say a sincere and heartfelt thanks to **everyone** who has written, sent cards and emails, and telephoned, to convey good wishes and that they are thinking of me. I began replying to each person but I have received so many that I have become overwhelmed. I dearly would love to respond to each and every one of you, but I cannot. Please, please accept this note as a personal acknowledgement of gratitude, love and thanks. May God richly bless you all.

Till next time, enjoy each moment of every day that you have been given.







***THANK YOU***

~

for your

**Donation**

to the

**Rehoboth Girls' Orphanage**

**India**

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I sincerely thank you too for visiting the  
'Christmas in July'

Exhibition

*Sherelyn*



Phyllis Treasure - "Mummy"

Since 1957

**Rehoboth** (a Hebrew word meaning, God has made room for us).

The orphanage was established in the Kerola region of India in the early 1900's by a German couple, Mr & Mrs. Nagal. A New Zealander, Miss Lottie Sundgren, joined them in 1907 and in 1910 took over management of the home. Since that time it has been managed by someone from New Zealand.

Miss Edith Wallace joined Miss Sundgren in 1932 and took over responsibility for the home in 1951. Local Indian ladies and missionaries from other countries also assisted at the home.

Miss Phyllis Treasure from Christchurch went to India in 1957 and worked with Miss Wallace for several years. Phyllis - now in her eighties - is still at Rehoboth. She is affectionately known as "Mummy". Miss Sarah Simpson from New Plymouth (a great-niece of Miss Lottie Sundgren) is known to the girls as "Sarah Aunty" and has been at Rehoboth since 2004 and is now responsible for a lot of the work.

For many of the girls at Rehoboth, this is the only home they have known. They are taught and encouraged in the Christian faith, given a good education and helped into employment as they grow older. As is Indian custom, parents find a suitable husband for their daughters, and so it has been the pleasure of Phyllis and Sarah to see many of "their" girls enter into a happy marriage. Another tradition is that Indian girls always go home to their parents house to have their babies, so Rehoboth has been the birthing place of many, many children.

The work is financed entirely by free-will gifts from local Christians and donations from countries such as New Zealand. When needs arise, Phyllis tells her Heavenly Father, and miraculously the needs are met and money arrives at the appropriate time.

**Some words from Phyllis ....**

***As thou goest - Goodbye New Zealand! Hello India!***

*No great missionary this! Just a happy, young, apprehensive New Zealander with no experience, no special training, no plans 'to do' or 'to be'; no special 'gift' - not wise or mighty or noble; just one of the 'weak things of this world' ...*

*But 100% sure that the call to Rehoboth was from God and He would lead 'step by step' and provide. And He has ... miraculously ... 'step by step'.*

*Once I had to be in the office of the Income Tax Inspector. He asked me how I would provide for all the children's needs with no sponsors or guaranteed support. I replied, "Our Heavenly Father will provide." Many years later I had reason to go again the IT Office but in a different place. The previous Income Tax Officer had been transferred and I did not recognise him but as soon as I walked in he recognised me and even before I sat down he looked at me and asked, "And has your Heavenly Father provided all these years?" And with what joy and confidence I could reply, "Yes!" After all these years my heart still stands in awe at the gracious compassionate way our Father supplies every need.*

***And what about the orphanage?***

***No thought of increasing the numbers! ... But 'step by step'!***

*A lady came to the door with a toddler. I asked my predecessors, "What shall I do? Shall I admit the child?" And they replied, "We have reduced the numbers as much as possible. There are 35 children left with nowhere to go. Now it is up to you to make the decision. How much faith do you have? There is no bank balance. Now the choice is yours to take in more children or not." I didn't make a conscious decision, but 'step by step' the Lord led and gave the wisdom and help. Then the babies starting coming: there were babies on the bed beside me, babies in the dining room, babies in the sitting room and with the babies came sleepless nights, wet nappies, bottles to be boiled, milk mixtures to make .... And the number of children increased to 80, to 100, to 200. I still don't know the answer to how much faith I have but I stand in awe at the faithfulness and greatness of my God who is able to do exceedingly abundantly above all: and He has proved His Word, that HE is able to make "all grace abound unto every good work."*

*And 'step by step' God has led through all the experiences of life to teach that He is all the All-sufficient God. Sufficient in times of loneliness and sickness, sufficient in times of being misunderstood and falsely accused; sufficient in times of bickering and divisions; and sufficient in times of discouragement and even despair. Who is sufficient for these things? I stand in awe as I say, "Our sufficiency is from God."*

*So to any who are coming behind me, on this my 81st birthday, let me call back and say,*

***"Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not to your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge Him and He shall direct your paths."***

*Proverbs 3 : 5*



Rehoboth