

**Blog #93 - New Mystery Sampler & UK6 / Lady1**

Saturday, 28 March 2020

March - the last month of a financial year - and so made a concerted effort and sent the bookwork off to the accountant for their confirmation tick and filing on our behalf. So pleased to have that task completed. As for stocktaking as at 31 March 2020 - getting it done as part of entering all the stock into the new invoicing programme.

Now we are in lockdown. What a sad situation has occurred.

You may recall me mentioning about stitching the HATS card designs a few blogs ago.

During this month I finished stitching all the five designs as needed the embroidery frame for my new mystery sampler.

Pictured to the right is the finished (not ironed) piece of needlework.

As you can see, I decided to place the name of the sampler maker and the year in which they stitched their sampler underneath each motif.

Hannah Coates 1848 : Ann Forfitt 1812 : Ann Tong 1835 :

Sarah Borton 1815 : Isobella Uffindell 1829.

Rather pleased with the result.

I now need to finish it as a bell pull, but that will have to wait to be done.

And so, began stitching my sampler. Here is a sneak peek at Part One and Part Two.



I'm trying, but I admit to being extremely technology challenged.

I'm an older girl who loves to stitch and create beautiful things.

I really don't care or want to learn how this new world turns, and so, this being said if you are interested in wanting to know more info on this new mystery sampler such as when it is to be released or wish to participate, would you please use the old fashioned means of email to tell me at - **barberryrow@outlook.co.nz** with your name, address and telephone number.

Thus, as and when more info is available it can be sent directly to you.

I promise to keep accurate records and not divulge your information to anyone else.

Whilst on the subject of technology, I've been encouraged to join Instagram.

And so, if you would like to follow me there, my address is ....

barberryrowandheirlooms

And, don't forget that I have a Facebook page too ... Barberrry Row & Heirlooms

As you know, the main purpose of a needlework retreat is to learn a new needlework technique or skill - and this was true of the Lady Anne's Needlework Retreat/Tour. Three projects - with the added bonus of private tours of many of England's magnificent houses and castles to study and view superb, beautiful pieces of needlework worked by women and girls of the household - many of the pieces being hundreds of years old. Some as much as 450 years old!

*I have a confession to make. I never intend to finish a piece of needlework taught in a class. More often than not I get left behind when learning something new as I'm never satisfied with my execution of a stitch or technique.*

*However, what I do enjoy is learning how to make the stitch, the history of its origins and all the other little 'tit-bits' or snippets that a tutor may impart. All of this information is beneficial in gaining knowledge.*

*Another reason I never intend finishing a class project is that I do not have the time to stitch them. I have too many of my own design ideas buzzing around in my head to begin other new projects.*

*My decision for choosing to participate in this retreat was to experience and indulge in my passion for all things magnificent and beautiful - needlework, homes and their décor and architectural craftsmanship, gardens, etc. with the addition of learning the history of them all.*

*My wonderful supportive husband, Keith, does not find long distance travel enjoyable and so taking part in such a tour as this was a great way for me to tour England in safety and being pampered with the very best and the highest quality of everything with all things taken care of (hotel accommodation, private visits of venues, travel between destinations, meals, etc.) was so reassuring.*

*Another reason for choosing this particular retreat was the professional way it was presented by Phillipa Turnbull of crewelwork.com and her daughter, Laura. This choice was confirmed when I met her when she was teaching her needlework passion for and conveying her expertise in crewel work here in the Hawkes Bay in July 2018.*

*As I knew her September 2019 tour was beginning in York I spent some quiet time with her talking about it and conveyed to her that my passion was for the Quaker samplers and the Ackworth School and that I would love to visit the school to meet those persons I had dealt with when I was purchasing the 'Quaker School Girl Samplers From Ackworth' book from them for on-selling in the Needlework Gallery and obtaining their permission to include historical content and information about the school and the samplers from the book when publishing my design, 'Quaker Family Sampler'.*

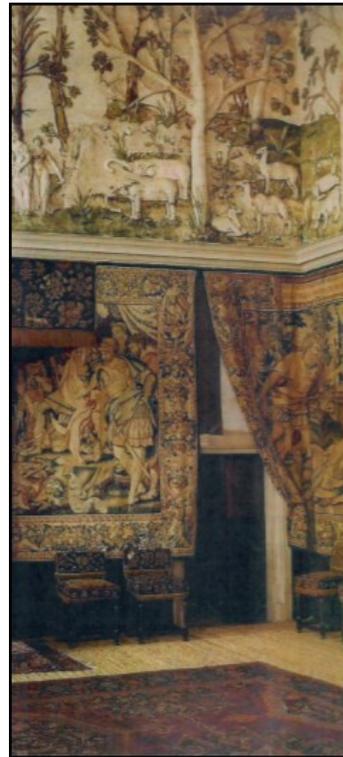
*Her response was that she knew one of the school trustees and on her return home would send me his contact details so that I could arrange with him when it would be possible for me to go there to see the samplers and the school.*

*The outcome was that the Ackworth School and the viewing of the samplers became a part of the tour itinerary.*

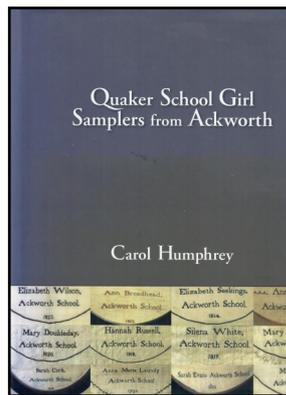
*As a consequence I did not have to stress about making my own way to Pontefract (about a 30 minute train & taxi ride) - it was all organised for me.*

*Once gain, how special is and was that! I am SO grateful to Phillipa for her thoughtfulness.*

*Another aspect of this tour that I thought was really special was the gifts we were sent several months before the tour began. Firstly received a beautiful china mug depicting one of Phillipa's crewelwork designs and a pic of this can be seen on the next page.*



Lady Anne's  
All England Tour  
Part II

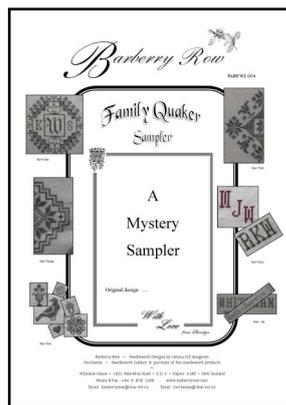


Book Title: Quaker School Girl  
Samplers from Ackworth

Code: NP:ACK  
Price: \$130.00

Only one copy left in stock at the  
Needlework Gallery.

This book has recently been reprinted  
and can be purchased from the school.



Design Title: Family Quaker Sampler

Design Code: BARB : WL 004

Price: \$50.00



China Mug

~

Gift from

Phillipa Turnbull / Crewelwork.com

Lady Anne's Needlework Retreat  
September 2019



And, a few months later, a crewelwork kit designed by Phillipa.

I don't know that I will ever stitch it but lovely to have.

The box alone is a decorative piece sitting on one of the shelves in my office.

And so, day one of our retreat begins - Lady 1 .....

After a delicious fully cooked and served breakfast, all the needlework participants and tutors met in one of the hotel conference rooms at 9am for a welcome and an overview of the retreat, plus a few "do's" and "don'ts" and what we were to expect from them and they from us.

Each participant introduced themselves and gave their reasonings for taking part. Almost half of the ladies had participated in one or more previous retreats/tours. Also, they were from various parts of the world - UK, USA, Australia, New Zealand & Chile and from all walks of life : a retired Army medic/doctor, a nurse, a naval officer, professors, lawyers, a scientist, school principal & school teachers, administrators, an accountant, a professional harpist who had travelled the world all her life as part of a symphony orchestra - to name a few. Twenty of us. And all with a passion for needlework.



- Tutors - Alison Cole (Australia) : Goldwork
- Meredith Willett (USA) : Needlepoint
- Phillipa Turnbull (UK) : Crewel

Reasons - mainly learn new needlework skills & view historical needlework pieces and places.  
And for me : indulge in my passion for all things beautiful.

Following this, morning tea was served and all were given their welcome packs, each pack being colour coded and this determined your class and class mates. It was very interesting as classes never consisted of 'friends'. That is, many of the ladies who came with friends or had become friends at previous retreats, were not put in a class together and so we all made new friends.

Our A4, zip locked, see-through front / fabric backed welcome Zippa packs contained the following -

A colour-coded, daily timetable

Scissors (2) : regular size (black) & tiny size (gold)

Magnifier/light : hand-size to place in our bags

(for looking at antique needlework pieces close-up)

Notebook : lined pages with a decorative floral cover from the V&A

Pencil

Tissue Pack

Name Tag / Badge

Name Tags : Several to attach to our luggage and bags

Sponge Pad : on which to lay our specialty threads, beads, etc. when in class

Crewelwork Canvas Bag - image on the right

Day	Time	Topic	Tutor
Day 1	9:00 - 10:30	Introduction & Welcome	Phillipa Turnbull
	10:30 - 12:00	Needlepoint	Meredith Willett
Day 2	9:00 - 10:30	Goldwork	Alison Cole
	10:30 - 12:00	Needlepoint	Meredith Willett
Day 3	9:00 - 10:30	Goldwork	Alison Cole
	10:30 - 12:00	Needlepoint	Meredith Willett
Day 4	9:00 - 10:30	Goldwork	Alison Cole
	10:30 - 12:00	Needlepoint	Meredith Willett
Day 5	9:00 - 10:30	Goldwork	Alison Cole
	10:30 - 12:00	Needlepoint	Meredith Willett



Did you notice that the image on the canvas bag is the same as that on the mug?  
Gorgeous.

At 10.30am our classes began. My first class was needlepoint with Meredith.  
An hour for lunch at 1pm and class again from 2pm until 4pm.

Meredith's design inspiration was one of the small needlework panels from the Marion Hangings worked by Mary, Queen of Scots and Bess of Hardwick in 1569-84, now displayed at the stately home of Oxburgh Hall.



Oxburgh Hall



The original design

Image by: Lady Anne's Needlework Retreats  
Used with permission



Meredith's Adaptation

Image: My kit - threads, mounted design on a frame & instructions

At 5.15 pm all participants met in the hotel foyer before going to Fairfax house - one of the finest Georgian townhouses in England - for drinks and nibbles and a private tour of the house to view its glorious architecture, resplendent interiors, beautifully decorated and visually complex Rococo plasterwork ceilings and the most exquisite needlework pieces : bedspreads, framed pieces, chair & stool coverings, bed hangings and in one room, in carefully lit glass cabinets were stomachers, nightcaps, undergarments, slippers, etc.

Unfortunately photography was not allowed and so I cannot show you any of these wonderful pieces.



Also at the time of our visit there was a special exhibition of fashionable Georgian gowns. SO elegant.

Oh, how glamorous one must have felt wearing such outfits.

To the left is an image taken from their "What's On" brochure.

Back to the hotel for dinner and then to my room for the night - a room to myself.

One of the features of this tour that I loved!

Without exception, every participant had their own room.

And so ended our first wonderful day!

Eleven more days to go and so ....  
more in my next blog.

