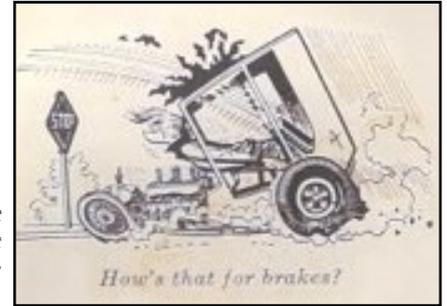


Blog #92 - Needlework Finishes & UK5

Wednesday, 18 March 2020

Some of you will know that I have a brother who is very talented with his hands. Very artistic. Each stroke of his pen is in the right place or at the right angle or immediately creates the right object. I can't even draw a stick figure!

He is also very creative and whilst in his teens began creating hot rods. I can still remember his first achievement. A chopper motorbike when he was fourteen and almost ready to leave school at fifteen. Just recently he finished building a hot rod. Usually his hot rods have been created on a previously built chassis but this latest one was from 'scratch' and the design of it was based on a cartoon drawing from the 1950's.



Cartoon pictured to the right and here is the end result -



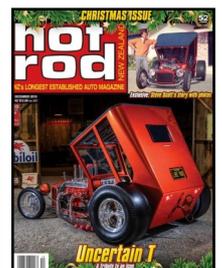
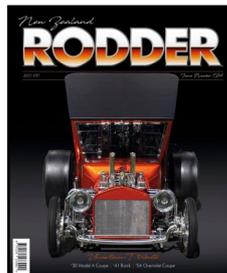
He took it to and entered it in many hot rod shows in the USA. He was quite the celebrity - being on many TV and radio broadcasts, plus several articles about him and his project were written in various hot rod magazines.

Here is a list of the hot rod shows and some of his awards. I didn't keep a note of all show awards but I have no doubt that he achieved many more.

January 2020:

GNRS (Grand National Roadster Show)
Pomona, California

- First Place: Handmade Hot Rod
- First Place: Best Display
- First Place: Best Detailing



February 2020:

Autorama / World of Wheels / Cavalcade of Customs
Dallas, Texas

- First Place: Radical Show Rod
- Best In: Individual Display
- Best In: Place: Undercarriage

February 2020:

Kansas City, Missouri

- First In Class: Radical Show
- Outstanding: Undercarriage
- Outstanding: Paint
- Outstanding: Display
- Outstanding: Engine

Other Rod Shows attended:

- February 28 - March 1 : Detroit, MI
- March 6 - 8 : Chicago, IL
- March 13 - 15 : Salt Lake City, UT



Here is a pic of my brother, Martin and his wife, Marion with one of their USA trophies and a couple of other pics. These couple of pics are of another vehicle that he won a lot of prizes with, plus a photo of my mum about to take a ride in it. She was very proud of him.



My creations are not so prestigious but I do love to stitch and share my work with you. A few blogs ago I gave you a sneak peek of a new design and here is that design again. My original intention was to only stitch this design in one colour but also liked another colour in the Sampler Thread range and so decided to stitch the design again with this colour. Thus the reason for this design taking so long before publication. The two different coloured Sampler Threads are - Blue (Midnight) & Pink/Mauve (Loganberry).

The blue version is completely finished (thread & needle keep, pin keep & fob) and now I only have to finish the thread & needle keep of the pin/mauve version as the pin keep and fob are finished.

Stitching instructions have been written in draft form and so only need to type them up, photograph all and then add the images to the design cover. Once done, this design can go to the printer.



The other day Keith finally framed some pieces of needlework that I had completed some time ago and here they are -



Family Quaker Sampler:

My third version of this design. This is for granddaughter, Madison. Whereas the other versions just had the family initials on them, this time wrote full family names. Names in capitals are our children and names in lower case are our grandchildren. Also, this version is worked over one fabric thread with one strand of thread.

Design Title: Family Quaker Sampler
Design Code: BARB : WL 005
Price: \$50.00

Fabric:
Permin Linen - 32 count : White Chocolate

Thread:
Simply Shaker Sampler Thread - 7080 : Endive



Tiny Blackwork Floral Sampler:

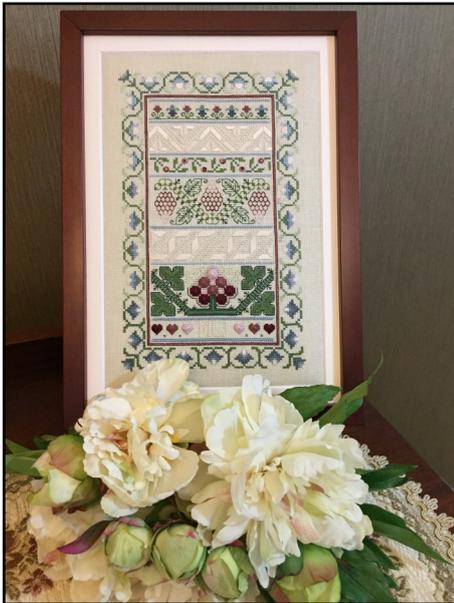
You may recall I messed up when I first stitched this piece by working the design on a finer count fabric than recommended which meant that the embellishments included with the design were too large. I had to rethink and adapted what I'd stitched by making it into a pincushion and a fob and added beads rather than the supplied embellishments.

The jet-black paillette embellishments look beautiful on the recommended count linen!

Design Title: Tiny Blackwork Floral Sampler
Design Code: SWT : T200
Price: \$25.00

Fabric:
Zweigart Linen - 32 count : Lt. Mocha

Thread:
DMC Stranded Cotton - 310 : Black



Vineyard Sampler:

Isn't this just gorgeous! This design is by Barbara Rakosnik of Periwinkle Promises. This lovely piece was stitched for me by Melissa for one of the exhibitions last year and subsequently all charts that I had on hand sold out during the exhibition.

Unfortunately I do not know what has happened to Barbara (the designer) and her company.

I have had no response to my phone calls and emails to the contact info I have and cannot find a website for her and received no response to my queries on Facebook.

Does anyone have any info?

At our NATTER Day at the end of February, the girls had a lot of finished pieces of needlework to show and so I thought I would share their beautiful work with you.

Firstly, these are two of three poche's that Joy H. of Havelock North has stitched and finished for the girls in her family. Aren't they lovely and don't they look so different due to the thread and fabric colours and the finishing fabrics chosen.



Secondly, here is another poche stitched by Susan B. Just as lovely but quite different due to thread and fabric colour choices.



The original design

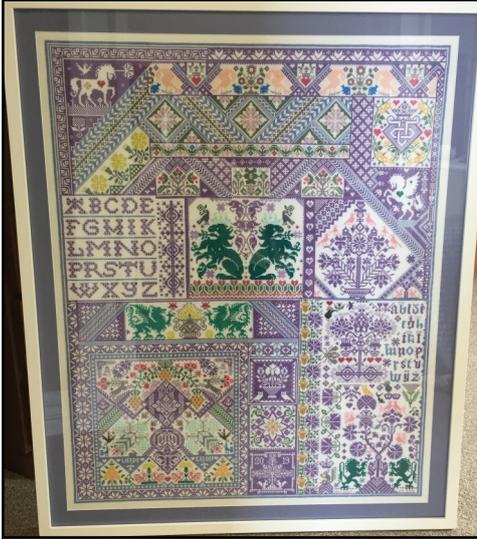


Design Title: Hem Your Blessings Poche
Design Code: BARB 1014
Price: \$25.00

Thirdly, two very large and very impressive pieces stitched by Mary D. of Hastings. However, these are so large that they will not fit on this page but can be seen on the next page.

Also this month a friend - Sandra H. of Napier - visited and brought several of her lovely finished pieces to show me. All pieces to be given as gifts. How kind and thoughtful of her. Once again, as not room on this page, the photos of all these pieces can be seen on the next page.

Mary's very impressive pieces - a Cross Stitch piece & a Blackwork piece.



And here is another large and beautiful piece stitched by Mary. You may recall seeing in a previous blog.

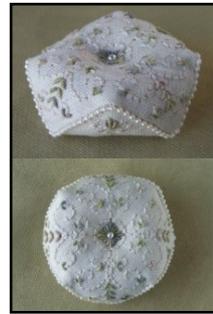


And here are Sandra's pieces - three biscornu's and a framed piece. All designs are worked with the English embroidery technique of Fisherton de la Mere.



Sandra has added petite beads to her teal biscornu. A lovely addition.

The original design



Design Title: Meadowgrass Biscornu
Design Code: BARB 1012
Price: \$21.50



This piece has been worked with a pretty blue overdyed Silken Pearl thread - Sea Heather.

The original design



Design Title: Wild Thyme
Design Code: BARB 1010
Price: \$23.50

And now to continue on with my UK adventures - Day 5

Up early again but instead of exploring before breakfast, packed my bags in readiness for the move after breakfast from Middleton's Hotel to the Dean Court Hotel just across the road from York Minster, (the choice of hotel for the Lady Anne's Needlework Retreat/Tour) right in the heart of the historical part of the city of York.

Fortunately my room was ready for me and so able to unpack before setting off to walk about five streets away from the hotel



outside the city wall to the home of my friend, Jacob de Graaf.

I first met Jacob at Fili Senza Tempo at Castello di Leviizzano Ragone (Castelvetro di Modena, Italy) in September 2017 and we have been good friends ever since that time.

His exhibition site was next to mine.



Jacob is a very gifted needlework designer who publishes his designs under the company name of 'Modern Folk Embroidery'. He is very talented at adapting Quaker & Quaker styled motifs into wonderful arrangements. Like me he has a passion for Ackworth School and their samplers. I plan on having his designs for sale here at the Needlework Gallery but sadly I have to confess that as yet I have not followed through with our discussions to do so.

I will though once my new gallery is all set up.

Jacob lives in the most delightful home - originally a two-story coach house to the large house that stands nearby which he and his partner have extensively renovated it into a cosy home. On my arrival he treated me to a lovely cup of tea and yummy biscuits that he had freshly baked before my arrival.



Spent several hours with him talking about designing, having his designs here at the gallery, and looking at his extensive collection of antique samplers - most of which he plans to reproduce. Awesome!

From Jacob's home I walked back to the old city within the walls and wandered through the York Mansion House - an elegant Georgian architectural building built as a place for the Lord Mayor to entertain visitors to the city and to house York's wonderful civic collections.

The house has been home to the Right Honourable Lord Mayor of York since 1732 and is still in use today. Rooms were beautiful but the most spectacular feature was the magnificent gold and silver pieces. Absolutely stunning! And some of them were HUGE pieces.

I was thankful for the chair that was placed close to the glass cabinets as sat there for ages just absorbing and admiring their beauty.



This day was the last day on my own to explore the wonderful city of York.

By the time I had seen all that was to be seen at the Mansion House the day was drawing to an end and so I had to come to the realisation that what I had not seen, I would not be able to see -

Goddards House & Garden (family home of the Terry's - English sweets maker) : Jorvik Viking Centre : The Roman Bath House : York's Chocolate Story : York Cold War Bunker : The York Dungeon - to name those I would liked to have seen.

There were several other venues to visit but I did not wish to visit them - more suitable for a man : The War Museum & the Railway Museum

Fairfax House, & York Minster I was looking forward to seeing. And again, the Treasurer's House. However, these were included as part of the Lady Anne's Needlework Retreat/Tour and so I knew I wasn't missing out on them.

I did so love this city and felt very much at home there.

As mentioned in one of my other blogs, most of my family was from around this area of the UK.

See next page to find what other little gems I discovered on my early morning walks

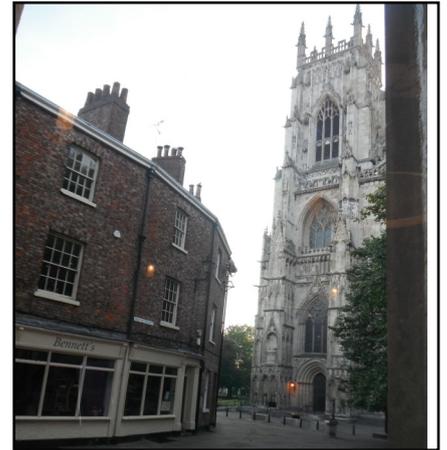
My maiden name was Bennett - and just across the road from the Dean Court Hotel and across the way from the Minster was



Bennett's

A café.

*Popped in there
a couple of times
for a coffee
and a little piece of cake or biscuit
to nibble on.*



And then just down the road was a gallery - **Braithwaite's**

Fine Art Prints · Originals · Frames

The maiden name of my father's mother was Braithwaite.

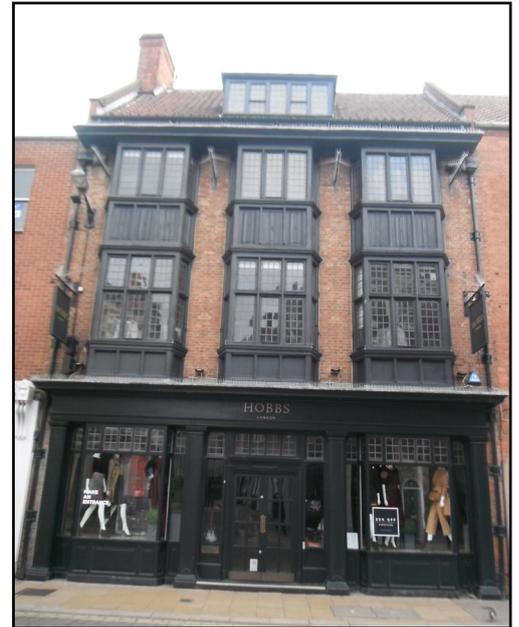


And then, further down the road,
to the right and then to the left
was -

HOBBS (London)

The maiden name of my mother.

Way back, they were
silk merchants.



And then, right next door to the Dean Court Hotel - **Catholic Church of Sir Wilfrid**

My father's name was Wilfrid - yes, Wilfrid, not Wilfred.

(Although we were not and are not of the Catholic faith. Our roots are Quaker based.)



And so the next exciting adventure was about to begin -

6pm : Dean Court Hotel Bar : Meet & Greet

*Phillipa, the tutors, and all the other
needlework retreat/tour participants.*



The tone of the tour was set. As many of the ladies had been participants in previous tours, Phillipa acknowledged each of them by name and on seeing me gave an exclamation of, "Oh, Sherelyn", came over to me and gave me a hug. How special is and was that!

