

Blog #122 - Gigi's Beautiful Antique Samplers:
 May 2022

I didn't look as glamorous or as young as the chauffeur image to the right, but for almost all the weeks of this month I had to drive Keith to and from home to his places of work. Some of the days he would work all day at a property but others he worked a morning at one property and in the afternoon at another. Sometimes on these days I would take my stitching with me and spend the afternoon sitting and stitching in the car whilst he worked. All this having to go out from home each day was quite an adjustment to my daily routine that I have had for years.



Fortunately towards the end of the month he was given a clearance to resume driving again. A few days after this news I had another mini stroke. Same as in February. Right side affected. Couldn't walk or raise my right arm. How thankful we were that it had not happened when I was needed to transport Keith about.

This month managed to completely finish the stitching of both sides of the monochrome version of the sewing case for a large pair of sewing/dressmaking shears



A reminder - fabric and threads for this version -
 Fabric - Belfast Linen - 32 count : Raw (#053)
 Sampler Thread by **The Gentle Art** - 0930 : Deep Sea
 DMC Stranded Cotton - 501 : 3847

One day this month was brightened by the receipt of an awesome parcel from Belgium. Sadly my dear friend Gigi has not been well which has necessitated that she 'downsize' and I have been blessed to be the recipient of some of her lovely old and precious antique samplers. When asked which ones I would like I requested Eladie Jallet and MT 1810. However, when they arrived there was so much more than just the samplers - a lovely handmade hanging ornament, various fabric pieces, a couple of Christmas pieces, and an additional sampler. This sampler - A Fair Lady Sampler. Oh, so lovely. So much lovelier than the image portrayed on the cover of the needlework chart. What an awesome friend I have!

Below and on the next page are pics of the samplers as per the covers of the reproduced charts. I assure you, the samplers are so superior to the chart images. In reality they are spectacular and are in good condition despite their age.

Thank you, my lovely friend. I will treasure these samplers and so will Melissa when I eventually pass them on to her.



GR : EJ
 Eladie Jallet 1892
 \$ 55.00



GR : MT
 MT 1810
 \$ 60.00



GR : FAIR

A Fair Lady Sampler

\$ 49.50

All three of these designs
(and all other Gigi R designs)
may be ordered via the website
(www.barberryrow.com)

Or

alternatively request personally via Email
(heirlooms@outlook.co.nz)

*With my latest predicament, Melissa recognised another - NEW THING.
Time to create a new website with a shopping cart attached.*



Over twenty years ago I attended night school classes to learn how to create my own website, but in the last few years it had become apparent that it was quite outdated, especially as it did not have a shopping cart attached. This facility gave the viewer the ability to purchase what they saw. Mine only showed what I had available. I definitely needed a shopping cart!

With this realisation in mind, a couple of years ago over an Easter weekend I hand-drafted the layout of what I would like my new site to look like, the types of pages, all the different pages for all the products and the different designers (even writing all the accompanying text for all the pages). But that is as far as I got! When went to begin creating the site in the website programme I didn't understand all the techy jargon! My thoughts - why don't the creators of programmes use every day language that one can understand?! And so all was put into a box!!

Now - time to open up the box. Fortunately granddaughter, Madison & Melissa understood the jargon and due to their assistance I learnt how to add the pictures from my computer into the internal web shop and add all the relevant details for each product/item such as price, description of the product, delivery costs per item, etc. and then add each shop item to the appropriate page once I'd created the layout and added the relevant text boxes and added the text into the boxes for each page. Of course, prior to adding a shop product - I had to photograph the product first before installing the image of it into my computer and before adding it to the web shop.

Consequently, whilst incapacitated, I spent hours and hours and days and days creating many of the pages of my new site. Still lots more to do!

*As per last month, will finish this blog showcasing needlework pieces created by my friends.
These pieces are by my friend, Sandra of Napier.
Some of them she has created for her nieces in readiness as gifts for their 10th birthdays.*





You have to agree with me that they are lovely and that Sandra has done some awesome needlework. Thank you Sandra for sharing your lovely hand-work with us. You are a very talented lady.

Until next monthwishing you all peace, happiness and contentment as you create your needlework pieces.

