

Nancys Embroidery Shop
NancysTM
 www.nancys.co.nz

your dedicated
BERNINA⁺
SEWING CENTRE
 passionate about sewing

Create with us

In our shop at 241 Thorndon Quay or on our websites:
 www.nancys.co.nz - unique embroidery & patchwork kits
 www.theyarnstudio.co.nz - gorgeous knitting yarns, patterns & needles
 www.jenniferpudney.com - fun needlepoint, felt kits & fabrics
 www.strandnz.com - for crewel yarn & kitsets

FON Newsletter No 96, June 2012

(04) 473 4047
 0800 783 639

PO Box 245, Wellington 6140
 nancys@nancys.co.nz

Sometimes as we put our newsletter together a theme appears, such as curling up with a good book in front of the fire and making lots of cosy things for the people we love.

When I was looking on the internet for ideas for scarves and the fashionable cowls, one of the sites recommended the touch test, put the wool under your chin to feel the softness. I don't know about you but

I find that children and young people will faithfully wear their favourite soft garments until they fall to pieces. When that happens you know your time and expense has been worthwhile.

Mary

Dragonfly's Delight



When Nancy Robb's home was being packed up her niece invited me over to collect a number of her stitched pieces. One of them was this lovely piece of crewel embroidery which we have called Dragonfly's Delight. This is the third in a series of Nancy's stitched pieces. Connie has painstakingly translated the stitches and colours used by Nancy into a pattern that we can share with you.

The pattern has the design printed on to linen twill, detailed stitch instructions and a list of the colours of Appletons crewel wool that were used. You can, of course use your own colours and what you have in your stash. The other designs in the range are the Floral Bower and Tree of Life.



Join us on Facebook to get updates of exciting new products and weekly promotions. <http://www.facebook.com/pages/Nancys-Embroidery-Shop/213654182030566>

Japan

My daughter's latest job, teaching in Tokyo, gave us an excuse to visit Japan and experience some of the interesting Japanese culture. We visited numerous temples in Tokyo, Kyoto and Nikko and a palace where the wooden floors are constructed to imitate the sound of a nightingale singing designed to alert the residents of the presence of intruders.

Of course I was keen to see any textiles I could on our travels. In Kyoto Jenny and I hired bikes one afternoon and rode to the Kyoto textile centre where we watched a Kimono fashion show featuring a variety of kimono and obis. We also observed silk worms munching on mulberry leaves and larger ones spinning their cocoons of silk. There were lots of beautiful silk and rayon fabrics mostly made into runners or obis or kimono. We left with some lovely silk knitting yarns and silk embroidery thread.

The Asakusa area of Tokyo has a huge number of tourist shops, the type that sell gold coloured metallic cats waving a paw/arm!

(contd on page 7)

A Million Stitches

Retrospective exhibition of Rose Howard's work

For the many of you that knew Rose here is an opportunity to see some familiar favourites and some exciting newer work. Judy Turner has curated an exhibition that shows Rose's love of traditional samplers to her very contemporary work.

Minerva Textile Gallery & Bookshop, 237 Cuba Street, Wellington. Weekdays 10am-5.30pm, Saturdays 10am-4pm
 MAY 29-JUNE 30

NEW THREADS



DMC Diamant Thread

DMC's new hand embroidery thread is made in Japan and its high quality and appealing shades will add a luxurious feel and high definition to any design. Viscose fibres are wrapped in a metallised polyester coating followed by a silicone treatment; this expert treatment helps the thread glide through fabrics without damaging it.

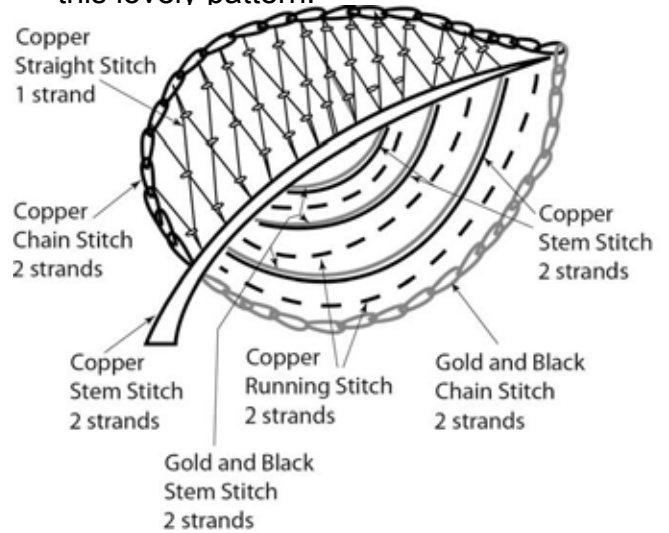
DMC's new Metallic thread is easy to stitch, soft and resistant to breakage. Designed for hand embroidery, this twisted thread is equivalent to 2 strands of DMC stranded cotton, and is ideal for back-stitching, hand embroidery and adding 'sparkle' to your work.

Diamant thread comes in 6 different colours:-
Light Gold, Gold, Gold and Black , Light Silver, Silver ,
Copper

Length: 35m Spool \$6.95

Composition: 89% Rayon, 11% Polyester Metallic.

Connie has taken some home to try out this lovely pattern.



DMC Colour Variations - new Stranded and Perle 5

DMC have just released 24 yummy new colours in their Colour Variations range of variegated colours.



Standed \$4.50/Skein Perle 5 \$7.90/skein



New from Zweigart is a 14 count white Aida printed with either pink or blue dots. \$50.95/ metre

These are perfect for birth samplers, and there is a great little pattern book with these patterns included. \$8.95



CLASSES WITH SPACE

Due to popular demand we have repeated both the Wild Flowers and Tatted Birds classes

WILD FLOWERS

For beginners, create a silken wild flower garden. You will learn how to make silk paper for the background, stiffened silk paper for the leaves and dye/paint the silk for the flowers. The flowers will be stitched with beads for a lovely rich look.

Tutor Kathy McLauchlan
Date Sat Jul 14, 21
Time 10am – 12pm
Price \$66 + materials

COTTAGE GARDEN DOORSTOP



This is a fun class for beginners who would like to learn a number of easy embroidery stitches. Create a practical doorstep for the home or stitch a unique, novel gift. Students will be introduced to basic embroidery techniques and stitches including buttonhole, chain, detached chain, feather, fly, stem, french knots, straight and spiders webs. Stitches will be mixed to create a pretty cottage garden effect. Any colour scheme can be used but consider darker or brighter backgrounds that will be more practical. If you can stitch at home between lessons the doorstep will be constructed in the last class. Tutor Sarah Hooker

Date Tue Jul 3, 10, 31
Time 9:30 – 11:30am or 6 – 8pm
Price \$99 + materials

UKRAINIAN WHITEWORK BAND SAMPLER



For beginners. Based on Gay Eaton's book, Ukrainian Whitework is a beautiful counted thread technique and Barbara has created the lovely sampler from the cover. The book is included in the price of the class. For students who have had a go at counted thread work, your sampler will include pulled fabric satin stitch and eyelets, rare drawn thread borders and needle weaving to create a beautiful decorative piece. Let staff know if you have Gay's book and the cost will be deducted from the price of the class.

Tutor Barbara Kerry
Date Sat Jun 30, Jul 7, 21, Aug 4
Time 1:30 – 3:30pm
Price \$182 + materials (Incl book)

STUMPWORK BEEHIVE



For beginners. Fluffy 3 dimensional bees buzzing around a hive is the little scene you will create in this class. The bees range from very simple stumpwork techniques to more difficult ones and in stitching their hive you will learn traditional laid work. If you can work between lessons you should be able to finish the project during the final class.

Tutor AnneMarie Moorhead
Date Thu Aug 16, 30, Sep 6, 20
Time 9:30 – 11:30am or 6 – 8pm
Price \$132 + materials

More Penguin Threads Book Covers

Bringing together traditional handicraft with cutting-edge book design, the Penguin Threads series has already created a huge buzz among the art and book-collecting communities. This latest set features three beloved children's books, Wind in the Willow, Little Women and The Wizard of Oz, with cover art by painter and illustrator Rachel Sumpter, who brings a unique, whimsical sensibility to the Threads. With vivid colors and ambitiously intricate details, these additions to the series commissioned by award-winning creative director Paul Buckley are rich works of art to be cherished and shared.

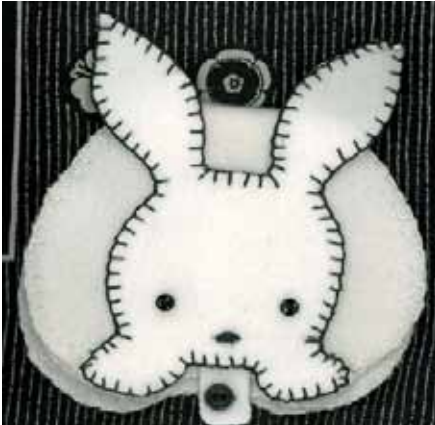


Take a peek inside the covers to see the back of the stitching.

PROJECT

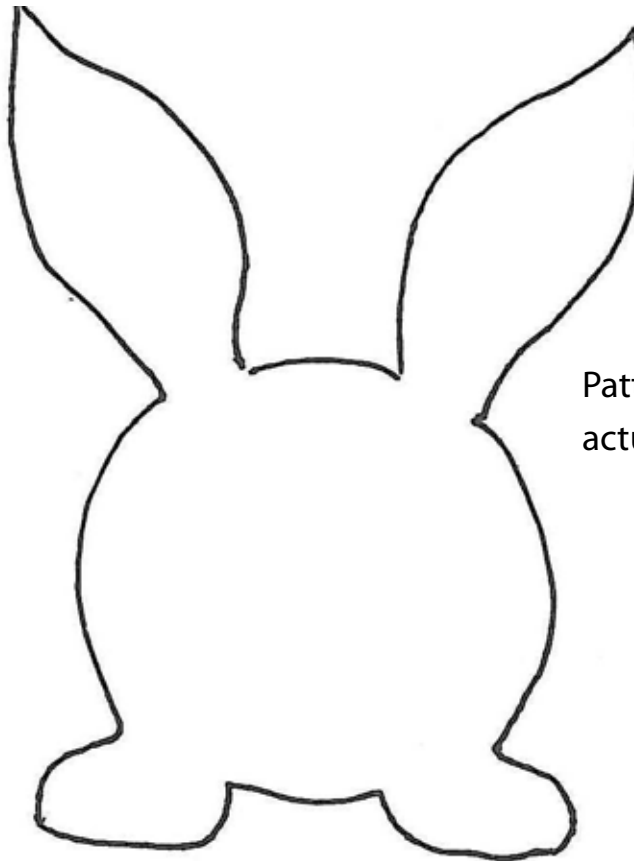
Japanese Rabbit Needle Book

Here is the pattern for the needle book that was in the hussif I made for Caroline last Christmas. Inspiration for the shape came from some Japanese fabric we had in the shop.



Requirements:

45x10cm pelmet Vilene
5 pieces of rabbit-coloured wool felt, each 10x15cm
15x30cm wool flannel for pages
Stranded cotton or Coton a Broder in rabbit colour, cream, black
2 beads for eyes
1 pompom for a tail
Embroidery needles



Patterns -
actual size

For the back of the needle book:

Using the body pattern piece, cut two layers of rabbit-coloured felt and one layer of pelmet Vilene. With the pelmet Vilene between the 2 layers of felt, buttonhole stitch around the main part of the body, leaving open the area across the top, between the 2 marks. Attach the pompom tail in the centre.

For the pages:

Cut 3 pieces of wool flannel using the same pattern piece. Buttonhole stitch around the same portion of each of these pieces with cream thread.

For the front:

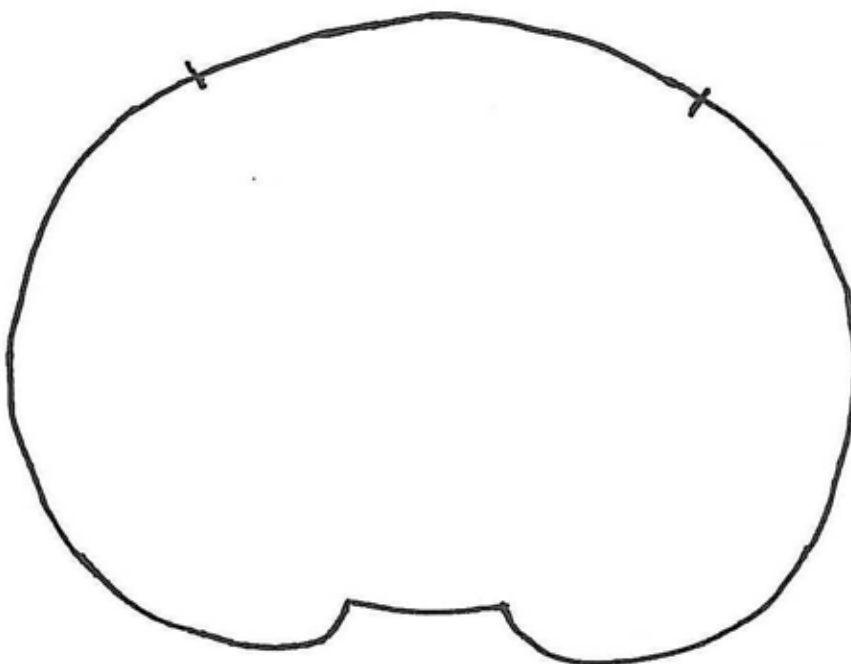
Make another piece exactly the same as the back (see above), except for the tail.

For the face and ears:

Using the face and ears pattern piece, cut one layer each of rabbit-coloured felt and pelmet Vilene. Lay the felt onto the pelmet Vilene and buttonhole stitch all around using black thread. Add a black nose, using a few satin stitches.

Putting it all together:

Layer the back, pages and front and then join them all together by buttonhole stitching across the top, between the 2 marks. Place the face and ears on top and attach to the front only, by stitching the 2 beads.



NEW BOOKS

Knitting Everyday Finery: Practical Designs for Dressing Up in Little Ways

Every knitter knows the special feeling that comes from wearing hand made items. With this in mind, NZer Mel Clark has created a collection of fashionable, practical accessories that can be worn at any time. Quick to finish, the projects make wonderful gifts, both to give and receive.

A clutch made of multicolored wool with the entrelac technique, a quilt sampler tam with Fair Isle patterning, a pencil case for kids in the shape of a little dog, and a delicate scarf inspired by geometry, are just a few of the 26 projects for knitters of all experience levels. There's something here for everyone, with patterns for men, women, and children.

Everyday Cardigan

"Even if you're shy about showing your waist, there's no need to be afraid of a cropped cardigan. I wear mine over a long shirt or a dress so that my secrets are hidden while the cardigan gives me shape. It's knit in one piece to the armholes, with elongated cuffs and a placket in twisted rib stitch. The buttonhole is large enough to accommodate a chunky vintage button." Rita is knitting a sample in the soft Indiecita Alpaca DK

The Lulu Scarf would be perfect in Debbie Bliss Angel

July GLOves

"Gloves in July? I live in the southern hemisphere where July is the middle of winter, but I actually named these gloves after the heroine of one of my favorite books, The Long Song, by Angela Levy."

They're worked in the round for the wrist, thumb and fingers, but back and forth for the hand which has a lace panel and an opening which is finished with small bobbles. The bobbles are sewn together at intervals to create an openwork effect. Prima alpaca 4 ply or our own Strand Yarn would be perfect for these.

Caroline has knitted the Herring Bone Cowl in the Debbie Bliss Paloma. A quick and easy knit that she has worn regularly since she made it. \$34.95

AK Traditions



When one of our FONs from out of town came in recently I asked her what she was working on and she told me about Huggable Friends, a range of knitted cuddly dolls, including some boys as well as girls. I discovered that Annie from Melbourne also does books on felt or knitted dolls with great range of clothes and accessories to make for them. A great project for a grandmother to do with a granddaughter as an ongoing project. You must also check out the knitted camel designed to hold all your sewing accessories. From \$29.95

Soft Toys by Melly and Me

Sewn Toy tales is a fabulous book full of 12 softie projects that are aimed at both boys and girls and also suit a range of sewing skill levels. These projects are just too cute and I am sure you will fall in love with them all. There is also a great range of sewing techniques and tips enclosed that will help you create the perfect softie!

This book is also really exciting as it sees Rosie and Melly teaming back up as sisters to work on an exciting new project.

You can see the cute as a button "Alexander" caterpillar on the cover. \$39.95



"Little Splashes" Pattern by Amy Butler

For all sizes of little girls, and all types of rainy days! Brighten a young girl's outlook with fresh laminated prints for the Raincoat. A lightweight lining and multiple pockets are the cure for dreary skies! (There is also a pattern for big girls too!) Pattern \$48.95

You may have seen the gorgeous raincoat sample that Alana has made.

New colours in the laminated fabric are arriving all the time including some fun red with white spots.

Stitching Club for FONs

All Friends of Nancys members are invited to join us for Stitching Club, held on the last Wednesday of the month at 12.30pm and on the first Sunday of the month at 1.30pm. Come along for a social stitch with any type of embroidery or patchwork. It's also a good time to get help with any stitching problems you may have.

Next dates:

Wednesday 27 June & 25 July

Sunday 1 July & 4 August

KNITTING PROJECTS

Indiecita DK 100% Baby Alpaca Scarf/Cowl

We have added some very soft European colours to the Indiecita range, greys, beiges and soft mauve.



Materials

1 (2)balls Double Knitting/8 ply in each of three colours (sample used Indiecita Kid Alpaca DK)

4.5mm circular knitting needles

Measurements

140cm (210cm) long

Abbreviations

K-knit, P-purl, sts- stitches, St St – Stocking stitch, knit right side rows and purl alternative rows

Scarf

** Cast on 200 (300) stitches with first colour

**Rows 1-4 St St 4 rows starting with a knit row

Rows 5-8 St St 4 rows starting with a purl row

Repeat from ** 2 more times

Change colour and repeat the last 24 rows

Change to the third colour and repeat the first 24 rows

Cast off loosely

Cowl

** Cast on 200 (300) stitches with first colour

Join up (add one twist if desired)

**Knit 4 rounds, Purl 4 rounds

Repeat from ** 2 more times

Change colour and repeat the last 24 rounds

Change to the third colour and repeat the first 24 rounds

Cast off loosely

Fingerless Gloves



Materials

1 balls Double Knitting/8 ply (sample used Indiecita) for short gloves and 2 balls for longer gloves

4mm knitting needles

Stitch holder

Measurements

Measure the circumference of your hand at the widest point (at the base of your thumb) to help determine your size as guide below:

Xsmall(Age 8 to 12), between 18.5 and 20cm

Small to Medium, between 20 and 21.5cm

Large, between 21.5 and 23cm

Abbreviations

K-knit, P-purl, sts- stitches, St St – Stocking stitch, knit right side rows and purl wrong side rows, Mk1 – Make 1 stitch by picking up loop between sts and knitting into back of loop, p2tog - Purl 2 stitches together, rem - remain

Left Glove

** Cast on 36 (40, 44) stitches

Row 1: *k1, p1, repeat from * to end

Repeat this row 3 (5, 5) more times

Row 7: *K 7 (8, 7) Mk 1, repeat from * till 8 (8, 9) sts rem, knit to end (40, 44, 49 sts)

Starting with a purl row St St until the glove measures 10 cm (For longer arm warmers until glove measures 18 (22, 22))**

Thumb Shaping

Knit until 6 (7, 8) sts rem, place 6 (7, 8) sts on to stitch holder, turn

Purl 1 row

Knit 1 row

Cast on 6 (7, 8) sts at beg of next row, purl to end (40, 44, 49 sts)

Starting with a knit row, continue until work measures 5 cm from thumb cast on edge ending with a knit row

Next row; p2, p2tog, purl till 4 sts rem, p2tog, p2 (38, 42, 46 sts)

Next row: *k1, p1, rep from * to end

Repeat this row once

Cast off in rib

Thumb: with right side facing pick up and knit 6 (7, 8) sts along thumb cast on edge and 2 sts on glove and 6 (7, 8) sts from stitch holder (14, 16, 18 sts)

St St 7 (10, 10) rows

Next row: *k1, p1, rep from * to end

Repeat this row once

Cast off in rib

Right Glove

Work as for left glove from ** to **

Thumb Shaping

[Knit 6 (7, 8) sts, place 6 (7, 8) sts on stitch holder, Knit to end, continue on these sts

Purl 1 row

Cast on 6 (7, 8) sts at beg of next row, knit to end

Starting with a purl row, continue St St until work measures 5 cm from thumb cast on edge ending with a knit row

Next row; p2, p2tog, purl till 4 sts rem, p2tog, p2 (42 sts)

Next row: *k1, p1, repeat from * to end

Repeat this row once

Cast off in rib

Thumb: With right side facing pick up and knit 6 (7, 8) sts from stitch holder, 2 sts on glove and 6 (7, 8) sts along thumb cast on edge (14, 16, 18 sts)

St St 7 (10, 10) rows

Next row: *k1, p1, repeat from * to end

Repeat this row once

Cast off in rib

To Make up Glove

With wrong sides together join sides of thumbs, then sides of the glove.

Bow

Cast on 36 (44, 49) sts

St St 7 (8, 9) rows and cast off

Cast on 9 (10, 11) sts

St st 5 (6, 7) rows and cast off

To Make up Bow

Join edges of longer bow piece together and fasten to centre make a bow shape, place shorter piece around centre and stitch together at the back of bow. Position bow on glove and stitch in place.

Variation

Omit bows and add stripes for a more masculine look.

BERNINA⁺ *made to create*

BERNINA 350



Whether you're sewing clothes or home accessories, quilting, or simply mending, the BERNINA 350 gives you the freedom to use a wealth of creative techniques. The BERNINA 350 is available in the Patchwork Edition with quilting foot no. 37 as a standard accessory. The Hands Free Knee Lift and Walking Foot now come as standard on the Bernina 350 at the same price, making this a very good value machine.

Of course it comes with the automatic button hole, sew table, needle threader and Bernina's 10 year warranty. \$2499

Japan contd

However, there were some textile shops, mostly very expensive, but we did find one reasonably priced one with lots of cotton fabrics, many of them indigo. On the wall was a striking quilt made in the tumbling blocks design with sashiko stitching plus a few other interesting textile art creations which I was tempted by but in the end I bought a very small wad of fabrics.

The Japanese have a tradition of wrapping presents in a furoshiki which is a hemmed piece of cotton or rayon fabric about the size of a fat quarter. The back of the fabric is sometimes completely different to the front in both pattern and colour. You would think from this that there must be a good recycling culture, cutting down on the use of paper and wrappings. However, in contrast to this we saw individually wrapped carrots, apples and kiwi fruit at the supermarket! The custom of using furoshiki may have developed from the nineteenth century tradition of presenting gifts wrapped in a fukusa, an elaborately embroidered wrapping cloth, which was returned to the giver once the gift was opened. There isn't the same expectation of furoshikis! Needless to say, I bought a few furoshikis to use as fat quarters.

There were beautiful antique obis and colourful kimono for sale at the oriental Bazaar in Tokyo where we bought yakutas as presents for family members. A yakuta is a cotton light weight summer kimono for use in the home for relaxing in. Hotel rooms in Japan usually supply fresh ones for their guests each day but you are not permitted to go to breakfast or any other meal in them outside your room. Also at the Oriental Bazaar were some old work coats for sale featuring sashiko stitching, with further stitching on patches; these garments have become much sought after.

Japan has a population of 28million and we were impressed at how polite and contained people are so that they don't disturb their neighbours who are, by necessity, very close. They are very friendly, patient people and I would love to return there for another holiday and travel further afield.

Marjorie

All prices quoted in this newsletter are current at the time of going to print but may be subject to change at a later date.

We're open Saturday 10.00am-4.00pm & Sunday 1.00-4.00pm

NOTICES

Days our staff work

Alana	Wednesday, Thursday & Saturday
Anna	Saturday - Monday
Caroline	Monday - Friday
Connie	Thursday
Denise	Monday - Friday

Marilyn	Monday - Tuesday, Friday - Saturday
Marjorie	Wednesday & Friday
Mary	Sunday - Thursday
Sara	Monday - Tuesday
Tess	Thursday

FON Subscriptions

The subscription of \$25 per annum offers newsletter, FON monthly Stitching Club, 10% discount off stock and class enrolment fees, and other special discounts. Discounts do not apply to framing, cushion, bellpull and wallhanging construction, sewing machines and overlockers.

Note: Membership is limited.

If your Friends of Nancys subscription is due for renewal the newsletter will have a highlighted 'R' by your name on the address label and a renewal form enclosed. Please pay promptly as FONs with unpaid subs are removed from the list and their number reallocated.

Nancys Embroidery Shop
241 Thorndon Quay
PO Box 245
WELLINGTON 6140
Tel: 04 473 4047

