

Bear in Mind

An electronic newsletter from Bear Threads Ltd.

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From The Editor –

“A rainy day in Georgia” indeed as Alberto dumps more rain on our soggy ground. But a great stitching week as well, as we are officially into summer, albeit not by the calendar!!! I gathered supplies for my summer stitching projects before the Memorial Day weekend, my porches are clean and everything ready for summer sipping and stitching.

Remember that we publish ‘*Bear In Mind*’ 10 times a year, combining June and July as well as November and December. So this issue is really not late, but rather we are stretching the lazy days of summer. We have definitely not been lazy here at the office, as the website now has been updated with the newsletter index, our newest lace set, and all the past newsletters. Also, the embroidery machines in Switzerland are busy as I write, re-running some old favorites. Most exciting of all,

however, is that we will be introducing some gorgeous **NEW** embroideries in our next issue – August. These are beautiful designs and very much in line with our two-part feature on Broderie Anglaise.

And put the date of Sunday, September 9, 2018 on your calendar NOW to make sure you can see us at the Birmingham Creative Sewing Market. I assure you, it would be tragic not to be one of the first to see the new Swiss Broderie Anglaise embroideries, as well as our newest lace set. And for icing on the cake we will have certain Maline laces available for ½ price – guess that your eyes and ears perked up!!!

So for now, enjoy your summer, be saving your money for September, and

HAPPY STITCHING - *Sheila*



BRODERIE ANGLAISE

PART I

Sometimes just a name can make a subject daunting, and for many embroiderers such is the case with Broderie Anglaise. In the next two issues of *Bear In Mind* we will study this embroidery. First let us determine what it is – and what it is not.

Simply speaking Broderie Anglaise is a type of embroidery formed of holes in fabric (You might think of these as eyelet holes.) decoratively arranged to appear as flowers, vines or other designs. The holes were pierced with a stiletto and then embroidered around their perimeter. Over time the round or oval holes became larger which required the embroidery around the perimeter to be executed first and, when finished, the hole was cut out with fine scissors. Broderie Anglaise should not be confused with Cutwork where rectangles or squares of fabric were removed and then filled with lacy filling stitches. Broderie Anglaise is not synonymous with Madeira embroidery or Whitework, but rather it is often used alongside either of these techniques or indeed, with many other forms of embroidery. Whitework simply means any number of embroidery techniques stitched in white on white fabric. These techniques include satin stitch, feather stitch, stem stitch, and French knots to name just a few including, Broderie Anglaise. Madeira work is a special embroidery found in the Madeira islands where the primary stitch is the Pin Stitch, but may also include satin stitch, seed stitch, Fil Tire, shadow stitch and many, many others including, of course, Broderie Anglaise.

To put in a nut shell – Broderie Anglaise is an embroidery technique in its own right, just as stem stitch or satin stitch. It can be an integral part of Madeira, Whitework or many other forms of embroidery, but not all Madeira, Whitework, etc. is Broderie Anglaise!

Fun Facts about Summer:

1. The first day of summer is between June 20th and June 22nd every year. The first day of summer is called the summer solstice, and the day varies due to the Earth's rotation not exactly reflecting our calendar year.
2. The last day of summer is September 20th.
3. If you love ice cream, the summer season should be your favorite. July is national ice cream month.
4. A June fun fact is that the month of June is named after the Roman goddess Juno.
5. For a July fun fact, Roman general Marc Antony named the month of July after Julius Caesar.
6. July is national blueberry month.
7. The longest day of the year is on the summer solstice.
8. August was named after Julius Caesar's nephew. He had received the title of "Augustus" which means "reverend".



We have pictured some of Bear Threads, Ltd. current Broderie Anglaise inspired Swiss embroideries, with more debuting in August!



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