



Ebor Ruggers

www.eborruggers.com

April 2014

MEETING NEWS

5th April: Working meeting and monthly swap shop. Don't forget your raffle prizes.... On the subject of which we are pleased to say that John has decided to come and run the raffle once again for us at meetings. We're really looking forward to seeing him back in his rightful place at the raffle table along with his Yorkshire Post!

10th May: Show and Tell/Working meeting. Please bring along current and completed projects to share with everyone. These can include other crafts.

YORK OPEN STUDIOS 2014

April 4th 5th 6th
April 12th and 13th

This month sees the 13th York Open Studios, where you can enjoy two consecutive weekends visiting artists' studios, workshops and other spaces. This year over 70 artists are taking part. Access to all venues is free and open to all ages.

The launch exhibition, from 18 March to 13 April, takes place at the Blossom Street Gallery just by Micklegate Bar in York.

A quick glance at the brochure shows four textile artists listed, but these weekends will appeal to anyone with an interest in the visual arts.

More information and a full list of those taking part can be found at

www.yorkopenstudios.co.uk

Your committee:

Following the AGM, the committee now comprises the following members:

- Margaret Hockey (Chair)
- Anne Bush (Secretary)
- Kay Tester (Treasurer)
- Pam Alford (Membership Secretary)
- Lindsay Bascombe
- Margaret Ramsbottom

Susan Jordan has kindly agreed to stay on in charge of the library, for which many thanks.



Meeting Report

Our AGM was held as part of our usual meeting on 1st March and was well attended. As reported previously, John Humpleby had brought along a collection of antique and old rugging tools which his late wife Dorothy had collected over the years. He had also donated several rugs made by them both.

The tools were especially interesting as they included several handmade from everyday items such as a large nut and bolt, a penknife and animal horn, much like those in the picture above.

All of these items were auctioned and raised a grand total of £183.50, which at John's request is to be donated to Cats Protection.

Thank you to all who contributed.

Jumble Sale news:

The only one that I could find in April so far is at St Luke's Burton Stone Lane on Wednesday 9th April at 6pm. However, if you receive this in time, there is one taking place at Thornton-le-Clay village hall on Saturday 29th March at 2pm. And best of all Saturday 5th April sees the return of the not-to-be-missed car boot sales on York Racecourse. I'll be there!

Cat in an Old Hooked Rug

Because she loved her cat and wished that she
Could save his likeness for posterity
She dyed wool rags the shade of cherries ripe,
In June, on this red background, strip by stripe,
She worked the portrait of her pet in gray,
And she was gratified to have friends say
It was the image of old Tom....the cat
Lies stretched out on the rug, as sleek and fat
As he was in the flesh. She almost feels
He vanishes at times in quest of meals
Such as she used to give him long ago;
He looks continuously pleased, as though
Her hand still stroked his tiger-striped gray fur,
Each stroke rewarded by a throaty purr.

Harriet Gray Blackwell, 1952



Margaret's owl cushion

Some books recently added to our library.....

Angie Lewin: plants and places, *Leslie Geddes Brown*

Rag rug creations: an exploration of colour and surface, *Lynne Stein*

Hooked rugs of the mid-west: a handcrafted history, *Mary Collins Barile*

Rug hooker's companion, *Donna Hrkman*

Mark Hearld's workbook, *Simon Martin*

Outside your window: a first book of nature, *Nicola Davies & Mark Hearld*

On March 10th some of us took part in Heather Lamborn's workshop "Colour confidence: shading, pictorials and sculpting" at her lovely studio "The Bee Loft" near York. We all took a picture along to work from; these ranged from animals and birds to landscapes and flowers.

The day fairly flew by and by the time we said our farewells everyone had made good progress and practised some different techniques including shearing and sculpting.

Many thanks to Heather for a most enjoyable and inspiring day, with a particular mention for the delicious cakes she provided to keep us all going!

At the workshop Margaret Hockey started hooking an owl inspired by one of Mark Hearld's works; she has since completed it and made it into the beautiful cushion that you can see above.

It was good to hear recently from Gill Barker who moved to her new home in Northumberland at the end of February. She says she is already feeling really at home in Cresswell and has found work there. She sends her best wishes to everyone at Ebor Ruggers and plans to stay on as a member, so good news all round!

We wish Gill and family every happiness in her new home and hope to see her again before too long at Ebor Ruggers

"The owner of practical hooked rugs has no need to wince when she sees them walked upon. She realises that with each step they are being worn to a softness of shading and texture that will make them choice heirlooms someday."

Stella Hay Rex, *Practical Hooked Rugs 1949*

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