

# AUTUMN NEWSLETTER 2011



Welcome to the autumn newsletter. The last few days have been really sunny, but the evenings are getting colder and the nights are drawing in. Now is definitely the time to start a new project (or two!) to stitching in the long winter evenings and even during the cold dark days. I hope we have a few new ideas and lots of kits to tempt you. We are off to the Knitting and Stitching Shows, first at Alexandra Palace from 6<sup>th</sup> – 9<sup>th</sup> October and then Harrogate from 24<sup>th</sup> – 27<sup>th</sup> November. Let's hope we are not snowed in at Harrogate like we were last year. . We look forward to meeting some of you in London or Harrogate. If you are treating yourself to a day out at either of these shows, do come along and see us and have a chat.

We recently had our usual stand at the Festival of Quilts at the NEC in Birmingham in August. This was the fourth time that we have done this Show and it gets better and better and bigger and bigger every year. If you have never been, make a note to go along next August.

Just in time for Sewing for Pleasure in March, my latest advanced design, DAISY, DAISY, was completed and is now included in the catalogue. It is worked on cream silk dupion, using a wide variety of goldwork techniques and silk shading for some of the leaves and petals. This is intended as a challenge for the more experienced embroiderer.

This means that I now have three advanced kits available, DAISY, DAISY, ROYAL PAISLEY, which is worked on a wonderful hand dyed purple velvet background with lots of gold leather and swirls of couched threads, and KELIM, worked on a vivid background of reds, greens and blues with a strong geometric design – straight lines are much more difficult than curves!!

Also new are the set of four TREASURES. These are four decorations, along the lines of the GEMS (red and gold) and CRYSTALS (blue and silver). They are worked on copper canvas with a variety of copper and cream threads, with copper leather squares and a cream silk dupion backing. They are the same price as the Gems and Crystals, £8.25 each or £30.95 for a set of any four. You can mix and match across the ranges and order Treasures, Crystals and Gems to make up your selection of four!!

I now have a DRAGONFLY kit to go with the BUTTERFLY kit. They are both worked on the same grey/blue background and would look great hung together. I know that lots of you have worked two or three ROSES to hang together for maximum impact.

I am continually amazed by the number of different ways you use our TILE kits. I sometimes hang them "on point" at Shows to show how different they look, but I have heard or seen them used as bookcovers, especially to mark celebrations like weddings and Golden Weddings (everyone can then sign the book), box tops, cushion cover centres, bags, large needlecases, the possibilities are endless. Let us know if you come up with a different idea.

Our website is still not perfect, but we are getting there. I know lots of you are managing to navigate your way around it. If you have difficulties, do email or ring and we will endeavour to sort things out.

We now stock 22 different colours of leather. The very latest colours are Bubblegum Pink, Turquoise and Mango Orange. As my granddaughters would say – really yummy!! I have used the Turquoise and Bubblegum Pink, together with silver, on my latest canvaswork kit, THE KNOT GARDEN, worked on silver canvas. It has not yet made it to the catalogue but it should do within the next couple of weeks – when I have mastered my new computer programme to do the charts!!

As usual, I am working on a number of new designs. I am going to offer a GOLDWORK SAMPLER, for those who would like to learn a variety of goldwork techniques. I also have planned a new Introductory kit – based on tulips – I think. Watch this space.

Hope you all have a great autumn.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Carolyn". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial 'C'.

**“Goldwork Kits by Carolyn”**

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