



# Lace Chatter

W I T W A T E R S R A N D L A C E G U I L D

## Letter from the chairlady

### SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- Beads in Lace
- Ancient Lace from Egypt
- Library news
- World Wide Web
- Lace Words
- Raffle - Table Cloth
- Birthdays

### Dear Members,

I personally had a very busy time with the Soccer World Cup with little time for lace making.

I hope this did not affect you all the same. At the June meeting Rene challenged us all to make a small pair of wings for the beaded angel, in true form the members produced a choir of angels to show us in July.

The exhibition is now here. Please give all your exhibits to Rene and ensure they are logged in correctly as we take great care over

your lace items.

The lace cloth has been a great success, now we need to get the people to come to the exhibition over the two days on the 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> October to buy the raffle tickets.

Please encourage all friends and family to take just an hour out of their busy schedules to drop into the centre, remember the ticket includes a cup of tea or coffee and a small plate of eats.

It is nice to see all the ages attend as we need to expose our younger

generation to the crafts that they could try as a hobby.

I hope this exhibition will have the most visitors, to see all the beautiful pieces and in order for us to show off the hard work what the guild members worked on during the last two years.

Lindsay



## Editor's Letter

### Spring Greetings !

As the new season announces that new life is here, and we as Lace makers must grab the opportunity in starting new things, even on our Lace Pillows we need to finish all the old things and start a fresh.

I need to remind you all about our 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary as a

Guild in October and we need interesting articles from all for the Commemorative Edition of the Lace Chatter. Even if it is handwritten given to me, I can perform miracles with a computer mouse and keyboard, for insertion in the Chatter.

Look at some of the interesting articles inside this issue.

Eagerly awaiting your articles for the anniversary Issue in November.

Louis O

Library News—compliments of the Sales Table

**Lace Express Magazine**

The library boasts 51 copies of this exciting magazine. The first one 1/97 was donated by Helen Grant. The sales table used to pay our money to the treasurer to add to the library fund but in 2001 Margaret Jackson and I decided to make it our goal to buy the Lace Express from our table money. Since then we managed to buy most back copies and all recent editions. We only need 4/97, 2/00, 4/00 and 2/04 to have a full set of magazines from the beginning in 1997. In these magazines you will find tradi-

tional and modern lace, with lots of ideas on how to use your lace. Designers from all over the world are featured and you can read how they came to lace making or designing. From the beginner to the expert can find inspiration. Each time I look at a magazine I see something different that interest me. When there is enough money we also buy books. Two recent additions were chosen with advanced lace makers in mind:

**Teiko Fujito:**

**Tatting Lace**

Japan 2009, Text: Japanese  
The diagrams and photo's

in this book speaks for itself and the working should not represent a problem if you are an accomplished tatter.

**Jenny Rees:**

**Lace from the Australian Bush**

Weston Creek 2009, Text: English  
At a first glance this looks like point ground patterns but it is advanced Torchon. Each pattern can be made as bookmark, oval or handkerchief edging. For the Torchon lovers who would like a challenge this is the book for you. It will be nice if a couple of us can get together to make the sampler and discuss the techniques used.



**Support the sales table to enable the Librarians to purchase new books for the Library**

**A n c i e n t  
L a c e**

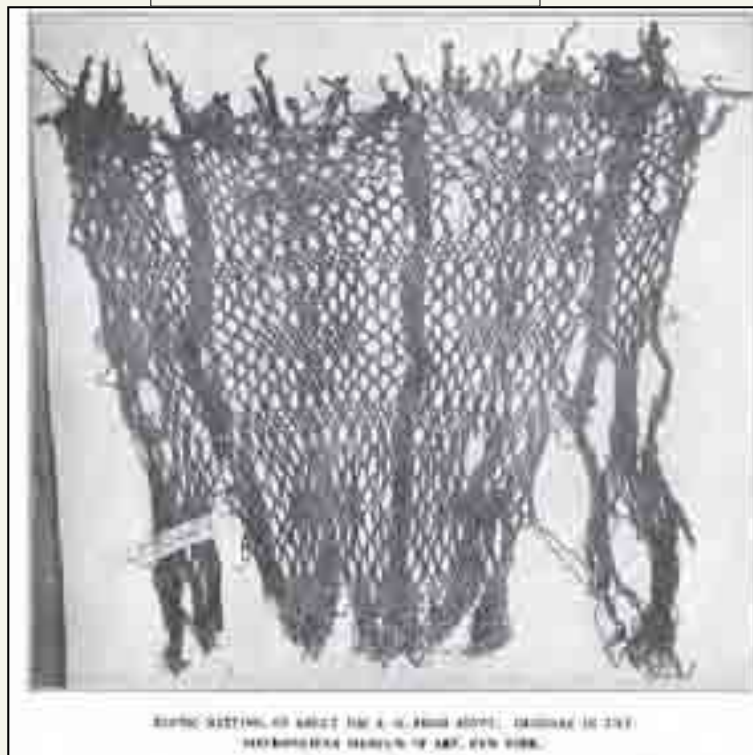
The other day I was wondering about lace.

So I jumped on to the internet (Google is your friend)

Wow and what did I find Ancient lace from even 500 A.D.

The original piece are on display in the Metropolitan Museum of art in New York.

The piece that was found was used by a Coptic Priest in the ancient Coptic Church in Cairo,



Egypt.

If you look at the photo you'll see the Crosses on the netting.

From my observation

I gather that this was worn over the clothes of the Coptic Priest.

The method of making this netting (Lace) is uncertain as no evidence was found of what was used, presumably piece of bone to wind the cotton around.

Louis O

## B e a d s i n L a c e

### BEADS IN LACE

In the interest of lacemaking in this country designs must be created to combine African culture with European culture. Only this way will lace become an interesting craft for the African people as a whole. The combination of beads with lace seems to be a start and hopefully more of this type of work will develop. The pricking for these pieces of lace must indicate where the bead is to be worked and the colour of the bead. Use a coloured pen or pencil to denote this. If you want to use the same pricking again with different colours, make a key of the colours you wish to use.

### HOW TO ADD BEADS TO LACE

Work to the indicated pin hole. Pick up the bead with a wig pin or a fine crochet hook. Pull one thread from the left hand pair of bobbins through the hole in the bead and make a loop. Put one thread from the right hand pair of bobbins through the loop and draw up. Do not put a pin in the hole.

### ABOUT THE PRICKINGS

The necklace and matching earrings are worked in a neutral shade allowing the beads to dominate the pattern. The band of the necklace is a roll, but it could also be attached to ribbon or similar. The other earrings and the bracelet make the use of coloured threads to match the beads. Work-out the route that each colour takes before working the lace remembering that the whole stitch makes a zigzag line and half stitch a diagonal line. The peacock is worked in 2 neutral shades with the addition of coloured threads at intervals. The coloured threads are taken to the centre in half stitch.

See prickings on pages 4 & 5

Bev Daniel



'Yon cottager, who weaves at her own door, Pillow and bobbins all her little store; Content though mean, and cheerful if not gay, Shuffling her threads about the live-long day, Just earns a scanty pittance, and at night Lies down secure, her heart and pocket light.'

Lines written by the poet William Cowper (1733-1800) describing the plight of lace makers in his hometown of Olney, north Buckinghamshire.

## W o r l d W i d e W e b - W i t s l a c e g u i l d

Something exciting is in the making, as we are busy creating a wonderful website for our Lace Guild.

With today's technology it is imperative to have a link with the rest of the Lacing fraternity across continents at the "Click of a button"

Some of the interesting contents will be as follows:

- Contact Details
- Pricking Archive
- Completed projects
- Calendar that indicate the themes for

next years special events and classes

- Sales section

The website will also boast a page that will enable any new members that want to join, to complete a registration form online that will then be forwarded to the Web Administrator who will then forward it to the relevant committee member (s) for the necessary action.

There will also be a page that members can have their businesses advertised i.e. Perfect Creations (pty)

LTD.

It is imperative that a small fee will be imposed for the link to the advertisements placed.

I look forward to get the Website off the ground and active

Circle your calendars with the date 30 October 2010 and watch the web on the following web address:

[www.witslaceguild.co.za](http://www.witslaceguild.co.za)

Louis O

**Ever wanted to add beads to your lace—see article about Beads and Lace**

## Beads in Bobbin Lace

Any bead that will slip on to a fine crochet hook can be worked into a piece of lace. Try this with this narrow braid (fig 1). Wind 4 pairs (any thickness up to 20 crochet cotton) pin 2 pairs (1 worker & 1 passive) at each of A&B (on fig 2) work in doubles (cloth stitch and twist) to C, leaving both worker pairs twisted: slip a bead onto a fine crochet hook: with the hook, pick up the right hand thread of the left hand workers and pull through (fig 3a) complete sewing by passing the left hand bobbin of the right hand worker through the loop (fig 3b) twist both pairs and continue with the braid.

This braid could be extended and used as a trimming, or two or three pieces the length of this pricking can make Christmas bauble: emit the central bead on each strip, stitch together at this point

Ever thought  
you cannot  
add beads  
into lace—  
now is you're  
change to  
proof yourself  
wrong!

add a hanging loop, stiffen and set round a ping pong ball, tie together knots of start and finish using threads as a tassel (fig 4) In this way beads can be worked between any threads – taking the place of a pin in Torchon ground in the middle of a spider, filling a honeycomb, linking two gimps (fig 5). Beads can also be applied between sections of braid: when working the first section make long picots where beads will be wanted: as the second section is worked slip a bead onto each picot (using a crochet hook) and make a sewing (fig 6).

These sewing techniques

are the most satisfying ways of working with beads. It is also possible to use the same technique as for knitting, i.e. threading all the beads onto workers (or passives) and pushing them into place, one at a time, as required. This method can be used to put beads along the outside of a piece of lace, twist workers 2 or 3 times at the edge, push up a bead, pin and twist again (fig 7). Beads can also be threaded onto gimps, with pairs around being twisted to keep the spacing correct.

Sequins present a rather different problem since you rarely want them at right angles to the work. Sewings can be made with the two workers or a worker and a passive, in each case there will be threads across the front and back of the sequin (fig 8). For a scaled effect sequins should be threaded onto passives and pushed up as required.



Fig. 2

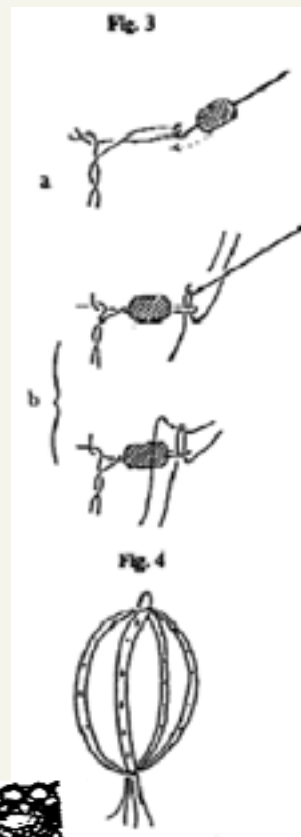


Fig. 4

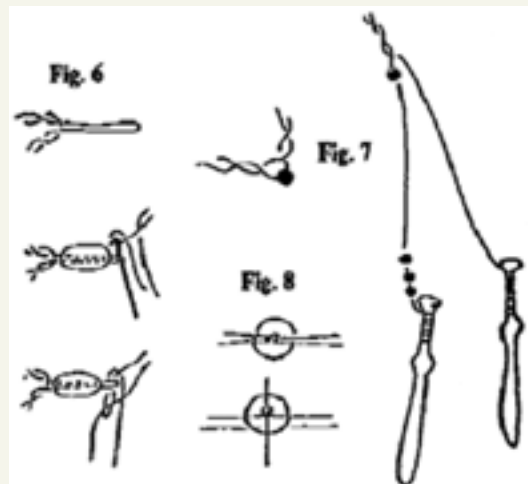
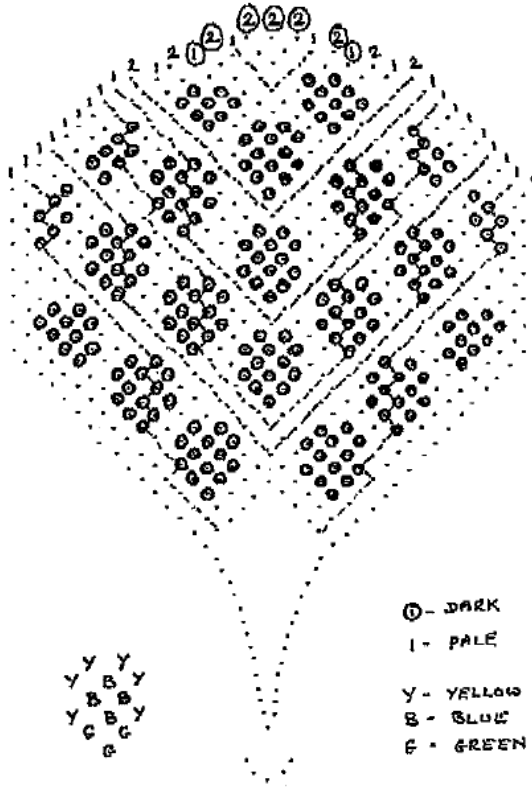


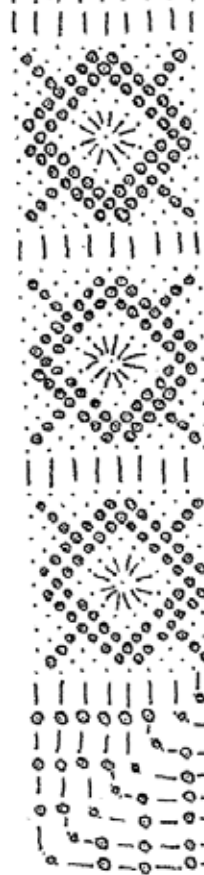
Fig. 5

Beads in Lace c o n t i n u e

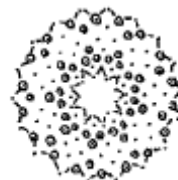
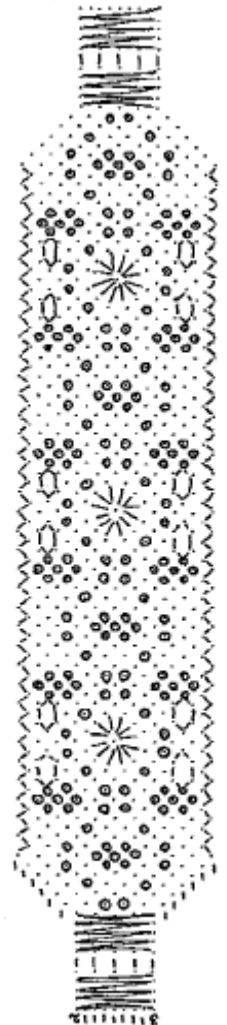
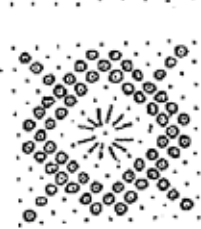


⊙ - DARK  
○ - PALE  
Y - YELLOW  
B - BLUE  
G - GREEN

3 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 3



3 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 3



Please enlarge prickings to the size required

# Gayle's Wedding in Lace

## A history of Lace from generation to generation.....a real heirloom in the family to treasure

We received this wonderful article of Gayle's Wedding together with Astonishing photos - It all started with: Gayle's Grandmother in Law then it was passed onto Astri (Mother in law) who has taken a number of pictures of the mantilla.

Astri has also sent three pictures of her wearing the mantilla at her wedding – over face with her dad, (outside of church, off the face and kneeling in church that shows length of mantilla quite well).

Pictures of Gayle wearing the mantilla – the only full view from the back was taken by Susan Williams.

Unfortunately there are no photos of Gayle's Grandmother in Law wearing the Mantilla on her wedding.

Astri did hunt down her mother's wedding pictures when she visited her sisters in Scotland last September – but none of them show her wearing the mantilla.

### Physical details of mantilla:

It's made of silk. It is unbelievably soft and as a result can be scrunched up into a small ball despite its size. Time has resulted in it now being a champagne / pale gold colour – although it has never been snow-white – was always a creamier / yellower colour.

It is oval in shape and quite large – approximately 2 metres in length at its longest point and approximately 1,5 metres wide at its widest point – it makes for a floor length veil on me (1.6 metres – had to gather up slightly the back bottom edge) and Astri (slightly taller).

It comprises of a smaller oval (one piece) with a scalloped edge to which has been attached (with a slight gather – under the edge of the inner piece so that the scallop lies flat on top of the seam) a broad straight piece with a more deeply scalloped edge.

It is a net onto which have been embroidered floral motifs throughout – filling up a lot of the mantilla, but more concentrated at the scalloped edge. Each portion of the mantilla consists of the embroidered scalloped edge and two rows of embroidered floral design so that when you look at the entire mantilla there are effectively 10 rows of design in concentric ovals across the width.

### History of mantilla:

Astri's grandfather (a naval man who travelled the Mediterranean extensively) bought it in Spain during the 1920's.

Astri's mother wore it as a veil at her wedding in Scotland in 1927.



Astri Graham wore it as a veil when she married John Leroy in Cape Town on 28 June 1969. It was used for Marc Leroy's (my husband) christening "blanket" in 1975. No pictures of him "wearing" it either.



Gayle wore it as a veil when she married Marc Leroy in Johannesburg on 11 July 2009.



Lace,  
Lace,  
Lace and  
Lace all  
over!!!!



**Raffle - Raffle - Raffle  
at the 2010 Guild  
Exhibition**

This wonderful tablecloth will be up for Raffle in order to boost our Guild funds and to keep the membership fees for next year the same.

This table cloth is well worth over R 2000.00 and can become an heirloom for generations to come if you are the lucky ticket holder.

Tell all your friends to visit the Exhibition in October and let them take part in the

raffle during the Exhibition.

A very big word of thanks to all involved in the making of this wonderful Handmade Lace tablecloth.

Come and see if you are the lucky ticket holder for this magnificent Tablecloth.

**Tickets for only**

**R 10.00**



Tablecloth to be raffled at the Exhibition in October

**Gayle's Wedding cont...  
And the Wedding Cake**

The Wedding cake with the lace bands made by Annette Emdon (bottom), Carolyn Einhorn (top) and Susan Williams (middle).

The pricking has been used for all three tiers of the cake, but in different shades of green – darkest at the bottom to lightest at the top.

Susan Williams converted the pricking to a double-sided mirror image (from a single band) and making sample pieces to find the best thickness thread for the width we had in mind for the bands.

The pricking can be found in Clare Burkhard's "50 New Bobbin Lace Patterns" (B T Batsford Lim-

ited; London; 1993) – design 28 Bow Edging at pp 96 -99.

The chap in the photo is Theo Paraskevopoulos (Theo's Cakes) – sister in law's brother – who made the cake as our wedding gift – he had great fun – says it is the only time he has ever had lace on a cake.



**The Lace Makers from left to right Susan Williams, Annette Emdon, Theo Paraskevopoulos (The Baker) and Carolyn Einhorn**



## Contact Us

WITWATERSRAND  
LACE GUILD

Rooseveltpark  
Recreation Centre  
C/o Preller & Anton van Wouw st  
Rooseveltpark Johannesburg

info@witslaceguild.co.za  
or  
Web Administrator

[louislmo@gmail.com](mailto:louislmo@gmail.com)

The Lace guild had started in 1980 in a Garage and was founded by Mary Hughes & Jean Horne.

This year we celebrate our 30th Anniversary in October with an Exhibition.

Look out for the bumper edition of the Lace Chatter in November.

## Who's Birthday / Birthday / birthday Is it

06 August - Maggie Rajah  
10 August - Linda Greyling  
22 August - Lindsay Roper  
24 August - Evelyn Bennett , Susie Erasmus  
27 August - Magda Strydom  
31 August - Anne MacDonald  
09 September - Louise Ellis  
22 September - René Michas  
24 September - Ceciel Strydom  
25 September - Clementine Baasch  
29 September - Louis Booyens  
12 October - Sheila Makkink  
- Alta Styger  
26 October - Rina Steyn  
27 October - Esmé Unwin

**Congratulations !!!!!!!!!!!  
is in order for all the Birth-  
days during August , Sep-  
tember and October**

### Condolences - Condolences - Condolences

It is with great sadness that we have to sympathise with the family of Suzie Erasmus who passed away during the month of June 2010 quietly in her Sleep.  
We know that she in a Better place know and looking down on all of us.