

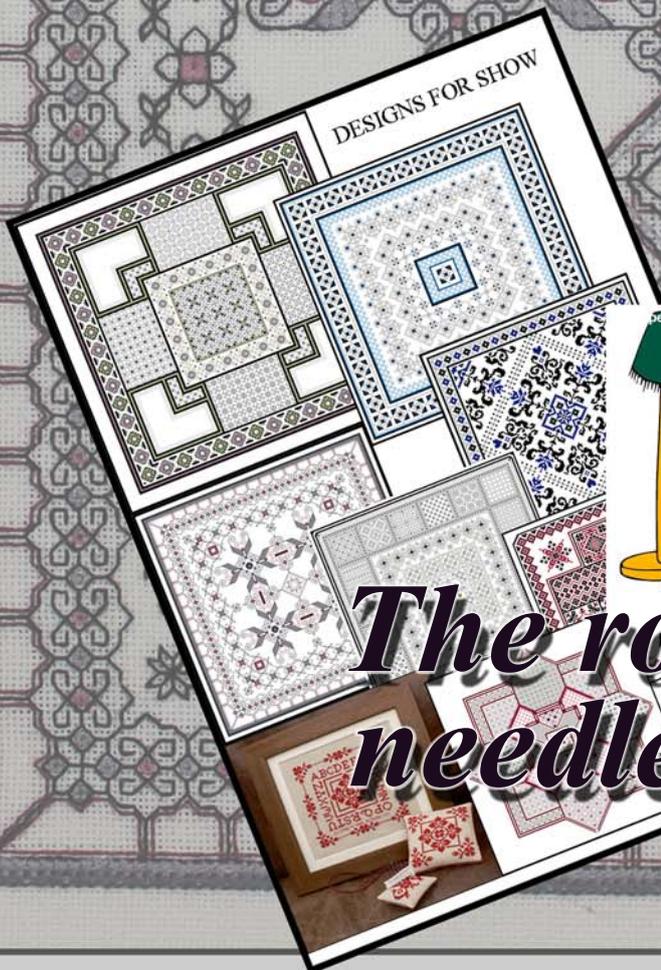


Blackwork Journey Blog

September 2011

Stitching with Ease!

Needlework Show



STITCHING
WITH EASE

by Elizabeth Almond of Blackwork Journey

The role of needlework

Visit Blackwork Journey
www.blackworkjourney.co.uk

Blackwork Journey Blog – September 2011

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What I had planned to say in my Blog this month has been overshadowed by two recent events which have happened to me and the affects they have had, both now and for the foreseeable future and I felt I needed to share some of my feelings with you.

I know from my years of teaching how important needlework is to many people and how it can become a lifeline during times of illness or great distress. Many people who visit my website have become friends and I feel very privileged to be part of their lives. One such person wrote to me recently who has lost a family member in the most appalling circumstances possible and has found that her needlework has not only helped her during her difficulties, but changed in character and become even more meaningful and as a result of what has happened, has set up a Foundation in her daughter-in-law's memory. I was so impressed with this initiative, that I have said that I would design something specific to them to raise funds for their organisation. As you know, many people raise funds for their churches and specific projects through their needlework, but this example touched me deeply, so keep going Peggy, there is a lot of love out there for you!

The second thing that happened to me at the beginning of the week, was that I was mugged and my handbag stolen by a fully grown man on a mountain bike in a supermarket car park. He grabbed it from the front seat of my car as I climbed in. I got out and chased after him after trying unsuccessfully to hang on to my precious bag. I didn't know I could still run and I probably shouldn't have tried at all, but all I could think about was that there were two finished embroideries in the bag waiting to be posted to magazines and they would have to be restitched!

The fact that my house keys, purse, credit cards and cheque book disappeared in my best black handbag, faded into insignificance at the thought of losing my embroideries. Besides the acute distress it has caused, I have spent most of the week cancelling cards, ordering new ones, speaking to the banks, (Don't you just hate automated telephone lines when all you want do is talk to someone direct!) having all the locks changed and trying to come to terms with a physical attack.

I am now much more wary, apprehensive and angry that some lowlife has taken part of my life, probably to feed his drug habit. Apart from the trauma it has caused me, the sheer inconvenience has been horrific as I have had to report the incident to the Police, fill out numerous insurance forms and provide several receipts etc. How many of us keep our receipts for months on end and put a price on their embroideries, which often don't reflect the hours of work spent designing and stitching them.

My lasting memory will be the look of hate on his face...

However, what I originally wanted to raise in this month's blog was as follows:-

Columns for 'The Gift of Stitching'

I have been delighted to see that my recent articles in "The Gift of Stitching" under the heading "Stitching with Ease" have raised a number of readers' questions, ranging from where to obtain equipment to dealing with health related issues and stitching. If you have a problem and need some guidance, or want to share something you have found particularly

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useful, please feel free to contact me by e-mail and I will do my best to provide you with some help.

This is your chance to have your say and to raise queries about your experiences and problems which have arisen whilst you have been stitching.



Stitching with Ease – I am really not quite this old!

Needlework Fall Show

The on-line Needlework Fall Show runs from 20th-25th October, 2011 and there will be a number of new designs available from 'Blackwork Journey'. The public can view the pages from the vendors and it is great fun to look through them all. My new charts are available from some Vendors, but will also be available in PDF format after the end of the show.

I have a new "Seasons" collection as well as many other designs which I hope you will view and enjoy. All designers spend many hours assembling their collections and this show offers an excellent opportunity to look through other peoples work and perhaps stimulate ideas of your own.

October Show

All the designs will be available on the site on November 1st 2011
They may be ordered as PDF downloads or as hard copies.

