



# Crafts On The Web



## NEWSLETTER ~ SEPTEMBER 2009

Hello and welcome to Jill's new summer newsletter!

A big thank you to all those who have signed up to receive my newsletter about all things textile, embroidery, fiber and mixed media art.

I hope to be bringing you news about what my sewing machines and I have been up to during the month, supported by lots of yummy photos and useful creative tips and techniques to help with your own creative ambitions.

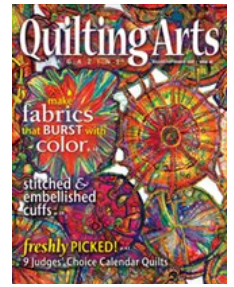


For those of you who are new to what I do, please visit my [website](#) to find out more and to see a gallery of my work. I also have a [blog](#) which I try and keep up to date.

You can also email me for any advice relating to all things 'stitchy' and I will do my best to help. Please feel free to forward this newsletter to your creative friends too.

## IN THE PRESS

I have always enjoyed reading about other artists, their work and what inspires them. In particular, one American magazine called 'Quilting Arts' has always been a favourite, so much so, that I am now writing several articles for them and their sister magazine called 'Cloth Paper Scissors'.



Why not take a look at their website for a taster of what's inside the magazine...you won't be disappointed. They have an on-line community too, where people can connect with other like minded creative folk, exchange ideas, show their work and pick up tips etc.



If you wish, you can look at my profile (Jill) where you will find out about my work. By clicking on free stuff, you can view and download a **free** embellishment pdf file giving lots of ideas for making textile embellishments.



For more about the magazine and the community take a look at their site [www.quiltingarts.com](http://www.quiltingarts.com).

## OUT & ABOUT

I shall be attending the **Creative Stitches & Hobbycrafts** show at the Westpoint Arena, Exeter, Devon on 24-27 September 2009, where I hope to meet as many of you as I can. I shall be demonstrating machine embroidery and more at the show, and will have lovely embroidery work for sale too. For more information about this show visit [www.ichf.co.uk](http://www.ichf.co.uk).



I will also be taking a **Mixed Media Metals** workshop for the **West Country Embroiderers, Cheriton Bishop** group on Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> October. We shall be stitching, patinating, embossing and bonding metals and fabrics...looking forward to it!



## HARD AT IT

I have been very busy preparing for the upcoming show at Westpoint and thought I would share with you some of the things my new sewing machine and I have been making. I recently bought a new Bernina 730E embroidery sewing machine and just love it to bits! As I have been used to using an embroidery machine and 4D software for the last 5 years - a Husqvarna Viking Platinum 950E, I found it very easy to get to grips with the new Bernina. I hope to write more about the machine's features in a later newsletter.



I have been working on embroidering a base fabric for covering buttons, by layering some of my own embroidery patterns over each other, building up a very interesting embroidered surface on the fabric. This can take a long time, but the results are well worth it. I shall have buttons and other embroidery work for sale at the **Creative Stitches & Hobbycrafts** show in September.



## QUICK & EASY

*A free and simple embellishing project*

Make this quick and easy mini landscape using lots of glitzy fabric and yarn scraps, using either felting needles or an embellishing machine if you have one. I have stuffed the centre with wadding to make it into a hanging pincushion for my embellishing machine. You could frame it or place it on the front of a greetings card or make your own ATC!



❖ using cotton fabric for the base, take a piece of felt and begin to needle felt yarns over the entire surface.

❖ Apply organza in strips lengthwise and felt these in.

❖ Build up texture by adding different widths and thicknesses of yarns.

❖ Add a felt flower shape to the top corner and felt in the stem using yarn.

❖ Sew a bead or jewel in the centre of the flower to give added interest.

❖ Around the edges, needle felt strips of ribbon, yarn and organza. This will crinkle up as you felt it on, giving a wavy finished edge.

❖ Finally, needle felt a loop of ribbon to the top, and hang it from your machine.



Until next time...Keep stitching, Keep smiling!

~ Jill ~

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