



Hi all, what a time of transition. The Guild proposal was thankfully accepted-

2099 votes cast

88.4% For

10.2% Against

1.4% Spoiled/Abstained

and we can now hopefully look forward to a new era.

I know some of you are already in the process of establishing an independent branch, by choosing a new name and setting up a bank account.

Please let me know of any updates, as it is imperative that we as a Region keep a link with branches/new groups.

I know that you are keen to know when the Guild will release the details of a setup fund and support.

To that end, apart from offering myself to the Guild as a volunteer, I had a long conversation with Amanda (one of the Trustees) and I managed to glean some information for you all.

The Board of Trustees are meeting on a very regular basis to discuss the way forward and they will hopefully be in a good position to release their plan in respect of independent branches anytime from 30th April up to mid- May.

I suspect that many branches are raring to go, but obviously the deficit in the Guild accounts must be addressed before the Guild can calculate the seed funding for branches. This means, very careful planning, and we must be patient – it's a bit like coming out of a Covid Lockdown but in this case acting hastily will not cause further health issues but could cause confusion.

So, I would ask you to be patient but still make your plans, so you are ready for future developments.

To this end, I have been told that branches will be approached on an individual basis, re their future intentions.

However, I think part of the plan is to reduce the area sizes of Regions making them easily managed, and of course they will be run by volunteers. Therefore, from what I understand the Guild still desire some form of communication which will be mainly from the branches up to the Guild, but will also filter down from the Guild re challenges, competitions etc. This information will go via the Regional committees, like a conduit. They also want more interaction between Regions, sharing of ideas and joint ventures.

As was mentioned at the AGM there will also be a section on the new Guild website for branches to use.

I am hopeful that the NWR will be able to retain its current website, which I know is really useful for advertising events etc. This will depend on finance as I got the impression that seed funding for regions had not been discussed, and apart from the previous collected branch levies we have no way of raising funds!

I would recommend, that if possible, all members look at General Meeting 2021 on <https://embroiderersguild.com/>. This supplies answers to the questions that I am sure many of you are worried about.

I can however assure you that following the acceptance vote the Guild will now not have to resort to liquidation, that the Collection is safe and that there are monies put aside for the care and storage of this priceless physical record of our history, and the Guild will still be able to meet its Charitable Aims.

The Regional Committee will be meeting again this month to discuss future events. Unfortunately, Summer School had to be cancelled due to low numbers of bookings and whether we will be able to hold an event of this type again is debatable. However, we may in the future be able to arrange smaller events, but we will have to see.

We have not yet cancelled our planned Open Day 23rd October 2021 at Barton Village Hall- again we will consider if it is feasible and whether in fact branches still require these types of events. **Please let me have your thoughts on this?**

I intend to keep the NWR branch members informed of all developments and we will try to help & support branches for as long as it takes.

Communication is extremely important, and I would urge all branches to keep me in the loop, and I will ensure that you in turn are informed of any further developments and plans.

Regional Day on Saturday 24th April is still set to go ahead on a virtual basis, and I would urge all members to reserve their places asap. I believe the number of bookings has increased considerably – **thank you for that.**

You can still book by going to <https://www.megonline.co.uk/> and viewing Regional Day 2021. This will take you into the booking form and information. The tickets are £8.00 which includes a raffle ticket. Where could you be entertained by two well known textile artists, buy online from traders, view work by Merseyside EG members and possibly win a lovely handmade bag full of goodies for such a small fee- and all from the comfort of your own home! **-Bargain**

Please see below for further important info from Merseyside re Regional Day Competitions-

Thank you for your entries to the Rose Bowl and Aurifil competitions. They all look brilliant!

This is just a reminder that the **deadline for entries is Wednesday 31st March 2021.**

After that voting will commence and the winners will be announced at the Zoom meeting on Saturday 24th April 2021.

We would love to have some more entries please. The theme for the **Rose Bowl Competition** is "All You Need Is Love", and for the **Aurifil Competition** we need a piece of modern embroidery, of innovative design, on a subject of personal choice. Embroidery must be the main element in the design, which may be worked by hand, machine or combined techniques.

Please send a good quality digital photo of your work with NAME, BRANCH,PHONE NUMBER, TITLE OF PIECE, and SHORT DESCRIPTION OF TECHNIQUES USED to Hilary secretary@megonline.co.uk.

Have a look at Regional Day website for all the info you need.

<https://www.megonline.co.uk/introduction-and-welcome/>

[Introduction and Welcome | Merseyside Embroiderers' Guild](#)

Welcome to NW Regional Day 2021 hosted by Merseyside Embroiderers' Guild Saturday 24th April 2021. We hope you

enjoy the day. As this is the first time NW Regional Day has been held online we thought we would explain what

will happen.

www.megonline.co.uk

I think that is all for now, and I am ready for a cup of tea and my weekly Whats Ap chat with a friend.

Sue Chisnall-Sumner NWR Chair