



HORSHAM CREATIVE EMBROIDERERS

**Inclusive,
Enthusiastic,
Contemporary
and Friendly**

**Newsletter
November 2023**

Hello to you all,

The last newsletter of the year - where has 2023 gone? Hope you are all well and are able to join us tomorrow. Cathy Powling, who has shown us how to make cards in the past is coming as a guest - she will bring a few of her recently made cards and was invited as she has been a big part of recent Christmas meetings and loves our group.

Have you done anymore stitching on your block printed items? Do bring them along, or indeed anything else you would like to bring as a Show and Tell. It is always good to share finished work with people who will fully appreciate the work involved.

We thought we would make some prick and thread Christmas cards - Jan has some pre-printed cards or patterns of Christmas designs that you can prick onto card and sew so there is plenty of choices. Bring a protective mat, a strong needle, Christmas coloured thread - gold, red, green, white or any metallics and a needle, scissors and some Sellotape to secure the thread. Blank cards will be available for your use. You might prefer to bring some stitching of your own instead, or indeed as well as making a card. We also have our traditional Christmas Card Exchange - if you want to take part bring a handmade Christmas card.

Our first venture in selling our items at a Craft Fair was successful in that we had a lovely day and covered our costs. A big thank you to Jean, Michelle, Hazel and Susie for their help - it was really appreciated - and to you all for making items for us to sell. I am hoping next year we can take part in more craft fairs so if you hear of one let me know.

Wishing you all a Happy, Peaceful, Creative and Healthy
New Year.

Looking forward to seeing you tomorrow,

Janet

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December Raffle

Christmas Mouse and the Magic Shoes

The Christmas Mouse was planning to spend Christmas with the Granny Mice. Santa promised to give her a lift in the sleigh but he asked her if she would do him a special favour in return. He asked her if she would deliver all the presents for the forest creatures (except, perhaps, the wolf) on her way there. She was excited but rather overwhelmed at the thought of it, but you can't say 'No' to Santa, can you? To make it easier, Santa promised to lend her some special magic shoes to speed her through the forest.

For two months she had to practise every day to use the magic shoes and the special guidance device. First of all, she had to enter all the addresses of the creatures. She was excited to learn that one of the creatures was a mouse like her but called Gladys (or Gladness); "I do believe she's a distant cousin of mine," she said. "What do you think she would like as a present?" asked Santa. The Christmas Mouse looked at all the beautiful, shiny things on the shelves. In the end she chose a pretty necklace made of rose-hip seeds, which she herself would have liked really.

Christmas Eve got closer and closer. Santa wrapped all the presents and put them in the delivery slots. All the Christmas Mouse would have to do was enter the correct number for each creature when she got to their dwelling and the correct present would arrive by magic.

Christmas Eve

The Christmas Mouse dressed warmly and climbed aboard the sleigh, wearing the magic shoes. Off they went!

In no time at all they reached the forest. Santa carefully put the mouse down in a dry spot, checked that she knew the codes and then he whizzed away, faster than the speed of light.

The forest seemed very big, very dark and rather scary. "Oh well, I suppose I'd better make a start. Who's first? O.K., the Three Pigs code 1, 2, 3." She entered the code and three presents appeared with a slight flash. The mouse was very pleased. And so it went on. The Billy Goats Gruff, Little Emily, Harriet and Teesha, and so on until, finally, Gladys the Country Mouse. With a tiny bit of reluctance, the Christmas Mouse placed the rose-hip necklace on Gladys' doorstep and sighed with relief.

The Magic Shoes were hurting her feet a bit by now and she was cold and tired. She entered the final code and appeared at last at the cottage of the Granny Mice. They welcomed her with hugs and kisses, mince pies and mulled wine.

She slept well and the next day, Christmas Day, they all had lots of presents. When the Christmas Mouse had opened presents from all the Granny Mice there was still one little present left. What can it be, who was it from? Well, it was easy to answer one question – it was from Santa himself. As for the other question ... once the little box was open, nestling in the bottom on a bed of cotton wool was a beautiful little necklace made from rose-hip seeds.

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year

This month EVERYONE wins a prize in the raffle. Thank you all for your support!

Frances x