



HORSHAM CREATIVE EMBROIDERERS

**Inclusive,
Enthusiastic,
Contemporary
and Friendly**

**Newsletter
APRIL 2025**

Hello everyone,

I hope you all enjoyed the Easter break; weren't we lucky with the weather here in the south.

We will continue with our canvas work at our meeting on Thursday; for those who could not attend last month, I will bring the canvas and I will have my box of wools if anyone needs more or different colours.

Since October 2023 we have enjoyed our 'Starting With ...' series by experimenting with block printing, making felt, creating a book cover and a felt postcard, playing with transfer paints, printing with leaves, making a fabric collage, creating a canvas work design and of course stitching our beautiful hoop projects. Using many of these techniques we have designed some amazing and unique pieces of work - I hope you are all pleased with yourselves!

What would you like to do next? Are there any techniques or ideas you would like to explore? Or indeed would like to share with the group? If so, do let me know.

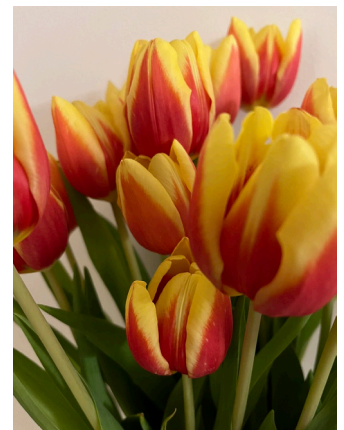
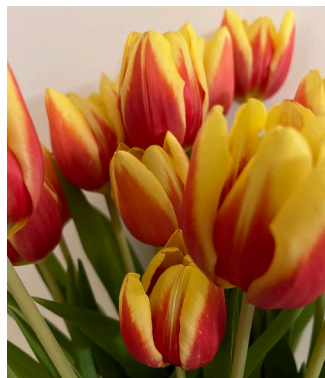
As I wrote last month, in May we will hold our Annual General Meeting. You will receive the nomination papers, the agenda and minutes of the last AGM this week. Our subscription is due this month at £40.00 pa or £20.00 payable in April and October. Don't forget, if you want to take part in the Raffle, that will be £10.00 in advance, payable this month. You can also support the group by taking part in the Horsham Lottery - this raises much needed funds for us as well as supporting local causes. We are always looking for more members to help run this group, not least now, but looking to the future, so do consider if you could contribute in any way.

Looking forward to seeing you all on Thursday,

Janet

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Raffle

The Easter Bunny

Gladys, the country mouse, was out and about one day when she caught a glimpse of something strange. It appeared to be a large white rabbit carrying a woven basket full of colourful eggs. Gladys watched the rabbit while it hopped about and then stopped, lifted a large leaf growing near the path and popped one of the pretty eggs underneath it. It looked around, chose another leaf and tucked another egg underneath that one. Gladys was intrigued; what was going on? She followed the rabbit as it lolloped through the forest, stopping every now and then to hide an egg. It never seemed to run out of eggs and Gladys could only assume that something magic was going on. In the end, she couldn't resist it any longer. "Excuse me, rabbit, what are you doing?" The rabbit gave a startled shriek and flinched away. Then it seemed to pull itself together. "I'm doing my job; what do you think?" it said in a rather aggressive way.

"Well, I can't imagine," said Gladys. "I am the Easter Bunny and my job is to hide chocolate Easter Eggs," said the rabbit. "Then what happens?" said Gladys. "Children find them and eat them," said the rabbit. What a lovely idea," said Gladys. "Can I help you?" "I suppose so," said the rabbit rather ungraciously.

Out of nowhere the rabbit produced another basket filled with eggs and passed it to Gladys. The two of them walked on together hiding eggs as they went. You'll be glad to know that, by the time they got to the embankment, the rabbit had recovered its good manners and before it left the forest it said a proper "Thank you" and then, with a musical flish, flosch, flash – it disappeared and Gladys went home for a cup of tea. She kept the little basket to remind her of a rather extraordinary morning.

Raffle: butterfly transfers, buttons cloth, ribbons.

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What's On

April 26th & 27th 2025

Brockenhurst Needlework Fiesta

Village Hall, Highwood Road, Brockenhurst SO42 7RY
Entry £3.00 Opens 10 am to 5 pm Saturday & 10 am to 3 pm Sunday

Refreshment available; Traders stalls and exhibits range from the traditional to the contemporary.

April 27th 2025

Printwork Festival

Farnham Maltings, Bridge Square, Farnham, Surrey GU9 7QR
Entry £5.00 on door; £3.00 in advance; Open from 10 am to 4 pm
www.farnhammaltings.co.uk

May 1st to 5th 2025

Spring Craft & Design Fair

RHS Garden Wisley, GU23 6QB
Some of the UK's finest contemporary craftmakers & artists
Book direct for cheaper tickets

Stitch One Stitch - Canvas Stitches

Stitch One Stitch - Canvas Work - Scallop Stitch

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Continuing looking at composite stitches this month we are looking at Scallop stitch. I started it at our last meeting so several of you will already have seen my example. (Photo 1).

It is only used on single canvas and be warned - it is thread hungry! It is worked across 8 vertical canvas threads and 12 vertical canvas threads, so it is quite a big stitch producing a bold pattern of interlocking scallop shell shapes, useful for filling large areas. All the stitches are worked into the same hole at the bottom of the shell shape - so that hole gets rather crowded!

Looking at the stitch diagram, make a long vertical stitch down over 12 horizontal canvas threads (Movement 1-2). On either side of this central stitch make for other stitches fanning out so that the top of each stitch is one thread over and one below (one diagonally) to the left or right from the previous stitch (it is easier to work one side first and then the other). Then make four more stitches on each side with the tops of the stitches in line vertically with the last fanned stitch. You will have made 17 stitches in all.

ALL THESE STITCHES GO INTO THE SAME HOLE!

Continue across your row interlocking your stitches.

Now the tricky part (where I went wrong!) I made my first row at the top of the shape I was filling and then worked interlocking rows below the first row. The stitches interlock by making the starting point (top of first vertical long stitch) into the last stitch on the shell above (number 17 on the diagram) and then fan down as usual with the fourth fanning stitch going into the already cluttered bottom stitch of the row above. It was very difficult to locate the holes to stitch into under the mass of thread above. It would be much easier to start your first row at the **BOTTOM** of your shape to be filled so when you work subsequent rows above it you have a clear view of the diagonal holes at the top.

Happy stitching!

Sarah

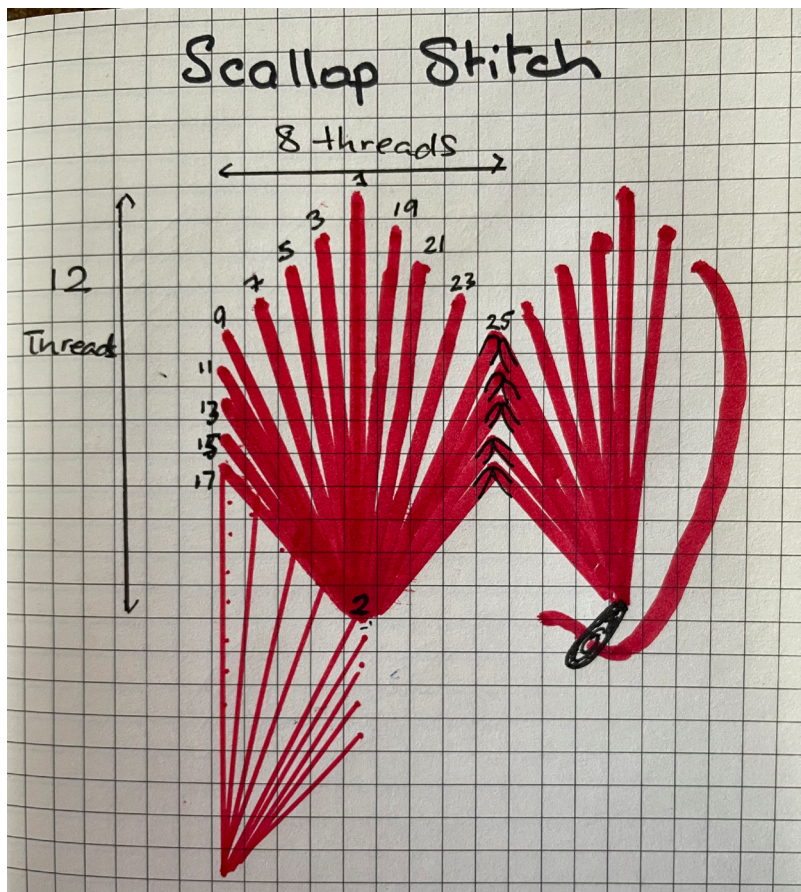


Photo of Scallop Stitch



Photos From Perspective Stitch (March 2025)

Just to clarify the stitching for Perspective stitch, photo 1 shows the first type of row being made. Photo 2 shows the second row with the contrasting colour crossing the first row. Photo 3 is the completed sample.

