



# HORSHAM CREATIVE EMBROIDERERS

Inclusive,  
Enthusiastic,  
Contemporary  
and Friendly

**Newsletter**  
**February 2026**

Hello everyone,

I am in my study looking out at a clear blue sky, the daffodils are opening up and I am hoping that spring is almost here!

We have a speaker with us this month which will be a lovely change: Esther Collins will be talking about gaining inspiration from Nature and I hope you will find this useful when designing your own work. Esther is 'a textile and mixed media artist who combines fabric, paper and stitch. I enjoy dyeing and printing my own fabric and paper and work using both machine embroidery and hand stitching, building up textile collages and machine embroidered pictures and vessels.' Look at her website [www.esthercollins.co.uk](http://www.esthercollins.co.uk) to see some lovely examples of her work. Would you like us to run a workshop with Esther later this year? Let me know.

Next month we will be looking at crewel work so if you have any books on that topic please bring them in. I have a lot of wool threads that I can bring and will add in the next newsletter what you will need to bring with you.

As you know we have a table at the Craft Fair in the Methodist Church; if you have anything you would like to add to the items on sale please bring them in on Thursday. It would also be lovely to display work that is not for sale but shows different embroidery techniques; I have found that people are interested even if they don't embroider.

Our AGM will be held in April and the relevant paperwork will be sent out in due course. However Michelle wishes to hand over the refreshment responsibilities at that meeting so please consider if this is something you could take on. She will be happy to explain what is involved; our tea and biscuits are an essential part of our afternoon so do consider if you can help.

Thanks to Françoise who sent me this lovely photo.

Hope to see you all on Thursday,

Janet

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## WHAT'S ON

### Crafting Live

**Sandown Park Racecourse, Esher**

27th & 28th February 2026 10 am - 4 pm

### Ramster Embroidery & Textile Art Exhibition 2026

Friday, 6th March - Sunday 22nd March (inclusive) 10am - 4pm

Ramstar Hall & Gardens, Petworth Road, Chiddingfold GU8 4SN

[www.ramsterevents.com](http://www.ramsterevents.com)

Ramster Embroidery and Textile Art Exhibition is one of the largest exhibitions of its kind. Over 250 pieces of the finest embroidery and textile art by leading artists from across the country will be on display and for sale within the splendid Ramster Jacobean Hall, the Great Drawing Room and Brick Hall.

This exhibition is only on every other year and it is well worth a trip out there.

### Stitch Festival

**Business Design Centre, London**

19th to 22nd March 2026

Arun Creative Stitchers were invited by Arundel Museum to hold an exhibition based on tulips to be on display at the same time as the Tulip Festival in the castle.

Teresa and I are both members and have items in the exhibition.

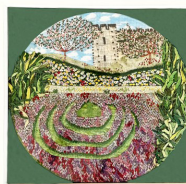
We hope you will be able to visit; there is parking next to the museum and opposite the castle and plenty of lovely coffee shops in the town.

## Sparks of Hope

### Textile Mixed Media Tulip Exhibition by Arun Creative Stitchers

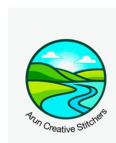
At Arundel Museum, Jubilee Room

Saturday 28th March – Thursday 23rd April 2026 10-4pm



With their ability to endure cold winters and thrive in poor soils, tulips have become a symbol of hope and endurance, and a sign of renewal and new beginnings. Their blooms signal the arrival of spring and the end of winter months.

This Exhibition is produced by Arun Creative Stitchers. They are a friendly group of sewing enthusiasts who gather regularly to share ideas, exchange techniques, and inspire one another.



Contact details:  
Further information:  
[www.arundelmuseum.org](http://www.arundelmuseum.org)  
01903 885866



## RAFFLE

### New Year Baby

Winter in the forest. Christmas was well and truly over but Spring still seemed very far away. Spring cleaning should soon begin but it was still too cold and dreary at the moment. One morning in February, when it was dull but not actually raining, Gladys the country mouse decided she would go for a walk and see whether any flowers were out. First of all, she called on her friend Mildred. "Oh yes," said Mildred, "I haven't been out for ages," and off they went together.

They decided they would just go as far as the oak tree because lots of creatures lived there and they were sure to see someone they knew. Sure enough, as they approached the tree, there was a flash of ginger-coloured fur and their friend Richard, the red squirrel, came bounding up to them. Squirrels spend a lot of time hibernating in winter but, unlike some creatures, they don't go totally asleep and are still seen from time to time.

Richard was obviously excited about something and as they approached he called out, "Hello, we've got news. Rosie has had her baby. Come and see, he's gorgeous!" Gladys and Mildred hurried up towards the tree but Rosie was there, at the foot of the tree, before they got there and safe and sound in her arms was her tiny baby. "Oh Rosie," said Gladys, "he's absolutely perfect. What's he called?" "We're going to call him Stanley, after my grandfather," said Rosie. "That's a good name," said Mildred, although secretly she couldn't help thinking it was a bit old-fashioned, but then she herself had an old-fashioned sort of name so she could hardly criticise.

Gladys and Mildred spent the rest of the morning with Richard, Rosie and little Stanley and then went home for lunch. Seeing the squirrel family had cheered them up so much. Little Stanley was so perfect you couldn't help smiling. If ever there was a sign of Spring, a new baby was certainly it.

**Raffle: Haberdashery**  
**© Frances Westwood, 2026**

## LETTER OF THANKS

Dear friends,

I am writing to thank you for the part you played in Holy Trinity's 125 Celebration Weekend in December. This was the culmination of a year marking this significant anniversary in the life of our church and community, and it was the contribution of all our local groups, schools and organisations that made it so special. We are always glad to welcome our community into Holy Trinity and to make our space available for you, and it is so encouraging to know just what support we have from the people who live, grow, learn and work around us.

Thanks to your help and that of so many others we have now raised over £40,000 towards our Trinity 125 Appeal, set up to support our work and plans for the future. Our bell tower stands once more a proud and reassuring symbol of Holy Trinity's presence in this place; and our ongoing work to replace the church pews and lighting will allow us to hold so many more activities here, alongside our usual cycle of worship and prayer.

We now look to the year (and years) ahead with renewed confidence, mindful that our fundraising efforts must continue if we are to fulfil all that we seek to be and offer to this community. I hope that you will feel able to support these future efforts, and if you have any ideas for fundraising events at Holy Trinity then I would be glad to hear about them.

For now, please be assured of my prayers and those of all the Holy Trinity Church family. We look forward to welcoming you back soon.

Yours,

The Rev'd Sam Maginnis, Vicar, Holy Trinity Church

*Michelle received this letter of thanks; it was good to take part in their celebration but thanks from us must go to Michelle, Deborah and all who helped and visited the event.*