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From the Secretary

While writing this, I'm sending more good wishes for a speedy recovery.... Leslie overdid things by coming to the last meeting and of course by just not being able to take things easy, and landed in hospital for 3 weeks of supervised rest. She should be home on the 2nd June and will possibly be at the meeting on Saturday.



DO NOT LET HER DO TOO MUCH!! *Di*

WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBER, CONNIE.

Connie is a member of a small group of beaders that Merilyn belongs to, so thank you, Merilyn, for introducing Connie to the Guild!

And welcome to E-K as a corporate member: as you saw at the last meeting, she has some terrific cabochons and lots of interesting Czech glass...

It was excellent to see our visitors at the last meeting and we hope that they, too, will choose to join us.



OUR NEXT MEETING: June 4th: 12 noon for 1pm meeting

THIS IS ANOTHER "BRING A FRIEND MEETING": New guests will be free, so bring along one or two!

NEW CHALLENGE KITS TO BE DISTRIBUTED

JACKIE AND DI TO TALK ABOUT FINISHING OFF YOUR WORK: CLASPS ETC

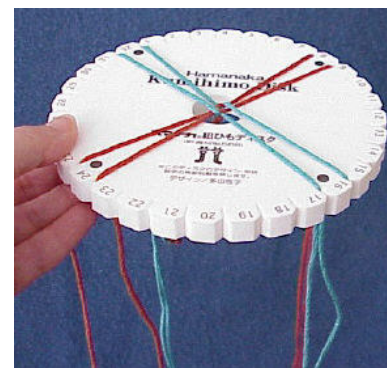
AFTERNOON TEA: a *small* plate to share.

BEAD JAR: a 6mm or larger bead for the bead jar.

OUR LAST MEETING

I've always been very impressed by the work that Raema produces and last meeting was no exception. Raema demonstrated Kumihimo to us and the complex patterns that can be produced by such simple equipment were most interesting. A Japanese weaving craft that can be very well adapted to beadwork, Kumihimo is certainly becoming a very popular craft. There was a stand at the Bead&Button Show last year which sold all the necessary materials and, sucker that I am, I bought a basic kit. Maybe I'll actually get to use it after seeing what Raema has done. Thanks, Raema for a very interesting demonstration!

Di



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Beader focus: **Caroline Morris**



Caroline has been beading for two and a half years and was spurred on to do so by the gift of a knitted beaded bracelet and, having learnt how to do that, it remains her favourite type of beading.

Caroline's magnificent Dutch Grandma started her on craft-work when she was 7 years old and she has been involved in many and varied crafts ever since — macramé, pottery, knitting, sewing and then some....

Unfortunately, the exhausting demands of family and work prevent her from spending as much time beading as she would like and she mainly makes things for herself.

The most adventurous thing that Caroline has made is a peyote bracelet which she made as a raw beginner. Currently she is working on a beautiful knitted bag which will be finished when the cooler weather comes along.

Wise words for a new beader? "Just enjoy and don't over think everything."

And Caroline is so hooked on beading that it'll do her for the rest of her life. Sounds like many of us, doesn't it!

Di

The 2011 Competition.

The competition details are not yet up on the website. Leslie needs to talk to our webmaster about a few things and fate has intervened for her, with a nasty vengeance, and so that you don't have to wait around, the competition guidelines etc have been e-mailed to everyone.... So, get going... you have until October, which seems ages away but is but a hop, skip and a jump!



YOUR COMMITTEE President: Leslie: 9306 4333

Secretary: Di: 9479 5931

Treasurer: Lisa: 9349 7802

Jackie: 9367 8140

Karen: 9458 5314

Merilyn: 9384 4953



CONGRATULATIONS!

Jackie won the latest bead challenge: Under the Sea. Her little Leafy Seadragon made all 3 judges look twice. There was a good number of entries and they really were varied. We'll get feed-back from you at the AGM about this sort of activity, so be thinking!

The photographs of her necklace and of Maxine's absent entries are further in the newsletter.

I have been having big problems recently with my silver jewellery becoming tarnished. Can't be the wet weather, we haven't had enough! So I was very pleased to come across this...

TARNISH-BUSTING: from Jean Campbell

1. Choose a plastic or glass (never metal) pan that is deep enough so that when filled with water your tarnished jewellery will be covered.
2. Put a piece of aluminium foil in the bottom of the pan.
3. Pour near-boiling water into the pan.
4. Add a couple tablespoons of baking soda to the water.
5. Place the tarnished jewellery onto the piece of aluminium.
6. If necessary, add more baking soda to the dish until you see the tarnish coming off your piece. You should get a slight bubbling effect with an odd odour.



**WELCOME TO OUR
NEW CORPORATE
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E-K will keep us informed about her products at our monthly meetings.

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ASYMMETRY: a beader's musing

In May 25th's Beading Daily (beadingdaily@interweave.com) Jean Campbell extolled the virtues of asymmetrical earrings. She went further: she matched earrings from different pairs to work out what works and what doesn't work with asymmetry. And she came up with the conclusion that it's all to do with balance.

I couldn't agree more! If your work doesn't look balanced, then it appears unfinished and awkward but that does not depend on both sides of something being the same. Balance is obtained in a great variety of ways: balance of materials, balance of size, balance of length and so on. Indeed, the addition or subtraction of a single bead can make the difference between a piece that looks good and one that looks somehow incomplete. My favourite necklace at the moment is a simple strings of seed beads heavily embellished in a very non-symmetrical way with tiny flowers, leaves etc. I like to have the clasp at the front to one side with the embellishment clustered around it. And sometimes it takes ages to get the balance right.

For those of you who like symmetrical design, try asymmetry for a change: it's very liberating!

Di

MAXINE'S STORY (of why she missed the meeting)

I got back to the car, put the afternoon tea in the boot with the other items and my purse, shut the boot, no problems. Walked to the driver's door and the remote wouldn't unlock it. Light on the remote was working, but nothing was happening on the car. Opened the car with the key and the alarm went off.

Tried to turn the car on, but nothing. Closed the door and kept trying the remote. Alarm eventually stopped on its own. Decided that the remote may need a new battery. Had to open the boot to get my purse – alarm went off. By now the security guard was eyeing me off. He met up with me as I crossed the road to the Chemist to get a new battery. Explained the situation. Replaced the battery. Back to car. No better result. Remote still wouldn't turn off security and alarm kept going off. Rang Barney – he was still surfing and didn't get message. Rang RAC and they said they had a 90 min waiting time and to stay with the car.

Decided now that everyone was sure I was a very bad car thief, so opened the boot again to get out afternoon tea. Opened door and sat inside car with the alarm going off. Eventually it stopped and while I waited for RAC I ended up eating afternoon tea for lunch. By now something had changed and I could get accessories on the car so had music to listen to so it wasn't too bad. Thank goodness not too hot. I could see the RAC man going up and down lanes looking for me so I opened door – alarm went off, and waved to him. He pulls up, I explain the problem, he takes the keys. Presses the button and after a couple of goes the car unarms and everything works as it should. AAAAAAAAAAAGH!

(The RAC chap explained why this had happened, but I'll let Maxine tell you at the next meeting, should she make it!)

PS Her Challenge entries are elsewhere in the newsletter.... She had 2 to show us... Best laid plans etc

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN 2011

June 4th meeting

Distribute kits for Bead Challenge

Di and Jackie to demonstrate making closures
(and beaded beads)

June 18th workshop

Di to teach Fireflies at Sunset

July 2nd meeting

Judging of Bead Challenge

Leslie to demonstrate using a microwave kiln

July 30th

Leslie to teach beading a cabochon

August 6th meeting

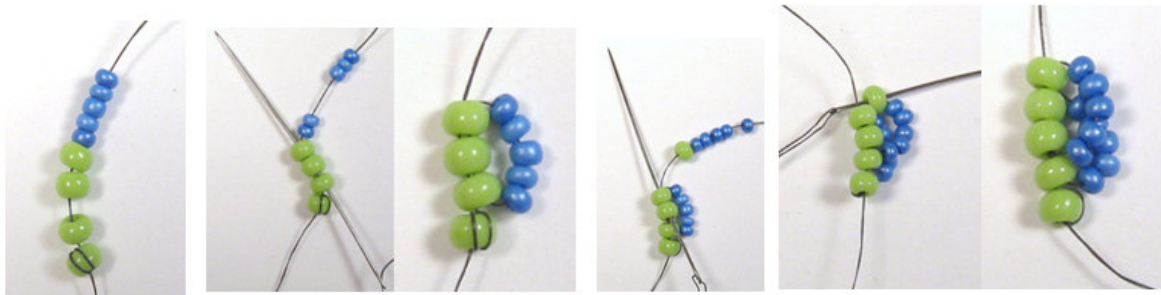
AGM

How to Bead a Spiral Rope

A spiral rope is made with a very simple stitch which will look totally different when you use different combinations of or numbers of beads.

Here's a spiral rope using size 8° seed beads as the core beads and size 11°s as the outside beads, but you can also do it using all one-sized bead, varying the outside bead count, changing the number of core beads you pass up through, adding accent beads to the outside loops, etc.

1. Tie on a tension bead. String 3 core beads and 5 outside beads.
2. Pass up through the first 3 core beads just strung and pull tight.
3. String 1 core bead and 5 outside beads.
4. Pass up through the previous 2 core beads added. Pull tight.
5. Pass through the core bead last strung and pull tight, flipping the loop of outside beads to the right or to the left, but whichever you choose, all the other loops must follow. Repeat Steps 3 and 4 to your desired length.



The rope above is what happens when you continue from the instructions and see what happens when you change everything but the stitch itself! The photograph on the right is a snakeskin jasper and freshwater pearl spiral rope. It makes up really fast and is exceptionally pretty. The variations on this theme are endless, I'm planning one with Russian Amazonite chips, maybe with orange seed beads or will that be too much? *Di*

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL: ARE YOU READING CAREFULLY???

YESSS. It's that time of year again. Membership renewals should be received by the end of June. I'll e-mail the renewal notice out with this newsletter to remind you!

We do allow some time for bad memories, but you cannot participate in the AGM if you are not a member.

Please, renew before the end of June and make our Treasurer's face beam with delight!



BEAD CHALLENGE: MAY

Here's the Leafy Sea-dragon that won the latest bead challenge for Jackie.

Congratulations, Jackie, he's really lovely!

He is suspended on pieces of driftwood with various bits of yachting materiel, so is truly to do with the sea.

I've also included Maxine's 2 entries as we missed seeing them, and her, due to unforeseen circumstances....

The next challenge starts on Saturday and is to be judged at the July meeting.



BLING, BLING!

Aimee Carpenter

Here's a lovely book with some very simple patterns that make up quickly. Most of the patterns can easily be adapted as they are very straightforward ways of putting crystals together that you, the beader, can develop. In fact, with one really pretty earring pattern, I forgot entirely what I started to do and ended up adding a whole load more crystals so that a fairly simple pair of earrings totalled more than 140 crystals... They are VERY pretty! And surely that's what we buy books and magazines for. Not to slavishly copy everything, but to develop and spark off our own creativity.

Di



IF YOU HAVE ANY OLD PAIRS OF GLASSES THAT YOU NO LONGER NEED, PLEASE BRING THEM TO THE NEXT MEETING!