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From the President

This month, I make no apologies for using this foreword to deliver a personal message: "THANK YOU". To all those who wished me well prior to my surgery, those who emailed or called, and those who visited, I owe you all mega-thanks for your concern.

I feel truly privileged to know so many wonderful people, I had no idea so many of you would contact me with offers of help and support, although the way you helped the people of Toodyay after the bush fires last year showed what a lovely bunch you are.

I'm still not allowed to work on my jewellery just yet, but the light is at the end of the tunnel, and it's not an oncoming train! Once I'm back in harness, I will be a force to be reckoned with, as I have a lot of lost time to make up. My thanks go to Di for writing last month's foreword. At the time I had strained the tendon in my left wrist, so both arms were out of action, and even writing my signature was extremely painful.

Thanks also to all the Committee for everything they did to keep things running smoothly, they certainly make my job easy! It did seem strange not to be at the last meeting, but I had only come home a few days earlier, and was quite exhausted.

I have much to look forward to, both on a personal level and as a fellow Guild member. I'm really keen to take part in our programmed activities over the next few months and to try my hand at what is on offer.

We will be letting you know more about the 2011 bead competition shortly, but there is no reason why you can't start making your entries today! If you have never entered before, this is the year to jump in and get your feet wet. Go on, take the plunge!

Can't wait to see you all at the next meeting!

Leslie



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Secretary: Di: 9479 5931 / Treasurer: Lisa: 9349 7802
Jackie: 9367 8140 / Karen: 9458 5314 / Marilyn: 9384 4953



OUR NEXT MEETING: April 2nd: 12 noon for 1pm meeting

DEMONSTRATION: Leslie will demonstrate Friendly Plastic.

WORKSHOP APRIL 16TH "Leaves and Flowers": Leslie and E-K to talk about requirements for this.

And please bring:

AFTERNOON TEA: a *small* plate to share.

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

AND DON'T FORGET THE NAME TAGS!!

Di



Beader focus: Diana Morgan

Some 3 years or so ago, I'd been chatting to a friend who said that she couldn't wear jewellery as she was allergic to metals. As I thought that was a terrible burden for anyone, (fond as I am of bling), I decided to make her a present of a no-metal-anywhere-to-be-seen necklace. Easy.... Or so I thought. I went along to the Bead Company and selected some very nice stones in her sort of colours and discovered that.... Wait for it.... Beads are not cheap! Then I discovered that you need specific sizes of polished cotton/leather/cord/ROPE ? to fit through the selected bead and then a foolproof way of closing it off so it didn't fall apart.

All of this was quite a revelation. However, the necklace was fine and of course nothing like what I would make these days, but it set me off on the perilous path of beading. After a brief "do-it-alone" time of stringing, I went to the Saturday sessions at the Bead Company and started learning about all the other forms of beading. In my second class, I was introduced to bead-weaving and became well and truly hooked.

My favourite type of bead-weaving is freeform as you can do anything with it and don't need to follow patterns. Just recently I've been trying to use up some of the thousands of Swarovski crystals in my stash but when I go really mad with crystals, I find that the item becomes too expensive for my small market! I make loads of things for family and friends and have sold quite a lot to former colleagues. My sister came on a visit from the UK 18 months ago and became hooked after seeing all the lovely things in my stash. She is even more obsessive than I am and has gone into this new craft with a vengeance. Fortunately, she has a good market in her work colleagues and has run several jewellery parties, which are a big thing in the UK. She has even sold some of my work and taken orders for me, which is pretty neat.

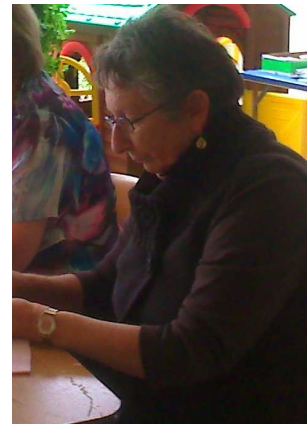
The best "thing" I've done so far in beading is attended the Bead & Button Show last year. What an eye-opener! Hundreds of classes to choose from and thousands of attendees. I bought heaps of beads and then, on returning to the UK afterwards, went to 2 more (small) bead fairs and bought even more.



I try and spend some time each day on beading, although I can go quite a while not doing any if I'm not feeling inspired. That's when I get on the Internet and look at new beading books and buy even more beads. I try and buy from our remaining stores, the Bead Company and BeadHive in particular, but do get carried away with all the things available on-line as well. Currently, I'm making earrings adapted from Marilyn's workshop and lots of crystal ones adapted from various Marcia De Costa patterns. Oh, and playing around with the beads to use in the June workshop.... *Di*

3-D Bugle workshop

Well, that was really good fun! Marilyn used our new whiteboard to good effect as she drew details of the stitches needed to put together the 3-D bugle earrings. It was a big group and I enjoyed my new role of Teacher's Aide, trying to ensure people got the most out of the session. Everyone managed to complete one earring and some completed the pair. I hope that those who hadn't finished found it easier to do the second one. Thanks, Marilyn, for a great workshop! *Di*



OUR LAST MEETING

Another busy meeting! I demonstrated Ogalala Lace stitch and several people had brought along beads to try it. Amanda finished her bracelet (with BIG beads) and most other people got the idea quickly, too. We announced the next Bead Challenge: **for the May meeting: Your version of "Under The Sea".....** Possibly re-worded as Under The Sea and In the Sea or we might just get heaps of yellow size 15's scattered over the tables.

Di



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BOOK REVIEW: BEADING ACROSS AMERICA

Hot off the press comes an excellent new book by Paulette Baron, Amy Katz and Sherry Serafini. It's a sweep across the continent, not forgetting Alaska and Hawaii, with representatives from 30 states contributing information about themselves and a typical piece of their work. The patterns and illustrations are clear and detailed and there are at least 4 on first glance that I have to make! *Di*



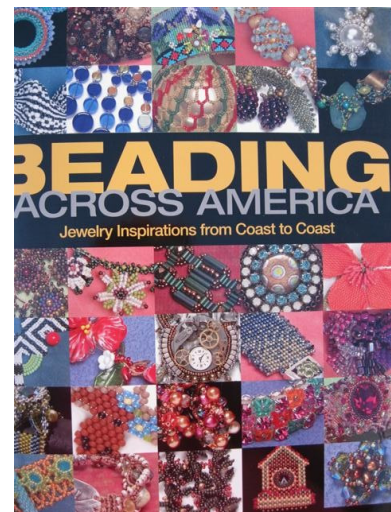
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The Bead Company



Well worth a good look!

A PROJECT FOR APRIL....QUICK CRYSTAL EARRINGS

Take: 40 size 4mm bicones or any other 4mm beads and a pile of matching or contrasting size 11° seedbeads. Use 6lb Fireline in suitable shade.

String 1 yard of Fireline leaving enough tail to sew end in.

String 1 x11° and a crystal 6 times to make a total of 12 beads. Tie firmly in a circle and go through the beads again, exiting an 11°.

Pick up 3x11° + 1x 4mm +3x11° and sew into next 11° in the circle (skipping the 4mm of the circle). Do this for a total of 6 times exiting the first 11° of this round. Re-inforce by needling through all the beads just added. The 4mm added here are the "top 4mm" beads.

Needle through to a top 4mm and go through this bead. String 1x11°+1x4mm+1x11° and go through the next top 4mm. Repeat until you come back to the first bead added in this round. Re-inforce this round.

Exit a top 4mm and string 1x11°+1x4mm+1x11°+1x4mm and go over the 4mm just exited and through it from the other side. Go back through to the middle 11° just added and create a small loop with 5 more 11°'s. This is for the earring hook. Reinforce the loop and the previous round of beads. Repeat the whole thing!

And....Voilà. I've made them in several different forms and colours and a matching pendant etc. and they each look different from the others, just adding another round of crystals is very effective.



WHAT'S TO COME IN 2011

April 2nd meeting

Leslie to demonstrate Friendly Plastic

Announce next challenge: money for kits to be collected at the May meeting

April 16th workshop

Leslie and Emma-Kathryn to teach Flowers and Russian Leaves.

May 7th meeting

Judging of Bead Challenge "Under the sea"

Raema to demonstrate Kumihimo

Collect money for next challenge kits

(May 18-22 Quilt and Craft Fair)

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

(date to be confirmed)

July 2nd meeting

Judging of Bead Challenge and demo TBA

August 6th meeting

AGM