



The Beadworkers Guild – December News 2020

Bringing Beadworkers Together



CHAIRWOMAN'S CHAT

Hello everybody and welcome to our latest e-newsletter.

With the festive season now upon us, I'm delighted to wish all our members a very Happy Christmas and a prosperous and successful New Year. I hope you will all enjoy yourselves with lots of lovely food and some jolly family Zoom or Facetime sessions.

Treat yourselves to some beading time, too, in amongst all the tinsel and mince pies! I'd also like to take this moment to say a huge 'thank you' to all our volunteers, and our staff, who keep the Guild running smoothly – their contributions are hugely valued.

Please make sure to keep yourselves safe and I hope that the Covid vaccine will reach you soon, if it hasn't already done so.

Happy Beading!
Liz



A YEAR TO REMEMBER

As a New Year dawns, let us reflect on what could have been a disastrous year for the Guild, but in fact, during its 21st anniversary, turned out to be one of its best!

Since March and the announcement of a global pandemic and a world in lockdown, volunteers of the Guild have been stepping up to the plate and followed the Guild's mission of 'Bringing Beadworkers Together', in lots of different ways.

First came the 'Keep Busy Beading' project, then the 'Mini People Bead-along', our online Egyptian themed Bead Festival, a bigger than ever International Beading Week with free online beading sessions, online Meet, Mingle & Make events, monthly online drop-in sessions and last, but not least... phew, we played host to some great workshops with Cath Thomas, Helen McIntyre and Chloe Menage.

On a sadder note, we had to announce the changing of the guard for the Journal, and as our current Editor, Jane-Marie Griffin makes plans for her retirement, interviews are booked to enlist a new captain of the helm.

2021

So, what's in store for 2021 we hear you cry?

With the roll out of the Covid vaccination programme, the future is looking a little brighter, but for a while yet, we still need to carry on in the 'new normal' way, until a time when we can safely come together.

We have more Meet, Mingle & Make events planned, our monthly Drop-in sessions will continue, and we will be hosting more workshops too. We hope all of this will keep your fingers busy until our big event, **The Great British Bead Show, Daventry, Thursday 6th to Sunday 9th May**, by which time hopefully, life will be back to normal... fingers crossed!

Plans are still moving forward for our new website launch for the end of January and we will be sharing more details of that in the January Journal.

Whatever 2021 holds, the Beadworkers Guild will continue to be here for you, ready to answer any beading queries, to share stories of your makes or just to chat if you feel the need to talk all things beady.



DATES FOR THE DIARY

Meet, Mingle & Make

Your next event is: **MM&M Mini People – Saturday 16th January 2021** with Sylvia Fairhurst & Karen Gibson-Brown and is open to both members and non-members or the Guild, so why not invite a friend to join you... an ideal treat for a favourite beady pal.

As part of your booking, you will receive full instructions via email on how to make bodies, hair, clothes and accessories. Please make your bookings early, to allow time to prepare. You will need to have an idea of what kind of character you wish to make and time to gather the supplies you require. The Mini People characters are the ideal make for using up small amounts of redundant beads from previous projects, so have a good search through your bead stash.

For the heads, you can use either a 12 or 14mm wooden bead, to which you can apply bespoke facial features. However, BWG member Angela Smith, from bead group Addicted to Beads, Buckinghamshire, has created a collection of cute little polymer clay heads which are available to order in various skin tones, including white for Jack Frost and with or without ears - **75p each + p&p**. To place your order email Angela directly at: decordence@virginmedia.com



Polymer clay heads designed by Angela Smith.

The event is **£10.00** per person and runs from: **10.00am to 4.00pm (GMT)**, which must be booked no later than **Thursday 14th January**, and is suitable for beginners and those with a more advanced skill set. To make your booking please visit:

<http://www.beadworkersguild.org.uk/shop.php#!/BWG-Local-Meet-Mingle-and-Make-Open-to-Members-and-Non-Members/c/37696272>



'Christmas Spirals' with Helen McIntyre

If you missed the chance of a place on the 'Christmas Spirals' workshop with Helen McIntyre this year, fear not. It is still proving to be very popular and we have been asked by special request from our Australian members to run another session in the New year.

The workshop is suitable for intermediate to advanced beaders, is **£45** and will take place **Saturday, 23rd January** from **8.00am to 1.00pm (GMT)** (7.00pm to midnight – Australia).

If you would like to book, do so early to avoid disappointment by visiting the Guild shop at: <http://www.beadworkersguild.org.uk/shop.php#!/Zoom-Workshops/c/58595144>

For any queries, please contact our Events Co-ordinator, **Sylvia Fairhurst** at: events@beadworkersguild.org.uk or call: **01908 311 243**.



Bead for free with the BWG

Our free Drop-in meetings for both members and non-Guild members will continue throughout 2021 and the first three are scheduled already. Sessions run from either **10.00am to 12 noon** or **5.00 to 7.00pm (GMT)** on the last Saturday of the month, to bead or just to chat. Dates to note include:

30th January

27th February

27th March

So, whilst your local bead groups are still in lockdown, why not join us? Please go to the Guild website shop to reserve your place at: <http://www.beadworkersguild.org.uk/shop.php#!/BWG-Monthly-Drop-In-via-Zoom/c/51135353/offset=0&sort=normal>



GBBS – Thurs 6th to Sun 9th May 2021

Many thanks to those of you who have booked already. The first set of class allocations have been made and those of you who booked, should have received an email.

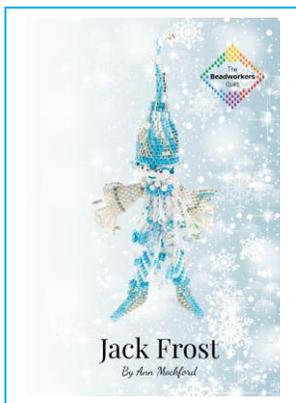
Classes that are still running are now open to all on a first come, first served basis, so if you still wish to attend, please visit our website to see which classes are still available. If the event is cancelled due to Covid, full refunds will be given. You have the option to defer payment until February, so please bear this in mind if you are at all concerned.

For class descriptions and availability, please visit: <http://www.beadworkersguild.org.uk/the-great-british-bead-show-schedule-2021.php>

BWG PATTERN RELEASES

A Christmas Bauble - Geometry with a Twist

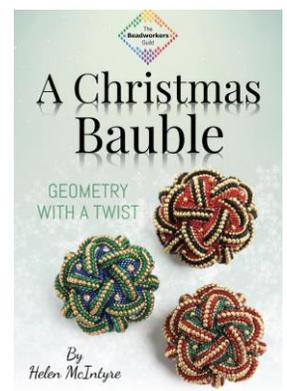
Christmas just isn't Christmas without a bauble or two to deck the halls, and this highly detailed, eight-page pattern (including the front cover) by Helen McIntyre, ticks all the boxes.



The pattern is available for you to order as a single detailed pdf file via the Guild website shop for **£7.50+p&p**. Your pattern will be emailed to you.

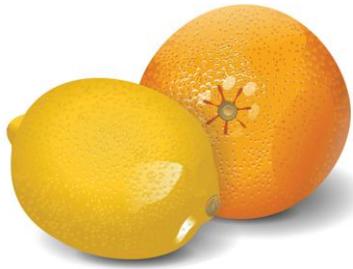
Jack Frost

Little Jack Frost, by Ann Mockford is available to order from the Guild website shop for **£3.00+p&p**. This single but detailed pattern is the next in our Christmas Mini Person series. Also available are the popular Elf and Christmas Ballerina, both of which are still available to buy.



To purchase either of these superb patterns, please visit:

<http://www.beadworkersguild.org.uk/shop.php#!/Patterns/c/13991605>



ORANGES & LEMONS

Contributions are continuing to trickle in for the Oranges & Lemons colour display for the 2021 Great British Bead Show at Daventry, where we are hoping to put on a wonderful display of work by you - our talented members.

This is the only time of year when all of the pieces are displayed together and for those of you who haven't attended one of our May events, it is quite spectacular to see.

All beadwoven items are very welcome, from basic to advanced and they do not need to be new makes – if you have something in your collection that fits the colour theme, please send it in. If they are pieces that you have made from a pattern in a Guild book or Journal, even better.

Please send your contributions by **28th February 2021** to **BWG Oranges & Lemons Display, c/o Karen Gibson-Brown, Corner House, 11 Hallgarth Court, Newsham, Richmond, DL11 7RN.**

Please, please, please, include the following details:

- your name and membership number
- postal and email addresses
- phone number
- title of the piece (if it has one)
- designer (if not yourself)
- any additional information (e.g. where instructions can be found if in a BWG publication/Journal)
- value of the materials used so that the piece can be covered under our insurance policy

And finally, please protect your pieces safely in robust secure packaging and not just in a bit of kitchen roll in an ordinary envelope... it does happen!

If you would like to see the wonderful work that we received for our 'Red' display this year, please visit our website: <http://www.beadworkersguild.org.uk/red-display-stand-work.php>



2020/21 CHALLENGE BOX SIZE REVISION

How are your challenge pieces coming along for 'Save the Planet – Bead it, don't bin it!'

Hopefully, you are well on the way to completing your entries, but if you still haven't started your projects yet, don't worry, there is still plenty of time.

It has been brought to our attention that the box sizes we currently have stipulated in the Challenge Rules on the Guild website are inaccurate. Unfortunately, we were unaware that the suppliers had either discontinued or changed dimensions of their products, so huge apologies to all.

Please see below revised challenge information:

- **Challenge in a Matchbox:** the work must fit inside a box of matches. Any size of matchbox is fine, but a household matchbox size is the maximum – approx. **120 x 67 x 27mm**

- **Other individual entries:** the work and packaging must fit into a package no larger than Royal Mail Small Parcel (**45cm x 35cm x 16cm**). However, the package may contain elements of a piece which, once assembled, is larger than the parcel in which it is delivered.
- **Group entries:** the work and packaging must fit into a package no larger than Royal Mail Small Parcel (**45cm x 35cm x 16 cm**). The overall display size of the work should not be more than **60cm high x 60cm wide x 45cm deep**.

The challenge is open to all levels of ability from beginner to advanced, so if you would like some advice about entering please contact Stephney Hornblow, who is ready to give you guidance and encouragement. Please call **Stephney** on **01283 713 050** or email: hornblow@btopenworld.com.

You can download the revised rules and an entry form from our website or call Alison, the Guild Administrator on **07837 649 712** or email enquiries@beadworkersguild.org.uk to request copies to be sent to you, free of charge. The deadline for entries is **Saturday 3rd April 2021**.

BWG RECYCLING SCHEME 2021

In the November newsletter we brought you information about the Anglers National Line Recycling Scheme (ANLRS), a Sussex based charity, passionate about saving the environment and who have set up collection points for waste fishing line at approx. 300 fishing tackle shops around the UK.

Guild Newsletter Editor Karen has been liaising with the charity to see if the Guild can link up with them in any way, so that we can dispose of unwanted plastic-based threads, ie. Fireline etc., plastic spools/bobbins, poly bags and plastic bead tubes.

Karen has further talks planned with the charity and a Leeds based company called ReWorked in the New Year, to discuss the possibilities of our beading waste being recycled and repurposed into plastic items that can be sold to raise much needed funds for ANLRS, thereby reducing the amount of waste that goes into landfill and our oceans.

If all goes well, we are looking to set up a recycling station alongside the challenge display table at the Great British Bead Show 2021, so please start saving your plastic beading waste to bring with you if you are attending the show and we will share more news about doing our bit to help save the planet in your February newsletter.

If you would like to know more about ANLRS and ReWorked please visit: <https://www.anglers-nlrs.co.uk/>



CHRISTMAS WITH MAIRI CARLTON

Were you planning on spending the whole of Christmas Day on your own? Well, not anymore! Our very own Mairi Carlton, will be hosting an online Zoom session on Christmas Day, from **11.00am to 12.00 noon (GMT)** for anybody who fancies a bit of beady company or just fancies a chat with a few like-minded friends for an hour. Mairi says:

"It will be a very different festive holiday this year and while I know for some it will be hectic, for others it's just another day, so I just want to share a little bit of time with those who may want to drop-in to bead, show off their beady makes (festive or not), eat mince pies and share a cuppa...or even a wee dram!"

If you would like to join me, please email: mecarlton@tiscali.co.uk and I will forward the Zoom link nearer the time. This is not a Guild event as such, as I was originally thinking of just my bead groups, but it's the season to be jolly, so I thought I would open it up to anyone who would like to join me.

Merry Christmas, Mairi".

Mairi is also treating us again this month, with another of her delightful patterns entitled, 'Oh, Christmas Tree'. A super little festive fancy to keep your fingers busy.

If you need a last-minute quick make for a friend or loved one, this cute design could be the perfect solution and the pattern is available to access immediately for FREE in the members only section of the Guild website at: www.beadworkersguild.org.uk/members-area.php

Plus, if you have been busy making festive projects from the October Journal, please do post pics of your finished pieces on the Guild Facebook page at: www.facebook.com/groups/beadworkersguild we would love to see them.



... and FINALLY

For Christmas this year, I was hoping for an early Covid vaccination, world peace, saving the environment, feeding the world and a resolution to the Brexit problem, but my wish list changed yesterday.

As I sit here writing my final sign off for 2020, I am praying... very hard, that Santa can hear me and will send a nice little heating engineering elf to mend my heating in time for Christmas Day... but alas, that is not going to happen!

My 88, soon to be 89 mum-in-law who is in our bubble, came to stay on Tuesday, to spend the festive holidays with us, then yesterday the heating broke down and chaos reigned. Funnily enough the same thing happened a few weeks ago when mum-in-law came to visit, only that time it was leaking ceilings in three rooms and half of the main ensuite bathroom dismantled, due to mice eating through water and heating pipes. In the last two weeks the downstairs ceilings have been removed, repaired and rooms decorated and reorganised in time for the festive period. They say things happen in three's and the only thing that could go wrong now is we lose the hot water, so I'm keeping eyes, fingers and legs firmly crossed that that doesn't happen. Still, it has just started to snow and as we live in the country, I'm enjoying a picture postcard view, so life isn't all bad.

Whatever curveball life may throw at you this festive season, I wish you all well and hope you have a safe and joyful time and I look forward to sharing many more beady moments with you in 2021.

Merry Christmas and a happy New Year



Karen x

Email: newslettereditor@beadworkersguild.org.uk



HOW TO CONTACT THE GUILD

Phone: 07837 649 712

Email: enquiries@beadworkersguild.org.uk

Share: Facebook: www.facebook.com/BeadworkersGuild

Share: www.facebook.com/groups/beadworkersguild

Share: Instagram: www.instagram.com/beadworkers/

Coming soon in your January Journal...

- *An interview with international designer Huib Petersen*
- *Saturn Bowl – Part 2*
- *Nebula Project – The BIG reveal!*

