

"TOWNSWOMEN'S GUILDS DIAMOND JUBILEE TAPESTRY"

Depicting the Emergence of Women in the 20th Century

THE EMBROIDERED PANEL CELEBRATES 60 YEARS OF THE TOWNSWOMEN'S GUILDS 1928 — 1988/89 AND HAS BEEN WORKED BY MEMBERS OF TG AND THE ROYAL SCHOOL OF NEEDLEWORK.

DESIGNED BY MARION BEATTIE, RSN

In June 1985, the Townswomen's Guilds approached the Royal School of Needlework with the idea of working a major embroidered panel to mark the TG Diamond Jubilee.

Designed by Marion Beattie, the whole work measures 9' x 6'. The centre panel shows the prepartion for a Townswomen's Guild meeting and represents any hall in any part of the country. The eight niches to either side of the centre panel depict some of the sporting and creative activities of Townswomen. The 24 outer panels represent women's achievements and contribution to all spheres of life in the 20th century.

These 24 canvases were worked by Townswomen, selected by the Royal School of Needlework from 286 members who submitted samples of their work. Two matched teams were chosen, the first to begin working the canvases, but should anything such as illness or any other emergency prevent completion, a member of the second team would takeover.

The centre panel, worked by 12 girls from the RSN, is mounted onto a wooden stretcher and the outer panels are mounted onto a second narrow stretcher. The canvases thus form a frame for the centre and complete the illusion of is looking in on 'The Guild Meeting'.

The first public viewing took place on 23 May 1988 at 'Liberty', Regent Street, London, and was attended by the Prime Minister, the Rt. Hon. Margaret Thatcher MP. Vice-President of the Townswomen's Guilds.

ATHILETE

Judy Simpson, Gold Medallist Commonwealth Games Mrs Barbara Aggett Haves (Kent) (E) TG 37A/15

BIRMINGHAM

Present Address OF TG HQ Mrs Freda Bazeley Standish-with-Langtree (E) TG 65/24

NEW ZEALAND

TG Link With Guilds In New Zealand Mrs Belle Richardson North Shields 'Collingwood' (E) TG 93/4

10 DOWNING STREET

First British Woman Prime Minister, The Rt Hon Mrs Margaret Thatcher MP Women's success in Olympic Events Mrs Barbara Impey Luton Icknield (E) TG 34/16

ELIZABETH GARRETT ANDERSON

Founder Of First All-Women's Hospital Mrs Maureen Briggs North Harrow (E) TG 51/3

KENSINGTON COAT OF ARMS 2 Cromwell Place, Address of

previous TG HQ Mrs Madge Calkin Spalding East (E) TG 63/15

STOCK EXCHANGE

Women Now Accepted On Stock Exchange Floor Miss Eileen Lawrence Bushey (E) TG 35/3

OLYMPICS RINGS

Mrs Hilda Jordan Leatherhead (A) 85/25

Appreciation

The National Chairman thanks all those who by their hard work and effort have enabled us to create a major work of art to mark our diamond jubilee. Out especial thanks go to the Royal School of Needlework; the A and B teams of Townswomen's Guilds who embroidered the panels forming the border to the central section; the 286 members who provided the original samplers, thus enabling strong teams to be formed and assuring a work of the highest standard. Also to Liberty, and other exhibitors of the completed work, who have made it possible for it to be seen by a wide audience.

For further information contact:-

PR&D Department, Townswomen's Guilds, Chamber of Commerce House, 75 Harborne Road, Edgbaston, Birmingham B15 3DA. Telephone: 021-456 3435

LIST OF MEMBERS OF THE TOWNSWOMEN'S GUILDS WHO HAVE WORKED THE 24 OUTER CANVASES

GIRTON COLLEGE The First All-Women's College Mrs Margaret Armstrong Whitley Bay Monkseaton Village (A) TG 60/21

SPACE WOMAN The First Woman Astronaut, Valentina Tereshkova Mrs Shelagh Woods Chelmsford Westlea (E) TG 21/9

OXFORD & CAMBRIDGE BOAT RACE First Woman Cox, Susan Brown Mrs Joyce Gooding Eastcote (A) TG 51/1

FASHION Women Dress Designers Mrs Valerie Twigg Hereford Tupsley (E) TG 91/34

BARRISTER Women Judges Mrs Florence Lowden Swindon Dorcan (A) 100/26

MILITARY BADGES Women In Armed Services Mrs Margaret Darby Ruislip (E) TG 51/17

CLARE FRANCIS First Woman To Sail Atlantic Single-Handed Mrs Nan Clough Burnley Briercliffe (E) TG 65/6

SCIENTIST Mrs Shirley McClintock Otley (E) TG 1/24

VOTES FOR WOMEN Mrs Vera Flunder Lincoln Ermine (E) TG 42/14

THE PRINCESS ROYAL First Princess to take part in Olympic Three Day Eventing Miss Hilda Archer Harrogate (E) TG 102/9

WESTMINSTER Address of Original TG HQ Mrs Colleen Nicoll Bradford Wyke & District (E) TG 1/13

AMY JOHNSON Pioneer Woman Aviator Mrs Mavis Kerr Esher, Weston Green (E) TG 84/5

COMPUTERS Advancement Of Women Into Technological Age Mrs Dorothy Mitchell Eastbourne Hampden Park (E) TG 88/10

DHAKA Children's Nutritional Unit Built With Money Raised By TG Members Mrs Carol Benbow Neston (A) TG 101/16

TG BADGES Shows TG Badge Change Over Past 50 Years Mrs Renee Dibb Tunbridge Wells Rusthall (E) TG 38/23

OIL RIG Women Engineers Mrs Ina Miles Eastbourne Ocklynge (A) TG 88/7