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## Notes from the Boardroom

### ASG Annual Report

The Annual General Meeting was held in Sydney, NSW on 28th April. [Minutes of the meeting](#) and the [Annual Report](#) are available on the ASG website, under Documents and Resources.

No elections were required as just two nominations were received to fill three vacancies on the Board. This means existing directors will continue for another year. Your Board of Directors for the coming year will be:

- Louise Sparrow – Chair
- Deborah Evans – Treasurer
- Jude Ewen – Director
- Sallie Saunders – Director

As stated in the Report from the Chair, a major focus for the Board will be to develop a succession plan. Quoting from the report:

“Every strong and growing organisation needs board refreshment over time and I strongly encourage members to look at the position description and consider offering as a candidate. It is a position of responsibility, requiring dedication to the good of the Guild. It is also a rewarding experience; an opportunity to be involved in shaping the future of our organisation. Now is the ideal time to join the Board as you will be working with directors who can mentor you.”

My entire report can be found on page 14 of the Annual Report.

*Louise Sparrow  
Chair, Board of Directors*

## Around the Nation



The pattern making system of Connie Crawford came to Tamworth (Inspired Peel Sewers) twice in 2017 thanks to the skills and knowledge of Janet Elmes of “Janet Likes to Sew”.

During Janet’s first two day visit in June, we were all fitted with a basic fitting shell from Fashion Patterns by Coni. The range of figures that can be fitted with Connie’s system is amazing as none of us were a “standard” size. After all, does that person actually exist? We were all able to create a personalised pattern template which we can use to create many designs.

Some of our group were so enthusiastic they made up a toile overnight and came the next day for show and tell as well as further tweaking of the fit. During day two we learned how to create a shirt pattern from our personal template made in day one.



In November Janet Elmes returned to Tamworth to fit us with a master pants block from Fashion Patterns by Coni on day one of the workshop. From our chosen block we made up a toile in a fabric of choice. On day two Janet fine-tuned the pants toiles. Followed by Janet showing us advanced sewing techniques. We all went home with samples and instructions on techniques that raise our sewing from “home” sewing to professional.

Janet is willing to travel to any other groups who would like to be fitted and learn more about Connie Crawford’s methods. Janet can be contacted at [janetliketosew@gmail.com](mailto:janetliketosew@gmail.com).

## Meet Our Industry Partners



**My Fabricology** is an online fabric and sewing notions business, specialising in modern quilt fabrics, bag making hardware and supplies. Also included online is quality knit fabric, as well as some linens. Merchant and Mills scissors and patterns are also available to purchase. Based in Bayswater in Perth, keep an eye out for us at crafty fairs around Perth and surrounds. They love to travel.

Offering a **10% discount code for ASG members**. Check out the ASG website for your code to receive the discount - go to Members/Directories/Discounts & Special Offers.

<https://www.myfabricology.com.au/>

### Studio Faro – A Design and Pattern Making Studio

Anita McAdam of Studio Faro has been developing and delivering fashion-based training for over 17 years. The combination of a commercial practice and teaching studio enriches the training at Studio Faro with a real (fashion) world-view.

Based in the rural surroundings of Coolamon, in the Riverina district, Anita runs her popular creative pattern making workshops in Sydney, Newcastle, Melbourne, Canberra, Wagga Wagga and Coolamon.

Website: <http://www.studiofaro.com/>

Blog: <http://www.studiofaro.com/well-suited>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/studiofaroau/>

Youtube: <https://www.youtube.com/user/studiofaro>

Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/studiofaro/>



## Upcoming Events

### The Bowerbird and The Bride

From the collection of award-winning Australian costume designer Marion Boyce (Miss Fisher's Murder Mysteries and The Dressmaker) comes an exhibition of 45 bridal gowns from the 1880s to 1970s

Marion Boyce has been collecting garments she loves since childhood; a vast collection of fashion, accessories, and other curiosities. A recent gift of period and vintage wedding dresses inspired Marion to dig into the abundant store of what she calls her treasures to create The Bowerbird and The Bride.

Old Government House, Brisbane, QLD

12 July to 19 August 2018

Tickets on sale at [www.ogh.qut.edu.au/whats-on/2018/bowerbird-bride.php](http://www.ogh.qut.edu.au/whats-on/2018/bowerbird-bride.php)



# NSW Industry Day - Saturday, 15 September, 2018

Simplicity Patterns, 25 Violet Street, Revesby  
Doors open 9.30 am for shopping and a cuppa.



## Thomas Taufan – That Guy from That Game

Thomas Taufan is one of Australia's most talented cosplayers. His love of high-fantasy style costumes drew him to the cosplay scene over five years ago. Thomas will share the fascinating story of how he designs and creates costumes that breathe life into the chosen character, reflecting their story and their personality traits and making sure the wearer truly becomes that character.

## Catherine Kelly – Gorgeous, Original Hats

Catherine's style and colour inspiration comes from her travels, her interest in architecture and her studies in, and as a teacher of, design, technology and millinery. Winner of many national and international awards, Catherine will share how *"studying millinery has been the perfect outlet for my passion for fabric, colour and texture."*



## Lorraine Jenkins – Pattern Adjustments

Lorraine will demonstrate various versions of how to make the most commonly needed adjustments, including full bust, sleeves, upper arms, darts, pants, plus hints and tips on adjustments through her personal fitting experiences and those she encounters while fitting ladies in her dressmaking classes.

Lorraine will have various stabilising tapes and other products available for sale. CASH ONLY

## BOOK NOW

Early Bird price of \$35 for members, \$45 for non-members.  
Get in before 30 June, 2018

After this date, members pay only \$45 and non-members \$55.  
Student members \$15, student non-member \$20

Price includes entry, morning teas, lunch & speakers.

Be sure to check out all the program information at  
[WHATS HAPPENING, SPECIAL EVENTS](#)

*The Embroiderers' Guild NSW Inc. is pleased to announce...*

## The Festival of Contemporary Machine Stitch 2018

With machine embroidery workshops, demonstrations, artist talks from renowned international and domestic artists, and an exhibition of works from the Embroiderers' Guild Collection. The highlight will be a juried exhibition in our new Galleries at Concord West, entitled THREAD STITCH CLOTH.

Inspired by Bernina's 125th anniversary, this Festival is a mechanism for the promotion of machine stitch, past, present and future. Along with the development of technology, so too has the application and use of technique evolved and blossomed. On its own or used in conjunction with other techniques, machine stitch is part of all our lives. Where would we be without it?

Some important dates:

- August 1: Entries close for 'Thread Stitch Cloth' Exhibition
- August 20: Notification of results to all entrants
- September 21: Opening Celebration 6-8pm
- November 6: Last day of the Festival!

Workshop, demonstrations and artist talks to be announced!

[FIND OUT MORE](#)



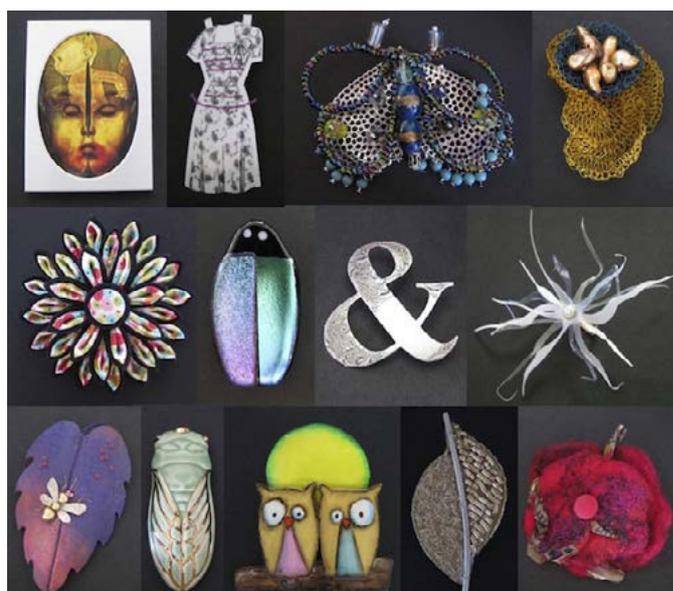
## The Australian National Brooch Show 2018

Now in its 11th year, The Australian National Brooch Show is an exhibition of small wearable artworks.

By having a theme of small artworks, artists have an opportunity to submit works via Australia Post. Each time this exhibition has grown, representing artists from across Australia.

This year The Australian National Brooch Show will be on show 6 July to 31 August in Fitzroy (Melbourne, Victoria)

Each artist can enter up to 4 brooches. Entry is FREE! See [ENTRY CONDITIONS](#)



Any further questions? See the website [FAQ](#) (Frequently Asked Questions), or email [mail@contemporaryartsociety.org.au](mailto:mail@contemporaryartsociety.org.au)

Detailed information about the Australian National Brooch Show 2018 is at <http://www.contemporaryartsociety.org.au/exhibitions/brooch-show>

# Challenge Yourself

## Thinking about entering the 2018 Convention Sewing Challenge? It's not too late!

The theme is **Monochromatic Musings** but don't confuse that with black & white. You can pick your favourite colour and then use variations - tints, tones, shades.



### CHALLENGE CATEGORIES

**Garment** – enter one garment or a coordinated outfit (excluding accessories)

**Fashion accessory** – one of: hat OR tote bag OR handbag

**Home décor** – soft furnishings for the home e.g. cushion covers, placemats, table runners, wall hangings, etc

### ENTRANT CLASSIFICATIONS

**Junior** – ages 5 to 11 and ages 12 to 17

**Novice** – less than 5 years sewing experience

**Previous challenge winners** – anyone who has won a prize for past convention challenges

**Professional** – earns an income from sewing

**Open** – anyone who does not fall into the above categories



Fabulous prizes on offer, including a Sew Sister (3D scan of your body) donated by the lovely Hollie Bell of **Tools by Hollie**

The Challenge is open to ASG members only but you don't need to attend the convention to enter.

Find all the information you need, including entry forms on the [CONVENTION](#) page of the ASG website.

If you don't wish to participate in the challenge, but still want to show off your creations, there will be a Gala Dinner Parade. This will be your opportunity to parade an outfit that you have created.

*Note this outfit does not need to be monochromatic.*

***Get your entry forms in - BE IN IT TO WIN IT!***

# Tips and Techniques

## Invisible Zippers (by Louise Sparrow)

Invisible zippers give a clean finish to a garment. If you have never inserted one, give it a try using these instructions. For those who are not new to invisible zippers, you may like to try this method.

Last year I attended a workshop run by Lorraine Jenkins (ASG member) where she showed us how to insert these zippers by first sewing up the seam below the zipper opening. This was not the same as the commonly published method and I wondered how it would work. To my delight, it worked a treat and has now become my preferred method.

If you struggle with that unsightly 'bubble' at the bottom of your invisible zipper, this could be the answer to your prayers!

*Note: These instructions are an excerpt from a more comprehensive Sew-Along held last year. ASG members can find all Sew-Along instructions on the website under Documents and Resources. Type 'sew-along' in the Search field.*



The invisible zipper foot has two grooves for the zipper coils to glide through.

Correctly installed, only the tiny zipper pull will show. To get the best possible result you really need to put your best foot forward. That means investing in an invisible zipper foot for your machine. The coil of the zipper slides through the grooves on the underside of the foot.

Invisible zippers are constructed in such a way that the last few inches are not usable. Therefore, always use a zipper that is at least 2" (5cm) longer than the zipper opening in your garment.

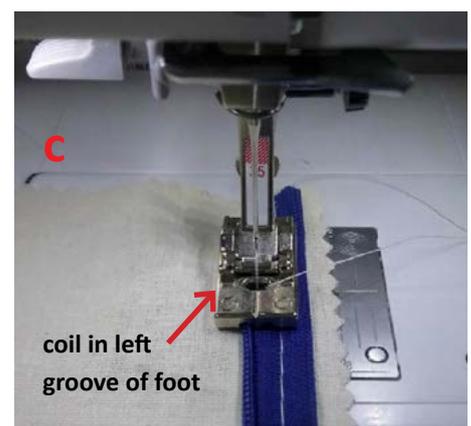
1. Sew the two pieces of calico together with a 5/8" (1.5 cm) seam, leaving an 8" (20 cm) opening for the zipper.
2. On the right side of the garment, mark the seam line with a fine-tip frixion pen (A).



3. Open the zipper and position the coil on top of the marked line on the left side of the "garment". The tape will be situated within the seam allowance. Pin in place. (B)

4. Using a normal zipper foot, machine-baste down the middle of the tape. Stop a few stitches short of the end of the opening. When you become very confident inserting invisible zippers you may want to skip the machine-basting step. Basting first means you don't have to worry about pins for the next step.

5. Now switch to your invisible zipper foot and stitch again. Position the coil of the zipper into the left groove of the foot. Your machine needle should be positioned to the right of the coil. (C)





6. Make a mark on the zipper tape exactly where the zipper opening ends and the seam starts. You will sew up to, **BUT NOT PAST**, this point. **(D)** Close the zipper and fold back the left side (the side you have just sewn) to the wrong side of the garment. The tape is now “invisible” from the right side.

and pin in place.

7. Unzip for a few inches, twist the zipper **ONCE** so the coil is laying on top of the marked line and the tape is situated in the seam allowance. **(E)** Unzip all the way



8. Attach in the same manner as the first side. Be sure to stop exactly at the end of the zipper opening. **(F)**

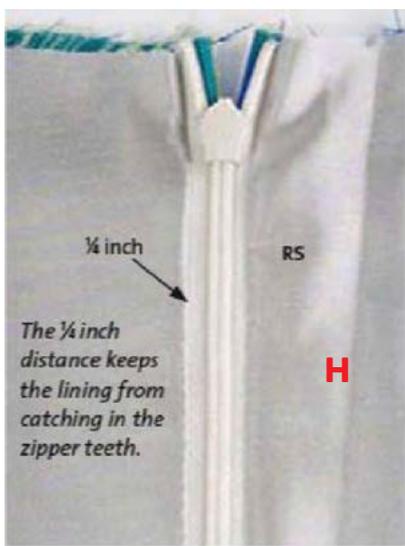
9. You will need to jiggle the zipper pull through to the right side. The longer your zipper is, the easier it is to manoeuvre the pull.

10. Now to **attach the facing**

11. Open up the zipper and place one facing piece

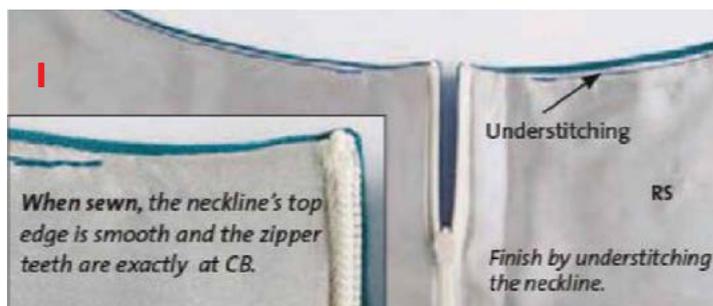
to one side of your “garment”, right sides together. The edge of the facing is placed 1/4” beyond the edge of the garment seam allowance.

12. Using a standard zipper foot, stitch the garment and facing together with a seam allowance 5/8” from the edge of the facing. The stitching line will be 1/4” away from the zipper coil. **(G)**

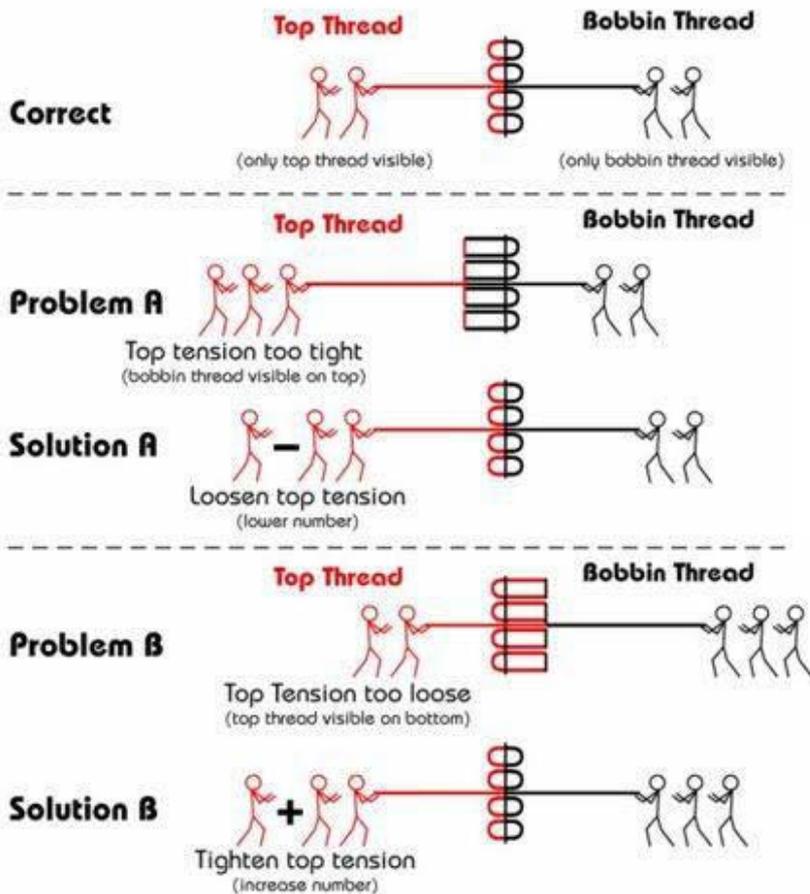
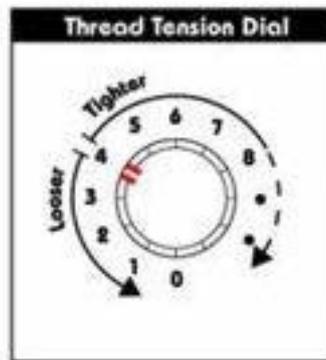


13. Turn the facing and garment right sides together with the zipper teeth exactly at the foldline. Sew the “neckline” seam. **(H)**

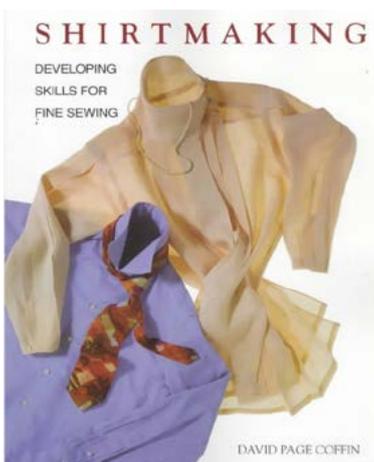
14. Trim, understitch, turn and press. **(I)**



A visual reminder of the solution to machine tension problems. Print this picture and keep it near your sewing machine.



## Book Review



The definitive resource on the fine art of making shirts. Author David Page Coffin shows how to create elegant, custom-fit garments for a woman or a man that have a great tailored look and fit perfectly. And, even more important, once you learn to make and fit a shirt -- whether you have sewn for weeks or years -- your sewing skills will be dramatically improved.

David shares the construction secrets of garments from the world's finest shirtmakers. Discover how to duplicate and even improve on these garments, using simple tools and techniques any sewer can acquire. Includes 15 pages of full-sized patterns for collars, plackets, cuffs, and pockets.

Available from [Book Depository](https://www.bookdepository.com) - FREE shipping to Australia