



# Kay Dennis Stumpwork Newsletter

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Issue no 2

March 2006

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## *Hello*

A big thank you to all of you who sent their best wishes and congratulations on our first Newsletter. We have been busy since the last newsletter with two weeks away from home during February when we spent a week teaching in Bristol and Gloucester and from there we went to Kent for four days on a photo shoot for our next book 'Stumpwork Seasons' Mike came home with a nasty cold and chest infection but is lot better now.

You will see as you read through this newsletter that we have been quite busy on other aspects of our little business as well. We have been listening to our students and customers and have added more products to the catalogue. Information on these is given on the back page.

## *Stumpwork for beginners*

After the numerous enquiries we had at Alexndra Palace last year we expected these classes to be full but alas only 6 people signed up for the class in February and not many more for the class in June. If you would like a place on the June 3rd course please get in touch.

## *Distance learning*

Unlike the beginners classes we have received a lot of enquiries regarding distance learning classes from beginners and those who want to take the masterclass. All of these students are already signed up and in possession of their first modules.

For further information on distance learning and costs please contact us.

## *Stumpwork Figures*

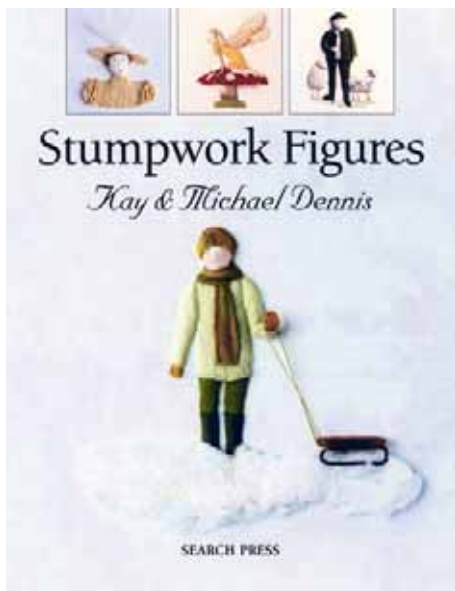
It is to bring you news of our new book 'Stumpwork Figures' that we put this newsletter together at this time. We are expecting delivery in the third week of April. With the newsletter is a form for you to order your copy with space to tell us if you want your book signed or not. If you have already ordered your book but would like us to sign it, please fill in the form and leave the payment section blank.

*Kay & Mike*

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# Our New Book

## Stumpwork Figures

*Kay & Michael Dennis*

Publication date April 2006

Paperback ISBN: 1 844480879

64 pages 210 Illustrations all in colour

Published by Search Press

Code BO2 Price £8.99 + p&p

Figures have been an important feature of stumpwork for hundreds of years, and in this book we explain in detail how to make all of the components of a figure - limbs, head, face, hair, body shape and clothes - as well as providing clear, step-by-step instructions for all of the needlelace and embroidery techniques you need to make clothing and to add details and embellishments to your designs.



*Project No 1 A Boy Paddling*



*Project No 3 The Boy Fishing*

There are three projects with detailed instruction on how each was made from the initial drawing to the finished design.

There are many other figures throughout the book, some of which appear on the front cover, where we have provided the drawings.

- Suitable for beginners as well as more experienced stumpwork embroiderers
- Highly illustrated with full-colour diagrams and photographs throughout
- Detailed instructions on how to make heads, faces, hair, limbs, hands, body padding and clothes
- Needlelace and embroidery techniques clearly explained

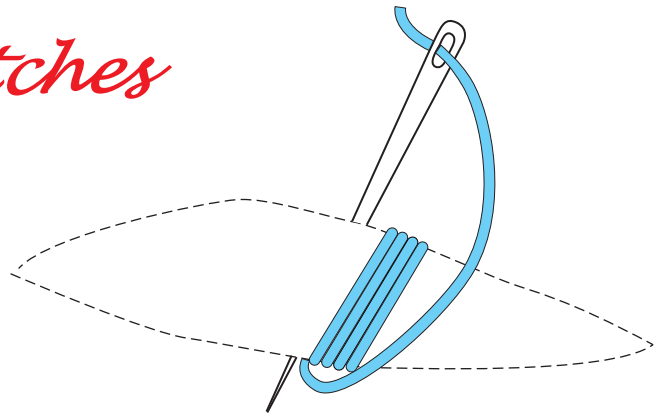


*Project No 2 - The Fairy*

# Traditional Stitches

## Satin Stitch

Like French Knots in the last newsletter Satin stitch is widely used in stumpwork and is a very simple to master.



Work straight stitches closely together across the shape.

Take care to keep the edge even and if you are following an outline marked on the fabric, take your stitches to the outside of the line so that the marked line does not show.

Take care to keep the edge even and if you are following an outline marked on the fabric, take your stitches to the outside of the line so that the marked line does not show. If you experience difficulty in keeping a neat edge to the outside of your shape try working over a piece of tracing paper or, if depth is no problem, a piece of vilene cut to the shape of your design will improve the edge.

### Top Tip

When applying Satin Stitch over a mounded shape, start at the centre of the shape and make one stitch. Make a second stitch either to the right or left of the first stitch. Make the third stitch on the opposite side to the second stitch. Return to the first side and make another stitch. Return to the second side and make another stitch. Keep making stitches on alternate sides of the first stitch.

**Why?** You are trying to cover a mound. As you approach the edge of the mound your satin stitches tend to slip down. By making a stitch then pulling the thread (at the back of the work) to the other side you are helping to keep the stitch upright.



Satin stitch over vilene was used for the leaves and flowers in this design. The flowers had french knots for their centres. The stem were worked in stem stitch.

## Product News

### **Paper covered wire**

We are no longer stocking the 33 gauge wire. The difference between 33 and 35 was so insignificant that we decided it was pointless keeping both sizes. We use 35 for everything that we used to use 33 on with no problem. It also helps in the fact that we do not have to keep the two sizes apart.

### **Noil silk in a natural colour**

Due to many requests we now stock Noil Silk in a natural colour which is basically off white. It comes in 45" width and retails for  
1 metre £8.00  
1/2 metre £4.00  
Fat quarter £2.00  
It is used as an alternative to the calico background.

### **Hi Tack Glue**

After many enquiries from customers how they can get hold of this very versatile glue we have decided to stock it ourselves. We are stocking the 115ml bottles and these will retail at £2.10

## A Dragonfly

We thought you might like to try making this dragonfly. We are not giving any suggestions of stitches or threads to use - just a photo of the finished work. See how yours comes out.

