



Blackwork Journey Blog

December 2014



Blog - Canada

Readers Gallery

New Charts

Save the Stitches - the final parts!



Teaching in Canada October – November

November has been a really exciting and satisfying month for Blackwork Journey. I travelled with my husband to Alexandria and Boston in the USA and then on the Canada to teach in a number of cities. We met some wonderful people in the month we were away and the hospitality we received was outstanding.

May I take this opportunity to thank Cathy, Neale and the ladies of Thread and Eye, London, Ontario, Wilma and her ladies of the Stitcher's Place in Cambridge, Ontario, Pam, Maureen and the ladies of Lakeshore Creative Stitchery Guild, Pointe Clare, Montreal and Dianna and the ladies of York Chatelaines in Toronto.

It was a wonderful experience for me to meet and work with so many fellow embroiderers who, prior to my visit, I had only known through my website. I was also delighted to meet several people who were unable to attend the group sessions, but nevertheless travelled some distance to meet me and show me their work.



Dianne from Alexandria came to discuss 'Save the Stitches' which is completed this month.

See Freebies for Parts 22, 23 and 24

Mary shows her CH0175 London cushion which I designed for her following her visit to the UK and CH0120 Hope Springs which was stitched on Aida blockweave.



As a result of my visit, I am now an overseas member of the Embroiderers' Association of Canada and a member of 'Virtual Stitches' and very much look forward to participating in their events.

Why do I belong to a group?

Whilst I work mostly in isolation, writing, designing charts and keeping the website up-to-date, I find it very helpful to belong to several groups where members can share their thoughts and bounce ideas off each other.

Groups also provide a support network to people confined to their homes through illness, disability, isolated locations, or through difficult family circumstances.

Talking to other people either directly or through the internet can often help to remove the feeling of isolation that so often occurs, especially if people live on their own and support from their families and others may be remote.

Belonging to a group such as the Embroiderers Guild in the UK, or a virtual group via the internet can have numerous benefits and is well worthy of consideration.

I would be interested to know your thoughts on this subject?

Logo Embroiderers' Association of Canada



Blackwork Journey Blog – December 2014

Thread and Eye, London, Ontario



Thread & Eye, London, Ontario
Every type of frame!

Blackwork Journey Blog – December 2014

Lakeshore Creative Stitchery Guild, Pointe Claire, Quebec



Lakeshore Creative Stitchery Guild, Pointe Claire, Quebec

Blackwork Journey Blog – December 2014

Stitcher's Place, Cambridge, Ontario



Blackwork Journey Blog – December 2014

York Chatelaines, Toronto



Blackwork Journey Blog – December 2014

I was very impressed by the variety of frames, lights and lenses used throughout the courses. The correct equipment certainly makes life much easier!

Each group was very different in their approach, but everyone was enthusiastic and ready to try a new approach to blackwork. Thank you one and all!

‘Save the Stitches’

Size of the embroidered area: 15 x 31 inches on 25 count Lugana

This will vary depending on the fabric you have used. If you used a piece 20 x 37 inches there will be sufficient to add a border if desired.

The time has come to bring this year long project to an end, although I know that there are many groups who will be starting their group projects in January.

I would like to say what a pleasure it has been to work with you all throughout the last year and to share in your e-mails and photographs. I know that there are many projects still being completed and I look forward to receiving the photographs of work in progress throughout 2015.

The Pinterest boards will continue so that everyone can enjoy looking at other people’s work. The variations in material, threads and colour schemes have been fascinating to watch. Ideas have emerged which I had never thought of when I started the project and it has been a real learning process for me as well!


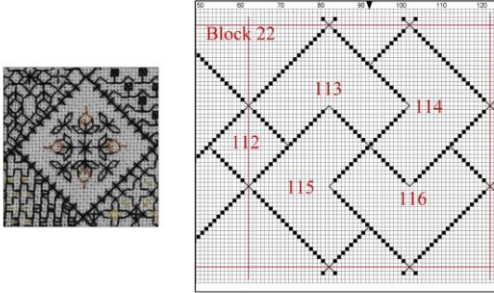
I have received a number of e-mails during the year about changing the chart either in colour, stitches or threads. This is not a problem for me. Once you start to work on a chart it becomes your project and of course, you are free to alter it in any way at all.



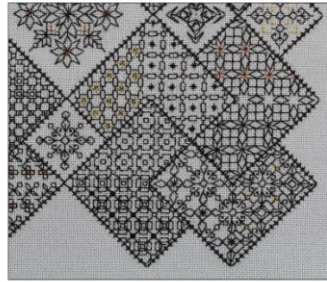
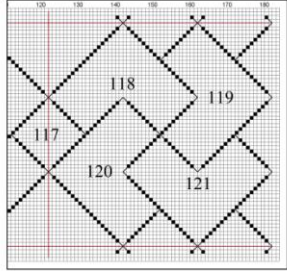
Work in progress at Lakeshore

Moving away from a set piece and implementing your own thoughts is an important step in your own development, rather than just following the design to the letter and I would encourage and applaud this thinking.


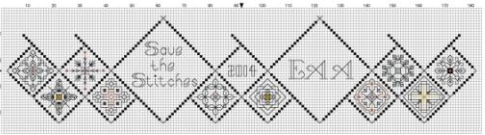
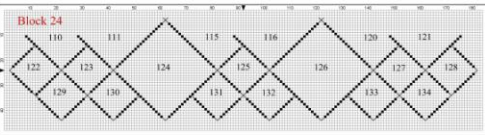
SAVE THE STITCHES
Blackwork Journey - Designs by Elizabeth Almond
Block 22 Patterns 112 - 116



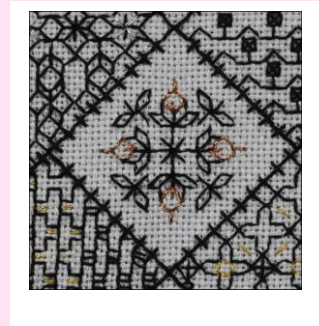
SAVE THE STITCHES
Blackwork Journey - Designs by Elizabeth Almond
Block 23 Patterns 117 - 121



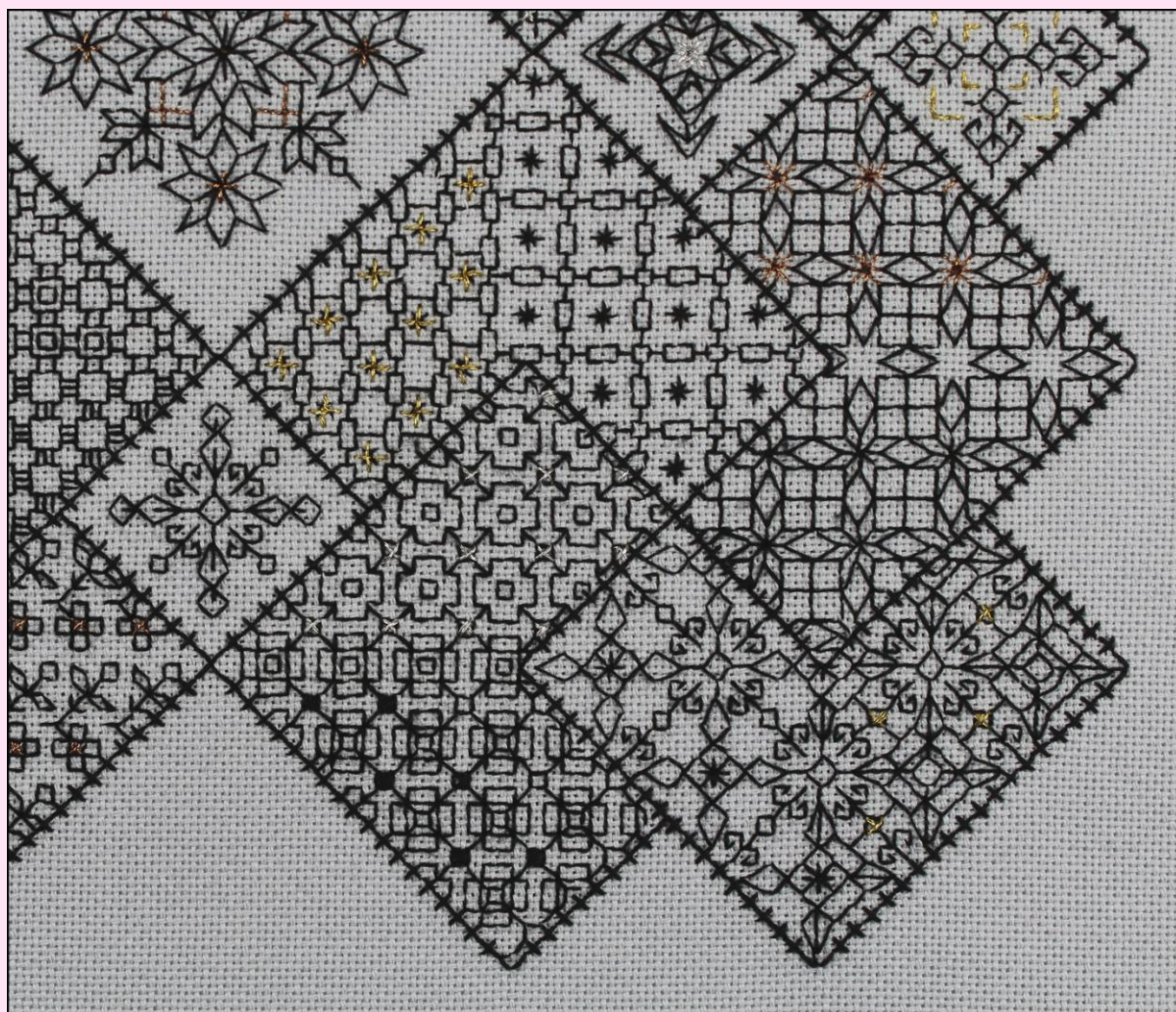
SAVE THE STITCHES
Blackwork Journey - Designs by Elizabeth Almond
Block 24 Patterns 122 - 134



The final section!
www.blackworkjourney.co.uk



Block 22 Embroidery



Block 23 Embroidery

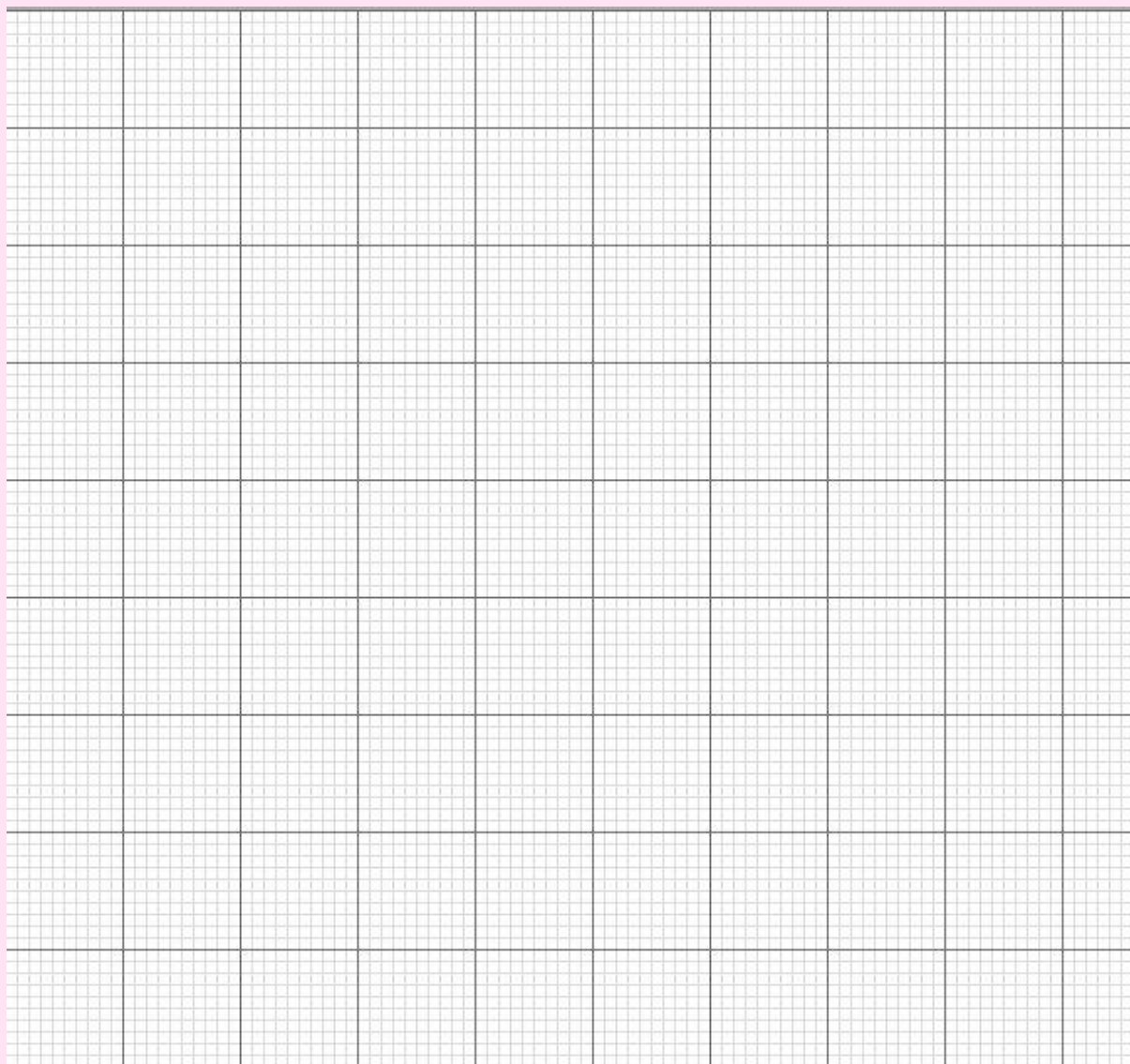


Block 24 Embroidery – the final piece!

In Block 24, areas have been left empty for you to personalise the work by adding your initials, date and title. An alphabet sheet has been provided in Freebies to help you, but you will need to work the details out on a piece of graph paper before you start stitching so that the characters can be placed accurately.



Lettering used in 'Save the Stitches'



Plan the lettering out on graph paper before you start stitching! Print this sheet if none is available

The Final Touches

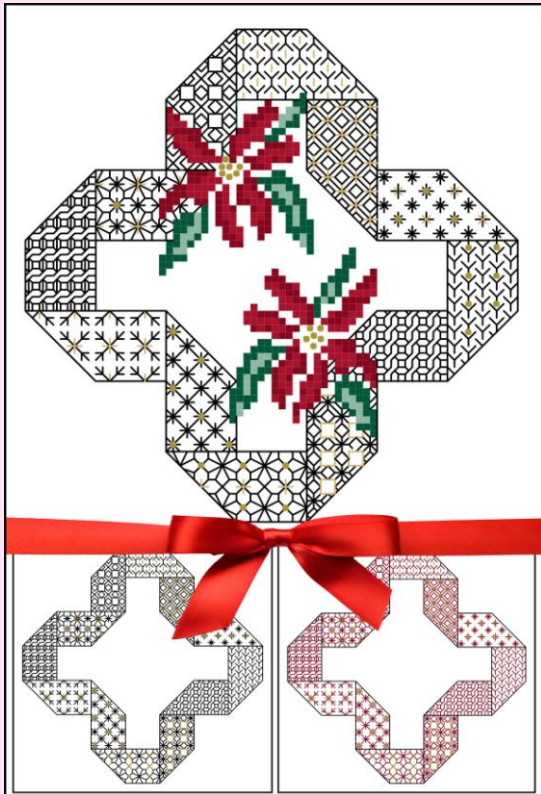
‘Save the Stitches’ has travelled round the world rolled up in a suitcase so in January I am going to decide how I finish the embroidery off and how I am going to mount it.

I have been designing some borders which I think might be suitable to work round the edge but for the moment I am going to put it to one side and consider what I am going to do.

I will post the borders in January 2015.

New Charts

A number of new designs are already in the pipeline, including a special new free project which will be starting in March 2015.



Designed for embroiderers new to blackwork, or for those just wanting to work small samples - this would be the ideal chart!

CH0331 Ribbons is included in Charts for this month as a simple Christmas gift, or by changing the colours, a ring pillow, and a frame with a monogram in the centre – a practical addition to the library

I hope you have enjoyed Blackwork Journey over the past twelve months. It has been a pleasure creating the designs, compiling the Blogs, but most of all interacting with you!

I wish you peace, joy and happiness for the Christmas Season and the coming New Year

Liz

James, nearly 6 months old is a very special Christmas baby.

