

Celebrating the Queen's Sapphire Jubilee

For our 2017 Yarn Bombing project we chose a tableau depicting The Queen enjoying afternoon tea accompanied by her corgi's.



The Queen was displayed in Jenny's Tea Rooms for the duration of the Taunton Art Festival and from there to the Taunton Flower Show in Vivary Park. From Vivary Park the tableau came home to St Georges where it was displayed for a week prior to making an appearance at the Ruishton Church Fete and then the Trefoil Afternoon Tea at Tangier.

Making the Tableau

The Queen

The framework used was the same as that used for the nativity figures. A full length dress was knitted in a sparkling white wool, using the same pattern as for the Kings. The sash was knitted in a rich blue sparkling wool. The medals of The Garter and St George were made using tapestry, copied from photos on the internet.

The Queen's hair was a masterpiece. 6 year old Elsie produced metres of finger knitting in a soft grey wool which was then platted to form thicker strands. These strands could then be styled over wadding to help provide the necessary body and shape.

Photographs were enlarged in order to recreate the Queen's jewellery in crotchet supported by wire where necessary.

The Queen has a clutch bag adapted from a standard knitting pattern and re-enforced with card.

The Tea Table

Regular knitting patterns were used for the cakes, teapot and sugar bowl, plate cup and saucer. The sugar bowl pattern was adapted to create a milk jug. The cakes were displayed on a standard cake stand given a knitted cover.

A pale green sheet provided the fabric for the tablecloth which was embroidered around the hem using gold coloured silks. The embroidery read * Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth 11 celebrates her Sapphire Jubilee * February 22nd 1952 – 2017 * (* indicates a where a crown was embroidered). Napkins were made and decorated with an embroidered crown in the corner. Napkin rings were crotchet'd in gold cotton yarn.

The finishing touch was a menu card which allowed the group to name the tableau and give credit to all those who had contributed.

The Corgis

The 3 corgi puppies were knitted following a standard knitting pattern. They were each given a collar and lead made using french knitting. Little recycled dog clips provided a finishing touch.

The puppies were displayed playing on a red cushion trimmed in gold yarn.

The Flower Pedestal

The Queen is often surrounded by flowers and the tableau was completed by the addition of a pedestal flower arrangement.

A flower basket weighted in the base and packed with oasis formed the foundation for the arrangement. Large roses in various shades of pink crotchet given wire stems and green leaves provided a beautiful display..