

Australian Merino Wool: 3 Bags Full

Straight stitch, running stitch, blanket and lazy daisy stitches, the very basics of embroidery, are used to create this little book of ***Australian Merino Wool: 3 Bags Full***. The 4" x 4" pages are made with 'pre-felt' which is fragile on its own, so the pages are woven strips, or layered pieces, and stitched on to a solid backing of acrylic felt. As well as embroidery, they are embellished with "found" objects from who knows where and when! And why did I keep them?!

It all began in Dale Rollerson's class ***Page by Page*** at Seminar 2016 Inspiring Threads. And no! It didn't take this long to finish the project; the hard part was deciding to write this article!

The background of the book cover is entitled, ***Australian Merino Wool***. The tiny bags are knit with Perle cotton and tacked on with little stitches.



It's Raining, It's Pouring and flowers are growing. A little girl with a glass button face holds an umbrella which is fashioned from one half of a necklace clasp. Her boots are a complete fastener of another type of jewelry clasp. The long leaves of the flowers are earring pieces. Layered pieces of pure wool form the background.



One inch strips of green, grey, blue and purple wool are woven and tacked with random, basic stitches to create a background for ***Circles and More Circles***. The tiny circles are spacers from a necklace arrangement. The larger ones are merino wool circles couched with variegated cotton threads.



Time Flies as does a butterfly! Created from an unmatched set of necklace clasps, the butterfly works her way over a layered background to a time piece.



Various thick threads in ***Twisting and Turning*** are knotted and couched onto a woven background.. A straight line of bracelet pieces are tacked on. Random straight and crossed stitches appear here and there.



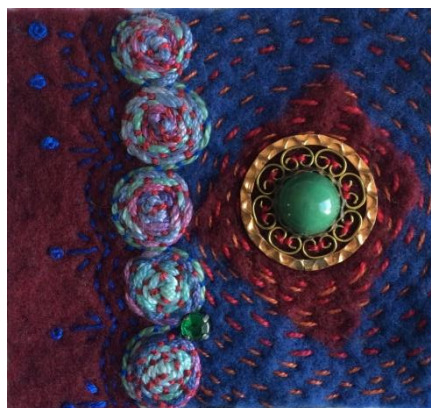
A solid piece of blue wool creates a night sky as another butterfly, created with a pair of clasps, travels *Through the Stars and Over the Roof Tops*.



Hers and His is a collection of contrasts on a woven background of wool strips. A stream of old, metal work buttons edged with beaded key chains flows beside a collection of discarded jewelry clasps and a broken earring.



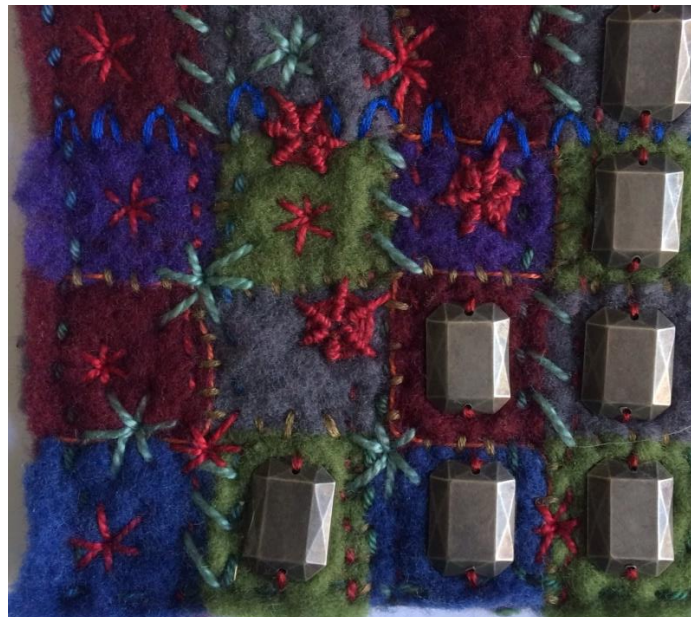
A favourite button is the centre piece for a swirl of running stitches going *Round and Round* on a layered background. Is this Saturn?!



Stately Trees are applied with fly stitch to a background of woven strips. The trees stand amongst a growth of very old and worn fabric buttons that have been given a new life with a splash of colour. These plain buttons were perhaps used on undergarments.



The Back Stairs rest on a background of woven strips. A few steps are missing!



When closed, the little 10 page book (including front and back) stands about 2 ¼" high. It is assembled with the pages back to back with slip stitch and cord. Tabs are inserted between them to form a spine. A thick thread passes through blanket- stitched circles in the tabs and holds the pages together. A tassel of odds and ends is attached for more fun!



This project was finished within a month of my returning from Dale's workshop. Inspiration , or what! A four day workshop with Dale Rollerson is a wonderful experience. Don't wait for it to happen, go out of Your way to make it happen!