

FEATURE GALLERY

Selina Wesley

In the early 1980's we moved from Scarborough in Yorkshire to Melksham in Wiltshire. Our furniture had to go into storage for about 4 weeks until our house was ready to move into. The storage/removers had a fire in their warehouse and everything was destroyed including our furniture and effects. I had a lot of embroideries of petit point which I lost and didn't have the heart to do them again.

I had been pressing flowers but not doing much with them. However, to get me over the trauma I started pressing more flowers and making cards at first. I was a member of the Floral Art Society and was always interested in flowers and after a while I took the City & Guilds in Floral Art which I thoroughly enjoyed. Pressed flowers came into this and after I qualified, I started pressing in a bigger way. For 5 years I made miniatures which went to the Chelsea Flower Show and were sold to collectors. I entered my work in to various shows and always did quite well. When I saw an article in the Flower Arranger Magazine I spoke to Olga Symonds who was the President of the Pressed Flower Guild at that time and I became a member of the Guild. I have never regretted joining the Guild who helped me in so many ways with pressing, framing and various other ways.

Since then I have progressed in many different ways and joined two other Guilds, The International Pressed Flower Guild and The Worldwide Pressed Flower Guild. A lot of my work has been accepted in Japan and South Korea.

I have done quite a few of the projects with the Worldwide Pressed Flower Guild and learned so much more and ways of doing things, which hopefully I can pass on to others. I am always looking for new things to do with my flowers.

The other Guilds don't work in the same way as the UK Guild and I have to say that my favourite pictures that I do are always the ones with the UK Guild method. They look so much finer.

Two years ago five of us went to the Ukraine to do workshops with two top Russian pressed flower artists: Klara Bobrova in Kromaskors and Ludmilla Belatskyer in Donetsk. We had a wonderful time and were made so welcome by everyone.

Happy pressing to everyone.

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Here are some examples of my work:



