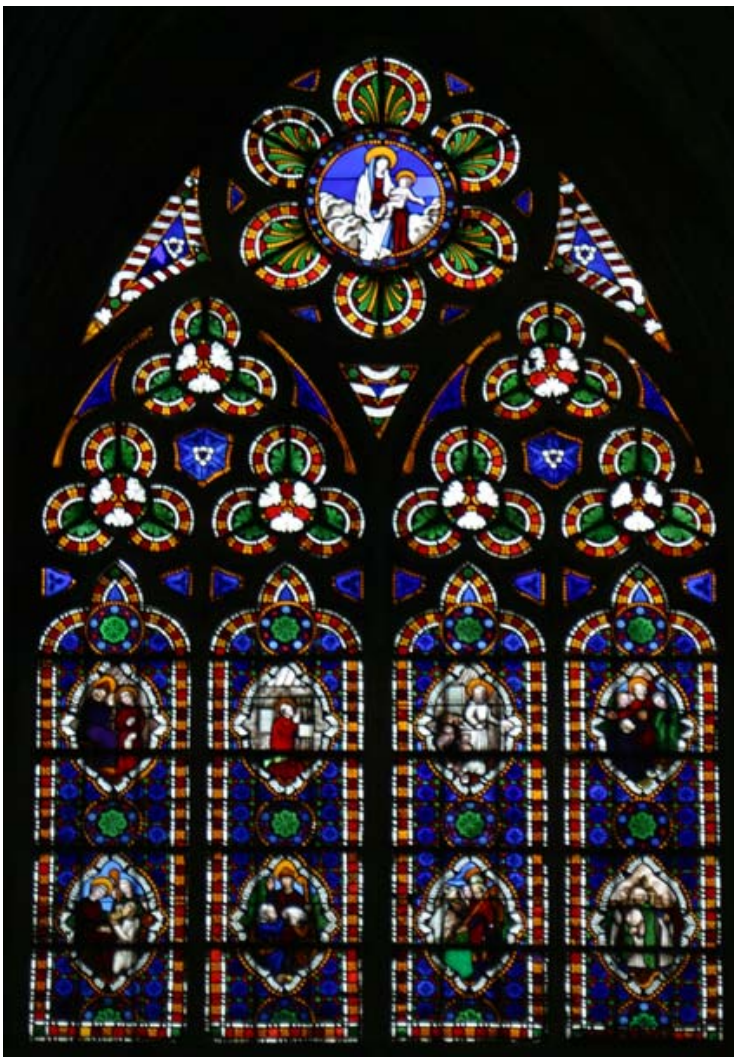




GAIL HARKER'S 2014 TOUR OF THE GLORIES OF BRITISH ART AND TEXTILES



OCTOBER 3 - 20, 2014





GAIL HARKER'S 2014 TOUR OF THE GLORIES OF BRITISH ART & TEXTILES

OCTOBER 3 - 20, 2014

2014 Tour Schedule Three Extra Tour days in 2014

- Day 1** - Oct. 3, Friday - Pick-up at the Ibis Hotel for arrival at Littlebury Hotel
- Day 2** - Oct. 4, Sat. - Ashmolean - *The Eye of the Needle Exhibition* & The Big Stitch
- Day 3** - Oct. 5, Sun. - Hardwick Hall, private tour
- Day 4** - Oct. 6, Mon. - Royal School of Needlework - private tour
- Day 5** - Oct. 7, Tues. - Free Day
- Day 6** - Oct. 8, Wed. - Berrington Hall & Hereford Museum
- Day 7** - Oct. 9, Thurs. - Knitting & Stitching Show at Alexandra Palace
- Day 8** - Oct. 10, Fri. - D-Day Museum & Portsmouth Cathedral, Overnight ferry to France
- Day 9** - Oct. 11, Sat. - Omaha Beach & Bayeux Tapestry *In France*, Overnight ferry back to Britain
- Day 10** - Oct. 12, Sun. - Travel from Portsmouth to Littlebury Hotel, Afternoon Activity
- Day 11** - Oct. 13, Mon. - Free Day
- Day 12** - Oct. 14, Tues. - British Library - Embroidered Bookbindings
- Day 13** - Oct. 15, Wed. - Oxfordshire Museum & Resource Center
- Day 14** - Oct. 16, Thurs. - Kelmscott Manor, private tour & St George's Church
- Day 15** - Oct. 17, Fri. - Victoria and Albert Museum - private tour
- Day 16** - Oct. 18, Sat. - Tour of Cotswold Villages
- Day 17** - Oct. 19, Sun. - Free Day
- Day 18** - Oct. 20, Monday - Departure early a.m. - drop off at Heathrow Airport



GAIL HARKER'S 2014 TOUR OF THE GLORIES OF BRITISH ART & TEXTILES

Home Away from Home - Littlebury Hotel

We are returning to our old neighborhood to a wonderful little hotel owned and operated by a local family. The Littlebury Hotel is located on the edge of the town center of Bicester (rhymes with mister) in Oxfordshire. We formerly lived a couple of miles down the road from here. The Littlebury is a homey English hotel. Here, we will have our rooms with private baths, breakfast, and dinner, except on those nights when we will be crossing the channel. The hotel has been modernized (still retains its old English charm) and will be a comfortable place to hang our hats. Take advantage of the lovely gardens to have a quick refreshing breath of nature. Bicester is one of the old hunting towns of Oxfordshire that traces its origins back to 6th century Saxons. While the hunt is no longer what it used to be, Bicester hangs on to its

treasured origins. There are numerous banks, antique shops, pubs, wine bars, and supermarkets within walking distance. There are train services to London and Oxford from two depots across town from each other. Just outside the town center is a factory outlet center with lots of wonderful British brand names on sale. Students say that it is great to tour and study all day and then be able to return to the same hotel and share moments of the day at dinner. On two evenings, on our way to and from Normandy, a shared cabin aboard the ferry will be your accommodation.



- ◆ 15 nights at the Littlebury Hotel, Bicester, Oxfordshire
- ◆ 15 - 3 course dinners at the Littlebury Hotel. (there will be a special three course menu from which you will have choices - special diets will be accommodated where possible)
- ◆ 15 full English breakfasts at the Littlebury Hotel. Full English breakfast, often called the *fry-up* (eggs, sausage, bacon, black pudding, mushrooms, fried potatoes, fried tomatoes, baked beans, fried bread - are the usuals. You will also find cereals, yogurt, fresh fruit, juices etc.) coffee and tea!



GAIL HARKER'S 2014 TOUR OF THE GLORIES OF BRITISH ART & TEXTILES

Custom Study Tour

First Study Tours in Britain

While living and working in Britain in the 80's and 90's, I started taking students on the first short tours while teaching London City & Guilds courses at Missenden Abbey in Buckinghamshire. It seemed a novel idea to visit a variety of places to enhance appreciation of art, design and stitch studies. I was amazed at the riches that were so close by. It surprised me that many of my own English students hadn't been to see them, but then, driving and parking is expensive and nerve wracking in Britain.



We will be driven to our venues in a comfortable coach (bus). Relaxing in a coach with like minded people is congenial and so easy. We will be staying at the Littlebury Hotel for the entire tour with the exception of 2 nights when we will be aboard a Britany Ferry on our way to and from Normandy, France.



Who's Invited?

This tour is definitely aimed at our students as part of their continuing educational experience. Anyone else who has a keen interest in textiles of all sorts, including embroidery, quilts, lace, etc. is invited to join us. Unless one has an intense interest in textiles, or educational and historic sites, the trip could be considered dull and uneventful. We say this by way of warning to anyone who would like to bring hubby, mate, partner, valet, chauffeur, hand maiden, masseuse, psychic, astrologist, or other.

Study Tours from North America

When I planned the first tour from North America, in 1999, it was with the intention of supplementing the courses taught at our center in Oak Harbor. I wanted to share some of the inspirational, historical, and contemporary, art and textile treasures that I had experienced over the 20 years we lived in Britain. Don and I took our first group from America to Britain in 1999 and followed up in 2001, 2003, 2005 and 2007.



GAIL HARKER'S 2014 TOUR OF THE GLORIES OF BRITISH ART & TEXTILES



Custom Study Tour

A Tour Focus

Great Britain is an incredible source of documented textile traditions, particularly embroidery from Medieval times right up to the 21st Century. I specifically plan the venues to give a complete as possible picture of this lengthy time period. Being there provides an insight as to how people lived and how the textiles were woven into a social and economic culture. It's fascinating! Yes, there are lots of distractions with wonderful architecture, woodwork, artwork, ironwork etc. but it all enhances art of the textiles.



Knowledgeable Experiences

Tours to Historic houses, museums and galleries will be guided by either specialists, tutors or curators. We have a trusting relationship with the reliable and safe coach company that we have used since 1999.

What Else Will you be Doing?

While traveling on the coach, Gail will be demonstrating and discussing some of the historic stitches and techniques that you will be looking at on your travels. Our group will maintain a tour sketchbook in which each member will visually and verbally describe a day of the tour. Individuals are also encouraged to keep individual sketchbooks while touring. This jam packed tour will retrace some of the steps taken by previous tours, and some *new ones* that Gail has pioneered. Before, during, and after dinner, we discuss and summarize events of the day. Students are always friendly and sharing, just as they are at the studio.





GAIL HARKER'S 2014 TOUR OF THE GLORIES OF BRITISH ART & TEXTILES

Oct. 3 - Your Arrival in the UK

Day 1

Oct. 3 Pick-up

Our tour kicks off by picking you up and taking you to the Littlebury Hotel in Bicester on the 3rd. Our private coach (bus) will pick up travelers at the [Ibis Hotel \(at Heathrow\)](#) at a pre-arranged time to suit most people's flight arrivals on that day. You will be notified of this pick up time once all traveler's arrangements are known to us. The Ibis Hotel is very close to Heathrow Airport. The Hotel Hoppa shuttle service departs for the hotel every 30 minutes from terminals 4 & 5. The cost is: £4 pre-booked or £4.50 purchased through the ticket machine in the terminal or driver.

Staying at the Ibis Hotel before the Tour

On the tours, many find it convenient to arrive the day before (Oct. 2) and stay at the Ibis Hotel Heathrow overnight. If this option works well for you, please make your own arrangements for the Ibis. Our private coach will go to the Ibis Hotel and pick up all who are there at the designated time on the 3rd. Contact information for the Ibis Hotel is as follows:

The Ibis Hotel - London Heathrow
112 Bath Road
Hayes, Middlesex UB3 5AL
Main Telephone: 44 208/759 4888
Facsimile: 44 208 564 7894
Email: H0794@accor.com
Website: www.ibis.com

Gail and Don will be at the Littlebury Hotel on the 3rd of Oct. to welcome travelers.

Finding Your Own Way to the Littlebury Hotel - Not Part of the Tour Cost

You *may* choose to arrive at any time at any of several British airports. In this case, getting to the hotel will be up to you (loads of public transportation available including frequent regular train service from London Marylebone station to Bicester). For those who may arrive at Gatwick airport, a regular bus service between Gatwick and Oxford, is operated by the Oxford Bus Co. called the *Citylink*, and available at the airport bus station. *Picadilly* underground line will get you to and from Heathrow from London. Bus or taxi is available from Oxford to Bicester. Each airport has a bus station, tube station, and/or train station. We will provide location maps and directions to get to Bicester. Please let us know your plans. *None of these options are as easy or as inexpensive as the coach pick-up, the cost of which is included in your tour.*



- **Coach Pick-up:** Included to Littlebury Hotel
- **Lunch:** Yours
- **Dinner:** Included at the Littlebury Hotel - This will be our Group Kick-off dinner, meet and greet fellow tour participants. The group will convene in the lounge for a drink before dinner.



GAIL HARKER'S 2014 TOUR OF THE GLORIES OF BRITISH ART & TEXTILES

Oct. 4 - The Big Stitch & The Eye of the Needle Ashmoleum Museum, Oxford

Day 2

The Big Stitch is a one day event. What a way to start this tour! The Embroiderers' Guild is organizing demonstrations and talks with well known embroiderers. There will be about 25 demonstrators throughout the museum. When I discovered this event was taking place on the 4th of October, I scrambled to add days to our tour. It is not yet advertised at the Museum, but an administrator has filled me in on the details. I will keep people informed when more information is available.



Frog Purse - 17th C. 60mm x 15mm. From the Ashmolean Collection. This picture is from the Ashmolean Handbook titled *English Embroideries* by Mary M. Brooks

The Eye of the Needle will display, for the first time in public, a selection of eye-catching, virtuoso 17th-century embroideries from the internationally renowned *Feller Collection*. This, along with outstanding examples from the Ashmolean's own holdings. These remarkable embroideries include colorful raised and flatwork pictorial panels, beautiful samplers and household items, such as: boxes and cushions and dress accessories including caps, coifs and gloves.

The exhibition will explore the context in which these dramatic and technically exacting works were made. It will indicate their importance in creating the ideal goodly and godly woman. All this through the discipline of painstaking embroidery, reinforcing both social status and appropriate behavior.

Exquisite objects in their own right (made with colorful silks, pearls, and semi-precious stones), the embroideries also reflect the religious, political and social concerns of the English Civil War period.

The Eye of the Needle is curated by Dr Mary Brooks, University of Durham.

- **Breakfast:** Included at the Littlebury Hotel
- **Admission** to *The Eye of the Needle* Exhibition: Included
- **Lunch:** Yours
- **Dinner:** Included at the Littlebury Hotel

Oxford University's Ashmolean Museum is Britain's first public museum and the greatest university museum of art and archaeology in the world. Collections are extraordinarily diverse with objects from across the globe dating from 8000 BC to the present day.



GAIL HARKER'S 2014 TOUR OF THE GLORIES OF BRITISH ART & TEXTILES

Oct. 5 - Hardwick Hall

Day 3

Penelope Wallhanging - I have visited Hardwick Hall in Derbyshire many times over the years with groups of students from Britain and America. The house and its embroidery is of great importance! I have seen many changes at Hardwick. Lately I have been following their assistant curator Ellie's [blog](#).

A special c.1570 appliquéed embroidered hanging of **Penelope**, which is one of four hangings in the entrance to Hardwick Hall has just had conservation work done on it. The hanging had to be shipped up and taken to the The National Trust Textile Conservation team at Blickling Hall. Click [here](#) to see how they did it and watch a time lapse photography video. The hanging will be back in place when we visit in Oct.



A special guided tour has been planned for our textile group to Hardwick Hall, the 16th Century home of Bess of Hardwick. Bess, Countess of Shrewsbury, was the wife of one of Mary Queen of Scots gaolers (jailers). The house is the repository of many fine embroideries, some of them are known to have been worked by Mary and Bess. Hardwick Hall is rightfully famed for its extensive and valuable collection of Elizabethan needlework - 16th/17th Century. Bess of Hardwick, Countess of Shrewsbury, left her heirs explicit instructions for the care of her collection which was deemed to be more valuable than the house itself, *'have special care and regard to p'serve the same from all manner of wett, mothe, and other hurte or spoyle thereof.* As a result, not only has the house survived the ravages of the ages, but the textiles have survived in miraculous condition. Here, we will find exquisite pillow covers, wall hangings, bedcovers, carpets, and upholsteries, many decorated with superb embroidery.

- **Breakfast:** Included at the Littlebury Hotel
- **Admission** to the Hall with private tour: included
- **Lunch:** Yours - cafeteria at the Hall
- **Dinner:** Included at the Littlebury Hotel



GAIL HARKER'S 2014 TOUR OF THE GLORIES OF BRITISH ART & TEXTILES

Oct. 6 - Royal School of Needlework **Day 4**

The Royal School of Needlework is located at Hampton Court Palace. This charity opened in 1872 to improve the standard of art in embroidery and to create employment for *Women of Gentle Birth*. There are links to this school from other places we are visiting on our tour. William Morris became a leading member and guided the artistic side of the school in the early days. The Royal school also worked on the Overlord Embroidery at the D Day Museum in Portsmouth as a commission in the 70's.

The Royal School of Needlework are very well known for their [Embroidery Studio](#) where they work on both the conservation and restoration of historical textiles as well as creating new commissions. Recent clients include: Embroidered Oscar dress for Red Carpet Green Dress; Sarah Burton of Alexander McQueen, Salisbury Cathedral; Chapel Royal St James's Palace; English Heritage; the German artist, Gerhard Richter and many churches, synagogues and individuals.



Official [Hampton Court Palace](#) website. For additional information click [here](#).

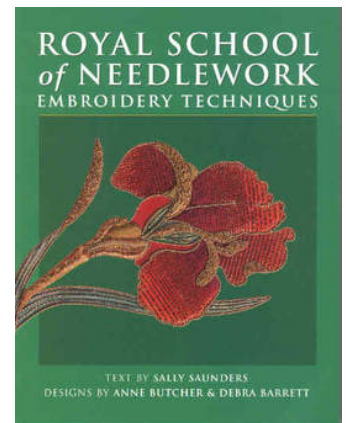


Exhibition Theme: Inspired by the Garden

Flowers, birds, butterflies and other such garden scenes will be on view while our group is there. This exhibition features work from the RSN collection from the 18th C. along with up to date contemporary pieces by RSN students.

Extended Tour of the Royal School of Needlework

We will be attending an extended Tour in the morning which will allow us to examine exhibits in detail with access to parts of their handling Collection. Sometimes it is possible to see commissions being worked on in the studio.



Although we are visiting the RSN in Hampton Court Palace in Richmond Upon Thames in the a.m., this visit does not include entrance fee to the house or many other things you can see while there. After lunch you can either visit the house, wander around in the high street area, and/or find some space to sit and sketch or photograph. There are so many opportunities and things to see on this day after our special tour.

- **Breakfast:** Included at the Littlebury Hotel
- **Royal School of Needlework Private Tour:** Included
- **Lunch:** Yours - cafeteria and restaurant at Hampton Court Palace
- **Afternoon activity** - Yours
- **Dinner:** Included at the Littlebury Hotel



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Oct. 7 - Free Day

Day 5

You may decide to sleep in, get yourself ready for the next week of extremely busy activity or take a walk into Bicester town center. It's only a few minutes walk from the hotel. There, you'll find a book store with post office, drug stores called chemists, grocery stores, pubs, restaurants and places to have coffee or tea. There is even a small needlework shop in town. It's also a fairly short but slightly longer walk to Bicester Village, a prestigious factory shopping outlet - not really a traditional village at all, but a place to spend a lot of money. The train service from Bicester is very good with many trains going in all directions. A trip to London would cost approximately £50.00 - an hour away. I'll let you work out the conversion rate. You could decide to take a bus or train to Oxford which costs much less than the train to London. Buses constantly come and go and often times stop at some of the picturesque villages in between. We will arm you with information, if you like. Lots of inspiration for artists everywhere you look. We all meet back again for our dinner at the Littlebury Hotel.



Students find many sources of design.



Bicester early morning.



A tithe barn in Thames



St. Egburg's Church is the oldest building in Bicester and is a few minutes walk from the hotel. It has been here for 900 years.



Oxford is close by. You can get there by bus or train. Always lots of people there!



An old building in the center of Bicester

- **Breakfast:** Included at the Littlebury Hotel
- **Lunch:** Yours
- **Dinner:** Included at the Littlebury Hotel



GAIL HARKER'S 2014 TOUR OF THE GLORIES OF BRITISH ART & TEXTILES

Oct. 8 - Berrington Hall and Hereford Museum

Day 6

Berrington Hall has been described as a Georgian masterpiece designed by the famous architect Henry Holland. This fact is impressive in itself. I became intrigued with the Snowhill Textile Collection a number of years ago through a few exceptional books. The actual collection has been elusive until this year when I was able to connect with the curator to make this visit happen. Truth be known, I would have been thrilled to see this collection, anywhere, even in a garage. Visiting the collection in a Georgian masterpiece is just the icing on the cake. We will be visiting the Snowhill collection of textiles at Berrington Hall in the morning, and then the Hereford Collection, 1/2 hour away in the afternoon. The Snowhill Collection was formerly the collection of one man, Charles Paget Wade. By arrangement for our group, the curator will retrieve a multitude of precious garments and other items that are normally stored away. She will be with us to share her vast knowledge about both collections that we will be visiting. Quilting/embroidery/surface decoration and patchwork on a wide range of items and materials from the 18th and 19th C. will be the order of the day. Be prepared to be amazed! Have a look at the blog [The Hidden Wardrobe](#) to catch a sneak peak at all the splendor.



Top right: Red and white Georgian Sack dress -1770. Far right: bottom from a man's waistcoat. (vest) Middle top: close-up of button from same waistcoat

- **Breakfast:** Included at the Littlebury Hotel
- **Admission** to both Venues: Included
- **Lunch:** Yours at Berrington Hall
- **Dinner:** Included



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Oct. 9 - Alexandra Palace Knitting and Stitching Show

Day 7

We will visit the Knitting & Stitching Show at Alexandra Palace to see stitched textile art. The *who's who* of art celebrities will all be there. Art colleges that specialize in stitched textiles will have exhibits as well. These shows are known for their quality and quantity of textile art. Many of our old friends, such as Ruth Issett and Richard Box, will be showing off their very special talents and wares. Jan Beany and Jean Littlejohn make appearances as well. The names of the special exhibits aren't yet published, but as soon as they are, they will be sent to you.



I always plan our visit around the dates of these shows as there is nothing to equal them. Look for more than 100 specialist shops. Be sure to take cash to shop unless you plan on wearing blinders. There are thousands of people who attend.



- **Breakfast:** Included at the Littlebury Hotel
- Entrance to the Show: Included
- **Lunch:** Yours
- **Dinner:** Included at the Littlebury Hotel

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Oct. 10 - Portsmouth Cathedral and The Overlord Embroidery

Day 8



Portsmouth Cathedral is in the county of Hampshire. The church dates from the 12th C. It received cathedral status in the 20th C. in 1927. The Cathedral's history has been eventful mainly because of its association with the sea. King Richard I claimed Portsmouth for the crown after being betrayed by de Gisors, a wealthy Norman merchant. Of course, there is much more to this story than I am telling here.

Our group will be met by a specialist for the ecclesiastical garments and frontals that date from the 1600s right up to the 2000s. What a lot of intriguing history here.



Overlord Embroidery - We will go to the D-Day museum at Portsmouth where we will be able to view the 34 panel Overlord Embroidery, commemorating the D-Day invasion of France, inspired by the Bayeux Tapestry. This embroidery took the Royal School of Needlework five years to work, and, at 272 feet in length, is the largest of its kind in the world. It is a very moving experience as we listen through our headphones to the story of the invasion as it happened. Each panel tells a different part of the D-Day landing. The Overlord and Bayeux tapestries commemorate two successful cross channel invasions - one thousand years apart.



France Here we Come

After dinner, we take our coach into an overnight ferry to Caen, Normandy. There is lots going on in the ferry but after a drink (or not) its off to our berths for a good night's sleep as morning comes especially early in France.

- **Breakfast:** Included at the Littlebury Hotel
- **Entrance to Museum:** Included
- **Lunch:** Yours
- **Dinner:** Included in a Portsmouth restaurant





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Oct. 11 - Caen to Bayeux

Day 9



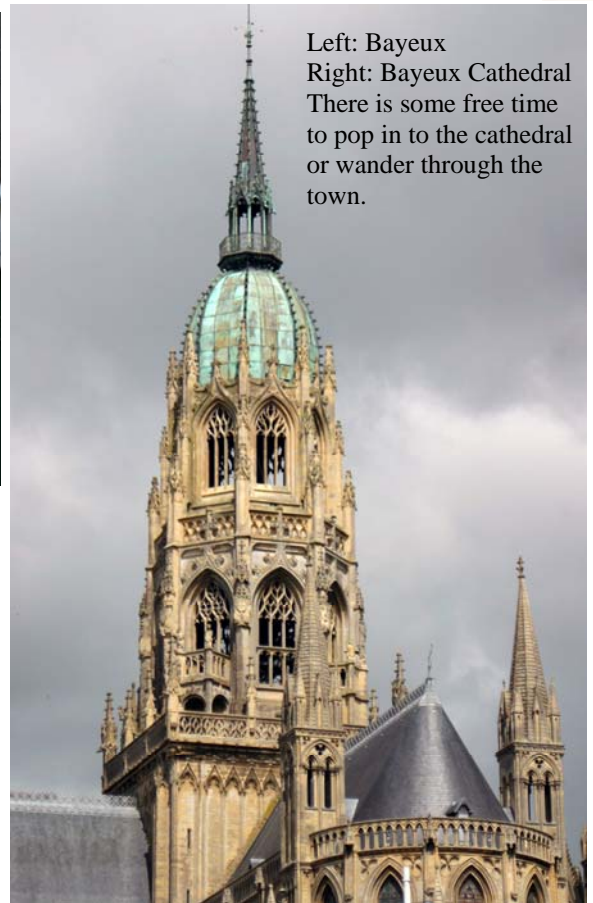
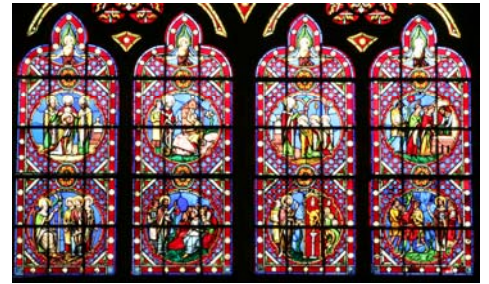
Early morning arrival in port at Caen with time to get a cup of coffee and a *real* croissant at a café. Our morning venue is not yet confirmed - more later. We will wind our way along the Normandy coastline and the famous D-Day beaches. We will stop at the Normandy American Cemetery and Memorial. Have a look at the ages of our boys who gave the last full measure.



Above: The memorial at Omaha Beach
Left: Early afternoon, we arrive in Bayeux - a city with a very large cathedral. Here is the building that houses this long thin embroidery *The Bayeux Tapestry*. It memorializes the war between the English and the French.

- **Breakfast:** not included
- **Entrance** to view Tapestry: Included
- **Lunch:** Yours
- **Dinner:** Included in a French restaurant

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Left: Bayeux
Right: Bayeux Cathedral
There is some free time
to pop in to the cathedral
or wander through the
town.



Saturday overnight Ferry back to England

Left: Ladies in the ferry lounge. After dinner we head back to the ferry for our sleep over back to England; That was quick but memorable!



GAIL HARKER'S 2014 TOUR OF THE GLORIES OF BRITISH ART & TEXTILES

Oct. 12 - Portsmouth to Littlebury Hotel and Afternoon Activity

Day 10

Early morning - Disembark ferry in Portsmouth and drive back to the Littlebury Hotel, looking for a place to have breakfast along the way. Once we're back there's some time in the morning to rest, walk and have lunch. After lunch there will be a group activity at the hotel (still to be announced and confirmed). Sometimes it rains and often the sun is up. It's similar to the weather in the Northwest, in Washington State. Totally unpredictable!



The house that adjoins the hotel. Beautiful even in the autumn.

Oct. 13 - Free Day

Day 11

By this time, people need another day off or they are planning a side event for this day. It's up to you.

- **Breakfast:** Included at the Littlebury Hotel
- **Lunch:** Yours
- **Dinner:** Included at the Littlebury Hotel

GAIL HARKER'S 2014 TOUR OF THE GLORIES OF BRITISH ART & TEXTILES



Oct. 14 - The British Library

Day 12



About Embroidered Bookbindings

The term 'embroidered bookbinding' usually describes a book bound in textile, decorated with a design made for the book and worked in colored silks and/or metallic threads on both covers. The cloth was embroidered separately before it was glued or stitched to the boards of a ready bound book. The majority of embroidered bindings were produced by professional needleworkers.

About the British Library

There are always exhibitions on in the library. This library gives us a futuristic view about how people communicate and what the word *Library* can mean. They have one of the largest sound libraries in the world. Visit them online.

A Treasured Collection

This is no ordinary library. A number of books with embroidered bindings will be taken out of storage especially for our group. It is such a privilege to bring a study group to see a treasured collection of embroidered pictorial bookbindings from the 16th and 17th centuries. Two curators will be meeting with our group to give a talk and to show these rare books. Security is very tight these days, be prepared to have a guard in the study room with our group and the curators. We will be viewing the collection in the morning, having lunch at the Library and then have free time to see other exhibitions in the afternoon.

Embroidered Bookbinding top left:

English 17th C. White/cream satin embroidered with pictorial motifs. *The Whole Book of Psalmes*, published in London 1633.

Embroidered Bookbinding top right:

English 17th C. White satin with pictorial, religious motifs. *The Whole Book of David's Psalmes*.

Embroidered Bookbinding, right:

English, 17th C. red velvet armorial, with pairs of red ribbon ties. Owned by James II, King of England (1633 - 1701). *The Holy Bible*, published Cambridge 1674.



- **Talk and View** - embroidered bookbindings: Included
- **Lunch:** Yours at British Library
- **Dinner:** Included at the Littlebury Hotel

Photos provided with permission of the British Library for our study groups.



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**Oct. 15 - Oxfordshire Museum
and Museum Resource Center**

Day 13



The Museum Resource Center has a prized selection of smocks from the 19th Century. Everything from farmers working smocks, shepherd's smocks, funeral smocks and a smock that was specially made for the great Exhibition of Britain in 1851. The smocks have a number of different stitches that are used to manipulate and gather the fabric together. There is also a variety of other embroidered items we will see from their collection.

Stonesfield Embroidery
C. 1730
Left: detail of Bacchus
Right: corner detail



We will visit the Oxfordshire Museum in Woodstock to see the *Stonesfield Embroidery*, a bold and colorful representation of a Roman mosaic pavement found near at Stonesfield village in 1712.

- **Breakfast:** Included at the Littlebury Hotel
- **Entrance** to both Venues: Included
- **Lunch:** Yours
- **Dinner:** Included at the Littlebury Hotel

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Oct. 16 - Kelmscott Manor

Day 14



Kelmscott Manor was the country home of William Morris. The house contains some of his famous textile patterns, furniture and many embroideries of his own design. The embroideries, especially the bed hangings embroidered by his daughter, May Morris, are exceptional. Morris was instrumental in starting the *Arts and Crafts* movement in England (1860 - 1910). The manor is open to our group exclusively in the afternoon.



St. George's Church in Kelmscott is largely unaltered since 1500. The church itself was thought to be around in Roman times. Morris started *The Society for the Preservation of Ancient Buildings*. It is felt that his endeavours made a difference to the continued preservation. William Morris was buried in the cemetery.

- **Breakfast:** Included at the Littlebury Hotel
- **Entrance and Private tour:** Included
- **Lunch:** Yours
- **Dinner:** Included at the Littlebury Hotel



GAIL HARKER'S 2014 TOUR OF THE GLORIES OF BRITISH ART & TEXTILES

Oct. 17 - Victoria & Albert Museum

Day 15

Textiles from the Tudor, Stuart, Georgian and Victorian Period.

An essential part of the tour is our visit to the Victoria & Albert Museum where we will be able to look at rare and ancient embroideries and other textiles. There will be a Gallery talk by one of the museum's textile specialists especially for our group. Our study focus will be on textiles from the Tudor, Stuart, Georgian and Victorian periods. There will be other galleries of interest to our students as well. In fact, if you were locked up in there for a month you would only touch upon some of their extensive collections. Much is online these days, have a look for yourself. You will have some free time in the museum to pursue other interests. I will have a list for people who wish to discover other important embroideries. You may be surprised to know that the V&A has not only the best in historic textiles but buys and exhibits contemporary artists' work in all disciplines.



Margaret Layton waistcoat was made in 1610-15. It is made of linen, embroidered with colored silks, silver and silver-gilt thread, lined with silk.



Above: an embroidered casket from the V&A

View a video about [Martha Edlin's Casket](#) from the V&A

- **Breakfast:** Included at the Littlebury Hotel
- **V&A Private Tour:** Included
- **Lunch:** Yours - cafeteria and restaurant at V. and A.
- **Dinner:** Included at the Littlebury Hotel

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Oct. 18 - Tour of Cotswold Villages

Day 16



The larger market towns and villages of the Cotswolds are famous for their shops, such as Stow-on-the-Wold, Cirencester, Chipping Norton and Tetbury. We will make a few stops in some of the Cotswold villages where you will be able to take lunch, enjoy an English cream tea, and do some shopping in unique shops. Most of these villages are best seen on foot.

We will return to the hotel in time for dinner.

*This day may be
exchanged with another.*



- **Breakfast:** Included at the Littlebury Hotel
- **Lunch:** Yours
- **Dinner:** Included at the Littlebury Hotel



GAIL HARKER'S 2014 TOUR OF THE GLORIES OF BRITISH ART & TEXTILES

Oct. 19 - Free Day

Day 17

It's time to start packing up. It is possible, however, that you could take a little trip somewhere around Bicester. Have a look at Thame (pronounced Tame). It's a quaint little Oxfordshire town that was old when it was listed in the Domesday Book (1086). It is nearby and has a lovely 13th Century church that has some fine brasses. Oxford, of course, is not too far away for a day trip - and who could ever get tired of Oxford? For those who have the packing done, or who can get it done quickly, a day trip to London is not out of the question. We will meet for drinks and dinner at the Littlebury Hotel.



Celebratory Dinner at our hotel for the last group dinner on the tour.

- **Breakfast:** Included at the Littlebury Hotel
- **Lunch:** Yours
- **Dinner:** Included at the Littlebury Hotel

Oct. 20 - Departure

Day 18

We will take our last breakfast together. Amid wailing and gnashing of teeth we will board our coach for the trip to Heathrow. The time of departure will be announced - a time most suited to all travelers, but this is usually very early, 6:00 a.m. or so.

Breakfast included at the Littlebury Hotel



GAIL HARKER'S 2014 TOUR OF THE GLORIES OF BRITISH ART & TEXTILES



Tour Information

The complete tour includes:

- ◆ 15 nights at the Littlebury Hotel, Bicester, Oxfordshire
- ◆ 15 - 3 course dinners at the Littlebury Hotel. (there will be a special three course menu from which you will have choices - special diets will be accommodated where possible)
- ◆ 15 full English breakfasts at the Littlebury Hotel. Full English breakfast, often called the *fry-up* (eggs, sausage, bacon, black pudding, mushrooms, fried potatoes, fried tomatoes, baked beans, fried bread - among the usuals, along with cereals, yogurt, fresh fruit etc.) You get to choose!
- ◆ 1 Dinner in Portsmouth
- ◆ 2 nights shared cabin (for 2) aboard ferry to and from Normandy
- ◆ 1 Dinner in France
- ◆ Entrance fees to galleries, museums, private houses or other venues specified in our brochure.
- ◆ Speakers, lecturers and specialist tours within the venues where specified.
- ◆ Private Coach to and from each venue as described in the brochure with a safe and comfortable drive with a trustworthy coach firm.
- ◆ Pick-up at the Ibis Hotel on Oct. 3rd and drop off at Heathrow on Oct. 20th.
- ◆ **Venues are subject to change;** It is possible, when travelling in Britain that venues may unexpectedly close but we can quickly find another.

Tour Deposit - 25% non-refundable deposit will hold one place until May 15, 2014, at which time all funds are due.



GAIL HARKER'S 2014 TOUR OF THE GLORIES OF BRITISH ART & TEXTILES

Tour Cost

The tour cost has increased since 2007 because 7 years have passed and also we have added 3 additional days to our usual tour time.

The cost of your individual hotel accommodation requirements will dictate the cost of your tour (it's the variable). The complete tour, is supplied at the following price.

Single Room - 15 nights	\$9,948.00 each
Twin Room (2 people, 2 single beds) - 15 nights	\$8,783.00 each
Double Room (2 people, 1 double bed) - 15 nights	\$17,566.00 (for 2 people)

It is worthwhile to try finding a room mate, but if you will be traveling on your own and wish to have a room mate, we will be happy to try pairing you with another so you can get the two person room rate. Let us know your desire on this matter.

The cost covers 15 nights at the hotel from October 3rd through October 19th (with departure on the morning of the 20th) dinner and breakfasts at the hotel included. Please note that British, and most other European Hotels, usually charge by the person rather than by the room. Two people in a room normally doubles the price. One person in a room results in a surcharge.

Tour Pricing

In order to come up with a reasonable estimate of costs, we have calculated the cost in British pounds of the current date. If the exchange rate varies by more than 10% at the time we must commit funds, we reserve the right to adjust the tour cost (up or down) based on the actual costs.

Tour Booking

To reserve a place on this tour please complete the attached booking form and return to Gail Harker Center for Creative Arts, PO Box 1000, La Conner, WA 98257, (checks made payable to Gail Harker Center for Creative Arts). As soon as all details are finalized we will send you a full day-by-day itinerary with further details on the tour, along with information important to tourists to Britain. **All money due must be paid no later than May 15, 2014.**

Itinerary to follow

The full itinerary and a travel calendar will be sent out when all details have been finalized. Other important details, contact names, numbers, addresses will be sent closer to the time of travel.

GAIL HARKER'S 2014 TOUR OF THE GLORIES OF BRITISH ART & TEXTILES



Not Included in the Tour

Airfare - There are too many starting points - air miles, etc. for us to handle this and succeed in getting all concerned a competitive rate.

Lunches - We will take lunch where and when we may at different locations at or near the venue we will be visiting. Many lunches will be taken at museums and halls that we are visiting. Sometimes it will be pub lunches and, unless you require a full course meal at noon, you should budget about \$15 for lunch, and most will be less (not including drinks). At those times when we will be eating lunch at on-site cafeterias/tea rooms (museums, houses), individuals will pay their own checks (they call the check: bill), probably in cash. Often times, at pubs or other small dining establishments when we dine as a group, individual checks may not be possible. In these cases, payment by credit card is impossible. When this arises, either Don or I will collect money for settlement of the bill.

Wine and other alcoholic beverages and other drink, other than those included with the meal will be to your own account.

Breakfast in Normandy on Saturday, the 11th

Breakfast en route back to the Littlebury on Sunday, October 12th

Other incidentals - Hotel room and taxes are all paid. At the end of the tour we normally take a collection for gratuities to be given to hotel staff, and coach drivers.

Other items not covered under your basic tour cost would be such things as:

- Room service
- Bar tabs
- Beverages (other than those covered under standard meal inclusion)
- Laundry
- Telephone
- Travel insurance
- Medical insurance



GAIL HARKER'S 2014 TOUR OF THE GLORIES OF BRITISH ART & TEXTILES

Cancellation

Should you cancel your tour booking before traveling, the following charges are applicable and will be calculated on the day written notification of such cancellation is received at the offices of the Gail Harker Center for Creative Arts:

DAYS PRIOR TO ARRIVAL	CANCELLATION FEE
60-45 days	30% of total price
44-30 day	40% of total price
29-15 days	50% of total price
14-8 days	75% of total price
7-00 days	100% of total price

In the unlikely event the tour is canceled by the Gail Harker Center for Creative Arts, all moneys will be promptly refunded. The Gail Harker Center for Creative Arts reserves the right to cancel the tour if a minimum number of students is not achieved, but will cancel no less than 6 weeks prior to departure date unless due to political unrest, hostilities, adverse weather conditions or force majeure. Force majeure means storm, flood, fire, earthquake, landslide or avalanche, natural or nuclear disaster or act of God; act of government or authority, insurrection, terrorist activities or illegality; strikes, lock-outs or other industrial action, failure of or damage to machinery; breach of contract by a third party; or the act or omission of a third party calculated to interfere with the performance of our obligation which is outside our control.

You will need to make arrangements for:

Airline Booking

You will need to make your own airline arrangements. Please do not book airline tickets until the tour has been confirmed from our center.

Insurance (travel and/or medical)

Please keep in mind that we are not a travel agency and therefore have limited ability to offer the full range of services that an agency might provide (for which you will also pay - sometimes as a hidden cost). If anyone happens to be a AAA member, holder of certain credit cards, or association member, many travel insurance and medical insurance plans may be arranged at very low cost. Free emergency treatment in the Accident and Emergency departments of National Health Hospitals is available to tourists. Other medical insurance is advised. Any medical expenses will be to the account of the traveler. Be sure to have your coverage extended for one day in France. Good information about insurance while traveling can be found [here](#).

Passport

Should you need to apply for or renew a current passport, please allow adequate time to do so.

VISA & Mastercards are usually useable at bank cash points throughout Britain. Travelers checks can be hard to cash.

Gail Harker's 2014 Tour of The Glories of British Art & Textiles



Yes, I wish to register for Gail Harker's 2014 Tour of the Glories of British Art & Textiles, 3 through 20 October 2014. Pick up of travelers is arranged for 3 Oct.

(please type, or print in block letters)

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Post Code _____

E-mail _____ Phone _____ Fax _____

Work e-mail _____ Work Phone _____

Tour Options - *(please provide us with an individual registration form for each person)*

A. Single Room \$9,948

I am currently a single, but would like a roommate, for a twin room if possible.

B. Twin Room - 2 persons, two single beds (\$8,783 each) \$8,783

I will be rooming with _____

C. Double Room - 2 persons, one double bed \$17,566

Name of second occupant _____

Please find enclosed:

non-refundable deposit of \$25% per person

payment in full for each person registered

Amount enclosed _____ \$ _____

(make all checks payable to Gail Harker Center for Creative Arts)

Credit Cards VISA MasterCard Amount paid \$ _____

Card Number _____ Expires _____ Security Code _____

Signed _____ Date _____

I have read and understand the terms and conditions as outlined in the brochure and hereby agree to all terms and conditions:

Signature required for registration. Please photocopy this form and retain for your records.

Please send to:

**Gail Harker Center for Creative Arts
PO Box 1000
La Conner, WA 98257**

**Phone: (360) 466-0110
Fax: (360) 707-7188
E-mail: gail@gailcreativestudies.com
www.gailcreativestudies.com**



GAIL HARKER'S 2014 TOUR OF THE GLORIES OF BRITISH ART & TEXTILES

The tour covers 17 nights/18 days in order to take in as much as possible. If you are considering taking the 2014 tour with us, give us a call.

For more information, call, e-mail, fax, or write:

**Gail Harker Center for Creative Arts
PO Box 1000
La Conner, WA 98257**

Phone (360) 466-0110

Fax (360) 707-7188

E-mail gail@gailcreativestudies.com

Visit our website at: www.gailcreativestudies.com