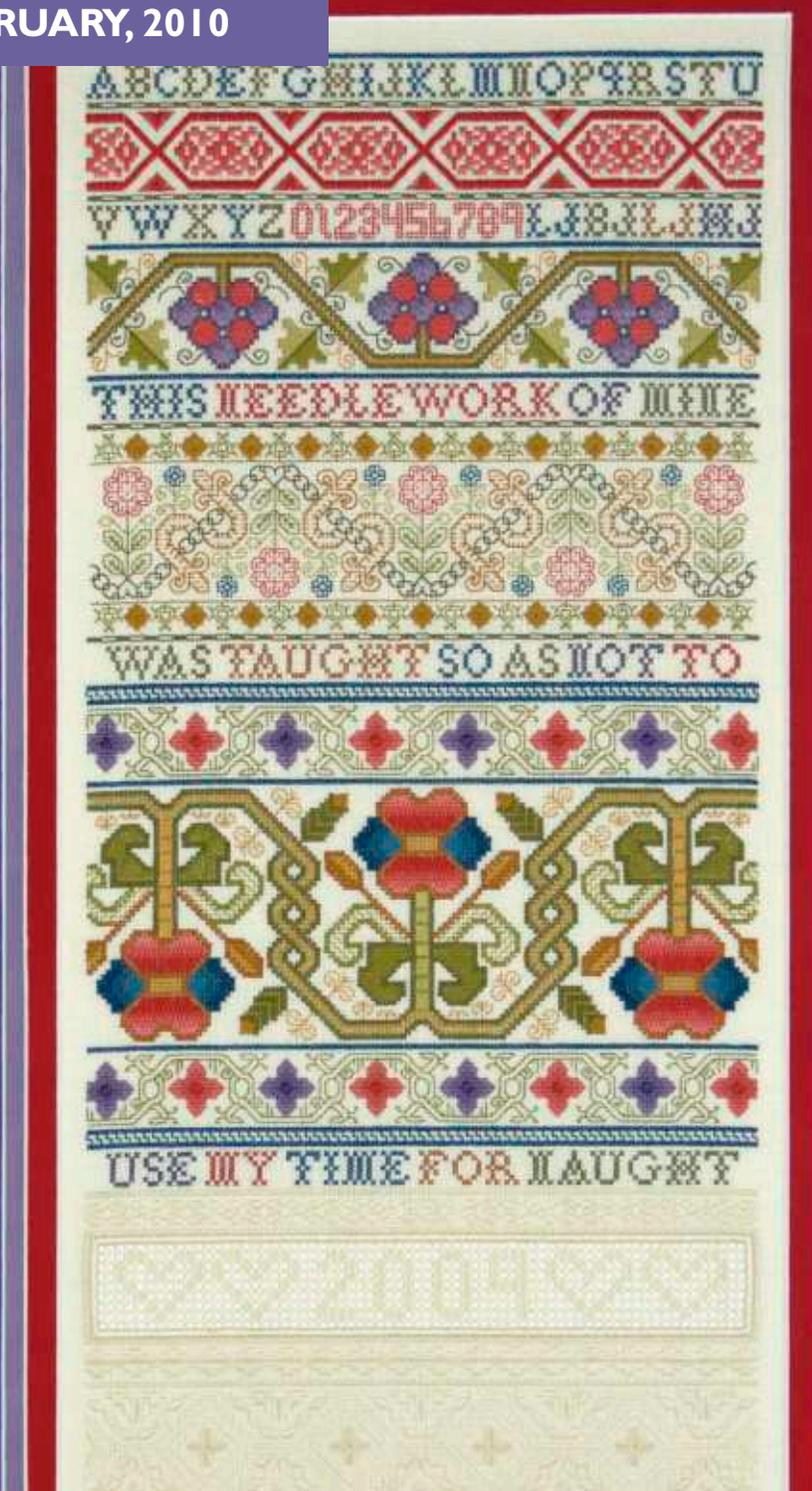


The Stitchers' Voice

IT'S OUR
1st
BIRTHDAY

VOLUME 2 - ISSUE 2
FEBRUARY, 2010



SHOPPE
FOCUS ON
**Stitchers'
Workshop**

WIN!
A \$100 Gift
Certificate

DISCOVER
New
Releases!

HAPPY
Valentine's
DAY!

www.stitchersvillage.com



Time Well Spent is a multi-stitch band sampler, by Diane Jourdan of

Sampler Cove Designs, due for release at the TNNA Nashville Needlework Market this month. Diane has used seventeen different sampler stitches to create a challenging stitching experience.

Stitched on 36 count Cream Edinborough and using 15 shades of Needlepoint Inc. silk threads, the sampler is highlighted by a section of lovely white work and Lacis. Stitch count is 141W x 376H. A conversion for DMC is also included.

For more details on this wonderful sampler, and to see more of Diane's designs go to <http://www.samplercovedesigns.com>

IT'S our first birthday!

That's right! The Stitches' Village turns one on February 17, just after Valentine's Day, and to celebrate I have designed a little 'Birthday Kitty'. You will find the chart on Page 7 and I have also included instructions on how to turn your stitching into a little birthday goodie bag. Hope you enjoy him/her (you decide)!

And talking of Valentines Day ... you MIGHT have noticed that The Stitches' Village has turned rather pink and hearty for the month of February! Jo and I just couldn't help ourselves! And to celebrate Valentine's Day the ever-talented and intrepid Jen Funk Weber has designed a 'I Heart You Earrings' class which is accompanied with The Village's very first 'finishing video' - this is a wonderful video ... so head over to the School house to book in for this 'class on demand' as soon as you can!

Jo and I were deeply saddened by the Haiti disaster last month, so we decided to design a Doctor and Nurse Kitty to raise funds to help the survivors of the earthquake. If you haven't already purchased your own copy of these charts, please do so - all proceeds (after Paypal charges) will be donated and we will have a total for you at the beginning of March.

On a happier note, if you are looking to take yourself off on a little vacation or to treat yourself and a friend to an event or two at a needlework shop close to you, don't forget to visit our newly opened 'Travel Agency'. Turn to Page 10 for more details.

Be your own Valentine this month. Give yourself permission to take some stitching time, make yourself a cup of your favorite tea or coffee (or hot chocolate) and enjoy the meditative effect of stitching on a favorite design for a few hours.

Until next month, take care and happy stitching.

Janie Hubble
Editor

in this issue

3 shoppe in focus

The Stitches' Workshop

9 competition page

6 Needle and Thread

2010 Bookmark Challenge

10 new releases

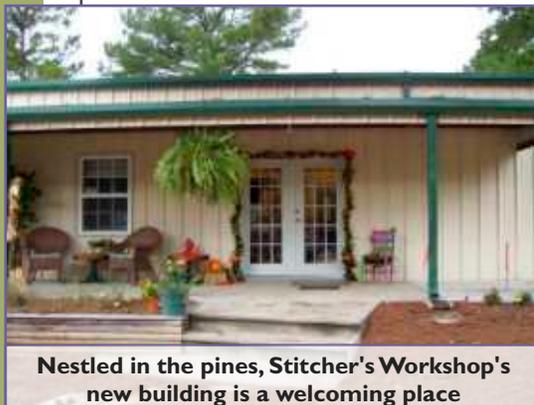
7 Birthday Kitty

FREE CHART

These Village Shoppes have been busy changing their window displays ... why not head on over to see what they have in store!
Laurel's Stitchery
Lazy Daisy Stitchery
Salty Yarns

THE STITCHERS' VILLAGE shoppe FOCUS

The STITCHER'S WORKSHOP



Nestled in the pines, Stitcher's Workshop's new building is a welcoming place

The Stitcher's Workshop began in a 460 square foot Carriage House in a small town in South Carolina in 1995. From that beginning it has grown to more than 2800 square feet in a building all its own, again in a small town, Norphlet, Arkansas.

The shop features a large classroom with wonderful natural lighting, a frame department where stitched pieces are enhanced with beautiful framing and

finishing, and a well lit and well stocked sales area.

Almost from the beginning, Pat, with the help of husband Bill Dugan, identified a market and has positioned the shop as a Guild shop, catering to the needs of the major needlework guilds in the US. The Stitcher's Workshop specializes in presenting the Boutique at National and Regional Seminars. This means that you'll find products from painted canvases to cross stitch patterns, DMC to Rainbow Gallery to YLI, hand dyed fabrics to Zweigart orange line canvas, plus all the toys and tools you could possible want in stock at the Stitcher's Workshop.



Good lighting and lots of room are features of the classroom, and like these students, you can always take a break in the shop.



Find all your Christmas stitching needs in the Christmas Room.

So although the shop is in a small town, it is not a small town shop, it's inventory is a big city shop inventory with most everything stitchers need available with a few clicks or a phone call.

Because stash enhancement is so important to today's stitcher, Stitcher's Workshop offers Collector's Clubs in threads, in cross stitch series, and in needlepoint lines. These clubs allow the collector to acquire their favorite
(cont'd over page)

THE STITCHERS' VILLAGE shoppe FOCUS

products with just one order and bring surprise packages to the mailbox on a regular basis. What fun this is!

A unique feature of Stitcher's Workshop is Bill Dugan's woodworking talent. In 2002 Stitcher's Workshop introduced the industry's first eased edge, sanded stretcher bars in both $\frac{3}{4}$ " and $\frac{1}{2}$ "



Bill Dugan is our hero at Seminar, he organizes, carries, and unpacks all with a big smile!



Beautiful boxes are a specialty at Stitcher's Workshop

sizes and stitchers took to them immediately! Last year Bill designed a custom box for shop models and the demand was on. You can see the boxes and stretcher bars on the website or contact the shop for a custom designed creation for your piece.

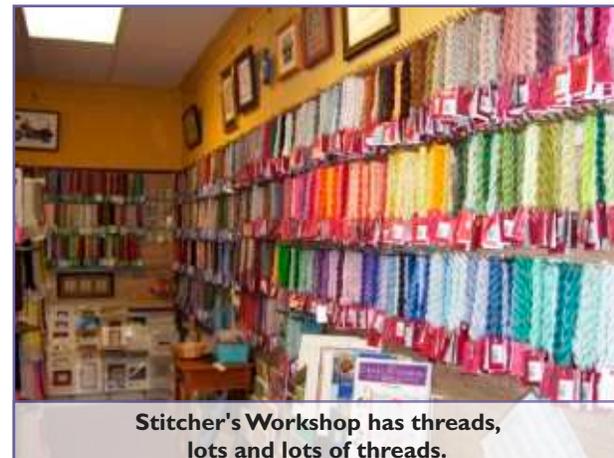
A couple of years ago, Rhonda joined the Dugans at Stitcher's Workshop and offers outstanding customer

service when she's on the floor and incredible finishing talent and creativity when she's sewing up customer's creations. Her custom finishing is a service Stitcher's Workshop is very proud of.

Pat's love of needlework and needleworkers keeps her searching out new products and Bill's love of woodworking keeps him creating new and exciting designs to support the needlework community. Together they can help you create the masterpieces you envision.

Stop by the shop or the website to see what they can do for you! The Stitcher's Workshop can be found in Shop 29 in The Stitches' Village.

The Stitcher's Workshop is our competition host for this month ... see Page 9 for all the details.



Stitcher's Workshop has threads, lots and lots of threads.

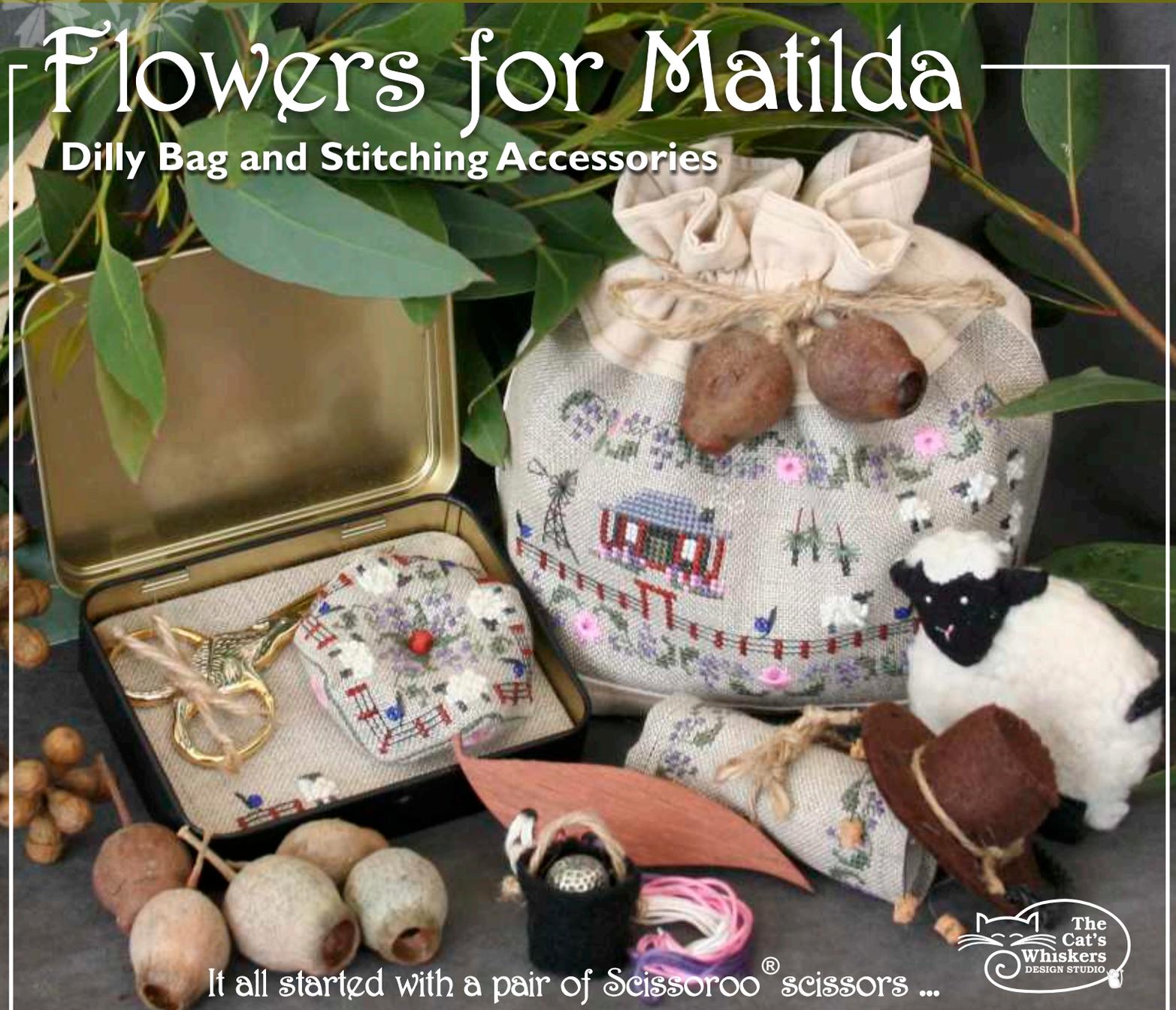
NEEDLE NY-DLE NOO

www.needlenydenoo.com

NEEDLEWORK HOLIDAY
26-28 MARCH, 2010

Flowers for Matilda

Dilly Bag and Stitching Accessories



It all started with a pair of Scissoroo® scissors ...



and is in honour of the women who came from the gentle surroundings of the English countryside to settle on remote sheep stations in the harsh Australian outback.

**PLACES ARE LIMITED!
BOOK NOW TO AVOID
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**Join Us at Nathaniel's Rest in
Mundaring, Western Australia for a
wonderful weekend of stitching.**



The Needle and Thread: Stitching for Literacy

2010 BOOKMARK CHALLENGE at the stitchers' village

by Jen Funk Weber

At the beginning of the 2009-10 school year, I had thirty-three schools/libraries asking to receive bookmarks during the 2010 Bookmark Challenge. The Stitchers' Village has adopted two of these schools. Now we need your help to stitch bookmarks for students.



A student project from the Bookmarks 101 class. Such a creative use of the technique!

These librarians, or library media specialists as they are called today, appreciate our craft and our effort to promote literacy, and they want to share our needlework with their students as a reward for the students' reading. They're enthusiastic, and that enthusiasm will spread to their students. Teachers and students enthusiastic about needlework--how great is that?!

I'm often asked why I started the Stitching for Literacy program. First, I wanted to "do good" with my needlework. We hear of knitters making hats and scarves for homeless people and quilters making quilts for victims of natural disasters. What can an embroiderer do? There is an

inherent usefulness in knitting and quilting that embroidery doesn't have, but I was certain we could find a way to make embroidery useful if we tried.

Second, I am fond of reading and stitching together; that is, listening to my husband read while I stitch. The marriage of embroidery and reading in my life happened long before I started the program.

Finally, I believe that along with proper food, shelter, and healthcare, literacy is vital for a peaceful, happy human existence in this day and age. This is why I'm also a children's author. Literacy fosters awareness and tolerance.

Or, as *jolihen* put it recently in the Tea Shoppe forum, "...it all comes



A project that uses Bookmarks 101 class techniques

down to literacy, which builds confidence and self-worth; equalizes opportunity which begins to close the gap between the "haves" and the "have nots"; and on and on and on."

And so we now have Needle and Thread: Stitching for Literacy and the annual Bookmark Challenge. It's enormously satisfying to use the craft I love to promote something so important, and I hope you will agree.

Two new forums have opened in the Tea Shoppe to help and entertain us as we stitch bookmarks for young readers: a Bookmark Challenge forum

where we can share news, progress, and encouragement; and the Regarding Color forum where we'll be crafting bookmarks from stitched doodles we make as we explore color together. I'm offering a free doodle pattern to anyone willing to explore color and stitch a bookmark. If you haven't been to the Tea Shoppe lately (or yet), maybe now's a good time (nudge, nudge). I hope I'll see you there!

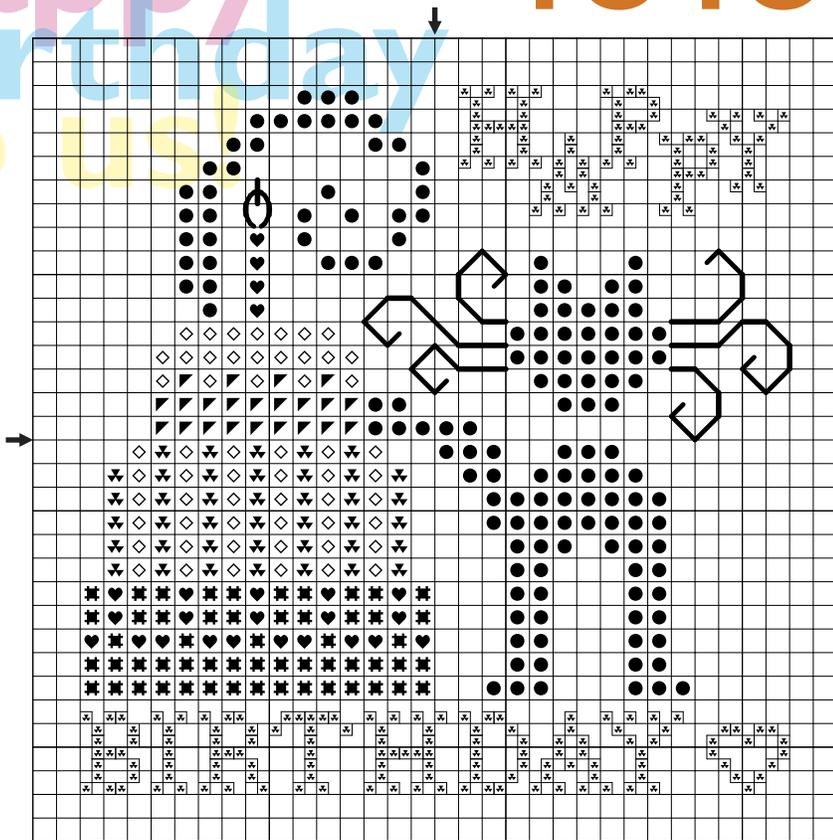


Also in the bookmark vein, the **Bookmarks 101: Simple, Smart, and Swanky Finishes class is running from Feb. 8 - Mar. 8.**

Four techniques expand into dozens of finishing options utilizing simple backstitches, running stitches, overcast stitches, and adhesives. If you have small stitched pieces completed, waiting to be finished, this might be a great way to use them.

Registration is open at the School:
<http://stitchersvillage.org/school.html>

our first birthday gift happy birthday TO YOU



© The Cat's Whiskers Design Studio Pty Ltd

DINKY DYES SILK THREAD

Symbol	Number	Name
▶	49	Tropic Sunshine
✚	58	Kayla's Rose
◇	103	Bougainvillea
♥	106	Billabong
●	119	Kirribilli
✚	121	Bickley Valley
Backstitch	119	Kirribilli (for Kitty's Whiskers)
Lazy Daisy	49	Tropic Sunshine (for Flame on Candle)

STITCHING INFO & INSTRUCTIONS

The Birthday Kitty shown in the picture was stitched using Dinky-Dyes silk floss onto a 6" square of 32 count Belfast linen 'Platinum'.

Design: 30 stitches W x 30 stitches H
Finished Size on 32 count fabric:
1 7/8" square/ 4.8cm square.

Complete all the cross stitches (except for the words) using 2 strands of floss. Complete the flame on the candle using a lazy daisy stitch with 2 strands of floss. Complete the whiskers using back stitch over 2 linen threads, with 1 strand of floss. Complete the words using 'over one' cross stitch, with 1 strand of Kayla's Rose.

MAKING A LITTLE BIRTHDAY GOODIE BAG

Out of a piece of lightweight decorator fabric you will need to cut:
Back: 7 1/4"H x 4 1/4"W
Bottom Front: 2"H x 4 1/4"W
Top Front: 3 3/4"H x 4 1/4"W

Then, cut stitched linen 3 1/2"H x 4 1/4" W with stitching centred in this area. (**Hint** - from the vertical centre measure 2 1/8" to the left, and 2 1/8" to the right, and from the horizontal centre measure 1 3/4" to the bottom and 1 3/4" to the top)

With right sides together line up one Bottom Front long edge to the bottom long edge of the linen piece, and sew together with a 1/2" seam allowance. With right sides together line up one Top Front long edge with the top long edge of the linen piece and sew together with a 1/2" seam. Press seams open, and if you wish, run a decorative line of sewing on the right side 1/4" from the seam on the decorator fabric. (see pic)

With right sides together match all the outside edges of the front and back of the bag together and sew a 1/2" seam around both sides and bottom of bag.

Turn bag out, press, trim top edge with pinking shears, pop in your goodie and tie with colorful ribbon.





Dinky-Dyes



THREADS AND DESIGNS



GLORIOUS NEW COLORS!

We are adding **SIX** new stranded silk colors and **FIVE** new colors in our 4mm and 7mm silk ribbon range!

TINY SCISSORS

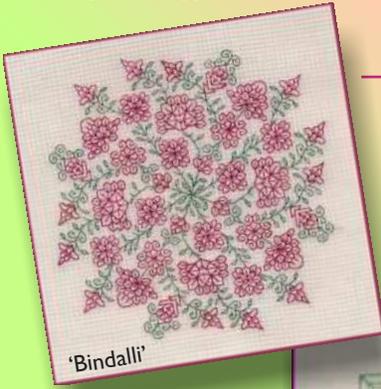
These tiny 2 1/2 inch patterned scissors are a new addition to Dinky-Dyes scissor collection. Lime green and yellow mix with contrasting deep purple, deep blue and teal to create a pretty yet functional and affordable pair of scissors and we have designed a quick stitch scissor case to match. (*Scissors and Scissor Case Silk & Chart Pack sold separately*)



NEW TO NASHVILLE 2010!

SEBA DESIGNS

Two of Six very pretty new designs available ... Lace and Bindalli.



DINKY-DYES 'LUNA PARK' BISCORNU

Purchase the silk pack, and get the chart for free!

NEW TO NASHVILLE 2010

STICKIDEEN VON DER WIEHENBURG

The Singing Mermaid

what's new | in the world of needlework?



New Release from X's and Oh's A-110
Great Life Grad
 DMC floss; Wichelt fabric
 In plenty of time to be stitched before graduation!
 Designer: **Jo Gatenby**

New Release from X's and Oh's T-125

Been Fun / Not Interested
 DMC floss; Wichelt Jobelan
 I can just see these on the walls of our two University student's apartment!
 Designer: **Sandra Parlow**



NEW!
Available
end of
Feb 2010



A blend of traditional and contemporary design, this birth sampler will complement any nursery decor. Blue, pink and bright colour-ways are offered, and days of the week and months of the year are charted to help make this sampler as easy as possible to complete. Worked in whole cross stitches only, this design will be enjoyed by both beginner and more advanced stitchers.

Order from your favorite needlework store

www.thecatswhiskers.net.au

Follow Your Heart
 Birth Sampler
 (in three colour-ways!)

what's happening | at the village shoppes?

We are very excited to announce that **The Stitchers Village Travel Agency** is now **OPEN FOR BUSINESS!**

You will find the Travel Agency in the blue building with the bright red door located next door to the Newspaper Office ... and when you click on the door you will be directed to the Customer Destination Board (just like at the airport).

This is where you will find information about classes, events and happenings being held all over the world.

So ... from now on, if you want to know what's happening at The Village Shoppes, or are looking for a special stitching weekend away pop into The Travel Agency and be inspired!

You will never again be like our gorgeous little old lady ... all packed up with nowhere to go!

