

North Kent Embroiderers

Hello Everybody,

Today's talk and slide show was given by Mary Kitson, Museum Curator at the Fan Museum, Greenwich. She focussed on fans from the mid 18th Century to the mid 19th Century and we learnt some fascinating information about the way fans were used. Often the decoration on fans of this period was used as a conversation starter. Consequently subjects covered included themes of a political nature. Mary told us about a variety of different fans, using the terminology 'sticks', 'leaf', 'guard' and 'gorge'. She explained how some fans were used by ladies to protect their faces from the heat of an open fire which would have melted the wax cosmetics in vogue at that time. Fans have been in use for centuries; the Egyptians, Greeks and Romans all had their own styles of fans. In the UK The Worshipful Company of Fanmakers is one of the Livery Companies of the City of London. It was incorporated by a Royal Charter in 1709. It was so good to have Mary with us to share the benefit of her knowledge and experience. Fans are of course, often an integral part of costume and its embellishment, so as embroiderers the talk was of great interest.

If you would like to join our group or would just like to find out a bit more about us then please look at our website <https://northkentembroiderers.co.uk/> or email us at: info@northkentembroiderers.co.uk or contact our Chairman, Eileen Tuff on 01474 324734
Happy stitching, Karen

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