



Paper + Thread

3-8 June '26

Wheatbelt Arts Hub is pleased to launch a new annual workshop program for fibre and related arts, in the historic Wheatbelt town of York, Western Australia.

Paper + Thread offers a comprehensive schedule led by Australia's leading practitioners, suitable for both experienced artists and beginners. The series includes 2- and 4-day workshops, allowing participants to learn a range of techniques, mediums and processes to enhance their own creative practice.

Workshops run from 9:00 to 16:00 daily and include morning tea, lunch and afternoon tea.

2 day workshops: 3-4 June 2026 \$490pp (excluding accommodation)

4 day workshops: 5-8 June 2026 \$720pp (excluding accommodation)

Any 2 & 4 day workshops: \$1100pp (excluding accommodation)

Early bird opens March 22. Early bird discount:

2 day workshops: 3-4 June 2026 \$400pp (excluding accommodation).

4 day workshops: 5-8 June 2026 \$630pp (excluding accommodation).

Any 2 & 4 day workshops: \$920pp (excluding accommodation).

Book & Pay Early Bird by 20 April. Book here

Participants may arrange accommodation with their registration (spaces limited so be quick) or book separately through local providers (details on our website). A long-table dinner on Thursday 4 June offers a relaxed opportunity to connect with other participants and tutors. Cost \$65pp (byo alcohol)

York's self-catering options abound, with supplies available at local outlets such as The Good Life and IGA. There are a range of cafés, hotels in York, and in neighbouring towns (Spencers Brook, Northam, Toodyay and Beverley).

York's heritage is central to the experience—the Town Hall and numerous buildings designed by renowned architect George Temple-Poole buildings (the Post Office, Courthouse, old hospital, school and railway station) offering a window to some of York's history. Attendees can also enjoy views from Wongborel (Mt Brown) or explore the Avon River, the Bushland Garden, and the River Conservation Society's Environmental Discovery Centre.

Cancellation policy

Before 20 April - 80% refund

Before 1 May - 50% refund

After 2 May - 0% refund

WAEi reserves the right to cancel workshop if minimum enrolment is not reached by 17th May. If a workshop is cancelled, participants will be offered places in other workshops or a full refund if preferred.

Paper + Thread is a project of Wheatbelt Arts & Events, a not-for-profit association that runs *The York Festival*, *Ballardong First* and other community arts initiatives.



Stitching nature

Explore how to draw with thread rather than pencil, using hand embroidery and appliqué to capture the shapes, textures and colours of native plants. Working from carefully observed still-life arrangements, you'll learn how stitch can become a form of sketching – expressive, intuitive and deeply connected to place.

We begin with simple stitching exercises, creating thread sketches over appliquéd fabric shapes to build confidence with line, form and composition. From there, you'll develop a series of stitched studies inspired by foliage, blossoms and natural still-life groupings.

As the workshop progresses, you'll move toward a resolved final artwork – a detailed stitched still life or portrait. Through layered appliqué, considered fabric choices and expressive hand stitching, you'll build depth, colour and emotional resonance within your piece. The gentle rhythm of slow stitching creates space to truly observe your subject and develop a meaningful connection to the work.

This immersive workshop is ideal for makers who feel more at home with a needle than a pencil and for anyone wanting to deepen their observational skills through textile practice.

Materials Fee: \$15pp paid direct to tutor.

Materials List

- Large Embroidery ring, at least 20cms
- Smaller embroidery ring for quick thread sketches (I will have extra if you don't have any)
- Photos of native foliage and blossom
- Densely woven plain fabric in natural fibre (calico, linen etc) to fit the frame.
- Fabric pieces for appliquéing the fabrics (as many patterns and colours as you like)
- vliesofix approx 30cms <https://www.spotlightstores.com/sold-by-the-metre/plain-vliesofix-fabric/BP80071577001> (I will have extra sheets to buy if needed)
- Embroidery threads (stranded threads, textured threads, all colours, especially your favourites)
- Embroidery needles
- Fabric markers or erasable pens
- Scissors
- Beads for added embellishment (optional)
- Thimble if you use one
- Several sheets of tracing paper
- Pencils and notebook
- Quick grip clamp from a hardware shop to clamp your frame to the table (optional, but very useful)



Susie Vickery

Susie's career centres on embroidery and textiles, both practical and academic. Her core skills were developed over twenty years as a costumier for theatre and film. In this time, she has built expertise in two further areas: development work and fine art embroidery.

She has extensive experience of rural and refugee development projects for women, particularly in the area of handicrafts and costume in Nepal, Tibet, Myanmar, Turkey and India. For more than ten years has been designing and developing toys, dolls and other handicrafts for a Tibetan income generation project in China. Most recently she worked with York's Noongar community on the art installation 'Mooley the Cow & Other Ballardong Yarns'.

She is a Fellow of the Society of Designer Craftsmen, UK

Website: <https://www.susievickery.com>
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