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Contact: Robert McCaffrey
robert@handembroidery.com
0207 580 7488
Hand & Lock
86 Margaret Street
London, W1W 8TE



## The New Look Hand & Lock

With one eye on our heritage and the other on the continued evolution of the art of hand embroidery, we at Hand & Lock, have embarked on a studio redesign.

Over the 2013 Christmas and New Year break we were grafting away in our Margaret Street Studio creating a 21st Century working space. The new cleaner layout was designed by new Production Director <u>Jessica Jane Pile</u> to help the embroiderers and designers work more effectively.

Asked what prompted the redesign Jessica says that she wanted 'to bring new ideas into the mix and maximise the potential in the new younger talent the company has employed'. With an ever growing demand for high end design services as well as high tech machine embroidery the team and the customers will benefit from the restructure.

New desks, computers and storage are the first priorities along with the essential reorganisation of the thousands of draughts stored in the studio. 'The Margaret Street Studio was in danger of becoming a museum rather than a working Atelier, this reorganisation puts us back on track'.

The studio comprises of four work areas:

The main 'Workroom' is the hub of daily activity. With two large tables, ample storage, large windows and of course the talented hand embroidery team.

The 'Design Office' is where the team draw up design drafts, do every day admin and digitise designs on Wilcom software.

The 'Military Office' is the home of thousands of civil and military badges, laces and cords for military, theatrical and civilian use. Hand & Lock also produce accoutrements for the Royal household and for the overseas military.

Finally the 'Bead Room' is a meeting area and the home of hundreds of thousands of sequins, seed beads and embroidery samples.

## **ENDS**

## Editors Notes:

Hand & Lock have been producing the world's finest hand embroidery since 1767. From Civilian and Military Regalia through to Ecclesiastical and Couture, they specialise in bespoke, individually crafted embroidery.

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