

# The complete Christmas

Part 2 - January/February 2001



# Angels on duty



If you are feeling in an angelic frame of mind, Mandy Shaw has several ideas using folk art angels. All are simple enough to sew in a few hours or less.

Don't think angels are only for Christmas. This small wall hanging would be great all year round as an angelic influence on family life or as a lovely gift for friends, newly weds, and new homes.

## Method

**1** Cut calico into a piece 6 x 9" and a 6" circle. After making a pot of tea, add more hot water to the teapot. Pop the 6 x 9" piece in and remove after about 30 minutes for a gentle tea dyed fabric. It's a good idea to warn your family, especially if they like a second cuppa! Leave to dry and press.

**2** Trace or draw the angel face (Fig 1) in the middle of the calico circle with the Pigma pens (use blusher for the rosy cheeks). Sew a running stitch around the outside edge of the circle. Gather up into a Suffolk puff and stuff with a little wadding (Fig 2). Secure the thread. (The puff is attached to the quilt so that the open side is hidden). The face should measure about 2<sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub>" in diameter.

**3** Tie the raffia in the middle with a strand. Holding the centre tightly, use a large sharp needle to split the raffia, so that it becomes finer. Glue the hair to the head and trim to get a neat hairstyle.

## Materials for wall quilt

### Based on 115cm fabric

- ❖ 20cm of calico
- ❖ Scraps of red fabric for borders
- ❖ Fat 1/8 of green fabric for backing and binding
- ❖ 25cm of wadding
- ❖ 20cm square of brushed fabric or felt for wings
- ❖ Pigma pens, black and red
- ❖ Raffia, approx 30 strands 20cm long
- ❖ Flower embroidery thread (or top stitching thread)
- ❖ 20cm of lace
- ❖ 2 buttons to decorate
- ❖ 20cm (8") metal quilt hanger
- ❖ Glue gun

**Finished size:** 9 x 12" (22 x 30cm)  
**Skill level:** Beginners / intermediate

**4** Using the template in Fig 1 (called Fabric wings), cut two wings from the fabric / felt and one from the wadding. Trim the wadding so that it is about 1/4" smaller than the felt. Make a sandwich of the three layers and sew around the edge, in a blanket stitch using embroidery thread.

**5** Gather up the lace and glue under the angel's chin. Glue the head over the centre of the wings. If you like you can sew a couple of small buttons onto the wings.

**6** Cut borders from the red fabric, two 2 x 6" and two 2 x 12". Sew the short borders to the top and bottom of the tea dyed

calico. Press. Repeat with the remaining side borders. (As an alternative you can use strips left over from another project and sew around the calico in a log cabin fashion).

**7** Trace 'Angel on duty!' onto the calico. Cut a piece of wadding and backing 10 x 13". Layer the quilt sandwich and pin. Using embroidery thread, embroider the words in a neat running stitch. Quilt inside the border.

**8** Sew two buttons at the top of the quilt if you wish.



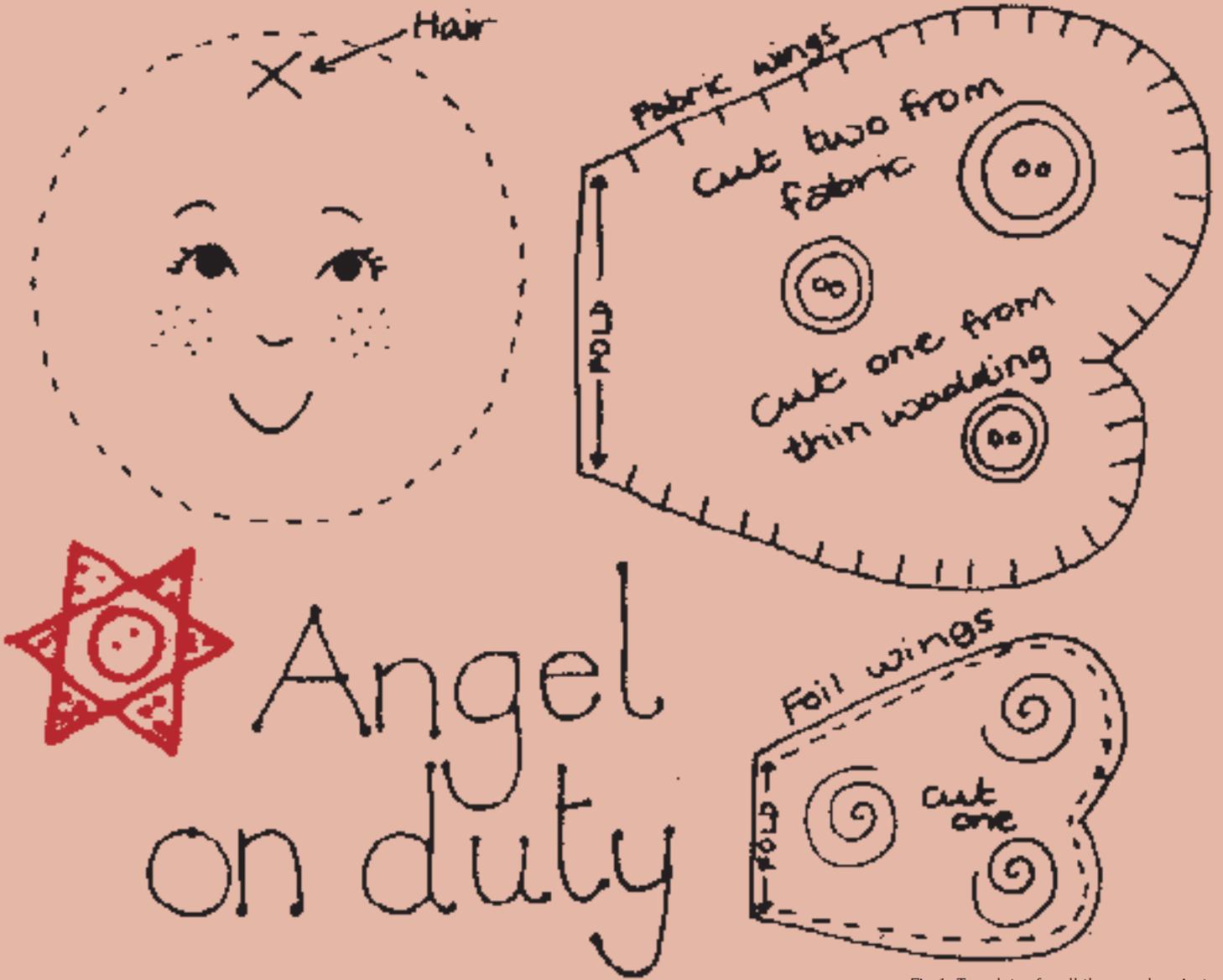


Fig 1. Templates for all the angel projects

Reverse of Head

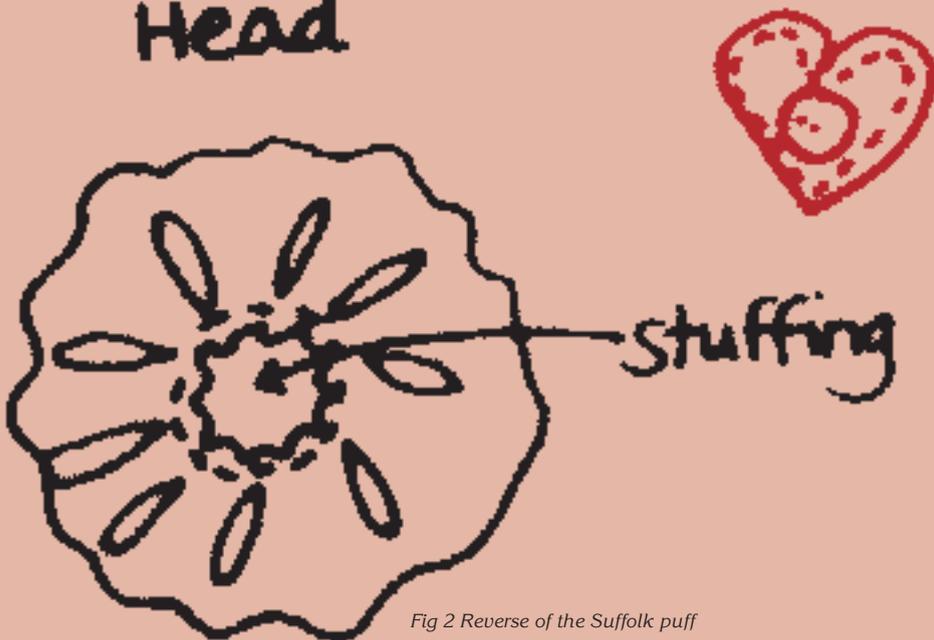


Fig 2 Reverse of the Suffolk puff

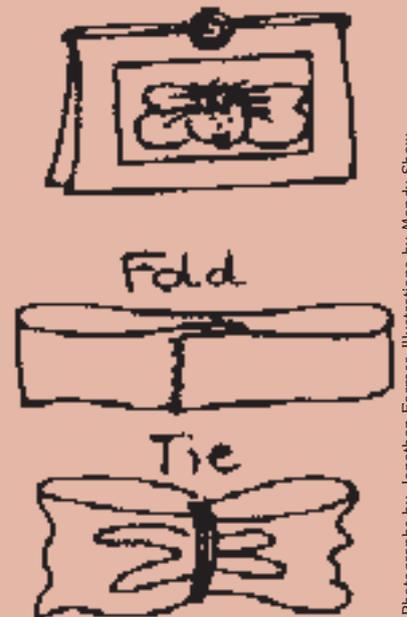


Fig 3. Using wire edged ribbon

Photographs by Jonathan Farmer. Illustrations by Mandy Shaw.

