

OAST POST

OAST QUILTERS' NEWSLETTER

Volume 13

www.oastquilters.co.uk

Number 3 – May 2011

TODAY'S MEETING CAROLYN FORSTER "How I got here today"

Thank you to our hostesses:
Blockmakers and Jo Blox

Today's Traders:

The next meeting will be on:
Saturday 8th July 2010
When Ferret asks....
"Quilter? Artist? Lunatic?"
Doors open at 2.00pm
Hostesses: Pieceful Patchers and
Pumpkin Patchers

Ferret came to quilting via an unconventional route, starting out life as a rocket scientist with degrees in physics and astrophysics, followed by a stint as a computer programmer before finally settling down as a professional quilter.

Ignoring those who told her she would never be able to make a living out of it, she went ahead and did it anyway, and now finds herself with a packed schedule, quilting for customers as well as teaching and speaking to quilt groups around the country.

She tries to do a bit of everything, and not only enjoys making traditional quilts, but has also repaired teddy bears, bound sword hilts for a local blacksmith, and made bullet-proof vests and silk negligees for race cars. However, she is probably best known for her art quilts, which have won awards both in the UK and internationally. When not quilting, she can often be found at a drag strip, a hobby which started out purely as a spectator, but these days she is more commonly found helping the race teams in the pits. She considers Scandinavia to be a home from home and visits as often as funds and workload allow. She lives in London with a long-suffering boyfriend in a house packed full with fabric, along with large collections of books, cats, cars and motorbikes. Most of her work can be seen at www.ferbab.co.uk She also has a very interesting blog –where you certainly get a feel for her hectic and diverse lifestyle!

Workshop with Carolyn Forster Sunday 8 May

Unless there have been some recent cancellations, this work-shop is completely full – sorry.

Members' Workshop Saturday 4 June 2011 Lower Hardres Village Hall

Marion Fox will be the tutor for this workshop which will be from 10.00am to 4.00pm and will cost £15.00. She is teaching a version of "Stack and Whack", which will be fun for all abilities. If you would like to book a place, please speak to Sharyn Hutchings, or email her at Sharyn.Hutchings@virgin.net

Programme for 2012

Belinda Jeffries, our Programme Secretary, is working hard to provide us with yet another wonderful and varied programme of speakers. She let the committee know that all being well, Barbara Weeks, Sandra Meech and Lynne Quinn are booked so far.

Meeting Times

The Committee is concerned that a number of members are arriving very early for each meeting. As shown on the programme, the doors are not due to open until 2.00pm. This is because we need to give the traders plenty of time to set up their stalls. Sometimes it can be a frantic scramble for them to get ready especially if they feel they are being harassed by potential customers. The hostesses also need time to get everything sorted out. The only people in the hall before opening time should be those who have a job to do! As the doors do not open until 2.00pm, you may end up queuing out of doors in the cold and wet – much better to stay in your car.

Along the same lines, please do not turn up too soon to workshops either! The hall is open from 9.30am – but that is so that the tutor can get in and get set up before the students come at 9.45am. Fifteen minutes should be enough for everyone to grab a table, get their things in from the car and set up a sewing machine.

Oast Quilters' Silver Jubilee

Oast Quilters will have been in existence for a full 25 years this year! To celebrate we are asking members to wear something silvery (silver shoes, a silvery scarf, a silver belt – whatever you fancy!) for the Open Day in September.

Young Oast

Young Oast members will be making a book cover at their next workshop on **Saturday 11 June, from 10.00am – 3.00pm at Ripple Village Hall**. If you would like your youngster to come, please get them to bring a book or folder they want to cover, lunch, a sewing machine and a standard sewing kit. To book, and for more information, please ring either Tracy (01304 363401), or Sandra (01227 792944).

From Cathy Northcutt

Unfortunately I am unable to attend the May meeting, but I would like to thank everyone who voted for my small wall hanging for the Christmas competition. I was really surprised with such keen competition.

Grateful thanks, Cathy Northcutt.

From the Founder of the Pancreatic Cancer Research Fund

Thank you for your recent letter and donation cheque for £1,000 from the Oast Quilters of Kent. We were delighted to receive the donation, although disappointed that we could not meet your members in person because of the severe weather.

This is a wonderful contribution to our work for which we are enormously grateful. It will help to further the much-needed research into pancreatic cancer that can give future patients a better chance. The charity is dedicated to improving the current 3% survival rate and ultimately defeating the disease. With the support of donors we are able to fund innovative research projects throughout the UK focused on early detection and more effective treatments.

Five new research projects funded by PCRF will shortly get underway, including ones at Imperial College and King's College London, so the money raised by your members will be well used. Please pass on our sincere thanks for their generosity and support.

Yours sincerely, Maggie Blanks, Founder.

From Ann Plumb

Would anyone have a copy of, 'Slice em and Dice Em', by Nancy Brenan Daniel they wish to sell? Please let me know the price and condition on 01795 479994 or by email: annplumb@yahoo.co.uk

From Daisy Rudnick

A couple of years ago fellow quilters helped me make purple strips with the names of people who had Alzheimer's disease. I sent them to a project in the States and you can now see what was done with them via this link: <http://aaquupdate.wordpress.com/>

Exhibitions

Friday 6 May – Wednesday 11 May The Old Fire Station Gallery, Upper Market Place, Henley-on-Thames RG9 2AQ

The Music in My Mind

An exhibition of textiles by Lynne Seaman and Delia Salter. Inspired by songs they wake up to, songs they love, songs they grew up with. See how the music of Frank Sinatra, Eva Cassidy and Paul Weller looks in fabric and stitch. Each of their main works has two smaller pieces to complement them.

10.00am – 4.00pm. Free entry. Disabled access.

Thursday 19 May – Monday 30 May The Horsebridge Centre, Whitstable

A Touch of Colour

An exhibition by nine Kent artists, seven of whom are painting artists, one textile artist (**Louise Jessup**) and a ceramic artist.

The galleries are open from 9.00am – 6.00pm.
For more information ring 01227 281174

Tuesday 24 to Saturday 28 May The Mall Galleries, The Mall, London SW1 **"Up close::in detail"**

An exhibition of textile inspired art
Tuesday to Thursday 10.00am – 6.00pm
Saturday 10.00am - 4.00pm

<http://www.prismtextiles.co.uk/index.html>

Saturday 25 – Sunday 26 June
The Church of St. Mary and St. Ethelburga,
Lyminge

As part of Lyminge Festival, **Ethelburga Quilters** will be putting on an exhibition of quilts, wall-hangings and other quilted items in this magnificent and ancient church.

10.00am – 5.00pm, Sunday 11.45am – 4.30pm.

Free admission, demonstrations.

Plenty for the rest of the family to do, including visiting a flower festival (in the Methodist Church) and a Garden Safari.

More information from Liz Coleman 01303 863197 or liz.coleman@virgin.net

Tuesday 5 July – Wednesday 6 July
Alexander Centre, Preston Street, Faversham
Quay Quilters' Quilt Show

In aid of Pilgrims' Hospice

Tuesday 10.00am - 5.00pm & 6.00pm – 9.00pm,

Wednesday 10.00am – 4.00pm

Admission £2.50

Refreshments - lunches - trader

raffle - tombola sales

Details from M Cunningsworth 01227 453460

Saturday 27 to Monday 29 August
St George's Church Hall, High Street, Deal
Dragonfly Quilters of Deal will be holding their

5th Exhibition of Quilts and Wallhangings

Saturday 10am - 5pm, Sunday 10am - 5pm,

Monday 10am - 4pm.

Easy access for the disabled.

For further details please contact Tracy Aplin on 01304 363401

Saturday 1 October
Hawkinge Village Hall, Canterbury Road,
Hawkinge
Hawkinge Patchwork Group Bi-Annual
Exhibition

Free Admission, refreshments available, raffle, sales table with hand-made gifts, demonstrations, fabric trader.

For further information please contact Sandy Buckley on 01303 892805

Website

Have a look at the following website which takes you to the Welsh Quilt Centre and all sorts of wonderful things!

www.jen-jones.com

News from the Quilters' Guild of the British Isles

Contemporary Quilt Banner

Contemporary Quilt Group is open to members of the QG who are interested in creating contemporary work through the medium of the quilt. Members have recently completed a banner to hang in the foyer at the Quilt Museum and Gallery in York in rotation with other Regions and Specialist Groups. Many members helped, but the main bulk of the work was done by Margaret Cooter in designing and scaling up of the blocks and producing the kits and Hilary Gooding for putting it together. The design was derived by cutting up and rearranging the CQ logo. The original black and hot pink colour scheme was added to with lime green, orange and turquoise. The result is a very contemporary banner!

Childhood Memories

A collection of 47 quilts recording personal memories of childhood has been collated. This "suitcase" collection of A3-sized quilts is available for hire over the next three years. The hire cost is £70, which includes delivery and collection. Astrid Stimson, a member of Oast Quilters, has a fascinating genealogical entry in the collection. If your group is interested in hiring the collection, please contact the Quilters' Guild of the British Isles on 01904 613242.

Further information on both the above can be found on www.contemporaryquilt.org.uk This is a very intriguing website and worth browsing.

Exhibition at the Quilt Museum and Gallery,
St. Anthony's Hall, Peasholme Green, York
'Celebrations'

Quilts made to mark special events in life
Saturday 7 May – Monday 29 August
Open Monday – Saturday 10.00am – 4.00pm
This will include wedding (including the famous wedding dress made by Amy Emms) and christening gowns as well as special quilts.

Reminder

Liz Coleman edits Oast Post again. If you have anything for inclusion in the Newsletter, for instance, items for sale, interesting websites you've seen, exhibition reviews – or an exhibition to advertise – please let Liz have the item by the committee meeting before the Oast meeting at which Oast Post is published. This is usually a couple of Mondays before the meeting. Send to Liz.Coleman@virgin.net, telephone 01303 863197, or post to Sunny Cottage, Canterbury Road, Lyminge, Nr. Folkestone CT18 8HU

Quilt Art at 25

Whenever I visit my native North Yorkshire, I try to visit the Quilt Museum in York. A recent exhibition was "Quilt Art at 25". "Quilt Art" is an international group of 20 textile artists, and they celebrated their 25th anniversary with an exhibition which demonstrated its diversity of inspiration, artistic and technical skills. Like a lot of art, some stimulated, some left me cold – and some I absolutely loved. I asked one of the Stewards to let me see the price list – let's say they were mostly well out of reach of my pocket! I've only highlighted a few of the exhibits here.

Of all the items in the exhibition, three pieces by Sandra Meech, "Meltdown 1, 2 and 3" appealed to me. Inger Hueber's, "Broadstairs" will be familiar to most members of Oast Quilters and had a similar appeal to Karina Thompson's, "After Summer 1", which seemed to be a very shaggy chenille effect suggesting the fall of autumn leaves.

Sometimes you like an artwork – but wouldn't give it house room – but other times, you find something which you think would hang well at home; the Roses triptych by Bethan Ash would be lovely to own. I also found Janet Twinn's, "Marking Time" delightful; the curved quilting completely transformed the simple crazy-patched blocks.

Interesting to look at, but perhaps not to have (!) would be five panels of different widths entitled, Friesian Landscape, which the artist said was the landscape of her childhood (a rather flat, uniform and dark one, in that case!). Similarly Ann Fahy's "Forest", six panels of manipulated, painted, stitched and padded work was intriguing, but dark. Charlotte Yde's work, "Dialogue 1; Sharia vs Democracy" was very thought provoking and I wished she was there to tell me more about her thought processes.

The "Averil Colby Legacy" was also available to see. The items in the Averil Colby display seemed to change during the span of the exhibition (I'd been on a previous occasion) so it was still worth a wander around. What a lot of hexagons! What a lot of patience!

Liz Coleman

The Fabric Fairy



New Website now open! www.thefabricfairy.co.uk



For full details contact: Andy & Michelle Cooper

Email: Cooperandy31@aol.com

Tel: 01304 830474

or check out *The Fabric Fairy* shop on

Fancy a Quilting Retreat in France?

Have a look at www.thereallybigdreamcompany.com

This is a relatively new venture in the gorgeous Burgundy region of France and features two familiar quilters (amongst the other offerings) - Christine Porter and Liz Coleman.