

OAST POST

OAST QUILTERS' NEWSLETTER

Volume 14

www.oastquilters.co.uk

Number 1 – January 2012



TODAY'S MEETING **CORNERS**

Traders: Fabric Fairy and Smart Frog

Thank you to our hostesses:
Aldington and Independent Members

CORNERS



There will be four sessions. When you choose your tickets you will need one from the "1" pile, one from the "2's", one from the "3's" and one from the "4's". They'll be colour-coded. So, you might choose (for instance) 1H, 2E, 3C and 4A. The "corners" will be placed in roughly alphabetical order. Some may be 'out of order' depending on access to electricity. We have arranged to place 25 chairs around each corner so that you do not have to move them. Once you have finished at a corner – just get up and leave your chair behind. The chairs we use are comfortable – but heavy, please be very careful.

You may be provided with an information sheet at each corner you attend. Please take only one copy. After the corners sessions any excess will be put out so that you can take instructions from any corner you were unable to attend. Please do not take multiple copies and also be very aware that the sheets are the intellectual property of the authors – so please, no photocopying without permission.

Please choose four ONLY from the following list.

- | | |
|------------------------------|--|
| A. Rosemary Crippen | A Post-it notebook |
| B. Marion Fox | Orphan blocks and zipping by the mile |
| C. Mary Cunningsworth | Mary's magic triangles |
| D. Cathy Northcutt | Square in a square (sort of) |
| E. Liz Coleman | Back Art |
| F. Sylvie Plested | Waddings for machine and hand quilting |
| G. Patty Schroll | Making yo-yo dolls – all sizes! |
| H. Sharyn Hutchings | Joining quilt as you go |

NEXT MEETING - 3 March 2012

Hostesses: Barn Owls

Sandra Meech - Arctic Expressions

Originally from Ontario Canada, Sandra trained as a graphic artist and designer at the Ontario College of Art in Toronto. After a career in publishing both in Canada and the UK, she completed a Diploma in Stitched Textiles in Britain, fulfilling an early interest in an artistic approach using fabric and stitch.

As part of her research for the course she discovered the textiles and clothing of the Caribou Inuit in Northern Canada and it was this fascination with the Arctic landscape, and these northern people and their traditions that led to a visit to Baker Lake and Rankin Inlet and a series of work called **Arctic Expressions**.

Photography, art and architecture have also inspired themes in recent work. The places where she lives, works and holidays have been explored in **Journeys**, including diary writings, photos transferred onto cloth - the high rise buildings, churches and holiday homes visited in the last few years.

Another theme, still based on buildings, **Within 4 Walls**, addresses issues of protection, security, containment and inspiration - how walls can be a haven for some, but a prison for others.

Endangered forests in the **Near North** series show how the threat of urban development and pollution has affected the trees we love. Recently her thoughts have drifted back to patterns of ice and icebergs and the continued theme of climate change. Her latest work, called **Meltdown** revisits the blues and greys of the changing landscape of glaciers and their retreat because of global warming.

Transferring photographs onto cotton, with painted fabric and collage has been her favoured technique over the years, but imagery isn't enough. The use of light and shade with machine quilting and stitch are the 'marks' that bring the surface to life.

Sandra Meech's two-day workshop

Art to Stitch

will be held on
4 and 5 March 2012

At Lower Hardres Village Hall

10.00am – 4.00pm on both days

The cost is £40.00 + £9.00 for materials

Please see Stephanie Bunt for more information

Tel: 01233 641073

Email: bingham.bunts635@btinternet.com

The Next In-House Workshop

Will be held on Sunday 12 February 2012

At Lower Hardres Village Hall

10.00am – 4.00pm

Cost is £15.00

Marion Fox will be guiding you through some hints and tips to improve your machine quilting. Please see samples available at today's meeting.

Please see Sharyn Hutchings for more information

Tel: 01227 791856

Email: sharyn.hutchings@virgin.net

Quilters' Guild of the British Isles "Work Your Blues Away"

At Lower Hardres Village Hall

Saturday 24 March 2012

10.00am – 4.00pm

Cost is £5.00 to cover expenses

A half-square triangle workshop making quilts for teenage boys. Blue and white check and dark blue fabric will be provided. Please bring along a selection of brights to mix in.

Usual sewing equipment needed. Refreshments available all day, but bring a packed lunch.

RAFFLE

Further details from Margaret Walter (01304 372113) or Anne Mole (01304 204107).

Change to the Schedule

If you had sight of the preliminary schedule you would have been expecting a talk by Jenny Barlow at our May meeting. Regrettably she is not able to attend, so Sally Stott is coming instead. Her talk is, "Depression Era Quilts" and her workshop will be "Dear Jane" – blocks from the book. She will teach the best techniques of hand sewing. We were able to make the change on the programme card in the nick of time!

Change of Venue for one meeting ONLY

Owing to a wedding reception booking, the Simon Langton School is unable to accommodate us on **Saturday 7 July 2012**. They did offer the sixth form common room, but it is not big enough. We are hoping to go back to St. Anselm's School, even though we will not be able to use their kitchen facilities to make a hot drink – but we thought that members wouldn't mind a cold drink in the middle of summer (this will guarantee that it will be cold and rainy!!). Please watch out for a further announcement. Your Group Representative will be kept fully informed.

OAST CHALLENGE 2012

Marion Fox, the winner of the 2011 challenge, has provided the 2012 challenge. The title is:

"Kent – the Garden of England"

There is a maximum dimension of no more than 40" along one edge (which means that the item must not be larger than 40" square). You have to make your item (which has to have three layers, connected with stitch) in time for the AGM on 1 December 2012.

Following discussion at the recent Committee Meeting, members are reminded about the voting system for the Challenge:

1. If everyone voted, then there would be little opportunity for a bias to occur and false statistics should be smoothed.
2. Ideally the item to be entered should be made in secret, without other people knowing what it looks like (it's acknowledged that this not always possible).
3. Judging should be done with objectivity and the winning item should be the one which best fits the theme. Descriptions will be attached to the items so that you know a little more about the creative process.
4. There is no compulsion vote for your friend's item out of an obligation!

We hope that there will be plenty of entries to the 2012 Challenge – and will provide reminders during the year! All Group Representatives are asked to remind members to enter.

**Viewing the Pictures of the 2011 Challenge
online at www.Oastquilters.co.uk**

1. Log on and select "Gallery"
2. Click on 2011 Challenge
3. Click on the first picture ("Wedding Anniversaries" by Marion Fox)
4. Click on "start slideshow" at the right hand side – you will now see the eight entries on a continuous loop. The captions are given at the foot of the image.
5. Alternatively, for a longer look, use the left and right arrows on the left hand side

The Library

There will be a book sale at the March meeting. There are 60 old books for and 50 + donated books for sale. If you have any books which you would wish to donate for sale, please let the Librarians have them. All the proceeds will go towards buying new books and DVD's for the Library. This will ensure that our magnificent library stays fresh and moves with the times. Please note that the stock has been reviewed very carefully to make sure any precious, or out of print books are retained.

Rosemary Sprawl

Those who have been members of Oast Quilters for some time will be saddened to hear of the death of Rosemary Sprawl on Thursday 5 January 2012. Our thoughts are with her family and friends.

Hearing Loop

The Committee has yet again looked into the provision of a hearing loop for the deaf (to which they can "tune in" using a facility on their hearing aids). The hall at the Simon Langton does not have a loop and we researched into the purchase of a loop. We found that a portable loop is really only suitable for one-to-one conversation and anything else was neither practical nor affordable. We would like to encourage members who are hard of hearing to come and sit at the front of the room – we know that people would be more than happy to give up their seats if you explained why.

Quilts for Valour

Members may recall that during last year Ethelburga Quilters made quilts to donate to "Quilts for Valour UK". Other groups have also sent off a good numbers of quilts to the same organisation. An article about this organisation, and the quilts they need was published in the March 2011 issue of Oast Post. Sadly we heard at the last Committee Meeting that the dear son of a member of Oast Quilters has died in the conflict in Afghanistan and so the Phoenix Quilters' group would like to make quilts for Quilts for Valour in his memory. They are currently devising a design concept so that individual members (including independent members) of Oast can contribute in some way (e.g. by suggesting a block design). Please look out for more information as it becomes available.

To summarise the "rules" provided by the Quilts for Valour organisation:

- Choose masculine fabrics and colours; red, white and blue is a popular choice, but not every recipient wants an explicitly military theme.
- Please use good quality fabrics – our soldiers deserve it and the quilt needs to survive multiple washings.
- Fabric must be 100% cotton. Do not use a fleece backing.
- Minimum sizes are 54" x 72" or 60" x 60" for square quilts.
- The design and how you quilt it are up to you.
- Each quilt MUST have its own presentation case. The case can be either pillow-case style, or drawstring design, but should hold the quilt folded flat.
- Names of soldiers to whom the quilts are donated are not released to the makers.
- A letter, photograph or journal can be sent with the quilt.
- The quilts should be sent to: Quilts for Valour – UK 1, Chaucer Way, Osbaston, Monmouth NP25 3NR.

For more information, please see Oast Post Vol 13, No 2.

<http://www.qovf.org/content/uk-qovf.html>

Orpington Quilters

Orpington Quilters would like to invite fellow quilters to attend any of their meetings with speakers to come along. Regrettably we've just missed a meeting where Helen Deighan was the speaker, but there is a meeting on 13 September, where Carolyn Foster is giving her talk, "How I got here". Please let them know if you want to attend.

Visitor fee is £2.00, Orpington Quilters, Crofton Halls, Crofton Road, Orpington, Kent, BR6 8PR. The contact is Margaret (Mags) James, Chair. Telephone: 0208 289 9096 or 07907 833336.



SMARTFROG

Alison Smart Textiles

01843 601726

Smartfrogquilting.co.uk

Smartfroghop@hotmail.com

Patchwork and Quilting

Fabrics

Woollens

Longarm Quilting

Workshops



When is a fabric stash a collection?

When it gets out of control!

How many quilters does it take to change a light bulb?

Only one, because if a quilter can fix a sewing machine late at night, she can certainly change a light bulb for herself!

Old quilters never die; they just go to pieces.

Mystery Quilt Part 4

- (i) Take a half square triangle unit (made with B and C fabrics) and place it in front of you such that the fabric B is bottom left and the fabric C is top right. The seam runs from North West to South East!
- (ii) To the right of that place a quarter square triangle unit so that the fabric C triangles butt
- (iii) To the right of that, place another half square triangle so that the seam runs South West to North East (it's the mirror image of (i)).
- (iv) To the right of that, place a square of fabric G (or F, if you combined the two)

Sew this row together. Repeat this stage a further three times. Now repeat stages (i) to (iii), excluding the square of F/G on the end, so that you end up with four more pieced strips.

If you are following the Mystery Quilt and you are impatient for all the information sheets, please contact Liz Coleman on 01303 863197 or email liz.coleman@virgin.net. I should be very interested to hear if anyone is following the instructions!

A Reminder

An issue of Oast Post is published at each of the six meetings of Oast Quilters. Members are invited to submit copy for the Newsletter, which should be provided to the Editor at, or before, the Committee meeting prior to the relevant Oast Meeting (this is held on the Monday two weeks before the Oast meeting). As a member you can advertise one-off items for sale free of charge. There is a charge to traders for advertising in Oast Post. Please let us have details of any local patchwork and quilting exhibitions or events which may interest members. For further information, please contact the Editor, Liz Coleman on 01303 863197 or by email at Liz.Coleman@virgin.net