

# OAST POST

## OAST QUILTERS' NEWSLETTER

Volume 14

[www.oastquilters.co.uk](http://www.oastquilters.co.uk)

Number 2 – March 2012

### TODAY'S MEETING

#### **Sandra Meech: Arctic Expressions**

**Traders:** Crossed Threads, Karry Dot Com, Maggie Kingston, Pea Bees, The Sewing Shop.

Thank you to our hostesses:

**Barn Owls**

### NEXT MEETING

**Saturday 5 May**

**Speaker:** Sally Stott

**Talk:** Depression Era Quilts

Sally has been stitching patchwork and appliqué for as long as she can remember, inspired by generations of dressmakers, tailors and milliners in her family. Her love of all things fabric is only matched by her passion for history and archaeology, which in turn is reflected in her quilts and talks.

After completing C&G parts 1 and 2, she taught extensively in South Bucks, exhibiting at major shows with several awards for traditional quilts. Following a spell of teaching in schools and post graduate study, she is now once more teaching traditional patchwork, appliqué and quilting, and speaking about the quilts and quilters of the past for whom she has deep respect and admiration. Sally is hoping to have the opportunity to demonstrate what we have inherited and hopes to inspire you to return to some of the techniques that first made us want to be quilters.

**WORKSHOP – Sunday 6 May**

**Dear Jane**

### THIS YEAR'S CHALLENGE

#### **“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.

#### **Sandra Meech's Workshop – Art to Stitch Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> AND Monday 5<sup>th</sup> March At Lower Hardres (4<sup>th</sup>) and Littlebourne (5<sup>th</sup>)**

There are two places spare for this two-day workshop. Please see the website for the full details and the requirements. Please let the Workshop Organiser, Stephanie Blunt, know if you would like to take one of the places. The cost is £40.00 for the two days.

Telephone: 01233 641073

email: [bingham.blunts635@btinternet.com](mailto:bingham.blunts635@btinternet.com)

### Young Oast

**New Venue:** Hythe Bay Primary School, Hythe CT21 6HS

**Dates for 2012** - all 10.00 a.m. - 3.00 p.m.

Sat. 24th March.

Sat. 30th June.

Sat. Nov 3rd.

Please let us know if you are interested and we can send you more specific details. Each child must be accompanied by an Oast member for the duration of the day. We hope to be able to continue the excellent work with young quilters as achieved by Tracy and Sharon in the past.

**Contact:** Barbara Thorburn

tel: 01303 238 809

email: [barbarathorburn@btinternet.com](mailto:barbarathorburn@btinternet.com)

### BOOK SALE

There will be a sale of surplus books and magazines from the library at today's meeting. Profits will be ploughed back into Library purchases.



***The Membership Secretary is pleased to report that we have a full membership of 300 members – and a waiting list to join!***

## Oast Showcase 2013

The mandate for putting on the next Oast Showcase was provided at the Committee Meeting on Monday 20 February. The dates for the exhibition were booked immediately after the last Showcase and were set at **Friday 31 May to Sunday 2 June 2013**, with set up on Thursday 30 May. It will be noted that this does not involve a Bank Holiday Monday, but there are two reasons for this; firstly it enables us to hire the Sports Hall at the Simon Langton Boys School (which was ideal for us in 2010) and secondly the carpets will already be down since the school will have been holding examinations in the hall.

**HOWEVER**, last time the organisation was left to a small number of members and even though many people volunteered to assist during the exhibition, a good number failed to “show” at their appointed times, leaving the dedicated few to fill the gaps. The core helpers were left absolutely exhausted at the end of the exhibition and we are determined that this cannot happen in 2013. In the next two to three months the basic organisation will be put in place and we will seek volunteers to take on various tasks (many hands make light work!). If volunteers are not forthcoming then *we will not go ahead with the Showcase and we will cancel the hall booking.*

But we don't want that to happen do we?! So please, if you can – perhaps as a group – volunteer to take on one of the many tasks. We already have volunteers to organise the catering and count the visitors' choice, but there are a myriad other tasks from organising the Sales Table all the way through to organising the rotas of volunteers. If you volunteer now – then you get the pick of the jobs! We have 300 members now - if everyone volunteered for at least one session of being on the door, pouring tea or selling raffle tickets then it would be not just a good exhibition, but brilliant!

Oh – and don't forget to finish off your UFOs so that we have a lovely variety of quilted items to display. There is no judging or selection of items for display – all items submitted are displayed as equals – we love them all! Newcomers to quilting are especially welcome to show their quilts as we love to encourage people to be proud in their achievements.

**Liz Coleman, Chairman of the Showcase Committee.**

**Good News!**

## Raffle Quilt for the Oast Showcase

It's always good to get the raffle quilt made early – then we can make sure we have some first class photographs of it for publicity purposes. This time a homely “houseblock” double bed-sized quilt is being made. Ethelburga Quilters made the blocks and Valley Patchers have sashed the quilt top. We are extremely grateful to Sandra Rocco who has volunteered to long-arm quilt this lovely prize. We are looking forward to being able to show it to you during the summer.

## Bursary Winners

Three bursaries of £100 each are allocated each year by drawing three raffle tickets at the Oast Quilters' AGM. The three people, who win the money, then have one year and two months in which to spend the money on something which extends their knowledge and skills. At the March meeting at the end of that period the stitcher is expected to ‘show and tell’ how they used their award. There should be three small displays available to view at today's meeting – please look out for them.

## Quilt Frame Hire

Oast Quilters owns two modern quilt frames. They are plastic, click-together tubular frames. One set was requested at the last Committee meeting – but then we wondered where the other one is! If you have it, would you just tip us off – we're not chasing – we've just forgotten! Please have a word with Jenny Hoyle, Chairman. 01303 253343 or email her on [j.k.hoyle@googlemail.com](mailto:j.k.hoyle@googlemail.com)

## Rescheduled Workshop

Marion Fox's workshop on machine quilting was cancelled owing to the recent icy conditions. It has now been rescheduled for **Saturday 10 March** at Lower Hardres Village Hall. Hopefully all those who were originally booked on this workshop will still be able to attend – and perhaps there are others who would like to attend? If this affects you – please contact Sharyn Hutchings on 01227 791856 or email [sharyn.hutchings@virgin.net](mailto:sharyn.hutchings@virgin.net)

## REMINDER

### 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**. We are now able to confirm that it will be at the **St. Anselm's School**. 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!!). The snag is their disabled access arrangements for the hall. There is a reasonable slope down to the hall, but no accessible cloakrooms on that level. If you cannot manage steps, it will be a case of going up the outside slope and then into the main entrance of the building, where a facility for the disabled is located. Your Group Representative will be kept fully informed regarding arrangements for the day

### **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).

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**Message for those  
attending Sandra Meech's  
two-day workshops.....**

**Bring extra Newspaper!**

## HANGING TOGETHER VIII

**23 March – 4 April 2012**

Exhibition of 6 Textile Artists  
Special challenge "Openings" and Theme  
"Green Shoots"

Saturday, 31 March 11.00am – 3.00pm

Meet the Artist

**CHEQUER MEAD ART CENTRE**

Greensteede Gallery

De la Warr Road

East Grinstead

West Sussex

RH19 3BS

Tel 01342 325577

Mondays – Saturdays 10.00am – 4.30pm

(Sundays closed)

Admission free

### **The Crab & Winkle Line Quilters**

are holding their 1st Exhibition of  
Quilts, wall hangings and miniatures  
at

**Littlebourne War Memorial Hall**

High St. Littlebourne, CT3 1ST

**Saturday June 2<sup>nd</sup> 10.00am – 5.00pm**

**Sunday June 3<sup>rd</sup> 10.00am – 4.00pm**

Raffle Quilt, Tombola, Sales Table,  
Light Refreshments - Disabled access

Free Parking

Entrance £2.50 - children free

Proceeds to SNAAP

(Special needs Advisory & Activities Project)

Contact: Marion Fox 01227 455697

**NB**

The Raffle Quilt produced by the Crab and Winkle Line Quilters for their exhibition will be on show at the May meeting of Oast Quilters, where you will be able to buy raffle tickets for this excellent cause.

☺ **You're a quilter when....**

You have more swatches of fabric in your handbag than you do folding notes of money!

As you bid farewell to family members leaving the house, you have to give them a 'once-over' for loose threads which have mysteriously attached to their clothing.

You attend business meetings with pins and maybe a needle parked on your jacket lapel!

## In House Workshops

These are the workshops which are led by members of Oast Quilters rather than the invited guest quilter/textile artist who provide the talk at the Oast Meetings. If you find the term, 'in-house workshop' confusing (and I think some people do) – can you think of an alternative? A fat quarter of hand-dyed fabric from the Newsletter Editor if you can help with this dilemma! Contact [liz.coleman@virgin.net](mailto:liz.coleman@virgin.net)

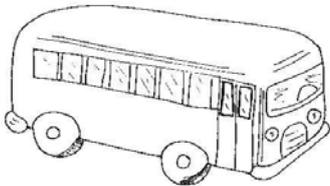
N. E. way....

**Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> April**, Trapunto Machine Quilting with Alison at Lower Hardres Village Hall

**Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> June** Basic Doll Making with Ann Sparkes also at Lower Hardres Village Hall.

**Future:** 'Mariners' Compass' with Jenny Hoyle 'Baltimore – but not as you know it' with Liz Coleman.

## Beamish Museum Quilts Long Weekend 18-20 May 2012



The Fabric Fairy is planning a long weekend, taking in a trip to the world-famous Beamish Quilts collecting in

the Beamish Open Air Museum near Chester-le-Street, County Durham. Departures will be from Folkestone and Canterbury on the Friday morning and returning early Sunday evening.

You will travel in a luxury 53-seat coach and the accommodation will be in a hotel near the museum (two nights B&B). The total cost will be around £160.00, including travel, accommodation, entrance to the museum, the services of a curator to show the quilts and give a talk and a Sunday morning stop at The Quilters' Cupboard near Durham (based on a double/twin room).

This excursion is booking fast! If you would like a booking form, please see Michelle Cooper at today's meeting or email [fabric@thefabricfairy.co.uk](mailto:fabric@thefabricfairy.co.uk)

## Treasurer's Report

We currently have in the bank....

£4154.17 in the deposit account  
£6318.54 in the current account  
and £111.16 cash in hand

But don't forget, the current account has the subscriptions within it - which will be spent on the speakers and their expenses (and we are able to afford some absolutely superb speakers). Travel is generally calculated at 40p per mile these days. We also need some contingency for any unforeseen snags. There is also money put aside for the Oast Showcase, which is always expensive 'up front' before we have income coming in.

## Health and Safety

We don't think there can be any venue which doesn't have some aspect of a 'risk' with regards to slips, trips and falls! Look around your own home and see the trip hazards such as the steps to the front door, the threshold, rugs on the floor, slippery surfaces etc. So, accidents will happen. We do all we can to make sure that your afternoon is safe and secure at Oast Quilters.

If you have any problem whatsoever with steps, there is an entrance round the side which is 100% wheelchair friendly - there will be someone available to let you in from the courtyard.

Within the hall itself is a slope for wheelchairs and those who find steps difficult. The slope might not be everyone's cup of tea, but it is fairly stable. If you have any concerns – just move over to an area of the steps where there is a pillar to hold onto or don't hesitate to ask a friend (we are all friends!) to offer you an arm for support.

And those of us who are fit and able – please make sure that you do not clutter up the slope area – make sure that it can easily be seen. Don't dilly dally and move away from the slope quickly. The committee will make sure the slope is demarcated with chairs placed adjacent to it – please do not move them out of the way.