

OAST POST

OAST QUILTERS' NEWSLETTER

Volume 11

Number 1 – January 2009

TODAY'S MEETING: CORNERS

Thanks to our Hostesses: Bears Paw & Chaucer
Traders: Fabric Fairy & Little Lavender Patch

Happy New Year! Today sees the welcome return of our Corners meeting, usually the most popular event of our programme. We are very grateful to the presenters of this year's Corners for the time and trouble they have taken to put together their demonstrations. I hope you will agree that we have an interesting and varied choice for you:

A – Inger Milburn – Experimental Log Cabin

B – Carolyn Johnson (Karrydot.com) – Make a Classic Bag & Personalise It

C – Michelle Cooper (Fabric Fairy) – Easy-Peasy Pinwheels & Windmills

D – Liz Coleman – Credit Crunch Patchwork

E - Monica Beale – Playing with Threads & Quilting with Machine Embroidery

F – Tracy Aplin – Piecing with Freezer Paper by Hand or Machine

G – Sheila Stojasavljevic – Quilt As You Go

H – Julia Freeland – Jelly Rolls & Layer Cakes – What they are and what to do with them now you have them

For those of you not used to the "Corners system", you need to note the letters of FOUR corners you would like to see. You then take four tickets, one letter for session 1, one for session 2, etc.

Please note: the numbers on the tickets are session numbers, so you need to take *one* letter from each of the four session numbers. For example, if you want to see corners A, B, C & D you would need to take tickets for 1A, 2B, 3C, 4D (or perhaps 2A, 1B, 4C, 3D etc.) – if you take tickets 1A and 1B they would each be for the first session and you cannot be in two places at once! Each session has a different coloured ticket, so just make sure you have one of each colour.

Tables are arranged alphabetically around the dining area and hall, so they should be easy to find.

Each presentation will last 15 minutes. At the end of the allotted time a bell will sound and there will be a 5 minutes break to allow people to move from one "corner" to the next.

Most of the demonstrators have been kind enough to create hand-outs. Please take **one** while you are at the demonstration. During tea we will put out extra sheets, which will give you the opportunity to take a hand-out from the demonstrations you weren't able to see.

There should be enough sheets for everyone to have a copy of every hand-out, but there won't be enough if members take extra sheets for friends. Please lend your copy to a friend, rather than taking extra ones.

OAST CHALLENGE

The Oast Challenge produced a spectacular display of work at our December meeting. Each entry was required to use at least a fat quarter of the challenge fabric. All pieces were numbered, not named, and members voted for their favourite. This year's worthy winner was Susan Chastney.

A huge thank you to everyone who took up the Challenge and produced a truly inspirational display for us all to enjoy.

The Committee decided that the Challenge for 2009 should be a theme rather than a specific fabric. As our 2008 winner, Susan was asked to choose the theme and has decided on "circus", to be interpreted as you wish!

THANKS FROM MACMILLAN CANCER SUPPORT

Macmillan Cancer Support have thanked us for our donation of £79 which was the result of collecting our loose change at the tea/coffee counter.

Thank you to Astrid Stimson for banking all those coins and sending off a cheque!

OAST BURSARIES

Many of the Oast Bursary winners who haven't already let the group know how they spent the money or shown us the results of their work will be doing so at the next meeting.

This is likely to be the format in future – e.g. bursary winners from December 2008 will be reporting back to the group in March 2010.

HELP MAKE CUSHIONS FOR BREAST CANCER PATIENTS

Our local hospitals desperately need more mastectomy cushions for their breast cancer patients and Oast would like to rise to the challenge. Here are the details of our cushion making day:

When: Sunday 14th February, 10.00 – 4.00

Where: Lower Hardres Village Hall

What to bring: Spare fabric if you have some, sewing machine if you want to sew, hand sewing kit if you would rather "stuff & finish", your lunch

Oast will provide the filling for the cushions and the usual tea, coffee and biscuits. If I get time I'll make a cake or two to keep us going!

The cushions are quick and easy to make and this is such a worthy cause. The vast majority of us, if not directly affected, will have had friends or family affected by breast cancer. Please try to find time to lend your support – even if you can spare an hour or two it will help!

Please let me know if you plan to come along, so I have some idea of numbers.

Also, if you have spare fabric that you would like to donate but you can't attend on the day, please try to arrange for someone to bring it, or let me know and I'll try to arrange something.

Judi Kirk – 01227 458553 – judi@redpen.co.uk

NEXT MEETING OF OAST QUILTERS

Saturday 7th March

Doors open at 2.00pm

Hostesses: Barn Owls & Chatterpatch

Traders: Sam Bereford, Carol's Patch, Daisy Chain Designs, Karrydot.com, Pea Bees

Speaker: Patricia Archibald – Meaningful Colour

Workshop: Travellers' Tales – Little Landscapes/Banks & Braes

on Sunday 8th March at Lower Hardres

and Monday 9th March at Littlebourne

As with most quilters Pat's fascination for fabric started at an early age playing with her grandmother's scrap bag. Although she herself wasn't a dressmaker she had a wonderful collection of exotic fabrics from the clothes that she had made for her in the 1920s and 30s. The velvets and satins and laces were wonderfully tactile to a small child and I am sure she had endless hours of peace and quiet when the scrap bag was produced! Pat's mother, however, was a prolific dressmaker and so the house was full of colourful cottons and her first piece of patchwork was made at age 11!

Over the years when her own children were young she produced various small quilts and for a short time ran a small business designing and making children's appliquéd garments. Then in 1990 an opportunity arose to take part in the first City and Guilds Patchwork and Quilting course in Scotland. Naturally she jumped at the chance and became enthralled with the endless possibilities of working with colour and fabric.

Until then Pat had been working as an occupational therapist but the pull of a more creative career was getting harder to resist. So, when a friend asked if she would go into business with her and establish Scotland's first dedicated patchwork and quilting shop there was no hesitation in saying yes! And so began ten very exciting years with the shop Purely Patchwork in Linlithgow, Scotland.

The shop soon established itself as a leader in terms of the variety of fabrics available and the standard and quality of the classes taught. It attracted custom from all over the UK and further afield and tutors visited from around the globe to impart their knowledge and skills to enthusiastic students.

During the time spent with the shop Pat's quilts were widely exhibited both in the UK and in the USA. Most of her quilts are based on her travels. So as her own horizons grow literally, then so too do the experiences that she can then express in her quiltmaking.

After ten years of running the business it was time for another change of direction to allow Pat to spend more time developing her own work and teaching specialist classes. 2004 became a very challenging and rewarding time in terms of establishing the studio. The day workshops have been very popular but of particular interest have been the 'Creative Journey' courses. These courses encourage students to step out of their comfort zone in order to explore the design elements to produce unique and individual pieces of work. Some of the student's work can be viewed on the Gallery pages of Pat's website, www.patarchibald.com

LOOK AFTER YOUR ROTARY CUTTING MAT

In order to clean and condition your Olfa mat (though I would imagine it would be the same for other makes) you should give it a bath occasionally.

Put your mat in the bath and use 2 fl. oz. white vinegar to one gallon of tepid (not hot) water and a squirt of mild washing-up liquid.

Use a soft brush to create a lather and gently clean & condition your mat.

Rinse the mat and either let it air dry or use a soft towel.

Moisture is good for cutting mats, since it helps keep them supple. Remember to store your mat flat and out of direct sunlight.

WORKSHOP WITH PRUE BELL

Alberta's Crazy Jacket

At Ashford Road Community Association Hall, Thanington CT1 3XR

Saturday 21 March **and** Saturday 4 April
10.00am – 1.00pm

Anybody who was at the Area 2 Birthday Party in 2007 will remember the jacket that was made for Prue when she lived in America. The two morning workshops will enable you to make one of your own!

Please fill in the form below and return to:
Ruth Pascoe, 10 Water Street, Deal, Kent CT14 6DJ

Cheques made payable to:
The Quilter's Guild of the British Isles, Region 2
Please enclose a S.A.E.

✂.....

Members £16

Non-members £24

Name.....

Address.....

.....

.....

Telephone number.....

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

