



OAST POST

OAST QUILTERS NEWSLETTER

Volume 22

www.oastquilters.co.uk

Number 2 - March 2020

TODAY'S MEETING

Thank you to today's Hostesses:
Chestfield Quilters and Bright Headlander

Today's Trader is:
Birdy and Blue

Our speaker is:
Marion Drake: Vintage Quilts

Marion Drake is sharing just part of her large vintage quilt collection with us today. Those of us who attended the Guild Birthday Party or attended her at home open days know what a treat is in store. There is a lot to inspire our own quilt making.

The workshop tomorrow, at Lower Hardres Village Hall, CT4 5NP, is **Animal Mosaics**.

Oast Members will have seen the delightful pieces produced by Canterbury Quilters under Laura Thomas-Jenkins' direction. Laura, who is studying for a PhD in the illegal wildlife trade and looking at ways to stop people buying products like ivory or rhino horn, donates all the profits from her textile art to fund this work. Come and learn this interesting technique combining raw edge appliqué and stained glass work.

There are still spaces available so please see Victoria Scott today

Our next meeting 9 May 2020

The hostesses will be Quay Quilters and Owls and the speaker is Anne Kelly, the topic is My Practice. The workshop on Sunday will be Recycled/Vintage Cottage Garden. There are spaces available so please see Victoria Scott today.

Oast Challenge 2020

Gill Cannon, the winner of the 2019 Challenge, has chosen the Challenge for 2020. The theme is **'Twists and Turns'**. So get your thinking caps on and get creative with this interesting challenge.

Oast Sewing Bee

We have exciting news!

Saturday 21 March is International Quilting Day and Oast Sewing Bee will be holding free workshops in Lyminge, Folkestone and Hythe libraries from 10 -1pm.



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY



In-House workshop

25 April 2020 Lower Hardres Village Hall CT4 5NP

Liz Melville will share her original designs for **Happy Animals** quilts with a choice of domestic or wild beasts exclusively for workshop attendees who will have the option of purchasing the second option for the small sum. With cheery images and raw edge fused applique this promises to be a fun, low stress day.

The next Committee Meeting

...will be on **Monday 27 April 2020** at 7.00pm at the Thanington Resource Centre, CT1 3XE

East Kent Embroiderers' Guild

Residential Weekend 17 - 19 April 2020
The Clifton Hotel, The Leas, Folkestone.

Sew Pretty the Rose tutored by Pam Buck

Full board, en suite rooms **£450**

For further details, or to book a place please contact Ann Sparkes ann.sparkes@hotmail.com

Speakers and Oast Workshops

The committee endeavours to arrange a wide variety of speakers who will offer interesting talks and workshops. Compared to the big shows, the workshops are really good value and we would encourage members to take advantage of these opportunities. There are spaces on all the workshops for this year, so do speak to Victoria today or contact her oastworkshops@gmail.com to book your place.

Project Linus

Project Linus UK is a national network manned solely by volunteers. Like you, both Debbie Ribchester, the Assistant Area Coordinator, and I give our time willingly to support such a worthy cause. Together we can make a difference to a child's life by giving them

'a hug they can keep'.

Thank you once again for all that you do.

Pam Sawyer

Project Linus – Area Coordinator South East
Kent

pam.its.only.me@hotmail.co.uk

07557886997

UFO days

Please contact Ingrid if you would like to attend these popular days, but also to cancel your place if you are not able to attend after booking. (raffles.leoville@btinternet.com)

Traders Organiser

The committee would like to thank Sharyn Hutchings for her sterling work as Traders Organiser and welcome Tracy Aplin to the role. If you know of a trader who might like to trade at an Oast meeting or the Showcase, or would like to see a particular type of trader at the meetings, please contact Tracy with your suggestions.

tjaplin@hotmail.co.uk

For Sale



Vintage Quilt Top, single, fan design £70. Find Mandy Munroe at the meeting today if interested.

Oast Showcase 2020

24 – 26 July 2020

In order for the Showcase to be successful, it will require a lot of help and support from as many people as possible. We are progressing with the organising and are delighted that Karen Taylor has volunteered to undertake sourcing raffle prizes. If you have any suggestions of companies that would be happy to donate, please contact Karen via Lynne Newell at oastsecretary@gmail.com

The proceeds from the raffle will go to the charity that is selected today from the nominations received. Vote for your preferred charity.

Ethelburga Quilters will be organising the Sales Table, so any items for this, please give them to Liz Coleman or any member of Ethelburga Quilters.

Jenny Hoyle has kindly volunteered to collect the bags for the Bag Tombola, so please get stitching bags of all shapes and sizes and give these to Jenny.

Please would you consider signing up to help with serving refreshments, manning the bag tombola, and the raffle tickets and baking cakes and savouries. There are a couple of lists on the Members Table at the back of the hall. The time slots are only one hour and can be shared with a friend.

Of course we also require a wonderful display of quilts. There will be an entry form to complete at the next meeting for each item but due to space limitations, it will only be possible to display one large quilt. The form will be downloadable from the website as well.

And lastly, don't forget to enter the 'Twenty Twenty' challenge. Any item of three layers, quilted together but only measuring 20 inches by 20 inches. Entry forms will be available at the May meeting and on the website to download,

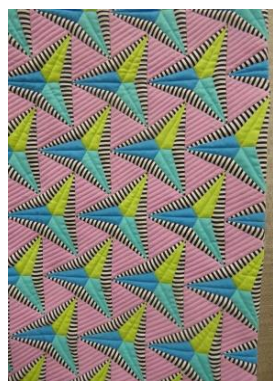
Thank you for your support. Let's make this great showcase.

Slow Stitch Course

Yvonne Fuchs will be running the fourth of her popular Slow Stitch Courses with monthly meetings in Whitstable from March 2020. Mindful and contemplative stitching is a way to engage with the textile art within us in a creative and reflective way, a practice that helps us to both relax and be present. The course covers creating a stitch journal, a large variety of slow stitch techniques, decorative mending, Japanese boro, sashiko and natural dying. Find more information on Facebook and Instagram @slowstitchcommunity. E-mail Yvonne on fuchsy141@hotmail.com or call her on 07782 210304 for more details including how to book.

QuiltCon 2020

Mary Cunningsworth had a great trip to Austin TX in February, and of all the photos she posted on Oast Quilters Facebook page, these are the Editor's favourites!



'We Will Walk – Art and Resistance in the American South'

Including some Gees Bend Quilts
at the Turner Contemporary, Margate,
7 February – 3 May 2020

We are, of course, very fortunate in having such a prestigious art gallery on our doorstep in east Kent. Like most quilters, I was thrilled to have the opportunity to view a small number of the Gees Bend quilts; very likely the only opportunity in my life.



Gees Bend is a small community located on a former plantation in Alabama in the deep south of the USA, which has become world famous for their unique hand-made quilts. The quilts were created by women for their own use and gradually became recognised and collected by outsiders.



The exhibition is more than 'just' the quilts; it is a showcase of the work of artists and makers from Alabama and surrounding states. This is art and sculpture from an extremely impoverished and marginalised society. The inhabitants of that area remain on the fringes of society and many are descendants of slaves.

Generations of quilters exist, where the techniques of quilt making have been passed through the female line. Out of necessity they used scraps and pieces of fabric taken from worn out garments. There is a caption to one of the quilts which informs the reader that the maker found a dirty old scrap of shirting in a muddy puddle, she washed it through and used it in the quilt she was working on.



The quilts certainly have a charm to them, but given they were destined to simply keep the family warm at night, there was no time for the business of complex piecing as we know it. And then they were discovered by a collector – and the rest, as they say, is history!

However, (and this is my controversial opinion...) I believe they were discovered by art types who thrilled at the naivety all the yard art, sculptures, quilts and artwork. I am not sure that the discoverers had much idea of the quilt world at large – and there is certainly no reflection of that in the exhibition.

Liz Coleman

25 Million Stitches – One Stitch For Each Of The World's 25 Million Refugees

The world is in flight. 25 million people* across the globe have been forced to flee their homelands as a consequence of genocide, war, poverty, natural disasters, targeted violence, and other grave threats. They leave behind everything they've known and possessed in order to live; they face immense struggles, misfortunes, and perils on their journey; and, through it all, survival, much less successful resettlement, remains but the slimmest hope.

You may be interested to join this project to hand-stitch 25 million stitches: one stitch for each refugee. How does making 25 million stitches help refugees? The organisers believe that this project is a way for us to engage with this global crisis instead of ignoring it. And even though no single stitch can fully represent an individual, the act of stitching and the resulting work will help bring attention to the scale of the crisis. For more information please visit

www.25millionstitches.com



Giving Nature A

Home

'Near to Nature' Quilt Show Raising funds for the RSPB

Saturday 2 May (10.00am - 4.00pm)

Sunday 3 May (10.00am to 3.30pm)

North Mundham Village Centre, School Lane,
North Mundham, Chichester PO20 1LA

The exhibition features of 250 mini-quilts from the 2019 challenge to feature an RSPB pin badge within the 9" x 12" mini quilt. People from all over the UK signed up for the challenge as well as a few from as far away as Australia. There will also be traders, mini-workshops, refreshments and the launch of the 2020 mini-quilt competition.

Organised by the Little House of Patchwork in support of the RSPB. See their Facebook and Instagram pages for more information.



Getting Dressed 27th May 2020

The Artworkers Guild, 6 Queen Square,
London WC1N 3AT
6-8pm £25

An interesting talk on historical dress and costume, with Jenny Tiramani, Susannah Buxton and Zack Pinsent, who all work with historical dress.

<https://www.selvedge.org/collections/talks>

Unbound

Visionary Women Collecting Textiles

25 January – 19 April 2020

2 Temple Place, London WC2R 3BD

Two Temple Place is a wonderful place. The building, built in 1895 for Lord Astor as his London offices, is now owned by The Bulldog Trust. They hold an annual exhibition each year from January to April drawing artefacts from the provisional museums. This year's exhibition is taken from the eclectic collection of seven pioneering women who went against all established norms to create some of the richest, most diverse public collections in the UK today. One of these ladies began her collection at the age of 12, using her pocket money of 2s6d. She was very proud of the fact that she never paid more than £5 for any of the items in her collection!



There are many beautiful examples showcasing the wide variety of textiles across the world. Articles of clothing from the 18th and 19th centuries from the Balkans, India and the UK sit alongside hand drawn sketches, letters, exquisite embroidery samples, a Kantha stitched wall hanging and a quilted tea cosy, to list but a few of the exhibits.



The building its self is a marvel of artistic talent, from the wood carvings and marble floor in the staircase to the painted glass windows in the Great Hall. Oh! and the food options, though limited in selection, are delicious. So do go along to 2 Temple Place, nearest tube is Temple, and have a really interesting day out.

<https://twotempleplace.org/exhibitions/unbound/>

Lynne Newell