



New Forest Quilt Group Newsletter March 2019



Chairmans Chat

Well what a good start to the New Year. January was such a great evening and a room full of buzz. Everyone was so speedy making the fridge magnets for the Exhibition, we couldn't believe how quick you all were. A very big thank you to you all. There will be some more for you to do at the beginning of the March meeting which is the AGM so please come along, your help is much appreciated. Also, we would like to thank everyone for all their contributions to the Sales Table for the Exhibition. It's amazing how much is coming in each month and we really do thank you all.

February saw us entertained by Angela Madden with a great talk about Surprising Silhouettes. It was completely different to anything we have seen and quite unique. A great workshop followed on the Tuesday needless to say, mine is another UFO!! There were some amazing designs so cannot wait for the "Show & Tell".

We would like to take this opportunity to thank Sue Elmer, Pam Thatcher and Jill Richards who are stepping down from the Committee at the AGM. I think you will all agree that Sue & Pam have done a fantastic job with finding such wonderful speakers and having great workshops.

We look forward to seeing you at the AGM, the business side of which should be over very quickly and we look forward to a talk by Penny Hebditch which should be very interesting. Also Annie will be giving more details about the forthcoming Exhibition. Only two months to go!!!

Sheila and Carol

SPEAKER SECRETARY CORNER



It's not Goodbye, it's only Adious!!

Sue and my tenure is coming to an end, and what a three years it has been!! We started with our first speaker, Paula Doyle, unfortunately having to cancel due to ill health three weeks before she was due to attend!! We spent our first two weeks in the job trying to find a replacement at such short notice, and also preparing for a workshop day on Stack and Whack!! Talk about a baptism of fire!

However, we survived and we have thoroughly enjoyed ourselves and all the speakers we have managed to book for the group, right up to the last one, Angela Madden, who entertained us all evening with her wonderful quilts and then held a workshop the next day, which stretched Sue and myself to the limits of our artistic skills!!

We have some great memories of many great and varied speakers who have entertained, astounded and opened our minds to all sorts of quilting and craft skills.

We are very happy to be passing the baton on to Annie and Eddie, who will be brilliant at the job, and already have lots of ideas on how to take the 'speaker secretary' role forward. We wish them both well, and look forward to relaxing back and enjoying the meetings to come!

Sue and Pam

RUBY ANNIVERSARY EXHIBITION - 14 WEEKS TO GO!

Many thanks to all who have offered help and entered their quilts.

Pam has now received forms for 27 quilts to be exhibited in the general category and 7 for the ruby challenge, together with workshop projects, cushions and other items, so we are on course for a great display of our work. Please remember that in order to have a description displayed with your work, forms need to be completed and returned to Pam by the end of April.

Volunteers

Thanks to all who have already signed up to help at the exhibition. We've had a great response but are still looking for help with setting up the display on Saturday 25 May, manning the tombola, selling raffle tickets and stewarding the quilt display.

Raffle

We have three beautiful quilts to raffle at the exhibition and these **will be on display at the AGM on 4 March**, when tickets will be available. Thanks to all who made blocks for the group quilt and worked on tacking and stretching it. A special thank you must go to Pam and Sue for setting up and co-ordinating the making of the quilt and Liz Gibson for quilting it. Jenny Davies has very generously donated a lovely double-bed sized quilt and we also have a quilt that was donated unfinished and was beautifully completed by Helen Evans. Tickets will be on sale at the exhibition and the draw will be made on Tuesday 28th May at 12.00.

Mystery Quilts?

Where are the Mystery Quilts? Ladies we know they're hiding somewhere!! We'd love to see them in our exhibition in the Mystery quilt section.

Mitchells Notice Board

It is now only three months to our Exhibition. We would like to have as many Mitchells Estate Agents boards displayed in BH23 and BH25 as possible. The boards will advertise the word Mitchells and above it will be a notice advertising our Exhibition. You may have seen them around when school have a Fair. Nowhere will the words "For Sale" appear on the board in case you are worried people might think your house is for sale. This service is being offered free to us and is an excellent way to get word out in the community. We know a lot of you do not live in these two postcode areas, but wonder if you have a relative or someone in the areas who would be willing to have a board on our behalf. Can you please email us if you are willing to have a board in your front garden. Some of you have already signed up and we thank you. The more we have the better the word is spread.

Many thanks

Sheila & Carol

Email

Sheila_lovegrove@yahoo.co.uk

carol.marchant@gmail.com

Dress Makers Dummies



We have been having a sort out and have found two dummies which which need new homes. If anybody is interested and would like to make a donation, please contact Sheila on 07530 066969. The height can be adjusted but not the width.

Quilts for Christmas

We all like to think that we'll be with family and friends at Christmas. Some of us are not that lucky. In 2013, poet Lemn Sissay MBE, founded **The Christmas Dinner**, specifically to be held for care leavers. His aim is for each community to take responsibility for its care leavers, 1 in 5 of whom will be homeless within 2 years of having left care.



Each dinner is organised and run by volunteers for about 50 young people. Food, presents and decorations etc. are donated where possible or paid for from donations.

Lemn was a child in care himself, almost from birth, leaving when 18. He

desperately wanted a hug when he was 12 and was returned to care by his long term carers. That's what inspired a quilter, Maggie Lloyd-Jones, to make quilts to be gifted to the dinner guests: a "quilty" hug and reminder of the day. She asked for help via Facebook and the quilting community responded. This is how I became involved making quilts for the Christmas Dinners last year, and it inspired me to want to contribute more.

The Christmas Dinner in Bournemouth 2019

I am setting up The Christmas Dinner in Bournemouth, and I would love our guests to have the opportunity to choose a quilt. Please have a look at the following Facebook pages for more information.

TCD Bournemouth and Quilts for Christmas Dinners

What do you need to make, to help these young people?

There is no theme specified, please remember the guests are aged 18-25, so ideal for bright scrappy quilts.

Tops/quilts need to be no smaller than 44"x66" and no larger than 54"x72".

Blocks of either 6.5" or 12.5" unfinished are welcome. Rail Fence or Log Cabin are the blocks preferred. No quilt-as-you-go blocks please, this is hard for the team to make into a quilt.

Finished quilts are gratefully received! Quilting can be as simple as you like, and as sufficient for your wadding/fleece/backing. Quilt-tops can be sent to our Long Arm Quilters on request, at no

Quilt-tops can be sent to our Long Arm Quilters on request, at no charge other than postage, BUT please send backing fabric/fleece, at least 8" wider and 8" longer than the top, and fabric for binding, if you do not wish to bind it yourself.

Is there any other way you can help?

The plan is that local groups organise sew days, collect and eventually deliver the quilts, under our group banner and using our group labels. Penny Bicknell from Lymington is our local co-ordinator. I would really love to work with someone in the group setting up local Sewdays to make blocks/quilts, and spreading the word to the fabric shops and local groups, so if you could do this, please contact me.

Donating fabric, stuff you won't use, or those scraps - we can turn them into string blocks. We have already received a very generous donation from Nicola's fabrics.

Sorting out those "orphan" blocks we all have, test blocks and those partially completed projects, we know we are never going to finish. Lastly, making a donation to fund wadding etc - the paypal account for donations is

QuiltsforCareLeavers@gmail.com.

We still need more volunteer Long Arm Quilters

If you can help with this, please contact Maggie Lloyd-Jones by email on gcdlm18@gmail.com.

Also, all requests for the longarming service go via Maggie Lloyd-Jones please.

Please, join us and spread the word. Our young people really do appreciate our efforts.

Eleanor Dowe 01590 677374 or 07858397186

Dates for your diary

Always check details before going.....

28 Feb-3 Mar Spring Knitting & Stitching Show, Olympia, London

16 Mar-3 Nov Kaffe Fassett's Quilts in America exhib, American Museum, Bath

29-31 Mar Spring Quilt Festival, Westpoint, Exeter

6 April Grenville Quilters Exhibition, Weyhill Fairground Village hall SP11 0QN

11-13 Apl Craft4Crafters Show, R B&W Showground, Shepton Mallet

26/27 Apl Longmeadow Quilters exhib, Portman Hall, Shillingstone

27/28 Apl Needlework Fiesta, Brockenhurst

10-12 May Quilters Guild of the British Isles Conference & AGM, Nottingham

16-19 May Quilts UK, Malvern

26-28 May New Forest Quilt Group New Milton

21-23 June National Quilt Championships, Sandown Race Course, Esher

24 June Hardy Quilters exhib., Osmington Village Hall

25-27 July Quarterjack Quilters exhib, Merley House, Wimborne

1-4 Aug Festival of Quilts, NEC, Birmingham

15-17 Aug Sale at Pauline's Patchworks, Poundbury

29-31 Aug West Country Quilt & Textile Show, UWE, Bristol

22 Sept Canford Needlework Festival at Hamworthy Club, Magna Road

10-13 Oct Knitting & Stitching Show, Alexandra Palace, London

17-19 Oct Craft4Crafters Show, B&W Showground, Shepton Mallet

ODE TO A QUILTING WIFE FROM HER HUSBAND

She learned to quilt on Monday, her stitches were very fine

She forgot to thaw out dinner, so we went out to dine.

She quilted miniatures on Tuesday, she says they are a must

They really were quite neat, but she forgot to dust

On Wednesday it was a sampler, she says the stripling's fun

What hi-lights, what shadows, but the laundry wasn't done.

Her patches were on Thursday, green, yellow, blue and red

I guess she really was engrossed, she forgot to come to bed.

It was wall hangings on Friday, in colour she adores

It never bothered her at all , the crumbs on all the floors.

I found a maid on Saturday, now my week is complete

My wife can quilt the hours away, the house will still be neat.

Well, it's Sunday already, I think I'm about to wilt
I yelled, I raved, I ranted

The MAID has learned to quilt!
(Author Unknown)

Thank you to everyone who has contributed to this month's newsletter. If you have any items of interest to our members, please email them to Eleanor at eleanor.dowe@gmail.com Don't forget to visit our website to see all the photos taken at meetings and about forthcoming speakers etc.

www.newforestquiltgroup.weebly.com