



Nenequilters

newsletter May 2011

Isn't it nice that the days are getting longer and everything is looking brighter. I have had a bit of a spring clean and re-organised my fabric stash. I didn't realise just how much I had I simply mustn't buy any more – except just perhaps an odd fat quarter or two

Don't forget that our next meeting on Saturday 21st May is the same weekend as the Malvern Quilt Show so if you are going to Malvern make sure you plan your visit for the Friday or Sunday. Our meeting will be well worth attending. We have an excellent speaker, Eliza McClelland, who will talk about beading – something a bit different from our usual presentation.

Please bring along any projects you are working on or have recently completed for our Show & Tell session – don't be shy - it would be even better if you could display them in the gym in the morning so everyone gets a chance to see them.

next meeting:

Saturday 21st May 2011

The Abbey Centre

Speaker: Eliza McClelland – actor and author of *Traditional Beadwork*
'To Bead or not to bead'

Eliza is an actress you may recognise. She has appeared on television in episodes of 'Casualty', 'Peak Practice' and 'The Inspector Lynley Mysteries' as well as acting in the theatre.

In between acts, while waiting for her call in the dressing room, she started sewing, using scraps of fabric left over from theatrical costumes to make a huge patchwork quilt, cushions etc. Eliza also enjoys working with beads on canvas, and her talk today covers how to use beads to enhance your work, where to find them, how to shade with them, and information about colour and design.

Highly recommended, it promises to be an entertaining afternoon, with plenty of theatrical gossip thrown in. We hope that you will join us.

I know that parking was a problem at our last meeting but there will be plenty of space available as there is only one other small group booked.

We had some sad news that one of our members, Joy Mc Queen, passed away in January. Her family have asked us to arrange for her sewing machine, fabrics and other sewing items to be sold with the proceeds to go to the Wood Green Animal Charity. So we will be selling all these items instead of having our usual donated goods stall. The sewing machine is a Janome Memory Craft 9000, about 12 years old, PAC tested though not recently serviced. We are asking for sealed bids over £150.

We look forward to seeing you all on the 21st May.

Ann



work tables

- APPLIQUE FLOWERS – Wendy and Claire Le Maistre will be combining their amazing talents to demonstrate applique techniques. They will also have original 3D flower designs for sale.
- PINNY POST-IT – A great little gift. Elizabeth Richardson will demonstrate how to make these fun post-it holders. She will have instructions and kits for sale



programme: 21.05.2011

- 10:15 Doors open
- 10:30 Welcome, refreshments, shopping, worktables open
- 12:00 Worktables finish
- 1:00 Trade stands close
- 1:00 Refreshments, notices and raffle, followed by show and tell
- 1:45 Speaker
- 3:30 Close



coffee rota
volunteers
required
for October
please contact
Rita March
01604 784854



If you would like to have a work table at this or a future meeting, please contact Ann Harris (01604 710134).

diary dates:

8th October 2011

Alison Bramley – 'Frazzled and Dazzled' – the joys of working in silk. Alison uses a method of frayed cut back applique worked out by herself. For a preview of Alison's vibrant silk quilts go to www.ajbsilkquilts.co.uk

21st January 2012

Edwina Mackinnon – 'The Story So Far' illustrated by traditional and contemporary quilts. Edwina's recent work can be seen on www.edwinamacblogspot.com

12th May 2012

TBC

trade stands

Serenity Quilts

Tudor Rose Patchwork

The Knitting Basket

worktables and demonstrations

(usual sewing kit for all)

see above

important news about the newsletter:

This will be the last newsletter in the existing format...

The current system of producing a printed newsletter 3 times a year, distributed by a combination of print and email. means that some people receive it twice whilst others miss out. With the rising costs of postage, printing and VAT we have devised what we hope is a fairer and more cost effective solution which we will trial for the coming year.

We plan to send out **one** colour annual newsletter by post to **everyone** at the beginning of the academic year in September, in advance of the October meeting. This will contain all the usual information on meeting format and speakers for the year ahead, the summary of accounts, plus other snippets and diary dates of interest. This will also be available in a improved format as a flip book on the website, But you will need to keep your printed copy until the next one is sent out in September 2012, as duplicates will not be available. If you lose it, the information will all be on the website but there will also be b/w flyers available at the meetings giving up to date information on the next one.

We will check with you next May to see whether you think this is working but hopefully it will be fairer to all.

Heather Colman

January 2011 meeting



Luckily this year it didn't snow!... and although we had some challenges with the parking, we had a marvellous turnout of over 150 ladies. There was much to do before we opened the doors to those attending, then, while the ladies had their tea and biscuits, Ann welcomed them all and outlined the arrangements for the day. The atmosphere within the hall was very friendly with many new faces and it was great to see everyone chatting and getting to know one another.

We asked members to complete forms giving details of any quilt groups they attended, and these details are now on our website. Once again, our raffle was very well supported with some great prizes – thanks to Wendy and Julie for a great job in selling the tickets.

The trade stands featured Poppy Patch from Great Doddington, Home Workshop Books and

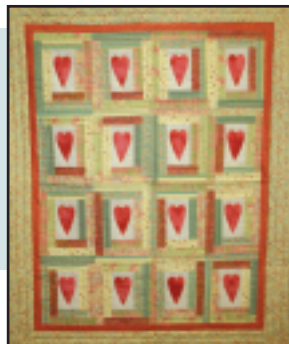
Some of the quilts from the show and tell session by (left to right) Pauline White, Sara Athey, detail by Jean Ward and the group production by Dantre Quilters.

Please don't forget to bring your finished items with you to display in the hall,, its not just the speaker's quilts that inspire!

Crafts and Quilts from Heart of the Shires Shopping Village. They were very busy and we do hope that they will be happy to join us again in the future. Once again, the donated sales table did a roaring trade, our thanks to Anita and also many thanks to all those members who donated fabrics and magazines for the sales table.

The work tables were popular and very well attended – Pat Cliffe demonstrate her Victorian pin cushions, Pauline White made her little wallet and Kathy Lee explained how to do piped edgings and bindings. Anne Vincent held the first children's worktable for children aged 10-15. The girls attending the workshop all made and decorated a bag and a great time was had by all.

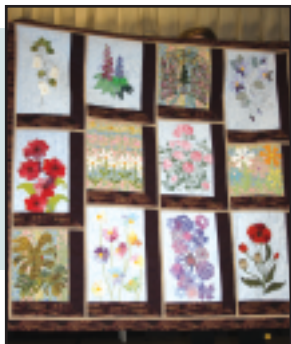
After lunch we had the Show & Tell and some lovely quilts and wall hangings were displayed by Pauline





White, Jean Ward, Sarah Athey, Elizabeth Richardson and Rita March. Mary Winchcombe showed us the group quilt made by Danetre Quilters that she had 'won' in their raffle. Her granddaughter, Bethany, displayed a little wall hanging she had made and the cushion her grandma had made. The young quilters Aimee, Jennifer, Bethany and Amy, came on stage and showed us the bags they had made during the morning with Anne.

This was all a prelude to Ferret, our afternoon speaker, who showed us her amazing award winning art quilts. With her wonderful sense of humour, Ferret explained how she created her work, and illustrated how she was constantly stretching her boundaries with new ideas and techniques. She



concluded with some of her work using the long arm quilting machine (below). She also had her new book and other patterns for sale.

This meeting we had our new 'NQ mug' for sale. We are hoping to sell all the mugs in order to make a small profit to assist NQ with the rising running costs of holding each meeting. All proceeds from the entrance fees, trade stands, sales table and raffle all help to produce income, against which we have the costs of room hire, speaker, insurance, refreshments and printing and postage of the newsletter.



The meeting drew to a close around 3.35p.m. and a good day was had by all. The day went by so quickly, with many new and friendly faces, and we do hope you join us again in the future.

Elaine Turvey

▶ Offcuts...

Still a cat's life... It seems George is maintaining his track record



George making himself comfortable on the Quilt he thinks was made for him.



And if you think a committee meeting is all hilarity... George will tell you otherwise! It must have been well past his bed time...

If I stitch fast enough does it count as exercise?

That is the question posed on our jolly new mugs... modelled here for us by Pat. So for those of you who missed out at the last meeting or didn't bring enough cash for both mugs and fabric (tough decision) these will be available to purchase on 21st May at a cost of £6.00 each.

The purchase of these will help us to fund the speakers and general running expenses of the meetings, so treat yourself or quilting friends and help us to keep on top of our overheads.

And the answer? Why, of course it counts... but you do have to stitch really quite fast!



Craft and Design Show

Over the Spring Bank Holiday weekend of Sunday & Monday May 29th & 30th, there will be a Craft and Design Show in the Walled Garden at Castle Ashby.

May this year has been designated as the month to promote crafts and design throughout the country and the event at Castle Ashby is going to be a showcase for craftsmen and women to show what is available in the craft world locally.

Nene Quilters have been invited to be involved with this event and have accepted the offer to run free, a small exhibition space for the 2 days, displaying various items made by our members. If you are interested in displaying something you have made or are prepared to help man the stall for a couple of hours over the weekend, please get in touch with either Jan Webb, 01604 402518 or Ann Harris, 01604 710134.

We would also like to be able to demonstrate some of the many patchwork, appliqué and quilting techniques our clever members can do.

So put the dates in your diary and come and join us at Castle Ashby and you can also take the opportunity to see what skills other crafty Northants people have to offer.

Joy McQueen

I am sure we were all very sad to hear that Joy had died recently at the age of 77 .

Joy had been a member of Nene Quilters for many years and was in fact responsible for introducing me to Nene Quilters some 10 years ago when meetings were held at Cliftonville.

Joy had many other hobbies including being a member of her local art group, crochet, cross stitch and knitting. Talking of knitting, over the past 4 years Joy has knitted over 900 hats for the Children's Christmas Shoe Box Appeal. All the odds and ends of wool were used for Animals in Need, one of the many charities that Joy supported throughout the years.

Joy will be remembered by all those who knew her as a kind, generous and caring friend and will be sadly missed by us all.

Anita Grinling

Quilt display

If you find yourself near Towcester in June then pop into the Library there to see recent work by the Tove Quilting and Stitching group. Its the fist display we have done for several years so there is bound to be much on display that you won't seen before. And if you live locally then why not join us? Details on NQ website.

Your Committee

Chair:	Ann Harris
Secretary:	Elaine Turvey
Treasurer:	Jan Webb
Membership:	Lynn Watts
Newsletter:	Heather Colman
Photography:	Julie Morriss
Raffle:	Claire le Maistre
Recruitment:	Lynn Watts
Refreshments:	Rita March
Sales table:	Anita Grinling
Speaker:	Debbie Gerrard
Trade stands:	Wendy le Maistre
Work tables:	Ann Harris
Additional help and experience:	Pat Thew
Website and publicity group:	Lynn, Jan, Heather
Exhibition group:	Lynn, Elaine, Wendy and Claire
Merchandise:	Jan, Ann, Debbie, Heather

To contact us you can email us via the contact us page on the website, www.nenequilters.com, or write to Nene Quilters, c/o 15 Streeton Way, Earls Barton, Northamptonshire, NN6 0HX or call Ann Harris on 01604 710134 or Jan Webb: 01604 402518

To the Abbey Centre

ABBEY CENTRE,
OVERSLADE CLOSE,
EAST HUNSBURY,
NORTHAMPTON. NN4 0RZ

The Centre can be found off the Mereway/Tesco roundabout in Northampton on the A45. Take the exit signposted Milton Malsor/ Hunsbury, then first left into Clannell Rd. Turn left again into Overslade Close and follow the road round to the centre where there is ample parking, plus an overflow car park at the far end. It will usually be signposted on the days of our meetings. Please park on-site and then we will not inconvenience anyone.

