

Bourne Quilters Newsletter



December 2024

Chat from the Chair

Season's Greetings!

For years we've been complaining that Christmas is coming earlier and earlier in the shops, (my daughter already has her tree up!!) but for those of us who like to sew, Christmas can't start too early! The products of our funday and sewing evening are good examples. Having missed the funday I'm hoping we see lots more finished articles and other Christmas makes in our show and tell this month.

This month is our AGM, an important date in the Bourne Quilter's diary. In addition to the necessary business of the meeting we will be drawing the raffle for the Show Quilter and presenting cheques to the charities we have chosen to support this year; Tuppenny Barn, The New Blendworth Centre, The Rowans, Positively Parkinson's, Emsworth Community Centre and Crisis (in memory of Caron). We also aim to make the evening fun, there is a small gift for everyone who attends and we finish the evening with drinks and nibbles. (Please bring a small plate of food.) feel free to wear your Christmas jumper!!

New for next year we are introducing a **Block of the Month**. For those who are unfamiliar with the idea, it is a great way to learn or practice basic skills, gradually growing a quilt in bite sized pieces. A perfect project for beginner and experienced sewers alike. More experienced (not expert!!) sewers will be on hand at monthly meetings and Stitchers mornings if you need any help or advice. There will be 9 monthly blocks, starting with something very simple, and then we will cover quilting, slashing and binding so your quilt could be finished by the end of 2005. Use your scraps, stash or buy new fabrics, the choice is yours. This example, (we will use SOME of these blocks) was my very first quilt, I didn't have a starch then, I started with 4 fat quarters and added a few more as I ran out or needed a bit of variety.



Meeting report - Christmas Funday

On 2nd November, enthusiastic BQ sewers turned up at Westbourne Parish Hall for our annual Christmas Funday. A day of sewing seasonal projects with lunch provided and the opportunity to catch up with friends and make new ones. This year we were making Christmas gnomes (or gonks for the purists amongst us), heart wreaths and reindeer table runners. The soups provided

for lunch were delicious and there was enough for a second bowl for those that were hungry. The light-hearted Christmas quiz tested our knowledge but we managed to get most of the answers in the end. We still had room for home made cake with our afternoon tea before wrapping up with photos of our makes.



The November BQ meeting is the perfect time to start making for Christmas. This year's project was a little gnome made using scraps of fabric and felt that could be used as a tree decoration, gift tag or even a name tag for the dinner table. There was more ironing than sewing, but it was a good opportunity to share with some of our newer members the joys of working with heat'n'bond to produce the basic gnome figure. This could be embellished with whatever takes your fancy.

Show and Tell

It is always a joy to see what BQ members have been working on and this month was no exception. One of the army of gnomes that had been produced at the funday was enjoying an evening out. There were some small Christmas trees from scraps of seasonal fabric that would be a lovely project to tackle with grandchildren or non sewers of any generation. We also saw quilts ranging from little panels, through baby quilts to full sized bed quilts.



Stitchers Mini Workshops

On the 19th November we held our second mini workshop at Westbourne Parish Hall. Mel Lewis from Sugarbowl Crafts took us through the techniques that she has used to produce some interesting appliqué panels that she incorporates into her quilts. Using small check gingham as a base fabric meant that we could practice and refine our straight line sewing and perfect our square corners. Mel brought along some lovely Aurifil thread in different weights and a selection of needles that we could try out to see if we could notice the difference it made when sewing with a very fine thread. As well as this we learnt how we could use the excess fabric on the scraps that was turned under to add a 3D perspective to the appliqué patch. By the end of the session, we had all made a start on an appliqué panel and our fingers were itching to go and complete it.



We were also joined by some of our regular Bourne Stitchers who were working on their own projects. Bourne stitchers meets at Westbourne Parish Hall every other Tuesday Morning from 9.30 - 12.00 (dates are on the website) and is open to all members of Bourne Quilters. You don't have to wait for an invitation or for one of our mini workshops to come along. You can bring your machine, hand sew, knit or crochet, or even just pop in for a chat and a coffee. Everyone is welcome.

Coming up in 2005

Lisa has worked hard this year to put together a really varied and interesting programme of speakers and workshops. You will find the programme at the end of this newsletter. It is also on our website <https://bournequilters.com>

We start the year in January with Ann Taylor who will talk about her lifelong in textiles. /she will also bring a selection of her work and have a small sales table. Don't forget to bring some cash! Ann has very kindly rearranged her date from later in the year to help with the knock-on problem caused when our October speaker was unavailable.

In February we welcome Alison Hulme whose talk is entitled, My Life in Stitches. Alison will also run a workshop on the next day where we will have fun using Thermafax screens, Ellie plates, and stencils to print on fabric. Sign up sheet will be available this month. We are aware that Tuesday workshops do not work for everyone but we are restricted by the availability of the speakers, especially if they are travelling a long way. We do have plans to put on extra Saturday workshops during the year.

YOUNG QUILTERS



The second Young Quilters workshop is being held on Saturday 7th December 2pm to 4.30pm at Emsworth Community Centre in the Assembly Rooms. At the workshop we will be making the Christmas gnome that was made at the Christmas Funday.

Ellie and Karen are in the process of being signed off as Young Quilters volunteers which will mean we can run the workshops without needing support from the other regions – thank you to Sheila Musson and Penny Savill from Area 2 who have supported us as our YQ volunteer.. Going forward the plan is to run 2 sessions a term. Interest continues to grow and it was great to see that at the Region 2 day in Chichester some of the YQ's that came to our workshop took up the opportunity to make a fabric box.

Thank you to all of you who have volunteered to help – 121 support for the quilters makes such a difference to how the workshop runs and really helps the children to develop.

Any questions please drop Karen a line on email Karen.lillington@btinternet.com or 07886796857.

The Last Page....

If at any time you are aware of another member who has been bereaved, is ill, in hospital, or just needs cheering up then please contact Kathy on: patchworkbear@gmail.com 07909 692559 or 01243 373545 so that Bourne Quilters can send a card. We would rather be told twice than not at all.

If you would like to come to our Monday meetings but find it hard to get there, please let a member of the committee know, it's not a promise as it would depend on where you live and who is passing but several members who come along have said they would be prepared to pick up and drop off if needed. Let Karen know on karen.lillington@btinternet.com or 07886796857

BQ has wadding for sale at the Monday meetings at a very reasonable price. It is available in multiples of half a metre.

Price: 80/20 - £10/metre Bamboo - £11/metre

Contacts

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Bourne Quilters Programme 2025

6th January	Ann Taylor	Stitch in Colour
3rd February	Alison Hulme	My life in Stitches
4th February	Alison Hulme	Workshop
3rd March	Graham Parker	My Journey in Quilting
1st March	Doughty's	Fabric Sale
5th April	Cot quilts	Funday
7th April	Easter sewing evening	In House
5th May	Harriet Riddell	INSTITCHYOU talk
2nd June	Elizabeth Saunders	My Journey and Rag Quilts
6th June	Elizabeth Saunders	Workshop
7th July	Alice and Maria	Becoming Master Quilters
4th August	Summer Evening	In House
1st September	Christine Green	Bust the rules and get creative
2nd September	Christine Green	Workshop
6th October	Show and Tell	TBA
25th October	Doughty's	Fabric Sale
3rd November	Christmas sewing evening	In House
15th November	Christmas Funday	In House
1st December	AGM and Christmas Party	In House

Bourne Stitches Dates 2005

2024 December 3rd, 17, 31st (tbc)

January 14, 28th	February 11th, 25th	March 11th, 25th
April 8th, 22nd	May 6th, 20th	June 3rd, 17th
July 1st, 15th, 29th	August 12th, 26th	September 9th, 23rd
October 7th, 21st	November 4th, 18th	December 2nd, 16th, 30th