

Bourne Quilters Newsletter



February 2025

Chat from the Chair

What an excellent start to the year! We had a packed hall for the January meeting with a number of new members signing up. There were also lots of show and tell items which demonstrated the talent we have across all our members both new to quilting and those who have been quilting for longer.

The 2025 Bourne Quilters committee met for the first time and the enthusiasm around the table was great to be part of and generated lots of ideas and excitement for our membership over the coming months. We shared out the committee jobs which underpin all the activities, meetings, workshops etc that take place throughout the year. Just so you can see who is doing what I have put a list below. We have also had a few members say they would love to be more involved and help at Bourne Quilters although they can't commit to the committee. If you are one of these people there are definitely ways that you can do this, so read on in the newsletter and get in touch if you think you can help.

MEETING JOBS		COMMITTEE JOBS	
Chairs and tables etc	All and members	Chair	Karen
Intro to meeting	Chair (Karen)	Newsletter	Chris
Sign in	Sandie	Membership	Gill
Raffle	Rita	Treasurer	Rita
Library	Frances	Web site	Frances and Gill
Meet and greet speaker set up	Lisa/Mel	Bourne Stitchers	Rita and Frances (inc workshops)
Refreshments	Core rota of members	Facebook	Gill
Wadding	Get out with library	Programme 2025	Lisa
Workshops sign in	Caroline/Gill	Programme 2026	Mel and Lisa
Tidying up after	All and members	Meeting notes	Mel
		Condolences and keeping in touch	Sandie

The January meeting

At our first meeting in 2025 Anne Taylor of <https://www.bluespacequilts.co.uk/> came to talk about her textile journey.

Anne spoke about how she had started out, like many of us, making clothes at a time when there was just little choice and it was cheaper to buy material and 'me-make'.

Like many of us she found that life sometimes got in the way of her creative journey but in the meantime her reinvented jacket won her a fantastic Janome sewing machine that helped her continue that journey.

Her talk also took some time to divert in to the mental health benefits of textile art; the mindfulness that comes out of concentrating on creating, which is called 'flow'; and the long term benefits of friendships and shared interests that come out of being part of a community (Bourne Quilters) of like-minded people.

Anne is now fully immersed (excuse the pun!) in dyeing techniques, particularly ice dyeing. She creates beautiful fabrics

that show texture and colour and are then further enhanced with quilting and stitching to bring out their beauty.

We are grateful to Anne for rearranging her date to help us reschedule when a previous speaker was unable to come because of injury.



Show and Tell



Coming up

February meeting



This month we welcome Alison Hulme whose talk is entitled, My Life in Stitches.

Alison is an artist living and working on the edge of the New Forest. She has a huge passion for both nature and textiles that she loves to share with everyone she meets. As well as creating her own work she also travels around the country sharing her skills through workshops and talks.



There are now a few spaces on Alison's workshop on the next day using Thermafax screens, jellie plates, and stencils to print on fabric. Contact Lisa, lisa.harnett@outlook.com if you're interested.

March meeting

Next month we welcome Graham Parker from Southampton.

Graham writes: *Slightly mad, slightly bad, appalling dress sense but occasionally good at University Challenge, all qualities that lead to a man's view and approach to quilting. If I dress like this by choice my quilts must surely be suspect, but hey ho, it's the involvement in my own idiosyncratic form of accessible art that drives me. It's hopeful they have universal appeal, but I make them lovingly, caress them often then fold them away and move on to the next one knowing there is achievement in my life no matter how arcane, but more than that, I make them for me as a lock-myself-away get away.*

My good friend Janice and I call ourselves Dartington Dyers as we have a small studio in Southampton where we dye fabric and create small sundries which we sell at my group visits and talks, at hopefully modest prices. Please visit our table at my talk with you. We can only accept cash (as we are not big or clever enough for card machines).

I may have a deprecating view on my work, but please do join me and scrutinise a man's view of the fabric world and leave contented that your own quilts have never looked better.

Block of the Month (BOM)

With this newsletter we are launching the first Bourne Quilters Block of the Month. Each month, for 9 months, we will be introducing a new block for you to make. Then we will look at quilting, sashing (putting together) and binding to finish your quilt. So, by this time next year you will have a completed quilt, in plenty of time for our 2026 show!

We wanted to do something that everyone could join in with, beginners and experienced quilters alike. This project starts off with the absolute simplest of blocks so that our beginners can start to learn what goes into making a quilt and to develop the skills (and vocabulary!) needed. Don't let this put off the more experienced among us - we will be progressing to more complicated blocks during the year so, hopefully, there will be something for everyone.

Sue Rhodes is kindly running a mini beginners' workshop on February 11th and she will be able to help with all you need to know to get started. If you have any questions about any of the blocks please don't be afraid to ask at one of our meetings. Anyone on the committee will be glad to help as, I am sure, would most of our more experienced members. The Tuesday morning Stitchers group is also a great place to get help and support.

I'm really looking forward to seeing everyone's BOM developing.

Beginners Mini Workshop, Tuesday 11th February

We are so pleased that Sue Rhodes has agreed to run a beginners mini workshop at our Stitches session on February 11th

Sue says: This session is going to be an introduction to accurate cutting and piecing to help you on your exciting quilting journey. The morning will be a mix of practical work, and we will also be talking about the tools available to you. I hope that you will come away well informed, enthused and confident about your new hobby (which might become an obsession..just warning you!!)

Doughty's

The Doughty's Fabric Roadshow is visiting us at Emsworth Community Centre on **SATURDAY 1ST MARCH**. This is a great opportunity to spend a few hours stroking fabric and either adding to your stash or resisting temptation! It's also an opportunity to boost the BQ funds as we charge entry and sell, our now famous, refreshments! In order to make this work we need lots of help from our members. Can you spare a few hours? We particularly need help setting up (Matthew arrives at 8.30am) and clearing away (2.30 - 3.30pm). During the day we need help on the door, keeping the fabrics tidy, and serving refreshments. I'm not intending to set up a rota this year but ask you to let me know if you can help and then come along on the day and pitch in. Your reward for spending a couple of hours helping is 10% discount on anything you buy - who can resist that??

Email or text me if you can help, thanks. Chris 07585558916 or busybarrells@gmail.com

Refreshments at monthly meetings

Who doesn't like a cuppa and biscuit at the start of the meeting. We have had one member say that it's the only time they eat a biscuit and it's a treat!! Over the years we have tried several ways to make sure refreshments are available. The volunteers who have helped with are much appreciated but with the membership growing the committee are finding it hard to keep on top of the refreshments. We would like to have a core group of people who could take this on. As ever if a job falls to a few it can be a bit onerous but if we could have 10 to 12 people who could be on a rota it would be great and you would only have to do it 2 or 3 times a year. If you think you could be part of this please contact Chris on 07585558916 or busybarrells@gmail.com

BQ de-stash

The idea of a destash table has been suggested. It would mean that at the Monday meetings there would be a table where members could sell unwanted equipment or material – yes unwanted material is a thing! We are looking for some member volunteers who could pick this up on behalf of Bourne Quilters. Equally if any of you have experience of this and the setup we would love to hear from you even if you wouldn't want to take it on.

Please contact Karen on 07886796857.

Karen.lillington@btinternet.com with any information so we can develop this for our group.



Craft Destash Sale

Saturday 22nd February 2025
10am - 2pm

Location: 12th Chichester Scout Hut, Sherborne Road, Chichester, PO19 3AA
Parking: the scout hut has its own car park or there is street parking on the surrounding roads.

Huge range of items available including

- Fabric
- Notions
- Craft supplies
- Ribbon
- Braids
- Books

There will be tea, coffee and cakes available to purchase.

Please bring cash as there will be no card payment facilities.

All proceeds will be donated to charity in remembrance of our dear friend Margaret Mould

Ardingly



I enjoyed a lovely day out yesterday at the Ardingly Show with the Hayling Island Piecemakers. Although most of us agreed the show was smaller than it has been, it was definitely worth the effort. Thanks for inviting us Hayling. Here a few of my favourites:



The Last Page....

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

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 Sandie on: sandie72003@yahoo.co.uk so that Bourne Quilters can send a card. We would rather be told twice than not at all.

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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Rita (Membership queries) 01243 373681 rita.duncan@btinternet.com

Chris (Newsletter) 07585558916 busybarrells@gmail.com

Bourne Quilters Programme 2025

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

	Evening meetings
	Workshops and Fundays

Bourne Stitchers Dates 2005

	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