

Bourne Quilters Newsletter



March 2026

Greetings From the Chair

While it's been very wet it's lovely to write this as the evenings are drawing out and some bird song is in the garden. This month's meeting will be a really good show, having heard from people who have attended a talk from Harriet Riddell they have all said it's been a wonderful and entertaining evening.

Coming up

Monday 2nd March - Harriet Riddell

Harriets presentation is about her travels around the world with a sewing machine that take her to unusual locations from the informal settlements of Nairobi to the tea fields of the Himalayas. Through free motion embroidery she captures the environment and the people she meets

Her talk will take you on a colourful journey, from cycling across India to pedal-powered sewing machines. During the talk she will perform a live stitched portrait demonstration of one of our members. A camera on her sewing machine means you see the portrait coming to life!



Easter Monday Meeting April 6th – Easter sewing



This is going to be a sewing evening where Alyson will show us how to make fabric tulips. We will supply fabric but feel free to bring some along, especially if you have any special material or colours that you would like to use.

Please bring your normal sewing kit with sewing needle/scissors, sewing machines are needed for a very small amount of sewing and we will have the Young Quilter sewing machines to use so you don't need to bring yours.

Sarah Ashcroft non residential workshop

This weekend retreat on April 24 and 25th is now full but we are running a waiting list so if you would like to add your name please email events@bournequilters.com or sign up at a meeting. All participants should have received an email with details of the weekend and requirements. If you haven't received yours please email as above.

Bag Workshop

On 31st January BQ held their first bag workshop. There has been a growing interest in bag making and this was the ideal opportunity to learn a new technique from some of our in-house experts. Lesley demonstrated a challenging jelly roll bag, Sandy had a tidy little bag with a drawstring top, Wendda had a backpack and Valerie had a shopper with a dividing pocket.



After admiring the stunning fabrics that people were using to make their bags the groups settled down with their leaders and set too with a vengeance. With tea and coffee available in the kitchen as well as home made cakes the day progressed at a pace. By end of the day some of the bags were actually finished which is a sign of success. A big thanks also to Gill who PAT tested about 20

appliances and also managed to sew a bag! Thanks also to everyone for helping set up and tidy away and a special thank you to those who found the time to make the cakes that were appreciated by all.



Meeting Report 2nd February 2026

The challenge group? What's that all about? These are the questions that many BQ members asked and tonight we learnt more about it. Caroline, Glynis and Lesley are 3 of the group that has been around for almost 20 years. The original 6 members got together following an inspirational talk from a speaker many years ago. The membership has changed over the years as members left and new ones joined. They take their inspiration from a wide range of subjects. It might be a colour, shape, thought, event, feeling or almost anything that they agree on. They then go their separate ways to interpret their topic.





Tonight they showed us some of the pieces that they had produced over the years. There were wall hangings, mini quilts, 3d pieces, bags and everything that the group were inspired to make. We saw the colour yellow, flowers, fishes, music, women, landscapes to name but a few. There are more pictures on the website as there is so much good stuff to see that it won't all fit here.

<https://bournequilters.com/show-and-tell/>

Show and Tell

Tonight we saw the latest pieces from the flourishing Young Quilters group who have been working on wonky houses.

The recent bag workshop was very popular and there were many bags to see.

More photos are available on the website.



Block of the Month

How's your block of the month going? Are you up to date with all your blocks quilted and ready to put together?

Alice will be running a mini workshop on Tuesday 10th March, 9.30 at Westbourne Parish Hall. She will explain and demonstrate how to join the blocks with sashing strips.

If you can't get to the workshop there are several good YouTube videos.

There are lots of ways to do Quilt AS You Go (QAYG) as you will see if you explore them on YouTube. I'm going to give this one a go, I've not done it like this before but I have to say I really like the video because there is no unnecessary chat, just plain, clear instructions.

<https://youtu.be/wim72d9GMJk?si=liVqLAK7SvXPVBvo>

ITS SHOWTIME

Our quilt show is this year!

Saturday 25th July & Sunday 26th July

5 months
to go

Nominations still open for charities for us to raise money for.

So far we have had 3 nominations and these are The Rosemary Foundation; Tuppeny Barn; and The Hayling Island Donkey Sanctuary. If you have a charity that you would like to nominate for us to raise money for please let us know by 31st March we usually have several so don't be put off as there are already 3 nominated.

members@bournequilters.com

Publicity

You will have read in the article from Rita that we need people to help contact and distribute posters and advertising. Rita has done this for several years and so is great at the ground work of where but help is needed in your area – or where you can get to to help with this. Please let Rita or one of the committee know if you could help with this or need to know more.

Lucky dip/Sales Table/Books/Bags

If you have anything for the Lucky dip, sales table, UFO's, books etc can you keep them til March when we will start to collect them in the meetings. We have kindly been able to source some storage at the Community centre and also will store things in our homes but for now it would be helpful if you could keep hold of them and then we will collect from March onwards.

Ideas or questions?

It's definitely a team effort so if you have any ideas/question don't hesitate to drop an email to members@bournequilters.com or drop me a txt/WhatsApp to 07886796857 or you speak to a committee member.

Sales table sewing together – Saturday 21st

March – Westbourne Hall

ROLL UP ROLL UP SIGN UP!

Places are still available for this workshop day. While several people are keen to make their own project a number of you have said you would like to do one of our projects. They will be things that you can complete in a day and possibly make 2. We will have examples at the next meeting. They will be relatively straightforward with instructions but with people on hand to help if needed. If there is any specialist or niche notions we will have those.

We are asking for £5 to cover room hire/refreshments and materials (if needed)
SO

1. Sign up to come along
2. Let us know if you are bringing your own project or want to do one of ours
3. Tell us if you have any special requirements for your project – we can't promise but will try to help
4. COME ALONG AND HAVE FUN
SEWING ON SATURDAY 21st MARCH

Show weekend textile/handsewing demonstrations

Our visitors in the last show loved seeing demonstrations of hand and machine sewing techniques. If you have a particular technique or make that you would be happy to spend some time demonstrating (we will sort out times etc when we have our volunteers) do please tell us so we can plan you into the weekend .

A message from Romsey Quilters

Romsey Quilters are holding their exhibition in Romsey Abbey this year from 4th to 19th July. We are hoping to have around 100 quilts in the Abbey with a separate additional exhibition in the nearby United Reformed Church.

Excitingly we have persuaded Jo Avery to give her wonderful talk about theory of colour on the eve of the exhibition and we wondered if you would be kind enough to promote both the festival and the talk to the members of Bourne Quilters.

Tickets for the talk from:

<https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/romseyfestival/colour-theory-of-quilts-a-talk-by-jo-avery/e-rbjybo>

(If you have difficulty getting tickets come back to me, Chris)



The poster for the Romsey Quilt Exhibition features a background of various quilt patterns. At the top left is the Romsey Festival 2026 logo. To its right is the Romsey Quilters logo with the slogan 'A House is not a Home Without a Quilt'. The main title 'Romsey Quilt Exhibition' is in large blue letters, followed by the dates '4th - 19th July 2026' and the location '10am - 4pm Romsey Abbey'. Below this, it says 'Subject to Services'. The poster lists several activities: a talk by Jo Avery on Friday 3rd July at 7pm-9pm at Crosfield Hall, with proceeds to RNLI Lifeboats; workshops on Saturday 4th and Sunday 5th July at 10am-4pm; and a fabric sale by Fabric Fiesta on Sunday 12th July at 10am-4pm at Crosfield Hall, with proceeds to the Romsey Opportunity Group. It also mentions a raffle for a beautiful quilt with proceeds to Jane Scarth House, and a display by Linus Quilts at the United Reformed Church, Romsey, featuring quilts made for children who are sick, disabled, or disadvantaged. The contact email 'rqexhibition26@gmail.com' is at the bottom.

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 through members@bournequilters.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 know through members@bournequilters.com 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.

We are very pleased that we are able to maintain the bargain prices of:
80/20 - £10/metre Bamboo - £11/metre

Contacts

The committee can now be contacted through the Bourne Quilters email addresses which are now fully operational.

For anything related to workshops or events please use: events@bournequilters.com
and for any other communication please use members@bournequilters.com

We can still be reached by phone:

Karen (Chair) 07886 796857

Gill (Membership queries) 07940892916

Chris (Newsletter) 07585 558916

Bourne Quilters Programme 2026

1st March	Young Quilters	
2nd March	Harriet Riddell	In Stitch You
21st March	Sew for the show	In house
6th April	Easter sewing	Tulips
25/26 April	Sarah Ashford retreat	Walking foot quilting
4th May	Show and Tell	Shirley Quilters
17th May	Young Quilters	
1st June	Kate Findlay	Nature in Textiles
2nd June	Kate Findlay workshop	Bluebell Woods
29th June	Young Quilters	
6th July	Show preparation	In house
25th July 26th July	Quilt Show	
3rd August	Helen Sill	Threads of Tradition
7th September	Pimm's and Strawberries	In house
5th October	Hannah's Room	Batiks
6th October	Hannah's room workshop	Confetti
10th October	Coach trip - Knit and Stitch	Alexandra Palace
24th October	Doughty's	
1st November	Young Quilters	
2nd November	Christmas Sewing	In house
7th November	Christmas Funday	In house
6th December	Young Quilters	
7th December	AGM	Christmas Party

Bourne Stitchers Dates 2026

		March 10th, 24th
April 7th, 21st	May 5th, 19th	June 2nd, 16th, 30th
July 14th, 28th	August 11th, 25th	September 8th, 22nd
October 6th 20th	November 3rd 17th	December 1st, 15th, 29th tbc