

# Bourne Quilters Newsletter



April 2026

## Greetings from the Chair

When this newsletter arrives Easter will be upon us. I hope you are in the throws of starting a lovely Easter weekend. I love Easter - with the daffodils coming out, the Easter eggs (somehow Easter chocolate tastes different) and time to sit and hopefully enjoy some sun.

This newsletter has lots in it, including write-ups of the recent meetings (how wonderful was Harriet Riddell!), the recent BOM workshop and also the sew for the show day.

Which brings me onto the show itself, this month's 'Its Showtime' has lots of information. The response has been great regarding the nominations for the charities so we have confirmed them and you can follow the links to find out more about them. There is a timeline with the key dates that I hope will explain the what and how of the show. You will see we are in need of a few volunteers to help in the lead up with publicity and preparing the labels that go on the quilts. It really is many hands make light work so if there are a few people we would really welcome your help.

In the meantime have a lovely Easter and I look forward to seeing you at our Monday meeting on Easter Monday

## Coming Up

### Easter Monday Meeting April 6th – Easter sewing



This is a sewing together meeting, A big thank you to Alyson who will kindly lead us in making fabric tulips. We have some fabric but if you have any particular colours or design of material you want to use please bring it along. You need a piece per flower head approximately 4 ¾" x 2 ¾". Everything else will be provided, please bring a normal sewing kit with threads, pins, scissors etc. The Easter bunny may even hop along with some chocolate. See you there

## Monday 4th May

### Shirley Quilters show and Tell

Shirley Quilters started in 2000 and was born out of an idea of like-minded ladies who took beginner and intermediate evening classes for patchwork and quilting and then found there was no advanced course. They enjoyed sewing and chatting and formed Shirley Quilters as a way forward. Shirley Quilters promote an appreciation of patchwork and quilting and encourage members to increase ability and skill. They organise teaching events and bi-annual exhibitions. They will have a great body of work to bring and share with us.



## Monday 1st and Tuesday 2nd June

### Kate Findlay - Nature in Textiles

Kate will talk about her animal, bird, landscape and garden based work. Creating fabric paintings since 2014 she uses appliqué methods and also mixes in many print and paint techniques.



On **Tuesday** Kate will lead a full day workshop making a fabric landscape inspired by bluebell woods. This workshop promises to be very popular so be sure to book your place at this month's meeting. Cost: £25



## BOM Workshop - Tuesday 7th April

This is the final BOM workshop when Alice will show us how to bind and finish our quilts. 10am at Westbourne Parish Hall. £5 per person. Sign up at Monday's meeting.

## Coach Trip to Alexandra Palace 10th October 2026

Bourne Quilters is organising a coach trip to the Knit and Stitch show at Alexandra Palace. See the link for more information about this show <https://www.knitandstitchshow.co.uk/london/> To make sure we can fill the coach and the trip goes ahead we are opening this to members and non-members at the same price and the same time. The cost of the trips is £46 including entrance ticket. We are arranging booking for this in good time so that if you wish you can book yourself onto a workshop. The workshop dates are likely to be out mid-June and if you register on their website you will get notification. <https://www.knitandstitchshow.co.uk/london/early-access/>

OUTWARD: Depart: Emsworth Square 8am Arrive: Alexandra Palace 11am

Additional pick up point in Petersfield Festival Car Park @ 8.30

RETURN: Depart Alexandra Palace 4pm Arrive Emsworth Square 7pm

Anticipated journey time best estimate is 3 hours but this does of course depend on traffic. The timing should allow 5 hours at the show.

COST: £46 including entrance ticket - same price for members and non-members so feel free to bring a friend

TO RESERVE YOUR PLACE: email: [events@bournequilters.com](mailto:events@bournequilters.com) or book at the monthly meeting. Deposit required of £25 with balance due 3rd August 2026. If you feel able to pay in full £46 when booking it will be a huge help to the organisers. **\*\*IMPORTANT** Put 'Knit and Stitch' in the subject line of the email

HOW TO PAY:

Preferably by BACS to: Bourne Quilters      Sort code 20-69-34      Account 40594628

**IMPORTANT** please put payment reference 'Knit and Stitch'

TERMS OF BOOKING AND CONFIRMATION OF PLACE:

1. Your coach place and entry ticket is reserved by sending an email and making a deposit payment.
2. If a deposit of £20 is paid the balance is due by the 3rd August. Please note our entry tickets are being held on a rolling basis that we renew every month. If for any reason it becomes impossible to renew this (if they are selling out) we reserve the right to ask for full payment earlier.
3. You will receive confirmation of your place once your email and your payment are received. 'Events' check the account at the end of each month so please allow time for this to be sent out.
4. Refunds are not given once a deposit is paid, however you may 'sell' your place to someone else.
5. If you can't pass on your place to someone else if we have waiting list we will use your place for that person, in which case a refund will be given.
6. Further information regarding pick-up location will be shared nearer the time
7. If for any reason the trip cannot go ahead i.e. insufficient numbers to fill coach; you will receive a full refund. This decision will be made on or before 3rd August.

## Sarah Sullivan

We're very pleased to let you know that Sarah Sullivan, who had to miss her scheduled meeting because she was unwell, has agreed to give her talk about Sylko in November.

## Last Month's Activities

### March Meeting

For some of us, the thought of taking our sewing machine out of the home to sew somewhere different fills us with dread. However, our speaker Harriet Riddell, embraces the opportunities that this presents. Over the years she worked out how to power her machine with batteries which meant that she could take it to far flung places such as rural Africa and India. A further development was to link her sewing machine to a bicycle to enable her to sew. She

gets someone else to pedal while she sews and they can feel the stitches. If she sews fast then it's harder to pedal and if they stop pedalling then Harriet stops sewing!

Harriet likes to sew what she sees and being able to take her machine out and about has enabled her to embrace this. She paints pictures with her sewing machine. These vary from



painting the outside of the Liberty building in London to portraits of stars such as David Bowie and Elton John. One of her favourite places to sew is the launderette where she captures the images around her. As a treat she showed us how she does this. Lisa kindly modelled for her and we watched in awe as the image emerged from her sewing machine. This incorporated words that were significant such as the Christmas party where she met her husband and 2 small figures representing her children (or maybe her grandchildren). Lisa will bring the picture to the next meeting where we can all see it in detail.



With two small children Harriet may not travel as widely as before but she has a lovely little cabin in the woods where she retreats with her machine. She can also paint pictures over zoom as she can still hear the story as she sews.

## Show and Tell [More pictures on the website](#)



## Mini Workshop

On 10th March members arrived at Westbourne for the sashing workshop for our block of the month quilt. Alice gave a lovely demonstration of how to join the blocks that had been quilted last month. The blocks first needed to be squared up, then, using 1 inch wide strips, the blocks were joined in rows and the back of the binding was hand sewn into place. Using copious amounts of pins to ensure that the blocks lined up accurately the rows were finally joined into the finished quilt. It was interesting to see how the choice of sashing determined the look of the quilt. If the sashing matched the backing fabric then it was almost invisible. On the front of the quilt a contrasting coloured sashing could really make the blocks 'pop', whilst a more subtle fabric blends in with the blocks.

Next month the mini workshop will be on binding and we will then be able to see the finished quilts!



## Sew for the Show Day



As the Quilt Show approaches, a bevy of keen BQ sewers descended on Westbourne Parish Hall on 21st March for our 'sew for the show' day. Armed with their sewing machines, it wasn't long before the hall resounded to the hum and whirr of bobbins being wound and machines piecing together a wonderful selection of items for the sales table at the show. Over the course of the day, fortified by tea, coffee and biscuits and not forgetting the home made cake, some intriguing items emerged. By the end of the day there was a treasure trove of goodies such as bowl cosies, covered notebooks, scissor cases, bucket hats, glasses cases, project bags and boxed pouches. It was a lovely way to spend the day - sewing in the company of other sewers and making things for a good cause.

We are hoping to run a further 'sew for the show' workshop at one of our Bourne Stitcher sessions closer to the show. More details to follow later.

Thanks also to Gill who again carried out PAT testing as well as completing her own sewing projects.

## Other news.....

### Memory bags

QA NICU are in need of memory bags. Each precious bundle (baby) has one that hangs on their cot and the staff and parents use them to save and store things that are part of their journey on NICU. The requirements are A4 and just need to be draw string. No words are necessary, just something simple, like these in the picture. If you feel able to please make one and bring it along to the April meeting and Karen will drop them off.



### A message from Jennie Rayment

“During the Emsworth Art Trail, 25th and 26th April and 2nd to 4th May, I will be holding a Stash and Sample Sale at 5 Watersedge Gardens, PO10 7EV. You will be able to see my work and Kristina’s sculptures. All very exciting!”

### Bits and Bobs and Supplies

Our supply of Bamboo and 80/20 wadding has been replenished. The Bamboo is now £14 per metre and the 80/20 is £12 per metre.

In addition, we have a small amount of thermal wadding (£9 per metre) which is great for placemats or runners that are going to have hot things on them or anything that has to withstand heat for example oven gloves. Sales of the wadding go back into Bourne Quilters funds so that we can purchase further supplies at a good price for our members.

There is also a range of bag supplies – D rings; clasps; buckles; tassels, the price for these range between 20p and 50p . In addition there are some cut to length zips @ £1 per metre. If you want to buy one metre of different colours to get a different design that is ok – minimum purchase 20cms. The sales of these are used to help fund Young Quilters.

### Destash

When starting the destash table we limited the number of items for sale to 5 per person and each month we have had a few people selling their surplus. Now it is up and running we feel able to extend this - if you have a larger amount of items that you want to sell then drop a line to [members@bournquilters.com](mailto:members@bournquilters.com) just to check there is room and we will email you back to confirm there is space and you are then welcome to bring more for sale.

### Show Quilts

The quilts are now finished ready to raffle and will be on show for you to see at the next meeting. They will be raffled for The Rowans and Two Saints Homeless Support; charities chosen in line with the wishes of the deceased sewers who started the quilts.

Huge thanks to **Janet Selmes** for the beautiful longarm quilting. If you are looking for a longarm quilter we can thoroughly recommend Janet; she is very professional to work with, her work is beautiful and her rates are very reasonable!

## ITS SHOWTIME

**Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> July**  
**Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> July**

What do you need to know or want to know about the show? If you are new to Bourne Quilters or would welcome a refresher, this edition of show time aims to answer those questions and also asks for some volunteers for particular roles.



**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED** - First we need to put out a request for some particular volunteers to help us put the show together these are Publicity Organiser and Quilt Label Organiser teams. What is needed is described below but be assured you will not be left on your own and we have a great committee to lead and help.

### Publicity Organiser(s)

The posters are organised and circulated to go in local publications but we are in need of a few people to help organise getting the word out there across local villages and towns. We have our previous plans that identify where but they always need updating as people come up with new ideas. The main bit is going round businesses with posters and seeking out your local notice boards. It will fit around your life and won't overtake it but we really do need a hand.

### Quilt Labels Organiser(s)

One of the things that adds to the presentation of the quilts is the quilt labels. We need a person or small team to make the labels. When you enter your item you will be asked to say a few words about it. Visitors love reading these and it gives some context to your creation. We need someone, or a few people who can work together copying and pasting what the owner of the quilt says about their quilt, then printing and laminating the paragraph. These will then be paired up with the quilt on set up day.

The formatting will be done in advance. We also encourage people to submit their label electronically so these will be a copy and paste job but some labels may need to be typed up.

If you are savvy with word (or equivalent) and emails then this is all the skills you need.

If you think you can help speak to Karen at a meeting or email [members@bournequilters.com](mailto:members@bournequilters.com) or drop at txt to 07886796857

We will then set up a meeting over a cuppa so everyone can work out the detail

### Who are we raising money for?

The raffle quilt runs for the rest of the year and it will be drawn at our AGM in December. The money raised will be divided between Rowans Hospice <https://www.rowanshospice.co.uk/and> Two Saints <https://twosaints.org.uk/>. These are charities and causes supported by the people whose quilts have been finished and put up for raffle.

Thank you for nominating the charities the money raised at the show is divided between the charities you nominate. This year the charities nominated are:

The Rosemary Foundation <https://rosemary-foundation.org.uk/>

The Hayling Island Donkey Sanctuary <https://www.haylingdonkeys.co.uk/>

Care and Share Waterlooville <https://www.neighbourly.com/project/60e5aa232e635ccdc5961494>

Chichester Foodbank <https://chichesterdistrict.foodbank.org.uk/>

### Chairmans Challenge

The challenge is to make a record out of fabric and then decorate with something that represents a record, it can be something fun or something that means something to you. All the details can be found here on the Bourne Quilters website. To help you with your challenge we have some black fabric that can be purchased for a nominal sum (proceeds to Young Quilters)

## Show dates for your diary

April onwards	<p><b>What do you want to display at the show?</b></p> <p>Think about how many items you have that you want to display. From May you can start getting your registration number for the things you want to display. You can display quilts, bags, cushions, jewellery in fact anything you've made and have not displayed before at a Bourne Quilters show.</p> <p><b>Destash and Lucky Dip</b></p> <p>Please start to put to one side anything that you want to donate for our de-stash table and lucky dip. If you can't store it then bring to a meeting and we can store it for you. Final call is the July Monday meeting to bring your donations, destash.</p> <p><b>Chairs Challenge/Finishing off UFOs</b></p> <p>Plenty of time to be finishing off your items for the show – don't forget to make your record for the Chairs Challenge</p>
May meeting onwards	<p><b>Register the items you want to display and get information how to sleeve and label your quilt.</b> It is important that your items are be looked after with all the care you took making them and displayed to show off all your hard work to its best advantage.</p> <p>The May newsletter will include all the information needed to hang , register and label so your quilts so that they can be kept track of and there is information about them for our visitors.</p> <p><b>Volunteers sign up start</b> - The sign-up sheet for volunteers will be out from this month onwards for you to put down your availability on the days leading up to the show and over the show weekend.</p>
End May onwards	<p><b>Local advertising</b> – this is when we start to put up posters in library. Walk round Emsworth giving out posters to display in shops. Make sure members have posters to display locally</p>
Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> July	<p><b>Last minute prep</b> - This is the last meeting before the show – we use this time to prepare the lucky dip. check posters, sort de stash.</p>
Wednesday 22 <sup>nd</sup> July	<p><b>Drop off your display items</b> - Drop off your quilts at Emsworth Community Centre. If you can't drop off at this time there will be alternative arrangements. We need to take them in a few days earlier to then sort to make the set-up day run smoother.</p>
Friday 24 <sup>th</sup> July	<p><b>Set up day</b> - We start at 10 am; each room has a team setting up their quilt display. We aim to finish by 4.30 pm. If you can't manage all day help is needed throughout the day. Closer to the time we will have a sign-up sheet</p>
Saturday and Sunday 25 <sup>th</sup> and 26 <sup>th</sup> July	<p><b>SHOW WEEKEND</b>– help needed throughout the day to steward, help with refreshments, and working on the stalls</p>
Sunday 26 <sup>th</sup> July	<p><b>Collect Quilts</b> - After show has closed the quilts can be collected– All the quilts are taken down and collected in Mountford 1 and 2. Members are asked to come to collect their quilts from 4.30. They need to queue outside the room. They should have their quilt receipts with them to pass to a helpers who will then collect their quilts and hand them over. It is done this way protect your quilts and make sure they are collected by the right person.</p>
<p>Any other questions? Do please ask if you want to know anything else please ask, be sure if you want to ask another question there will be others who are thinking the same question.</p>	



Shirley Quilters and Stitchers  
Invite you to a fundraising morning and talk for

# Project Linus

on  
Thursday 16 April 10-11.30

at  
St Boniface Church Hall  
413 Shirely Road, SO15 3JD

The mission of Project Linus is to provide a sense of security, warmth and comfort to children who are sick, disabled, disadvantaged or distressed by donating new, homemade, washable quilts and blankets made by UK volunteer knitters and quilters.



**Sales Table**

Visitors £5



**Raffle**

Proceeds to Project Linus



**Refreshments**

For more details email [shirleyquilterssoton@gmail.com](mailto:shirleyquilterssoton@gmail.com)



Linda Miller

## Making Pictures in Free Motion Embroidery Workshop

at  
St Boniface Church Hall, 413 Shirley Rd SO15 3JD

on  
21 May 2026, 10am - 4 pm



Using a sumptuous array of threads in a variety of colours and thickness and working with your own sewing machine, you will learn how to translate a picture/ photo that inspires into your own version in stitches.

This workshop is suitable for both novices and more experienced stitchers.

Cost £35 per person for Shirley Quilters & Stitchers members, (£50 for non-members)

To sign up: Contact Susan [shirleyquilterssoton@gmail.com](mailto:shirleyquilterssoton@gmail.com)  
Or sign up below. full payment due on registration.

## 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](mailto: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](mailto: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.

These are available at the bargain prices of:

80/20 - £12/metre: Bamboo - £14/metre: Thermal - £9/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](mailto:events@bournequilters.com)

and for any other communication please use [members@bournequilters.com](mailto: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

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

## Bourne Stitchers Dates 2026

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