

Mead Quilters

Issue 62
December
2018

A LETTER FROM THE CHAIR

3 ALIAS GRACE QUILT Blocks

I write this on December 1st and am relieved to say that today I completed samples of the 15 “Alias Grace” blocks and that all the diagrams are now ready for you. My thanks to [Jo Day](#) who has helped me with the more tricky diagrams. The blocks are very varied in style and difficulty but I hope that members will make at least one of the blocks up and use it in their own way, so that we can have an “Alias Grace” section in our Quilt Show next November. I also hope that you are busy making other large quilts for the show as they are the items that most of our visitors wish to see.

This month we have our Members Only Christmas Party when we also celebrate any 90th birthdays during 2018 and the only claimant so far is [Jean McConkey](#). As you know this year is a “Bring and Share” event so we have requested about 6 finger items, either sweet or savoury. If you have not been able to sign the sheet could I suggest savoury items as we have enough offers of sweet ones. Don't forget to bring your wrapped perfect fat quarter for our traditional party game and we look forward to a fun evening.

Last week I delivered seven incubator quilts and a number of knitted hats to the neo-natal unit at the [Lister Hospital](#) and we have since received a letter of thanks. We are continuing to supply the local breast units with cushions and tube-bags. Thank you to all of you who give your time and materials for our local hospitals. It is much appreciated.

A reminder that there will be no morning meeting in January as the first Tuesday is New Year's Day. We look forward to [Marion McCrindle's](#) talk at our January evening meeting.

Lastly, the Committee join me in wishing you all a **Happy Christmas and Good Health in 2019.**

Meanwhile, “Keep Quilting” *Valerie Pollington*

TEA ROTA

December - Christmas Party - please bring 6-8 items on a disposable plate, according to the list which is being circulated

January - Awaiting Volunteers

February - Sue Jonas, Maureen Chalk, Jane Storer



Rocky Road, Block 2



Lady of the Lake, Block 10



Falling Timbers, Block 11

THE BRAMBLE PATCH CHRISTMAS EXHIBITION, on during December

Alison Williams has been working on . . .



. . . this hand pieced quilt which will, when quilted, go into the [Bramble Patch Exhibition](#); you may have seen her working on it at our Tuesday mornings.



This is the pieced back of the quilt

I know I always bang on about the value of visiting other people's exhibitions but just as other quilters come to visit our exhibition as a source of inspiration, so I get bags of inspiration when I see someone else's work, and the [Bramble Patch Exhibition](#) is no exception.

All the exhibits are from different classes held at the Bramble Patch over the year so some of the exhibitors are seasoned quilters but many are first

quilts from new quilters and as such these keep our craft alive for a younger generation.

I love seeing several quilts from the same pattern but with very individualistic colourways, particularly since my sense of colour is also very different from most peoples. There were a lot of sampler quilts but this is what we all cut our teeth on. There was a whole alcove of very different Christmas hangings, I particularly liked a long thin runner composed of blocks of foundation pieced trees on a cream background.

[Ann Harris's](#) version of the 365 challenge was mirrored by another and hanging them opposite each other allowed you to see the different interpretations. Ann was Chair of [Nene Quilters](#) for some years and talking to the Bramble Babe on duty Ann and two friends had met for one day each week and completed the seven 4.5 blocks for that week.

There were a number of exhibits made at a Bramble Patch weekend away, this time on a Japanese theme, but all in all there was so much to take in and it is always so inspirational. I came away with at least three quilts in my head and as I have finished my last quilt in progress, (except for Alias Grace) it is now a top waiting for wadding and backing, so I have been on the lookout for a new challenge once those Christmas presents are finished.

QUILTERS GUILD REGION 7 AREA DAY at Cottored

It was good to see so many members of [Mead](#) at the Area Day and good to see so many members of the Guild attending this day.

I think I can say that everyone enjoyed the speakers who were both new to me. [Penny Roberts](#) who comes from Rushden in Northants showed some of her hand dyed quilts and specialises in giving dying workshops, but told of her 15 years in France and her involvement with the French equivalent of the Quilters Guild there.

In the afternoon [Nancy Adamek](#) showed us some exquisite hand pieced quilts including one made by her mother, owned by her sister and made up from thousands of small hexagons; Nancy had made a quilt to showcase each of her different packs of paper pieces. I am not one to do lots of hand sewing but I got quite hooked on the many different paper pieces which she sells.

In addition there was a Show and Tell both from members and from Icknield Quilters, a raffle, items donated to the Guild on sale at rock bottom prices and a Trader. At the suggestion of a more experienced quilter I purchased some [BOTTOM LINE](#)

polyester thread to use in the bobbin of my machine and it really does work, I get a much crisper finish to my piecing.

As usual, the tea and cakes provided by [Icknield Quilters](#) were well received and all in all it was a very good day.

WEEKEND AWAY AT DENHAM

1st February 2019 _____

For Denham on Friday 1st February, apart from projects you are going to be working on, sewing machines etc, please bring a beautiful wrapped fat quarter of material, a wrapped drawstring bag (like a shoe bag) at least A4 size, a black and white block, 6.5 inches in size, ONLY black and white fabrics please, no navy, grey or cream! Also a small sewing related gift, beautifully wrapped which doesn't cost more than £5.00.

Linda

WORKSHOPS 2019 _____

I would just like to make a request to members and guests alike to come forward with any ideas they have about workshops they would like us to organise. They can contact [Carol Wort](#) or me if they have a suggestion.

Linda

CHRISTMAS PARTY CELEBRATIONS _____

You may remember that after last year's Christmas Party, the Committee decided that all those members who had attained their 90th birthday during the year would be celebrated with a special cake.

Due to the current IT regulations we no longer keep members birthday dates on a computer, if you or a fellow member who you know has had a 90th birthday during this year, please inform [Linda Cosgrove](#) as soon as possible.

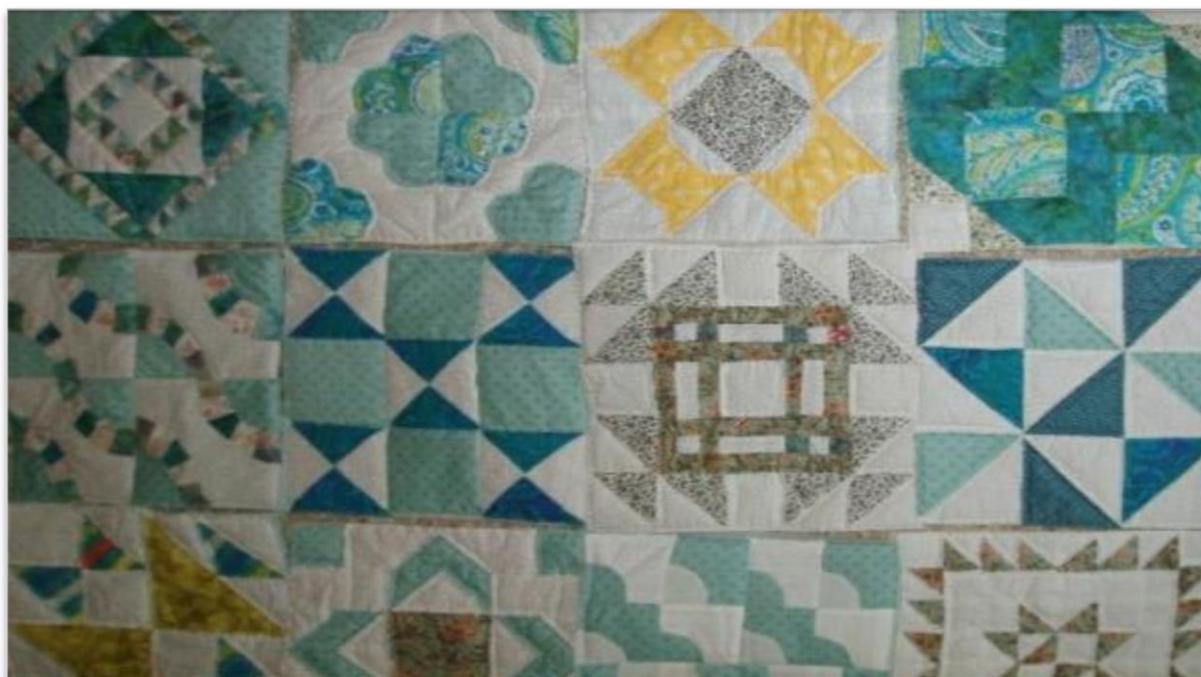
ALIAS GRACE BLOCKS _____

The November block which was available at the evening meeting was the Tree of Life and I regret to say that the photo is somewhere out there in the ether, because although I know I took a photo, I cannot find it either on my camera or on my computer.

I have now completed 12 of the 15 blocks and due to Christmas presents which require to be finished, I have had to put the last three blocks on hold . . .

Latest photo below . . .

Hilda



Photos of [Alias Grace](#) blocks to me please
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