

# Mead Quilters

Issue 57  
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2018

## A LETTER FROM THE CHAIR

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Dear Members, I feel honoured to be 'in the chair' for Mead Quilters after a fairly short apprenticeship. Following the AGM Carol Connett kindly responded to our need of a Minute Secretary and the Committee is very grateful for her help. Committee members want 'Mead' to reflect what members want, so don't hesitate to offer ideas so that we provide a satisfactory programme.

Carol Wort is already working on ways to give less experienced quilters some help to learn. The interest of more experienced quilters will hopefully be satisfied by good speakers and more challenging workshops.

This year, to replace 'Block -of -the month', the 'Alias Grace' charts for blocks are being released over the next few months. There will be 15 in all, each block 12 inches when finished, and they can be used in their entirety or separately to make a quilt of any size in the colours of your choice. Most of you are aware that 'Alias Grace' is a Margaret Atwood novel based on the experiences of a 16 year-old Canadian girl who in the 19th Century was imprisoned for life for her part in a murder. During her incarceration she made a quilt and 15 of the chapters are headed by a drawing of a patchwork block of the designs used; 'Puss in the Corner'; 'Jagged Edge' and other names, some of which are not familiar to English quilters. We hope that the quilts will be completed by November 2019 for our next quilt show.

The quilt show will be on **Saturday 9 November 2019**. This event is in the very early planning stage and a sub-committee is being set up headed by Janet Goddard and Stasha Martin.

Joan Douglas is masterminding the Charity quilt in aid of the British Heart Foundation which won the members' vote by a whisker! The close runner-up was the Herts and Beds air ambulance so maybe we could consider that charity when there is another fund-raising opportunity.

*Valerie Pollington*

**EXHIBITIONS** coming up this month.

### **PATCHWORK PEOPLE EXHIBITION AT MILTON KEYNES**

Westbury Arts Centre, Foxcovert Road, Shenley Church End MK5 6MA - 28/29/30 July. Proceeds to the British Heart Foundation.

### **INDIA QUILT FESTIVAL in Chennai, India**

25/27 January 2019, the first of its kind in India! Details from

[www.indiaquiltfestival.com](http://www.indiaquiltfestival.com)

**EXHIBITION OF SHIBORI TEXTILES** at the Textile and Fashion Museum 83 Bermondsey Street, London, SE1 3XF. Thursday 2 August, late opening 6 pm.

**BRAMBLE PATCH SUMMER SHOWCASE**, Weedon, Northants, from 28 July to 28 August.

**WORLD WAR I ALTAR FRONTAL** on view at St Pauls Cathedral in London.

I was fortunate to hear a talk about a man from Lemsford who though injured in the first World War took part in the creation of the most beautiful appliqued altar frontal for the high altar at St Pauls. This has now been restored and is on view until the 100 years anniversary.

If you are visiting with friends or relatives over the summer, do look out for it as well as a very modern frontal in St Lawrence Jewry next to the Guildhall, both well worth a visit. Postcard on the notice board.

*Hilda*

## **TEA ROTA**

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July - Mary Spencer, Alison King and Janet Thornhill

August - Stasha Martin, Angie Wright and Ginny Edwards

September - Carol Connett, Linda Noon and a volunteer

## QUILTS UK, the MALVERN QUILT SHOW SPRING 2018

As well as webmastering for the Mead Quilters website and being technical advisor for Mead's newsletters, I also act as ~~technical advisor and critic~~ chauffeur to Mrs W for a weekend near Malvern every May for Quilts UK. Probably done it 25 times now and this year's Show, whilst perhaps rather thinner than it was when it started 30 years ago, was as ever friendly, crowded and entertaining.

Yes, I like quilts that entertain, that give that 'wow' or 'yay' or indeed occasionally 'oops', as one or two did - the July Patchwork & Quilting has already published many of the winners and runners up, (other periodicals are available), so you can see for yourself. Very noticeable was the fact that many quilts these days seem to be densely long-arm quilted; is this discouraging entries from those using traditional methods?

My favourites included 'Aurora' by Kathy Eagle, for its stunning use of colour and as ever Liz Jones' beautiful appliqué work in 'Ground Cover'. We were also impressed by first-time entries in the miniature category by a young quilter called Delphine Brooks which received Judges' Merits - imaginative thread work and painting, she's someone to watch out for in the future. (By young I mean ½ an OAP, not a teenager!)

A couple of 3rd places for Judith's Large and Small Wall Hanging entries; the Large, 'Walled Garden', is now off to the USA for the World Quilt Show. The Small one was 'Larger Than Life', shown here.

*Ray Wilson*



## ALSO AT THE MALVERN SPRING QUILT SHOW



Also on display at Malvern was a quilt by two more talented members of Mead Quilters and a photo is included. Shown here, left, 'After Appliqué Affair' is needle turned appliqué done by Elizabeth Richardson, and the hand quilting was done by Valerie Pollington.

I understand that there was very little hand quilting on display, so well done to you both.

*Hilda*

## 2019 A.G.M. CHALLENGE

I think I briefly touched on the Challenge in a previous newsletter, but just to make sure that we are all singing from the same hymn sheet this time, please note that the overall size must be no larger than 1 metre square.

The theme or title of the Challenge is 'SEASONS' so again this can be interpreted in any way you wish and in any medium so long as it has three layers and is quilted in an acceptable way, i.e. hand quilted, machine quilted, tied quilting or buttoned.

*Hilda*

## WORKSHOP AT CHURCH HOUSE, KIMPTON

I really looked forward to this workshop when 5 members of Mead were joined by Molly from Kimpton Stitchers and ably led by Valerie Pollington, we embarked on making a little draw string bag with four roomy pockets. It was a very relaxed day of sitting and sewing and getting to know other members of Mead better.

As usual I got myself in a bit of a pickle but by the end of the day we were able to take a photo of all the finished bags.



It is a pity that the cost of halls is so expensive and really push up the price of a workshop, I feel that we learn a lot from others on these occasions and it is unfortunate that we can't do it more often.

*Hilda*

## BREAST CUSHIONS FOR CANCER CARE

We are reminded of the continuing need for not only the breast cancer cushions, but also drainage bags and now please add to that quilts for the incubators in the premature baby unit.

If you need a pattern, or the size/composition of the quilts please consult the notice board or ask a member of the Committee.

*Valerie Pollington*

## NEED A LIGHT BOX?

Light-box *free* to a good home, it's 30 cm x 55 cm (trace stuff bigger than A3!) and 12 cms high. Low heat florescent tube. More details:

[jnrwilson@btinternet.com](mailto:jnrwilson@btinternet.com)

## ALIAS GRACE QUILT - BLOCK OF THE MONTH

Valerie has already mentioned this new Block of the Month Project in her opening letter; we do hope that many of you will have a go at one block or even all 15 blocks.

The objective is to have a special exhibition at our 2019 Quilt Show, so whether you make a cushion or a quilt, all will be on display.

Below you can see the first two blocks made by Valerie. When you have made a block please send me a photo so that we can put them together in a gallery in the newsletters.

*Hilda*



*Block One: Puss in the Corner*



*Block Two: Jagged edge*

News or an Article or a Photo  
Send Newsletter material to  
Editor Hilda at:

[hildargoddard@outlook.com](mailto:hildargoddard@outlook.com)



## Workshop with JOHN COLE MORGAN

In May we had John Morgan-Cole visit. There were four of us at this workshop which meant we all had individual attention.

The workshop was a Flower Garden which John designed himself. We bought a pattern to work from and it was clearly marked where to sew.

There was a mix of own fabrics used or a kit purchased from John. Having never machined through paper on the wrong side I could not imagine what a beautiful design it would create.

We were all delighted with the work we produced and thanked John for his help and support on this very interesting workshop.

*Carol Wort*



*Carol's project*



*Alison's project*

## CHARITY QUILT FOR 2019

Joan has given me permission to show you this photograph of her quilt and she is using the same pattern for the Charity Quilt but using Japanese fabrics which members of Mead have contributed.



As the quilt is being made during Mead sessions, you will be able to see the progress of the quilt month by month.

*Hilda*

## GIFT OF A QUILT FROM MARY MAYNE

Stasha will be selling raffle tickets at all meetings between now and the Christmas Party, the prize being a large double bed quilt made by Mary Mayne and donated to the group to be raffled for a cancer charity. It is partly hand quilted and could easily be divided into two single quilts. Tickets are £1 each.

My guess is that we should raise about £150 to £200 (or maybe more!) for the charity.

## AND FINALLY . . .

I hope I have remembered all the notes and e-mails received this month and look forward to seeing everyone on July 17 when we have a speaker *Rosanna Tinsley* on 'Beautiful Batiks'.

*There will not be a sales table at this meeting.*

Please remember that at the August meeting you will need a sewing kit for our Four Corners Evening.

*Hilda*