

FROM THE EDITOR

Valerie is away on holiday, so we hope that she has had a good time.

At our Tuesday morning meeting, we had a very Interesting speaker from Australia. **Robyn Martyn** gave us an insight into her journey through quilting from teaching in a small shop in her local town and literally keeping one step ahead of her students in trying new techniques and encouraging her students to do the same.

She admitted to not necessarily being the best but she did everything to her highest standard and for her own interest and found it quite difficult to get on the bandwagon of exhibiting both within Australia and ultimately in the USA.

She showed us the very beautiful '**Audrey Hepburn**' quilt (right) which had taken her over two years to collect the materials and make all in one inch squares, it was quite breathtaking. She also showed us some of her other work which was very interesting.

After coffee, it was the turn of the group to show what they had made over time and I think we acquitted ourselves very well with an interesting selection of quilts. I was surprised at the number of quilts either taken from Australian patterns or including some Australian fabric.

All in all it was a very interesting morning, perhaps one we could include in a future programme. *Hilda*



HELEN HOWES and her WORKSHOP

Helen Howes was a lovely bouncy lady who enjoys her work with passion. Her talk on 18th September was all about Modern Quilting which she describes as: an Idea, a Look and a Communication. It might be spare, busy, brightly coloured, neutral, improvised, formal, simply or elaborately quilted.

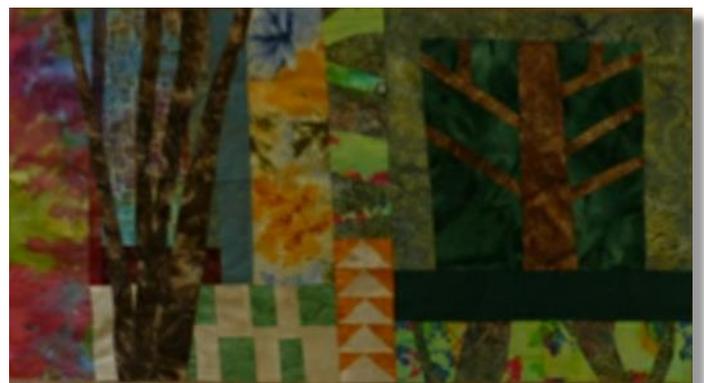
She brought with her a lovely selection of freebies and also a lot of hand dyed and indigo dyed fabrics which were all inspirational and made you want to start using them straightaway.

The workshop was well attended and based on the tree motif. It was held at Lemsford Hall which proved to be a good, roomy and light venue. We look forward to seeing the fruits of the workshop at a future meeting.

Carol via email

ALIAS GRACE QUILT

The October blocks which were available at the morning meeting are called **Pandora's Box** and **Letter X**.



**Jennifer's panel from
Helen Howes' Workshop**

TEA ROTA

November - Caroline Ellis, Sally Simpson, Irene Heathcote

December - Christmas Party - members of the Committee

January - Awaiting Volunteers

February - Sue Jonas, Maureen Chalk, Jane Storer

NATIONAL POETRY DAY

Quilters come in many guises
Different colours, shapes and sizes
Love to chat and air their views
Tell everyone their latest news.

Feel free to add another verse.

Hilda

CONNIE FLYNN EXHIBITION

Finders Keepers - Tales in Textiles

At The Maeldune Heritage Centre, St Peter's
Tower, Market Hill, Maldon, Essex CM9 4PZ
Friday 5^h October to Tuesday 23 October
Open 11am to 4pm Gallery

Connie will be the speaker at our 19 March 2019 meeting

GIVE ME THE TIME . . . The Story of a Quilt

by Mary Mayne

The largest quilt show in Europe is held at the NEC in Birmingham each year and there are roughly 15 categories to choose from to enter your quilt including some for young quilters and school entries. It's a show I have entered every year and spend three full days there each year with friends. Judges Choice and Highly Commended but this year was different.

I had a phone call on Wednesday 8 August and a very excited lady called Sarah told me that my entry for the Quilters Guild of the British Isles had won me First Prize. I was so amazed, suddenly I wasn't thinking straight and didn't quite know what to say. Sarah asked me if I would be at the quilt presentation the following day. I was going to travel to the show on Friday and stay till Sunday, but now I needed to think of booking another night at the Hotel and travelling the next day. Luckily I managed to extend my booking at the Hotel and Peter took me to the NEC next day.

I was presented with my Certificate and £1500 by an executive from BERNINA, they were the sponsors of this category. I was also filmed giving an interview for the BERNINA website and for promotional purposes.

The inspiration for the design of the quilt was the Guild Challenge title, STITCHING IN TIME. I gave this some thought and as I was doodling one morning (as you do) I found myself drawing the letter Q on a post it note, it made me think of the circle part as the clock face and the 'tale' of the Q as a possible quilt draped through the clock face. Within a few days I had a few rough sketches and knew where I

was hoping to go. The next step was to draw the design out full size and I stuck four sheets of flip chart paper together and drew a huge circle another smaller one inside, and lines flowing out to represent the quilt and its folds.

The background on the quilt is made up of 3" half square triangles, the clock and numbers are applied on and the circles have cording couched around the edges.

The biggest and most challenging part of the quilt was making the "quilt" in the clock out of hundreds of 1" cut squares (each one ending up only half inch when sewn together). To achieve the folds I made each section up separately and added a facing on the edge of each section that overlapped another. Each section was then hand stitched in place.

This quilt was machine appliquéd but the rest of the hanging was hand quilted. I named the quilt GIVE ME THE TIME . . . and the writing embroidered in the centre area of the clock reads GIVE ME THE TIME AND I WILL MAKE YOU a quilt.

There were a number of times that I nearly gave up on this quilt but I had a picture in my mind of how it would look if finished and after a few days on other things I went back to the work. I am delighted with the result.



My quilt will be on display with other first prize winners at the Knitting and Stitching Shows in London and Harrogate and I should have it back home before Christmas.

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INDIA QUILT FESTIVAL Chennai 2019

If you wish to receive details of this tour to India next year, please contact me and I will forward you the details.

Hilda

FORTHCOMING EXHIBITIONS

**KNITTING AND STITCHING at
ALEXANDRA PALACE 11 to 14
October**

REGION 7 AUTUMN AREA DAY
Quilters Guild Regional Day at Cottered
Village Hall on Saturday 24 November

Speakers - Penny Roberts and Nancy
Adamek (Lina Patchwork)

**GROSVENOR SHOWS AUTUMN
QUILT FESTIVAL DUXFORD**
26 to 28 October 2018 including display
by Mimram Quilters



Region 7 REGIONAL DAY at Eaton Bray

Linda Bilsborough, the new Chair of the Quilters Guild attended the meeting and advised us that the Region continues to flourish. So it was to quite a full hall that Phillipa Naylor gave her presentation which was largely about her life since returning from Saudi Arabia and her very supportive family, her allotment and her work on various quilts.

We were lucky to have two very iconic quilts to see on the stage. Phillipa puts her success down to very hard work, Yorkshire grit, continuous practising and being prepared to unpick her work if she is not satisfied with the result. I think we could all take a leaf out of her book since I am constantly saying I don't practise enough, but then I do not put enough time into it either, always wanting to finish this quilt because I have an idea in my head for a new one.

Phillipa (I think I have remembered correctly) is the only English Quilter to be represented on the outside of the National Quilt Museum of America as well as having three quilts within the Museum, so we were extremely lucky to be able to see at close quarters her miniature quilts.

I asked her permission to include the photo (top right) of her miniature 'Allotment garden' quilt which won best in Show some years ago.

Phillipa's 'Allotment Garden' miniature

The afternoon speaker was a lady from Hitchin called Susan Dye, aptly named as her talk was all about dying with natural materials. Not onion skins and blackberry leaves, either, which I am sure we have all tried, but with Indigo, Woad and Madder, which her husband grows on an allotment and she used on fabric for her final City and Guilds Quilt called 'And the river ran red' (pictured below, next page).

I found her a most interesting speaker since I have spent many hours of my time in dying with all sorts of things, but mostly chemical dyes which give a more accurate colour.

She admitted that this was only her second quilt and it was the first time she had spoken to a Quilt Group, so although her talk was quite technical, I think she put a very difficult subject across in an accessible way.

Samples of her dying were all available and she had obviously tried everything on cotton, wool, silk and mixtures of fabrics.

Newsletter articles, items and
photos of **Alias Grace blocks**, please, to:

hildargoddard@outlook.com



Susan Dye's 'And the river ran red'

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, so if you or a fellow member who you know has a birthday or has had a birthday during this year, please inform Linda Cosgrove as soon as possible.