



Cranford Quilters

www.cranfordquilters.org.uk

May 2009

Tonight's meeting: Linda Negandi – "Fabric, Paper, Hands and Heart"

Hello Everyone!

I hope you all remembered the change of venue for tonight's meeting. Thank you Joanne for showing us how to make the lovely owls last month – they have been much admired.

Over the next month we have visits to two other groups. My apologies to Alsager and Poynton as I may not get to Alsager and definitely will miss Poynton. It is good to go and see how other groups do things so I would recommend going. It is an opportunity to get to know better the people who have visited us.

Happy quilting - Diana

TONIGHT: Vote of thanks:

Veronica Walton

Refreshments:

Lesley Henstock and Audrey Taylor

CRANFORD QUILTERS' WEBSITE

Don't forget to e-mail photos of your work to Katy at katy.purvis@googlemail.com

NEWSLETTERS

We have decided that any member unable to be at a meeting will automatically receive their newsletter, where possible by e-mail, otherwise by post. It obviously would be a help to group funds if you did give Catherine a stamped, self-addressed envelope if you wanted it posted.

My thanks to Ann Brimelow and Tricia Jones who volunteered to report on Malvern. How lovely to have volunteers! Could I have reports on the "Meet the Neighbours" visits the group is making before the next meeting please as I cannot be at either. A brief paragraph would be fine.

CHARITY

Thank you for the good response to the fat quarters given to Sue Meyrick to be passed on to Sue Warburton. I believe there is some confusion over what to do with fat quarters now so in order to clarify this the committee has agreed that we should have a "bring and buy" of any unwanted fat quarters when we have "workshop" evenings such as next month. We will keep these rolling until the end of the year and any left will then be given to Sue Warburton.

LITTLE GEMS

Are you interested in making an A4 quilt to be raffled at the Festival of Quilts at the NEC in Birmingham next month? If so, we will arrange a day for this and book a hall – possibly 11 July.

"THE EMBROIDERER'S EYE"

Our friends from Sheffield came for the day last Friday and as the weather forecast was none too good we decided not to go for a walk and as Pat shares an interest in embroidery I suggested we went to the exhibition in the Silk Museum at Macclesfield. It is Diana Springall's collection of other people's work, many of whose names I recognised, such as Eirian Short, Pauline Burbidge, Paddy Killer, Elizabeth Brimelow, Alice Kettle, Jan Beaney, Jean Littlejohn One of my favourite pieces was a small piece by Paddy Killer. I am not keen on classical statues, although I can admire the work that goes into her larger pieces, but this consisted of six small squares each depicting a different aspect of classical architecture and textile technique in soft creams, greys and peach. I would certainly have liked that on my wall. In complete contrast was "Emerald Hill", a hanging of emerald silk with magenta or violet centres. Unfortunately the photo in the catalogue has lost the vibrancy of the piece.

There were few pieces that were similar to any other which made it particularly interesting. Pat and I really enjoyed our afternoon while our husbands tolerantly accompanied us. We parked at the bottom of the hill near the Christian bookshop where Pat found a book she had been looking for in Sheffield and after going round the exhibition I mentioned the nearby craft shop so we visited that also and more money was spent. - *Diana*

QUILTS UK

I haven't been to Malvern for a few years, so it was interesting to see how it had developed. I don't feel that there were as many quilts as I remember from years ago but I did think that the standard had lifted considerably. Traders were there in abundance.

The quilt which met you was the Champion quilt, one I know and love, 'Cwlwm Lafant' by Gwenfai Rees Griffiths (her Ricky Tims quilt); it had also gained the 1st Bed Quilt and the Hand Appliqué rosette. Region 13 of the guild which is our local area had done extremely well. Susan Briscoe had entered a Japanese Sampler, called 'Hakone Yosegi', it also had 3 rosettes: 2nd Bed, the Sampler quilt and the Piecing Rosettes. There was a very welcome return for Rebecca Collins in the theme category, a 2nd, lovely to see as Rebecca has been ill. Does this mark a comeback? Maureen Crawford from the Wirral had a Judges Choice in this category. The group from Llandegai, Bangor, called Cauldron, made up of Doris Alcock, Gill Marshall, Jenny and Dorothy Marshall, won the Group category. I loved this, called birthdays, based on a book which Doris had found, which allocated a tree to each month, so each did their birthday tree symbol (and how!) in the style on the Dutch artist Ton Schulten. Susan Briscoe entered her Kona Bay quilt and won the 1st prize. I believe Diane Abrams from Chester way won something too but that I missed.

Anne Wheater's small quilt, 'Bonnet Ladies' was well displayed. I failed to pick out any more Cranford quilts - if I missed any I apologise.

My own personal favourites apart from Gwenfai's were, a really dark taupes and greys quilt called 'Chocolate on my Cappuccino', very different and quite intricately cut - very clever - and another by Christine Restall called 'Fired Earth 3', very vibrant, based on the colours of Umbria. Perhaps the most sobering one was 'Remembrance' by Sheila Wyatt in Sussex, discharge dyed on black fabric marking the 90th anniversary of the ending of the 1st World War. Beautifully made.

After a quick haul around the traders notably Kaleidoscope and Contented Cat for their lovely Superior threads, we headed home, content and now looking forward to my next quilt indulgence at the NEC in August. The best bit for me is meeting so many friends from all over the country and generally catching up. - *Ann*

TRIP TO MALVERN '09

On Saturday morning, bright and early, Janet Baguley and I made our way down the service road of the M.6 Services, to be picked up by the "Liver Birds" coach from Liverpool. We were looking out for the usual coaches, but in the meantime the Liver Birds had changed coach companies! They fortunately recognised us when they arrived and finally when we boarded their coach we were met with cries of "We thought it was you, you both looked like quilters". Obviously we all must have **that look!**

All went well on the journey down until the driver, when stopping at the toll road services, announced we would be there for half an hour. Why? We wanted to be at the show as soon as possible. Thirty five minutes later we were at last on our way again, finally arriving at 12.15 p.m. At that moment the heavens opened and as we entered the show we must have looked like drowned rats, we were soaked.

The first quilt we saw was Gwenfai's 'Cwlwm Lafant', festooned with rosettes. A truly beautiful quilt.

Janet and I parted company and spent the next two hours doing the trade stands. There were so many people there that at times there was total gridlock, but nevertheless we struggled through and even

managed to purchase a few items!

After a much needed mug of tea outside, now beautiful sunshine we were back to spend the next two hours marvelling at all the lovely quilts including our own Anne Wheater's 'Bonnet Ladies'. The 'Hope Quilters' from Kent impressed me with their talent and productivity as they had exhibited eighty eight quilts. Their banner was covered in 'Beryl Cook' characters in all sorts of poses including drinking and pole dancing. When do they get time to quilt?

The bewitching hour of 4.30 p.m. came too quickly and we made our way wearily back to the coach, happy to sit back and relax, showing off our purchases and exchanging comments on the show. -
Tricia

WHAT'S ON

11 April-4 July

"The Embroiderer's Eye – the Diana Springall collection",
Macclesfield Silk Museum, Park Lane, Macclesfield SK11 6TJ

20 May

Margaret Crawford is the speaker at Poynton Quilters, The Woodford Centre, Chester Road, Woodford

21 May

"Meet the Neighbours" at Alsager

21-24 May

Loch Lomond Quilt Show

5 & 6 June

Gleneagles Ps & Qs & Village Stitchers Patchwork and Quilting Exhibition

For details see the noticeboard

17 June

"Meet the Neighbours" at Poynton

4-19 July

Three Shires Textile Festival – Cheshire, Derbyshire and Staffordshire – copies of the booklet listing all the exhibitions and events can be obtained from the Town Hall in Macclesfield or online.

See the noticeboard for Cheshire Needlecraft's workshop programme for May and June and also programmes for Alsager, Beartown and Poynton groups.

NEXT MEETING:

22 June:

Tasters – four mini workshops

Bernadette Grantham: Shisha mirror work

Joyce McNamara: Chenille demonstration

Katy Purvis: Internet blogging

Diana Judd: Foiling

Trader: Sticky Fingers

Remember to bring any unwanted fat quarters.

Vote of thanks: Wyn Colligan

Refreshments: Karen Beattie and Jane Simpson (Take the refreshments bag home with you tonight. Please buy milk and biscuits as required and claim expenses from Ann Brimelow.)