



# OAST POST

## OAST QUILTERS NEWSLETTER

Volume 28 Number 1

[www.oastquilters.co.uk](http://www.oastquilters.co.uk)

January 2026

### Our meeting Saturday 24th January 2026 will be via Zoom

The meeting will open at 2pm, with Heather Audin commencing her talk, "Treasures from the Quilt Collection" at 2.30pm.



Heather Audin is an historian, costume and textiles enthusiast, author, and sometimes maker. She has been curator of The Quilt Collection for 17 years. Heather has authored three books: 'Patchwork and Quilting in Britain' (2013); 'Making Victorian Costumes for Women' (2015) and 'Forty: The Evolution of a Collection' (2019), and curated over 60 exhibitions on patchwork and quilting. As curator of the Quilt Collection, Heather is responsible for its preservation, documentation and celebration.

Please email [oastprogramme@gmail.com](mailto:oastprogramme@gmail.com) to register your interest to receive the Zoom link for this meeting.

### Sunday 25 January 2026

"Petticoats and Pockets" Workshop at Littlebourne MH with Jacqui Cotterill.

Jacqui worked as a nurse and teacher for most of her life and as an antidote to the trauma, she has always sewed. When she left nursing she wanted to learn to quilt. She was quite surprised when she realised you had to cut up bits of fabric and sew them back together before you could start quilting!



Her quilting journey led her to an interest in hand quilting history, how it connects with everything that has happened throughout the world: trade, migration, war and fashion all show up in quilting patterns.

Jacqui would like to show how easy petticoats are to make and decorate, and how you make the fashionable detached pockets that went with them.

Contact [oastworkshops@gmail.com](mailto:oastworkshops@gmail.com) to book your place £30 Members £45 Non Members

### Our next meeting

Saturday 14th March 2026

The hostesses will be Swallows, Chaucer, Dragonfly, Castle Wall and Independents A - C  
Our speaker will be Helen Creasey.



Helen is an award-winning quilt designer, recognised several times at Festival of Quilts, including Visitors' Choice in 2023 with 'Reaching'

Helen has always been into arts and crafts but tried to follow the ideal: going to

university and getting a good job. She studied Architecture but dyslexia, ADHD and a serious case of glandular fever meant she struggled to stick at the Masters. During the London 2012 Olympics she found herself unexpectedly unemployed. To keep herself busy and rebuild her confidence, Helen decided to start making a patchwork quilt (currently still unfinished), but she spent many a happy hour in front of the TV with her sewing machine on the ironing board! During the next few years she sewed bits and bobs, tried making clothes, but kept coming back to quilts. Maybe because she loves one to snuggle under and watch TV!

Helen's work is graphic, modern and bold. She uses vibrant colours, black and white as well as gradients to create interest and her body of work is both pictorial and pattern-based. She favours Foundation Paper Piecing (FPP), loving the complex look and detail possible and a natural adaptation of her architectural training.

**Sunday 15th March** Helen will be leading the workshop on and expect "aha!" moments as she breaks down advanced techniques into manageable steps.



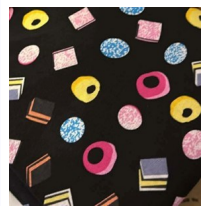
A Sweet Introduction to FPP: Gummy Bear Block. Lower Hardres Village Hall 10am - 4pm £30 for members, £45 for non members. Contact

[oastworkshops@gmail.com](mailto:oastworkshops@gmail.com)

## The Quilters' Guild Kent Area



The Kent area of Region 2 have organised a couple of 'Days Out To...' trips. The first one will be to the Maidstone Museum on the **25th February 2026**. Maidstone Museum has an extensive collection of textile items, much of which is on display, but they are also showing some of their more specialist items from the archives for us. These will include a number of rarely seen patchwork quilts and some petticoats. In the morning we will hear a talk from the Collections Manager on their wider textile and costume collection.



After lunch (bring your own packed lunch) there will be a hand-stitching workshop in the Library to create a thread-catcher in 'Liquorice Allsorts' fabric. The manufacturers of 'Bassetts Liquorice Allsorts', Trebor Bassett, were based in Maidstone, but the factory closed in 2000 and was demolished and replaced by housing. There is a 1970's shirtwaister dress in the collection made from Liquorice Allsorts fabric, so your thread-catcher will be an ideal souvenir of the day!

There will be unlimited tea and coffee available. The day will finish at 4.00pm. The cost will be £35.00 for members of QGBI and £50.00 for non-members.



Guild Members scan this QR code  
£35

Scan to pay



Non Guild Members scan this QR code  
£50

Scan to pay

On **24th April 2026** we are going to Canterbury Cathedral, where we will have the exclusive use of the Community Studio for a hand-quilting workshop. The pattern has been designed especially for this event and includes shapes taken from the tracery of one of the Cathedral's spectacular Becket Miracle windows.



To start the day, Cressida Williams, the Cathedral Archivist, will give a talk about the textile treasures at the Cathedral. Did you know that the reputedly oldest piece of quilting in the UK is held at the Cathedral, the Black Prince's surcoat?

After the talk, Jacqui Cotterill will introduce the workshop project, giving us an opportunity to make a good start before lunch. A sandwich buffet will be served in the Cathedral restaurant and then the group will return to the Studio to finish the workshop.

The day will finish about 4.00pm and the Cathedral has invited anyone who would like, to attend Evensong (5.30pm – 6.15pm). As entrance to the Cathedral is included in the cost for the day, people will have a chance to go around the Cathedral at lunch and after the class finishes.

The cost is £65.00 for Guild members, for non-members is £95.00.



Guild Members Scan this QR code  
£65

Scan to pay

Non Guild Members Scan this QR code  
£95



Scan to pay

For all enquiries email [kent@quiltersguild.org.uk](mailto:kent@quiltersguild.org.uk)

## UFO Day

Our next very popular UFO Day will be held at Lower Hardres Village Hall, CT4 5NP on **Saturday 7 February**.

This is a lovely day to work on your project. Do you have a large quilt that you would like to layer up? You will like the space and large tables which will facilitate that job. Would some advice or suggestions help? There will be plenty of friendly support, so come along and join us.

Arrive at the hall for 9.30am to set up and the day will commence at 10.00am. Bring your own machine, lead and extension cable and your usual sewing kit, as well as your lunch. Tea and coffee, and hopefully cake, will be available.

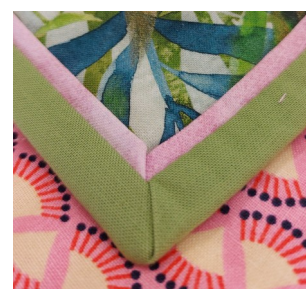
£12 for members, £17 for non members. Email Ingrid to book your place [raffles.leoville@btinternet.com](mailto:raffles.leoville@btinternet.com)

## Oast Sewing Bee

The next Sewing Bee will be **Saturday 21st March** : Finishing a Quilt. An exploration of the different methods of finishing a quilt. These will include binding with mitred corners, prairie points, curves and piping.

The workshop will be held at Petham Village Hall. Church Lane, Petham, CT4 5RD 10.00am – 4.00pm It's best if you arrive at the hall at 9.30am to set up.

Bring a packed lunch, a mug, your machine, sewing kit and an extension lead. Contact [oastsewingbee@gmail.com](mailto:oastsewingbee@gmail.com) for more information and to reserve your place. Spread the word that people new to sewing and non-members are very welcome. £12 for Oast Members, £17 for non-members.



## Oast Festival Showcase 40th Anniversary 2026

23 - 24 October 2026

St Andrew's Church, Watling Street, Canterbury CT1 2UA

The Challenge will be '**RUBY**' as it is 40 years since the first meeting of Oast Quilters in October 1986.

We would like to have a display of quilts from the 1980's, so please if any of you have a quilt made in the 1980's, please let us know.

Set up will take place on Thursday 22nd October from 2.00pm

Please contact Jayne Whiting to offer: your help; quilts; cakes and enthusiasm. [jd60@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:jd60@hotmail.co.uk)



### Welcome to new members and reps

As we begin a new year, we welcome the new members that have joined us over recent months. We trust that you will enjoy the programme we have for 2026, and quickly feel a part of Oast Quilters.

We thank Sue Heley for her sterling work maintaining the Facebook page and welcome Linda Pearce who will be taking care of that. Sue was also our Independents rep and Suze Gomme is taking on that role.

There is a new email address for the Independents to contact Suze if you have a query or need to swap their hostess duty: [oastindierep@gmail.com](mailto:oastindierep@gmail.com)

We thank Linda and Suze for becoming part of the Oast Committee and helping to keep the various parts of Oast Quilters running smoothly.

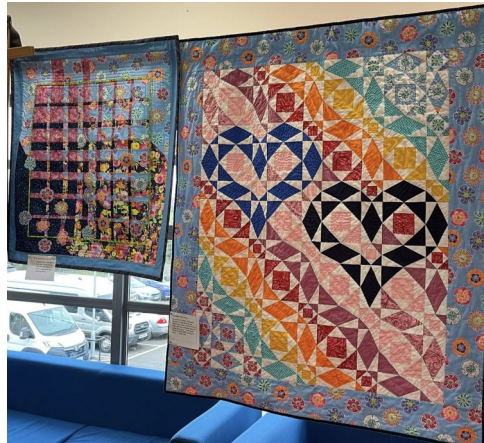
The Committee is always open to new ideas, suggestions and offers of help, so please don't be shy and do get in touch with us. All correspondence via [hello@oastquilters.co.uk](mailto:hello@oastquilters.co.uk) will be forwarded to the relevant committee member.

### Oast Fabric Challenge Winners

There was a wonderful display of challenge quilts at the AGM and the winning quilts were Jean Price, Maggie Breakspear and Pam Duffield.



These are some other challenge quilts.....



# Project Linus

Thanks to everyone who contributed to our December workshop hosted by The Little Shop of Fabrics in Smarden. There are several Project Linus workshops planned for 2026: **Friday 13th February, Saturday 11th April, Friday 19th June, Saturday 15th August and Friday 16th October.** The workshop days are free of charge and tea and coffee will be available too. We will be cutting, sewing, and binding quilts throughout the day. No experience is necessary just a willingness to take part. To keep track of people coming, please book your space via <https://www.littleshopoffabrics.co.uk/courses>

As we have had a few cold days, we need larger quilts and quilts suitable for boys or gender-neutral quilts. Thank you to everyone who donated fabrics. We have been busy making lots of scrappy quilts.

If you would like to donate fabric or unfinished quilt blocks or quilts, we would be happy to receive them. Daisy Rudnick, who runs the Project Linus table at the Oast Quilters meetings will happily collect any donations on our behalf. Alternatively, you can contact one of your local Project Linus Area Coordinators:

Thank you for continuing to support Project Linus – Project Linus Kent and Medway Area Coordinators:

Lou Matthews, East Kent, 07938537375 or [louisemattthews5@icloud.com](mailto:louisemattthews5@icloud.com)

Michelle Hogben, Ashford, and surrounding area, 07706 582662 or [shellhogben2004@hotmail.com](mailto:shellhogben2004@hotmail.com)

Christine Gainsford, Medway and North Kent area, 07931 294836 or [Christine.carey61@gmail.com](mailto:Christine.carey61@gmail.com)

## Hosting Rota for 2026

I was asked to refresh our Hosting Rota to help ensure our meetings continue to run smoothly and successfully. With Independents now making up more than a third of our membership, it felt important to make sure they're fully included and have the opportunity to take an active role. Our hope is that many more will feel encouraged to volunteer when their group or indie section is rota'd on.

Please remember there is absolutely no expectation for anyone to take on a task they're uncomfortable with - physically or otherwise. We can always swap people around if needed, so there's no pressure at all.

The Rota is now divided into three areas: Host – responsible for refreshments; Raffle – running the raffle on the day; Assistants – helping with setting up the hall.

Every Group and every Independent has been included across the calendar year, which should give us good coverage at each meeting. If you're unable to attend your allocated slot, please arrange a swap with someone else.

Thank you all for your continued support - it really does make a difference.

Debbie Marsh Membership Secretary

## Dates for your Diary 2026



24 January	Oast Quilters Zoom meeting 2pm
25 January	Oast Quilters workshop Littlebourne MH 10am
29 - 31 Jan	Ardingly Quilting and Sewing Show
7 February	Oast Quilters UFO Day Lower Hardres VH 10am
25 February	QG Trip to Maidstone Museum
14 March	Oast Quilters meeting The Langton Boys 1.30pm
15 March	Oast Workshop Lower Hardres VH 10am
21 March	Oast Sewing Bee Petham VH 9.30am
24 April	QG Trip to Canterbury Cathedral
14 - 17 May	Quilts UK Malvern
23 May	Oast Quilters Meeting The Langton Boys 2pm
24 May	Oast Quilters Workshop Lower Hardres VH 10am
6 June	Oast Sewing Bee Petham VH 9.30am
25 July	Oast Quilters Meeting The Langton Boys 2pm
26 July	Oast Quilters Workshop Lower Hardres VH 10am
30 July - 2 Aug	Festival of Quilts at NEC, Birmingham
22 August	Oast Sewing Bee Petham VH 9.30am
26 September	Oast Open Day The Langton Boys 10am
27 September	Oast Quilters Workshop Lower Hardres VH 10am
23-24 October	Oast Showcase St Andrew's Church
28 November	Oast AGM and Ruby Challenge Vote The Langton Boys 1.30pm

Hosting Rota 2026	Host	Raffle	Assist
March	Swallows (Jane Ottoway)	Dragonfly (Maryrose Douglas)	Castle Wall (Judi Kirk)
May	Chaucer (Trudy Smethhurst) Canterbury Quilters (Marion Fox) Bright Headland (Jayne Whiting)	Martello (Jenny Hoyle)	Independents A-C  Orchard  Independents G-H
July	Ethelburga (Liz Coleman)	Pumpkin Patchers (Lynne Newell)	Independents J-N
	Hop Pocket (Christine Ward)		Owls (Sheila Stojasvijeic)
Sept AM	Quay (Ann Wood)	Pogles Wood (Tansy Martin)	Independents O-R
PM	Grove Quilters (Ingrid Hudson)		Independents D - F
Nov	Pieceful Patchers (Heather Powell) Blockmakers (Joy Visagie)	Jo Blox (Elaine Gore)	Independents S-Y