

LONDON



QUILTERS

JANUARY 2012

CHAIRMANS CHAT, LUCY POLONIECKA

Happy New Year, Everybody

This is my first Chairman's Chat since taking over from Linda Seward at the AGM. So let me start by thanking Linda – she has been a fantastic Chairman. She significantly raised London Quilters' profile through her own international reputation, her involvement in the V&A exhibition and her column in *The Quilter* (and her very many other activities) but her most important contribution has been her enthusiasm, energy and generosity. Thank you, Linda, so very much, for all you have given us.

I am afraid that I do not have Linda's expertise and reputation, but I do promise to do my best to maintain the vibrancy and excitement inside London Quilters.

I have set myself a New Year's resolution to do some sewing every day – and so far have failed miserably. However, I am persuading myself that today, January 3rd, is really the first day of the new year and that all is not yet lost. Like most of you, I have several quilting projects on the go at the moment:

- My London Quilters Exhibition piece which has been started and sits staring at me accusingly from the sewing machine table. This is now becoming urgent...
- Two memory quilts for my daughter's friend whose father died suddenly in 2010. The family have kept his favourite shirts and have asked me to make two lap quilts for his son and daughter that could also be used in future as baby quilts for Stewart's grandchildren.
- Contemporary Quilt Group Journal Quilts for 2011 of which I have completed 10. These are little quilts, just 10 inches square, and I have set myself a challenge to use different techniques in each. Inspiration does not always come quickly.
- Last and definitely not least, City and Guilds Certificate in Patchwork and Quilting for which my tutor is another London Quilters member, Janice Gunner. The course involves a lot of homework, as others who have been through the experience will testify! I am currently working on the design for my first assessment piece.

We have a very exciting year ahead of us at London Quilters. Check the calendar on the back page to read about our programme for 2012.

If you have any other ideas for speakers, workshops or outings you would like us to organise, please let me or one of the other committee members know. The success of the group depends on the involvement of our members – so bring your "show and tell", submit a quilt for the exhibition and please volunteer to steward at the Library in March.

I look forward to seeing you at our meetings and wish you all a creative and rewarding 2012.

Best wishes,

PS. Since writing this I have been asked for two more baby quilts...

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

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LUCY POLONIECKA

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ANN RYAN

WORKSHOPS

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YZABEL FIELD

MINUTES SECRETARY

NADIA ARBACH

COOPTED MEMBERS

SARAH HIBBERT

PAULINE MACAULAY



MANY THANKS
TO LYN FOR
BEING THE FIRST
TO SHARE HER
SPACE.
I WOULD LOVE
TO FEATURE
SOME MORE
MEMBERS IN THE
NEXT
NEWSLETTER JUST
EMAIL ME
ALICE.GODRIDGE
@GMAIL.COM

YOUR QUILT CLUB NEEDS YOU! PLEASE GET INVOLVED

When we have speakers there is often a need for hospitality, either for an overnight stay, or occasionally

to meet for a light meal before the meeting. It would be a great help to me to have a list of those who

would enjoy having more time with one of our speakers and would like to offer, either generally or for a specific date.

REMEMBER TO VOLUNTEER TO STEWARD AT
OUR EXHIBITION!

IF YOU HAVE
SEEN ANY GOOD
EXHIBITIONS OR
BEEN TO ANY
EVENTS YOU
WOULD LIKE TO
SHARE PLEASE
EMAIL ME TEXT
& PHOTOS
ALICE.GODRIDGE
@GMAIL.COM
TO INCLUDE IN
THE NEXT ISSUE

MEMBERS SEWING SPACES, LYN FRY

Is it a sewing space?? Is it a house??

Since my children have left home my husband and I live in a house which is too large for the two of us. This is just as well as my activities, including quilting have taken over much of the available space. It is usually quite tidy but at the moment I am trying to get my shark quilt ready for the London Quilters' Exhibition in March. It has sat untouched for a year but is now full steam ahead.

Planning and ironing in the kitchen.



Cutting and sewing in the dining room. This was a real problem over Christmas as I was constantly putting everything away ready for the next round of eating.

There are two machines at the moment as I have been helping my niece complete her silk and velvet double bed quilt (a nightmare to sew for us beginners and crimson silk threads everywhere in my blue shark quilt).

Spare bedroom doubles as storage space for my stash; finished and unfinished quilts; quilting magazines (the quilting books occupy a full shelf in my study); roll of newsprint; roll of freezer paper; quilting patterns, and more.....

Guests can only come for a few days as there is no longer wardrobe space for them.



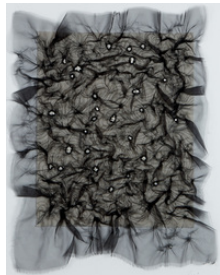
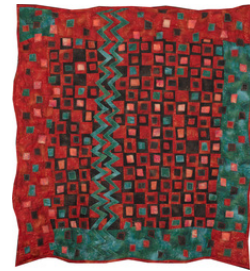
My bedroom. Only room with enough floor space to lay out a large quilt. Going up and down the stairs to "audition" fabrics is great exercise.

Sorry about the unmade bed. I have other priorities.



LIFE AFTER RETIREMENT, SABI WESTOBY

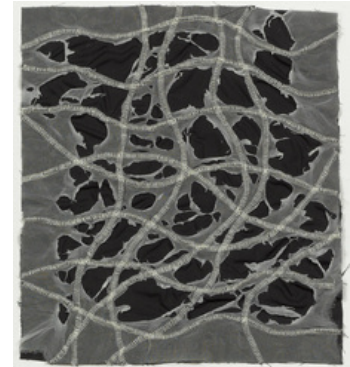
Making has been part of my life from the age of 6 when I learnt to knit. Since then I have also sewn, crocheted and embroidered. In 1999 I discovered the joy of patchwork and quilting, largely self-taught, and spent many hours at my sewing machine, often into the early hours of the morning, as a way of unwinding after a day's work. Making quilts became important to me and all my family, many friends and some charities have received quilts from me.



I retired from work in October 2008 and what was once an obsessive hobby has effectively become a second career. I changed direction from patchwork quilts to more abstract work, concentrating on line and texture, using paper as well as textile and incorporating paint. I have also embraced making books, paper engineering and 3-D stitched pieces. My body of work in 2011 was self-limited to monochrome, concentrating on abstract images.



I used cotton rag paper as the base for some of my work, layered with natural and man-made fabric and fibres which were then stitched in place. I also discovered the joys of a heat gun and produced a series of work entitled 'Burnt', exploring the properties of various synthetic materials. Burning rarely produced the same effect twice and it was challenging but fun to transform the result into a finished piece.



At a party last year I met another quilter who, it transpired later, was chairwoman of an arts charity. As quilters do, she came to look at my work and then invited me to exhibit at The Courthouse Gallery in Thirsk, North Yorkshire, the venue for Rural Arts Yorkshire.

The exhibition, *Filamental*, is a solo show running from 11 February to 24 March 2012 and more details are available from the Gallery's website, www.ruralarts.org. Some of my work can also be seen on my own website, www.sabiwestoby.com.



www.sabiwestoby.com

FILAMENTAL

a stitch exploration of line

You are invited to the private view of FILAMENTAL, by Sabi Westoby, on Saturday 11 February between 6-8pm.

Exhibition: 11 February - 24 March 2012
The Courthouse, Westgate, Thirsk,
North Yorkshire YO7 1QS

Free admission. Open 10am to 4.30pm, Monday - Saturday.
Disabled access. Contact 01845 526536 or janice@ruralarts.org
for further information. www.ruralarts.org



LONDON QUILTERS

Crossfield Centre Halls
8 Fairfax Gardens
London
NW6 3SG

(located between Fairfax Place and Goldhurst
Terrace just west of Swiss Cottage)

Meetings are held at 8 pm doors open at 7pm for
informal socialising (refreshments are available)

Members attend meetings free

(membership £28 p.a. due each September, 1/2
year £15 from March, students and under-18's
free).

Visitors welcome: £5 per meeting.

Additional charges may apply for workshops and
visits.

2012 WORKSHOPS

- Mar 20** Jane Glennie, "Upcycling"
May 20 Dawn Cameron-Dick, possible workshop
Jun 18/19 Gwen Hedley, "Along New Lines"
Oct 16 Magie Relph, "Kente the Patchwork Way"

FOR THE ENTIRE MONTH OF MARCH 2012 WE
WILL BE HOLDING AN EXHIBITION AT SWISS
COTTAGE LIBRARY. ALL MEMBERS ARE INVITED
TO EXHIBIT A QUILT AND ARE ALSO REQUESTED
TO VOLUNTEER TO ACT AS A STEWARD DURING
THE EXHIBITION.

2012 CALENDAR

- Jan 16** Christine Restall "Progress in Fits and Starts" Christine has been a member of LQ for many years and will be telling the story of how she got to where she is as a quilter and professional textile artist.
- Feb 20** Sewing Evening, quilt displays and planning for the 2012 LQ Exhibition
- Mar 19** Jane Glennie "Discard: salvage – creating through upcycling" Recycling is inherent to much patchwork, Jane will explore upcycling unexpected materials that may otherwise be thrown away.
- Apr 16** Pauline Burbidge "New Quilts in Progress" Pauline will talk about the development of her new studio quilts to be featured in a solo retrospective at FOQ 2012.
- May 21** Dawn Cameron-Dick "Needles and Threads – a Love Story" Dawn will take a fun yet educational look at choosing threads, understanding machine needles and then putting them together in a match made in heaven.
- Jun 18** Gwen Hedley "Drawn to Stitch" Gwen considers line and its myriad of differing characteristics especially the often complex lines, ridges, indentations, marks, and divisions of space on the surfaces of beach pebbles, and other natural sources.
- Jul 16** Summer Sewing Evening
- Aug** No Meeting
- Sep 17** Diana Harrison "My Work" Diana's work explores the tradition of 'quilting', but goes beyond the functional or decorative. Her Highly innovative work was featured in the 2010 V&A exhibition.
- Oct 15** Magie Relph "Ashanti Inspirations" Magie will talk about the fabrics of West Africa including hand-woven Kente cloth and hand-stamped Adinkra cloth which have been the inspiration for many of her quilts.
- Nov 19** Maxine March "Comfort in Wartime: Canadian Red Cross quilts" The story of the many quilts made by Canadian women during WWII, showing through samples the materials and techniques used, and the impact they had on the lives of recipients.
- Dec 10** AGM and Christmas Party