**Mead Quilters’s Newsletter January 2024**

Wishing all Mead Members and their families a prosperous and peaceful New Year.

In December morning members enjoyed coffee and mince pies and a Christmas Show and Tell, and last Tuesday it was the turn of evening members to celebrate.

**Carol Wort has written about our party.**

Mead Christmas Party was held on Tuesday the 19th of December. I would like to thank everyone who came along to make the evening most enjoyable. The food was good, brought by all of you. the punch was delicious which Linda Cosgrove kindly made for us all to drink. We had a Christmas Quiz which Jennie Barwise did for us to get us in the Christmas mood. Elizabeth did a small raffle with items donated by Sheila Neate. Every committee member put their own time and effort into making the evening good for us all. It was the first time the all the committee was able to sit down and enjoy the atmosphere with you all. We were able to enjoy the party which was a lovely part of it for us. The evening was ended with a Secret Santa which was a gift of £5. Members were then given a raffle ticket to choose one of the lovely gifts.

I would like to thank all committee members for their hard work during the year to make Mead what it is today. I wish you all a lovely Christmas and a Happy, Healthy New Year to you all.

Carol Wort

**Charity Quilts**

Ginny Edwards has sent the following report about the charity projects that she supports.

**A Huge Thank You**

This year has been a bumper year for quilts for the charity projects and I wanted to thank you all for your support. We have given:

* 60 baby quilts to be distributed over Christmas and the New Year to those born in Watford neonatal unit and Maternity wards.
* 28 quilts to Southwest Hertfordshire Refuge for those who are victims of domestic abuse.
* 5 quilts are ready to go to Q4CL (Quilts for Care Leavers) which give out quilt hugs for those 16 - 25-year-olds leaving care.

<https://www.q4cl.org.uk/>

We were delighted that Aga Dyton, Deputy Mayor, received the quilts on behalf of our local charities.

I know that many of you have supported other charities as well as making heart cushions and syringe driver bags. These are so appreciated so a big thank you and know how important these are for the people who receive them.

All the charities have different requirements for the sizes of their quilts .

Here are details that Ginny has provided.

**Quilt sizes**

If you are interested in making quilts for a charity these are the sizes

Neo - natal quilts 15 x 22 inches to 17 x 25 inches

Baby quilts 24 - 30 inches

Children’s Quilts 36 - 42 inches

Teenager Quilts 42 x 48 inches

**Quilts for Care Leavers (Q4CL)**

These are for young adults 16 - 25 who leave the care system who get given a ‘hug’.

Size width 40 - 50 inches length 66 - 72 inches, ideal is 44 x 70 inches. There must be at least 20 inches difference between width and length.

No commercial trade names, no hearts and no houses as this might trigger.

You may use fleece backing instead of wadding and backing.

They always have more male then female so unisex if possible.

You can also make, blocks, hot water bottle covers and Morsbags.

If you are interested in making these, you can also find all the details on Facebook Q4CL and on their website.

**Quilts for SAHWR**

This is the Domestic Abuse Refuge

They will take quilts of all sizes, mainly women and children and sizes.

Best wishes

Ginny

Thank you, Ginny, for all the time you put into organising all these projects.

**DATES FOR YOUR DIARY**

There will be three meetings in January.

**2nd January**First morning meeting of the year 9.30am.

**8th January**(this is a MONDAY) Talk via Zoom in conjunction with Mimram and Icknield Quilters given by Diana Boston talking about the quilts of her mother-in-law. Lucy Boston.

**16th January**First evening meeting of the year 7.30pm

Something a bit different! Thank you, Janet Goddard, for the idea.

This will be a “Bring A Gadget” evening. Perhaps you have a quilting / sewing gadget that you find indispensable, or maybe one that you have never used (that’s me!).

Or maybe you have an item that you don’t know how to use and would like some suggestions. Bring them along to show the group and explain why (or not) you like them. We will, I’m sure find inspiration from other members.

Just a note about weather.

If it has snowed / is snowing, we will NOT meet.

See you in 2024!

Alison K