

Feedback from September's Meeting

Venue

12 of us met yesterday in the new venue and had a good meeting. It was a big enough room with plenty of natural light. The location is good but the building turned out to be difficult to find. We are meeting in the same place next month; to find it don't use the postcode, rather the entrance is through the cafe which on the corner of Wilson Street which runs north to south between Eldon Street and Sun Street/Finsbury Avenue and Whitecross Place, a small passage way on the right if walking north. I hope that helps.

Personal Objectives for Next Year

We all discussed our personal priorities for the next year. One of the things we want to do in the group is to support each other in our work. We will perhaps return to these at a future meeting. I hope I noted people's intentions accurately. There is no penalty for changing our minds.

Sabi - is hoping to have a gallery at the FofQ in two years' time and wants to develop her work on refugees, she also has Open Studio next summer

Janine - is working for an embroidery exhibition and is enthused by the Guild Challenge - Threads that Bind.

Jeni - has committed to help make banners for London's Church of Scotland, after that she is thinking on working on challenges.

Rae - wants to develop work inspired by her father's paintings for an exhibition and to make a piece for the FofQs.

Pauline - has enjoyed working on journal quilts for the first time and may do more to use up her stash, she is inspired by Mopani leaves. She will also make a charity quilt.

Linda - is developing two new lectures one on the difference between contemporary and art quilts and one on surface design and embellishment, she offered to give these to the group whilst in development and this idea was warmly welcomed.

Janice - has to complete her Masters in the next year and she is sharing a gallery at next year's FofQs based on African fabrics.

Connie - wants to make a piece for the FofQs.

Rachel - wants to develop collaged designs which she can then hand embroider and to develop her skills at improvisational piecing.

Dianne - is developing a series based on boxes

Jill - is hoping to make something for the FofQs.

Urszula - wants to do more work on making clothes using recycled/repurposed materials, is making a knee quilt for friends and hopes to turn feelings to drawings and stitch.

Exhibition

We looked at the collection of Notan and London quilts. It's going to be a great exhibition. I thought I was running up to the deadline only having finished my quilts last weekend but I was wrong. Some are still only in the eye of the beholder. If you haven't made arrangements yet to get your quilts to Lucy, please liaise directly with her.

Janine still has some empty gaps in her rota (Friday afternoon and Saturday afternoon), if you do have capacity to help out with stewarding the exhibition please do let her know.

Jeni and her husband will be doing the lions work in Dublin. Jill, Urszula and I will be at Harrogate. If you are able to help out at either of these venues that would be great; we do hope to recruit some locals to help.

There are only a finite number of tickets for the private view on the Wednesday evening. If you would like to have a ticket please liaise directly with Janice.

We agreed that items for sale would be limited to books by members (Janice and Linda for example), cards and other pieces of art work, but not lavender bags and the like. Lucy has had some cards printed to ease the recording of sales of items, and will no doubt provide a book for record keeping and simple instructions for stewards, who are advised to have a float with them.

Dyed Fabrics

We are each committed to making three blocks, each 12 by 8 inches for the next meeting. They are to be contemporary in style, the first is to use only the cross over dyed fabrics and must include circles, a circle or parts of a circle. The second is the same size, made from just the supporting fabrics and should include one or more curved lines. The final block can use some or all of the dyed fabric and can be added to from your stash. Please bring your blocks to the next meeting when we will have a discussion about what to do with them. It maybe that there is enough potential for a group quilt at next year's festival.

I think Dianne and Janice still owe me £15 for their fabric packs. Happy to have a bank transfer to First Direct Bank, sort code 40 47 58, account number 68638608.

Communications

It was agreed that we should use the CQL Facebook page for general communication between group members, showing off work, asking for advice etc and limit emails to business and notification of meetings and even then being circumspect before hitting reply all.

Future Venues

We have booked the same venue for October as the Claremont Hall at the Angel is closed for refurbishment. Our plan is to meet there and at the Pirates Castle in Camden - and any other suitable, cheap location that we find - and then decide which suits us best and settle on that. There may be a few months of moving about a bit. Word of mouth is excellent for locating venues, do please let me know if you hear of anything.

Insurance/Affiliation/ Membership Fee

You may have noticed in the latest edition of the Contemporary Quilter magazine details about how to get public liability insurance. Unfortunately it was wrong. Our best step seems to be to affiliate to then Guild. This has an annual fee. The consensus was that we should move to paying an annual membership fee for CQL that would cover this, hall hire costs, and any incidental costs. As we are not fixed on venue we may not be able to instigate this immediately but all agreed it would be a good way forward. It was proposed that those thinking of joining could be charged a visitors fee deducted from the membership fee if they decided to join.

Forming a Committee

It was agreed that the group needs a formal committee. Its responsibilities would be to:

1. Be point of contact and recruiter of members
2. Book venue and make sure that it is ready for group and left clean and tidy at the end of each session
3. To organise programme for year so we all know what we are doing each month and we have a productive time at meetings
4. If we are to do more exhibitions be exhibitions lead and to take the lead on challenges
5. Money monitor

We anticipated that the majority of the business could be conducted by email and maybe brief meetings before or after we meet. Please let me know if you want to be a member of the committee. If you don't than by implication you agree to live by its decisions and not question them too much!

Money Matters

Yesterday's venue was relatively cheap and after we had each paid £10 we had just shy of £60 left over. We decided that we would like to donate this to the Guild as part of the £40 for 40 anniversary appeal in Jackie's name - we were confident that she would support the educational aims for this appeal. If those of you who weren't present would like to add to the amount we collected and do it in Jackie's name, please transfer the money to me and I'll get the total to the Guild. Bank Transfer details are: First Direct Bank, sort code 40 47 58, account number 68638608 and let her husband know we have done this.

We have small working balance (£36). Please do let me know if you incur expenses relating to the exhibition, although obviously we can't cover expenses related to stewarding, especially in far flung places!

RMT
20.09.19