

---

# STITCHING TOGETHER

---

Dear Members,

We need your help! If you shop online, please could you sign up to easyfundraising to support Project Linus UK?

It's a really simple way to raise money for Project Linus UK through your everyday online shopping with retailers like Amazon, Argos, John Lewis, ASOS, Booking.com, eBay, Boden, and M&S and it's completely free!

Over £20million has already been raised for good causes in the UK by easyfundraising shoppers so please help us get our share here: [www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/projectlinus/](http://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/projectlinus/)

Money raised from Easy Fundraising went towards helping our co-ordinators provide fabric and wadding for their volunteers.

Kind regards,  
Pam Sawyer, Editor

---

## AREA REPORTS

### Allerdale and Copeland

#### Barbara Strong

Here are Members of the Stitch Class in Seaton, Workington, with their recently made Linus quilts which were included in their quilt exhibition on November 3<sup>rd</sup>.



When I visited the exhibition, I was amazed by the number of Linus quilts on display. I collected a total of 36 quilts which have now been donated to a local sexual assault centre.

Thank you seems an inadequate response for such generosity and support, but thank you all.



*'A Quilt is a hug you can keep'*

## Bath, Wells and surrounding areas

Linda McGregor



In November we delivered 23 quilts and 16 blankets, all in shades of purple, to the Neonatal Unit in the RUH to help them celebrate World Prematurity Day. We were taken on a tour of the Unit and were lucky enough to meet some tiny new borns and their parents. Thank you, Sister Angie, for allowing us to take part.

## East Sussex

Anne Wall

I live near Rye in East Sussex which is a very rural area, and most of our quilts go to the Kipling Children's Ward in the Conquest Hospital at Hastings. I had been asked for a few extra quilts for the Special Baby Care Ward. So the first week in December I got stuck in and made seven baby quilts to go with the two I already had for the December delivery. I also took 18 for the main ward and all were received with open arms. The nurses are always pleased to see me, and one even referred to me as their 'Special Lady'! Doesn't this job make you feel good?

## Glos/Bristol/West Wilts

Jacki Hebblethwaite



We have had a bumper year with new placements and lots of new quilters. Allsorts, Stroud recently had their end of year get together and gave 20 quilts to children who had not already received one. Here is Kim celebrating the new hair growth with a fabulous quilt made by Catherine. Our ongoing projects with Home Start and the NICUs are keeping us busy so much so that we have started some workshops to keep up with demand.

Every year I do the Craft4Crafters shows at Shepton Mallet Somerset and Westpoint in Exeter. We sell everything that's donated that we can't put into quilts so it's a real mixed bag. However, it gives us enough money to pay for all postage and fuel and fabric and workshop expenses. We see lots of our quilters there as they bring quilts and tell us stories. Dates are February 14-16 Exeter and April for Shepton Mallet.

*'A Quilt is a hug you can keep'*

Here is Jacki accepting some beautiful crocheted blankets made by the girls of St Mary's School, Calne, Wiltshire. Their teacher, Maria Schofield, has been teaching them crochet at an after school club.



We held a Linus Day organised by Janet Purvis, to make 27" square quilt tops for a request from Home Start for 100. Our haul from the day was 22 which bring us up to the target and some towards our next 100 due in May. Our 12 strong, cake fuelled, quilters were totally focussed on achieving this superb total and we all look forward to doing it again. Two photos - Lily (14) with one of her two completed tops and another of the finished tops with two missing to be finished at home.



## Norfolk

Jane Lond-Caulk



Just a small but beautiful selection of the quilts given out at the end of the year in Norfolk, to Nelson's Journey, Queen Elizabeth II Hospital NICU and Rudham Wards, Baby Day Clinics, and Regional Foster placement.

Thank you to all the lovely quilters who help me give out so many quilts to children in Norfolk in need of a hug. Your support is greatly appreciated.

*'A Quilt is a hug you can keep'*

## Glan Gwili

**Cathrine Moon**

This year I made 20 Christmas quilts for SCBU at Glan Gwili and ten Christmas quilts for the children's ward at Glan Gwili. I don't like to ask my volunteers to make seasonal quilts as it puts them under too much pressure to complete in time, so I make them myself. This year I made two months deliveries in one, at the end of November, as I headed off, on 1st December, to spend Christmas in New Zealand with my son - lucky me.



## Derby

**Mary Ann Caranza**



Here are some photos of our last workshop at Ilkeston Hospital Training Centre and quilts which went to Derbyshire Young Carers. Our next date is Sunday 27th Jan and we look forward to sewing with all our lovely volunteers again. A big thank you and let's keep sewing and giving.

*'A Quilt is a hug you can keep'*



## Harrogate, Knaresborough and Wetherby (Yorkshire- North)

### Debbie Moloney

I am a recently-recruited area co-ordinator covering Harrogate, Knaresborough and Wetherby (Yorkshire- North). I took on the role around September/October and have been busy recruiting volunteers and spreading the word in my local area. We've already made donations of quilts and blankets to local children and have made a link with the local hospital to provide comfort quilts for babies and children there.

We have also been very fortunate to receive a Good Cause Award from Bettys and Taylors Group to help us set up workshops.

Recently, we had our first ever workshop. It was a bit last minute and we weren't sure how many attendees (if any!) we'd get. We were absolutely thrilled by the response! We had twelve people attend and others sent apologies saying they would come to our next workshop. Some of those who came belong to quilting groups and were very keen to spread the word there. Our next workshop will be in February and another in March.

I'd like to thank everyone at PLUK who has helped me to get started, especially Marjorie Cook (my regional co-ordinator) and Helen Scales who have been wonderful in providing both encouragement and advice.

We are off to a great start and having fun with Linus!

*'A Quilt is a hug you can keep'*

## South East Kent

### Pam Sawyer

We were asked by William Harvey Special Care Baby Unit if it were possible for us to make some Cot Covers. These items provide much needed shade and privacy for little premature babies, allowing them to sleep comfortably. Debbie and I spent a whole day testing the pattern and cutting out the 45 yards of material needed for the covers. Then Canterbury Quilters kindly sewed them all, as you can see in the photo below. A big thank you to the group! We delivered the covers in December with a large collection of Incubator Quilts. The NHS paid for the material and we provided the workforce. The lovely, bright fabrics came from Heidi's in Herne Bay.



Kent volunteers also knitted and crocheted blankets which were given to Care Leavers at the Canterbury Christmas Dinner. The Christmas Dinner takes place on Christmas Day and is created by the community, for young people who have grown up with the care system. The Canterbury poet laureate, Lemn Sissay, who is himself a Care Leaver, started the first Christmas Dinner in Manchester in 2013. Each year the project has grown and last Christmas there were 10 events across the country. Project Linus is supporting this charity.

It was great to be able to support this country wide charity as well as local hospitals, women's refuges, children's respite homes and young carers. Thank you to all our trusty volunteers for all their continuing hard work and generous donations.

*'A Quilt is a hug you can keep'*

## THANK YOU LETTERS

*'Please extend our sincere thanks to everyone at Project Linus for the beautifully handmade quilts donated to Oasis.*

*Donations help us to provide much needed essentials to women and children in our refuges. Women fleeing violence are often forced to leave their homes with very little, making a difficult decision and the vast change in their lives even harder.*

*With your help we are able to make a child's room more 'homely' looking when they arrive at the refuge, for them to receive a personal gift shows them that they have support from the community during this difficult time in their lives and can make a real difference to their emotional wellbeing.*

*We are really grateful of your ongoing support.'*

## Co-ordinator Names and Contact Details

Our Area Co-ordinators are organised by county and region, these can be found on the Project Linus Website here:  
<http://projectlinusuk.org.uk/contact/contact-us/>

*'A Quilt is a hug you can keep'*