
STITCHING TOGETHER

Coronavirus

In light of the current Government restrictions our coordinators are not able to accept or deliver quilts at the moment.

We thank you so much for your support in the past. We do hope that you will find time during this period of social distancing and closures to re-discover your stash of fabrics, finish your UFOs, and make some lovely quilts and blankets for Project Linus, as there will certainly be a need once the pandemic is brought under control.

Stay safe everyone.
Best wishes,
Heather, Helen and Sarah

AREA REPORTS

Winchester and mid Hampshire

Norma Goodwin

NHS Hampshire Hospitals Trust included this article in their news on the 20th February 2020. I made all six incubator covers myself from donated fabric.

Young patients find comfort with incubator covers

Babies in the neonatal unit at Royal Hampshire County Hospital are able to have a more comfortable stay thanks to a kind donation from a volunteer organisation.



The unit received six colourful handmade incubator covers from Project Linus UK, an organisation that provides homemade quilts, blankets and incubator covers for young children who are sick, disabled, disadvantaged or distressed.

Incubator covers are designed to protect babies from bright lights and sounds, encourage sleep and to create a homely atmosphere during their stay in hospital.

Sharon Stone, clinical matron for the neonatal unit at Hampshire Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust, which runs Royal Hampshire County Hospital, in Winchester, as well as Andover War Memorial Hospital and Basingstoke and North Hampshire Hospital, said:

“The fun colours and adorable patterns have created a comforting and homely atmosphere on the neonatal unit

‘A Quilt is a hug you can keep’

“The covers are incredibly valuable as they help to support development care, protecting babies in incubators from light and noise during their stay with us, and the parents love the colours and fun materials.

We can't thank Norma and Project Linus UK enough for all of the hard work and effort they put in to create the covers.”

Norma Goodwin, Winchester volunteer coordinator for Project Linus UK, visited the neonatal unit to make the donation on behalf of Project Linus UK.

She said: “It was a great joy to be able to create the new incubator covers for the unit. Each cover takes over 11 hours to make but seeing the reaction when the donation was brought in made it all worthwhile.



The quilts are made from high quality threads and 100 per cent cotton fabric generously donated by local patchwork and quilters. This is great opportunity to get volunteers involved and help those younger patients who need a little extra care as they grow.”

East Staffordshire

Kim Wood

I recently visited Joyce Holder who has been a volunteer quiltmaker since the early days of Project Linus UK. Joyce uses lots of bright colours and a variety of 'quilt as you go' techniques making it easier for her to work on larger quilts. No two quilts are ever the same and we always look forward to visiting her to collect them and see her latest designs. So far, she has donated an amazing 126 to us as well as previously donating many quilts to PLUK prior to the formation of the East Staffordshire Area 13 years ago. This photo shows Joyce with her latest quilts. These have now been delivered to children through the Staffordshire Foster Carers group.



‘A Quilt is a hug you can keep’

South East Kent

Pam Sawyer

As I am sure many of you do, we work with lots of groups in South East Kent as well as individual volunteers. I would like to introduce you to one of the groups called Abbey Patchers who meet in Minster Old Schools, every Thursday morning from 9am to midday. They have 60 members. It is run by Sandra Anderson, the previous South East Kent Coordinator for Project Linus, and Alison Smartfrog.

Sandra says: "As you know PLUK is an organisation very dear to my heart having been a coordinator for ten years. Abbey Patchers usually support a different charity each year and the efforts from our exhibition that we hold every other year, go to this charity.

This year I nominated PLUK and the group were very happy with that choice. The group generously used to support me when I was a coordinator. It was nice that they could support it through their favourite hobby.



I hold a monthly raffle and our members really enjoy supporting that, some of the money raised went towards fabric and wadding to make the quilts we donated a little while ago.

We also have a sales table that members can put items on and at least 20% of the proceeds go into the charity (Linus) pot.

I'm not sure how we will carry this on with all the troubles we now have to deal with, but I guess we will carry on with it next year as well.

When we eventually can go back to our meetings, we will continue making incubator quilts and more quilts for boys, as requested locally. The photos show quilts which we recently completed for Project Linus together with our smiling faces!

There is also an evening group of Abbey Patchers, held in the same place on a Thursday evening. Several members from the evening group also support our work for Linus."

THANK YOU LETTERS

Hi my name's Vicky and I am one of the Family Case Workers at Dandelion Time. All of us here would like to say a huge thank you to all the volunteers who make these beautiful blankets / quilts. We have had our breaths taken away with the love and care of these beautiful handmade items. It is lovely for our children, many who have experienced trauma to be able to take a treasure home with them allowing them to build a connection to positive memories and experiences here at Dandelion Time. The blankets are given with a cuddly toy after completing all their therapy sessions with us. The quilts help to provide the children with warmth, comfort and a sense of safety.

So from the bottom of all our hearts thank you so much for all your hard work!
From all the team at Dandelion Time xx

'A Quilt is a hug you can keep'

Project Linus Raffle 2020

Tickets £1 from your local coordinator

3 prizes each comprising



Warm Company wadding supplied by
Littondale Fabrics and Wadding and



Fabric donated by **Lewis&Irene**

(items may not be exactly as shown)

Easy Fundraising

Don't forget if you shop online, please sign up to **easyfundraising** and help 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

Money already raised from **easyfundraising** went towards helping our co-ordinators provide fabric and wadding for their volunteers. All proceeds are re-invested in Project Linus and the work that we do together.

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