

THREADS



Rotarian Fellowship of Quilters and Fiber Artists

Greetings from New Zealand

Editorial by Ailsa McKenzie

As I sit down to write this newsletter, the whole world is still reeling from the incredible devastation in my country and around the world! Our news channel seems to be going all the time, starting with the terrible floods and bush fires in Australia, to the earthquake which hit Christchurch, New Zealand, to the 9.0 earthquake which hit Japan with the following Tsunami and now big problems with the nuclear plant! Not to mention Libya and some other eastern countries with their uprisings! All of our four children and (almost) eight grandchildren live in and around the Christchurch area. They are all well and have not been affected physically by the big shake. However, some of them will have some good stories to pass on to their grandchildren about their experiences that day. Our eldest son, who lives in Lyttelton, which is where the epicentre was, could not get through the tunnel from Christchurch and had to walk/run over what is called "The Bridal

Path" (a name dating back to when the pioneers arrived) to get to his wife and baby girl! There were two people killed by falling rocks doing just that same thing! Our son-in-law was walking past one of the badly damaged buildings when the quake hit. He was thrown to the ground but managed to get up and run just as the building collapsed down behind him. He ran for Cathedral Square (the centre area of Christchurch CBD) just in time to see the Cathedral spire fall to the ground. He rushed to his office, grabbed his laptop, and has not been back into the city since!! The others are fine this time. Louise and Andrew had more damage to their house in the first quake. It was all to do with where it was centred. However, on a brighter note - I am off up to my youngest daughter's place today to baby-sit their two small boys

while she goes to have her third baby tomorrow (C-Section). The quake had no affect on this one!!! So having finished grandchildren quilts number seven, I shall have to start on the eighth (and hopefully the last!) one! Here's hoping that the world is about to settle down a bit in the future!

Regards, *Ailsa*

March 29, 2011

Issue # 16

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Rotarians Responding



How Rotarians can help Christchurch PAGE 9

March Issue of Rotary Down Under

"New Zealand is a small country and everyone knows someone in Christchurch, so this is truly a national disaster," said Past RI President William B. Boyd, a native of New Zealand. "I know that the six districts [there] will work together to rebuild the spirit of the city. Best wishes from Rotarians from around the world have reminded us once again that we are a family and that in difficult times, families come together."

Rotarians have also been finding a number of ways to help victims of the devastating earthquake and tsunami in Japan that killed thousands and left hundreds of thousands more homeless.

YARN NECKLACES

Marty Wyatt from California, USA enjoys knitting and quilting. Next week she is taking a class to make a Yarn Necklace. Marty shared the pattern with us and you can find it on our website www.rotariansquilt.org under the menu "What's New".



Hoffman Challenge Benefits Rotary

The Bengeo Estate in Tasmania, Australia is inviting our members to participate in the Hoffman Challenge. Information and rules can be found on their website www.bengeoretreat.com.au. The closing date for entries is 31st August 2011.

The cost is \$30 Australia and \$34 international. Funds go into three categories:

I. Local charities consist of projects that assist the Meander Valley community such as the free learn to swim project organized by the Deloraine Rotary Club.

II. National projects such as the Queensland Flood Appeal, housing for under-privileged families in Fiji, and the Bush Fire relief fund.

III. International project funds are applied typically to Polio Plus, Eye Camps in Napal, and school books in Papua New Guinea.

For more information, contact the curator, Diane Brittlebank, Bengeo Retreat, Email diane@bengeoretreat.com.au .

Mardi Gras Time



**END
POLIO
NOW**

Using your donated fabrics representing several countries, RFQFA members Diana Barden, Kathy Herder and Cheryl Minshew assembled 2 gorgeous Trip Around the World Quilts for our fellowship's End Polio Now fundraiser at the RI Convention in New Orleans. Diana and Kathy took the train from Madera to San Diego (about 10 hours in a rain/snow storm!) where we were hosted at Cheryl and Jim Minshew's awesome home. In two solid days, the 3 of us made these two quilt tops and a smaller Mardi Gras themed lap quilt. There are still blocks left that Cheryl will assemble prior to the convention. Many of you are sending or taking smaller items to New Orleans—we are going to have a great year for Polio! I have lots of photos so you can see close ups of the quilts being made and I will have those to you soon. It's so exciting to see how our group of quilters and fiber artists come through every year to collaborate on this project. I could not be more proud of what you do and how talented and generous you all are. I hope that those of you who will be attending the convention will be able to take a shift in the booth. It's a wonderful experience meeting other members and meeting convention goers who share your passion for the fiber arts and admire your work. ~~ Diana

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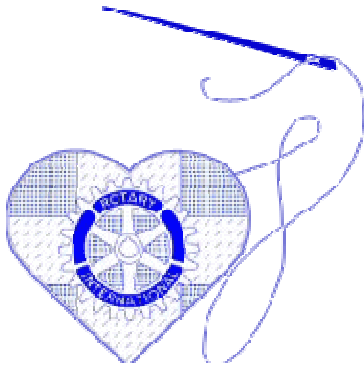
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Freezer Paper Tip

Courtesy of Penny Halgren

www.How-to-Quilt.com

I am based in the UK. I am not a quilter, but came across your site after a long, long Google search trying to find how to copy / transfer my own very complicated hand drawn flower designs for a wedding-ring cushion I am making for my daughter, which will be embroidered in silk shading.

I came across the term "freezer paper" on another site and how to use this to help run actual fabric through a printer to transfer a right-side copy of a line drawing image. I tried to "stick" my own freezer paper to some trial fabric, by ironing, but it didn't "stick" to the fabric at all.

American and UK products being often different I then found your explanation of "what is freezer paper" - and it seems that in the UK they now seem to have abandoned the idea of waxing freezer paper, but silicone it instead, which doesn't work of course. It's actually very difficult to find waxed paper in the UK.

I looked around my home at all the types of paper I have and discovered that the packaging/wrapping paper around reams of office stationer's normal printer paper has been waxed lightly on the inside, I suppose to protect the product inside.

I cut a section off the wrapping/packaging, ironed it lightly to my test fabric, cut the 2 layers to perfect printer feed-roll size and simply photocopied my hand-drawing on, resulting in a perfect line drawing image for me now to use for my embroidery.

We all just throw away our paper-ream packaging.

Frances Collingwood

BALKAN PUZZLE



Balkan Puzzle Block also known as Windblown Star

Rose Smith, Ludlow Quilt & Sew in the UK, meets up with Penny Halgren in Los Angeles on a recent trip to America where they spent the morning sharing quilting gossip. When Rose returned to the UK, she wanted to make something happy and exuberant and decided on the Balkan Puzzle Quilt Block. Go to "What's New" on www.rotariansquilt.org for a Free Pattern.

