

Linton News ~ May 2022

I truly believe that good things come to those who wait. We really did have a considerable wait to complete the new Easter altar frontal for St. Mary's. The inspiration came following a reflection session during Advent 2019, the theme of my reflection was joy, using Luke 2v10. I spoke about what brings me joy, most people who know me know that I love to sew and I used my tin of buttons to help represent this. Afterwards I discovered that another member of the group was a keen quilter...something I had not done before and was excited to try. On the 24th December 2019 I asked Charlotte if she would help me involve the congregation to create a new patchwork quilted altar frontal, thankfully she said yes!

As Lent 2020 begun we shared the idea and the volunteers took a piece of fabric home to decorate and return by 29th March 2020 as we intended to reveal the altar frontal on Easter Sunday, 12th April 2020.



Just some of the volunteers who helped create the Easter altar frontal, from left to right:
Sarah King, Sue Mudge, Cathy Watts, Nanette Blackmore, Charlotte Hayes,
Jacqui Burge, Sue Filby, Sue Ellis, Janet Conochie, Gill Powell.

Fast-forward to March 2022 and we were now able to collect in all the 28 completed squares, each includes a cross and everyone has a story; someone taught themselves to embroider during lockdown, someone else did embroidery again for the first time in years. Another has their family tartan ribbon that was used at their wedding. One of the squares was thought to be lost in Cambridge because it was taken into John Lewis to help choose the items to decorate it BUT was left on the shop counter! Thankfully their excellent customer service meant that it arrived safely back in Linton as the purchase had been made using their store card and the assistant was able to find the address to allow them to be reunited. There is a square featuring the fingerprints of the Nichols Court 2020 Lent group, taken just before lockdown. Finally, I made the cross out of buttons as a permanent reminder of the initial inspiration.

There is a popular passage often read at weddings, 1 Corinthians 13 v4-7

⁴ Love is patient and kind. Love is not jealous or boastful or proud ⁵ or rude. It does not demand its own way. It is not irritable, and it keeps no record of being wronged. ⁶ It does not rejoice about injustice but rejoices whenever the truth wins out. ⁷ Love never gives up, never loses faith, is always hopeful, and endures through every circumstance.

I hope that you will agree that this has been a real labour of love and my hope is that it will continue to bring joy for many years and you will be inspired to come and see the altar frontal.

Sue Filby