

North Kent Embroiderers

Hello everyone, have you heard of the Queen Mother's Clothing Guild?

<https://www.qmcg.org.uk/> Did you know that it was formed in 1882 and is one of the UK's oldest charities? However, QMCG is very relevant today as it receives requests from various charities including refuges for women and children escaping violence, homeless shelters and neonatal units, and many others right across the UK for clothing and bedding items that they have difficulty in sourcing or funding themselves. The Guild knows that the gift of new clothing and bedding provides warmth and comfort, helping to restore dignity and self-respect.

Ms Ruth Briant, who is the CEO of QMCG visited North Kent Embroiderers recently, where she gave them a potted history of the charity and explained what the charity did. During WW1, it provided knitted items for the troops as well as helping families at home.



Ruth explained that cot quilts are put on babies' incubators when necessary to keep the bright light away from them and those quilts become part of their journey as they go home with the baby. Baby boxes are also made up and these provide a safe place for babies aged 0 – 3 months. They contain a mattress, bedding, nappies, clothing, bottles and items of handmade clothing from QMCG.

When the recipients have been given gifts such as quilts, or baby clothes, they sometimes try to hand them back when they're finished with them, because they've never been given such love and don't realise that the gifts are theirs to keep forever. Last year the Guild donated 57,221 items of clothing and bedding to sixty charities in England and Scotland.

It was March 2022 when Ruth was booked to visit NKE, and since then members have been busy knitting clothes for neo-natal babies, and also jumpers, hats and gloves for bigger babies, as well as stitching quilts for cots and prams and crocheting blankets for elderly people. In total there were three tables of goodies for Ruth take away for the Guild to give to give to those charities who support people in need.

Members agreed that it had been a very worthwhile challenge to make the items for the QMCG and in turn for people less fortunate than themselves.

If you would like to join our group or would just like to find out a bit more about us then please pay us a visit - look at our website

<https://northkentembroiders.co.uk/>

or email us at: info@northkentembroiders.co.uk

or contact our Chairman, Eileen Tuff on 01474 324734

Happy stitching, Karen (Thank you Veronica, for writing the article.)

