

MPs visit troop supporting quilters

THE city's MPs have praised a local group who have shown their support for Britain's troops using their creative skills.

Mark Lancaster and Iain Stewart visited the Milton Keynes Group of Machine Embroidery Sewers (MKGEMS) after they created a 'quilt of valour' to in honour of the soldiers who risk their lives for our country.

The MPs are due to present the quilt, which was made in a day by the MKGEMS' 30 members, to E Company The Rifles in Blakelands, whose insignia is woven into the design.

The quilt, which uses the 'in the loop' technique, includes embroidery designs representing the local area, including concrete cows for Milton Keynes and racing cars for Silverstone.

Quilts of valour are a concept which originated in America, as a way of communities supporting their troops through their skills and craftsmanship.

Mr Stewart and Mr Lancaster, who is also a serving officer in the Territorial Army, will present the quilt to the TA at Blakelands.

Mr Stewart said: "It was a delight to meet the people of MKGEMS who have put so much into making this beautiful quilt. It just shows how much our communities are prepared to do to support our troops."

Mr Lancaster added: "It was an honour to become a custodian of this quilt before it is presented to our very deserving local reservists."

Mary Sayers, leader of MKGEMS, said: "We were delighted to be able to present the quilt of valour to our MPs. It is fantastic to know that the fruits of our labour will soon go to a good home and be appreciated. In undertaking this project we feel proud to have done something to support the service men and women who risk their lives every day for our country."