

Market Square Zuilters

Chairperson Sandra Harris

Treasurer Sue Dobbs

Secretary Pauline Byrne

Workshops Rita Maton

Gail Winter

Geraldine Priest

Newsletter Caroline Ward

Refreshments Pat Blatchford

Web Page Cheryl Nicol

Raffle Joanne Rabbitts

Sandra Kidwell

Library Caroline Ward

Next Meeting — 28th February

St Francis de Sales at 7.15pm

This meeting will be the first of the bag making demonstrations. Ideas will be given for fabric handles.

The Show and Tell inspiration will be red including red hearts for Valentines Day but please bring any work that you would like to show.





Stitch and Chat—Wednesday 7th February

The Castle School 7pm—10pm

New members may not be aware that we have an extensive library of books, magazines and DVD's which are stored at The Castle School Community Room, Love Lane, Donnington.

We have access on the first Wednesday evening of each month from 7pm—10pm.

Members usually bring some hand stitching but there is plenty of room to spread work out for basting or deciding upon layouts etc.

At present it is a very small group but it would be lovely to have a few more members attending regularly.

January Meeting

Sandra wished everybody a Happy New Year and welcomed three visitors to the group.

SOS Day January 27th—about 11 members were able to attend and a new batch of premmie quilts were begun ready to be handed over in February. St George's hall was once again cold in the afternoon so Sandra will have a word with the caretaker before we use the hall again.

The activities organisers Geraldine, Gail and Rita have devised a series of demonstrations throughout the year on different aspects of making bags—fabrics, stiffening, handles, fastenings, styles etc. I have no doubt that they will come up with some useful and inspirational ideas for us. Next month we will have our first demonstration on different ways of making fabric handles.

We do not have a word to inspire items for Show and Tell this year so we will keep it seasonal:-

Jan Winter

Feb red/valentine

Mar Spring

April yellow and green

May holidays

June weddings/celebrations

July Summer

Aug garden party

Sept Autumn

Oct Halloween/orange

Nov old challenges

Dec Christmas

There was a sales table at the meeting with haberdashery items donated by Anne Jenner who is downsizing.

Charity Quilt—the committee have considered the ideas submitted for the charity raffle quilt and chosen three. A voting form and pictures of these quilts will be attached to this newsletter.

Show and Tell - the theme this month was **Winter**. There was old and new work on show but that is the purpose of having a theme—to jog our memories of the treasures we have got tucked away.



A cushion from Barbara;



A wallhanging from Sue D;



An appliqued felt runner from Sandra K;



Winter Houses from June;



A small quilt from Cheryl using a at quarter pack on which she has been practicing her machine quilting. It was made in the Winter!

Other lovely things on show were :-



A piece of batik fabric hand quilted as a wholecloth by Pat Bu.



A very accurately worked pair of cushion covers by Linda. Like most of us she sees quilting potential wherever she goes, cathedral floors, brickwork, and in this case the tiles at the Alhambra in Spain. She had worked out the blocks from some photographs she took while on holiday. They had come out so well that she was debating whether to turn them in to a wallhanging instead.....



June had completed her Block of the Month quilt as organised by Marianne . It is exquisite and has so much detailed work in it including some extra butterflies in the hand quilting of the border. A triumph!!

Sue C had made a small quilt from oddments of a bright snail fabric.



A lovely selection of premmie quilts were handed in including these two by Geraldine who had made use of the samples of smocking and twin needle work which she had produced for demonstrations last year.













SOS—PAT Testing

The next SOS Day is on March 10th and this will be when members are able to have anything electrical which they use for workshops PAT tested. If you cannot come to this session and would like your equipment tested then please get in touch with the committee or any of the members to arrange for them to bring it for you (remember that you will not be allowed to use untested electrical equipment in most public halls).

Snakes and Ladders Quilt

The SOS day will be used to make a start on a second quilt to be raffled at the Quilt Show in 2020. This one is to appeal to children and will be a snakes and ladders game mat quilt. Help will be needed with cutting and appliqueing the numbers to each square and cutting out the snakes and ladders. If anybody has some brightly coloured fabric e.g. Hungry Caterpillar, which they were able to donate to cut out the snakes that would be wonderful.

You can of course come and do your own work.

Malvern Show

A trip to Malvern is being organised but Sandra is keen to hear from anybody who has an idea for another outing, maybe to a quilt shop which is also running a workshop or to an exhibition elsewhere. Please get in touch with her if you know of anything.

Retreat

Sue has sent details of a retreat in November which you may be interested in. It is in Wootton Bassett and is run by Gillymac Designs. Places are limited so get in touch asap.



Email:elizabeth.hodgson959@btinternet.com

I will attach more details.

Fabric Sale

Doughty's Roadshow will be at Charvil Village Hall on 12th February if you are looking for fabric.

Quilt Show dates for 2018

I had not realised that there were so many until I saw this leaflet! www.grosvenorshows.co.uk

Feb	16th-18th	Edinburgh
Feb	23rd-25th	Harrogate
March 2nd-4th		Duxford
April	6th-8th	Exeter
May	17th -20th	Malvern
June	1st-2nd	Spalding
June	22nd-24th	Esher
Aug	31st-2nd	Harrogate
Oct	19th-21st	Malvern
Oct	26th-28th	Duxford
Nov	9th-10th	Maidstone
Dec	7th-8th	Spalding

Quilt stands

Please bear in mind that we could do with a new storage space for our quilt stands at some point so let us know if you hear of anywhere.

Forthcoming Events

nationalneedleworkarchive.org.uk

1-22 Feb-Quilts from the Archives exhibition

27Feb—15th March—work by local branches of the Embroiderer's Guild

3rd March—Fabric Sale

13th Mar-6th Apr—Contemporary Quilters Guild International Challenge exhibition

Lady Sew and Sew

12th Mar-30th—Sandy Snowden exhibition of miniature and journal quilts

Village Fabrics

Workshops on English Paper Piecing and sashiko stitching.

Purple Stitches

They are organising a Quilters Retreat 16th-18th March

Quilters Dream

Various basic workshops including making a Quillow in Feb and March

Juberry

Various workshops including one that looks good for using up scraps called French Braid on 10th April

Cutting Edge Fabrics

The Newtown Road shop has closed and they hope to re-locate to Hambridge Road by the end of February.

FACEBOOK PAGE

I know that many of you have visited the page and hope you find it useful. Please spread the word with your quilting and sewing friends and ask them to like our page – the more members we have the more we can get our message around.

WEB PAGE <u>www.marketsquarequilters.co.uk</u>

LIBRARY — If you are not able to make it to The Castle School on the first Wednesday of each month 7 -10pm to borrow books you could email me with any requests and I could bring them to the monthly meeting. I will bring a selection of books to each monthly meeting. A list was attached to the November newsletter.

FOR SALE/WANTED/FREECYCLE/HELP! If you have any items to pass on or are having problems with a technique or need help to get started on a project, please email me the details and I will notify members in the newsletter.

Copy

I will be happy to include in the newsletter any reports of exhibitions, workshops, shops etc. which members have found interesting. Please send them to me at caroline2226@gmail.com

Events

There are various workshops at our more local quilt shops www.juberry.co.uk www.quiltersdream.co.uk www.villagefabrics.co.uk www.newthreads.com www.purple-stitches.com www.ladysewandsew.com

Knitting

I see that the national Needlework Archive at Greenham are involved with a project called Knit Newbury so if you are a knitter you might like to get involved. nationalneedleworkarchive.org.uk

Lady Sew & Sew now have a yarn department if you are in to knitting.

Our nearest wool specialist is **Yarnfest** at Hermitage where they do classes and social knitting Yarnfest.co.uk Also specialist yarns at **Skein Queen** World's End.

Forthcoming MSQ Events

Greenham Sewing Sisters -

We meet on the second Thursday of every month in the Paddock Room at St Marys Church Hall, Greenham 10.00am – 3.00pm. Fee is £3 and that goes towards tea, coffee, biscuits and hall hire. We hope that more of you will come along and join us in future and enjoy the company of fellow quilters and have a sew and natter.

Other meetings are:

 1^{st} Wednesday of month at The Castle School 7 – 10pm.

The Club library is held here so if you want to borrow any books or DVD's etc. come along to look.

4th Wednesday at St Francis de Sales Hall 7.15—10pm

Embroiderers Guild

Monday 12th Feb—a talk by Anne Hellyer (remember the little houses workshop) on how she has arrived at the work she does now.

Visitors welcome at St Francis Hall £5

www.newbury-embroiderers.co.uk for more details of their events this year.