

Number 115

March 2018

Market Square Quilters

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 March

St Francis de Sales at 7.15pm

This meeting will be the second of the bag making demonstrations. Ideas will be given for acrylic handles.

The Show and Tell inspiration will be Spring but please bring any work that you would like to show.

There will be a sign-up sheet for Malvern on 17th May.

N.B. the meeting in May is 23rd not 28th—sorry

Stitch and Chat—Wednesday 7th March

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 welcomed those people who had made it to the meeting (about 12 members) owing to the appalling weather conditions.

The visit to North Hampshire Quilters went very well and a from Linda will follow on the next page.

We were reminded of the PAT testing on March 10th at the SOS day. Three items including irons, extension leads, machines, overlockers etc. can be tested for £5 and we will be able to carry on working until it is our turn to have the testing done. Gail has organised everything for the Snakes and Ladders quilt so anybody who is willing can help to get the majority of the top made on this day. You can of course carry on with your own work. The hall was cold during the afternoon of the last SOS so make sure you are wearing something warm or have layers to put on. Hopefully the worst of the weather is over now....

The sign-up sheet has begun for Malvern but there are plenty of places so invite friends too. The cost will be £10 for members and £20 for non-members.

Sue told us about a request for pot-holders for the tombola at the Festival of Quilts in August which had been put out by Region 12 of the Quilters Guild. They need to be a specific size and they need to have insulation inside. Sue has an ironing board cover which she is going to cut and will distribute to anybody who is interested.

Charity Quilt—the voting has now finished for the design of the quilt for the raffle at the next show. I received 24 votes and the clear winner was the first design—Rapid City.

Rapid City 14

Cat's Eyes 7

Log Cabin 3

So ,we will get on with the next stage of organising fabrics.



Show and Tell - the theme this month was **Red**. There were no extravagant Valentine items and only a couple within the red theme.



Pat Bu— showed us a Wonky Houses quilt which had a red border..



And Hazel brought an interesting bag made from a folded square which created several pockets. Maybe we will see this again during our year of Bag Making activities.

There were also several Premmie quilts ready for donation made by Gail and Sue.



Visit to North Hampshire Quilters

Hazel writes:-

Six of us visited North Hampshire Quilters on the evening of February 8th following their invitation. We were given a warm welcome and shown to their meeting room in the Everest Community Academy not far from Basingstoke hospital. The group was formed in the 1970's and has over 60 members which come from a large area, and meet here twice a month, except August, in a large light filled room, seen below. Meetings usually take the form of a talk, sometimes a demonstration, with some show and tell. However once the business of the evening is over they finish, so there is little social aspect to the evening. They have 5 workshops/sewing days a year and a biennial exhibition, this year's being on March 3rd.

The evening started with show and tell from some of their members – quilts both pieced and appliqued, mostly traditional in style. When we arrived we were brought a trolley for our quilts which had to go up in a lift, so we don't know how many they expected! Amongst our exhibits were some of the most recent block of the month quilts, Somerset patchwork cushions, wall hangings, bags and quilts some of which had resulted from workshops, so we were able to showcase a good selection of work from our members. Their members seemed to appreciate them and ones we spoke to were most effusive in their praise. Hopefully we can invite them back at some time.

They also make premmie quilts for Basingstoke hospital and have 100 waiting to deliver!



Beverley explained how she had done matchstick quilting and also the freehand rotary cutting which she had used on her Dizzy Rascals quilt. Some of their members were quite interested but some were quite taken aback at the idea!

Pauline also writes:-

Our visit last month to North Hampshire Quilters was very enjoyable. Their meeting place is a large room in a very modern and busy community centre. Upon arrival there was even a trolley at hand which was used to transport our bags upstairs in a lift. We were warmly welcomed by their chair and other members of which there were many.

Their group is much larger than ours; I think their membership list is around seventy. After the business part of the meeting their members had a Show and Tell which was very interesting and then it was our turn ! We had not really formalised how our Show and Tell would run but in the end we all got involved . For example Cheryl spoke about the various sewing machines she used and showed some lovely work which was very well received as was the work shown by Jenny Saady. Bev' s contribution was very lighthearted and humorous as she spoke about how sometimes things don't always turn out as expected. The audience were particularly interested in her hand quilting. Linda also showed some of her super work . There were lots of other items shown and thank you to everyone who sent examples of their work. Throughout our Show and Tell there were lots of questions from the audience about the items shown and they spent a lot of time afterwards looking closely at our work. On the journey home we were all agreed that it had been a very worthwhile and enjoyable visit.

Bag Handle Demonstration

Geraldine has accumulated a number of books and magazines which have ideas for making bags in them and these will be available for inspiration throughout the year.

She has also collected bags of her own which demonstrate various types of handles. The ones she showed this month all had fabric handles ...



This is an example of how to use D Rings to make an adjustable strap.



This handle appears to be part of the top band of the bag but there is in fact a seam just above the curve which gives a neat finish



This embroidered silk bag will have a handle made with a thick cotton cord covered with fabric. It has been turned through in the same way that you would turn through a Rouleau loop.



This bag which was made from a kit has an asymmetric handle with some stiffener inside which has then been reinforced with lines of stitching.

Many thanks to Geraldine for the organisation she is putting in to these demonstrations.



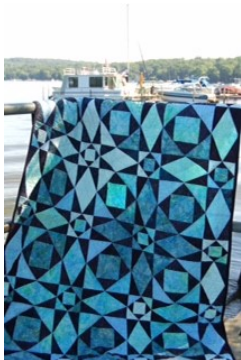
Sue was also able to show us the webbing handle on her sloth bag which shows another form of fabric handle

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 am going to rush to finish this newsletter so that I can send it out before I rush off to meet my new grandson in Lausanne!!!

Here is the picture of the sleep sack I have made (before knowing it was a boy). The hand quilting is two fish as he will be a Piscean and I have used the scraps of fabric to put a bias edge on to a purchased baby blanket to go with it.



I will send out any extra information when I get back next week but apart from updating the What's On I think I have covered the important bits.....

Quilt Show dates for 2018

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

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

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

3rd March—Fabric Sale was cancelled due to the weather but items are on sale all this week

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 soon. I can see them inside setting up—it is the old Speedy Hire unit near the Boundary Road turn.

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 www.marketsquarequilters.co.uk

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:

1st 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

Exhibition at Greenham Textile Centre until 15th March

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