





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— 25th April

St Francis de Sales at 7.15pm

This meeting will be the third of the bag making demonstrations. Ideas will be given for using a zipper foot when making up bags.

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

There will be a final chance to sign up for Malvern on 17th May.

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

Stitch and Chat—Wednesday 2nd May

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.

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.

March Meeting

There was a big turn out of members as so many had missed last months meeting because of the weather.

Sandra welcomed everybody and also introduced Daisy, another new member.

SOS day—Gail was very pleased with the progress which had been made on the Snakes and Ladders quilt for the next exhibition. She asked for volunteers to take the rows of blocks and applique on the numbers in each square—they were quickly allocated. Just in case anybody missed the instructions they are to be done with invisible thread using a small blanket stitch or blind hem stitch.

Malvern—The money is now due for the trip to Malvern. Please send a cheque made out to Market Square Quilters (not MSQ) to Sue asap. There are still places on the coach if you know of anybody else who would like to go. I will email all the details needed for the day asap.

SOS June 30th—this will be a bag making workshop for which a kit will be made up for those attending. However, the final design has not been decided upon yet so if you have the details for making up a bag which you think would be suitable for all abilities , please get in touch with Geraldine, Gail or Rita asap.

Regional rep.—Sandra asked again if there were any members interested in joining the Quilters Guild Region 6 so that our group could gain more recognition in the area and so that we were more aware of what is going on locally. I am pleased to report that two of our members did express an interest and are investigating what it would involve.... we will see what they think.

Sue will give details of the pot-holders needed for the tombola at the FOQ to anybody who is interested.

Cheryl had brought in a selection of magazines which she offered to anybody who wanted them—thankyou.



Show and Tell - the theme this month was Spring.



Only one bright and cheerful wallhanging by Veronica fitted this theme. This had been her first attempt at applique some time ago.



However, there were lots of other things on show :-

Cheryl had completed the Block of the Month quilt organised by Marianne last year and her echo quilting added another dimension to it.



Val showed us a baby quilt made from 50's style fabrics. She has matched her corners beautifully.

Hazel had completed a couple of mugs rugs using the folded patchwork technique which was taught at one of our workshops last year. The blue line in the left hand one is particularly effective.



Gail brought in her Little Houses quilt which was intricately worked in applique and embroidery from a design by Yoko Saito



There were also a lot of new premmie quilts ready for Julia to take to Basingstoke hospital.

In answer to a query about donating knitted baby clothes the answer was 'Yes please' but not crocheted. However, Geraldine said that small crocheted quilts were welcome as they are very good for keeping elderly folks feet warm!



Lastly I showed my EPP charm/I-spy quilt which has finally been machine quilted using Westalee Rulers. There are 360 different fabrics in it, many of which have been begged from members at various sewing days.

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.

This month she had collected together a selection of acrylic handles from quilt fairs and the internet.



We were also shown a delightful appliqued bag which had been made at a Yoko Saito workshop.



Sandra H brought a knitting bag on which she had used acrylic handles but because she did not really like them she had given them a distressed look using chalk paint—very effective.



Just a filler -

I spotted this strippy quilt in the Museum of Lincolnshire Life



And also this quilted soldiers cap in the museum of the Lincolnshire Regiment.





Also this petticoat in a family portray by Zoffany at Tate Britain .

If you have any pictures of things which you think others would be interested in please email them to me and I will include them—but please give details if it is showing other people's work.

OUTINGS— 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.

Maybe a few people would like to go on a weekend retreat?

The Bramble Patch—one possible outing could be to the Bramble Patch which is a well established quilt supply shop at Weedon near Northampton. I recently stopped here to break a journey north and was very impressed at their range of fabrics, kits etc. They also run courses, do demonstrations and welcome groups to visit. They also have a very good café!

April 27/28th they have special offers on floral fabrics and on 4th May they have a Janome day with demonstrations of accessories and embroidery.

I got back to Newbury in less than one and a half hours so it is quite do-able in a day.

Abingdon Quilters—remember that I recently sent details of an exhibition in Abingdon next weekend, 14-15th April.

Justhands-on tv are running weekend retreats including one at Windsor in September

If you are feeling rich then you could go on an international quilting holiday with **Stitchopia** or **ECT Travel.**

I am sure that all these organisations will have stands at Malvern and the NEC to tempt us.....

Quilt Show dates for 2018

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

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.

Buttercross Quilters are going to hire them soon for an exhibition so that will bring in a bit of extra money for the club.

Forthcoming Events

nationalneedleworkarchive.org.uk

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Now—26th April—Knitted Newbury display
Now—26th April—'Orient' - contemporary quilts exhibition
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Lady Sew and Sew

Workshops on knitting, dressmaking and stretchy fabrics as well as quilting workshops

Village Fabrics

20th April—machine applique workshop

Purple Stitches

19th May—machine quilting workshop

Quilters Dream

26th May—Lone Star workshop using a printed interfacing

Juberry

14th April—bag workshop 17th April—'Heart of Mine' applique workshop

New Threads

 $Workshops \ on \ hand \ applique \ and \ beginners \ patchwork$

Cutting Edge Fabrics

Is now open on Hambridge Lane and is open 7 days per week!

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

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