

Number 144

January 2022

Market Square Quilters

Chairperson	Geraldine Priest
Treasurer	Teresa Clark
Secretary	Pauline Byrne
Newsletter	Caroline Ward
Refreshments	
Web Page	Cat Nichol
Facebook	Kirsty Gordon
Raffle	Gail Winter Rita Maton
Library	Caroline Ward

WEB PAGE www.marketsquarequilters.co.uk

Also check the Facebook and Instagram sites which are kept updated with interesting snippets...

You will find the email addresses of the compilers in your diary card and they will be very grateful if you send them anything but please remember to acknowledge the work of any designers whose work you may have used to avoid copyright issues.

News

Welcome back everybody. This is my first newsletter since October 2020! As I rely upon taking photos of members work during Show and Tell to fill up my columns I did not have anything to put in them....

It has been a strange time for all of us but it has also been an opportunity for most of us to concentrate on making things—as long as we have been well enough. I admit that I did more during the first Lockdown than I did last year but now that we are able to meet again the enthusiasm for getting projects completed as returned.

Also we all need to press on to complete things which we would like to display in our exhibition in October. This will be held at **Newbury College** on **October 29th and 30th** in the central area which is known as The Street. All members are invited to show work of whatever size and the exhibition sub-committee will let you know all the details asap.

There will be raffle tickets to sell to family and friends with the proceeds going to Time to Talk which is a local charity supporting the mental health of young people.

January Meeting

At long last we were able to have a proper meeting—well almost. The chairs were still set out in a circle but so many members turned up that we had to keep making it bigger and bigger. In the end there were 28 members and 3 visitors, 2 of whom joined up. Also most people kept their masks on....

Unfortunately Geraldine was unable to come so Gail stood in at the last minute and ran the meeting. She welcomed everybody then ran through the programme for the year.

Sew on Saturday workshops

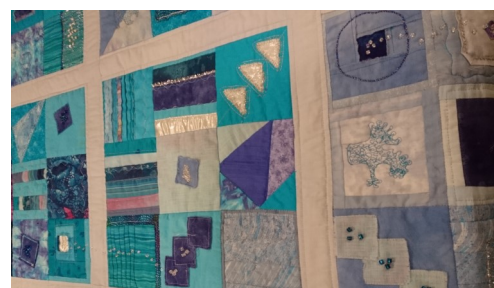
Unfortunately we are unable to use St George's hall this year even though the days had been booked well in advance, as they have decided to only have regular bookings. This means that the SOS days will be in St Francis parish hall and because it is so much smaller only 12 people will be able to attend. Members were able to sign up at the meeting but there are spaces left on both April workshops so get in touch if you would like to put your name on the list.

There are two Sew on Saturday workshops organised, costing £25.

On 2nd April Marianne will lead one on art quilts for which you would need to decide upon a theme. You will then make lots of 4.5" squares using different fabrics and decorative techniques. She has asked that those attending start collecting fabrics, threads, beads and inspirational photographs. Her example shows an Indian Spice theme ...



And Sonia's has a water theme.



The following SOS day is on April 30th with Anne Hellyer, a visiting tutor who will show how to make her 3D free motion stitched houses which can be lit with LED lights. This one was recently completed by Rita from an earlier workshop and it has been so admired that several people had asked for the lesson to be repeated.



Somebody asked about having our machines PAT tested before bringing them to a workshop. Pauline will check on the regulations for the hall but she did not think it would be a problem.

The SOS day in July has yet to be finalised and the one in September is so close to the exhibition that it is being reserved for preparations and for finishing work to be exhibited.

Monthly meetings

February

There will be a discussion about various helpful gadgets and pieces of equipment which members have come across. Also things which were not as helpful as they at first appeared!!

Please bring any sewing and items for Show and Tell as normal along with any gadgets you would like to show.

March

Sue has been working very hard to prepare some samples of the type of work she will be teaching us over the next few months.

Hand stitching will deal with traditional quilting designs. She asks that we prepare a quilt sandwich to bring with us and then we can mark it out and begin stitching during the meeting. One possibility is that you could prepare a piece to make a premmie quilt (16" x 20" finished size) or one to make into a cushion cover.



April

Sue will show us ideas for decorative hand stitching which could be used to embellish quilts and wall hangings. She brought an example of a covered book which uses various stitches and threads to enhance crazy patchwork.



There will also be a **Bring and Buy** sale for which you can price your fabrics, books, magazines etc. and bring a named pot to collect your money in.

May

Sue will be showing us how to create bargello patterns. For this you would need to collect 5 fabrics of which one is an accent colour. The fabrics need to have small patterns as large ones would be lost in the cutting of strips.

More details and any requirements will be sent out before each meeting.



Show and Tell

Sue brought along the completed BOM which many members started during Lockdown. In fact she has titled it Stars in Lockdown.



It was begun as a learning project and some members commented on their difficulties and achievements.

Several people had made practice blocks first and then decided upon colours to make a complete quilt, learning about combining colours whilst doing so. Using a rotary cutter and judging quarter inch seams were common problems as was meshing the seams on the back of the quilt. All agreed it had been a very useful exercise.

Those with orphan blocks could use them to make a cushion or preemie quilt or they could make more of the same block to combine in different patterns.



Gail showed us the finished applique quilt which she designed for her BOM project. It is quite intricate and I don't think anybody else had completed the quilt although some completed blocks were shown.

There was a nice selection of preemie quilts to go to the hospital -



Including this cheerful one by Linda. She cuts all her scraps of fabric into squares whilst working on a project and has then used some of them to make these heart blocks.



Sonia showed us a felted bag which she had made using an embellisher machine. The oblongs are fixed in place by a set of needles which pierce the fabric and enmesh the fibres.

She has then decorated one side with buttons and stitches.



Forthcoming Events

Basingstoke Creative Stitchers

Jan 15th—March 28th Tues—Sun 10.30—5

Whitchurch Silk Mill

Farnham Quilt Show

Mar 13th 9—4

Farnham Maltings

The Stitch Festival

Mar 3rd—6th

Business Design Centre Islington

Quilters Guild AGM & Conference

April 1st—3rd

Ipswich

Local Suppliers

Please check our local suppliers for any sales and workshops coming up

Andover —www.quiltersdream.co.uk

- www.newthreads.com

Basingstoke —www.purple-stitches.com

Wallingford - www.villagefabrics.co.uk

Henley - www.ladysewandsew.com

Great Shefford—lornehillquilts@yahoo.co.uk

Project Linus

There is going to be an exhibition all about Project Linus at Lady Sew and Sew from March 15th—25th.

Most of the quilts we make are incubator covers which go to the hospital in Basingstoke but Project Linus also distribute larger quilts to children and young people who have been through a traumatic time.

We now have the name of a local lady, Shelagh, who will collect any larger quilts. Please get in touch if you would like her contact details.

Also Hilary has contact details of a similar organisation which gives quilts to young people coming out of care.

The club has wadding for the incubator quilts and woven labels to sew on to them. Please ask at a meeting if you need anything.

There is also a suitcase of donated fabrics which can be used to make charity quilts which Pat brings to most meetings.

MSQ website

Cat will be keeping our web page updated. There will be a link to the newsletter (which is why I am not including surnames or contact details within it but you have them in your club diary) If you would like her to post anything else of interest please send her a photo and some details by email.

Facebook

Kirsty has taken over the role of updating our facebook page from Sue D. Please send her items which can be included.

If you have not already found this then you need to sign up to Facebook and then do a search for market square quilters. You can request to join the group and Kirsty will let you in.

She is also going to update Instagram for us.

Long Arm Quilting

One of our new members, Nicole, has a long arm quilter and she is willing to finish quilts for other people.

She has asked me to include her contact details if you are interested

www.nicolerolloquilting.co.uk

Sewing Sisters

This is a group of MSQ member who meet on the second Thursday of each month at St. Mary's church hall in Greenham from 10am — 3pm. You are welcome to join them, bring some sewing and some lunch and have a chat with fellow quilters. Drinks and biscuits are provided.

The Castle School

This group which met on the first Monday evening of each month has now ceased. The library is still there at the moment so please ask me if there is any subject you are interested in. I will bring a list of books to each meeting.