



KZN Quilters Guild

<http://kznquiltersguild.co.za/>



Newsletter No 111 : February 2017

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KZN Quilters Guild

Newsletter # 111

February 2017

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Editor's Note

I hope that 2017 has started well for each member and her family. I also hope it will be a year of growth in every direction of your lives, not least on your quilting journey.

STRETCH yourself, go for gold!

As always, be well and sew well.

Judy

QUIRKY quilter

Let me quilt your quilts
for you...



TWIG 083 449 1800
twig@telkomsa.net



Cover Quilt



The beautiful blue and white double bed quilt on the cover was a medallion round robin group quilt. It was made by a group from Grassroots Quilting Guild, Westville, in 2016.

Notice of the Annual General Meeting

In accordance with the Constitution, members
are hereby given due notice of the

KZNQG ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

to be held on Saturday 25th February 2017 at 12H00
Venue : St Agnes Church, Kloof

Members are reminded that subscriptions
of **R180** are due at or before the AGM

Speaker

Robin Opperman from Umcebo

(Umcebo is a Business Orientated Non-Profit Organisation, firmly focused on being a trend setter and market leader in the fields of South African art, craft and design.

We use creativity as a commercially viable means of empowering marginalised community members, in an inclusive environment. In this way we create opportunities, overcome barriers and generate sustainable income for crafters and their families)

Quilt Display

Quilts by Silvia da Silva

Round Robin Quilts from three guilds

Grassroots, Village Guild and Hayfields Guild

Members

Sales Table

Please bring quilting-related items to the next meeting (magazines,
books, etc) to sell at our SALES TABLE

Human Rights A4 Quilts

and other Human Rights-oriented quilts

Please hand in at our meeting

From The Hot Seat



2017!!! It's going to be a great year for quilting. Festival in Port Elizabeth, Our Human Rights exhibition at the Voortrekker Museum, and loads of other exciting events lined up.

First of all I want to say a huge thank you to all of you who participated in our quilt competition. It was an exciting undertaking and we were thrilled at the number of quilts entered, especially the number from novice quilters. The standard of quilting was fantastic and judging was not an easy task. Thank you to Marline Turner for making the beautiful rosettes, and a very big thank you to my committee for all their hard work with organising, collection, judging, hanging and taking down. It could not have been done without you all. Thank you also to all the retailers who came to the party with their generous donations for the lucky draws. And thanks also to the demo ladies. They were all a big hit.

Well, now that you've all made your quilts for the festival, it's just a matter of entering your quilt, and booking your ticket to PE!! We look forward to getting together there and having a great time. It's my hometown, so I look forward to catching up with friends and family while I'm there.

So, having completed your festival quilt, what's next on your agenda? If you are like me, it's difficult to get motivated these days. Family and friends all have enough quilts and don't need any more. The best thing is to take a class – preferably out of your comfort zone. Try it - it's a good motivator. In November I did a class and made a beautiful Christmas tree quilt. (See the photo)



We hope you will enjoy our new venue. It is a beautiful space, no steps and loads of on site parking. Hoping to see you all there. Keep the quilting flag flying

Lyn



The Winners!

Quilting@Home did not participate in making any of the Protea blocks so purchased a full list of tickets – we were fortunate in winning the quilt and decided that we would have a lucky draw at our Christmas meeting/luncheon. **Ann Jones** won the quilt and **Sally Bame** the cushion – they were both “as pleased as punch” with their respective winnings. (The raffle raised R3,200).

Denise Muldal, Ixopo

Bill and Mavis Orbell's Quilt

A story about a quilt that's become a legend...



The Orbell quilt—the stuff from which legends are made

intruder turned on him. Mavis got away and was able to press the panic button and get a gun. When she was able she shot the intruder who ran outside and later died. Although neither of them was physically badly hurt, this incident was traumatic for them and their neighbours.

After this incident their lives were threatened. They packed a suitcase and left the farm never to return.

Val Anderson writes:

“We were a close knit farming community and a little while after this terrible tragedy, I thought it was sad that we had never had a farewell for Bill and Mavis. I wondered about making a friendship quilt and when I put out “feelers”, the response was so overwhelming I got in touch with Ann Botha, Bill and Mavis’s daughter, and told her what we planned to do. She was very



Intricate details depicting life on the farm

excited, and when I was next in Pietermaritzburg, I went to see her and collected samples (that she had managed to find) of Bill and Mavis’s curtains and bed frill – mostly pinks and blues.

And we started. With Cathy Green’s help the two of us decided on the size and the number of squares we would need, and then we had our first get-together on our farm Colchester. Over many months we had many quilting days both at Colchester and occasionally at Crossroads (the local tennis and bowling club). Cheese and wine lunches were the order of the day so not MUCH work was done in the afternoons. But we had fun. And often our dining room table had to be put out under the grapevine so we could spread the quilt on the floor. When it came to quilting, Cathy Green’s cousin Sue Akerman guided us. We were all complete novices and some people hardly ever sewed but they came to help with pinning and tacking. Even my husband Kip and James my son, helped though they have no memory of it now but we have photos to prove it.

It was great fun but took so many months to do we had to cancel the bazaar that year; the only time this had happened since the bazaar was first held in about 1935. When it was finished several of us took it down to Pietermaritzburg to give to them. Bill and Mavis were completely overwhelmed and absolutely thrilled. They had it on their bed and treasured it for the rest of their lives.”

The story of this quilt begins when a young man Bill Orbell returns from the Second World War and is allocated 500 acres of land in the Swartberg district of East Griqualand.

It was bare veldt with no farm buildings or fences. Water was carted from the Little Umzumkulu River on one of the farm’s boundaries.

His first abode on the farm was a bell tent. He slept on a metal bed with a coir mattress and used a blue flame stove. The first animals on the farm were a few chickens. Because of the harsh weather conditions the chickens roosted under the bed for shelter and one hen hatched a brood of chicks there.

In 1946 Bill married Mavis who joined her husband on this under-developed farm. They worked hard together and lived simply. Slowly they built up the farm to produce milk and crops to make a living. They raised three daughters and had a happy life for 48 years.

Their lives were shattered one Sunday in May 1994. Mavis was attacked by an intruder while Bill was out on the farm. When he got back to the farm house the



Details from the quilt

Spotlight On ...

A Brief History of the Sewing Machine

by Sue Cameron

Have you ever wondered where your beloved sewing machine came from? Who invented it and when? Here is a very basic lowdown.

The earliest known patent issued that had any connection to a sewing machine was a British patent to the German, Charles Weisenthal in 1755. It was issued for a needle that was designed for a machine. This patent made no reference to the rest of the machine and it is unclear whether or not the machine even existed.



A Replica of Thomas Saint's Machine

Another British patent was issued to Thomas Saint for the first complete sewing machine in 1790. Whether he actually built a working prototype of his invention is unclear. The patent describes an awl that punched a hole in leather and passed a needle through the hole. A later reproduction of

Saint's invention based on his patent drawings did not work. On his patent application he called his invention - *"An entire new method of making and completing shoes, boots, splatterdashes, clogs, and other articles, by means of tools and machines also invented by me for that purpose, and of certain compositions of the nature of Japan or varnish, which will be very advantageous in many useful appliances"*, a very big name for something that never actually worked!

There were several minor attempts at making a sewing machine in the early 1800's, many of which were issued a patent despite their failure to operate successfully.

The first attempt that came to anything was invented by a Frenchman, Barthelemy Thimonnier. In 1830 he patented a sewing machine made almost entirely out of wood. His machine used only one thread – no bobbin thread – and the stitches looked more like chain stitch embroidery stitches than ordinary hand stitches. He set up a factory using 80 of these machines to make French Army uniforms and his business was doing very well.



Local tailors were not all happy about Thimonnier's factory and fearing the loss of their

jobs, they attacked the factory, destroying every machine. He set up his business again from scratch. Not much later the tailors once again burnt down his factory so he fled to England with the last remaining machine.

Unfortunately for him, he did not get back on his feet after that so he died a poor man.



Elias Howe

In 1834, Walter Hunt constructed the first somewhat successful sewing machine in America. His machine sewed straight stitches. He decided not to



Elias Howe's Patent Diagram

patent the machine as he feared that it would cause unemployment. Then, still in America, a man named Elias Howe became successful in the field of sewing machine manufacture. He completed his machine in 1844 and received the patent for it in 1846. His machine had a needle with an eye at the point. The needle was pushed through the cloth and created a loop on the other side; a shuttle on a track then slipped the second thread through the loop, creating what is called the lockstitch.

For the next nine years Elias Howe struggled, first to enlist interest in his machine, then to protect his patent from imitators. His lockstitch mechanism was adopted by others who were developing innovations of their own. Isaac Singer invented the up-and-down motion mechanism, and Allen Wilson developed a rotary hook shuttle.

It wasn't until the 1850's that sewing machines went into mass production. Isaac Singer built the first commercially successful machine for home use. His machine had a needle that moved up and down rather than the side-to-side motion of others and was powered by a foot treadle. Up until this point, machines were all hand-cranked. Isaac Singer's machine used the same lockstitch that Howe had patented. Elias Howe sued Isaac Singer for patent infringement and won his law suit in 1854.



Isaac Singer

Isaac Singer had to pay Elias Howe patent royalties. Elias Howe was suddenly a very wealthy man.

Between 1854 and 1867, Howe earned close to two million dollars from his invention, a great deal of money in those days!

In 1856 the Sewing Machine Combination was formed. They were Howe, Singer, Wheeler and Wilson, and Grover and Baker. They pooled their patents and became very wealthy as all the other manufacturers had to pay them royalties and this made them very wealthy men.

The sewing machine progressed really quickly to what we have today. We owe a debt of gratitude to all these men for their wonderful inventions that have made our lives so much easier so many years later. After all what would we do without our beloved machines?

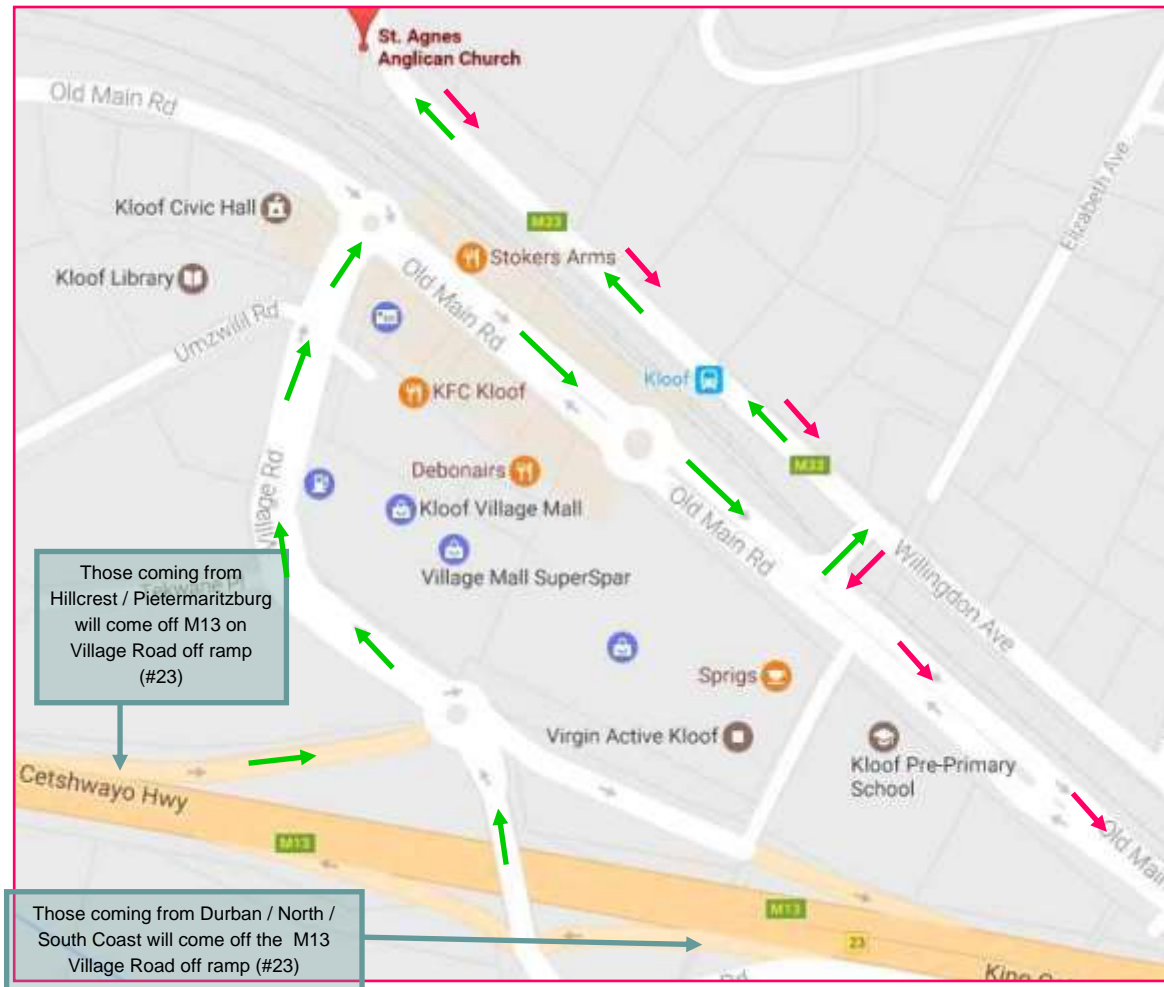
Attention Retailers!

Please note that the price of table rentals has increased to R80 if you are a member of KZNQG or R100 if you are **not** a member of KZNQG.

(Member means that the **Shop Owner** must be a member of KZNQG)



Directions to our New Venue



From Durban, South Coast, North Coast

(Follow the green arrows on the map) →

Take the Kloof turnoff (#23). At the top of the ramp, turn right over the highway bridge. At the first circle, go straight across (you will be in Village Road and Spar will be on the right). *** At the next circle, turn right into Old Main Road. (FNB, Spar is on your right and Stokers Inn on your left. You should be parallel to the railway line). At the next circle, go straight and up the ramp. At the top of the ramp, turn left and left again into Willingdon Avenue. (You should be parallel to the railway line again). As you go around the bend in the road, you will see a stone church. This is St Agnes. At the Stop, turn left. At next Stop, turn left onto the St Agnes property.

(See below for parking details for members and retailers).

From Hillcrest, Pietermaritzburg

(Follow the green arrows on the map) →

From the M13, take the Village Road turnoff (#23). At the circle, turn left and then follow the directions from *** above


When you are inside the St Agnes property, go right, past the admin/office building. Park on any of the grass verges, Then walk around to the back (no steps) or the front of the large auditorium. If no parking is available, go right around the building, and turn left just before the

Directions to our New Venue

gate, at the stone church— park anywhere on any grass verge. Please keep the roadway clear to allow traffic to flow easily.

Disabled people can be dropped off in the loading bay behind the auditorium, but the vehicle must be removed to a parking spot.

Retailers continue to the loading bay at the back of the auditorium. Offload your goods, then please move your vehicle. We have reserved the grass verge on the right of the loading bay for committee members and retailers. Please park your car there, so that other retailers have the opportunity of using the loading bay.

Homeward Bound (Follow the red arrows on the map - )

At St Agnes gate, turn right, then right again at the Stop. Go around the bend, parallel to the railway line, up the ramp, turn right and then left. At the circle, go all the way around passing the Kloof Pre Primary School. For **Durban**, turn left just after the school, and then join the M13. For **Hillcrest / Pietermaritzburg**, continue straight, pass the Fields Centre, Spar, FNB. At the circle, turn left, pass Spar and the BP service station. At the next circle, go straight and turn right onto the M13 where there is a sign that says **Gillitts**.

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Catering Arrangements at St Agnes Church



Tea and Coffee : R10 each

Rolls : R15 each

(Cheese and ham, chicken mayonnaise, salad)

Muffins : R5 each



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FESTIVAL 2017

siyadala

We create

Select a Category

Bed Quilts: (Either Standard or Masters entries)

| Pieced Bed Quilts: | Yes | No |
|--|-----|----|
| No side shorter than 150cm | | |
| No side longer then 250cm | | |
| Is constructed using traditional piecing techniques and materials, or is a whole cloth quilt | | |
| Has a conventional edge finish (no raw edges) | | |
| Is your own design, or a design derived from using elements from the public domain * | | |
| Is not a copy of another quilt/art work | | |
| Is not made from a commercial quilt pattern | | |
| Quilt is designed, constructed and quilted by you. | | |
| No money was paid for any work done on this quilt | | |

| Appliquéd Bed Quilts | Yes | No |
|--|-----|----|
| No side shorter than 150cm | | |
| No side longer than 250cm | | |
| Is an Appliquéd quilt, with or without piecing | | |
| Is constructed using traditional techniques and materials | | |
| Has a conventional edge finish (no raw edges) | | |
| Is your own design, or a design derived from using elements from the public domain * | | |
| Is not a copy of another quilt/art work | | |
| Is not made from a commercial pattern | | |
| Quilt is designed, constructed and quilted by you | | |
| No money was paid for any work done on this quilt | | |

FESTIVAL 2017

Select a Category

Wall Quilts (Either Standard or Masters Entries)

| Wall Quilts - Pictorial | Yes | No |
|---|-----|----|
| No side longer than 200cm | | |
| A quilt that has a realistic or stylised depiction / representation of: A person/(s) / a place/(s) / a thing/(s) | | |
| Your own design, or a design derived from using elements from the public domain* | | |
| Not a copy of another quilt/art work | | |
| Not made from a commercial quilt pattern | | |
| Quilt is designed, constructed and quilted by you | | |
| No money was paid for any work done on this quilt | | |

| Wall Quilts - Organic Shapes | Yes | No |
|--|-----|----|
| No side longer than 200cm | | |
| Composed predominantly of organic shapes ** | | |
| Your own design, or a design derived from using elements from the public domain* | | |
| Not a copy of another quilt/artwork | | |
| Not made from a commercial pattern | | |
| Quilt is designed, constructed and quilted by you | | |
| No money was paid for any work done on this quilt | | |

| Wall Quilts - Geometric Shapes | Yes | No |
|--|-----|----|
| No side longer than 200cm | | |
| Is a quilt composed predominantly of geometric shapes | | |
| Is your own design, or a design derived from using elements from the public domain | | |
| Is not a copy of another quilt/artwork | | |
| Is not made from a commercial quilt pattern | | |
| Quilt is designed, constructed and quilted by you | | |
| No money was paid for any work done on this quilt | | |

FESTIVAL 2017

Select a Category

Wall Quilts (Either Standard or Masters Entries)

| Wall Quilts - Fibre Art | Yes | No |
|--|-----|----|
| No side longer than 200 cm | | |
| Made of fibre/cloth and where the composition tends to be abstract | | |
| Includes some quilting through three layers | | |
| Your own design | | |
| Not a copy of another quilt/artwork | | |
| Not made from a commercial quilt pattern | | |
| Quilt is designed, constructed and quilted by you | | |
| No money was paid for any work done on this quilt | | |

Open Quilts

| | Yes | No |
|--|---|----|
| No side longer than 250cm | | |
| This quilt does not meet the requirements of any other category | | |
| Does not violate copyright laws | | |
| Any technique or combination of techniques can be used | | |
| The following Quilts may be entered: The quilt is made either by one individual or by a collaboration between 2 or 3 individuals . One of the criteria listed alongside applies to this quilt | Made using a published/commercial pattern—including so called 'Modern | |
| | Designed by another individual for you | |
| | Made using computer-digitised quilting and/or machine embroidery patterns | |
| | Been started in a class | |
| | Is a replica of an antique quilt (made before approximately 1960) | |
| | Made from non-quilted traditional techniques (Yo-yo's, Cathedral Windows | |

FESTIVAL 2017

Select a Category

Group Quilts

| | Yes | No |
|--|-----|----|
| No side longer than 250cm | | |
| Made by 4 or more actively-involved people | | |
| A design of one or more of the members or a design derived from using elements from the public domain* | | |
| Not a copy of another quilt/art work | | |
| Quilt is designed, constructed and quilted by the group | | |
| No money was paid for any work on this quilt | | |

Siyadala – We Create Theme Challenge

Please see the Siyadala webpage for details and requirements for these entries.

See Competition Page at <http://festival.quiltsouthafrica.co.za>

Miniatures

| | Yes | No |
|--|-----|----|
| No side longer than 60cm | | |
| No block side longer than 10cm | | |
| Is a scaled scaled-down version (in proportion) of a regular-sized quilt | | |
| Quilt is designed, constructed and quilted by you | | |
| No money was paid for any work on this quilt | | |

Conceptual Art

| | Yes | No |
|---|-----|----|
| No side longer than 200cm | | |
| The main aim of this work is to make a statement and the concepts/ideas involved take precedence over traditional aesthetic and material concerns | | |
| Quilt is designed, constructed and quilted by you | | |
| No money was paid for any work on this quilt | | |

Notes

* In the public domain – the copyright of the block has expired as it was published before 1923 and can be used freely.

**organic shapes - are shapes associated with the natural world, such as plants, trees and animals. They have a flowing and curving appearance and are typically irregular or asymmetrical.

The Selection of a Category is just the first step – the Rules for entering the Competition must be read and complied with when entering any Quilt Competition. The Rules will always be available on the hosting Guild's website or on the SAQG website.



SAQG Youth Block Challenge

“If I Were ...”

The Youth Quilt Block Challenge 2017 has the inspiring theme of “**If I Were...**”. Once again sewing machine dealers have generously donated goods for prizes so we hope that there will be many entries. We hope that SAQG members will consider mentoring younger potential quilters again and inspire them to dream big and make creative blocks.

Closing date for entries is 30th April 2017 and completed quilt blocks have to be submitted by 15th May 2017. The entry fee is R50.00 and entry forms are available from www.youthblockchallenge.co.za

Rules and categories are the same as last year

| | |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Category 1.....Grade 1 – 4 in 2017 | Category 2 Grade 5 – 8 in 2017 |
| Category 3.....Grade 9 – 12 in 2017 | Viewers' Choice..... All grades |

Judging will take place in the last two weeks of May after which the winning blocks will be delivered to Port Elizabeth, to be hung in a special section as part of the exhibition at National Quilt Festival. The prizes will also be handed over during National Festival week.

Completed entry forms should be sent to entries@youthblockchallenge.co.za.

Happy mentoring!!

<http://www.quiltsouthafrica.co.za/>

No More Credit / Debit Card Facilities

Please note that we no longer have credit card facilities as we have found that it was not financially viable.

You may pay by EFT or cash deposit at the bank, or pay cash at the meeting.

BANK DETAILS :

| | |
|-----------------|-------------------------------------|
| Name of account | Kwa-Zulu Natal Quilters' Guild |
| Bank | ABSA Hillcrest Branch / Code 632005 |
| Account number | 9314008325 |



KZNQG Members Information

Meeting Dates for 2017

25th February

27th May

26th August

28th October



Subs Increase

We regret that we have had to increase our subs to

R180.00 pa

for existing members.

Initial registration remains at R20.00

so if you are a new/rejoining member,
you will pay R200 (The R20.00 is a once off fee).

We have not increased our subs for 5 years.

Husbands and children under 16 years are free.

Visitors Fees have been increased to **R50.00** per meeting.

Bank Details

Kwa Zulu Natal Quilters Guild

ABSA Hillcrest (Branch Code) 632005



Quilt Academy 2017

Watch this space...
Fantastic classes under
construction.

Sue Cameron

(SAQG Accredited Quilt Teacher)

Classes over the next few months

| Course | Venue | Contact Number | Starting Date | Number of Lessons |
|---------------------------------------|--------------------------|----------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------|
| La Passacaglia | MayGene | 031 767 4438 | Saturday 4th February | 4 |
| La Passacaglia | MayGene | 031 767 4438 | Friday 17 th February | 4 |
| Advanced Star Quilt – A block a month | Bernina Pietermaritzburg | 033 342 6807 | Wednesday 8 th February | 12 |
| Beginners Quilting | Elna Hillcrest | 031 765 4433 | Thursday 2 nd February | 6 |
| Beginners Quilting | Elna Hillcrest | 031 765 4433 | Saturday 11th February | 6 |
| Advanced Star Quilt – A block a month | Elna Hillcrest | 031 765 4433 | Saturday 11 th March | 12 |
| Beginners Quilting | Bernina Pietermaritzburg | 033 342 6807 | Wednesday 15 th February | 6 |
| Criss Cross Table Runner | Bernina Musgrave | 031 201 2516 | Thursday 9 th March | 1 |
| Fuzzy Trip | MayGene | 031 767 4438 | Tuesday 14 th March | 2 |
| Come Play with Me | MayGene | 031 767 4438 | Tuesday 18 th April | 3 |
| Flower Baskets | Bernina Musgrave | 031 201 2516 | Friday 21 st April | 2 |
| Beginners Quilt | Bernina Musgrave | 031 201 2516 | Thursday 18 th May | 6 |

Tricks of the Trade

Tips and Advice for Quilters

Sourced by Carol Hodsdon

Happy Quilting New Year! Before we all get back to spending as much time as possible doing what we love best, let's start 2017 by resolving to break our bad sewing habits! A friend sent me this list that she found on Pinterest and I believe we all need to heed these points.

Rule No 1 : Not closing the safety guard on your rotary cutter

A bad habit that develops when working alone. However when a blade is left exposed in a class or group situation the blood soon flows!

Cutting in the same place on your cutting mat

Mats need time to heal. By repeatedly cutting on the same place – usually on the marked lines – your mat will develop grooves that will not heal. If you then cross cut across these grooves your cutter will leave a thread or two uncut which is very frustrating. Remember that your board has two sides! SO if you are using your ruler to measure your cuts, turn your board over and use the unmarked or metric side to cut on. Only cut on the inch marked side when you need to use the inch markings on the board.

Putting water in your iron

Water in the iron can corrode your iron. Sometimes an iron will 'splatter' rusty water instead of producing clean steam and leave nasty brown spots on your fabric. Rather use a spray bottle of water and spray a light mist onto your fabric. Wait a second or two then press with a hot dry iron to create steam.

Sewing over pins

We've all done this – whether intentionally or accidentally! Sewing over a pin can cause problems. Needles bend, get blunt, or break. Always stop sewing just before you reach a pin with your needle down, raise the presser foot with a knee-lifter or automatic foot lifter if you have one, remove the pin and then continue sewing. P.S. if you do break a needle be sure to locate ALL the broken bits before continuing to ensure that they do cause havoc in your bobbin holder!

Changing the thread in the machine incorrectly

When we change a thread colour, the first thing we normally do is just pull the reel of thread off the top of the machine and pull the thread backwards through the tension discs. This is bad for your machine especially the tension discs and those little wire springy bits. Rather cut the thread at the reel and pull it out through the needle (with the tension discs open i.e. foot up).

Using blunt rotary cutters and scissors

This is a no brainer, but sometimes you just hope our rotary cutter will make it a few more squares or that the frayed fabric edges from your scissors aren't that bad. Sewing is much easier with crisp edges and choosing to use sharp tools can help prevent a lot of frustration and save time.

Not maintaining your machine

Clean your machine regularly. (I dust my machine every time I change a bobbin or while waiting for bobbins to fill) Change the needle when you see stitch quality decrease or hear that gentle thud sound of a blunt needle smashing through your fabric. Don't forget to oil it. Take your machine for a service regularly. Be good to your machine and she'll be good to you!

Worrying about not completing your projects

Having too many unfinished projects is discouraging but don't let them stifle your creativity. If you find you have a project you started, but haven't returned to in years, you've probably lost interest in it and don't even like it anymore. This may be a great opportunity to donate your half-done project to your guild or a friend who might love a head start on a new project!



Guild News

Grassroots Quilters' Guild

As part of our Artroots programme, a group of members went to the Phansi Museum, and then early in October, a small group of us went again. What a fascinating place. The curator, Pumzile, is very knowledgeable about all African customs and cultures. They have a vast array of beadwork, leatherwork, and, upstairs, the piece de resistance, a room full of puppets hanging from the ceiling, dressed in traditional costume.

At our October meeting, Pumzile from Phansi Museum spoke to us about her work and the museum. What an interesting lady she is. It's well worth a visit to this museum.

Our November meeting was our Christmas party and we spent the morning at the lovely home of Sheila Nichol, where Sheila pulled out all the stops, bringing out all of her lovely china. The committee did the catering and it was a delicious spread. We also showed our completed round robins – they have turned out amazingly well and are lovely.

We are all beavering away at making our Grassroots group quilt for the festival, under the skilful leadership of Ginny Koumantarakis, Margi Wolfe and Marline Turner.

Some of our travellers have returned – Rosalie Dace is back from America, Jane Zietsman back from her 3 month camping trip in Botswana and Namibia. Welcome back, ladies. Good to have you back. Zelda Martin is still away in America, having the time of her life, and not sure when/if she will return.

Lyn Gonzaga



It's a Debbie Thing!

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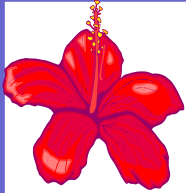


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Hibiscus Quilters' Guild

Our first meeting of the year was met with enthusiasm by our members, who after a break of 2 months, were pleased to be back at Guild.

We are starting our quilting year with a declaration of war – on our UFO's!

After a show of hands it was discovered that quite a few of us have plenty of these lurking in cupboards and drawers. They have been likened to old friends, that's how used to them we have become.

The 'old friends' are going to attend the February meeting and each of us is going to announce how long it will take to finish them. We will keep you posted!

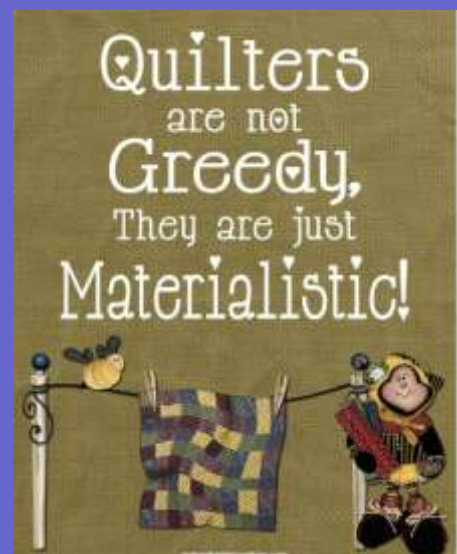
One of our enterprising committee members showed us how she paper pieced the top of a quilt with the pages of an old telephone book. It tears off very easily and as Carol was having a problem with the fabric stretching, it worked a treat. So now we have another use for the phone book. Never a dull moment at a Guild meeting.

I'm sure 2017 will be an exciting year for all of us quilters – new ideas, old favourites getting a new twist and above all, enjoying our craft.

Margi Anderson

Forget
the day's troubles
Remember
the day's blessings

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Kloof Country Quilters

The Kloof Country Quilters members are ready for a brand new quilting year – with changes and challenges a plenty!

We finished off last year with our Christmas Party and Market Day which was well supported and a great success.

About the changes:

This year we move to a new venue and will now be meeting at the Sarepta Church in Gillitts (but still on the first Tuesday morning of the month!)

Twig has also stepped down as our Chairlady and has been ably replaced by Felicity Crouch who is ready to lead the Guild with a plethora of great ideas.

Last year our members rose to a number of Challenges – they made an amazingly wide variety of items from the “Treasure Trove” and put together a scrap quilt for Charlie who has helped us so much over the last few years.

Our Chairlady’s Challenge for the last year was a Block of the Month – and the challenge was picked up by a number of our members. We are looking forward to seeing the completed quilts at our March meeting, after which they will be display at the Royal Show – so please go and look at them - and support the show.

Looking forward to a great Festival year ahead...

With love from the Kloof Country Quilters

Midlands Quilters

Since the last newsletter a lot has happened at the Midlands Quilters Guild. The 2016 Garden show was a huge success. We had a very interesting Chairlady’s Challenge this year, “*Inspiration from the Old Masters*” which produced some very lovely and inspirational quilts. Thanks to all the ladies who made fabric flowers for the display which looked lovely and did not wilt for the entire show. The stand won gold which was very exciting and R 8,885.00 was raised from the raffle of the Charity Quilt which was donated to Howick Hospice who was the charity of choice for 2016. Our guest speaker for October was Nicky Hunter-Smith who did a very interesting talk on her recent trip to Bali. In November there was no meeting as it was our Christmas Party and a great time was had by all.

2017 has started off with a bang. Moira gave us four choices of topic for this years chairlady’s challenge, Focus on Colour, Inspired by the continent of Africa, In my Garden or Medallion Quilt, and by unanimous decision *Inspired by the continent of Africa* was the challenge of choice. We are looking forward to seeing what will be produced for this years Garden Show. Our congratulations go to Lynn Duncan on her recent marriage. A very warm welcome to Colleen Bates who has become a member of the guild and last but not least to Claire on winning the very difficult quiz Moira gave us to wake us up for the new year.

Happy Quilting

Jill Krog

Quilters by the Sea

From across the uMngeni River we wish all our quilting friends a prosperous new year. Thank you to the KZNQG committee for all the hard work you put in throughout the year. We really appreciate all the hard work behind the scenes, especially **behind** the scenes!

The Durban Quilters by the Sea can look back on a year of producing many master-piece-quilts and accolades along the way. We are a group of ladies with various skills and interests and that results in work of excellent quality and workmanship. We cover a range of queens-of-appliqué, queens-of-embroidery, master knitters and then your run of the mill "normal" quilters and Jokers!

Once a year we make a charity quilt in aid of the Lions Durban North. They sell raffle tickets and in this way, raise amounts running into thousands of Rand. They use the money mostly in the community for worthy causes like buying guide dogs for the blind or making up food hampers for age homes every month. In turn we make use of the club for our monthly meetings, free of charge. A lovely large venue with lots of light and ample safe parking.

During the year Brenda Meyer, Margaret Bourguignon and other members went to several quilting guilds to show their magnificent appliquéd quilts and share their expertise. As a result we had lots of interaction between our own and other KZN guilds.

On one occasion we invited the Queensburgh Guild and were surprised when Leanne Stewart and **ten** ladies arrived! What a wonderful morning we all had. They showed some of their beautiful quilts and even gave a demo as a surprise. The spirit of sharing and goodwill between quilters amazed us once again.

Debbie Becker, a member and owner of Bernina Durban North as well as Dréné Ruddy shared their expertise with us and enlightened us on all the latest gadgets and tips on how to prepare a quilt for the big Gammill machine. Coming from the masters, these tips were priceless!

We ended our year with a very successful Quilt and Craft show in November, with the North Durban Lions as co-organisers of the event. As a result we obtained fantastic support from the community. We even won over three newly-interested members for our group. What a bargain!

Our guild is made up of about 30 members and we have divided them into Buddy Groups. Each group takes responsibility for a meeting. In this way we give everyone an opportunity to organise demo's or book an interesting speaker. We even go for Somatology treatments and have lunch in the open, by way of breaking away from the tedious. We aim to keep our meetings informative, interesting and interactive.

Carpe diem! Carpe material, scissors, marking pens, etc. Let us quilt!

Katinka van Aarde

Sheffield Nite Owls

Ballito



The Nite Owls are pleased to say they had a productive and fun 2016.

We arrive at Alice's house for our monthly Saturday morning get together, sit down to a breakfast of scones/muffins and tea and plan our day and months ahead. Then we amble upstairs to the work room and knuckle down either to a class or demo or working on quilts being made for charity. We had a tutorial of how to do a Hawaiian

type quilt design using methods Fiona learnt from Marline Turner, which produced a beautiful king size quilt and two pillow cases, which we are donating to Ballito Rotary to raffle. Thanks to Lorraine for putting it all together and finishing it off so beautifully.

As a result we have donated a large bundle of quilts to a crèche in Mandeni and now have another 16 quilts of various sizes ready for donation to another project.



We had a tutorial of how to do a Hawaiian type quilt design using methods Fiona learnt from Marline Turner, and this produced a beautiful king size quilt and 2 pillow cases, which we are donating to Ballito Rotary to raffle. Thanks to Lorraine for putting it all together and finishing it off so beautifully.

Our members shared knowledge and gave demos and tutorials on these Saturdays and we learnt Seminole piecing from Sue.

Marline Turner also came to Ballito to give us a lesson on fabric weaving, which we turned into tray cloths or bags.

Francis taught us to make Christmas wreaths which were made by the dozen and were really good gifts and table decorations.

And Fiona entered the quilt exhibition and contest in October as a novice and was delighted to win in the wall quilt category. Pure serendipity!

We ended our year with a wonderful Christmas party, which Jeanne very generously hosted at her home at Princes Grant, with gifts and plenty of yummy food to end our happy quilting year.



Fiona Walker

Meander Quilters' Guild

We ended 2016 with the sudden death of one of our Founder Members which knocked most of us for six.



Peggy Frayne was such a vibrant member of our Guild for many years and it was only at the end of 2015 that she gave up her role as the group's treasurer after 20 plus years of service. Not only was Peggy an enthusiastic quilter but she became a treasured friend to both those who'd known her for many years and also those who had only recently encountered her. She always had a smile and a gentle word for everyone and we will miss her at our meetings and home groups.

Besides serving the groups so ably, Peggy had a wonderful sense of humour, a great eye for colour and was an expert needlewoman who loved both hand and machine stitching. Many will remember her for the magnificent fabric books she made for each of her grand-children as they turned 21. These books contained photographs, childhood snippets and beautiful appliqué designs appropriate for each "new" adult.

When she wasn't making the books, Peggy was also a prolific "traditional" quilter. There was always a quirky side to any quilt she made and they will all be treasured by the lucky recipients of her work.

At the end of October 2016, Peggy attended what would be her last meeting. She had almost completed a quilt for her youngest granddaughter's wedding which will be taking place in March this year. Even while she lay in the ICU in hospital, she fretted that the quilt would not be ready. We stitched on both the binding and label for her and despite all the paraphernalia of the ICU, she managed a smile when told that she didn't have to worry about it.

So our new quilting year has started with an element of sadness to it but that doesn't mean that we can't be creative, industrious and meet the challenges ahead.

You will see a story about the Orbell quilt in this newsletter. We will be fortunate to have two ladies who were involved in making the quilt, speak to us at our February meeting. We also have a long line of interesting speakers in our sights, not to mention our annual charity quilt project and our chairlady's challenge which will be issued in March.

Here's to many busy fingers in 2017...



An example of a page from one of Peggy's books

Lindy Briscoe

The Village Quilters of Kloof

What a lovely meeting we had in OCTOBER. Lots of business from Sue who has been an amazing chairlady in Jane's absence. Our group quilt is well on its way and with the festive season behind us the guild now have many hours of creative fun ahead of them.

The garden looked very festive with Marge Gatter selling fabric and Natalie with her used saris, odd bin silk fabrics and buttons – you name it - it was like a treasure trove.

Our guest speaker was Daphne Reinbach who had collected an amazing array of her quilts from friends and family. After 30 years of quilting she had quite a few to choose from and we had many laughs with all the stories she had to tell. Daphne took us back to the quilts made for the Romanian orphans and the beginning of the Kloof Community Quilters who still make charity quilts for underprivileged adults and children.

November – Our AGM meeting was a lovely long meeting with plenty of input, sharing of quilts, ideas discussed and decisions made. The committee produced a marvellous tea and our speakers were Viv and Tiiu who shared their photographs of the Birmingham quilt festival.

We could even shop thanks to May Gene and her “Little Quilt Shop”. It was good to see that the Recipe Books are still selling.

As usual the **December** Christmas luncheon was a great success and the “gift swap and steal” was loads of fun.

January has got us going again with our group quilt and on Monday we were very privileged to have Rosalie Dace as our guest speaker. By sharing a wonderful selection of slides taken during her time in America, she said Goodbye to 2016 and Hello 2017. What a treat it was to share that part of her life with her.

From the Village Quilters - “May 2017 be a happy, healthy and productive year for you, with lots of time spent on producing master pieces for your quilt entries for PE and comfort quilts for family and friends alike.”

However **do not do** what Unknown Marie did – “Papa was in a fearful rage this morning because I cut the lining out of his spring overcoat. I didn't know he wanted to wear it any more. I found it on the attic stairs and the sleeves were lined with lovely rose-coloured striped satin, which I cut out...”

Yours in quilting

Colleen

| Area | Guild Name | Chairlady | Telephone | Cell | Email | Monthly Meeting Date |
|-------------------|---------------------------|-------------------|--------------|--------------|------------------------------|----------------------|
| Amanzimtoti | Cottage Patch | Daphne Reinbach | | 084 679 8097 | daphne@reinbach.com | 1st Monday |
| | | Denise Muldal | | | muldalc@futurenet.co.za. | |
| Ballito/Salt Rock | Sheffield Night Owls | Fiona Walker | 032 946 0874 | 083 311 7330 | imillerconstruct@gmail.com | 1st Saturday |
| Dundee | Love2Patch | Marlie Bruyns | | 071 603 6083 | marlie.bruyns@yahoo.com | Quarterly |
| Durban | KZNQG | Lyn Gonzaga | 031 764 5045 | 083 463 7729 | lyngon@telkomsa.net | |
| Durban North | Quilters by the Sea | Sandy Wood | | 082 068 9459 | sandywood21@gmail.com | 1st Wednesday |
| Glenwood | Tollgate | Mary Chapman | 031 762 2508 | 083 609 8210 | mary.stan@telkomsa.net | 3rd Tuesday |
| Hillcrest | Sew Wot | Jenni Scott | 031 776 4061 | 084 512 8148 | jenniscott167@gmail.com | Last Wednesday |
| Hilton | Midlands | Moir Ryder | 033 239 5690 | 082 686 8939 | brianrowlands@ananzi.co.za | 3rd Thursday |
| Howick | Meander | Lindy Briscoe | 033 330 8117 | 083 735 5088 | nomajuba@telkomsa.net | Last Thursday |
| Ixopo | Quilting@Home | Clare Smith | 033 343 2999 | | awhsmith@telkomsa.net | 1st Saturday |
| Kloof | Kloof Country | Twig Hartwig | 031 762 3148 | 083 449 1800 | twigg@telkomsa.net | 1st Tuesday |
| Kloof | Village Quilters | Jane Zietsman | 031 767 1685 | 083 778 8182 | isabel@icon.co.za | 2nd Monday |
| Margate | Hisbiscus | Margi Anderson | 039 315 1767 | 083 409 5094 | margi@mtloaded.co.za | 4th Tuesday |
| PMB | Hayfields | Marline Turner | 033 396 3009 | | marline@iafrica.com | Last Tuesday |
| PMB | Truro Quilters | Asha Soni | 033 391 3072 | | Asha.soni@gmail.com | 1st Tuesday |
| Queensburgh | Queensburgh Quilters | Leanne Stewart | 031 765 3569 | 083 654 7096 | gregeahome@gmail.com | 1st Monday |
| | | Barrie Buttiegieg | 033 212 4389 | 074 889 2390 | buttiegieg.barrie5@gmail.com | |
| Richmond | Richmond Country Quilters | Lauren Walsh | | 083 799 1853 | mycountrystudio@gmail.com | 4th Wednesday |
| Scottburgh | Pleasure Time | Heather Walker | 039 975 9607 | 083 492 5319 | heather26walker@gmail.com | 3rd Wednesday |
| Underberg | Underberg Patchwork Guild | Anita Turton | 033 701 1711 | | anita.turton@telkomsa.net | 4th Thursday |
| | | Sarojani Naidoo | 031 262 4430 | 071 302 9321 | sarojani.naidoo@gmail.com | |
| Westville | Grassroots | Gill Lewis | 031 266 3522 | 071 302 9321 | gillywilks@gmail.com | 4th Wednesday |