

# KZN Quilters Guild

http://kznguiltersguild.co.za/



Newsletter No 108 February 2016



# EDITOR'S NOTE

May 2016 be a year of fun, challenge and growth in your quilting AND in your personal lives.

Be well and sew well.

Judy





#### Cover quilt

This beautifully quilted quilt was quilted by Claire Wallace on her long-arm quilting machine. It is titled" HEIRLOOM NINE PATCH. She is our speaker at the next KZNQG meeting.

# KZNQG COMMITTEE



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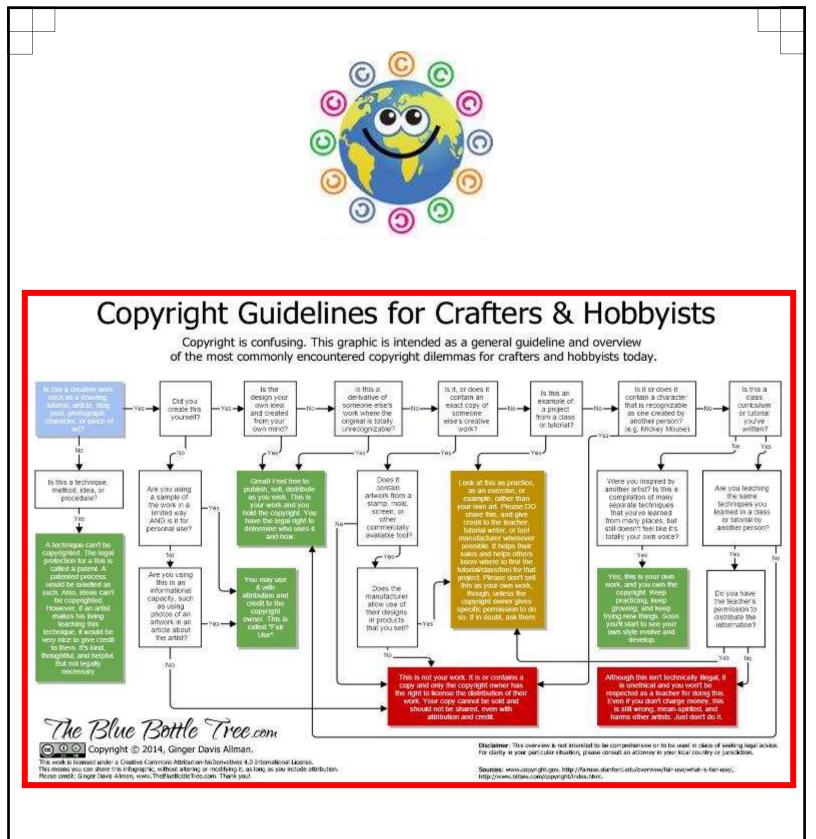




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## A page to print and keep

## FROM THE HOT SEAT

Let me introduce myself. My name is Lyn Gonzaga. I am married to an Italian (luigi) and we've been together for 48 years. Sjhoe! That's all of my adult life! We have two children, a son who is 42 and a daughter who is 34. They each have 2 children, so we have 4 grandchildren, and I'm sure we won't have more than that. Both of our

children live in Joburg, and we try to see them every two months or so. We are both retired and thoroughly enjoying it.

Well, here I am and this chairlady thing is new to me (well, not so new as I've been chairlady of Grassroots for the past 3 years), but this is so much bigger and I must admit I am feeling a little overwhelmed right now. But I am up for the challenge and I hope I will be able to do the job as well as Pauline has for the past 9 years. I have big shoes to fill!!

For the past few months I have been getting to know some of the local guilds and have met so many

wonderful people. It is great to see what fantastic work is being done by all of you to keep the

quilting flag flying. I hope to be able to get around to meeting you all at your local guilds.

Keep quilting your beautiful quilts LYN GONZAGA



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## http://www.quiltsouthafrica.co.za/

The Guild Judges Course run by SAQG has been completed with several very happy and satisfied graduates.

This year 2016 sees the start of the new Accredited Teachers Course with 57 students who have successfully been accepted. The tutors wish the candidates well and look forward to their graduation. Good Luck everyone.

Please will the Chairladies of the guilds remember subs to SAQG must be paid by beginning of April. For more information please contact Marline Turner email:- <u>marline@iafrica.com</u>

The next SAQG committee meeting will be held in the Cape this year and we ask for nominations for the Pro-dedicate Award. Please will you let either Lyn Gonzaga or Marline Turner have written nominations by end of May 2016.

Marline Turner



SAQG YOUTH BLOCK CHALLENGE

Some sites to get your children interested in quilting.

<u>http://www.favequilts.com/Kids-Quilts/14-Quilting-Projects-for-Young-Children</u> http://www.thecraftstudio.com/gwc/

https://www.pinterest.com/roundbarncreate/teaching-children-to-quilt/







It has come to our attention that many of our quilters would like to mentor their children or grandchildren or even friends' children for the Youth Block Challenge, but do not know where to start.

Here are some thoughts that you could use, from others who did overcome their fear to start...

'Our theme for this year is "*Africa through my eyes*". So one can ask your protégé, when she thinks of Africa, what comes to mind. Ask her to draw that. And voila, there the design starts.

At least half of the block's work must be piecing and appliqué (either hand or machine), while the rest can be embellishment etc.

The tips below are from a lady called Jodie. I found it on her website called www.sewhandmade.blogspot.com, called 'My daughter's first quilt' (24 x 28" and she made it for her kitten).

Are you considering teaching a child to quilt? Here are a few lessons I learned:

1) **Start small**. A doll quilt is the perfect size to keep his/her attention and com-

plete a project quickly without it taking too terribly long.

2) Use a charm pack or pre-cut fabrics. This saves so much time and avoids having a small child use a rotary cutter. I think their hands (and attention spans!) are too small to accurately or safely cut fabric. If the cut is off or lopsided or too big or too small, the whole quilt is going to be difficult. Starting with precut fabrics is a real lifesaver here.

3) **Start simple**. My daughter sat on my lap and did the sewing, but I controlled the pedal. Too many moving parts would have overwhelmed her and wouldn't have been fun. She controlled the sewing, I controlled the "driving." She told me when to slow down or stop and I kept a close eye to make sure she wasn't making any huge mistakes (see #6).

4) **Go slow**. My daughter and I talked a lot about what speed she wanted to sew at. What seemed painfully slow to me was just right for her. Remember that if you've been sewing a while, it seems easy to you but it's a lot of new moving parts to a small person. Slow down. Overall, this small quilt took us about 61/2 months. Teaching a child to quilt is not a project to take on if you are in a hurry.

5) **Be patient**. Kid's attention spans are short. Our goal was to sew one or

5) **Be patient**. Kid's attention spans are short. Our goal was to sew one or two rows (5 squares) at a sitting. It was usually 5 minutes or less, which was enough for her. It drove me a little crazy, but I reminded myself it's about the process, not the speed.

6) Forget trying to make anything perfect and don't point out sloppy work unless it's going to ruin the quilt. I had a hard time not doing certain steps for her to make it pretty. Accept that it doesn't have to be pretty to be loved. Her first quilt is very human with lots of spots that show her learning process. In particular, I LOVE the spot where she totally went wonky because she was singing and just being so her. This quilt will be a treasure to me forever.

7) Take pictures. I'm sure it comes as a big surprise, but document the process. If she grows up to be a quilter (or if she doesn't!), these pictures will be amazing to have. If you're like me, the finished quilt will bring tears to your eyes and you'll appreciate the moments you took to document those tiny hands sewing at your machine. Visit the YBC website for more details http://youthblockchallenge.co.za/ but in the meantime here are important details:

#### **Categories:**

Junior School Children (Gr. 1-4 in 2016), Intermediary School Children (Gr. 5 – 8 in 2016)

Senior School Children (Gr. 9 – 12 in 2016)

**Deadlines:** 

Entry forms to reach the organizers NO LATER than 15 March 2016.

**Completed blocks** to reach your regional participating guild by **NO LATER than 31 March 2016**.

Erla Cilliers



# SEEN AT OUR LAST MEETING:



Sally (speaker) and Marlene



New vendors

Viewers choice: Wendy Mcleod



## QUILTS FROM OUR LAST MEETING:







Due to circumstances beyond our control names are not available. Apologies to the talented quilters.





## **SPOTLIGHT ON.....** CLAIRE WALLACE

The speaker at our next meeting is a quilter par excellance, especially on a long arm quilting machine. This is Claire Wallace's speciality and she has won many competitions, both within our country and in the world quilting arena. Claire, who now lives in Irene, near Pretoria, was born and raised in England, in a



"craft-keen" family. But she only became a quilter in 2005 when taught by her husband's granny and her aunt. She soon developed a keen interest in the actual quilting process as she loved how it transformed the quilt top.

Claire bought her first long arm quilting machine in 2009 and learned how to use it to its best in the USA. She now has two long-arm quilting machines, the

second one being computerized. Her main quilting aspiration is to educate quilters about long-arm quilting machines and teach as many people as possible how to use these machines properly. She has two women who quilt for her business,



one in

Cape Town and the other in Gauteng.

QUILTASTIX is Claire's business which keeps her very busy. Through this

business she quilts customer's quilts, writes articles for STITCHES magazine, runs a shop in which she is the Sales Rep for Pfaff sewing machines, sells long arm machines, and more. Her passion is CUSTOM Quilting where she and the client together decide on the quilting design. Have a look at her website to see a few of the stunning designs she has produced.



Claire is an inspiration to us all and a credit to our country.

#### QUILTERS GO TO INDIA.

Our well-travelled Quilter Elaine Barnard emailed me an itinerary early last year of her proposed Shopping Trip to India. It sparked a little interest in me but once Gordon saw the email he had no hesitation and said "WE are going" One email to Elaine to confirm that we would join her, and that was the beginning of a great trip. Elaine and Jandri are the most wonderful Tour Leaders. They do absolutely everything for you from the booking of the air tickets, organising the visas, hotel bookings, booking of tours, hiring our amazing Ajay who collected us from the airport and was our guide. What a joy!!!

Our first stopover was Abu Dhabi Airport, anyone who has been there will agree the Hexagon patterned interior roof was the



most wonderful inspiration for a quilt.

We then flew to Delhi and then on to Ahmedabad where we were met by Ajay our very friendly guide. Nothing could

have prepared us for the traffic. We had heard about the hooting and the way the vehicles weave in and out of the lanes but unless you have experienced your nerves being shredded you just cannot understand it. Indian vehicles have a zero-personal space and with their "ears tucked back they weave through a four lane highway that are supposed to be a two, blissfully ignorant of the shock to the passengers. To us the hooting is an aggressive sound but in India it is only the vehicle on the right saying I am here and need to pass!!! We have all read about the cows that are sacred but never in my wildest dream would I have been prepared to see them roam freely anywhere including the centre island of the highway or on the verges or roundabouts. If these animals step onto the road, the traffic just grinds to a screeching halt.

Once we reached our hotel, House of MG we were all ready for a stiff drink of some sort. Shock!!!! Ahmedabad is an alcohol free state!!! There were some very twitchy travellers. Our hotel was the most beautiful historical hotel with a large central courtyard and rooftop area. Beautiful marble floors and the most magical indoor swimming pool with an amazing mosaic roof and pool bottom featuring lotus flowers. In our bedrooms were the most wonderful antique Indian Embroidery hangings.

After we had freshened up we ventured onto a night market called the Law Gardens where we bartered and shopped for such

wonderful treasures. What fun and excitement we had. The next morning we were up really early to get to visit the most beautiful



Shree Swaminarayan Temple before the devotees and visitors arrived. This temple was very well kept and the decorations were absolutely beautifully done and this is definitely the inspiration for yet another quilt. We then went on a Heritage walk of the city through winding and narrow little streets. Yet again we were amazed to see cattle walking through these areas. A highlight of the day was the visit to the Calico Museum. I was amazed to find out what a privilege it is to visit there as you have to book months in advance and make an appointment and even state how many are in the party as well as their names etc. The museum is very well maintained with no CCTV cameras just many women who very quietly and discreetly kept watch. Our guide was passionate about her job and had such wonderful sayings "You are never at a disadvantage if you have God (or your Guru) as your guide. "You need a guide in all you do to inspire you" and yet another "Don't dwell on the negative only on the positive, leave the negative behind as it only holds you back". In the afternoon we went to the souks and did

to the souks and did more shopping to buy meters of fabric!



The next day we left for Udaipur a 5 hour road trip. Yet another hair raising experience. There were many heavies on the road and all very ornately decorated, with "Please Hoot" painted on the rear!!! Once in Udaipur we went straight to the Art Centre where we had a demonstration on block printing and another feast of shopping. Several of us bought the most beautiful Pashminas. These Pashminas were left there and were made into jackets for us and delivered to our

hotel the next day. We saw photos of Judy Dench who had also visited the Art Centre when she was in Udaipur for the filming of the Best Marigold Hotel. Our hotel the Jagat Niwas was on the Pichola Lake and we had to transfer from our Kombi type vehicle to TukTuks as the road was too narrow. The hotel was another wonderful and luxurious hotel with beautiful marble floors and beautiful designs painted on the walls so much more inspiration for more guilts. We had the most beautiful views of the sunsets, various palaces and temples from the roof top which was also the restaurant. The next morning we went to the City Palace Museum which was awe inspiring with so much decoration and views of the city. Gordon, Susan and I hired a tuk tuk and went to the Princess Gardens which were built by the Maharana Sangram Singh II between 1710 - 1734 for the entertainment of the Royal Ladies and their maids of honour. This was undoubtedly the most beautiful and well maintained gardens with many hedged areas with different water features and fountains.

On our way back we went through a little village and found an art school on the side of the road. We stopped in and what an amazing experience it was to see the master and his two students doing the most beautiful

miniature paintings with the most amazing detail. The master explained that he would not take on any student who was brought to him because their parents wanted then to be art students. The students he took on had to want to be an artist and also have the inborn artistic talent. What a privilege to have had this unexpected visit. Reminded me how fortunate we as Quilt Teachers are to have students who really want to learn the art of Quilt making

Each evening we had "Show and Tell" of our purchases and experiences, with much laughter and comparing of what we had paid for "Our" items.

Some of the wording on posters outside the shops:- You can't please everyone because you are not a pizza........... Come in or you will starve and so will I......Special advice wash with water.....Do good 2 UR self.

Thank you Elaine and Jandri for the inspirations I have in my head for many more Quilts.



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## Indaba 2016

Grassroots Quilting Guild is very pleased to announce that Indaba 2016 will be held from May 16<sup>th</sup> to May 20<sup>th</sup> hosted once again by Brenda Eaton at Emoyeni Lodge in Camperdown, Natal.

We will be launching the classes early in February and all members of KZNQG will receive an email as soon as we are ready to go!

The focus this year is on techniques, with an emphasis on design and finishing! And of course a whole stack of fun in-between!

All members will get the information on the same day, and then booking will open a few days later. It will be on a "first come first paid basis" and class numbers are limited! So watch your mails!!

If you do not have an email address please let me have a fax number so that you do not miss out. (Send it to me on sms or Whatsapp on 0837788182.)

Looking forward to May

CENTER

OF IT ALL

FOR QUILTS, WEARABLE &

EXTILE ARTS

Jane Zietsman

Convenor

2016 WORLD QUILT COMPETITION, USA - CALL FOR ENTRIES

You are invited to enter the annual WORLD QUILT COM-PETITION. This is the sixteenth consecutive year that South Africa has taken part in the competition. The American organisers have special shipping arrangements for international contestants so it's a wonderful opportunity to exhibit your quilts in the USA.

The Entry Form has all the information and here's a brief summary:

• The competition has categories for both Traditional and Innovative quilts with cash awards.

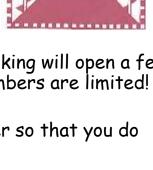
• The minimum quilt size is 8,361 sq. cms (multiply the length of the quilt by the width).

• MAY 13, 2016 is the deadline date for Entry Form and JPG images.

• Quilts will be exhibited at quilt shows in the USA. Also see: http://www.worldguilt.com/

If you would like an entry form or have any queries please contact Odette.

Odette Tolksdorf National Co-Ordinator (South Africa) World Quilt Compe-







# FESTIVAL 2017: SIYADALA:WE CREATE

## CHALLENGE for 2017 : National Quilt Festival

Check the festival website <u>http://festival.quiltsouthafrica.co.za</u> competitions page for the list of official 2017 competition categories and competition rules. Please "like" our <u>Facebook page 2017 South African National</u> <u>Quilt Festival, Port Elizabeth</u> to get updates of the latest festival news and information. We are collecting contact information of quilt shops. If you have a quilt shop and would like to be a vendor at Siyadala - We Create, please contact Kristien Schutte at <u>kpvs@live.com</u>



## Categories:

Bed Quilts - Pieced

Bed Quilts - Appliqued

Wall Quilts - Pictorial

Wall Quilts - Organic Shapes

Wall Quilts - Geometric Shapes

Wall Quilts - Fibre Art

Open

Group

Siyadala Theme Challenge

Miniatures

Conceptual Art





#### PAPER PIECED PROTEAS

PLEASE BRING YOURS TO KZNQG MEETING ON 27 FEBRUARY AND POP INTO THE BAG AT REGISTRATION TABLE.

## NEWS FLASH

We now have credit card facilities, so you can pay your subs with your credit card on the day of the meeting.

## PLEASE REMEMBER to wear your name badge

#### FESTIVAL CHALLENGE QUILTS - KZN PARTICIPANTS

We would like to have a special showing of the 2015 challenge quilts as part of our quilt show at : KZNQG OPEN DAY, 27 FEB-RUARY 2016, DURBAN GIRLS HIGH SCHOOL.

We know that the Festival and KZNQG committees were all given a pack after the festival and we would also like to see what you have done!

So please could ALL the challenge quilts be a part of this show those from the festival AND those done afterwards.

See droop off points.

PLEASE LET US HAVE YOUR QUILT!

Many thanks

Pauline

#### DROP-OFF POINTS

Durban, North coast and Highway – Pauline Law 031 208 3615; 082 806 9149

Pmb and inland - Marline Turner -033 396 3009; 083 327 4881

South coast - Heather Walker 083 492 5319

Challenge quilts can also be dropped off at the school on 26th from 2pm.

PARKING at our quarterly meetings

There are three gates into the school just after the

corner of Manning and Penzance roads. Please note



that anyone may drive through the FIRST gate (GATE 2); you may hoot and show your members badge to be let in.

The early bird catches the worm: first come , first served.

## AT OUR NEXT MEETING



## KZNQG OPEN DAY and AGM 27th February 2016 VENUE DURBAN GIRLS HIGH SCHOOL, Glenwood (Please note change in demonstration times) 9 to 12: quilts from 2015 FESTIVAL CHALLENGE 10 to 11.30 Demonstrations 10 Mary Ann Smith 10.45 Janet Wareing 11.30 Helen McNulty 12 AGM 12.40 approx: Speaker CLARE WALLACE: Magical Long - arm Quilting

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## 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 27th February 2016 at 12H00

Venue: Durban Girls High School

Members are reminded that subscriptions are due at or before the A.G.M.

## NOMINATION FORM KZNQG COMMITTEE 2016

Name of person nominated: .....

Nominated by: .....

Signature of acceptance of nomination: .....

Quilters' Calendar 2016
27 Feb: KZNQG Open Day and AGM *
27 April: SISTERS at NG Kerk,
Dryden Road Hayfields, PMB
13 May: World Quilt Competition
June TBA: Deadline for quilt delivery contact Odette Tolksdorf 031-2662978 or
odetteT@iafrica.com
16—20 May: Quilt Indaba at Emoyeni
<ul> <li>Country Lodge contact Jane Zietsman</li> </ul>
031 7671685 / 083 778182
27 May- 5 June: ROYAL SHOW
28 May: KZNQG Open Day
<sup>30</sup> July: Tollgate Winter Workshops Glenwwood
Presbyterian Church
3 Sept: KZNQG Open Day
•9—11 Sep: The Great Izotsha Christian Escape
24 Sep: PLEASURETIME—Flowers and Quilts Show
29 Oct: KZNQG Open Day
<b>Coming</b>
EVENTS

## REMINDER PAYMENT OF YOUR SUBS & ADVERTISING

The bank account details for payment of your subs of R160/per annum & Advertising, are as follows:

(Please note: if you are a new member or rejoining, then the subs will be R180.00/per annum

Name of account Bank Branch Branch code Type of account

KWA ZULU NATAL QUILTERS GUILD **ABSA BANK** HILLCREST 632005 Account number 9314 008 325 Investment

#### 2016 ADVERTISING COSTS FOR NEWSLETTER

Our advertising costs for 2016 are as follows;

				once off
A4	inside front & back cover	R 3 310	per an- num	827,5
A4	full page colour		per an-	385
A5	half page colour		per an-	165
A6	quarter page colour		per an-	82,5
	1/8 page (1/2 of a quarter)		per an-	41,5
	PLEASE NOTE	105		ر,±+ 1,5
	ALL ADVERTS IN COLOUR 4 ADVERTS PER YEAR			
	NEWSLETTER WILL BE ON W	EBSITE		
	Advertising costs have been			
	increased by 5%			

## KZNQG Quilt Show Quilt Entry Rules

There are 3 main categories:



- BED Quilts with sub-category: MASTER, STANDARD and NOVICE
- WALL Quilts with sub-category: MASTER, STANDARD and NOVICE
- OPEN/Group quilts with sub-category: STANDARD and NOVICE

# There will be a 1<sup>st</sup> prize awarded in each sub-category above and this will include a cash prize of R1000 each.

Please note: Quilts will be judged and critiqued.

All quilts may also be entered into the 2017 National Quilt Festival competition. <u>Rules for Bed Quilts:</u>

- No side shorter than 150cm and no side longer than 250cm.
- Bed quilts to be constructed using traditional techniques and materials.
- Bed quilts to have a conventional edge finish (no raw edges).
- The quilt must be your own design or a design derived using elements from the public domain.
- It cannot be a copy of another quilt/art work or made from a commercial quilt pattern.
- Whole cloth bed quilts should be entered in this category.

#### Rules for Wall Quilts:

- No side longer than 200cm. (There is no minimum size.)
- Any technique or combination of techniques can be used.
- Any materials can be used.
- It must include some quilting through three layers.
- The quilt must be your own design or a design derived from elements using the public domain.
- It cannot be a copy of another quilt/art work or made from a commercial quilt pattern.

#### Rules for Open/Group category

- No side longer than 200cm. (There is no minimum size.)
- The following is allowed in this category:
- Quilts constructed and quilted by an individual and made using a published/commercial pattern or designed by another individual.
- Quilts that have been started in a class.
- Quilts made from non-quilted traditional techniques (yo-yos, cathedral windows etc)

• Any quilt that is constructed (pieced, appliqued, quilted, embellished or finished) by two or three individuals.

#### GENERAL RULES FOR ENTERING THE COMPETITION

• All entries must be made predominantly from cloth, consist of at least three (3) layers and be quilted through all layers.

- All entries must be in pristine condition (no dirt, stains, animal hair, and odours).
- All entries must be solely the work of those stated as the Maker(s) on the entry form. Except for the OPEN/GROUP category.
- An entrant cannot pay to have work done on their entry.

• Sub-category:

• previously received Master Class Quilter status from SAQG must enter into the appropriate Master sub-category.

• For all Categories, if you have never entered a quilt competition before, then enter your quilt into the Novice sub-category.

• For all other quilters, enter your quilt in the appropriate Standard sub-category

• Each quilt must be designed, constructed and quilted by only one person, with the exception of quilts entered into the Open category.

• All forms of free[motion machine[quilted quilts with no computer assisted elements can be entered in any category whether long[larm, medium[larm or domestic sewing machines. The BSR is not considered a computer assisted gadget and can be used.

• Quilts using computer[digitized quilting and/or embroidery patterns can only be entered in the Open category.

• If the stated design source of a quilt is another quilt or other published image, comprehensive design credits must be given and the quilt entry must be accompanied by an A4 photo or (colour) photocopy of the design source. These are to be placed in a clear plastic sleeve and pinned to the back of the quilt. Include a letter of permission/proof, as far as possible.

• Quilts previously entered into a South African National or any International Quilt Competition are excluded from entering this competition. The quilt may have been entered into the Royal Show.

• A maximum of four (4) entries are allowed per person.

• No quilt may be entered into more than one category.

• The category choice is the sole responsibility of the entrant. No KZNQG Committee member, juror or judge will shift quilts between categories.

• Quilts with heavy embellishments, rigid frames, special mounting or installations are not allowed.

• All quilts must be able to be hung from a 10cm sleeve, sewn to the top back of the quilt, 2cm short of either side.

• All quilts must have a cloth label securely sewn to the back of the quilt, placed on the lower left[hand corner (viewed from the back). This label must contain the unique Quilt Entry Code (this will be sent to you), Quilt Title, Quilt Maker's Name, Address and Contact Details and Date (or Year) the quilt was made. All this information, except for the Quilt Entry Code and Quilt Title, is to be covered by a piece of dark cloth, <u>tacked</u> onto the label.

• Quilts must be measured horizontally across the widest part of the quilt, and the measured length of the quilt must include any elements hanging from the quilt.

• Although the greatest care will be taken with all entries, the quilts are exhibited entirely at the risk of the owner. Entrants are responsible for arranging their own insurance.

• The judges' decision is final and NO queries, correspondence or discussion pertaining to the judging will be considered.

• The KZNQG committee reserves the right to photograph any work for publicity purposes, acknowledging the quilt makers.

The organizer's reserve the right to reject any quilt that they feel is inappropriate, offensive or of a standard unacceptable to be exhibited at a South African Regional or National Quilt Competition.
 Know the Rules

KZNQG	Quilt Sho	W	TER RE
	0		
	•	t Entry Form	
	High School, Glenwood		
Date of Quilt Show	<u>v</u> : 29 October 2016		
Quilts to be delive	<b>red no later than</b> : 3 Oc	tober 2016	
Instructions: Please fi	ll in one entry form per quilt.		
Please send entry	y form to Lyn Gonzaga <mark>lyngon@</mark>	<u>telkomsa.net</u> no later than 28 Ma	у.
	e: R50 for KZNQG members c payments - see below	and R70 for non-members to accor	npany entry form.
Title			
First Name			
Surname			
Address			
Landline			
Mobile			
Email			
Guild Affiliation			
Title of Quilt			
Description of Quilt			
Quilt Design Credits			
Width (cm)			
Height (cm)			
Category (tick only one)	Bed: Master : Wall: Master : Open/Group:	Standard : Standard : Standard :	Novice: Novice: Novice:
After Show, Quilt to be collected by:			
Signed		Date:	
For Internal Use			
Notes			
no later than 31 Jul		le, as well as delivery deta	ils, will be emailed to you by
	<u>Branch</u> : 632005 <u>Account:</u> 9314 Dosit: YOUR REF + your name	4008228 <u>Name:</u> Kwa Zulu Natal G	Quilters' Guild
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	2016 ROYAL S AND HOME IND TRY FORM FOR O	USTRIES SECTION	SENIOR CLASSES JUNIOR CLASSES	(up to age 18)	L	E	c
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# Tricks of the Trade

## Tips and advice for guilters sourced by Carol Hodsdon.

## Needle ID

I'm sure most of us can relate to this scenario! You sit down at your sewing machine after the Christmas holidays to work on a project that you started last year. You look at the needle in the machine and think to yourself "What type of needle is it?" So you take it out and spot the little band of blue around the top. "Ah Ha!" you think, "It's a denim needle that I used to take up the hem of those new jeans. I've only used it once so I'll keep it ...but what size is it?" You find the Denim Needle container and there are empty slots in it for three different sizes!

So how do we read that minute inscription on the shaft that tells us the size?

Here are a few ways:



Hold the needle shaft close to the eyepiece of a pair of binoculars. Looking through the lens from the wrong end acts as a magnifying glass.

The same principle applies with one of those door peepholes that we use as value finders.

Take a photo with your cell phone camera them zoom in on the image. You will need a smart phone and steady hand to keep it in focus.

And of course you can use a regular magnifying glass or a child with 20:20 vision

But - There is a quicker way.

A few festivals ago I received a needle book in my goodie -bag and it's been my go to for 'newsed' needles ever since.

Simply insert the needle that you want to keep into the corresponding area on the fabric 'chart' as pictured. When inserting a needle into the machine, mark the size and type with a safety pin or brightly coloured straight pin to remind yourself what is in the machine.

Another option is to buy Schmetz brand of needles. They have a dual colour coding system that indicate the type AND the size on their needles. This chart is a free download from Craftsy.com.



#### Needle Safety:

Please use a 'needle coffin'. Simply keep an old pill/ tablet container that has a tight fitting lid next to your sewing machine. Pop all your bent, broken or

Logina 1

blunt needles and pins into it. When it is full (it will take a while) simply pop the lid on and discard the whole container. It can go through the whole rubbish removal system without causing an injury.

If you do break a needle, make sure that you locate all the bits of it before continuing to sew. If a tiny fragment is lodged in your bobbin case it may damage your ma-

chine. A small magnet will help you to find all the bits

There is so much information available with regards needles and their function. Too much for a short article such as this one. The following site has a two page chart that may be worth printing and keeping. Just click on the link below view.

http://www.sewing.org/files/guidelines/22\_115\_sewing\_machine\_needle\_charts.pdf





# **Guild News**

**Pleasuretime Quilters' Guild** Scottburgh

Phil Fischer gave the guild meeting a most interesting talk on 'What is an Art Quilt' with some of her beautiful quilts to illustrate her talk. Also in October a most interesting and enjoyable and fun "Wacky Weavingn workshop led by Leonie Malherbe was held. Some most interesting and different small woven items have been produced - some pictorial other pieces to be used as pictures or added to articles. It was a day really enjoyed by those attending. We ended 2015 in November with a Christmas lunch and a challenging Quilting Quiz. A fun time was had by all.

The year started for us with a meeting workshop led by Maurean Whitfield on landscapes. I have never seen so many busy ladies hand stitching at one of our meetings! We eagerly await the next meeting to see the varied results. We had an Australian visitor who brought some samples of her work and took home her incomplete landscape with enough Amafu fabric to finish the piece. In February we will have a busy time with our monthly workshop on the 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday, a meeting with a guest on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday, the NQG Open Day and another Leonie Malherbe Workshop on 25 February - "Down to Earth". If you would like to join us for this day workshop please contact me for details.

Heather Walker



### Kloof Country Quilters

We trust that all quilters had a fabulous Christmas and were blessed with stockings filled with fabrics?

At our Kloof Country November meeting, our members brought their quilts and crits from their festival entry quilts - any festival. We also had a couple of special guests who have won prizes at National and International festivals to share with us. While the quilt was being displayed, the crits were read out and the detail pointed out on the actual quilt. While it was wonderful to hear the judge's comments, the greatest learning for everyone was that no-one was eaten alive - the comments were all positive and designed to encourage - and hopefully this has encouraged every member to enter quilts into competitions of all kinds.

The December meeting was good fun with demonstrations of Christmas ideas and some of our members selling their crafts. Phil Fisher, Marge Gatter, Jane Henstock and Bev Essers amused, entertained and inspired us with a wide variety of ideas for Christmas. I know that I used some of them!

A new year is an opportunity to review the past and look to the future. For many of us, our quilting pasts are a combination of unfinished projects or quilt that we look back on with intense enjoyment (or absolute certainty that we will NEVER do that again!!) The future is there for us to fine tune our skills and to work on the things we enjoy - to be inspired once more by colours and textures and patterns and fabrics and threads. And that is what we are going to be doing at Kloof Country. So watch this space..!

With love from all at KC

Twig

## OUTREACH IN HOWICK

These quilts are made as part of an outreach programme in HOWICK. It is where women workers at the **Everdon farm** ...part of Westfalia Fruit



Farms ...are learning how to quilt and can be seen at lunch time in the orchards sewing hexagons.



#### LOVE2PATCH QUILTERS GUILD

We are a new Guild, we started in 2014, but we have hours of fun, quilting and getting togethers! We had an amazing 2<sup>nd</sup> year of quilting and Festivals.

For our AGM Meeting in January 2015, we started off with our quilt exhibition of our first Chairlady's challenge for 2014. The Chairlady's challenge ?? Curved patterns can sometimes be tricky to piece, but the beautiful lines make curves all worth it. Curves give a sense of Movement and Straight lines cannot necessarily do that, not even with optical tricks, to make and create the illusion of a curve. They had to patch a "Drunkard's Path" variation. No two were the same, lovely colours and designs.

Alae also came to visit us with lovely quilts and fabrics and she showed and talked to us about all that's happening at Quilt in Clarens.

Quite a few of our ladies went to the National Quilt Festival in Hillcrest some new Festivallers, other, well, regulars. All enjoyed every moment of the visit to the festival.

After we all came back from all the July Quilt Festivals, we had our report back Festival Meeting. It was very interesting to hear how everyone experienced their classes, teachers, the quilt exhibition

and the whole vibe around the Festivals. Once a Festivaller, Always there after a Festivaller!

We ended off our year with a Festive exhibition of all X-massy - handmade bears, quilts and very innovative Xmas decorations and gifts. We also had our Sew- in- Xmas class there. We learnt how to patch a 3D Xmas tree and we also made a Welcome Xmas quilt.

We get together four times a year for "high tea" and eats, with a lovely quilt exhibition - all made by our members and talking only patching and quilting. We are 20 members from Dundee, Glencoe, Newcastle, Vryheid and as far as Ladysmith.

We are very excited about the new year, with lots of new ideas and yet another Challenge.

"If you, unknowing, are able to create masterpieces in color;

then unknowledge is your way.

But if you are unable to create masterpieces in color out of your unknowledge,

then you ought to look for knowledge!"

-Johannes Itter-

Greetings for 2016 to all the Guilds! Marilie Bruyns (Dundee)





## Quilting@Home, Ixopo.

Last November the meeting took the form of a workshop at which Denise helped members make a Christmas wall hanging or centre piece that seemed very complicated but resulted in some stunning work! In December a Christmas decoration, using a zillion pins and a styrofoam ball kept everyone busy. The New Year began with another Friendship Quilt being started for Ann Jones and a challenge issued by Denise to make a table runner in any pattern but using only two colours. We look forward to a busy quilting year with lots of inspiration from KZNQG!

**Clare Smith** 



Quilting@Home, Ixopo members

#### Grassroots Quilters Guild

In October we had Paula Thomson tell us about the incredible work being done at Hillcrest Aids Centre. What a joy to



hear of these incredible men and women who are making such a difference to our communities, providing jobs and self respect to so many people who are now able to take care of their families. This has now become my favourite charity.

In November we had a lovely end of year Christmas party at the lovely home of Sheila Nichol. It was beautifully decorated and Sheila set out all of her lovely china for our tea. Members brought delicious eats and everyone had a good time.

In January we are looking forward to Zelda Martin giving us a talk and powerpoint presentation of her recent travels in America. This intrepid grandmother still rides a motorbike and sails the world. She is an inspiration to us all. There is no need to get old!

I have some challenges in mind for Grassroots members for 2016. We are planning all sorts of interesting things.

Keep quilting. LYN GONZAGA



TOLLGATE QUILTERS GUILD

Here we are at the beginning of a bright new year - 2016 and I hope there are lots of quilts being planned.

Our last meeting for 2015 took the form of a year end Christmas party. The eats were delicious and we were entertained with a wild game of Quilt Bingo by Phil Fisher and I showed the ladies how to make a little fabric Strawberry, which can be used as a Christmas Decoration or just something to decorate a gift.



At our first meeting of 2016 Hanlie Burger brought her Amafu fabrics for our members to touch, drool over and buy (thankfully many did) and then she showed us some of her beautiful quilts, including the first quilt she made. It is so interesting to see a quilter's first and then latest quilt. Thank you Hanlie, we really enjoyed having you.

Preparations have started for the Tollgate Winter Show which will take place on the 30 July 2016 at the Glenwood Presbyterian Church in Glenwood. Save the date!

We are encouraging our members to enter quilts on the Royal Show this year. We have such talented quilters show us their beautiful quilts at each meeting, and each That's all for now, happy quilting!

Mary Chapman.

## <u>Queensburgh Quilters</u> <u>Guild:</u>

In the past few months QQG have had some creative times, times of much celebration and then too a very sad time with the loss of our special member Alida Buter, fondly known to us as Alie. Alie passed away peacefully on the 22<sup>nd</sup> of December. Alie was an accomplished and very creative quilter that taught us all so many things. One of those things was to have a lot of fun whilst we were being creative. We were never without a joke or laugh when Alie was around. We are all going to miss her very much.

In November we welcomed Jo Fotheringham (Val Madsen's daughter) into our guild as a new member. We did a round robin within our guild and learned some new methods each round. It was fun to see how our original centre pieces had turned out having had a few other members work on them.

Our December meeting was very exciting. We piled into two cars and had a wonderful trip to the Midlands in Howick where Priscilla Maartens hosted the most wonderful meeting and Christmas lunch at the Amber Valley club house. We had the most joyous lunch and got into the magical Christmas spirit after getting some inspiration from Moira Ryder.

We are all so excited about this weekend AGM which we have at the Madsen's beach cottage at Zinkwazi. We sew from Friday till Sunday stopping only to eat and have our AGM (very little sleep) and all leave totally revved up for a quilting year ahead!!

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	Chairlady	Sherin Holm	Jeanne Miller	Marilie Bruyns	Lyn Gonzaga	Ruth Archer	Sandy Wood	Mary Chapman	Barrie MacDonald	Jane Renton	Lindy Briscoe	Clare Smith	Twig	Jane Zietsman	Margi Anderson	Marline Turner	Asha Soni	Leanne Stewart	Lauren Walsh (Chairlady)	Barrie Buttigieg(help)	Heather Walker	Anita Turton	Lyn Gonzaga		
	Guild Name	Cottage Patch	Sheffield Night Owls	Love2Patch Quilters Guild	KZNQG		Ouilters-by-the- Sea	Tollgate	Sew Wot	Midlands	Meander	Quilting@Home	Kloof Country	Village Quilters	Hibiscus	Hayfields	Truro Quilters	Queensburgh Quilters	d Country	Califiers	Pleasure Time	Underberg Patchwork Guild	Grassroots		
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