



KZN Quilters Guild

Newsletter No 125—October 2020



Odette Tolksdorf – Through the Window: Fish

FROM THE HOT SEAT

Hello everyone

After seven months of lockdown, I know that we all have war stories to tell. As quilters, we have had opportunity to tell our stories through our quilts and I know we will see those stories coming through: of frustration, loneliness, hope, love, bereavement, family, and community.

Part of our story telling has been guided by Sue Cameron and the mystery quilt project. While we have all been given the same instruction, the difference in the end results always amazes me. We will be displaying as many completed mystery quilts as we can at the first meeting of next year – so whether or not you are a member of KZNQG, please watch out for the details regarding this.

Even after seven months, the future is a little hazy. We have gone ahead with planning dates for open days for 2021, starting with the 27th of February. We understand that this may change, but we certainly hope that it does not. Our AGM is due in March, and we have decided to hold this at the second meeting of the year. We have also looked at fees: for those that paid their subs this year, you have a payment holiday for next year; if you did not pay before lockdown this year, you have already had your holiday, so please pay your fees next year. Obviously, if you would like to pay both, we won't turn you down... A little confused? Please contact Merle Mulder and she will advise you.

We have also decided that we will not charge visitors fees for the first meeting of the year. Only the FIRST meeting, so invite as many of your friends and family members who have an interest in quilting – especially those that have been part of the mystery quilt journey.

The quilt competition has been rescheduled to the last meeting of 2021. The theme is "Local is Lekker" and we are expecting beautiful quilts to be on display. There are still some of the red and white Challenge Packs available – please contact either me or Debbie Becker if you would like to take up this challenge.

There have been some changes in the guild committee, and we are looking for members for the following portfolios: newsletter and social media; quilt hanging and takedown; and the sales table. If you are interested, or have any questions, please contact any of our committee members.

Looking forward to seeing you all soon

Keep on quilting

Twig

Quilt on the Cover

Odette Tolksdorf – Through the Window: Fish

For many years I kept a piece of canvas that had a half-finished painting on it. One day I decided to liberate it from the cupboard and use the canvas as a background and starting point for a new work.

I very much responded to what was in front of me: the painted background which was flaking and chipped due to being folded. Working with the surface marks and paint stains, scratches and splotches was very satisfying.

This is one of three small works in a series that I have made so far, using fabric collage (silk, cotton, organza) and machine and hand stitching on painted canvas.



Above left—Carol Cook—Meander Guild ; Above left—Rosemary Scheepers—Sew Wot Guild

KZNQG Mystery Sew-Along

A selection of quilts



*Top left—Christine Wassung—Meander Guild ;
Right—May Gene Terblanche—Sew Wot Guild*



Top left: Rosemary Scheepers (Sew Wot);

Top right: Maria Lofstrand (Sew Wot);

Left: Toni Gardner (Hibiscus);

Bottom left: Lynda Rowley (Hibiscus);

Bottom right: Alice Massie (Sheffield Nite Owls).

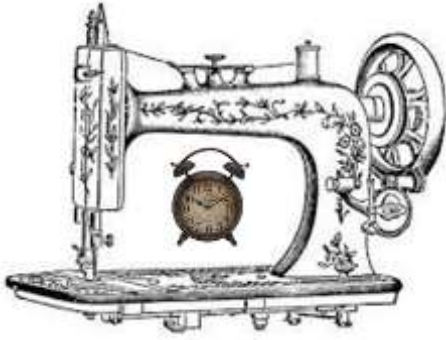




Clockwise from top left: Ronel Blignaut (Sew Wot); Margi Anderson (Hibiscus) ; Simona Damerell (Sew Wot); Judy Gilford (Sew Wot); Caroline Cannon (Sew Wot); Loredana Amorim (Sew Wot);



Message from KZN Festival Committee Chair



THE GIFT OF TIME

We have been given the gift of another year to make our community quilts for the 2024 Festival. We are so grateful to Sue Cameron for designing another pattern for us. This way we learn new techniques and whilst doing that, we can bless so many with these beautiful quilts. A HUGE THANKS TO ALL THE QUILTS THAT HAVE ALREADY BEEN MADE.

A few notes:

SIZE OF THE QUILT:

The quilt must be no bigger than a single bed quilt: 150cm x 220cm.
Lap quilts will also be accepted. 140cm x 140cm

BACKING AND BATTING:

A huge thanks to Bernina in PMB & to Nicky Hunter-Smith who have kindly donated a roll of batting each. The batting will be available at our next KZNQG meeting, and may be distributed to Guilds as required by the Guild Chairladies.

Nicky has distributed a lot of the batting amongst the Midlands quilters.

WHAT DO I DO WITH THE QUILT ONCE IT IS COMPLETE AND READY TO DONATE?

Unfortunately, none of our committee members have a large enough storage facility to house these quilts till the festival. Please hang onto them. Wrap them up so that the fish moths can't get to them and we will call for them closer to the time.

LEANNE STEWART - CHAIRLADY NQF24

#quilt.sa 0836547096 / 031 7653534 /

gregleahome@gmail.com

LOVE QUILT—COMMUNITY QUILTS

This is the next quilt in the series of Love Quilts for the 2024 National Quilt Festival's Community Project.

It is really easy and should bring lots of joy to you, the maker and to the person who receives the quilt.

Scraps would work well. The trick is to use really light fabrics and really dark fabrics.

You will find the pattern instructions on the following pages, compliments of Sue Cameron.



Love Quilt Instructions

The finished size of the quilt is 55 inches by 73 inches. The blocks are 9 inches - finished. You will need 2 metres of dark fabric and 2.5 metres of light fabric including border fabric.

Cutting:

From the light fabric cut:

Eight $3\frac{1}{2}$ inch strips

Five $9\frac{1}{2}$ inch strips

From the dark fabric cut:

Seventeen $3\frac{1}{2}$ inch strips

From 7 of these strips cut sixty-eight $3\frac{1}{2}$ inch squares

Method:

1. For the 9-patch blocks, pin and stitch a $3\frac{1}{2}$ " dark strip to each long edge of a $3\frac{1}{2}$ " light strip. Make 4 of these strip sets. Press towards the dark strips.



2. Pin and stitch a $3\frac{1}{2}$ " light strip to each long edge of a $3\frac{1}{2}$ " dark strip. Make 2 of these strip sets. Press towards the dark strip.



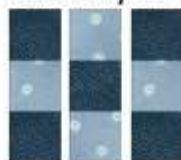
3. From the dark/light/dark (DLD) strip set, cut thirty-six $3\frac{1}{2}$ " segments.



4. From the light/dark/light (LDL) strip set, cut eighteen $3\frac{1}{2}$ " segments.



5. To complete the 9-patch blocks, pin and stitch a DLD segment to either side of an LDL segment as in the picture below. Make sure that you butt the seams carefully so that intersections are neat. Make 18 9-patch blocks.



6. On the back of all the dark $3\frac{1}{2}$ " squares, draw a diagonal line from corner to corner. Be very accurate.
7. To make the snowball blocks, place a $3\frac{1}{2}$ " dark square in each corner of a $9\frac{1}{2}$ " light square. The right side of the light square should be facing up and the right side of the dark square should be facing down. Notice the direction of the drawn lines.



8. Pin and stitch on the line. Place the $\frac{1}{4}$ " line of your ruler on the stitched line. Cut off the outside triangles.



9. Open the seam and press towards the dark triangles. Your snowball block should look like the block below.



10. Refer to the picture of the quilt above to put the quilt together in rows. Make sure that you press towards the 9-patch blocks.
11. Add your borders in the usual way. The dark border is cut $1\frac{1}{2}$ inches wide and the light border is cut to 4 inches wide.

"Art
enables us to
find ourselves
and
lose ourselves
at the same time."

- Thomas Merton

Quilts on Show

Quilts around South Africa 2020

Go to the website www.quiltsouthafrica.co.za

look under Gallery, find Show and Tell and view the array of quilts made by SAQG members. Each region group and guild were asked for names of quilters to be invited to show their work.

This is the latest collection from those quilters that responded to this opportunity.

Ice Dyed Mandalas

By Hanlie Burger, Amafu

This technique is amazing for interesting results on cotton fabric, any cotton clothing or bedding.

Fabric:

You need white fabric which is 100% cotton, PFD (prepared for dyeing) and 150cm wide. If you are using premade items, they should be prewashed.

Folding the Fabric:

You can scrunch it, fold it, pleat it or tie it.

Cut the fabric in Squares (50, 75, 100 or 150cm)



We used the method pictured above (from left to right, in 9 steps) to fold the fabric. You may of course use any other method you prefer.

After you have fold the fabric, tie it with string or elastic bands quite tight, at 3 or 4 different places. The bigger the piece of fabric, the more you need to tie.

Cut about 60cm of foil and fold it about 3-4 cm thick. Run the folded foil along the edge of your fabric and tie with extra string. It will prevent most of the dye from running off the fabric—[see set of 3 photos on the next page](#)



Above pictured the bundle prepping method



Dyeing process:

Place a cake rack in a shallow tray and arrange the fabric on it.

Choose your **dye colours** and sprinkle a layer of dye powder (wear a mask) on the fabric. Use different colours for an interesting effect. Remember the dyes will mix and 'new' colour combinations will appear. Sprinkle a layer of **fixative** on top of the dye. Cover the dye and the fixative with ice (crushed ice makes it easier to get full coverage). As the ice melts the dyes will blend and spread, so keep this in mind. When the ice has melted, your fabric may look like a muddy mess but once it's rinsed the pattern will be revealed. The liquid from the melted ice should be under the rack so it should not touch the fabric.

Washing:

Remove the string/elastic bands. Rinse well until the water runs clear. You can also use a washing machine. Wash on a cotton cycle at 60 degrees C with a teaspoon of washing powder. Add some fabric softener. Hang out to dry, and iron.



Pictured above: results of one afternoon's dyeing process.

FIBREWORKS EXHIBITION AT THE TATHAM ART GALLERY

The national Fibreworks group will be holding an exhibition titled **MicroMACRO** at the Tatham Art Gallery in Pietermaritzburg.

The virtual exhibition opening is on **Sunday 06 December 2020 at 11h00** with Rosalie Dace as opening speaker. Further details to follow regarding attending the virtual opening. Fibreworks will be exhibiting in the Tatham Main Gallery as well as in the foyer.

Fibreworks members from all over South Africa will be participating in the exhibition with many well-known exhibitors. Here's a small selection to whet your appetite: Kathy Harmer-Fox, Sally Scott, Tilly de Harde, Rosalie Dace, Cathy Knox, Jeanette Gilks, Annette McMaster, Sue Akerman, Stephanie Neville, Paul Schutte.

See <http://www.fibreworksart.com/>

For more details and queries contact:

Helga Beaumont: helga@adoptimise.com or Odette Tolksdorf: odetteT@iafrica.com



Above
Tilly De Harde—Eyes Wide Open
with Inktense Paint

Below

Annette McMaster – Balancing Act



FIBREWORKS EXHIBITION - Continued:

Below featured: Mandy Shindler – Circle



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The Committee



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To visit our Website [Click here](#)

We welcome your contributions to the Blog and feedback on what you would like to see on the Website.

Please email simona.damerell@gmail.com

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A case for labelling quilts - Part 2

A case for recording the quilts you make

By Mandy Kirk

Consider this scenario: Someone found a quilt at a jumble sale. They liked the look of it, and bought it for you – knowing you are a quilter. That's all it is – just a quilt. No label, no notes. You would love to ask the quilt some questions about its origins. You have no idea even what century or country it is from!

In the previous newsletter, we talked about why and how to label a quilt. Today we take a step back and look at the bigger picture.

What is quilting?

Quilting is a **journey** from the first quilt you make to the one you are making now. Everyone starts as a beginner, and we make progress at a different pace to where we are now. And sometimes we even go back a few steps – but quilting is a journey.

Quilting is also a reflection of who you are, and also of the times you live in. It is **history**.

Quilts are also often **gifts** that keep on giving through chilly nights and can be passed down from generation to generation to show more and more **love**.

Why should you keep a record of your quilts?

As in the scenario above, there are stories for quilts that have been lost from the generations before us because no one thought to record them – and that is a tragedy.

A lot of people will see just a quilt. But as a quilter, you will see 1,000 decisions made - one by one. Most people don't know what goes into making a quilt behind the scenes ... waiting for the moment of inspiration, the planning, finding the perfect pattern, shopping for the fabric, the time it takes to piece, rip apart, piece again, trim, quilt, bind, etc.

Each quilt you make tells a story about you and your circumstances. Your skill at the time, your economics, your inspiration, your environment, your heart. It also tells of what is available at the time, and what is happening at the time of making (think Peace and AIDS quilts).

Your records will provide a history of your quilting projects and your progress as a quilter. Not just for you, but for those who walk alongside you, and most importantly, those who come after you.

There are 3 aspects of recording a quilt:

1. The label on the quilt.

Please see the previous newsletter for details about labelling the quilt itself.

2. Written records
3. Photographic records

ALL 3 should be done for a complete record.

Written records

These can be written on paper, or electronically (eg on your computer, or on Instagram). Just make sure you record the details!

- Date started & finished / length of time to make(hours)
- Size of quilt
- Where the quilt is now
- Fabrics: type, cost, swatches. Also if any special threads are used.
- Design inspiration

- Traditional pattern name / Techniques used
- Experience making the quilt - your intentions, your challenges and stories behind the quilt
- Competitions / Awards / Exhibitions / Critiques
- Permissions if sought and granted
- Thank you note from giftee

See below a sample page which you can print out and use to start keeping your quilt records

Photographic records

- The quilt front and back in its entirety
- Detail shot of the stitching
- Copy of the label on the quilt
- A picture with you and the giftee and the quilt, if you can.
- Years down the road you'll be able to remember the quilts that you made

How much more interesting that jumble sale quilt would be - if you had known its history?

May I encourage/challenge you to start a record of your quilts as from TODAY?

Your children, grandchildren, and other quilters will be so glad you did.

Title of Quilt.....

Inspired by / Design Credits

.....

Quilt made by.....

Size.....

Date Started.....

Date Completed.....

Techniques Used.....

.....

Fabrics.....

Competitions / Exhibitions.....

.....

This quilt now resides / was given to.....

.....

Comments:

Lockdown Guild News

QUEENSBURGH QUILTERS

Queensburgh Quilters has continued with their monthly Zoom meetings. Rosemary Hurter and Kerenza Ritcher have joined us for the meeting, but it is very late in the evening and they left us after a short while to go to bed. The ladies continue to make squares for our festival quilts and we have a number of tops finished, and ready for backing and quilting. Our ladies also keep very busy with their many projects.

We are looking forward to our trip to Quilts in Clarence next month, 5 of our ladies are doing courses and we have rented a house in Clarence. What a wonderful experience after lockdown.

We have also shared sad times during lockdown, Magda Lombard lost her mom and dad within a few weeks of each other and I lost my mom early in October. We shall enjoy our meeting in December when we get together for our Christmas lunch/meeting.

Annette Lee



Quilts pictured: top right—SAQG Teachers' Forum Hands Up challenge—"Put your hand in the hand...." made by Leanne Stewart. *Bottom left*—Quilt made by Joy Jukes; *Bottom right* quilt made by Leanne Stewart.



SHEFFIELD NITE OWLS

Hi everyone

So we get to the last quarter of the year and finally we find ourselves at level one of lockdown. Slowly lives are getting back to near normal and there is not quite so much time for patchwork and quilting.

We at Sheffield Nite Owls haven't yet resumed our monthly meetings, but we did manage to have our "Christmas in September" lunch at one of the local restaurants. It was so good to chat with many of our quilting friends again. For various reasons it isn't possible to meet in October but we are hoping to get together in my garden in November, to have some fun playing around with fabric and dye. We have done this once before and there were some very creative results.

Hopefully 2021 will mean we can get back to our group meetings again on a monthly basis and more beautiful quilts will be produced.

As ever- quilting is my passion - but chocolate comes in a close second!!
Happy quilting - Sue Freckleton



Above blocks and quilt by Alice Massie



Blocks on the left by Fiona Walker



Blocks on the right by Sue Freckleton



MEANDER QUILTERS GUILD



Dear quilters,

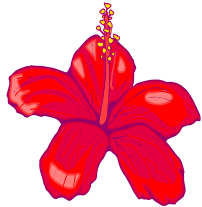
Meander Quilters Guild has kept in touch with all our members using WhatsApp. It has been so encouraging to see that most of our members have kept busy during this strange time.

Some of the work by our members. Veronica Lenard finished her waistcoat. We said a very sad goodbye to Heather Murray, who died recently. Her beautiful quilt was almost finished to give to her son.

Yours, Janet Waring



Clockwise from top left: Diedre Kretzen's I Spy quilt for a grandchild ; Quilt by Heather Murray ; Veronica's waistcoat completed during lockdown ; Veronica's Gypsy Wife.



Hibiscus Quilters Guild

Greetings Quilters,

Here we are in the last quarter of the year, and what a year it's been! Hopefully we are in the last of the lockdown phases and we can look forward to getting back to normal soon.

The Hibiscus Quilters Guild celebrated 31st birthday last month but unfortunately due to the virus there was no party, no extra special goodies for tea and no Show and Tell. While we cannot meet at our usual venue we are organising a get together at the end of the year so that we can meet up with our friends, touch elbows and have a good socially distanced natter.

The mystery quilt has reached its conclusion and what a pleasure it has been! Thank you so much Sue – a brilliant idea that captured our imagination and took the boredom out of those weeks of lockdown. Thank you for giving us something to look forward to. I thoroughly enjoyed myself and learned a huge amount. I also unpicked a lot! All worth it in the end though.

Our ladies have been busy – crochet, quilting and even covering of deck chairs!

While it hasn't been the best year of our lives, it's almost over and my hope is that next year we can meet and share our thoughts, show off our work and just enjoy the fact of being together in the craft that we enjoy so much.

A Merry Christmas to you all when it comes and stay safe.

Margi



**Work pictured
Clockwise from
top left:** Lorna de
Lange; Anne Marie
Knapp—quilt &
wreath; Sylvia
Blore; Carol Jones;
Lynne Roborg



SEW-WOT QUILTERS GUILD

Dear quilters and friend,

Our members have been busy finishing off a number of mysteries and challenges started during the lockdown. We share some photos with you and hope you enjoy the work.



Top left—
Mystery quilt
along by
Jacquelynne
Steves—made
by Caroline
Cannon.



Above: scrappy quilt by
Colleen Thorn ;

Right: Mystery quilt
along by The National
Quilt Museum
Block of the Month Club—top
by Judy Gilford.



Above: Dear Jane by
Colleen Thorn.

Below: Scrappy quilt by
Maria Lofstrand



left: Mystery
quilt along by
The National
Quilt Museum
Block of the
Month Club -
quilt top by
Ronel Blignaut



TOLLGATE QUILTERS GUILD

Tollgate will re-commence all meetings next year.

As with us all, it has been a tough year, with a number of our members losing loved ones over this period. We would like to offer our sincere condolences to our Tollgate families as well as to the greater quilting community for losses experienced.

A special mention needs to be made of Annette Lee's mother, Joan Visser. Joan passed away peacefully at the beginning of October. She was 90 years and 6 months old. A long long long time member of Tollgate, she was never not working on something and was productive until the end. In May she proudly announced that she had finished her 120th beanie for charity! ..and she did not stop there... She will be missed by us all.

The members continue to work on a variety of projects - and we all look forward to seeing each other again.

Yours, Twig.

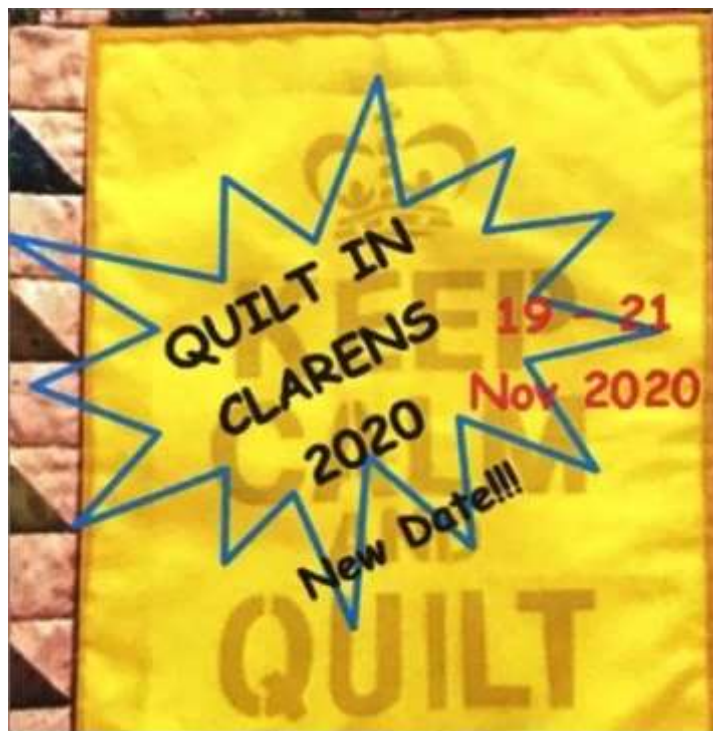
Proposed Open Days - 2020

27 February,

29th May,

28th August,

13th November



SUGGESTIONS & ARTICLES FOR KZNQG WEBSITE

Please let us know what you want to see in your Newsletter. More articles? More images of quilts? More tutorials/book reviews? More about Quilt Exhibitions? Please tell us.

Send your news, suggestions and contributions to the editor:

simona.damerell@gmail.com

KZN Guilds Information

Guild Name	Area	Contact	Telephone	Cell	Email Address	Monthly Meeting Date	Time	Venue	AGM
Cottage Patch	Amanzimtoti	Minnie van Zyl		083-564 5655	minnievzy@gmail.com	1 st Monday	9 - 12pm	Toti Library	March
Sheffield Night Owls	Ballito/Salt rk	Sue Freckleton		084-515 6769	suefreckleton@gmail.com	2 nd Saturday	9am	Members' homes	None
Quilters by the Sea	Durban North	Janis Nicholls	031-573 2658	083-654 5312	dwgn@telkomsa.net	1 st Wednesday	9h30am	North Dbn Lions' Den	None
Tollgate	Glenwood	Twig Hartwig	031-762 3148	083-449 1800	twig@telkomsa.net	3 rd Tuesday	7-9pm	Glenwood Presbyterian church	March
Sew Wot	Hillcrest/Waterfall/Forest Hills	Simona Damerell		082-974 5269	simona.damerell@gmail.com	2nd Sat	9am - 3pm	Members' homes	Feb
Midlands	Hilton	Sarah Tilbury		082-335 4598	sacoltil@mweb.co.za	3 rd Thursday	9h30am	Hilton Methodist	None
Meander	Howick	Janet Waring & Christine Wassung	082-922 2391 Janet	082-8752384 Christine	warig@beycom.co.za chris-tinew2306@gmail.com	Last Thursday	1.45-4pm	St. Lukes Hall Howick	Nov
Quilting@Home	Ixopo	Denise Muldal	039-834 1437		muldalc@futurenet.co.za	1 st Saturday	9.30-5pm	Members' homes	None
Kloof Country	Kloof	Karen Krause		082-567 4818	krausefam@polka.co.za	1 st Tuesday	9.30 - 12	Sarepta church	Aug
Village Grassroots Quilters	Kloof	Helga Beaumont		084-551 3883	helga@adoptimise.com	2 nd Monday	9h30 - 12pm	Methodist Church, Kloof	Nov
Hibiscus	Margate	Margi Anderson	039-315 1767	083-409 5094	margiand55@gmail.com	4 th Tuesday	9h30am	Village happiness	Oct
Hayfields Quilters	PMB	Susan Rencken		074-126 6099	quiltingstudio1@gmail.com	Last Tuesday	2-4pm	Maritzburg West Bowling Club off Victoria Rd	None
Queensburgh Quilters	Queensburgh	Annette Lee		082-213 8955	annettelee138@gmail.com	2 nd Saturday	3-6pm	Members' homes	Jan
Richmond Country Quilters	Richmond	Barrie Buttigieg	033-212 4389	074-889 2390	buttigieg_barrie5@gmail.com	4 th Wednesday	2-4pm	Richmond Bowling Club	None
Pleasure Time	Scottburgh	DI Pretorius	039-973 0591	083-381 0980	revced@telkomsa.net	3rd Thurs.	2pm	Dutch Reform Church	March
Underberg Patchwork Guild	Underberg	Rosemary Storm		071-508 8292	ro@stormco.co.za	4th Tuesday		Members' homes	None