



March 2024

Dear all, its lovely to see so many spring flowers appearing, hopefully we're seeing the end of all the rain for a while. We hope everyone has been busy, don't forget to bring your creations to show us at the next meeting. Everyone enjoys looking at the work we've been doing.

At our last meeting we had our very own Suzanne Boulter speak about her experiences on the other side of the world and saw some of the wonderful collection of fabrics that she had collected. Here she is pictured with some beautiful Kente cloth. Thanks to Suzanne for a very interesting and often hilarious round the world trip.



Our next meeting is on 28th March when we will have a chance to look at the Quilters' Guild Mini Suitcase Collection. We're really looking forward to seeing these but please note we are able to take pictures for our personal use only.

At our meeting on 25th April Kate Findlay will be giving a talk on 'Working in Series'.

Chairman's Challenge. A reminder that the Challenge of making your own name badge should be completed this month. We look forward to seeing everyone's creations at the March meeting.

Challenge from our Chair. Hopefully you will have made your name badges by now. Now for the real challenge (what you didn't think the name badge was the only challenge did you?). This time it will be an A3 size, and the theme is "Summer Holidays". Any technique, applique, pieced, embroidered, etc. The world, as they say, is your oyster (or in this case, your stash). We would like to show all your work at the AGM in November, so once the rain stops, and the sun comes out again, I hope that will give you plenty of inspiration.

Our last Workshop on 29 February with Suzanne Boulter. 17 ladies thoroughly enjoyed a half day hand sewing Kawandi under the expert guidance of Suzanne Boulter. Kawandi originates from western India using techniques brought by African migrants. Small patches of fabric are stitched to a backing fabric,



with raw edges turned under, using a simple running stitch and strong thread. Unusually, this technique starts with placing pieces around the outer edge and working inwards, as you can see from the picture on the left. The picture on the right shows a completed piece. There was a lovely friendly atmosphere in our new venue and it was interesting seeing the diverse and varied fabrics people were using.



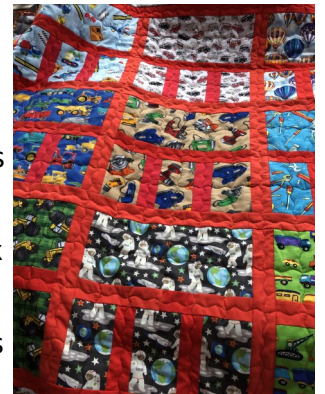
Our next workshop is on Thursday 4th July. Jan Allston will be teaching Foundation Paper Piecing using our machines, starting with the basics and a simple block and following on with 2 or 3 more designs with at least one being more challenging for those that already have some knowledge of the process. Blocks will have a seaside theme. Cost for members is £22.

Our Website is starting to take shape. We need lots of pictures of quilts that we have made to put on the website along with a short description of how the quilt was made. We'll be explaining this more fully at our meetings, but in the meantime we'd be very grateful if you could take pictures of your work and email them to committee@aldwickquilters.co.uk along with a short description. Alternatively, please bring them in to a meeting and a member of the committee can take a picture of them.

Selsey Quilters are making quilts for children aged 2—10 in West Sussex who are fostered and adopted.



They are also making quilts for Barnardo's in Hampshire as well as families in the Ukraine. Selsey Quilters would love us to join them in this venture. Lesley Mariner showed us some samples of the children's quilts, see pictures, to give us some ideas. It doesn't matter what size you make the quilt, but if making one for a child please don't put too much black in it and no embellishments, eg buttons. Please speak to Lesley if you have any questions and she is the person who is collecting the completed quilts. Lesley will update us on how this is going.



If you would like to make a charity quilt, Molly will be bringing her polyester wadding to the monthly meeting. She will be giving this free for use in charity quilts.

Brockenhurst Fiesta is back on 27th & 28th April. See <http://www.brockenhurstfiesta.co.uk/> for details.

Fire. The assembly point for our meeting is by the War Memorial outside the front of the Community Centre. Please have a look so you know where it is.

Guild Newsletter. If you would like to receive the Quilters Guild regular e-newsletter, sign up at <https://mailchi.mp/quiltersguild/newsletters>. This will keep you in touch with their news and activities.

Mugs. A reminder to everyone to bring our own mugs to the meetings. It really helps with the clearing up afterwards, but don't worry if you forget, we do have mugs we can use at the Centre.



PAT testing. We have arranged for Stuart Phillips to do our PAT testing at our meeting on **23rd May**. He charges a very reasonable £5 per item (cash only). Please note that any sewing machine that is used in any of our workshops must be PAT tested. We need to know in advance who wants their machine PAT tested, so please make sure you put your name down at the next meeting if you wish to take advantage of this.