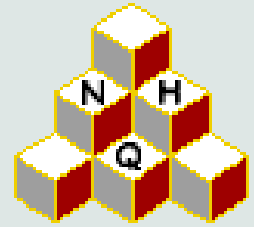


Newsletter August 2021



Club News

Club meetings restart on 1st September, just as a reminder these measures will be in place to make you feel comfortable.

There will be hand sanitiser available

- The chairs will have spaces between them
- Windows will be opened
- It would be appreciated if masks were worn until seated
- Name badges will not be given out
- There will not be a raffle
- Refreshments will not be provided so please bring along a bottle of water



From the Chair

Just to let members know that Cutting Edge at Brighton Hill Centre have lots of new 100% cotton fabrics at £8.99mtr 53 inches wide. The photos do not show all of their new range I have bought some for myself and found it very good quality.

Don't forget the new Stratton Park Scout Hut sewing Thursday starts on Thursday 16th September 10am to 3pm. Anyone needing more details please ring or email me I will be happy to help.



Mark Pickles is coming to me on October 13th to do a group service. Please let me know if you would like any machines serviced on that day so we can let Mark know how many engineers need to come. He will also bring fabric if you just want to pop in and see what he has brought. Machines can be dropped off the day before or on that morning if that is better for you. The price is about £25.00.

Chris Bong



Show & Tell

The attached photo is of a Weekend Bag, pattern by Sarah Welfair. Thanks to Lesley for the pattern. I finally managed to finish it! I bought the fabric online during the lock down, it is Le Beau Papillon, by French General.



Angela



Amidst all the Covid 19 floating around, not to mention the forest fires within 40-50 km of Penticton, and heat waves, I keep out of trouble by working on my small projects lying around. Here is last months effort. It's called Turning Twenty, only 48" square, but fun to do.



Current effort is a baby quilt for a great, great nephew due in November. Picked up the border fabric yesterday, down hill run, so should be completed in time for the baby shower the baby's cousin is putting on for her.

I'm also quilting a tessellation quilt that I made at Jansens in Sturminster Newton about 15 years ago. I'm shadowing each windmill in shadow stitch and it's a lot of twisting and turning on my machine, so a slow-go. Photo to follow on completion (maybe in time for December newsletter !!!). A lovely surprise out my window this morning, blue sky and fluffy skies. That must mean the wind is in the right direction, away from Penticton.

Syd



A Leeds United quilt I made for my son's birthday.



A quilt made for a family member's 21st birthday who loves anything to do with Taiwan.



Julie



I made this bear and cushion for my daughter's friend. It was made from her little girls babygrows.



And the backpack for myself while on retreat.



Jenny Loader



Introducing a Member

Greetings from Norfolk!! Its been a while since we moved and we were just getting properly settled in when Covid struck. I haven't yet been able to find a local quilting group but at least the extended period of isolation has given me the ideal opportunity to reorganise my sewing room and the all important fabric stash. So I can now find pretty much anything....except of course the one piece of fabric I actually need!

Like many, I spent the first lockdown making hospital scrubs for which I had to refresh my schoolgirl dressmaking. It was good to have a focus and do something which might help a little. Several of my new friends work in local surgeries so the orders came in thick and fast.

Since then I've spent more time quilting. I made a super-king sized quilt commissioned by a friend as a special gift for his wife. My challenge was to start with pieces from their favourite duvet cover and incorporate more of their favourite colours plus images of their two dogs. The fabrics he supplied included a fine needlecord and very slippery velvet which proved more troublesome than I can politely describe. We were still in lock down so all the fabric added was from stash! The only piece I bought was the backing.



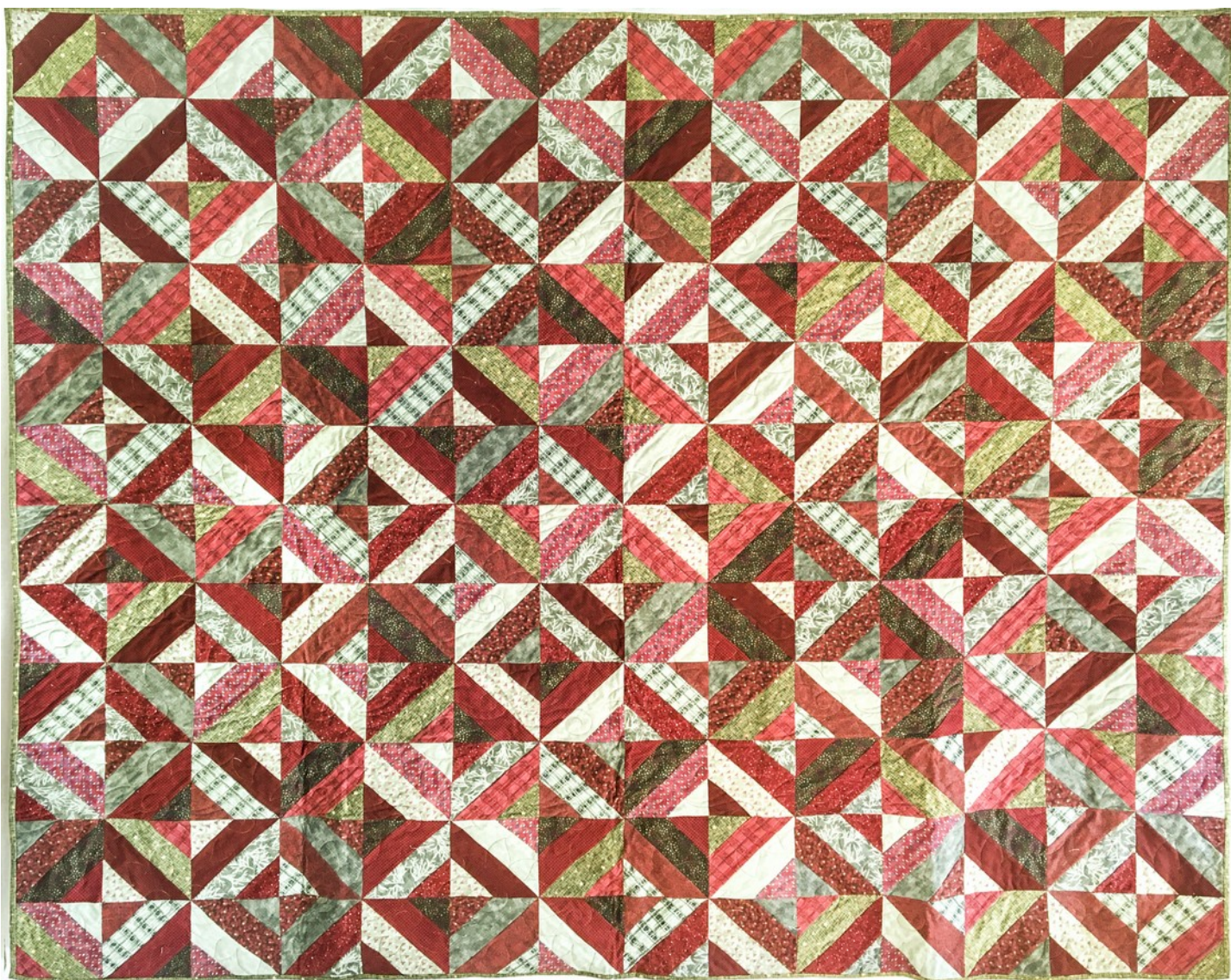
I found line drawings on the internet that looked like Jake and Cassie and used a light box to transfer them onto cream fabric. Hand embroidery isn't one of my strengths but I was quite pleased with the result!



The squares looked so much nicer when set on point and I managed to avoid bias edges by cutting the setting triangles with the long edge along the straight of grain but loading an on point quilt onto the longarm frame always takes more time and a lot of patience to keep it both square and flat, complicated by the fact that the bottom edge has cut out corners. Added to that the quilt was so wide I had only an inch spare either side, any wider and I could not have loaded it at all! Sometimes lady luck smiles with a wry grin.

Nigel and his wife are absolutely delighted with their special quilt but have no idea how much bad language went into its construction.

Here is another quilt made from stash, using strip piecing and a jelly roll ruler. Whilst I like the effect the resulting blocks are all cut on the bias which made putting them together a bit of a pig. I swore I wouldn't work with bias edges for a while.....at least until the next time.



I finished several UFOs but the pile of quilt tops awaiting quilting seems just as high. Here is my chicken quilt which now lives on the guest bed.



Photo of Poulet de Provence.

I am currently working on two new projects which certainly haven't helped reduce my stash. All that lovely fabric neatly arranged in my sewing room and I am still seduced by new fabric which magically appears out of the internet to grab me. The first is a hunter's star, made from the lovely vibrant colours of Tula Pink. I used an Accuquilt die to cut all the pieces which has made the piecing a lot simpler. I played with colour shading the blocks but eventually decided a random splash of colours was more interesting. Here is progress so far:



The second is the Jane Austen medallion quilt kit, all fussy cut using the ruler which came in the kit.



The thing that the two projects have in common is, guess what, bias edges.....I'm using a lot of spray starch and getting quite good at avoiding the dreaded stretching out of shape. Before cutting I heavily starch the fabric, once cut the pieces are immediately quarantined in a box and only allowed out to play just before I use them. Once a block is finished it gets confined to quarters in another box to await final layout and piecing. The sashing for the Jane Austen quilt is cut on the straight of grain to add stability to the bias cut diamonds. To make sure I am not adding fullness I have been measuring the placement of each strip before stitching it to the next. A bit tedious but effective and saves time in the end. And once again I swore I wouldn't work with bias edges for a while.....at least until the next time.

And lastly, here is a ufo I have just finished piecing for project Linus, no bias edges, no stretching - hurrah!



Happy quilting to all my NHQ quilting friends - I do miss you!

Mandy



Challenges

I have had a few round robins handed back to me but there are a lot still to be finished, I know that we are all trying to enjoy a bit more freedom at the moment and it is holiday time but if possible could anyone still working on theirs aim for the first of September to finish and hand in to me at our first meeting if not before. I am hoping that I can then photograph them and display them all together at a later meeting before passing them onto project Linus.

I am hoping to start a new challenge in the next newsletter.

Hilary



A weekend break anyone?

Hi Ladies, I just thought I would let you know about the fabulous Broadward Lodge Cottage, a gorgeous 2 bedroom, 2 bathroom self-contained fully equipped holiday cottage, just outside Leominster, which is let, owned and managed by our very own Country Member, Chris Rowley. I have just come back from a long weekend stay. The cottage overlooks Chris' beautiful spacious garden and then over fields. Chris' 3 ducks were an added highlight of countryside idyll. Apparently, Indian runner ducks don't fly away.

The cottage is absolutely lovely and in a great spot with easy roads to nearby towns including Leominster, Hereford, Ross-on-Wye, Hay-on-Wye, Brecon, and Ludlow. So good to see old fashioned high streets and proper market squares with decent markets. I managed to find fabric shops in most of the towns I visited. My favourite was right on the doorstep in Leominster – (Bettie Freckles – I will definitely be ordering from her online, when I have used up my new stash -she was so friendly and helpful, www.bettiefreckles.co.uk 01568 589057. Doughty's Warehouse is about 30 minutes away in Hereford).

If you like walking there are many beautiful walks along designated public footpaths over fields and along rivers or through ancient villages along the famous Black and White trail – each village having rows of black and white Tudor houses/cottages with beautifully tended gardens. Lots of places to stop for tea and cake too! I thoroughly recommend a visit to Chris's cottage if you are looking for a short break away. Chris takes bookings via Airbnb but if you contact Chris directly she will discount the Airbnb fees. Chris may be contacted on 07748 384654 or 01568611152 or via email at Chrisj.Rowley@yahoo.co.uk

Linda



Newsletter Contact

Everyone seems to enjoy receiving our newsletter so please let me have all your news, photos of your work (jpg preferred) etc. The next one will be in approximately six weeks time.

newsletter@thedrakes.co.uk

