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Mimram Quilters

events

Date		Speaker	Topic
6 Jan 2014	Mimram	Four Corners	Demonstrations of 4 techniques - Binding methods, labels and hanging sleeve
1 Feb 2013	UFO/Project		UFO / Project day - Saturday
3 Feb 2014	Speaker	Barbara Weeks	"Trapping Colour, Catching Light"
3 Mar 2014	Mimram	Sewing evening -	
7 April 2014	Mimram	Sewing evening - changed	<i>Project with Wendy Jonas - Silk/Satin Envelope Bag bring sewing kit</i>
12 May 2014	Mimram	Sewing evening - NEW - start of technique tweaking skills evenings.	<p>"Technique Tweaking" Folded block technique No. 1 -Cathedral Window Please bring</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Sewing Kit ■ 9 x 2 inch square of feature fabric ■ 9 x 8 1/2inch squares of plainish / calico fabric
02 June 2014	Speaker	Pippa Moss	"Welsh and Durham Quilts"
07 July 2014	Mimram		Strawberry Tea and a talk about a quilt & Quiz Please bring a small strawberry dish.
AUGUST			No Meeting
1 SEPT 14	Mimram	Sewing evening technique tweaking skills series evening.	<p>"Technique Tweaking" Folded block technique No.2 "Secret Garden"</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Sewing Kit ■ 3 x 6 1/2" squares of feature fabric ■ 3 x 2 5/8" squares of contrast fabric ■ 5 1/2" square of card
6 OCT 14	Mimram	AGM and open forum discussion	
11 Oct 14 Saturday	Mimram UFO	UFO Day at Digswell Village Hall	UFO / Project day - Saturday Limited places please book with Sally
3 NOV 14	Speaker	Annette Morgan	"Lots of ways with applique"
1 DEC 14	Mimram	Talk by Debbie Lewis-Brindley and Christmas Party	"Amish Theme"

[2015 programme](#)
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MIMRAM QUILTERS

January 2014

Welcome everyone and a Happy New Year!

I hope you had a good Christmas and enjoyed the festivities. The focus of this meeting and newsletter is the exhibition.

Methods of finishing and preparation for hanging with the use of sleeves.

Submitting your forms for putting in your work. You can already do this online (<http://www.mimramquilters.org.uk/ExhibEntryForm.html>) but if you have any problems Marie-Claire will be able to help. Please enter your measurements, orientation if it is important and title, explanation etc if appropriate. This is also required for the competition quilts, names and details will be obscured until after the judging

The last date for submission of both these forms is the February meeting

3D raffle

We need a few more items for the 3D raffle- bags, cushions etc. They do not need forms just an indication that you will be donating something appropriate.

Items for sale

If you will have things for sale we will need a rough indication of this, how much and what however you will need to submit a full inventory when you bring them. Furthermore they will need to be tagged with price and your initials (if there are duplicate initials we will add a number as appropriate)

Helping

We will need help over the weekend; this includes hanging on Friday evening, refreshments, sales table, entrance and stewarding on both days. Sally has the rotas so please sign up.

Cakes.

Mimram is known for having good cakes, these will be welcome on the day

I am sorry not to be with you this month.

Happy Stitching! Debbie

Exhibition 22-23 March 2014

Members Themed quilt competition - 'Memories' size 24" x 36",

Member competition: Traditional quilt (any size)

Open Competition 'Journal Quilt' - theme of 'War' in memory of World War 1 , size A4*(portrait)

MIMRAM QUILTERS

February 2014

Hello everyone!

A big welcome to this evening to our speaker Barbara Weeks, she is known to some of you and she has spoken to us before so we are set for a good evening!

I hope you were inspired by last months meeting to get on with your exhibition entries! Adding the sleeves is always a bit of a chore so I have to bribe myself to get on with them - chocolate works for me! Entries via the website have been coming in to Marie-Claire but everyone needs to enter at least one item so more entries are definitely due.

Today is the last date for submission of your entry forms (February meeting Monday February 3rd) for Memories competition and general quilts and other items

<http://www.mimramquilters.org.uk/ExhibEntryForm.html>

(note the drop down menu for choices re category of entry)

Any queries on entry submission speak to Marie-Claire (07506 680021 or email her on mcscherman@btinternet.com)

Remember entries for the journal quilt are sent to Michelle.

Helping

We will need help over the weekend; this includes hanging on Friday evening, refreshments, sales table, entrance and stewarding on both days. Sally has the rotas so please sign up.

Cakes.

Mimram is known for having good cakes, these will be welcome on the day

Contributions to 3D raffle needed

There will be a sales table so if you have Items for sale please enter them. These details will be available on the website or please ask one of the committee

I am sorry to announce that Christina Holley has recently died. Christina was a member of Mimram for many years and she was a Chairman in the 90's. She made some beautiful quilts and will be sadly missed. Our condolences go to her family.

Best wishes Debbie

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Member competition: Traditional quilt (any size)

Open Competition 'Journal Quilt' - theme of 'War' in memory of World War 1, size A4*(portrait)

<http://www.mimramquilters.org.uk/journal%20quilt%20entry%20form.pdf> instructions on form

MIMRAM QUILTERS

March 2014

Hello everyone!

For March Meeting

Please bring your own sewing and stitching kit. There will be a small project available for which you will need a 5 inch square of fabric, otherwise bring your own project if you prefer.

The latest details of the arrangements of your exhibition for all members

Publicity Posters	Please print these off and distribute
Help	We need more volunteers on both days, please sign up.
3D (pocket)raffle	More prizes needed for this- bags, cushions, soft toy, other "hand stitched" items
Sales forms/goods	To be submitted at March meeting. No books or fabric as will compete with traders, Price tags to include price and member name
Delivery of quilts etc	From "2 pm on Friday, no later than 5pm. If these arrangements are difficult for you please speak to me or a member of the exhibition committee, Michelle, Judith, Sally, Marie-Claire Make sure they have their hanging sleeve and are labelled with your name, title etc Sew on label with information given on email from Marie-Claire
Cakes	Please bring and if possible provide a list of contents in particular flour (gluten), nuts, dried fruit
Table flowers in small vases	If you could bring these on the Friday with your vase labelled, they make the coffee room look more inviting
Collection of quilts	Collection of quilts to be from 4.30pm, Sunday The process of ensuring the safety of your quilts means that we must check these out carefully, we will not be able to distribute any quilts early as we will have approximately 100 to remove from stands and collate in about an hour

Best wishes Debbie

Exhibition 22-23 March 2014

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<http://www.mimramquilters.org.uk/journal%20quilt%20entry%20form.pdf> instructions on form

MIMRAM QUILTERS

April 2014

Hello everyone!

I am not sure how to officially welcome our life members, Pat Lewis and Michelle Clarke but very welcome they are. I would like to thank them again, on behalf of the whole membership, for providing the foundation for Mimram Quilters to become, over the last 30 years, the thriving group it is today.

Furthermore thank you to everyone who made the exhibition such a great success. All of you that put in your quilts, they were quite beautiful, Congratulations to the winners of the competitions. A big thank you to all of you that helped over the days (I think that is most of the membership) and a hearty thank you to special extra people who put up (took a long time)and took down (much quicker) - partners. Those of you that brought cake, those that manned refreshments, tables, doors, stewarded or helped wherever it was needed at any time your contribution made the exhibition go exceptionally well.

I do not have the final figure and hope that we can give a good indication at the meeting. I would particularly like to thank Michelle for chairing the committee as it is really down to her that everything went so smoothly.

Best wishes Debbie

For April Meeting: Please bring your own sewing and stitching kit. There will be a small project and the fabric will be available.

Reminder: The May meeting will be on 12th May due to the bank holiday

Exhibition: A mixed group of contemporary textile artists called HUE has a lovely wonderful exhibition on at The Letchworth Arts Centre in the Arcade until 29th April. (If you have not been to the venue before the café is very good too).

MIMRAM QUILTERS

May 2014

Hello everyone!

For May Meeting: Mock Cathedral Window: Please bring your own sewing and stitching kit. There will be a small project, that could make up the front for a cushion (or in my case a bag, maybe you will have another idea?), 9 x 2 inch squares of feature fabric plus 9 x 8 ½ inch squares plainish or calico.

Exhibitions:

30 May - 31 May 2014. National Quilt... Sandown Exhibition Centre, Sandown Park Racecourse, Portsmouth Road, KT10 9AJ.

5th-20th July 2014. July Romsey Quilters in Romsey Abbey, Hampshire

<http://www.romseyquilters.co.uk/home>

1st April-31st October 2014 Textile Society Kent, DA6 8HL

I might just have to visit **"Things we do in bed"**

"Guest curator Tracy Chevalier is an internationally bestselling author (Girl with a Pearl Earring), of seven novels. In her most recent book, **The Last Runaway**, her heroine is a quilter".

<http://www.textilesociety.org.uk/events/event-details.php?textile-event=645>

June Meeting (2nd): Pippa Moss will be talking to us about Welsh and Durham Quilts

Tips

Searching on the web for this months tip, well yes, most of them are my own but I thought I needed some new ideas. I came across several about storing our stuff. One for storing fat quarters, by colour, special bags, already washed and pressed (? - if Lynne Edwards likes to work with brand new fabric that's good enough for me), by range, by size- well I gave up on that, way too complicated

So what about all those patterns ripped out of magazines-into different coloured files brilliant idea until I thought about it - well I would waste even more time rediscovering the projects I wanted to do (clearly as I tore them out) but forgotten, wondering which fabric from my beautifully ordered stash (LOL) I was going to make them so that I would never get anything sorted and I would have lost stitching time. I think I will just carry on with my rather haphazard ways.

Happy Stitching

Debbie

MIMRAM QUILTERS

June 2014

Hello everyone!

A big welcome to this evening to our speaker award winning quilter Pippa Moss (Malvern 2013 for hand appliqué see <https://quilters-haven.co.uk/blog/2013/05/award-winning-pippa-moss/> - for her amazing Hawaiian quilt).

She will be talking to us about Welsh and Durham quilts.

<http://www.quiltersguild.org.uk/members/page/pippa-moss>

Dates for the diary

1st April-31st October 2014 "Things we do in bed" Kent,

<http://www.textilesociety.org.uk/events/event-details.php?textile-event=645>

12th June-13th July Anglo-German Quilts, Worcestershire

<http://www.textilesociety.org.uk/events/textile-events.php>

5th - 20th July Romsey Quilters, Hampshire,

<http://www.romseyquilters.co.uk/exhibition2011/>

7th -10th August, Festival of Quilts Birmingham

<http://www.thefestivalofquilts.co.uk/>

Saturday 11th October 2014 Mimram UFO day

Space limited to 14 so book your place soon with Sally (the last one was full!)

Tip

Actually this is recent reminder from my osteopath, which I think is important to share as a gentle reminder to everyone. Sit up straight and take frequent breaks when machining - **every 20 minutes** or so - particularly important when machine quilting and manipulating and supporting the full weight of your quilt!

Best wishes Debbie

MIMRAM QUILTERS

July 2014

Hello everyone!

Tonight: Strawberry tea-if you can bring a small plate to share of food to the meeting with a strawberry theme or flavour that would be lovely. We are lucky to have Secret Garden Quilting and Lucy with her fabrics here. We also have a visitor who will be telling us about her old quilt tonight

Dates for the diary

7th -10th August, Festival of Quilts Birmingham

<http://www.thefestivalofquilts.co.uk/>

Saturday 11th October 2014 Mimram UFO day

Space limited to 14 so book your place soon with Sally as places are limited - the last one was full!!

Tips

Accuracy in seam width is so important than anything for getting all the points to match. $\frac{1}{4}$ " feet special quilting feet are not always accurate. Check yours out. You will need paper and a sticky label

Draw ruler straight lines of a piece of paper about 2 inches apart and number I -5. Using your usual guide (special foot, mark on the bobbin plate, the position you move your needle to etc) against line 1 and an empty needle stitch a row. With your clear ruler measure it and mark between the line and the stitching the measurement and note the needle position etc.

Amend your needle position or change your foot and keep trying until you have an exact 1/4". Then put the details of the foot and the needle position **on a sticky label and put it on your machine!**

Before you start stitching a new project:

- Fill 2 or even 3 bobbins with the right colour threads
- Change the needle
- Check your needle /foot are in the correct position (see earlier)
- Use a folded piece of scrap of fabric (say 5inches square) for the first few stitches to lead into your patches to avoid the fabric scrunching up (a scrap piece of quilted trimming is even better)
- Take frequent breaks
- Enjoy - we do this for pleasure!

We do not meet in August so our next meeting is on September 1st and it will be the next in our "Technique Tweaking" series - Folded Block Technique no2. Have a lovely summer

Best wishes Debbie

MIMRAM QUILTERS

September 2014

Hello everyone!

Welcome back and I hope you had a lovely summer and enjoyed the sunshine.

Did you get to Birmingham? Sadly I was not able to go this year. However Knitting and Stitching is on soon (8-12 October - 5days!!)

<http://www.theknittingandstitchingshow.com/london/>

And Duxford (31st October to 2nd November 2014)

Make sure you go and look at the Hue gallery, two of our past chairman are exhibiting – Judith Coxell and Sue Hickman

http://www.grosvenorshows.co.uk/html/autumn_duxford.html

Do not forget advance tickets are slightly cheaper (Ally Pally are day specific this year!!) and save queuing time

October meeting is our AGM.

Election of committee (there will be room for some "new blood" -please speak to a current committee member (on the door, making coffee etc) if you are interested. Meetings are generally 4 times a year (with extra for exhibition sub committee etc).

What do you want from the meetings?

Following the formal AGM we will have a Q & A/Forum/discussion session in small groups. Perhaps you could start thinking about what sort of meetings you like- techniques, speakers, one off project, any other ideas and what sort of balance in the programme. Other topics to do with the group will be discussed as well so please think about this over the coming month. Use the opportunity to raise your ideas, any gripes (and how could they be solved) and any other ideas.

This month Sally will be teaching another technique (see web page for requirements) as I have seen the sample I really do recommend you use some of your Xmas stash.

Best wishes Debbie

MIMRAM QUILTERS

www.mimramquilters.org.uk

November 2014 NEWSLETTER

Hi Ladies,

I am aware that as I write my first newsletter as your new Chairlady I have a lot to live up to after three very prolific and informative previous writers. Here goes...

At the AGM we had questions about the charitable donation that we make after our exhibitions. It had been agreed by the committee to donate £250.00 to The Royal British Legion in this the 100th anniversary of the start of the Great War. We were questioned about the amount compared to the profit we had made at the exhibition. With further discussion by the committee we have agreed to increase this to £300.00. The cheque has been delivered to the Welwyn Garden City branch and I am sure they are very grateful.

We will consider further donations in the future, but we have to take into account our future expenditure. We want to spend money on the programme and make sure that we keep the members happy.

This brings me to the next point. After the AGM we had very lively discussions on what the membership likes, dislikes and wants from Mimram Quilters in the future. The committee have taken all this on board and will implement the ideas over the next months.

Exhibitions

This weekend we have the Duxford exhibition from 31st October – 2nd November. Please go and visit our own member, Lucy of Secret Garden Quilting. Say you are a member of Mimram Quilters and I am sure she will be very happy to see you. Enjoy the show. Sadly I will not be able to go this year but will wait to hear from you how it went.

Tips

One of the most frustrating things is to go your machine and hope to just get going but your machine is just not willing to play. Unthread and rethread the machine making sure it is threaded according to the instructions. Clean and remove all the fluff from under the plate and most important of all put a new needle in. This should be done at the beginning of each new project. Often I ask my students when they last changed their needle. They look at me blankly and I know they cannot remember when it was last done! Needles bend, become blunt and don't perform properly. Perhaps we will have a mini servicing tutorial at the 4 Corners that we do at the first meeting of the New Year in the spirit of accuracy.

The next meeting we are expecting Annette Morgan who will be talking about Applique. This is appliqué with a difference. Annette is a very experienced quilter and teacher and I am sure we will have a very interesting meeting. See you there. Do feel free to bring friends along to see what we are all about.

Regards

Sally

*Remember to check our website regularly for updates.
Newsletters are all available for download from website
www.mimramquilters.org.uk*

December 2014 Newsletter

As I write this the date is jumping out at me as being only a month until Christmas!! I am sure and hope you are all more organised than I am this year. Not sure where the year has gone.

What a wonderful meeting we had last month with Annette Morgan talking about her quilts and her take on Applique. It was a very enlightening talk and who would have thought that you could slap emulsion on your precious fabrics. The results were truly fascinating.

This month we are having our usual Christmas party when I hope you will all bring a plate of food to share. If your surname begins with A-L please bring something savoury and for M-Z something sweet. I am sure we will have our usual brilliant show of culinary expertise.

Debbie Brindley is also giving us a talk about her recent trip to America when she visited the Amish area. I am really looking forward to hearing about her experiences as the Amish quilts are some of my favourite designs together with the special colours they use.

Next month we will be having our 4 corners demonstrations when we will be concentrating on accuracy. So please come along and learn something that might make a difference to your quilt being ok or really going together well.

No room for a tip this month other than enjoy what you do and make. If it doesn't work straight away, leave it, go and get a cup of tea and come back to it with a fresh pair of eyes.

Have a very Happy Christmas and see you in the New Year.

Best wishes *Sally*