



November 2025

# snippets

## CHAIRWOMANS REPORT

*Dear members,*

You all must have received the wonderful news of our participation in the 23rd South Africa Quilt Festival at Port Elizabeth in July 2026. An email has been sent out with the details about the theme, deadlines for submission and rules to follow for quilt entries. I cannot wait to see all the beautiful master pieces everyone will create, and it will be interesting to see how everyone sees Kenya.

The sampler blocks have been rolling. Thanks to Rohini. I would encourage all the members to participate the small session after the meeting. You always learn something new or may teach others a way of doing the same.

We are extremely grateful to the members who helped us make the bedcovers for Amara Charitable Trust and to Nishit & Co Ltd for providing the material books. In these past two years, we have donated more than 150 quilts, which is commendable. Hats off to the Samita and Bunty, who supervised all the projects and to Sheryl for donating a lot of fabric and the FPP templates.

The library is our biggest asset, and we are so proud to have a vast collection of books on most of the techniques. There are multiple books for beginners as well as intermediate to advanced levels. While online platforms mostly give you the inspiration or ideas, for a minimum amount paid to the KQG library, you get the pattern, fabric estimation, cutting and sewing instruction and various projects to apply the technique.

Our PR team is diligently working to get the guild and its talented members the exposure they deserve. Our adorable KQG merchandise will be available at our booth at the Artisan Market at Shamba Café on the 6-7th of December. Please do visit us and support the guild. Please contact Nancy if you wish to help in any way.

A fun filled "Year End Party" had been planned for the 4th of December at 11:00 am. Thank you Gill for opening your house and heart to the guild every year.

See you all at the meeting.

Happy sewing

Love,

*Amber*

*Quilt used for Border and Background  
throughout Snippets by Jasbir Sokhi*

## HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE AFFORDABLE ART SHOW



Event

## HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE AFFORDABLE ART SHOW



## SOUTH AFRICA QUILT FESTIVAL 2026



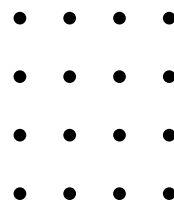
We have decided to take a collection of small quilts which are easy to send and display. The quilts must be inspired by "Kenya" and must include a piece of fabric provided by the guild. The host guild, Dias Quilters Guild, have sent out rules and conditions for the quilt entries and there is an entrance fee. It is mandatory to follow the rules to qualify an artwork to be exhibited at their show.

### QUILT ENTRY DETAILS:

- Size: 20" x 20"
- Theme: Kenya
- Entrance Fee: Kes 2,000/-
- Deadline for payment: Thursday 20th November, 2025
- Deadline for submission of quilts: 20th April 2026
- A piece of fabric will be provided by the guild to be included in the artwork.
- A form will have to be duly filled once the registration is opened.

We shall discuss the details at the Thursday meeting. Please feel free to contact Amber for any queries you may have.

Let's make our first exhibition in South Africa memorable!



## ADVANTAGES OF QUILTING CLIPS

A few years ago, I was gifted with a packet of quilting clips by Sarah. Not knowing exactly what use they could be to me, I quickly Googled them.

Well, here is what I found: I could use quilting clips instead of pins to hold fabrics together especially when hand sewing binding.

Basically, here is what I discovered:

- Cuts Down the Possibility Fabric Damage: Clips do not leave holes or marks. This is especially helpful when sewing silks and satins with fusible stabilisers.
- Better on Thick Fabrics: They are brilliant for holding multiple layers or bulky quilt bindings in place without warping the material.
- Eliminates Chance of Stabbing Your Fingers: Clips prevent pins from stabbing fingers during hand sewing and bleeding on your quilt.
- Improved Stability: Clips hold layers in place so that they stay flat and smooth as you machine sew.
- Easier to Machine Sew: Pins can bend thick fabrics; clips hold the layers flat.
- Pins are better for simple, thin layers of fabric, small curves and getting your points perfect when joining patchwork pieces.





## A FAMILY VISIT TO AMSTERDAM

Quilters are always on the lookout for quilting shops and fabric. Sometimes, whoever they are traveling with, spot it for them. This particular shop was pointed out to me by my husband and daughter on our recent trip.

It was closing time and I had just 15 minutes to look around. A quaint little shop with beautiful quilts, fabric and supplies. My eyes feasted on everything that I could, in those few moments. I noticed the connection of the beautiful blue houses quilt and the houses along the canal.



# TIP OF THE MONTH

by Clare O'Rourke  
@selfsewn on Instagram

Here is a hand quilting tip from [@selfsewn](#): when you hand quilt, thread a few needles at once and work in parallel.

An advantage of this technique is that you end up needing to shift your quilt around a lot less, which is easier on the body, results in "cleaner" looking work. Bonus: it's also a time saver!





## SEATBELT COVERS

*Seat belt covers are functional but often not the most attractive. Why not make a cover that let's everyone know you are a quilter.*

### Supplies:

Four pieces of fabric: 9½" x 12½"

Two pieces of batting: 9½" x 12½"

Two sets of Velcro to be cut the finished length of the seat belt cover.



### Directions:


- Place batting down on table. On top of batting, place one piece of fabric RIGHT SIDE UP. On top of this fabric, place the second piece of fabric RIGHT SIDE DOWN.
- Pin in place.
- Stitch ¼" around the perimeter of this set, leaving open a 4" space in the MIDDLE of one side.
- Turn inside out BETWEEN the two pieces of fabric
- Iron. Turn in the unsewn side and hand or machine stitch close the opening.
- Topstitch 1/8" around the edge.
- Quilt as desired.
- Split apart the Velcro.
- On one of the LONGER sides, machine stitch one part of the Velcro ¼" from the edge.
- FLIP THE PIECE to the other side. On the OPPOSITE, longer side, stitch the other half of the Velcro so that the outside edge is 2" away from the edge of the fabric.
- TURN the rectangle over and fold in thirds lengthwise, closing the two sides of the Velcro together.
- REPEAT to make the second cover.



# FUN QUOTES

found on gathered.com





The Kenya Quilt Guild  
invites you to our

# YEAR END PARTY

FILLED WITH FUN, GAMES,  
FOOD AND LAUGHTER

At Gills House in Loresho  
11:00 AM  
December 4<sup>TH</sup> 2025

See you at the  
**ARTISAN MARKET**  
a festive holiday event



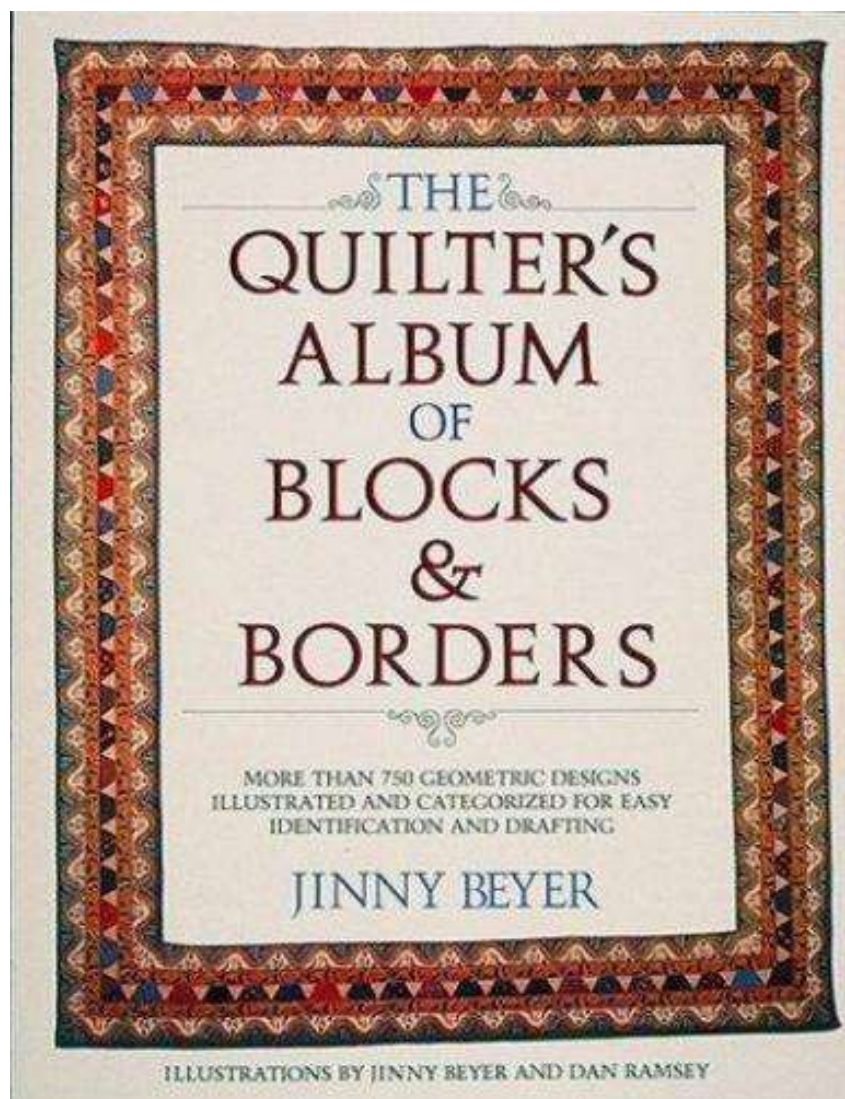
**December 6<sup>th</sup> & 7<sup>th</sup> | 9am - 6pm**  
**Shamba Events, Loresho**



Join us at the jolliest market in Nairobi!  
Free demos, Quilty products and more.

**GET YOUR TICKETS HERE!**

## *Library Book of the Month*



The Quilter's Album of Blocks & Borders is the most comprehensive, most usable collection of patchwork designs ever assembled. Each of the over 750 geometric designs, illustrated and categorized for easy identification and drafting, is drawn in clear, artistic detail, and there are scores of tips for innovative uses of fabric, many of which are graphically demonstrated.

In this book, patterns are not only indexed by their various names but also organized according to their type of design. The categorization, such as fourpatch or seven-patch or hexagonal, is the revolutionary system that Mrs. Beyer set out in her first and instantly popular book, Patchwork Patterns.

Books are available to borrow at each meeting for 100/- per month.



## THANK YOU!

Thank you to all the volunteers who helped making the Bedthrows for Amara Charitable Trust. The KQG spent less than 5,000/- towards this project.

This video shows you where your “kindness, effort and time” will reach. A big “thank you” to Nishit and Company for donating the Fabric Sample Books for this project.



[Please click here](#)  
[to watch a short video about the amazing work that Amara does.](#)



Formed in 2008, the Amara Charitable Trust is a women-led organization, founded by a group of like-minded friends united by a common vision;

**To build Kenya through holistic education.**

## HALF RECTANGLE TRIANGLES

Half Rectangle Triangle (**HRT**) unit is similar to a half-square triangle (**HST**), but — as the name suggests — it's a rectangle split diagonally, not a square. That gives it a longer, leaner triangle shape. With **HRTs** it matters which diagonal is marked unlike the **HST** as explained later in the article.

You will need two contrasting fabrics, Fabric A and Fabric B

Decide the Finished Size of the HRT

In this example finished HRT measures  $2" \times 4"$  (twice as long as it is wide)



The measurements for cutting fabrics for HRT are as follows: -

Finished width of triangle + 1"  
(in above example it will be  $2" + 1"$ )

Finished height of triangle + 2"  
(in above example it will be  $4" + 2"$ )

Layer one Fabric A and one Fabric B rectangle ( $3" \times 6"$ ) right sides together.



Mark on light fabric a diagonal from corner to corner and sewing lines  $\frac{1}{4}"$  on either side of the diagonal.

This is where HRTs differ from HSTs:  
For HRTs, the diagonal can go in two directions:  
bottom-left  $\rightarrow$  top-right  
(as the patch on the right)  
or  
bottom-right  $\rightarrow$  top-left  
(as the patch on the left)

You need to sew and both orientations if you want mirror-image units.

Another difference is how the fabrics are placed for sewing on top of each other to get two at a time HRTs.



Place the marked piece on top of the other fabric piece, matching the diagonal to the corners of the second fabric as shown in the photo.

Pin the pieces and sew on either side of the diagonals.

## *Sampler Block* by Rohini Desai



Set the seams, cut on the diagonal to give 2 HRTs from each set of rectangles.

Press the seam allowance towards the darker fabric.



In the above picture, I have opened and pressed only one of the HRT of each set to show the difference and the mirror patch.



### Trimming to size.

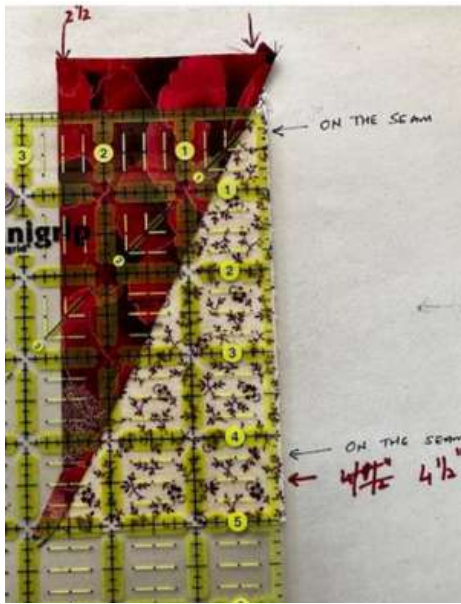
This a very important step.

HRTs can't be squared up like HSTs because the diagonal doesn't run corner to corner as you can see in the picture.

To make it easy to trim the patches, we need to mark some points on the ruler.

### *Tips for Success*

- Starch the fabric before cutting.
- Always press before trimming — distortion shows up fast in rectangles.
- Label left- and right-leaning units separately and pin the fabric when stitching to avoid shifting.

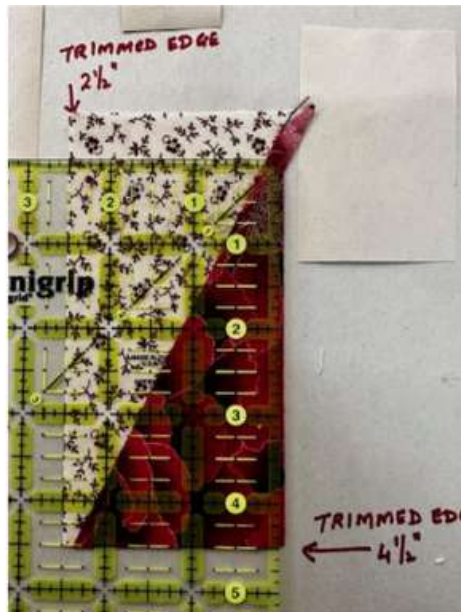


With a permanent marker, mark with a dot following points:

- ( $\frac{1}{4}$ ",  $\frac{1}{4}$ ")
- ( $\frac{1}{4}$ ",  $2\frac{1}{4}$ ")
- ( $\frac{1}{4}$ ",  $4\frac{1}{4}$ ")
- ( $2\frac{1}{4}$ ",  $4\frac{1}{4}$ ")

These points help to get the placement for trimming correctly.

The dots marked on ( $\frac{1}{4}$ ",  $\frac{1}{4}$ ") and ( $2\frac{1}{4}$ ",  $4\frac{1}{4}$ ") are placed on the seam, move the ruler up or down to get the  $2\frac{1}{2}$ " and  $4\frac{1}{2}$ " lines on the patch, leaving room for trimming.



On the picture on the left, the black arrows are pointing towards marked dots the ( $\frac{1}{4}$ ",  $\frac{1}{4}$ ") on top and ( $2\frac{1}{4}$ ",  $4\frac{1}{4}$ ") at the bottom. I have put the arrows at  $2\frac{1}{2}$ " and  $4\frac{1}{2}$ " are there to show the lines covering the patch.

On the longer edges there is very little fabric to trim, the top and bottom have extra fabric that gets trimmed.

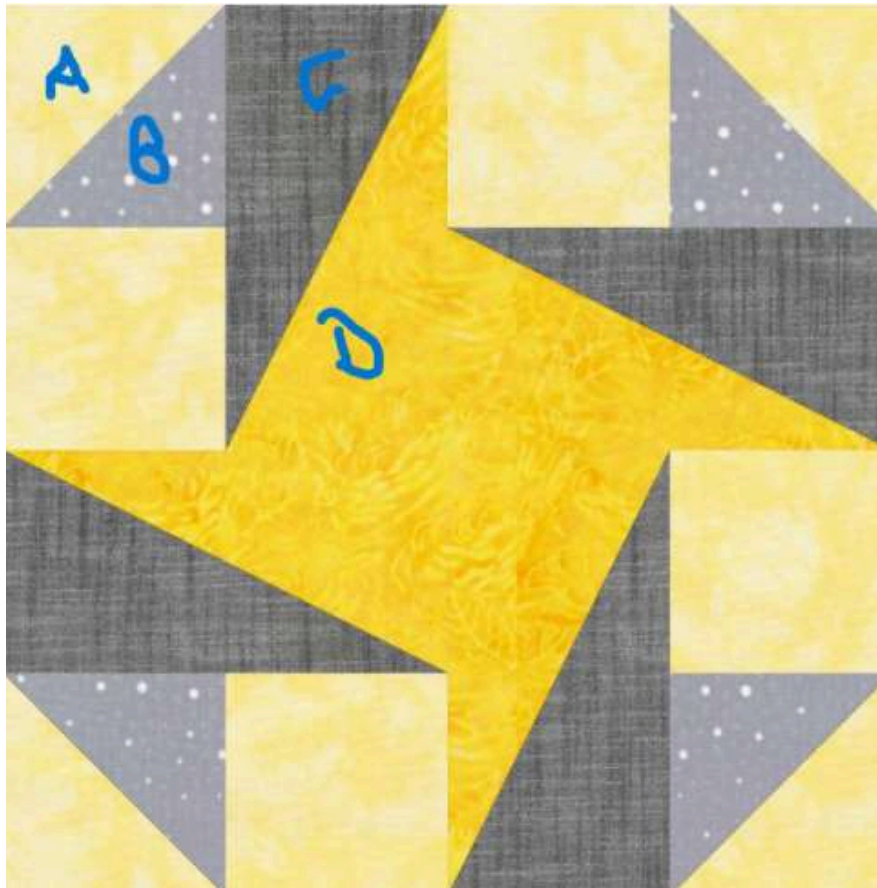
To trim the remaining two edges, the patch and line up with the  $2\frac{1}{2}$ " and  $4\frac{1}{2}$ " lines as in the picture. If your trimming in the step was correct, the marked dots will fall on the seam allowance.



These HRTs are mirror images. To get mirror image, one requires 4 rectangles.

Please make a note, the seam doesn't go to the tip, it is offset by about  $\frac{1}{8}$ " of an inch.

## *Sparkling Star Block* by Rohini Desai



This beginner block is divided into four sections. Each section has a square, half square triangle unit (HST) and a half Rectangle unit (HRT). It is 4x4 grid, that means each square and HST will finish at 3"x3" and the HRT will finish at 3"x 6".

You will need four fabrics.

### **Cutting Instructions:**

Fabric A: - 4 pcs 3 ½"x 3 ½"

2 pcs 3 7/8"x 3 7/8" (or 4"x 4" to trim to size after stitching)

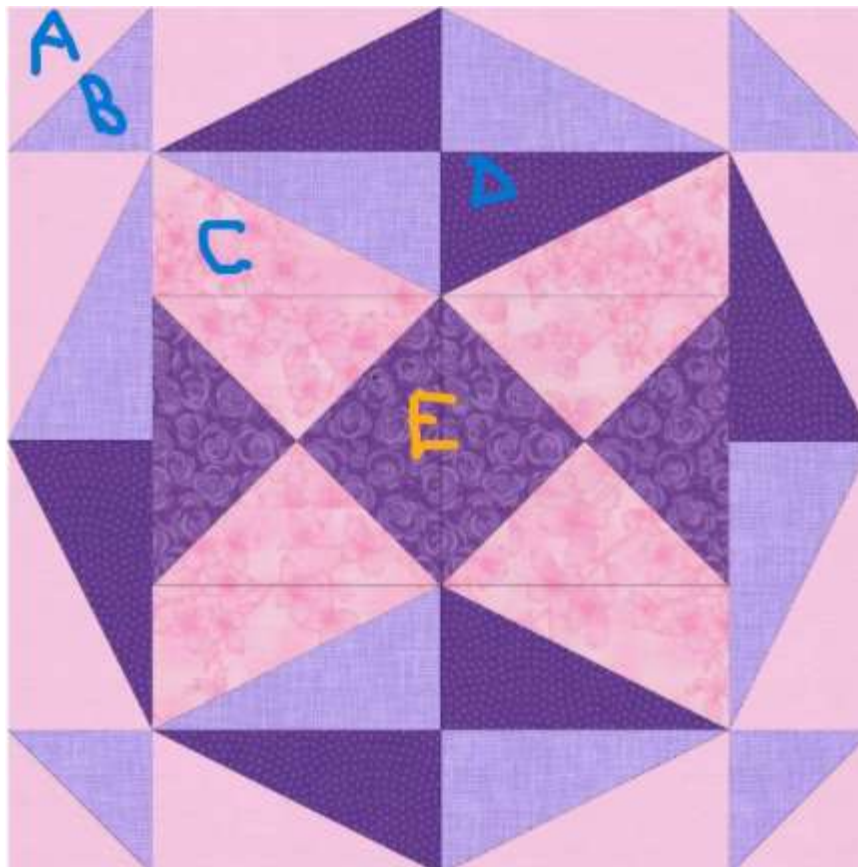
Fabric B: - 2 pcs 3 7/8"x 3 7/8" (or 4"x 4" to trim to size after stitching)

Fabric C: - 2 rectangles 4"x 8"

Fabric D: - 2 rectangles 4"x 8"

For the half square triangles I have given an exact cutting measurement for quilters confident of their ¼" seam and an oversize measurement if one wants to play it safe and trim to size later.

## *Kites Block* by Rohini Desai



This block is well suited for intermediate to advanced quilters and has 1/4 square triangles, HST and HRT. It requires 5 Fabrics

Cutting instructions:

**Fabric A:**

2 pcs 2 7/8" x 2 7/8" (or 3" x 3")

4 pcs 3" x 6" rectangles

**Fabric B:**

2 pcs 2 7/8" x 2 7/8" (or 3" x 3")

4 pcs 3" x 6" rectangles

**Fabric C:**

4 pcs 3" x 6" rectangles

2 pcs 5 1/4" x 5 1/4"

**Fabric D:**

4 pcs 3" x 6" rectangles

**Fabric E:**

2 pcs 5 1/4" x 5 1/4"

There will be some HRT's left over.

## LIST OF TEACHERS OFFERING CLASSES

### **BEGINNER'S CLASSES:**

GILL REBELO	SPRING VALLEY	0722 613105
RAGHBIR SYAN	NGONG ROAD	0721 372208
RAJI SYAN	NEW MUTHAIGA	0722 362362
JASVINDER PHULL	WESTLANDS	0733 785786
AMBER SIDDIQUI	SPRING VALLEY	0717 492210
ROHINI DESAI	BROOKSIDE	0722 840846
POLEY BHAMRA	BROOKESIDE	0721 289110

### **APPLIQUE CLASSES:**

NEELA SHAH	REDHILL ROAD	0723 987160
RAGHBIR SYAN	NGONG ROAD	0721 372208
RAJI SYAN	NEW MUTHAIGA	0722 362362
AMBER SIDDIQUI	SPRING VALLEY	0717 492210

### **BARGELLO CLASSES:**

RAJI SYAN	NEW MUTHAIGA	0722 362362
-----------	--------------	-------------

### **SMALL PROJECTS – BAGS, FABRIC BOWLS & GIFT ITEMS:**

JASVINDER PHULL	WESTLANDS	0733 785786
RAGHBIR SYAN	NGONG ROAD	0721 372208

### **HAND QUILTING/ HAND EMBROIDERY:**

CHRISTINE KIBUKA	SIMBA UNION	0734 440688
AMBER SIDDIQUI	SPRING VALLEY	0717 492210

### **MACHINE QUILTING AND FREE MOTION QUILTING:**

RAJI SYAN	NEW MUTHAIGA	0722 362362
ROHINI DESAI	BROOKSIDE	0722 840846

### **LOG CABIN, SAMPLER QUILTS, CATHEDRAL WINDOW AND OTHERS BY REQUEST:**

GILL REBELO	SPRING VALLEY	0722 613105
-------------	---------------	-------------

### **QUILT COACH:**

CHARU PATEL	RAPHTA ROAD	0724 521768
-------------	-------------	-------------



## LIBRARY

You can now borrow great quilting books for a small fee from our library at the meetings. Please return any library books you may have borrowed in the previous years.

**BOOK RENTAL: 100 Kes**



## WEBSITE

[www.kenyaquiltguild.org](http://www.kenyaquiltguild.org)



## DOOR PRIZES

You have the opportunity to win a fun prize at each meeting! Don't forget to sign in at the door when you get your name tag.

## FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA!

**DID YOU KNOW? WE ARE ON FACEBOOK, INSTAGRAM AND NOW PINTEREST! PLEASE LIKE, FOLLOW AND SHARE WITH ANYONE WHO'D LIKE TO SEE WHAT THE GUILD IS UP TO.**



**PINTEREST:**  
**kenyaquiltguild1**



**FACEBOOK:**  
**thekenyaquiltguild**



**INSTAGRAM:**  
**thekenyaquiltguild**

## PAYMENTS:

You may pay for  
Kenya Quilt Guild  
subscription of your classes at one  
of our monthly meetings or by

Paybill no: **4043847**

Account Number: **Your Name**

## KQG CO-ORDINATES:

ADDRESS:

PO Box: 39482

Parklands – 00623

Nairobi, Kenya

Email: [kenyaquiltguild1@gmail.com](mailto:kenyaquiltguild1@gmail.com)

Website: [www.kenyaquiltguild.org](http://www.kenyaquiltguild.org)

## KQG'S MEETINGS:

TIME: 10:00 AM TILL NOON

(Kenyan Standard Time)

Monthly Meetings:

**3<sup>RD</sup> THURSDAY OF THE MONTH**  
**SIKH UNION**

**1<sup>ST</sup> SATURDAY OF THE MONTH**  
**TRADEMARK HOTEL**

***Disclaimer:*** The content in this newsletter is  
solely for the benefit of KQG members and is  
not intended for any commercial purpose.