



January 2026

snippets

CHAIRMANS REPORT

Dear members

A deep heartfelt gratitude to all the members for a successful year. KQG team has been working very hard to make the guild meeting and events as productive and informative as possible but it is not possible without the involvement of members. I truly appreciate the few members who always come forward and support our ideas and initiatives.

We have a lot of events planned for this year including our participation in South Africa Quilt Festival At Port Elizabeth in July 2026. I appreciate the members who have signed up and whose creative talent will be showcased at the biggest quilt show in Africa. There is a massive planning going behind this. I will share information about the logistics soon.

The venue and dates for KQG Quilt Show will be shared as details are confirmed. The plans will be shared once we have it all organized and there will be plenty of time to make new quilts.

We stand at 92 local and overseas guild members. You can start renewing your membership at the January 2026 guild meeting. Nancy has designed a beautiful kit for new members which also makes a lovely gift. We truly appreciate your loyalty to the guild and will be offering 20% discount voucher at In Stitches at Sarit Centre for all the members renewing in January and February 2026.

Sampler block information has been shared with members through email. Hope to see some blocks this month for show and tell.

The First Saturday meetings at Trademark Hotel will continue. Please share the information with your friends and family who are unable to attend the weekday meetings.

Our tent at the Artisan Market was gorgeous, full of beautiful quilts for sale and some adorable merchandise. Children especially loved sewing with us. Huge thanks to Nancy and the PR Team. Congratulations on a great event. It was very successful, well organized and a properly thought-out plan. We had the best tent visibility which created a lot of interest and was visited by at least 60-70% of the visitors. The membership kits were appreciated and were bought as Christmas gifts.

I am away for a while. Neela will host the meeting in January. The KQG team is looking forward to seeing you all this Thursday, January 15th at Sikh Union.

Start this new year with more sewing and less pressure.

Love

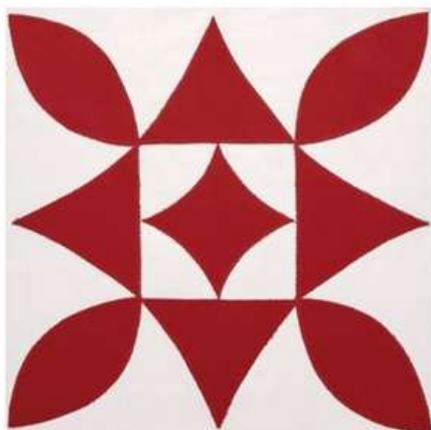
Amber

*Quilt used for Border and Background
throughout Snippets by Sejal Shah*

Turkey Red Fabric a Short Introduction

Brief History of Turkey Red Fabric

By the early 1830's, the United States imported Turkey Red cloth by the boatloads. Solid and printed Turkey Red fabrics arrived, and they were purchased with haste by excited ladies. Quilters were keen to own the fabric because the red was deep coloured, would not fade or be washed out. Due to these qualities, and the long process to produce the fabric, it was very costly to buy.



Turkey Red prints became popular throughout Europe too and were commonly used in clothing, household linens and soft furnishing.



To produce the fabric, there was a special, time-consuming dyeing process. India was the main producer, but areas around Turkey and Greece also began to make the yarn. It was an expensive and complex method that took up to seventeen steps, with many steps repeated multiple times. It took up to twenty-five days to produce this brilliant red colour on cotton.



A Closely Guarded Secret

What is in the photo above? It is Madder root. It is the main pigment for Turkey Red colour and has been used since ancient times. It is a greatly important natural dye source. European dyers were desperate to copy the red coloured cloth, but the dye recipe was a closely protected secret for many years. They were so eager to obtain the process that they sent spies to try and learn it; however, they weren't successful.

As a result, the Europeans were forced to import red yarn from Turkey and the red fabric from India. It wasn't until the mid 1700's that they were able to obtain the process and begin to manufacture yarns. Besides using the madder root, they needed to soak yarns in lye, animal fat, urine, dung and other ingredients.



A Tradition is Born in Quilting

In 1868, a synthetic version of the Madder root was discovered. This made the price of the fabric more economical. Because of this factor, there became a higher enthusiasm to use Turkey Red along with white fabric in quilting. Then in the early 20th century, an even cheaper synthetic Turkey Red was available for sale.

Even today, red and white quilts a century later, are popular. Museums have special exhibits on red and white quilts. Books have been published on the subject with a variety of block and quilt patterns:



For further information on the dyeing process: [Turkey Red - Wikipedia](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Turkey_Red)

KQG at the Artisan Market December 2025



Square in a Square Block

The Square in a Square quilt block is a classic and versatile design, perfect for both beginners and experienced quilters. This block features a central square surrounded by triangles, forming a larger square. The clean lines and geometric appeal make it suitable for many quilt patterns, from traditional to modern.

There are different techniques of making the square in a square block.

1. Stitch and flip.
2. Paper piecing
3. Rotary cut patches.

We are going to learn technique number 3 as there is no wastage/scraps of fabric as in No. 1 and no printing on paper and removing paper after stitching the block as with No. 2

Materials Needed

- Fabric for center square (contrasting or coordinating colour)
- Fabric for surrounding triangles (background or accent colour)
- All regular supplies for cutting, sewing and pressing.

Cutting Instructions

1. **Centre Square:** Cut one square. Calculation: - finished block size \div 1.414
2. For a finished 6" block. $6 \div 1.414 = 4.243$ Round to nearest $1/8"$ = 4.25
3. Add $1/2"$ seam allowance.
4. Cut centre square $4\ 3/4"$ 1 piece
5. Triangles: Cut two squares from the triangle fabric
6. Calculation: - Finished block size \div 2
7. For finished 6" block, $6 \div 2 = 3$
8. Since it is $1/2"$ square triangle (HST), add $7/8"$ (or round it off to an inch).
9. Cut $3\ 7/8"$ (or 4") squares 2 pieces. These will be cut diagonally once, to create four triangles.



Assembly Instructions

1. Prepare Triangles: Cut both 4" squares diagonally from corner to corner to yield four triangles.

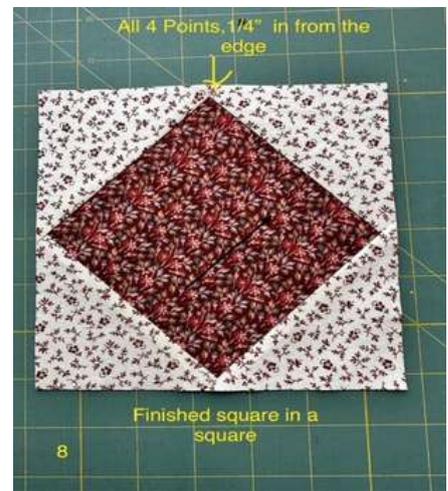
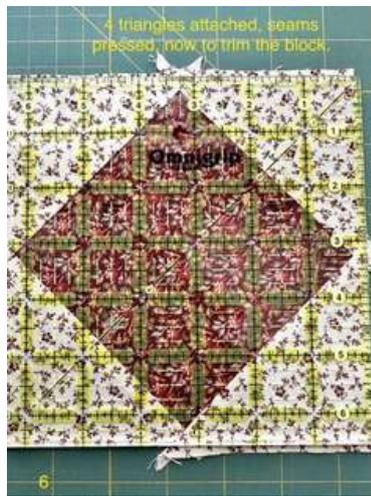
2. Attach First Pair of Triangles: Take two triangles and align their long edge with two opposite sides of the centre square after marking and matching the mid points. Sew using a 1/4" seam allowance. Press the seams towards the triangles.



3. Attach Second Pair of Triangles: Align the remaining two triangles with the other sides of the center square. Sew and press as before.



4. Trim the Block: After pressing all seams, trim the block to the desired finished size (typically 6.5" x 6.5" for a 6" finished block, allowing for seam allowances)



Tips for Accuracy

- Use starch to keep fabric crisp and manageable.
- Be careful not to stretch the bias edges of the triangles.
- Double-check your measurements before cutting and sewing.
- Press seams gently and avoid distorting the block.

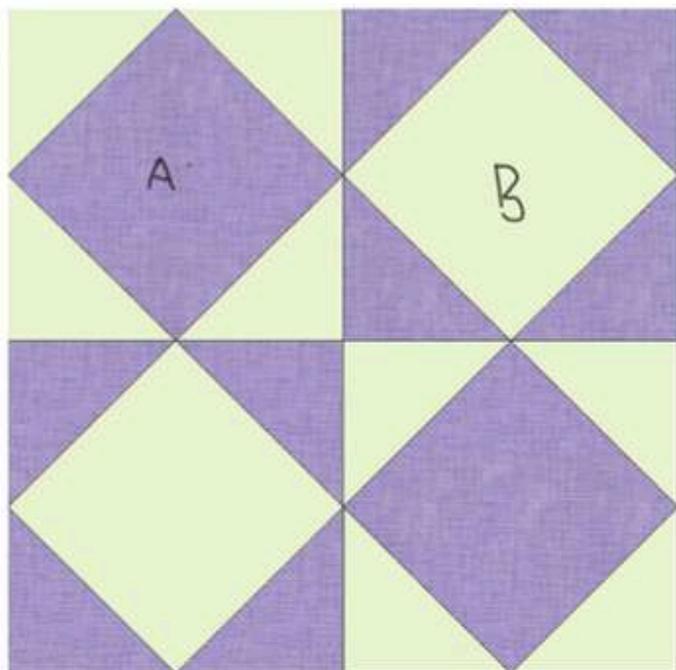
Variations

- Change the centre square's fabric for a "fussy cut" feature or motif.
- Mix colours or prints for a scrappy look.
- Add additional rounds of triangles to make a "nested" square in a square.

The Square in a Square quilt block is a foundational element in many quilt designs. Mastering this block will expand your quilting repertoire and allow you to experiment with layouts, colours, and patterns. Happy quilting!

Beginner's Block- shoofly

12" x 12" finished



The block consists of 4 square in a square units, with fabric combinations altered in 2 of them. This creates a secondary design of ¼ square triangle QST in the centre.

Require two contrasting fabrics.

Cutting Instructions: -

Fabric A

2pcs 4 ¼" x 4 ¼" squares

4pcs 3 7/8" x 3 7/8" squares or

4" x 4" (with wiggle room).

Cut each small square, once diagonally to give 2 triangles, giving 8 triangles.

Fabric B

Same as fabric A

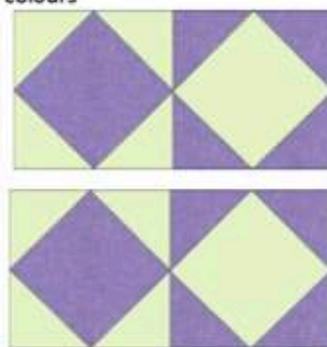
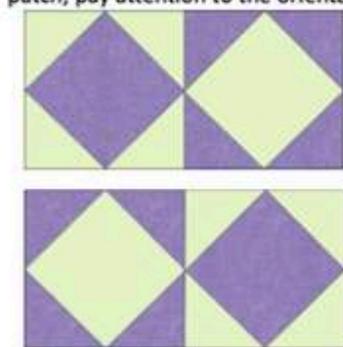
Follow the instructions above to make each square in a square unit.



sew 2 contrasting square in a square patches together as shown on the left.

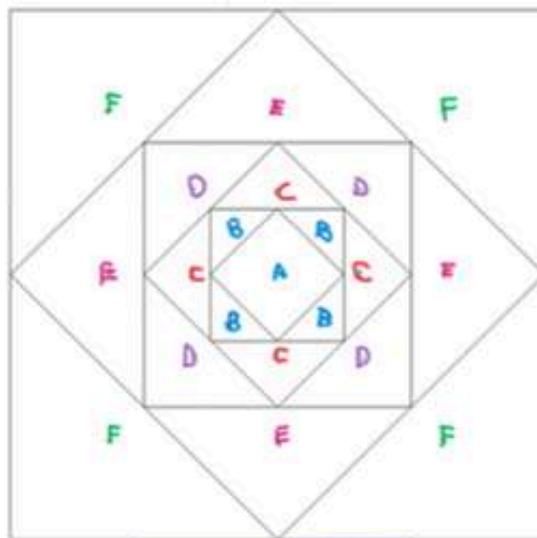
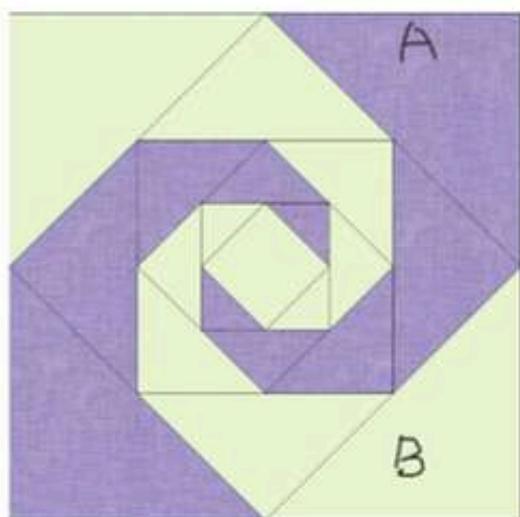


Will get two sets of 2 units each. Sew the two sets together to make a four patch, pay attention to the orientation of the colours



Intermediate Block

Snail Trail 12"x12" finished



Section	A	B	C	D	E	F
Fabric A	---	1 pc 2 3/8"x 2 3/8"	1 pc 3" x 3"	1 pc 3 7/8"x 3 7/8"	1 pc 5 1/8" x 5 1/8"	1 pc 6 7/8"x 6 7/8"
Fabric B	1 pc 2 5/8"x 2 5/8"	1 pc 2 3/8"x 2 3/8"	1 pc 3" x 3"	1 pc 3 7/8"x 3 7/8"	1 pc 5 1/8" x 5 1/8"	1 pc 6 7/8"x 6 7/8"

**For extra wiggle room you can add 1/8" inch to all pieces except piece A.

All the squares, except A should be cut once on the diagonal to give two triangles.

Unfinished Measurements after adding each set of triangles should be as following

A+B 3 1/2", C 4 1/4" D 6 1/2" E 9" F 12 1/2"



Square up after sewing 4 triangles in each round i.e after sewing A and Bs, square up using the measurements given above. Do the same for the next round after sewing C and so on.

Each set of triangles will be stitched on the opposite sides.





USEFUL TOOL: Cone Thread Holder



I use the piece of equipment every time I sew on my domestic machine. The metal version above is far superior to the plastic model which is prone to breakages.

I enjoy using this holder because I use 3000 and 6000 yard cones often. Sewing machines come with a built-in thread holder but they can only manage small spools of thread. This thread holder allows me to use larger spools of thread which are more economical.

It also gives me better control over my threading method and makes it easier to change thread colours and types.



Taking on the Charity responsibility for The Kenya Quilting Guild has been both a challenge and a deeply humbling experience. What has made it truly successful is the collective input, generosity, and encouragement from each of you.

There were moments when the responsibility felt overwhelming, but the unwavering support from the executive committee and guild members alike gave me the strength to continue and bring our projects to completion. Your kindness, patience, and belief in the work we do made all the difference.

Whether contributions were big or small, every effort has gone a long way in supporting those in need—and that is something we can all be proud of.

I am currently working on a new charity idea, which I will present at next month's meeting once I have completed a sample and prepared clear guidelines. Until then, please accept my heartfelt thanks to everyone who has been involved and supportive throughout this journey.

Wishing you all a wonderful start to 2026.

Warm regards,
Samita



KQG MERCHANDISE



WORKSHOPS CALENDAR 2026

JANUARY: BORDERS BY SHERYL



Photo Credit: <https://www.etsy.com/listing/1456032825/2-inch-quilt-border-designs-10-fpp-block>

FEBRUARY: HAWAIIAN QUILTING BY POLEY



Photo Credit: <https://thequiltshow.com/quiltipedia/what-are-hawaiian-quilts>

MARCH: MIGRATING GEESE BY KAYURI



Photo Credit:
<https://studio180design.net/collections/downloadable-technique-sheets/products/migrating-geese>

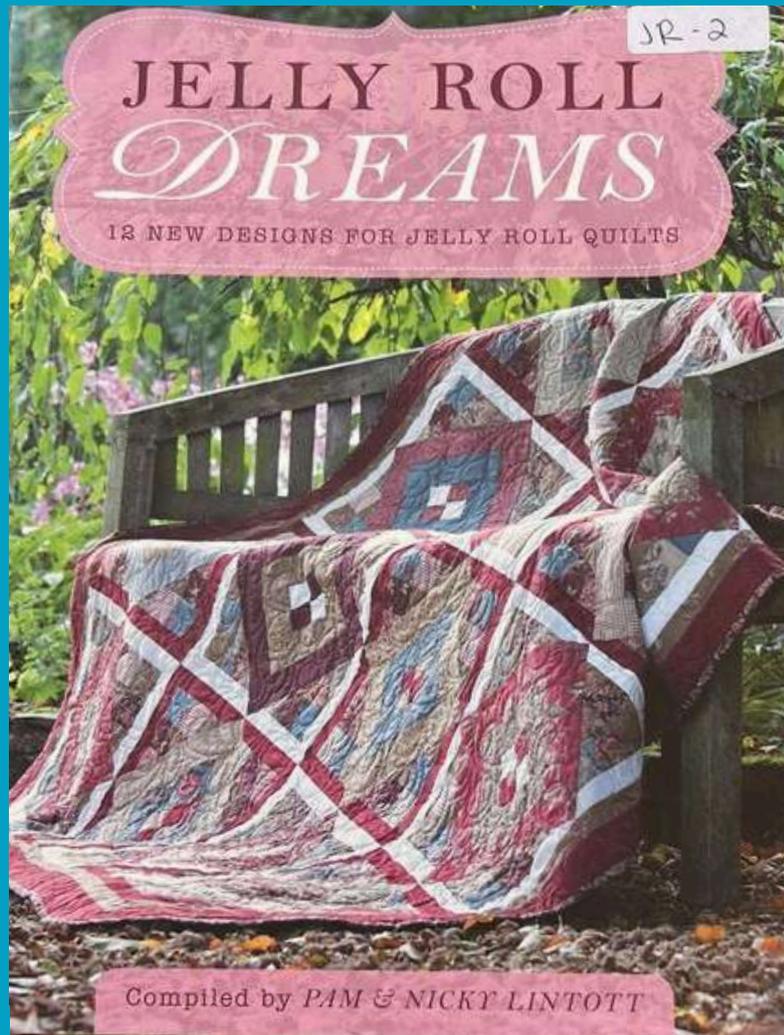
MAY: KAWANDI BY HINA



Credits:
<https://www.akomantosoin.com/2022/01/06/discovering-kawandi/>

Book of the Month

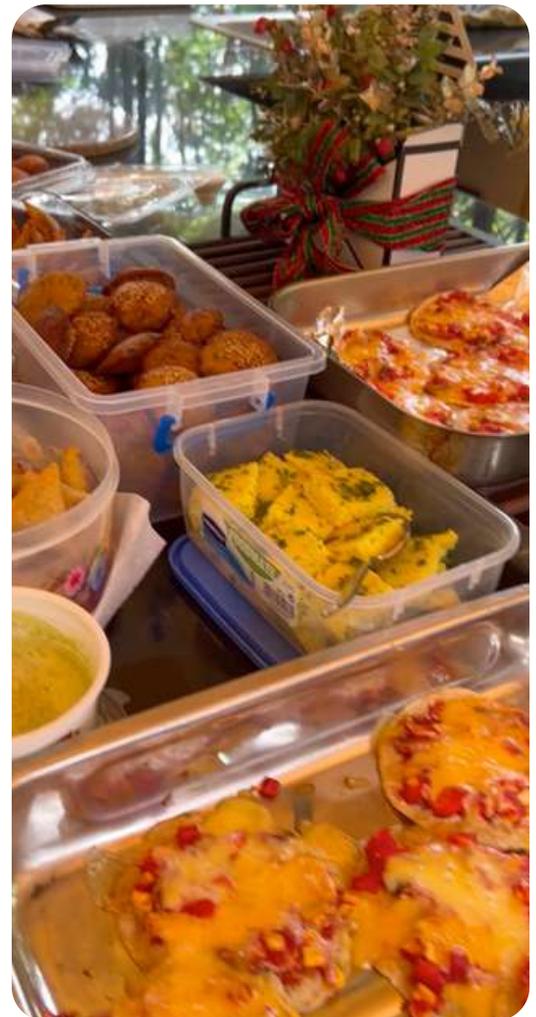
by Manjeet Sihra

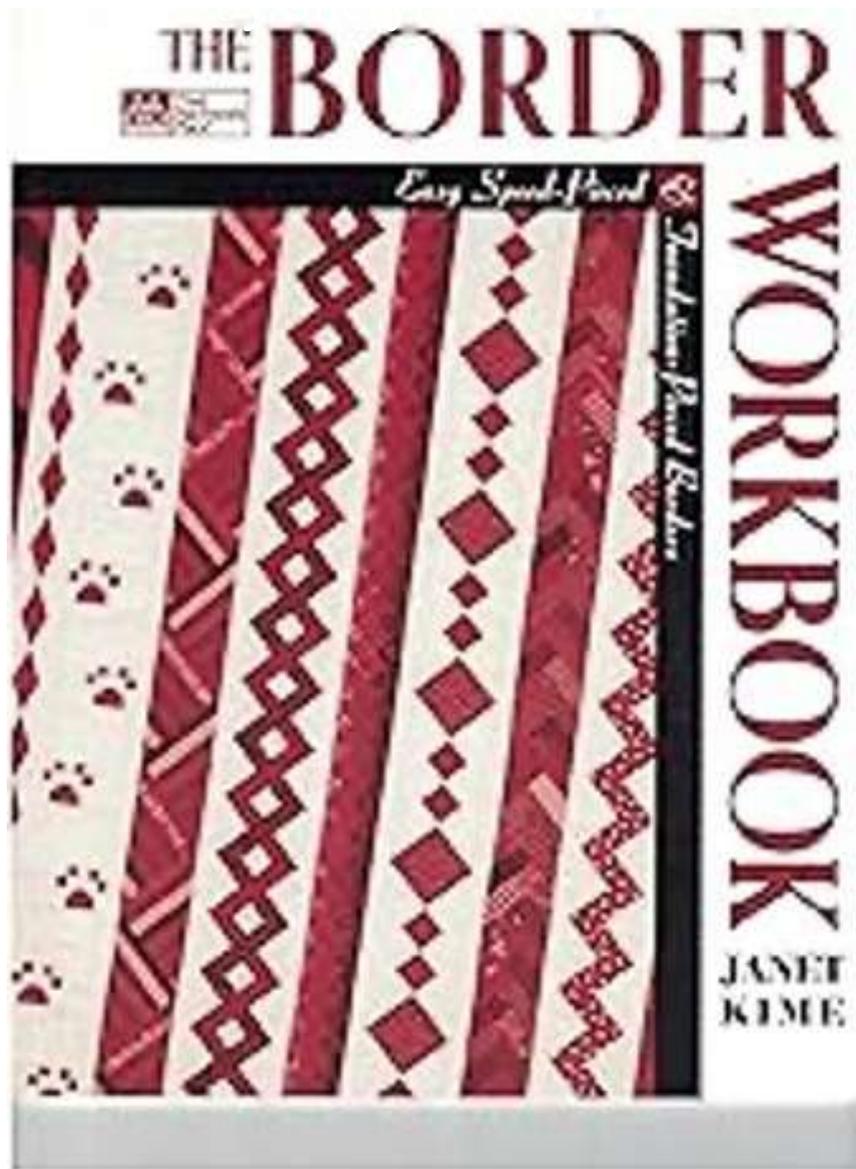


24 stunning quilts from the finalists of the Jelly Roll Dreams international quilting competition, judged by Pam & Nicky Lintott whose bestselling Jelly Roll books have sold over 300,000 copies worldwide. 12 winning quilts plus 12 variations created by Pam & Nicky Lintott. Comprehensive making-up instructions with clear diagrams and beautiful photographs. Each quilt is made with just one Jelly Roll.



KQG Christmas Party





This book has step-by-step directions for twenty seven border designs in several sizes. It includes instructions for calculating whatever size you need. Most of the designs are rotary cut and speed pieced to go together quickly. Each border is illustrated at the edge of the page for quick reference, plus there are foundation paper-pieced versions of many full-size borders



2026
GUILD MEETINGS

JANUARY

SATURDAY 3RD
Trademark Hotel

THURSDAY 15TH
Sikh Union

FEBRUARY

SATURDAY 7TH
Trademark Hotel

THURSDAY 19TH
Sikh Union

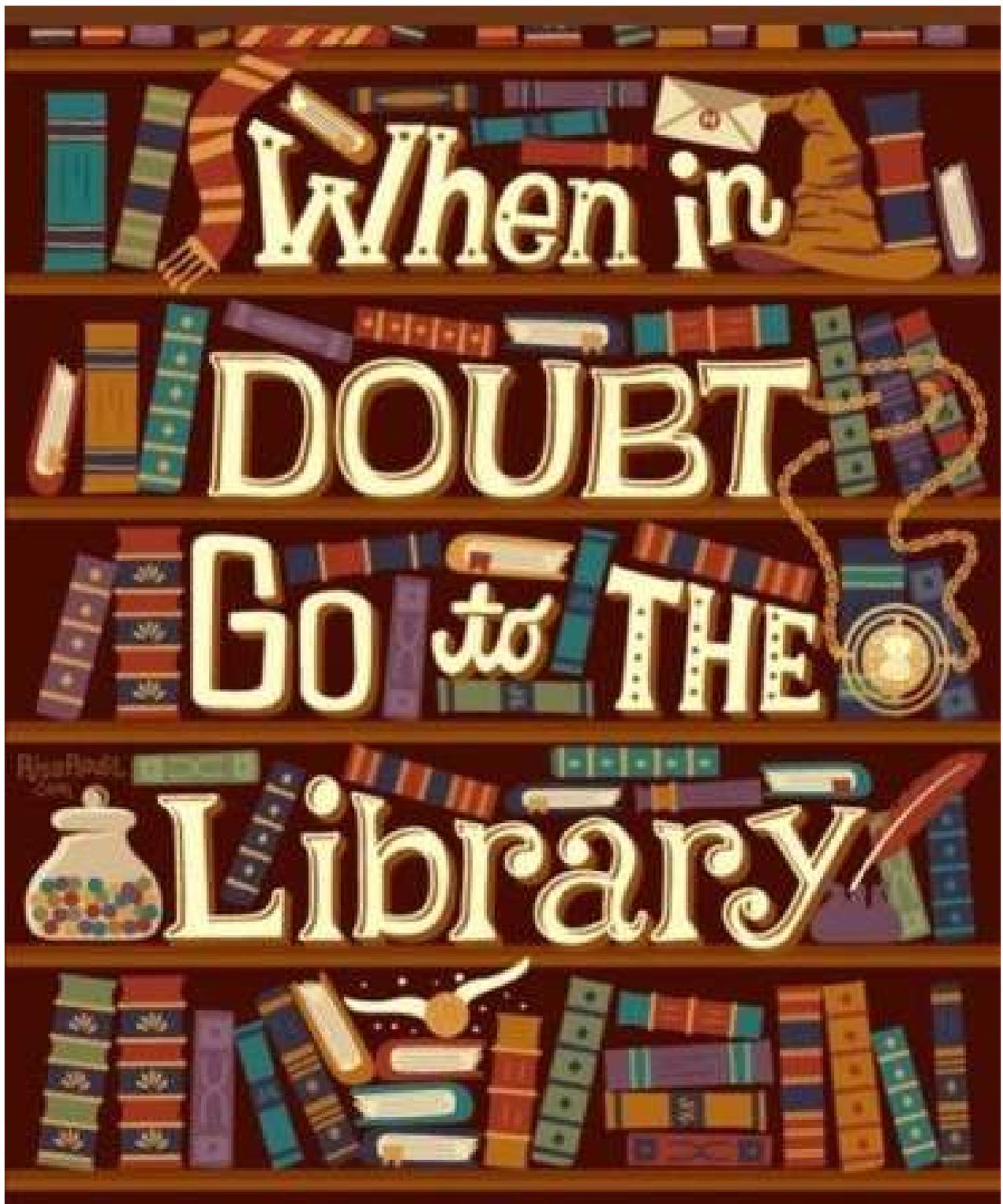
MARCH

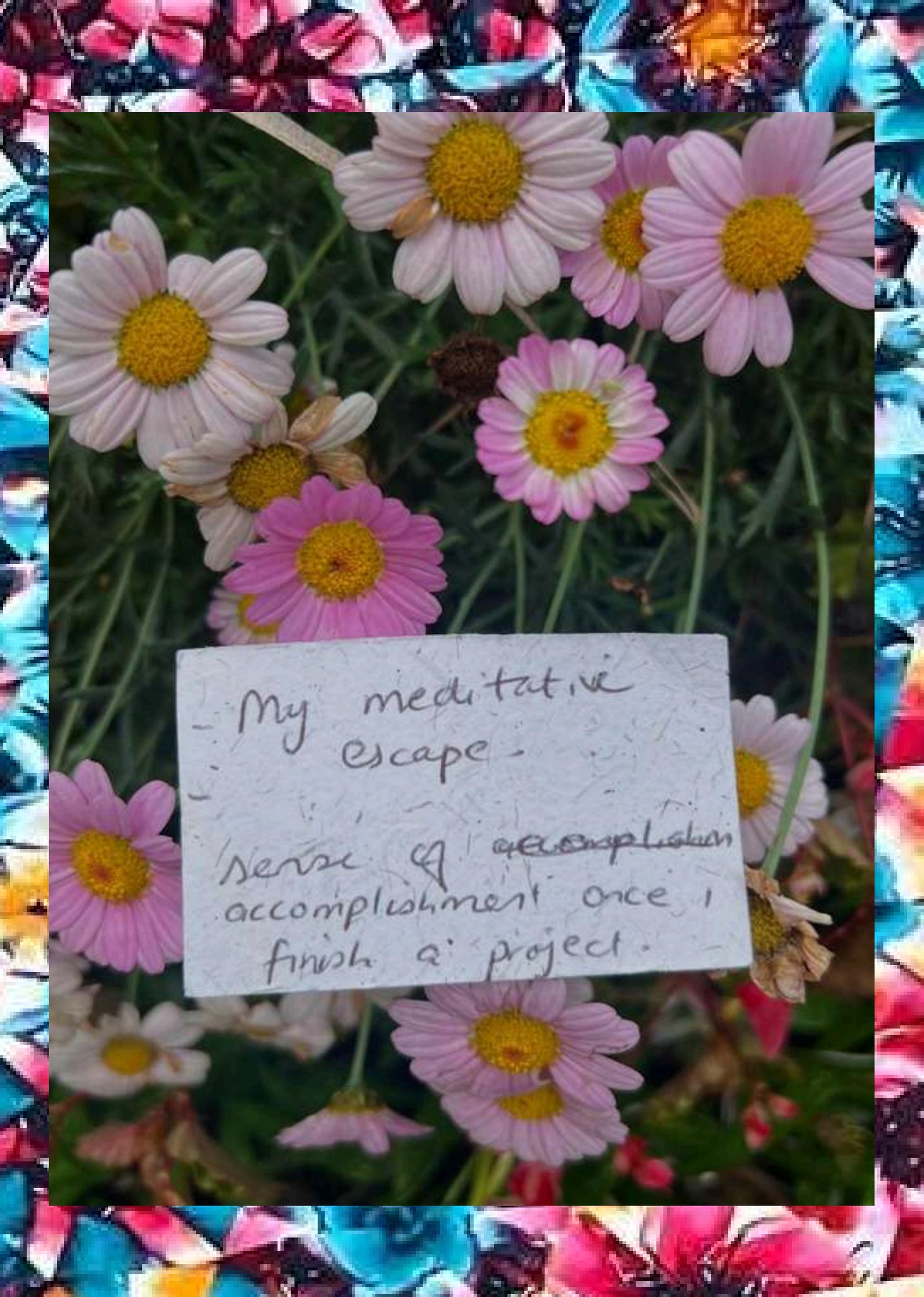
SATURDAY 7TH
Trademark Hotel

THURSDAY 19TH
Sikh Union

WWW.KENYAQUILTGUILD.ORG
KENYAQUILTGUILD1@GMAIL.COM

LIBRARY QUOTE





- My meditative
escape -

Sense of ~~accomplishment~~
accomplishment once I
finish a project.

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	BROOKSIDE	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
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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
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QUILT COACH:

CHARU PATEL	RAPHTA ROAD	0724 521768
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THE GUILD HAS JOINED PINTEREST!

www.pinterest.com/kenyaquiltguild1/





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



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'S MEETINGS:

TIME: 10:00 AM TILL NOON
(Kenyan Standard Time)

Monthly Meetings:
3RD THURSDAY OF THE MONTH
SIKH UNION

1ST SATURDAY OF THE MONTH
TRADEMARK HOTEL

KQG CO-ORDINATES:

Email: kenyaquiltguild1@gmail.com

Website: www.kenyaquiltguild.org

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solely for the benefit of KQG members and is
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