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# MEAD QUILTERS

## NEWSLETTER

### FEBRUARY 2026

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Contributions to the newsletter are very welcome. Contact Jennie by email: [barwise.jennie@gmail.com](mailto:barwise.jennie@gmail.com)

or WhatsApp.  
07557 882606

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### This month's meetings

#### **Tuesday 3rd February 2026**

Morning sewing meeting. Bring your own project. Stuffing will be available for heart cushions. There will be more teddy-bear kits to make.

Don't forget to bring your next block for the Quilting Bee!

Pat Driscoll's fabric will be on sale again. Bring plenty of cash.



#### **Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> February 2026: 7.30 pm**

#### **Speaker: Megan Manwaring.**

An Australian Quilter, passionate about all things patchwork, quilting and textiles.

<https://www.instagram.com/meganmanwaring/?hl=en>

#### **Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> February 2026: 1 – 4 pm**

#### **Saturday Sewing Day**

Bring your own project.

Demo on making a child's pencil bag for sale at the exhibition. All materials will be provided. Bring your machine if you would like to take part.

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| Future Events  |   |
|--|---|
| Event  | How you can get involved  |
| <p><b>Quilters Guild Area Day</b><br/> <b>28<sup>th</sup> March 2026</b><br/> <b>10.00 am – 4.00 pm</b><br/> <b>Marford Hall,</b><br/> <b>Wheathampstead</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Morning talk</li> <li>• Afternoon workshop</li> <li>• Display of quilts</li> <li>• Free tea, coffee and cake</li> <li>• Raffle</li> <li>• Trader</li> </ul>  | <p><b>Renowned quilter Sarah Humphreys will give a talk in the morning and a workshop in the afternoon.</b></p> <p><b>Morning talk:</b><br/> Sarah is a passionate and award-winning quilter. In her talk she will give her personal history of quilt making, sharing what got her started as a young quilter and why she is still a passionate quilter more than 30 years on. She will bring a huge stack of quilts to show us too.</p> <p><b>Afternoon workshop: Borrowed from Boro:</b><br/> This is a modern interpretation of the traditional Japanese art of boro. The term was used to describe clothes and household items which were patched and repaired many times. While this was originally from necessity, their unique beauty is now widely recognised. Inspired by these utilitarian creations, students will use scraps of modern fabrics along with simple hand embroidery stitches in hand dyed threads to create individual, modern, patched works of art.</p> <p>It will be a great day, and so close to home!</p> <p><b>This event has been advertised nationally by Quilters Guild, there will be a limit on places, so don't miss out, book today!</b><br/> <b>Full details and how to book a place here –</b><br/> <a href="https://www.quiltersguild.org.uk/regions/region-seven/events">https://www.quiltersguild.org.uk/regions/region-seven/events</a></p> |
| <p><b>June Workshop</b><br/> <b>Molly Brown, Clamshells</b><br/> <b>Sat 6th June 2026</b><br/> <b>1 to 5 pm</b></p>   | <p>Molly Brown will give us a talk and workshop about Clamshells. She has developed 4 different ways of making them both by hand and by machine.</p> <p>You may have seen her quilt at Festival of Quilts last year, where she asked well known quilters, including our own Janet Goddard, to make blocks.</p> <p>Please sign up with Alison K. or email her (alimarking@hotmail.com) if you would like to take part. There will be a small charge for this workshop.</p>   |

| Future Events   |   |
|---|---|
| Event   | How you can get involved  |
| <b>Mead Summer challenge AGM meeting</b><br>Tues 6th June 2026<br>7.30 pm                                 | The Mead Summer challenge this year is to make a cushion, any size or design. Entries will be judged by members at the AGM. Donations of cushions for the cushion tombola at the exhibition will be gratefully received.  |
| <b>Sales table</b><br>Any meeting   | <p>You can book a table at any Mead meeting to sell your own sewing related items and keep all the proceeds. The cost is just £5. You could also join with other members to book a table together. Please contact Elizabeth to make a booking - <a href="mailto:elizabethr0649@gmail.com">elizabethr0649@gmail.com</a></p> <p>Elizabeth is also happy to receive donated fabric that can be sold to benefit Mead funds. So if you want to thin down your stash, just bring it along to a meeting.</p> |
| <b>17th Oct 2026</b><br><b>Mead Quilters Exhibition</b><br><b>Marford Hall,</b><br><b>Wheathampstead.</b> | Put this date in your diary today, so that you make sure not to miss it! We are also looking for donated quilts for the raffle (throw size and above). If you think you have one or can make one, please contact Alison W - <a href="mailto:amwill22@btinternet.com">amwill22@btinternet.com</a>  |

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## Mead Quilters online

**Mead Quilters website -** <https://meadquilters.org.uk>

News of our meetings and other events

**Mead Quilters Members Facebook group:** This is a closed group for club members. <https://www.facebook.com/groups/770972933274429>

**Mead Quilters Public Page:**

This is a public page to advertise our group and events. [Facebook](#)

**Mead Quilters on Instagram:**

Janet looks after our Mead Quilters Instagram account. You can follow us here - [Mead Quilters \(@meadquilters\) • Instagram photos and videos](#)

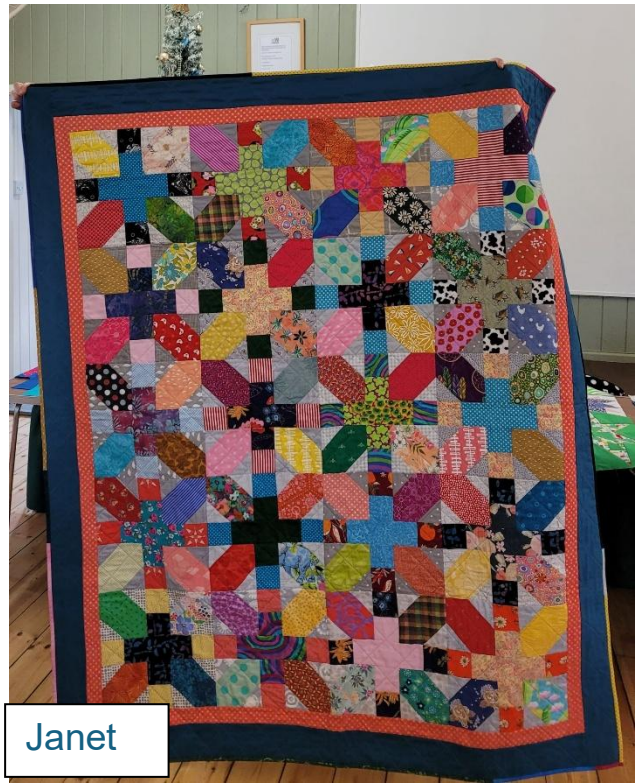
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## January morning meeting: show and tell



Alison K



Janet



### Heart cushions and drain bags

We continue to make heart cushions and drain bags every month, for patients who have undergone surgery for breast cancer. We have been doing this for 3 years now and delivering them to the Breast Cancer Clinic at St Albans City Hospital and to the QE 2 hospital at Welwyn. We received another letter of thanks from a grateful patient this month, which is shown below.

Dear Mead Quilters,

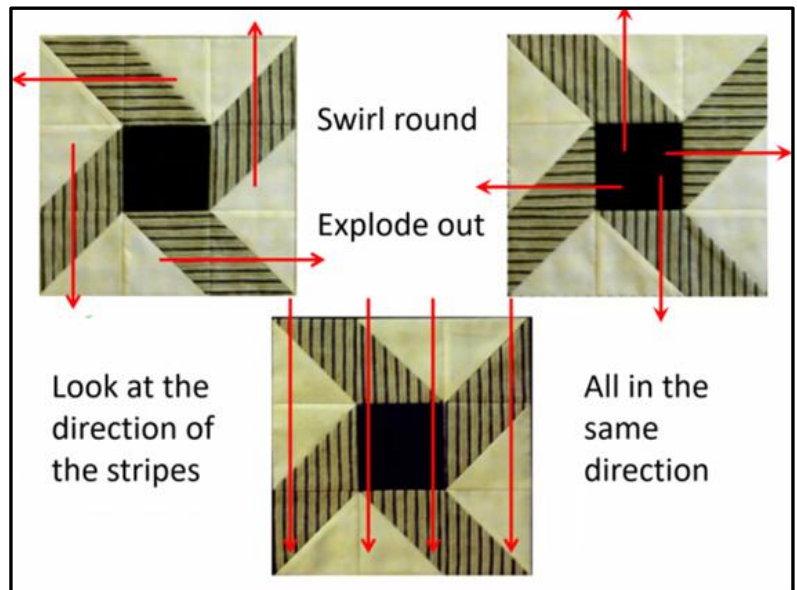
I wanted to thank you for my beautiful, heart shaped pillow which the QE2 breast clinic gave me after my surgery last Monday.

It is pretty and so absolutely right to tuck under my arm, back, front etc, and the right size to manipulate, when not able to use my arms. I wanted you to know how perfect it is and perfect to use!

Thank you again, Sue Kellard xx



**January Zoom Meeting with Mimram and Icknield Quilters. Speaker Carolyn Gibbs.** Carolyn gave a very interesting talk with a professional slide show, called 'All About Stripes'. There are many things to consider, such as the symmetry of the stripe pattern and the orientation of the stripes, which make a big difference to the outcome in a quilt. Here are some of Carolyn's examples





**Mead Retreat: January 2026:** 17 Mead members enjoyed a most productive and relaxing weekend away at Denham Grove. Lots of progress was made on individual sewing projects. Fat quarters, handmade sewing kits and gifts were exchanged and lots of melon was eaten! Thank you also to Sarah and Alison K. for demonstrating techniques of overlaying strips and making zipped pouches and to Elizabeth for bringing the sales table too.



Exchange of fat quarters and sewing kits



Overlaying strips with Sarah



Pencil bags and zipped purses were made



## Show and tell – projects worked on during the weekend

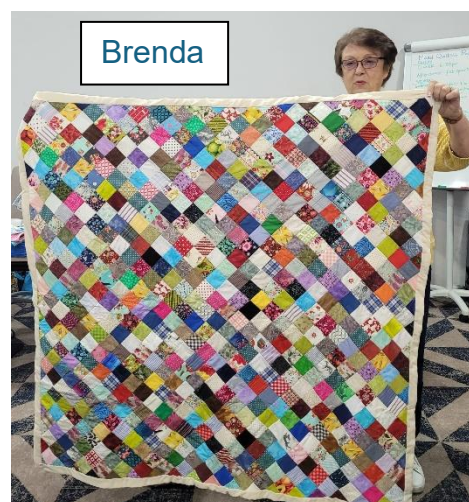
Sarah



Alison K



Brenda





More retreat show-and-tell



Elizabeth



Alison W



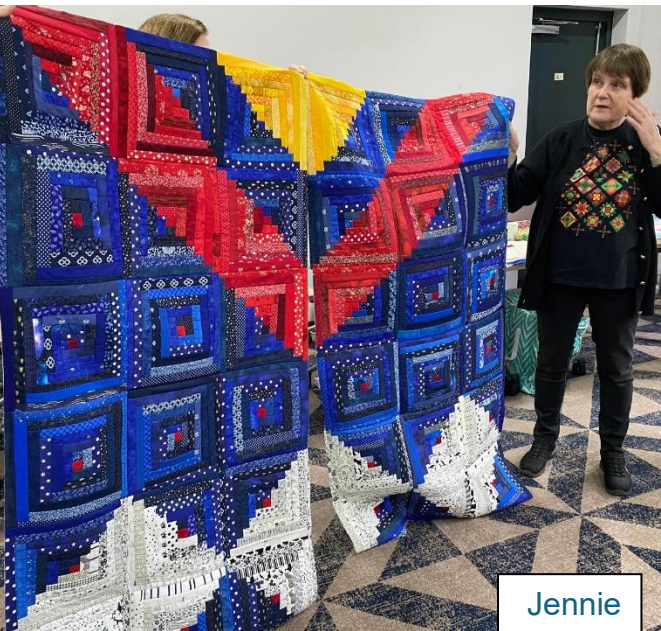
Ginny



Francesca



Gail



Jennie



Lizzie





Jo



Jane



Christine

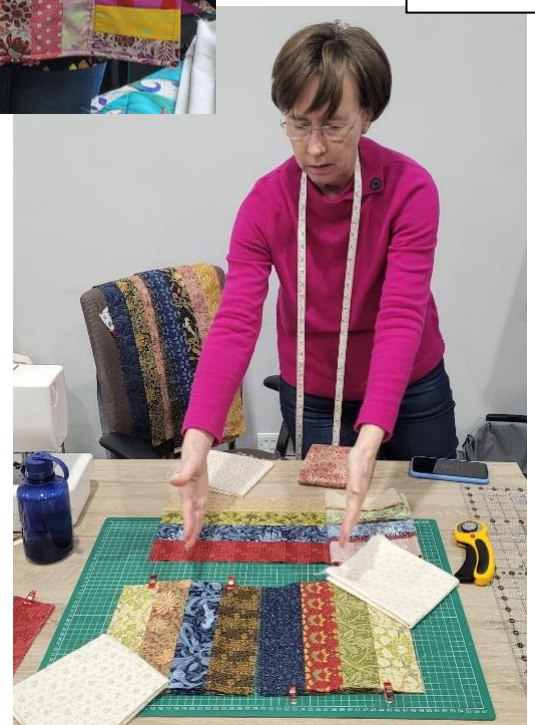


Jeannette



Sheila

Liz





## Dates for your diary: Shows, fairs and festivals

Stasha

**26<sup>th</sup> – 28<sup>th</sup> February 2026: Quilting and Sewing show, Newmarket.**

Newmarket Racecourse, Rowley Mile Drive, Newmarket, CB8 0TF

**19<sup>th</sup> – 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2026: The Stitch Festival,** Business Design Centre, 52 Upper Street, Islington. N1 0QH. 10.00 am – 5.30 pm ( 3.00 pm Sunday)

**14<sup>th</sup> – 17<sup>th</sup> May 2026: Quilts UK, Malvern.** Three Counties Showground  
Severn Hall, Malvern, Worcestershire WR13 6NW

**5<sup>th</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup> June 2026: Spalding Quilting and Sewing Show.** Springfields Events Centre, Camel Gate, Spalding, Lincolnshire, PE12 6ET

Let us know of any upcoming events that you have heard of, so that we can keep members informed. If you visit any of them, do send pictures!

### Events and Speakers at Quilters Guild Groups. Feb 2026

| When  | What   | Where   |
|---|--|---|
| Mon 2 <sup>nd</sup> Mar 7.30 pm<br><b>This talk is free for Mead Quilters</b> | <b>Speaker at Mimram Quilters.</b><br>Sara Sullivan, A History of Colour through Sylko.<br><a href="https://www.facebook.com/Speakersanddemonstratorsuwi/posts/from-the-inboxsara-sullivanoffering-two-talksin-person-within-45-miles-of-winche/877139194449944/">https://www.facebook.com/Speakersanddemonstratorsuwi/posts/from-the-inboxsara-sullivanoffering-two-talksin-person-within-45-miles-of-winche/877139194449944/</a> | Welwyn Civic Centre,<br>Prospect Place, Welwyn,<br>Herts. AL6 9ER                           |
| Thurs 19 <sup>th</sup> Mar 7.30 pm<br>Visitors welcome £5                     | <b>Speaker at Ash Valley Quilters</b><br>Ginny Edwards, Quilts for Charity   | Memorial Hall, The<br>Forebury, Sawbridgeworth<br>Herts. CM21 9BD<br>(CM21 9AX for Sat Nav) |
| Thurs 16 <sup>th</sup> Apr 7.30 pm<br>Visitors welcome £5                     | <b>Speaker at Ash Valley Quilters</b><br>Liza Jones - Bullet Bra Comeback  | Memorial Hall, The<br>Forebury, Sawbridgeworth<br>Herts. CM21 9BD<br>(CM21 9AX for Sat Nav) |
| Mon 1 <sup>st</sup> June 7.30 pm<br>Visitors welcome £5                       | <b>Speaker at Mimram Quilters.</b><br>Helen Butcher, Miniature Madness.<br><a href="#">Little Patch Pockets: Home Page</a>   | Welwyn Civic Centre,<br>Prospect Place, Welwyn,<br>Herts. AL6 9ER                           |
| Thurs 18 <sup>th</sup> Jun 7.30 pm<br>Visitors welcome £5                     | <b>Speaker at Ash Valley Quilters</b><br>Elspeth Jackson, An Insight into Rag Rug Making   | Memorial Hall, The<br>Forebury, Sawbridgeworth<br>Herts. CM21 9BD<br>(CM21 9AX for Sat Nav) |



# Mead Quilters Programme 2026

|  |  |
|--|--|
| <b>Tues 3<sup>rd</sup> Feb : 9.30 am</b>   | Morning sewing meeting   |
| <b>Tues 17<sup>th</sup> Feb: 7.30 pm Speaker Megan Manwaring.</b> An Australian Quilter, passionate about all things patchwork, quilting and textiles.<br><a href="https://www.instagram.com/meganmanwaring/?hl=en">https://www.instagram.com/meganmanwaring/?hl=en</a>  |    |
| <b>Sat 28<sup>th</sup> Feb: 1pm – 4pm</b>  | Saturday sewing day  |
| <b>Tues 3<sup>rd</sup> Mar: 9.30 am. Morning meeting Speaker. Sara Sullivan,</b> My Hexagon Journey - a personal journey of English Paper Piecing.<br><br><a href="https://www.quiltersguild.org.uk/blog/please-touch-creating-an-accessible-quilt-exhibition">https://www.quiltersguild.org.uk/blog/please-touch-creating-an-accessible-quilt-exhibition</a> | Sara is also speaking at Mimram Quilters on Mon 2nd Mar at 7.30 pm. 'The History of Colour through Sylko'. Welwyn Civic Centre, Prospect Place, Welwyn. AL6 9ER.<br><b>This talk is free for Mead members</b><br> |
| <b>Tues 17<sup>th</sup> Mar: 7.30 pm. Speaker Cathy Corbishley-Michel.</b> Cyanotype quilts.<br><a href="https://www.baus.org.uk/museum/1387/cyanotype_on_fabric_appliqu_quilts">https://www.baus.org.uk/museum/1387/cyanotype_on_fabric_appliqu_quilts</a>  |    |
| <b>Tues 7<sup>th</sup> Apr: 9.30 am</b>    | Morning sewing meeting   |
| <b>Tues 21<sup>st</sup> Apr: 7.30 pm. Speaker Sarah Hibbert,</b> Speaking about her trip to South Korean and Japanese Quilt Shows. <a href="https://www.sarahhibbertquilts.com/">https://www.sarahhibbertquilts.com/</a><br><a href="https://www.instagram.com/quiltscornerstone/?hl=en">https://www.instagram.com/quiltscornerstone/?hl=en</a>  |    |
| <b>Tues 5<sup>th</sup> May: 9.30 am</b>   | Morning sewing meeting   |
| <b>Tues 19<sup>th</sup> May: 7.30 pm. Presentation of a suitcase collection from the Quilters Guild.</b><br>The Handbag collection<br><a href="https://www.quiltersguild.org.uk/special-interest/miniature">https://www.quiltersguild.org.uk/special-interest/miniature</a>  | <br>The Handbag Collection is a varied selection of miniature quilts made by the Quilters Guild Miniature Quilt Group. It comes packed in a handbag, accompanied by a commentary and white gloves!                |
| <b>Tues 2<sup>nd</sup> June: 9.30 am</b>    | Morning sewing meeting   |
| <b>Sat 6<sup>th</sup> June: 1.00 – 5.00 pm Talk and workshop by Molly Brown:</b> Clamshells<br><a href="http://www.mollybrownsemporium.co.uk">www.mollybrownsemporium.co.uk</a>  |    |



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|--|---|
| <b>Tues 16th June: 7.30 pm</b><br><b>AGM and Summer Party</b>  | Annual committee reports, election of new committee, Mead challenge of a cushion for the tombola at the exhibition.                   |
| <b>Tues 7<sup>th</sup> July : 9.30 am</b>   | Morning sewing meeting  |
| <b>Tues 21<sup>st</sup> July: 7.30 pm. Speaker Catherine Hill, award winning textile artist and embroiderer: A Way with Words</b><br><a href="http://www.arnolds-attic.co.uk">www.arnolds-attic.co.uk</a>  |   |
| <b>Tues 4<sup>th</sup> Aug : 9.30 am</b>    | Morning sewing meeting  |
| <b>Tues 1<sup>st</sup> Sep : 9.30 am</b>    | Morning sewing meeting  |
| <b>Tues 15<sup>th</sup> Sep: 7.30 pm</b><br><b>Mead Question time</b>  | Members share their expertise. Pick up and share some useful tips. ask that question that question that has always been on your mind! |
| <b>Sat Sep 12<sup>th</sup> : 1 pm – 4 pm</b>   | Saturday sewing day   |
| <b>Tues 6<sup>th</sup> Oct : 9.30 am</b>    | Morning sewing meeting  |
| <b>Sat 17th Oct 10.00 am to 4.00 pm</b><br>Exhibition of Mead Quilters work, cushion tombola, sales tables, trader, raffle, refreshments.  | Mead Exhibition. Marford Hall, Wheathampstead. AL4 8BP<br>Bring all your friends and family!  |
| <b>Tues 20<sup>th</sup> Oct: 7.30 p. Speaker Moira Neal, free machine artist: A View from my Kitchen, and how it inspired a quilt</b><br><a href="https://www.facebook.com/p/Moira-Neal-Free-Machine-Artist-100048675651245/?locale=en_GB">https://www.facebook.com/p/Moira-Neal-Free-Machine-Artist-100048675651245/?locale=en_GB</a> |   |
| <b>Tues 3<sup>rd</sup> Nov : 9.30 am</b>    | Morning sewing meeting  |
| <b>Sat Nov 12<sup>th</sup> : 1pm – 4 pm</b>  | Saturday sewing day   |
| <b>Tues 17th Nov: 7.30 pm</b><br><b>Member's showcase</b>  | Jo Day will show us all her beautiful work and tell us about her quilting journey.  |
| <b>Tues 1<sup>st</sup> Dec : 9.30 am</b>    | Morning sewing meeting<br>Mince pies, Christmas show and tell   |
| <b>Tues 15th Dec : 7.30 pm</b>    | Christmas party                                  |