



I hope that you all survived the cold and the storms of January and are looking forward to the longer and warmer days ahead. It always feels good to leave January behind us, though I fear that the weather forecasters are predicting yet more cold and icy weather to come in the next couple of weeks – good job we all have our sewing to keep us busy whilst we are hiding away indoors! There is of course plenty to look forward to in the Mimram calendar for the following year – don't forget to check the website for the most up-to-date information. Anyway – enough of my ramblings here is a quick summary of the latest Mimram news.

1. Our February meeting once again is via Zoom and we have invited Icknield Quilters to join us to help spread the costs. Our speaker this month is the very interesting Kim Suleman who will be talking to us this time about using Vlieseline products to make bags. The link for the meeting can, as usual, be found on the members only page of the website. Once on the members only page you need to select Zoom meetings and then click on the link to the February Zoom meeting. Please DO NOT try to enter the meeting before 7.15 as Kim likes to have some time to get setup before everyone logs on.
2. For those of you who have been busy sewing during the winter months, please don't forget to send photos of your creations to Lily so that she can add them to the gallery for Show and Tell – we would all like to see what you have been up to even if we haven't seen each other in person for a while.
3. Our March meeting will be back to our normal in person format at the Civic Centre. It should be very interesting as we have Kalico-K talking to us about The Underground Railroad. For more information take a look at her website <https://www.kalico-k.com/>
4. We still have a few places left on our free Charity Sewing Day on Sunday 14th April at The Peace Memorial Hall in Codicote. Please let Deborah or I know if you would like to attend and we will add your name to the list. There is no charge for this day – you just have to be making something for charity. We will also have some ideas and fabrics available if you are not sure what to make or are new to quilting and would like some help.
5. We have now booked the Denham Grove Hotel for our October quilting retreat and a sign-up email will be sent out to you all on Saturday 17th February. Places will be allocated on a first come first served basis once the email has been sent so make sure that you keep an eye on your mailbox that day. All the information about costs, times and how to sign up will be in Wendy's email.
6. Looking further ahead to our 40th Anniversary celebrations later this year we have booked the Welwyn Civic Centre for Sunday 22nd September for a community day. The idea is to demonstrate the many different ways in which quilting can benefit the community, whether it be the charity items that we make or encouraging people to take up a new and useful pastime. We will

have more information and ideas at the March meeting but in the mean-time we are looking for a volunteer or two to join a small group to help us plan the event. Please let me know if you can help. Also on the theme of our 40th Anniversary – don't forget our Anniversary challenge – to make something on the theme of 40th (Ruby) Anniversary. It can be anything you like – a wall hanging, cushion or whatever so long as it is no larger than 16 inches square.

7. Finally a quick reminder to those of you who join our Friday Zoom sewing sessions that there will be no Friday Zoom this week as several of us will be away at the retreat but it will return as normal the following week – Friday 16th at 10am. If you haven't joined us on a Friday before, give it a go. It's nothing formal – we all work on our own projects (or even just chat in some cases!) – it's just like being on a sewing day or retreat without having to leave the comfort of home! You will find the link in the members only area under Zoom meetings.

I look forward to seeing you all tomorrow evening.

Zoë Bright
4th February 2024