## Colourful Miniature Quilts



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Cover
A Somerset Patchwork Quilt

## Foreword

This exhibition presents miniature quilts Gek has made using the following techniques:
Patchwork - sewing small pieces of fabrics of different designs and colours together.
Quilting - sewing together using running stitches three layers of fabrics: the quilt top, a batting or insulating material, and a backing material. The quilt top is usually a patchwork pattern.

Applique - a needlework technique which involves sewing a piece of fabric over another for decorative purposes.

Welsh Quilting - stitching Welsh motifs on quilts.
Trapunto or Italian Quilting - a "stuffed technique", creating a raised surface on the quilt.

## Artist Statement

Quilting can be an addictive hobby.
There are so many patterns and styles that I would love to stitch, but I don't think that I could do them all in my lifetime. Making miniature quilts is a good way of trying out different techniques in a shorter time frame. Each finished work has given me a sense of accomplishment.


## Somerset Patchwork

This pattern, also known as the Folded Star, requires only one rectangle template. The technique is simple, starts with folding rectangular pieces of fabric into triangles. The numerous triangles are then attached onto a backing fabric by hand. Amazingly, different outcomes would emerge by playing with colours. The above patchwork consists of six blocks of Somerset Patchwork squares. The colours were chosen to reflect the Christmas mood.

Size: $11.8 \mathrm{~cm} \times 8.5 \mathrm{~cm}$


## Sunbonnet Sue Applique

It seems that the image of a little girl with her face hidden by a bonnet gained its fame in early 1900s. Sue has remained popular among quilters for over 100 years. Isn't she cute?

Various versions of Sue have appeared in quilts, but always in her triangular shaped dress and a sunbonnet, showing only one arm holding different objects.

Size: $10.0 \mathrm{~cm} \times 7.0 \mathrm{~cm}$

## Colourful Squares

This patchwork is made up of 72 squares of white cloth coloured with fabric paints.

Size: $11.8 \mathrm{~cm} \times 10.0 \mathrm{~cm}$


## Sewing Basket

This is an example of quilting using a ready-made panel fabric. The stitches emphasize the features of the image and give it a depth.

Size: $8.75 \mathrm{~cm} \times 8.5 \mathrm{~cm}$

## Sunflowers

This is another example of panel fabric quilting. It is a quicker way of creating a quilt without having to design an applique or patchwork pattern.

Size: $7.5 \mathrm{~cm} \times 8.0 \mathrm{~cm}$


## Welsh Quilt

The bulk of Welsh quilt making began in the mid-19th century. Distinctive patterns using motifs such as leaves, paisley, hearts and spirals have made Welsh quilts unique. Thanks to the local sheep farming industry, Welsh woollen quilts are especially warm. Wholecloth quilting on satin fabrics, a more recent development, which does not make use of patchwork or appliques, often results in beautiful textured quilts.

Size: $7.5 \mathrm{~cm} \times 7.5 \mathrm{~cm}$



## Log Cabin Quilt

The Log Cabin is a traditional patchwork design. Hundreds of patterns could be created by arranging the log cabin blocks differently and playing with the light and dark coloured fabrics.

Size: $7.5 \mathrm{~cm} \times 7.5 \mathrm{~cm}$


Size $11 \mathrm{~cm} \times 10.3 \mathrm{~cm}$

## Landscape Quilt

Anything goes in creating a contemporary fabric art portraits, landscapes and abstracts.

For someone like me who likes landscapes, capturing beautiful natural environments on quilts is a joy. Such landscape quilts make wonderful wall hangings.


Size: $10 \times 10 \mathrm{~cm}$


## Trapunto Quilt

*This method involves stitching the design onto the quilt, and stuffing bits of wadding or wool through the back into the stitched areas to raise them above the top of the quilt.

Size: Diameter 10.4 cm

## Acknowledgements

Many thanks to the Ystrad Mynach Quilters for introducing Gek to different quilting techniques. Gek was a member of the group for 7 years before moving to Penarth.

