

HOMETOWN Spring-Summer 2015

Where does the time go? As we are always busy in-store it's been some time since the last workshop series – however, we are back with a jam-packed schedule of new workshops and all-time favourites. So settle down with a cup of tea and your diary and start to plan an inspiring and creative spring and summer. There are classes for all levels, including a good selection for complete beginners. There are several courses suitable for the ever popular pre-cuts – Jelly Rolls, Charms and Layer Cakes, plus look out for our '♥ Scrap-friendly' symbol if you are trying to make a dent in your fabric stash!

We offer day and evening classes during the week and weekends. Classes are open to all from 12 years (under 16s should be accompanied by an adult). If you're not sure what level of course to take, see the section at the end or ask any of us at the shop for advice.

Trying to finalise the workshop schedule is like nailing jelly to a wall, as our talented tutors continue to come up with bright ideas, so there will be new classes added in at a later date, plus some new tutors. We don't really 'do' social media due to lack of time but this spring I will endeavour to put these updates on Facebook. As classes can fill up quickly, if you are enquiring about spaces on a course, the best way to contact us is always by phone or in person. Sending questions to our Facebook page isn't recommended as I do not check it regularly (better to be honest here!)

Finally, our students are all a talented bunch – many of the photos shown here ■ are their finished work. So come on a workshop and you could be featured next time!



Log Cabin Cushion, Thursday 16 April
6.30-9.30pm
Marion Haslam £20

All levels. A bite sized course which provides great practice using your sewing machine. Sew this classic patchwork design in an evening! The finished result can be pretty and traditional or bold and contemporary, depending on your choice of fabric. All fabrics (except cushion pad) supplied. *Hand or machine sewn.* Note hand sewers may not finish within the 3 hours but will have all the materials and instructions to finish in their own time at home.■



Norfolk Furrows Quilt, Sunday 19 April
10.30-4.30.
Marion Haslam £40

Intermediate. From the starting point of an antique quilt, Marion has adapted the original design to make a stunning strippy-block quilt using quick piecing. Perfect for use with a pre-cut Moda Layer Cake™ of fabrics or fat quarters. Students should complete the piecing of the quilt top during the day and can then finish the quilt at home in their own time. Maximum 6 students on this course so don't delay booking your place! *Machine sewn.*

**Farmers' Market this Sunday –
HOMETOWN is open 11.00-4.00**



Beginners Patchwork and Quilting,

Wed 22 and 29 April 10.30-4.30

Kate Higgins £65

Beginners. During this 2-part workshop, you'll learn many of the basics of patchwork and quilting and will finish a lap-sized quilt. Kate will cover fabric choices and rotary cutting, plus simple machine piecing and borders. Both machine and hand quilting options are discussed, plus binding the finished quilt. Students should be prepared to work on the patchwork in the intervening week. *Machine sewn patchwork.* ■



It's in the Bag, Thursday 23 April

10.30-4.30

Gill Flaxman £36

Beginners. Forget Mulberry and Chanel, the most stylish bag in town is the one that you'll make yourself. Ideal workshop for all bag-making beginners, Gill will show you how to sew a simple lined tote-style bag with various design options for fastenings, pockets, straps and fabric combinations. Once you start, we're sure you won't stop at just one bag! *Machine sewn.*



Let's Start at the Very Beginning, Friday 24 April - 5 June

- 5 weeks and break. 7.15-9.30pm.

Marion Haslam £60

Beginners. This is a great course for sewers wanting to make their first patchwork quilt (approx size 42x42in 112x112cm) but not knowing where to start. It's also a great way to end the week! It covers choosing colours and fabrics, preparing and sewing patches, blocks and borders, learning to use a rotary cutter, waddings, hand quilting and finishing your quilt. Students can complete a quilt in a short period of time on this comprehensive course over 5 evenings. (Note - the 2 week break on 22 and 29 May allows students to continue their hand quilting at home). *Machine sewn and hand quilting.* ■

That moment when you realize you ran out of bobbin thread and have been sewing nothing.



Don't forget that HOMETOWN is now open on the first and third Sundays of each month. So have a gentle potter down the high street and pop in for some fabric therapy and essential supplies! Sunday opening hours are 11.00-4.00, so we can all have a leisurely breakfast and read the Sunday papers first...



Egg Timer Twist, Thursday 30 April

10.30-4.30

Kate Higgins £36

Beginner + (Suitable for those with rotary cutting skills and basic patchwork knowledge).

Create amazing dark and light stars in this clever and fast growing quilt top. Students will sew and then re-cut the block which allows different layouts for their quilt. The pattern can also be adapted and borders can be added to change the size (Kate's quilt is around 50x60in or 127x153cm excluding borders). You can then quilt and finish your work at home in your own time. This is a great quilt to use with fat quarters. *Machine pieced.*



Luscious Lampshades, Thursday 30 April

6.30-9.00pm.

Marion Haslam £27

All levels. It's possible to make a stunning 30cm fabric-covered cylinder lampshade in just a few hours on this bite size course ... when you know how! Suitable for use as a pendant or a table/floor lamp, the course fee includes all the lampshade equipment you'll need, plus your choice of retro, modern, traditional or pretty fabric. *No sewing involved!* And if you need any further encouragement to book this course at HOMETOWN, we've seen a lampshade course at another venue locally for £45 which didn't include the fabric!

2-4 May – the Sweeps Festival is on throughout Rochester with plenty of bells and clogs on show. HOMETOWN is open on Saturday and Sunday. More information on www.whatsonmedway.co.uk



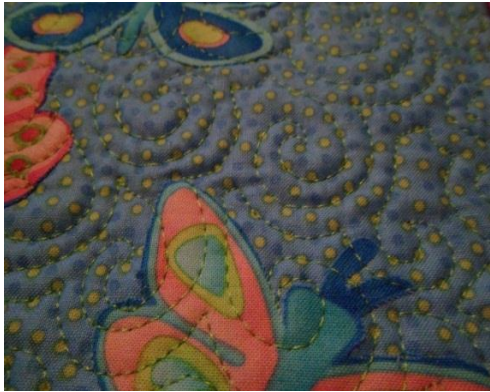
Crochet for Beginners, Tuesday 5 and 12 May *

10.30-1.00

Ruby Byrne £32

Beginners. This is the ideal crochet course for the complete novice. In this two-part workshop Ruby covers hooks, yarns and reading crochet patterns. Students will learn basic hand crochet stitches and the most comfortable way of holding the hook and yarn. At the end of the course students will have the confidence to complete a simple project at home. By having 2 sessions, students will be able to practice at home between classes. The course fee includes a crochet hook and yarn for use during the course. *Suitable for left and right handers!*

*** Crochet for Beginners is repeated on Saturday 13 and 20 June.**



Free Motion Machine Quilting for Beginners

Wednesday 6 May, 10.30-4.30

Kate Higgins £36

Beginners. Learn the basics of free motion machine quilting and start getting your quilt tops finished. Kate is an expert in machine quilting and on this introductory day she will teach you all about stitching, threads and tension. There's plenty of time for practical sewing on small sample pieces. After lunch you can progress to quilting a cushion cover (or a small quilt top, no larger than a lap quilt, if you have one already prepared) or continue on sample pieces. *Machine.*



Appliqué Bouquet, Wednesday 13 May 10.30-4.30

♥ Scrap friendly

Kate Higgins £36

Beginners + / intermediate. Even if you're not green-fingered, students can create their own stunning everlasting bouquet of flowers.

Kate will show students a variety of appliqué techniques that they can use. This is a great workshop for using with your precious scraps. The appliqué panel can be quilted and bound, framed or could even become the central panel on a larger quilt project. Students' work has been stunning! *Hand and machine.* ■



Nine Patch Magic, Thursday 14 May – 18 June (4 weeks) and break 7.15-9.30

Marion Haslam £50

Beginners. Discover the magic of patchwork on this short course. Students will learn to cut and machine sew blocks, then rearrange them with some secret skills and hey presto, you have a small quilt top. The course also teaches hand quilting and finishing techniques. The break on 4 and 11 June allows you to continue with your sewing at home. *Machine and hand sewing.*



Messenger Bag, Saturday 16 May 10.30-4.30

Gill Flaxman £36

Beginners+ / intermediate. Increase your bag-making skills with zips and metal fastenings. This slim line messenger style bag is relatively easy to make and has two zipped pockets and a flap. It's such a useful and practical bag, it'll be in daily use and also makes a great present as you can choose appropriate fabrics. All the bag accessories you need for this bag are available at HOMETOWN. *Machine sewn.*



Quilt in a Day, Sunday 17 May 10.30-4.30
Marion Haslam £36

Beginners+. Did we get your attention with this workshop title? Thought so! This simple, yet stunning quilt top really can be assembled in one day when you use a rotary cutter and put your foot down on your sewing machine. You can then quilt it at leisure at home. The quilt was designed specifically for fat quarters, and it's also a great opportunity to use larger or bolder prints so if you keep buying these great pieces of fabrics and don't know what to sew, now is your chance. *Machine sewn.*



Cutting Mat Bag,
Tuesday 19 May 10.30-4.30
Kate Higgins £36

All levels. As all quiltmakers know, your cutting mat and rotary equipment are essential tools for your craft. Make it easy to carry your mat and ruler to and from workshops with Kate's dramatic Strippy and Seminole shoulder bag. You'll see these quilters started with fabrics and took home their fabulous finished bags! *Machine sewn.* ■



Apple Core Patchwork, Friday 22 May
10.30-1.00
Marion Haslam £15 ♥ Scrap-friendly workshop!

Intermediate. Hand sewn patchwork is enjoying a revival at the moment. Whilst it may be slower than sewing by machine, it's extremely portable and sociable. This bite-size workshop shows you how to piece this intriguing traditional quilt block pattern. The original Apple Core quilt shown here is from Marion's collection of old quilts and dates from the turn of the 20th century. *Hand sewn.*



Granny Square Crochet, Saturday 23 May, 10.30-3.30
The course is repeated on Tuesday 9 June 10.30-3.30
Ruby Byrne £32

Beginners+. Crocheted Granny squares are really popular right now and can be made into lovely sofa throws, cot blankets and even bunting. They are a great crochet technique when you only have small pockets of time. Plus it's an ideal way of using oddments of yarn for a lovely colourful result. You will crochet with treble and chain stitches and learn how to join your finished squares. The course fee includes a crochet hook and yarn for use on the day.

- *Beginners +* - students should have been crocheting on their own or have attended a beginners' class, to be familiar with casting on and off, plus increasing and decreasing.



Granny Square Quilt, Wednesday 27 May

10.30-4.30

Elisabeth Beighton-Delille £36

Intermediate Granny squares aren't just found in crochet! Come on Elisabeth's workshop and learn how to give a traditional block a modern spin. Plus the quilt layout makes the blocks appear to float and gives you space to showcase your quilting. *Machine sewn*

Elisabeth will be teaching other classes at HOMETOWN, so don't forget to check our Facebook page for updates.

29-31 May: the Dickens Festival takes place in Rochester, with costumed characters, parades and special events. It will be great fun, but be prepared for crowds and try to use public transport if possible.



Bargello Patchwork Wednesday 3 June

10.30-4.30

Kate Higgins £36

Intermediate. Watch the waves appear as you piece this lovely quilt. This is a traditional pattern with peaks and troughs of colour waving from one side to another in a single size quilt. Suitable for more experienced quilters with knowledge of rotary cutting and piecing, the impressive results are not difficult to achieve and definitely worth the effort. *Machine sewn.* ■



Jelly in a Log Cabin, Thursday 4 June

10.30-4.30

Marion Haslam £36

Intermediate. Pre-cut Jelly Rolls™ are a great way of buying fabric for quilts. The strips provide a wide choice of coordinating fabrics and this log cabin variation produces a great single/small double quilt with ease. If you have a large fabric stash, you could also use this and create your own 'jelly strips' for the workshop. This is a popular course and students' work is always impressive. *Machine sewn.* ■

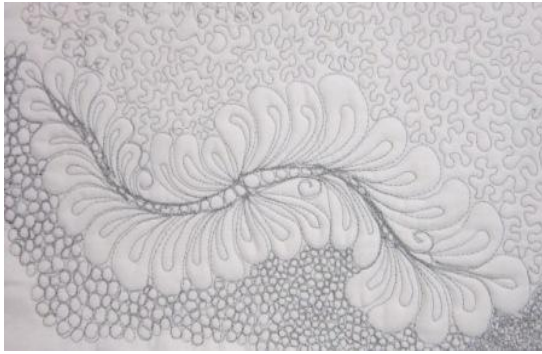


Logarhythms, Sunday 7 June 10.30-4.30

Marion Haslam £36 ♥ Scrap friendly

Beginners +. One of our favourite techniques and you'll be pleased to know it has absolutely nothing to do with maths lessons! It's an original, contemporary variation on the classic Log Cabin patchwork pattern. From the Logarhythms blocks you sew in the class, you can make quilts, cushions or placemats which have great movement even though all the stitching lines are straight. *Machine sewn.*

HOMETOWN is open today 11.00-4.00, so you can come and shop even if you are not on the course!



Free Motion Machine Quilting - fabulous feathers and fillers, Wednesday 10 June 10.30-4.30
Kate Higgins £36

Advanced. Whirling plump feathers and flowers and lots of background fillers are used to create beautiful designs. This workshop is for students confident in basic free motion quilting, who have attended Kate's beginners course (see above) and have continued to quilt at home. You should have the skills to move about the fabric with simple designs like stippling. NB your machine, must have a free motion foot and foot pedal for control. As in the beginners' workshop you will be working on two prepared quilt sandwiches. *Machine sewn*



Simply Strippy, Friday 19 June and 3 July, 1.00-4.30
Mavis Haslam £40.00 ♥ **Scrap friendly**

All Levels. This quilt-as-you-go technique is an ideal way of tackling a finished quilt in 'bite-size' pieces. It's great for using up odd strips of various fabric widths left over from previous projects and you can also incorporate Jelly Roll™ fabrics. The intention is that you'll piece and machine quilt the blocks for a small quilt on the first part of the course and learn how to complete the quilt on the second part. The break between the two workshops will enable you to continue sewing your blocks at home. Many students have then gone on to sew a larger quilt at home using the same techniques after the course. *Machine sewn*



Off the Straight and Narrow, Sunday 21 June
10.30-4.30
Marion Haslam £36

Intermediate. Not all patchwork involves straight lines! For any quilter wanting to learn easy ways of piecing curves (no templates!), then this is the course for you. You'll sew various design variations and the sample blocks can all be combined together in your own modern and original cushion, runner or quilt. Loads of fun and gives you plenty of practice with your rotary cutter. *Machine sewn.*

HOMETOWN is open today 11.00-4.00, so you can come and shop even if you are not on the course!





Noughts and Crosses, Tuesday 23 June
10.30-4.30
Kate Higgins £36

Suitable for all levels who can use a rotary cutter.
♥ **Scrap friendly quilt.** This quilt is a real scrap buster as well as a bobby dazzler! As it uses 5 inch squares, instead of scraps, another option is to use 4 packs of pre-cut charm packs. The finished quilt as shown is approximately 62x62in (157x157cm), but you can make a smaller piece if you wish. During the workshop Kate will show how to piece the quilt top which you can finish in your own time at home. *Machine sewn.*



The Quilt Kit Bag, Wednesday 1 July
10.30-4.30
Kate Higgins £36

Intermediate. Mary Poppins eat your heart out, as this bag has the capacity to store all the kit and resources you need for any workshop or project. Kate designed the bag to include compartments for your tools, threads and materials, plus it's a showcase for all those fabulous fabrics you keep buying. It also makes a great weekend bag or extra large shopper. *Machine sewn.*



In a Bind? Thursday 2 July, 10.30-1.00
Marion Haslam £15

All levels. Have you some almost-finished quilts lurking at home because you don't know how to finish them? This mini workshop looks at how to calculate fabric quantities and sew professional continuous binding and straight binding for your projects (a subject that often looks complicated in books). Students can bring along a project at the binding stage as the class will be full of practical instruction or simply work on samples during the workshop. *Machine sewn.* ■



Tennessee Waltz, Tuesday 14 July 10.30-4.30
Kate Higgins £36

Intermediate – this is a beautiful quilt, made up of two blocks which link together to create the pattern. It's sewn with straight lines but the finished effect is an illusion of whirling, curved lines. The quilt measures approximately 45x63in (115x160cm) before adding borders. NB The quilt uses the Triangle in a Square set of rulers by Quilt in a Day, but can be made using a template, which is a little harder to use. *Machine sewn.*



Quick Trip Around the World

Wednesday 15 July, 10.30-4.30

Kate Higgins £36

Intermediate. Calling all you armchair travellers! During this workshop Kate will show you an innovative way of piecing a quilt top approximate size 40x50in (102x127cm) in the style of the traditional Trip Around the World pattern. This design enables you to use both dark and light colours to great effect in your quilt. You will then be able to complete the quilt at home with your choice of quilting and binding in your own time. *Machine sewn.*



Crazy Paving, Wednesday 22 July

10.30-4.30

Kate Higgins £36

All levels. During this workshop students will sew a really quick and easy set of blocks. You'll use six fat quarters and some background fabric for sashing and borders. The quilt top comes together really quickly and measures around 44x60in (115x152cm). If you want to make a larger quilt, simply double the size by using six half metres. This is sure to be one that you finish on the day! *Machine sewn.* Note: this workshop uses an A2 cutting mat (the medium size mat) and a long ruler.



Shabby Chic Scrap Quilt, Thursday 30 July

and 6 August 10.30-4.30

Marion Haslam £50

All Levels. An ideal introduction to quiltmaking. The design was inspired by a 'shabby chic' quilt from the 1930s. Your quilt (32x41in 80x105cm) can be in either traditional or contemporary fabrics. The course covers choosing fabrics and wadding, rotary cutting, machine piecing, hand quilting and binding. *Machine sewn and hand quilted.* You won't finish the hand quilting during the course but will be given all the tuition needed to finish your quilt. Students should be prepared to carry on with their sewing between the 2 classes. ■

HOMETOWN useful info and FAQs

Please read the following carefully so you know what level of course to sign up for.

- *Beginners* - suitable for all students with no previous knowledge of patchwork and quilting. We'll explain all the processes and jargon! Note: if it's a machine-sewn class you must be familiar with your sewing machine (threading the machine, filling bobbins, straight stitching etc) before you come on the course.
- *All levels* - simple techniques suitable for all levels of experience. Realistically, on 1 day courses, tutors concentrate on the specific technique (usually the quilt top) and not all aspects of making a quilt. (For complete beginners' courses, you should sign up for Beginners Squares, Start at the Very Beginning, Nine Patch Magic or Shabby Chic courses as you make a finished quilt on all of these courses.
- *Beginners+ and Intermediate* – students should have been quilting on their own or have completed a beginners' class to be familiar with the general basis of patchwork. Students should be competent machine sewers and have experience with using rotary cutting equipment.
- *Beginners crochet* - suitable for all students with no prior knowledge of the craft. We will demonstrate all the techniques and stitches you'll need to know!
- *Beginners + Crochet* - students should have been crocheting on their own or have attended a beginners' class, to be familiar with casting on and off, plus increasing and decreasing.

Access: All courses take place at HOMETOWN, 62 High Street, Rochester. There are several car parks nearby and we are a 10 minute walk from both Rochester and Strood stations. Sorry, as there are stairs there is no wheelchair access to the workshop area.

Costs and payment: The class fee includes tea and coffee throughout the class. For day classes you can bring your own packed lunch or buy it from one of the many delis, tea rooms or coffee shops in Rochester during the lunch break.

At HOMETOWN we aim to keep the cost of classes as affordable as possible as we want to encourage everyone to sew. This does mean that we need a minimum of 6 students to make courses viable, with 6-10 as the maximum, depending on the topic. If you want a course to run, please book early as we need to confirm materials lists to students a minimum of 2 weeks in advance of the course. We regularly benchmark our prices against other quilt shops and sewing cafes and we know other venues which charge up to £75 for day classes and £120 for Beginners' quilt courses of a similar length!

Once you have booked, a materials / equipment list will be sent to you before the class. If courses are full, or you are interested in another date for a class please give us your contact details as we may be able to schedule a new date subject to tutor availability. In this case we contact those on the *waiting list first* with the new dates.

Sewing machine hire: There are two class sewing machines, subject to availability. These must be booked in advance. The charge is £5 per day/bite-size class or £7.50 for longer courses. Please add these to your booking form.



Saving you money: HOMETOWN has the following schemes you can enjoy:

Deposit scheme - the first class in this series must be paid for in full. For subsequent courses you can pay a £10 deposit. The balance is paid at time of booking by a cheque, post-dated to 1 month prior to the workshop. Alternatively your card details are taken and the balance is debited 1 month before the course and the receipt given to you at the class.

Workshop Loyalty Card - Each time you attend a workshop or course*, you'll get a stamp on your card. Once you have 5 stamps, you'll receive a £5 gift card to spend in-store. (*excludes any workshops at reduced prices or with promotional offers when booking and a multi-session course counts as one stamp). Students who have attended classes in 2013-14 already have a card set up for them and we've handed out many gift cards in the past year!

Cutting equipment discount - students booking on any of this season's courses are entitled to a £5 discount if they buy any combination of a self healing mat, rotary cutter, and ruler or blades totalling £30 or more, within one month of attending their last course.

Loyalty Card - each time you spend £10 on products in-store, you'll receive a Loyalty Card stamp. Redeem a full card of stamps for 1 metre of fabric or a book of your choice. Yay more fabric!

Cancellation policy: Please read! If a student cancels, giving 15 days notice, a refund will be given, less £2.50 to cover costs. We cannot give refunds or arrange course transfers with less than 15 days notice, but you are welcome to find a substitute to take your place if you cannot attend. So, please check dates carefully, *before* booking! If there are insufficient numbers and HOMETOWN has to cancel a course, a full refund will be given.

Questions? Telephone us on 01634 838880, email: hometownquilts@hotmail.co.uk We are open Tuesday-Saturday 10.00-5.00, and the first and third Sundays of each month 11.00-4.00 (excluding Easter Sunday).

03/2015 Date:

HOMETOWN workshops

Please keep a copy of your course bookings for your records before returning!

Name

Address.....

Address.....Postcode.....

Tel no..... Email.....

Costs and payment:

See course details for course costs. The first workshop must be paid for in full when you book. For subsequent classes, a £10 deposit is paid at time of booking. The balance should be paid at time of booking with a cheque post dated to 1 month prior to the workshop. Or fill in your credit / debit card details and the balance will be debited from your card 1 month before the date of the course.

Course name	Date of course	Cost	Office Use
.....	£.....	£
.....	£.....	£
.....	£.....	£
.....	£.....	£
.....	£.....	£
		Total £.....	

I enclose a cheque/s for £..... made payable to HOMETOWN. Or please debit my debit or credit card number..... Issue no.....

Start and expiry date.....CVV (3 figures on the reverse).....

Cancellations: If a student cancels, giving 15 days notice, a refund will be given, less £2.50 to cover costs. We cannot give refunds with less than 15 days notice, but you are welcome to find a substitute to take your place. So, please check the dates carefully, before booking! If there are not sufficient numbers and HOMETOWN has to cancel a course, a full refund will be given.

- Please tick to indicate that you have read our cancellation policy.
- I have / have not attended workshops at HOMETOWN before.

Please note that your contact details will be kept on file for store use only. No contact details or email addresses are released to any third party.

Please send your booking form and payment to HOMETOWN, 62 High Street, Rochester ME1 1JY or phone 01634 838880 to book by phone. No booking is confirmed until payment is received.

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