



The Quilters' Guild of Ireland



Supported by Design & Crafts Council Ireland



The Quilters' Guild of Ireland (QGI)

Annual Retreat 2024



Supported by Design & Crafts Council Ireland

Shearwater Hotel & Spa, Ballinasloe, Co Galway

Friday 8th March – Sunday 10th March 2024



Left: Jellyfish by fiberworks-heine.com

Right: La Roulade by Mandy Shaw of dandeliondesigns.co.uk

Whether you attend on your own or with your quilting friends, you are sure to leave inspired by members' work, the teachers, and the workshops. New friendships will be made, and older ones renewed!



Hello & Welcome

Firstly, we would like to thank you for your continued support of the QGI. It has been a challenging few years for us all but it was lovely to get back to pre-Covid norms last year. Our 2024 Retreat has quite a selection of workshops and we hope you find the right combination to keep you captivated throughout the weekend.

We are returning to the Shearwater; the overall feedback from last year highlighted how everyone loved the bright and airy classrooms with ample room to spread out. There was excellent space to display our beautiful quilts, the beds were comfy, and the food was good. Hotel prices have gone through the roof so we have tried our hardest to get the best deal possible; if you can buddy up you will get the most value out of the weekend, but we do have the option of single rooms as well. We have also included different options if you do not want or need to stay in the hotel. Hopefully there is something to suit everyone.

Some of us will be checking into the hotel on the Thursday afternoon / evening. You are very welcome to join us. The official programme of workshops does not start until Friday but arriving on the Thursday may allow you to feel more refreshed and raring to go for Friday's events!

We urge you to try and make it for the AGM on the Friday evening; together we will be deciding on what direction you would like the Guild to head in the next year, electing new committee members, and discussing past, present and future projects. If you would like to join the Committee or volunteer in any way, please speak to any of the current Committee members or email us at theqgi@gmail.com

Everyone is welcome and, as always, we encourage you to get your quilting friends, who may not already be members, to sign up. The more the merrier!

The Annual Retreat would not be possible without the dedication of everyone on the Committee and we would like to thank Áine Kavanagh, Rita Geyermann, Mary Crickard and Mary Palmer for all their hard work in getting this retreat organised.

We look forward to welcoming you!

Clare Greer, Moya Gerahty, Mary O'Connor, Eilís Watson

Education and Retreat Organisers



What's On?

Past Pieces

We invite you to bring along and display any finished piece of work you have started at a previous QGI Retreat. It *must* be finished and *not* have been shown at any previous Retreat or Conference. We will hang as many of these as we can in the workshops area. Please make sure your piece has a hanging sleeve and is labelled with your name, if possible.

House Keeper's Choice

This is always a favourite amongst us and the housekeeping staff. Bring a quilt to leave on your bed over the weekend and the house keeping staff will select their favourite three.

Show & Tell

Show & Tell will take place on Friday evening before the AGM. Please bring your quilts of all shapes and sizes so we can all be amazed and inspired!

Challenge 2024

This year, we are asking Retreat-goers to create a quilt, inspired by a card. The finished, **three-layered** quilt can be miniature-sized or king-sized, or anywhere in between, but it has to be at least the size of the card. Any technique may be used.

The entries will be displayed with the card that inspired the design, so don't forget to bring both with you.



Weekend Programme

Friday 8th March

10:30am Registration
11:00am – 5:00pm Workshops
6:30pm Late Registration
7pm Show & Tell
8:30pm AGM

Saturday 9th March

10:00am – 5:00pm Workshops
7:30pm Gala Dinner with guest speaker Mandy Shaw

Sunday 10th March

9:30am Housekeepers Choice Awards
10:00am – 1:00pm Workshops
1:00pm Carvery Lunch



The Tutors

Mandy Shaw, Dandelion Designs

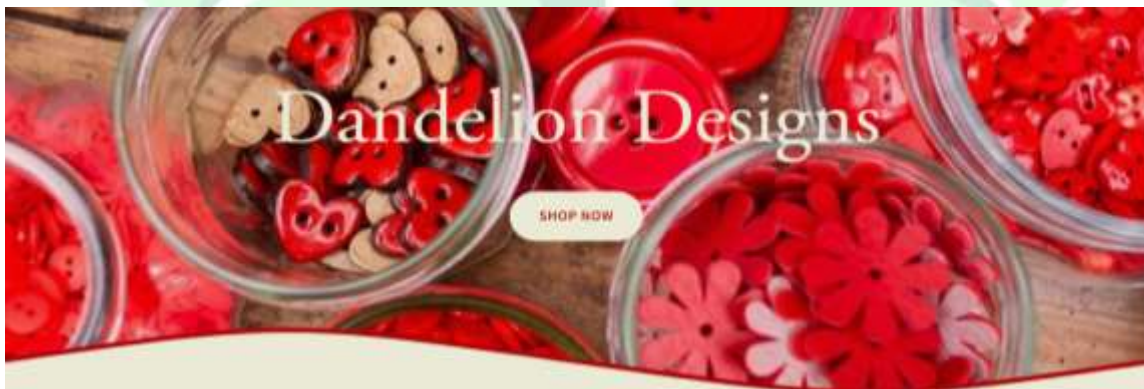
Mandy Shaw is one of Britain's most talented and respected sewing and quilt designers, with a worldwide reputation for her work. Passionate about sewing and quilting for as long as she can remember, Mandy started her business 'Dandelion Designs' in 2004 as a way of making a little money whilst bringing up her young kids at home. Little did she know what it would grow into.



As well as being a prolific designer, Mandy loves to teach and demonstrate and (when allowed) will regularly attend shows like Festival of Quilts in the UK and Quilt Market in the USA. She is the author of over 12 bestselling books, including *Stitch with Love*, *Simply Redwork* and *The Christmas Table*. In total, her books have sold over 150,000 copies worldwide and have been published in six different languages.

A great collector of things, Mandy draws inspiration from vintage books and paraphernalia. Her desire is for everything she designs to tell a story and be meaningful, and over the years, she has developed a unique folk art style all of her own and is drawn to a red and white colour palette, for which she has become famous.

Mandy runs Dandelion Designs from the bottom of her garden in a wooden chalet, built for her by her husband Phil, specially to house her business and her workshop.



You can read more about Mandy and see her gorgeous projects and patterns on www.dandeliondesigns.co.uk



Elly Prins



Elly Prins is a Dutch quilter and the first person to start a long-arming quilting business in the Netherlands. She has always been interested in stitch – making her own clothes as a teenager - but quilting is her passion.

Elly has a shop in the Netherlands called Elly Prins Machine Quilting and she teaches workshops here as well as further afield. You can check out Elly's lovely work on <https://www.facebook.com/EllyPrinsMachineQuilting>

In Ireland, Elly will be teaching Fiberworks (Laura Heine) classes, for which she is a certified tutor.

You can read about and see Laura Heine's beautiful collage quilts at www.fiberworks-heine.com

Lena Pugachova

My name is Lena and I live in Dublin, Ireland, with my husband and two daughters. I grew up and spent most of my life in Kharkov, Ukraine, where I studied to be, and then worked as a teacher of English at the university.

I also studied in an art school as a teenager and tried many art and craft forms before I took up patchwork and quilting. Thanks to my wonderful teacher Svetlana Kachalova I fell in love with this art, first studying and then even teaching in her craft school [Silk Road](#) in Kharkov.



Now that we moved to Ireland I dedicated myself to art and design, graduating with a BA in Graphic Design and honing my drawing and quilting skills to develop my personal style. I am a member of the Irish Patchwork Society ([Eastern branch](#)) and I am delighted to meet friendly and helpful like-minded people there and take part in the events organised by the IPS. I am also happy to teach workshops and speak at branch and group meetings. You can check out Lena's beautiful creations on her blog, Instagram [@lena.pugachova](#) or her website [Quilt Art by Lena Pugachova](#)



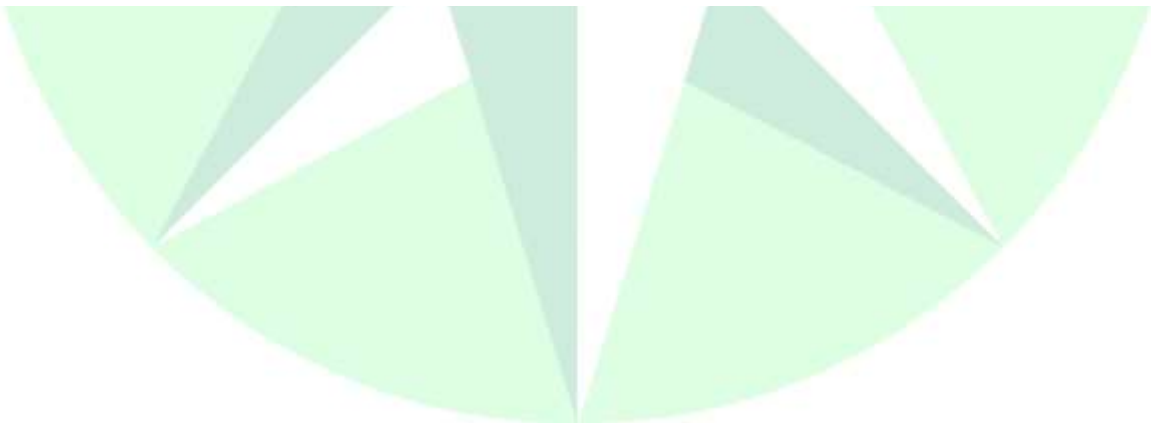
Mary Crickard



I hail from Carrickfergus, Co Antrim, and have no sewing background, apart from some inherited embroidery pieces sewn by my maternal Grandmother, who was from Donegal. She died when my mother was 15. At school Domestic Science taught me to fear the sewing machine – threading was a diabolical mystery and technical difficulties meant I didn't sew anything. I could hand sew and enjoyed it.

While living in Saudi Arabia, I found an amazing French lady called Nicole Friday. She taught me the rudiments of quilting and guided me to finish a sampler, all done by hand. Arriving back in Ireland, a group of ladies took me under their wing; weekly sewing in each other's houses, led to weekends away and thanks to Pat McFerran, who loaned me her Pfaff, I learned how to love the sewing machine.

Clare Loughrey took me through the City & Guilds at a difficult period in my life, having just lost my brother Dominic aged 37 with whom I lived. Clare continues to inspire and brings together a great group of quilters. I am also a member of the Northern Ireland Patchwork Guild. My life revolves around quilting and has brought me into contact with many talented quilters, embroiderers and weavers.





Friday Workshops

Option 1 Day 1 of a 2-day Workshop on Friday & Saturday with Elly Prins

“Making a quilt collage is basically cutting and pasting fabrics. We look at the patterns, flowers and prints of the fabrics and use them in our design. We will use the patterns from Laura Heine.”

Elly took a special course in America in 2022 with Laura Heine to learn all the tricks of the collage trade and she is certified to teach her techniques. This day will be filled with many tips and tricks to get the most beautiful collage quilt possible.

Participants in this two-day workshop will have an option of selecting one of the following four patterns:



Guitar 23" x 36"



Jellyfish 16" x 20"



Octopus Garden 16" x 20"



Pattern selection will need to be made at the time of booking, as Elly will provide the patterns. Guitar and Seed Pods cost €39 each and Jellyfish and Octopus cost €30. This will be payable at the Retreat.

Seed Pods 34" x 24"



Option 2 Sewing Case with Mandy Shaw



This is a wonderful project that you will be really proud of once made. It looks professional and classy.

Measuring 7 x 11 inches, it is a perfect sewing case for all your sewing accessories. The sewing case is fastened with a continuous zip and has plenty of internal pockets - a sewer's must have!

Option 3 Abstract curve-piecing workshop with Lena Pugachova



This workshop is all about the techniques needed for accurate curved piecing.

Lena will help participants with cutting and piecing of curves and, hopefully, remove the fear associated with curved seams.

The resulting samples may become cushions, table-runners, or become the starting point of a much larger project.



Saturday Workshops

Option 1 Day 2 of a 2-day Workshop with **Elly Prins**

Option 2 La Roulade Sewing Case with **Mandy Shaw**



How original and irresistible is La Roulade Sewing Case? Created using only the very best quality fabric and trims, it is the clever wooden ends made especially for Dandelion Designs, that really make this totally unique! There's lots of sewing to enjoy, as well as redwork on the inside lid. A really special product you are bound to enjoy making and then using. Finished size approx 8 x 4 ins



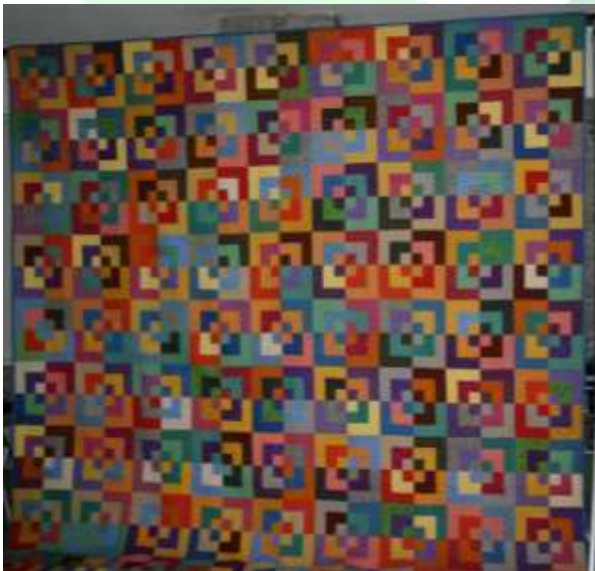


Option 3 Pictorial curve-piecing workshop with **Lena Pugachova**



In this workshop, Lena will guide her students through cutting and piecing, to create a unique pictorial quilt-top or wall-hanging. Lena has developed and built on this technique in many of her incredible quilts and it is worth checking out her work on [Quilt Art by Lena Pugachova](#) to see where this technique can take you.

Option 4 Bento Box – a fat quarter-friendly workshop with **Mary Crickard**



For those who would like to create a more traditional quilt, this might be the workshop for you! This quilt pattern is both fat quarter and layer-cake friendly and is suitable for all skill levels. Also, it can be as big or as small as you decide – you'll just have to make more blocks for a larger quilt. Or you may just want to make the blocks in three colours.... The possibilities are endless with this versatile pattern. Mary will guide you through the cutting and piecing to make the Bento block and then let the fun begin!



Sunday Workshops

Both Sunday workshops are half-day events and will finish at lunch-time.

Option 1 Improv curve piecing with **Lena Pugachova**



This half-day workshop is on improvisational curved piecing. The rulers will be left to the side and 'free cutting' will be the order of the day.

Not for the faint-hearted, but definitely open to all skill levels.

Option 2 Easter Domes workshop with **Mandy Shaw**



Mandy will be delivering a lovely workshop in hand-stitching, to finish the Retreat in a relaxed, calm way.



Costs

Accommodation with Workshops

Package 1 €580 / £500

- 3 nights Bed & Breakfast in a Twin room, Thursday, Friday & Saturday.
- 3 days of workshops, Friday, Saturday & Sunday, (can be 3 x 1-day workshops or a 2-day workshop plus a 1-day).
- Gala Dinner with guest speaker Mandy Shaw

Package 2 €505 / £435

- 2 nights Bed & Breakfast in a Twin room, Friday & Saturday.
- 3 days of workshops, Friday, Saturday & Sunday.
- Gala Dinner with guest speaker Mandy Shaw

Package 3 €440 / £380

- 2 nights Bed & Breakfast in a Twin room, Friday & Saturday.
- 2 days of workshops, Friday & Saturday OR Saturday & Sunday.
- Gala Dinner with guest speaker Mandy Shaw

Package 4 €340 / £295

- 1 night accommodation, Friday OR Saturday, in a Twin room, incl. breakfast.
- 2 days of workshops, Friday & Saturday OR Saturday & Sunday.
- Gala Dinner with guest speaker Mandy Shaw

Package 5 €810 / £700

- 3 nights Bed & Breakfast in a Single room, Thursday, Friday & Saturday.
- 3 days of workshops, Friday, Saturday & Sunday, (can be 3 x 1-day workshops or a 2-day workshop plus a 1-day).
- Gala Dinner with guest speaker Mandy Shaw

Package 6 €700 / £605

- 2 nights Bed & Breakfast in a Single room, Friday & Saturday.
- 3 days of workshops, Friday, Saturday & Sunday.
- Gala Dinner with guest speaker Mandy Shaw



Package 7 €620 / £535

- 2 nights Bed & Breakfast in a Single room, Friday & Saturday.
- 2 days of workshops.
- Gala Dinner with guest speaker Mandy Shaw

Package 8 €430 / £370

- 1 night accommodation, Friday OR Saturday, in a Single room, incl. breakfast.
- 2 days of workshops.
- Gala Dinner with guest speaker Mandy Shaw.

Workshops & Gala Dinner (no accommodation)

Package 9 €340 / £295

- 3 days of workshops, Friday, Saturday & Sunday, (can be 3 x 1-day workshops or a 2-day workshop plus a 1-day).
- Gala Dinner with guest speaker Mandy Shaw

Package 10 €255 / £220

- 2 days of workshops.
- Gala Dinner with guest speaker Mandy Shaw.

Package 11 €165 / £145

- 1 day of workshop, Friday OR Saturday OR Sunday.
- Gala Dinner with guest speaker Mandy Shaw.

Workshops Only

Package 12 €310 / £270

- 3 x workshops

Package 13 €220 / £190

- 2 x workshops

Package 14 €130 / £115

- 1 x workshop

Please note: Package rates are per person. Lunch is included with all workshops, as well as mid-morning and mid-afternoon tea/coffee breaks. The Gala Dinner offers a choice of starter, main course, and dessert



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QGI Retreat 2024 Attendance Form

Name: _____

Address: _____

Eircode / Post Code: _____

Mobile Telephone Number: _____

Email: _____

Room Share with: _____

Special Dietary Requirements: _____

Friday Class choice (if applicable) in order of preference:

1: _____

2: _____

3: _____

Please tick **one** of the following, if you have chosen the Elly Prins workshop:

Jellyfish Octopus Guitar Seed Pods

Saturday Class choice (if applicable) in order of preference:

1: _____

2: _____

3: _____

4: _____

Sunday Class choice (if applicable) in order of preference:

1: _____

2: _____



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Please tick your preferred Package:

	Package	Euros	/	Sterling
1	Twin 3 nights / 3 wshps / Gala dinner	€580 <input type="checkbox"/>	/	£500 <input type="checkbox"/>
2	Twin 2 nights / 3 wshps / Gala dinner	€505 <input type="checkbox"/>	/	£435 <input type="checkbox"/>
3	Twin 2 nights / 2 wshps / Gala dinner	€440 <input type="checkbox"/>	/	£380 <input type="checkbox"/>
4	Twin 1 night / 2 wshps / Gala dinner	€340 <input type="checkbox"/>	/	£295 <input type="checkbox"/>
5	Single 3 nights / 3 wshps / Gala dinner	€810 <input type="checkbox"/>	/	£700 <input type="checkbox"/>
6	Single 2 nights / 3 wshps / Gala dinner	€700 <input type="checkbox"/>	/	£605 <input type="checkbox"/>
7	Single 2 nights / 2 wshps / Gala dinner	€620 <input type="checkbox"/>	/	£535 <input type="checkbox"/>
8	Single 1 night / 2 wshps / Gala dinner	€430 <input type="checkbox"/>	/	£370 <input type="checkbox"/>
9	3 workshops / Gala dinner	€340 <input type="checkbox"/>	/	£295 <input type="checkbox"/>
10	2 workshops / Gala dinner	€255 <input type="checkbox"/>	/	£220 <input type="checkbox"/>
11	1 workshop / Gala dinner	€165 <input type="checkbox"/>	/	£145 <input type="checkbox"/>
12	3 workshops	€310 <input type="checkbox"/>	/	£270 <input type="checkbox"/>
13	2 workshops	€220 <input type="checkbox"/>	/	£190 <input type="checkbox"/>
14	1 workshop	€130 <input type="checkbox"/>	/	£115 <input type="checkbox"/>

50% deposit secures your booking by **Monday 29th January 2024**

Balance due by **Monday 26th February 2024**

Payment methods:

- Cheque or Bank Transfer or Cash to any committee member.
- You can return this form via email or post and complete a bank transfer or send a cheque. Cheques should be made payable to 'Quilters' Guild of Ireland' then post to either:

Euro cheque to: QGI, Quilters' Guild of Ireland, Treasurer & Membership Secretary, Rita Geyermann, 38 Cherrywood Park, Clondalkin, Dublin 22, Co. Dublin, D22 NX95

Sterling cheque to: Quilters' Guild of Ireland, c/o Mary Crickard, 28 Farnham Street, Ormeau Road, Belfast, BT7 2FN