

## A LETTER FROM THE CHAIR

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Dear Members

The **AGM Challenge** is much on my mind. The lengths of green material were given out and regretfully, I didn't take note of who had taken fabric. To rectify this, a list has been started and I would be very grateful if everyone who has taken a green strip would SIGN UP PLEASE. If you have had second thoughts about doing the challenge, PLEASE RETURN YOUR STRIP as we do not have sufficient as the demand has been greater than expected and some Committee members do not have a strip yet.

Instructions for the Challenge have been minimal so that you can be as innovative as you wish. The choice is yours whether you add thin wadding and/or backing. Much depends on how much you embellish your runner. In its simplest form, there will be no need to back it.

More challenges are in the pipeline, including **Hilda's** new approach to "**Block of the Month**" which will commence in September. Before that we have the August Lucky Dip challenge; you may like to **bring your sewing kit to get started straight away!**

At the July evening meeting **Sarah Hibbert** will be honing our skills . . . never a dull moment with Mead and certainly no time to take a holiday. For those of you already booked to go away, you are allowed a little time off, but come back refreshed and ready to quilt!

We continue to receive notes of appreciation from the **Breast Care Nurses** for our cushions and bags. There is plenty of stuffing available at the Tuesday morning meetings for anyone making cushions.

**Alison K** and **Jennifer** are masterminding our refreshments but they do need offers of help for the tea rota. Also help with putting away the tables and chairs at the end of meetings is always appreciated by your Committee

*Valerie Pollington*

## SOMEONE TO SEE

**Robyn Martin**, you remember her of the beautiful **Audrey Hepburn** portrait? She is coming back to the UK to the **Festival of Quilts** with **Audrey** on the Thursday and the Sunday, so if you missed it the first time around, go and see her at FoQ in Birmingham.

### FOR SALE £25.00

*Brother KH-710 Knitting Machine, with Tutor text book. The machine is neatly contained in its own case with the tools held inside.*

*It could be delivered or brought to a morning meeting if need be.*

*I do not use this one as I now have a Bond machine which takes thicker threads.*

*Jennifer 01707 330965*

## TEA ROTA

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**July 16:** Ginny Edwards, Jennifer Shields

**August 20:** Jeanette Bowers, Angie Wright, Brenda Whiddett

**September 17:** Barbie Edwards, Linda Noon, Hilda Goddard

## A VISIT TO THE LONDON QUILTERS EXHIBITION

A visit to the Library at Swiss Cottage is always a treat: for a start it is a library with a difference . . . a very good café, exciting exhibitions, sample sales of designer goodies and much more besides.

London Quilters hold their exhibition which is open over several days during library hours, so it is an opportunity to see work and enjoy a day out. Their challenge this year was the anniversary of the Moon Landing and this was

interpreted in several different ways, although not so many entries as previously, but lots to see and wonder at.

They are a group of very mixed abilities, some traditional, many modern and some very exciting experimental quilters, including one example of Korean Patchwork. It is difficult to pick out just one example to demonstrate.



There was a small quilt using the Japanese puzzle blocks as used by Joan in our Charity Quilt and lots of items for sale including back copies of magazines and books no longer wanted. Our workshop presenter in September (Marion McCrindle) is a member of this group, or was when I last spoke to her.

*Hilda*

## ADVANCE NOTICE

### BERKHAMSTEAD QUILTERS EXHIBITION

Saturday 7 September from 10 am to 5 pm.

Northchurch Social Centre, Bell Lane,  
Northchurch HP40 3RD

A local show well worth a visit.

## MEAD BLOCK OF THE MONTH

As *Valerie* mentioned in her Chairman's letter, a new block of the month project will be started in September by *Hilda*.

The aim is to produce a nine-patch lap quilt over a period of nine months, aimed mostly at those Members who have never made a quilt before but also to stretch those who have. The stars will start at a very basic level but will, each month increase in difficulty hopefully.

The rules of the game:

1. You need to register your interest in September and take your first block. This deliberately very simple.
2. You provide your own material and choose your own colours for the block.
3. Bring your first block back in October. They will be displayed and all members can choose their favourite block by putting a coloured dot on the accompanying form. The block with the most coloured dots will win a fat quarter.
4. At the end of the evening, collect your block and the next star block pattern.

By July 2020 you will have 9 star blocks which will make a lap quilt, the size will depend on whether or not you sash your blocks or add a border.

If you need help along the way, Mead has many members who can give help on a Tuesday morning with any aspect of quilting, including layering, basting and quilting your quilt.

Sounds exciting, doesn't it? I love a mystery quilt.

## CHRISTOPHER WILSON TATE

### An EXHIBITION AT BRAMBLE PATCH

*Christopher Wilson Tate* is the owner of an antique shop in Hampstead. He specialises in antique quilts both English and American, but also designs fabrics, often on a Regency theme.

We were lucky to catch this exhibition which was due to close on the Saturday, although due to a misprint on the website it had already closed, so we went with the idea that we might just get a cup of coffee and a browse around the shop. Imagine our surprise then to find the exhibition still up and running.

We were able to see many styles of patchwork, from Victorian crazy patchwork to exquisite paper pieced quilts. My immediate reaction was how large they were, certainly double bed sized but often much larger, and I marvelled at how they had been completed knowing as I do how difficult it is to scrabble about on the floor to get three layers together, and here were these Victorian ladies working often by candlelight, and certainly constricted by their clothes, producing such exquisite work.



There is nothing like seeing what has gone before to make you realise that really we have it quite easy with our modern sewing machines and every gadget known to exist. I would really recommend that we take every opportunity to view other people's work; it not only excites but is also very motivating and I always come home determined to do better, but not necessarily more, as time constraints apply to all of us.

*Hilda*

## DO I LOOK HAPPY?

### Oh yes! Even the billboards are quilty!

I had always wanted to go to *The Missouri Star Quilt [MSQ]* place in Missouri but had never made it on my previous trips. It is in Missouri, my son lives in Missouri, surely it can't be that far I thought.



When he said you can drive for 8 hours and still be in Missouri I realised the problem! However, with a bit of research on my part and a lot of goodwill on his, we went! Turns out it was 15 miles further on than Kansas City. Beautiful place, we had been there before, only 3½ hours drive away . . .

So we set out for a 2 day trip: horses were fed, dog was deposited at daughter's house and Peter's godmother, Peter and I piled into the car in pouring rain. Luckily after 15 minutes it stopped and the rest of the journey was quite uneventful until we arrived in Hamilton in a huge thunderstorm and fell out of the car, into the main *MSQ* shop in the High Street.

Wow! It was huge, well lit, and quilts and material as far as the eye could see. There were quilters from all over the world there. We were welcomed by a very nice lady who gave



us a pamphlet that said out of the 40 shops in the (very small) High Street, *MSQ* owned 14 of them! There were shops that were devoted to primitives and wool, florals, backings and trims, kids and baby, I could go on and on, but my favourite was the batik shop. The colours were amazing, like a jewelled palace.

Unfortunately I didn't meet *Jenny Doan* as she was teaching a workshop.

If you ever get the chance to go, do. I know *Jenny* will be at *The Festival of Quilts* in August so I hope to see her then.

*Linda*

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## AND NOW A PUZZLE FOR ALL YOU MORE MATURE MEMBERS!

Can you name all these past and present members in the photo?



Back row from left to right

*Pat Driscoll Barbie Edwards Anne Stratton Margaret Prentice*

Middle row

*?? Brenda Jennings Julie Robson Marjorie Needham ??*

Front row

*Joyce Langford Sheila Neate Mary Rich Enid Gratton-Guinness*

Was this at a *Mary Mayne* workshop? When was it taken?

This month's last 2 pages are about the Quilters Guild Region 7 Retreat . . .

. . . and contributions to the next Mead Newsletter would be welcome.

Send them to editor Linda Cosgrove at [editor@meadquilters.org](mailto:editor@meadquilters.org)

## **Quilters Guild Region 7 Retreat**



**23-25 October 2020**

*Highgate House*

*Grooms Lane, Creaton, Northampton NN6 8NN*

*20 mins from M1 Junction 16*

### **Accommodation**

*Friday & Saturday nights: bed & breakfast,  
Dinner on Friday & Saturday,  
lunch on Sunday, daytime refreshments.*

**Total cost £335 including workshops**

### **Workshops**

*Jan Hassard — 'Curved Bargello'  
Angela Madden — 'Surprising Silhouettes', from her new book  
Helen Howes— 'Adventures in Improvisation' or 'Trees'*

*For further information contact*

*Treasurer- Gill Howes  
Fox End, 7 Meadow Gate, Prestwood  
Gt. Missenden, Bucks HP16 OJN*

**Email: [treasurer\\_reg7@quiltersguild.org.uk](mailto:treasurer_reg7@quiltersguild.org.uk)**

**BOOKING FORM** below,  
*please return to Treasurer, Gill Howes, address above, with SAE.*

## **Region 7 Retreat, 23 - 25 October 2020**

Highgate House, Grooms Lane,  
Creaton, Northampton NN6 8NN

### **Booking Form**

Title: ..... Name: .....

Address: .....

.....

Postcode: ..... Tel: .....

Email address: ..... Guild Membership Number: .....

Dietary or other requirements: .....

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Accommodation: Friday and Saturday nights bed and breakfast, dinner on Friday & Saturday, lunch Saturday & Sunday: daytime refreshments.

Total Cost £335 including workshop.

### **Workshops: Please indicate your 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> choices**

**Jan Hassard:** Curved Bargello - Watersmeet Quilt .....

**Angela Madden:** Surprising Sihouottes, from her new book .....

**Helen Howes:** Adventures in Improvisation or Trees .....

### **Booking Payment**

[An optional one-off payment of £335 immediately to secure a place is available]

**Deposit £55** to secure place immediate payment and by 31 October 2019

I enclose a cheque for £55 made out to 'QGBI Region 7' .....

**OR**

I will pay £55 by bank transfer .....

Bank transfer to: Bank HSBC

Account: QGBI Region 7

Sort Code: 40-10-09

Account Number 91142100

Please state your surname in the reference section followed by 'Retreat' and then send an email to [treasurer\\_reg7@quiltersguild.org.uk](mailto:treasurer_reg7@quiltersguild.org.uk)

**Please remember to enclose an SAE**

**Future payments:**

2nd payment by 31 December 2019 - £90, 3rd payment by 29 February 2020 - £95

4th payment by 30 April 2020 - £95

Treasurer: Gill Howes, Fox End, 7 Meadow Gate, Prestwood GLMissenden Bucks HP16 OJN

PAT testing for your sewing machine will be available on Friday from 4 pm at a cost of £4 (cash in envelope please). Delete as appropriate YES please/NO thanks. Tests for portable lights or other devices can also be offered