

Mead Quilters

Issue 78

June

2020

A LETTER FROM THE CHAIR

My main contact with Members has been every Tuesday evening at 7.30pm when *Caroline Ellis* kindly facilitates our Zoom session. We have decided to reduce these sessions to twice a month, to take place on our normal Mead days, the 1st and 3rd Tuesday of each month at 7.30pm. The plan is to have a theme or demo by one of our participants. Why not join us? I plan to show *Barbie's* envelope patchwork method, step by step on 16 June. Nothing replaces personal contact so I look forward to when we can all get together at the Mead Hall.

Ginny Edwards has a target of 'comfort quilts' (40 x 40 inches approximately) for the NHS. If you have odd blocks or UFO's that could be converted, *Ginny* is recruiting members to complete quilts for her. She is providing wadding and backing, she just needs (wo)manpower!

Several members made *Barbie's* red and white blocks by the envelope method which were then joined together and quilted by *Barbie* for yet another 'comfort quilt'.

Janet Goddard is collecting quilts for a charity that normally runs summer camps for foster siblings who are often split up, see later in this Newsletter.

Many Members have been making NHS scrubs, masks, and head coverings but for the moment things seem a little quieter in that area. Let us hope it remains that way.

Breast cushions and tube bags are an ongoing requirement.

I have completed one of *Jo Day's* lovely flapper dolls in readiness for the WGC Centenary Christmas Tree Festival. Contact *Jo* on 01582 715590 if you would like a doll pack; she will post it to you complete with everything you need. No charge!

Is anyone making a quilt that is a possible for the Quilt Show Raffle in 2021? Despite our activities still being limited by virus concerns, we look forward to more normal times.

From my Thesaurus: PATCHWORK is: assortment; mixture; mélange; miscellany; medley; mixed bag; blend; mix; selection; combination; pot-pourri; jumble; mishmash; ragbag; hotchpotch; hodgepodge.

Keep well, keep in touch, and keep sewing.

Valerie Pollington

ZOOM

Zoom Meetings: Tuesday 16 June, 7 and 21 July at 7.30pm

Meeting ID: 736 8900 9906

Password: Mead

COMFORT QUILTS

Dear Mead Quilters

We have made 51 comfort quilts in total, what a magnificent effort from all the quilters in Hertfordshire. Thank you to all of you who contributed, you have been fantastic.

There are a few more being made; if anyone is up for quilting the tops, I can supply wadding and backing. Each quilt has had its own bag, a rainbow lace and a message of hope and comfort.

Another 8 baby quilts have also been made.

Before the pandemic the Hospital and Hospice asked if we had quilters/knitters/crochet folk who could make blankets and quilts for patients who are in palliative care. *Barbie* has kindly given me some crochet blankets and knitted blankets which I have already donated. So if people want to carry

on with making quilts, the dimensions asked for are 30 inches by 45 inches as a minimum.

Thank you all for your support.

Ginny Edwards



Here are some photos of some comfort quilts. I am sure you would all like to join me in thanking Ginny for the organisation of this huge undertaking, and *Barbie* and *Caroline* for their help too.

Linda



NEWS FROM HEATHER_____

I have had some news from *The Quilters' Guild* that *Gerald and Jean McConkey* have been made *Honorary Members*. The article from the *Quilters' Guild Magazine* is below:

Honorary Membership is awarded by the *Board of Trustees* to individuals who have made an outstanding contribution to quilting in general or who have given great support and guidance to the *Quilters' Guild*. Nominations from Guild Members are welcome and should be sent to

president@quiltersguild.org.uk

with supporting letters.

Jean and Gerry joined *The Guild* in 1992 - a joint decision - and only last year did they announce their retirement from helping out with regular Guild activities. They rarely missed a *Region 7* event (and the Region covers 4 counties.) Together they took charge of the raffle at *Regional and Area Days*, often providing the prizes at their own expense.

By 2008 *Jean and Gerry* had already done at least one stint as *Bedfordshire Area* representatives and were always great supporters of Regional meetings, turning up whatever the weather. They also gave a number of talks at events in other regions,

travelling and working together as an entertaining and heart-warming 'double act', generously showing their work to their fellow quilters. (Gerry is well known for his beautiful miniature quilts.)

It is hoped that they can both enjoy a long and happy 'retirement', and will be able to join in with Guild events on many more occasions in the future.

Heather Hunt

SIBLINGS TOGETHER _____

Siblings Together is a charity that I have supported over the years with quilt donations. The charity supports siblings who have been separated by the Care System by bringing brothers and sisters together for activity days, residential camps, buddy projects and retreats. Siblings who are supported by the project are each given a quilt to take home with them.

Further information about the work of Siblings Together can be found at

www.siblingsaltogether.co.uk

If you are interested in donating or making a quilt for this charity here is the information:

Quilt Size: minimum size is 50 inches square up to single bed size.

Materials: Good Quality 100% quilting cottons please, with good quality wadding.

Please consider the likely tastes of the children we are quilting for, so a light bright, modern style and nothing too young as we want the children to love their quilts for many years to come.

Please email

[siblingsaltogetherquiltgroup@gmail](mailto:siblingsaltogetherquiltgroup@gmail.com)

for the address to send your fabulous quilt or if you use [Instagram](#), direct mail

[@siblingsaltogetherquiltgroup](#)

Janet Goddard

A POEM by ANGELA MADDEN _____

The New Normal?

*Whilst eating Christmas dinner
Well! Did we ever guess
That just a few weeks later
We'd be Corona'd in this mess?
Our hair just won't stop growing
Whilst the shops are closed real tight
We've walked a groove around the park
We're now a scary sight.
Us oldies are in lockdown
The youngsters are off school
And men in white Chernobyl suits
Are frequently the rule.*

*But hey! There are some upsides
The weather has been great
We've Zoomed and facetimed long lost
friends,
High tech is now a mate.
We've read good books, filed photographs
And done more things we like.
We've quilted, jig sawed and relaxed
And some have rid their bikes
The cupboards are all tidy,
The house is sparkling clean,
In perfect gardens we've watched birds
Quite the idyllic dream.*

*The shops delivered groceries,
Amazon's outside our door,
No planes, few cars or motorbikes,
Well, who could ask for more?
Don't follow our friend Donald
Or try the things he'll preach
Don't swallow disinfectant
Or inject yourself with bleach.
But if you still have worries,
There's some new advice to heed . . .
A balaclava and some shades
That's all you really need!*

JUMPERS FOR AFRICA

The WI sent an appeal for jumpers in 7 different sizes for children in Africa - it gets cold at night and they don't have warm clothes.



I've made these three and am just about to start one in the largest size. They requested the bright colours!

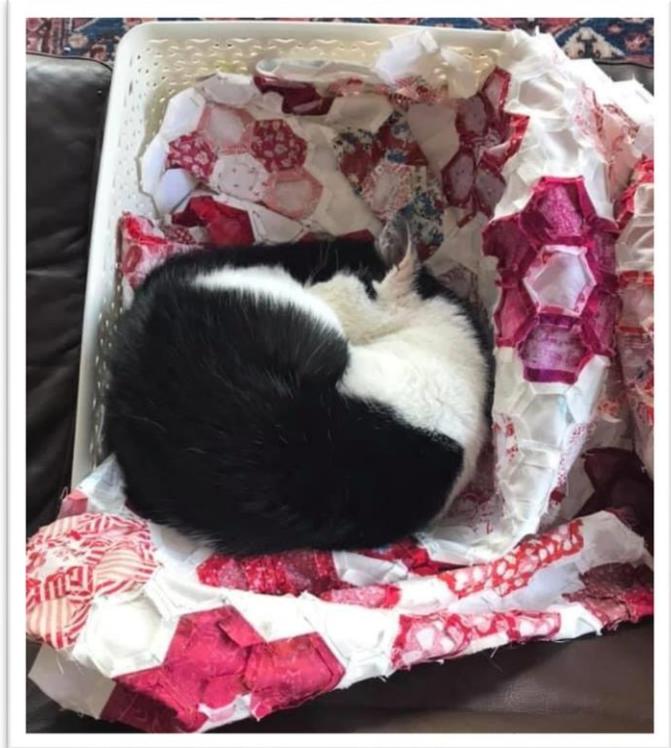
Barbara Sachak

THE MEAD QUILTERS RED AND WHITE HEXAGON QUILT

This is coming along nicely, with hexies and house blocks donated to Heather who is heroically stitching it all together with the help of her cats.



We love the stripey border, Heather!



... AND LAST BUT NOT LEAST

The **Festival of Quilts Virtual Competition 2020** submission date is fast approaching!

Quilts must be entered before the deadline of **Friday 3 July**; you could be in with a chance to win up to **£1,500!**

The categories are: Modern Quilts, Miniature Quilts, Two Person Quilts, Quilt Creations, Group Quilts and the Quilters Guild Challenge

More information at:

www.thefestivalofquilts.co.uk