

Mead Quilters

Issue 82
November
2020

A LETTER FROM THE CHAIR

Dear Quilters

There was no Newsletter in October as our stalwart editor, [Linda Cosgrove](#), had her long delayed knee operation, from which she is making a good recovery.

Efforts to re-start meetings this autumn were foiled by the upsurge in Covid 19. However, [Heather Hunt](#) has put together a variety of items for our monthly on-line evening sessions, starting with anecdotes of her quilting life by [Angela Madden](#) on **17 November at 7.30 pm**. Join us on **Zoom**, details appear elsewhere in the **Newsletter**. We are inviting local groups to join us as it is essential that when we hire-in prominent speakers next year, we have a large Zoom 'audience'.

On the **first Tuesday of each month** we continue to have a Zoom social time at **10.00 am** when it is great to hear news of other members so we don't lose touch in this prolonged break in our normal activities. Your **Committee** will meet (online) on **24 November** so please let us have notice of anything you would like to be discussed.

The 'Flapper Dolls' that were made for the **Welwyn Garden Centenary Christmas Tree Festival** should be sent to [Jo Day](#) at **9a Coleswood Road, Harpenden, AL5 1EF**, and we hope the dolls will be used at another time.

The Committee will discuss the situation regarding the **2020 AGM Challenge** based on the green fabric which was to be embellished to use on the tables at our **Christmas Party**. We are hoping to be able to show them at a Zoom session and conduct a vote online which will be confidential.

Nearer **Christmas** we will be distributing the fat quarters which [Jennifer Shields](#) has made up from fabric which came from [Rosie Rhodes](#), one for each member. We had hoped to use them for [Elizabeth's](#) 'Righty-

Lefty' game at our Christmas Party but that won't happen now. Our 'on-line' **Christmas Party** will take place at **7.30pm on 15 December**.

A founder member of **Mead**, [Mary Rich](#), sadly died in late October, just before her 95th birthday. Comments from Members have conveyed how much she was loved. An appreciation by [Barbie Edwards](#) appears later in this **Newsletter**.

Keep well everyone and phone a friend when you feel the need.

Valerie Pollington

R U ZOOMing?

We have also made changes to the **Members' Zoom meetings**: these will now be on the **first Tuesday** of each month **in the morning** and the **third Tuesday** of the month **in the evening** in line with our normal meeting arrangements.

The next dates will be **Tuesday 17 November at 7.30pm** then **Tuesday 1 December at 10.00am** and then on **Tuesday 15 December at 7.30pm**.

Join us then on **Zoom** for a **chat**, 'Show and Tell' and exciting ideas from [Heather Hunt](#).

Your contact is [Caroline Ellis](#),
caroline@meadquilters.org

The code for Zooming is:
and the password is:

If anyone would like to lead on a quilt related topic, please offer! It makes the sessions more interesting.



Mary Rich, among the snowdrops at Benington Lordship.

It is with great sadness that I am writing this on the demise of our lovely friend *Mary Rich*.

She was the kindest person I have ever known. She was always welcoming and interested in whatever craft any of us had produced.

I met Mary years ago when she came to talk to our WI about her business selling her beautiful jumpers made on her knitting machine. She joined our WI and was a contributing member with anything we were doing.

The *Mead Quilters* was born out of the local group of WIs and she attended our first meeting and cheerfully agreed to join. She was our Chairperson early on and always attended meetings with enthusiasm.

Mary met her husband Derek at Agricultural College - they went on to be farmers in various places. They had four children and she was so proud of them all, and always interested in what they and their children were up to.

We send our best wishes to her family at this time.

I personally will miss *Mary* very much, as will many members of *Mead* as well.

Barbie

CAROL WORT writes:

Hello Everybody,

The Government has now put us into a short four week lockdown which I am sure will quickly pass. We can only hope that everyone follows the guidelines to keep themselves and others safe. It is a good opportunity to get our Christmas cards written, our cake made and if we are ambitious enough, a pudding too. Perhaps when we come through this next month with only 3 weeks until Christmas we will have something to look forward to. I wonder how many of us will get out our tree early and decorate it to lift our spirits.

I am sure your garden is in a sorry state like mine after the frosts. I lost my dahlias and

my geraniums which is a shame as they have been glorious through the summer. I have trimmed my strawberries down to two or three leaves, this makes such a difference when they start to grow again in the spring. Much easier to clear ready for new growth. Not a good time to prune raspberries as I have found out when I did it too early this year – another lesson learnt.

The *Quilters Guild* have a Newsletter, and if you register you will receive it through email. It is quite straightforward to register.

Keep sewing or knitting, keep busy, it is very good therapy. We all look forward to when we will get to see all these wonderful things that have been made.

Carol

BLOCK OF THE MONTH



Here is a photo of *Maureen Storey-Brown's* Block of the Month quilt.

Hopefully we will get all these together next year to see how lovely they all are!

AND HERE ARE . . .

. . . some of the quilts which have been made, quilted and/or finished for *Ginny's* charity quilts.



Irene Heathcoate made the top and it was quilted by *Janet Goddard*



Quilted by *Jeannette Bowers*



Quilted by *Nicola Manton*



Made by *Hilda Goddard* – really colourful.

THE HANDMADE FESTIVAL ONLINE CHRISTMAS 27 - 29 NOVEMBER 2020

You can now buy tickets for [The Handmade Festival Online](#), a brilliant line-up of workshops on offer across the three days.

Crochet a wreath, to hang on your front door or in your home.

Snow window displays – learn how to create your own snow window with tips and tricks on how to turn your view into a winter wonderland.

Felt mistletoe and holly – which can be hung on your tree, made into a lovely brooch or even for gift wrapping.

Christmas crackers, block printing and many more workshops.

How does it work? Just goto:

<https://www.thehandmadedefestival.com>

Browse the timetable and book tickets for any sessions you would like to join over the weekend. The tickets are **£8.50** a workshop.

And finally . . .

A COVID LOCKDOWN POEM

by an unknown author*

How many references to other poems can you spot?

*I won't arise and go now, and go to Innisfree
I'll sanitise the doorknob and make a cup of tea
I won't go down to the sea again,
I won't go out at all
I'll wander lonely as a cloud from the kitchen to the hall
There's a green eyed yellow monster to the north of Katmandu
But I shan't be seeing him just yet, and nor I think, will you
When the dawn comes up like thunder on the road to Mandalay
I'll make my bit of supper and eat it off a tray
I shall not speed my bonnie boat across the sea to Skye
Or take the rolling English road from Birmingham to Rye
About the woodland just right now
I am not free to go
To see "Keep Out" posters or the cherry hung with snow
And no, I won't be travelling much within the realms of gold
Or get me to Milford Haven,
All that's been put on hold
Give me your hands I shan't request
Albeit we are friends
Nor come within a mile of you
Until this virus ends!*

Thanks to [Alison King](#) for putting it on the [Mead Quilters Facebook](#) page.

*No longer unknown: it's by
Angela McKeon of the
Longford Guild (branch) of the
Irish Countrywomen's Association

