

Mead Quilters

Issue 81
September
2020

A LETTER FROM THE CHAIR

Dear Quilters

All my optimism that we might get to a 'new normal' has been quashed by the Government; the possibility of starting up meetings is not possible yet.

There is a small core of people who join the twice monthly **Zoom sessions** but I am aware that many of you have little contact with other Members. We can invite friends in for coffee and chat in small numbers whilst abiding by the basic rules. **If you would like to have some quilting chat with other quilters, let me know, and I will put you in touch with those near you who would like to do the same!** For our sanity this winter I think we will need to keep up our social contacts where possible. Less experienced quilters also enjoy help on a one-to-one basis.

At our **Zoom session on 15 September** it was suggested that we should book some speakers who would do their presentation on Zoom. Currently there are not enough mead Zooming members to make this worthwhile.

So why are so many hesitating to Zoom?

It is safe, FREE and easy to use and a great method for group discussion and for speaker presentations. If you would like to get involved but don't feel confident or do not have the equipment, then we could 'buddy' you with another member and you would join together to Zoom. **Just let me, or another member of the Committee know that you are interested** and give it a whirl!

For those missing our normal **'Show and Tell'** sessions on Zoom, there are some excellent photos on Mead Quilters **Facebook** page which you can access at any time.

Another idea: we could have a **'Helpful Hints'** section in our **Newsletter**.

Sometimes the simplest hint is useful. I cannot believe how many years I had been sewing before someone suggested I **cut the thread at an angle** so it would more easily go through the eye of a needle; this is especially helpful with small hand quilting needles.

Also, if you dampen cotton thread (by sucking) it swells and won't go through the needle's eye! So there you have two hints for the price of one! Please send yours to **Linda** our Editor.

Happy quilting and keep well.

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 date will be **Tuesday 6 October at 10.00am** and then on **Tuesday 20 October 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: **736 8900 9906**
and the password is: **Mead**

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

A PROJECT mentioned on Zoom

Ginny Edwards writes:

Caroline Ellis and I were discussing a new project if Members are interested, to benefit the [St. Albans Women's Refuge](#).

They are in the process of redecorating their 20 bedrooms and would be very grateful for 20 quilts for single beds and cots for their residents.

Most of the rooms are grey with pink, blue, yellow or lilac accessories if that helps anyone with colours, although I think multi-coloured ones are lovely as well.

The single beds are **36 inches** by **75 inches**, and cots **28 inches** by **52 inches**, but please **check with me first** about the quilt sizes required.

I have some fabric and wadding if needed and will help with the co-ordination and drop off.

I also have some **charity quilt blocks** and tops that I would like some help with. My email address is ginny6381@gmail.com

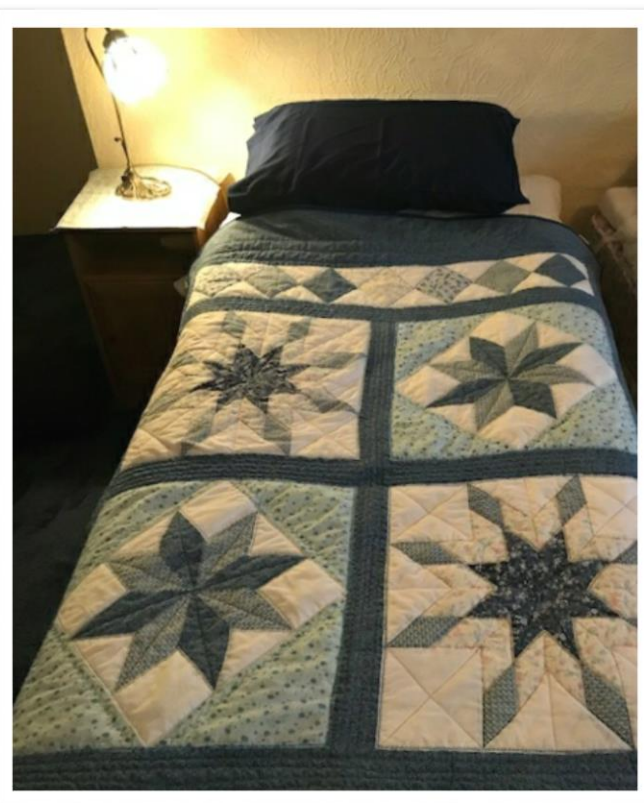
Ginny

KNIT & STITCH

Sadly, the [Knitting and Stitching Show Special Edition](#) has been cancelled. It was to have been at [Alexandra Palace](#) from **8 - 11 October** this year.

If you have booked a ticket to the **2020 Show** you will receive a full refund on workshop and shopping village tickets. You should receive an email from [SEE Tickets](#) with more details shortly.

However, there will be a digital version of the show - [Beyond the Knitting & Stitching Show](#). More details to follow soon.



Here is my **Memory Quilt** that I made from the scrap bag I found when I was clearing my Mum's house. It is made from clothes that I, my brother, sister and Mum wore way back when. It only took 10 years to finish!

Also, I am sorry but there will be no **October** edition of the **Newsletter** as I shall be in hospital. Normal service will be resumed in **November!**

Linda



Alison King sent this photo of her lovely **Star Challenge Quilt**.

Anyone else finished theirs?

Here is a letter of thanks to everyone who contributed, from *raise*, the **West Herts Hospitals Charity**.

raise

West Hertfordshire
Hospitals Charity

NHS

**West Hertfordshire
Hospitals**
NHS Trust

Watford General Hospital
Vicarage Road
Watford
WD18 0HB

Valerie Pollington
Chair of Mead Quilters

25 August 2020

Dear Valerie

Many thanks for your kind donation of quilts, scrubs bags, baby quilts and bandanas that you made and donated to West Herts during the COVID-19 crisis.

During the pandemic, we have had an amazing team of volunteers and redeployed staff, who streamlined how we received donations, and distributed items across the trust including your lovely stitched items. We have been also able to supply iPads, walkie-talkies that keep patients in touch with their family and friends, also much-needed face cream, lip balm and hand cream for staff working in PPE.

In these difficult times, donations like yours let our staff know they are appreciated so they get through this crisis feeling cared for and well supported.

Again, thank you so much.

Yours sincerely



Sofia Sheikh
Charity Director

Raise: The charity for Watford General, Hemel Hempstead and St Albans City hospitals

Registered charity number 1052210 (England)

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