

FROM THE CHAIR . . .

Welcome to the first **Newsletter** of **2022**. I hope you have all been able to celebrate the holiday season. I know many of us have been unable to see our families due to Covid and we can only hope that this year will be better than the last two.

We were sorry to cancel this month's meetings, like the rest of the country we have struggled with "staff absences" due to Covid. With up to 25% of people affected in St Albans, it's no surprise we didn't have enough **Committee Members** to run the meetings.

We need your help, we would like to ask any previous **Committee Members** (or anyone willing to lend a helping hand) to help out for the rest of the Spring, ensure we are able to remain open for Members who wish to attend meetings.

Hopefully the **Speakers** we have booked for the **February** and **March** evening meetings will still attend although we are all at the mercy of the 'negative lateral flow test results'.

Please don't be upset if you turn up and there is no speaker – these things are beyond our control. There will still be plenty of chatting and **Show and Tell**. At the time of writing, we have **Sally Ritchie** and **Michele Moody** booked for **February** and **March** respectively.

Last Monday we shared a speaker with **Icknield** and **Mimram Quilters**. It worked really well and between the 3 groups we were able to leverage our buying power and afford a fabulous talk from **Karen Eckmeier**, former winner of the **Houston Quilt Show**. **Karen** has offered to run a Zoom workshop for us, we are taking expressions of interest.

Email me at

chair@meadquilters.org

if you are interested.

Icknield and **Mimram** have taken the decision to run their January and February meetings online for the future. I will propose at the **AGM** that we do the same and share a speaker with them as the meetings in the middle of winter are generally poorly attended. As we plan ahead for the **AGM in April**, we will be sending out a proposed new constitution for your consideration – this will be voted on at the **AGM**.

The **Committee** have decided that we will judge the **Green Table Runners** at the **AGM in April**. The **2021 challenge** for the small **Platinum Jubilee Quilts** will be judged in **June** when we celebrate the Jubilee with a summer party.

We look forward to seeing everyone soon. We really feel this time that we have turned a corner and are heading back to normality.

Heather Hunt

SAD NEWS . . .

I am sure many of you remember **Viv Seal** a past member of Mead, who unexpectedly passed away on **Wednesday 22 December**.

Our thoughts are with her family.

THE SHOP . . .

Elizabeth will be at the **Tuesday morning meeting** with the shop from 11.00 am.

Please ensure you wear a mask when you come to look at all the lovely things on offer!

SUBSCRIPTION FEES . . .

Thank you to those who have paid their subscription fees for this year. If you haven't got round to it yet and intend to continue membership, please organise payment by the end of **January** at the latest.

Alternatively, if you do not wish to remain a member, please drop an email to

membership@meadquilters.org

Many thanks

Rebekah Cornford
Membership Secretary

APOLOGY . . .



This lovely quilt I wrongly attributed to *Valerie Pollington* in last month's Newsletter. It was in fact, made by *Jennifer Shields*. My apologies to both.

Linda Cosgrove

BABY QUILTS FOR WATFORD GENERAL HOSPITAL . . .

Thirty baby quilts were delivered to the Hospital before Christmas and were warmly and gratefully received.

The **Neo Natal Unit** have said it would be very useful if we were able to make

incubator covers. They need to be 40 inches by 30 inches with dark material on the back to keep out the light.



I have lots of sheets which have been donated to me in good condition and could be dyed to use if anyone would like them.

Please contact me on

ginny@meadquilters.org

if you are interested.

Ginny Edwards

COVID RESTRICTIONS . . .

We ask the following precautions be taken into account:

If you feel unwell, please stay at home.

Please take a lateral Flow Test before leaving home.

Please wear a mask whilst in the hall and use the hand sanitiser when coming in.

The good news - we will be resuming refreshments. *Alison King* will serve tea and coffee in the kitchen, but we ask that no more than two people come into the kitchen at any time. Please continue to wear a mask except when you are eating or drinking.

We will continue to open the doors and windows to allow adequate ventilation so please wear an extra layer if you feel the cold.

If you subsequently test positive, please let one of the **Committee** know.

BUSY BEE . . .

. . . *Hilda Goddard* has been busy doing some crewel work embroidery after *Jo Avery*'s talk in September.



PROJECT LINUS . . .

Project Linus accepts quilts for terminally ill children. If anyone would like to know more about making these quilts please contact *Kathy Osbourne* at

kathy@quiltstalbans.

You can donate fabric or make a quilt.

If you would like to make a quilt the guide sizes are:

Incubator . . . 18" x 24"

Cot (small) . . . 24" x 36"

Cot (large) . . . 36" x 48"

Here is one that *Hilda* made for them . . .

