



President's Report 22 June 2020

Hello everyone, once again.

As our patron, Mrs Lan Le, wife of our South Australian Governor, has kept in contact with me throughout this pandemic. She is an absolute delight to chat with. She rang this morning to talk about all the wonderfully creative things that we've been doing online and was clearly very impressed with two aspects of our activities.

The first thing she acknowledged was the impressive outcome of Rachelle Denny's Mysolation Mystery Quilt group on Facebook and the amazing almost \$21,000 that Rachelle and her group of 1000 quilters raised in just one month for the worthy charity Backpacks 4 SA Kids <http://backpacks4sakids.org> This is an appropriate time to thank Otto for his generosity in donating a Bernina sewing machine to the Guild to use for some fundraising, and congratulations to Dianne Giles for being the lucky winner of a Bernina 325.

However, we went on to discuss how participation in our 3 mystery quilt sew-alongs has been incredibly valuable in keeping us connected, keeping us engaged and helping those of us whose lives are a little more isolated than others feel less alone. Mental health is an important concern for all of us, and it was heartening to read recent interactions between group members discussing their experiences. Knowing that you are part of supportive and caring groups is invaluable in times like this.

Like many of us, Mrs Le looks forward to returning to a semblance of our previous normality but she stressed the importance of each and every one of us, herself included, as being close to, or in, the most 'at risk' group that we act with caution and wisdom in choosing to become increasingly involved in community activities. I am aware that more and more of our groups are considering the implications of returning to regular meetings but also that some members of those groups are struggling with their own decision as to whether or not to return. This may well cause some administrative headaches for group coordinators who will need, in the next two months, to finalise membership payments. A small subcommittee of the Guild's Executive Committee will meet this week to discuss ways in which we can best support group coordinators to manage any conundrums.

Our next edition of I-Patch is ready to send out later in the week and I hope that you enjoy the writing of this month's contributors – Lesley Miller, Bron Atkinson and Cindy Massey.

Both Mrs Le and I wish you all the very best in the coming months.
Stay Safe. Stay Healthy.

Happy Quilting.

Chris O'Brien

**President/QGSA
22 June 2020**