



President's Report 26 July 2020

DHello everyone!

In some respects I feel that 2020 is passing a little too quickly, which seems to be somewhat at odds with the more leisurely pace of life that we have all been experiencing. I've reacquainted myself with some old UFOs and now wonder why I ever abandoned them! That said, I have come to realize just how much more quiet time at home I need in order to finish them all.

I'm also moving out of my more traditional style of quilting comfort zone a little and quilting up some samples for our next mystery quilt – a quick and easy pattern (that won't remain a mystery for too long!) that will have lovely negative spaces to try out some free motion quilting and/or ruler work ideas. To join in go to the "QGSA Round the Block" Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/1341095996079120>. Rachelle Denny has had so many quilters sign up for her online quilting class that I think we can expect to see some stunning quilting happening soon.

Our Executive Committee meets next week for the first time since January and I anticipate that there will be lively debate about the immediate future plans for Guild events. Thank you to those members who responded to our Survey Monkey survey about the potential for re-commencing our Guild meetings – your feedback will be an invaluable contribution to our discussions.

As an incorporated body the Guild is legally required to hold an Annual General Meeting each financial year, which for us ended on the 30th June. Given the restrictions of COVID19 all incorporated bodies have been granted a 6-month extension to this date so this will also be an issue that our Executive Committee will address at our meeting. It just may be that we will need to consider alternative approaches to our regular AGM.

We will continue to keep our members updated with news of any decisions that are made.

We are mindful that, in general, Guild members are more likely to be considered a COVID vulnerable group and that many will choose not to participate in Guild events in the foreseeable future. As a means of staying in touch we have spread our Guild wings a little wider and created our very own YouTube channel. Yours truly was honoured, but just a tad nervous, to be the first interviewee. You can view both of the videos here:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fT22-A6NDeI>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hHI2f9mxmZ0>

We hope to add more videos to our YouTube channel, so if you have any ideas with regard to content that we might explore, please let us know. We'd also love to do some sewing room/studio visits – we know that we have some amazing quilters in the Guild – so if you'd be willing to give us a guided tour of your workspace and your quilting please do let us know.

Many of our affiliated groups have begun meeting again. One issue that has been a little concerning to group coordinators is that of developing a COVID Safety Plan, so we have identified some ideas and resources that can provide support and information to groups. This will be published in the next edition of I-Patch that will go out to groups at the end of the month and to individuals in the first day or so of August. We've loved hearing from groups who have begun meeting again and would like to encourage others to send us an article about how their group coped during isolation and/or what their plans are for the coming months. Articles can be sent to: saquilters@gmail.com



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The postponed November date for the Sewing, Stitching and Hand Craft Show has been cancelled due to the interstate impact of the coronavirus. Festival of Quilts is now scheduled to be held April 30th – May 2nd 2021. It could well be our biggest show ever with so many quilts being made while we have been in isolation.

We are still hopeful that Quilt Encounter will go ahead during October this year in a totally revamped format thanks to the amazing efforts of the Quilt Encounter Committee. Registered attendees have been contacted to advise them of the change of venue and conditions.

Wishing you all a happy quilting month!

Chris

President/QGSA

26th July, 2020