



President's Report 21 May 2020

Hello everyone, once again.

I wonder how many of you were a little naïve like me back in March when our lives first began to evolve towards a new normal. I had hopes that our Market Day in late May might go ahead. We even hoped that we might be able to have a Guild meeting and re-scheduled AGM by July/August. Fingers were crossed that Quilt Encounter and Festival of Quilts would fill our July calendar dates. I seemed oblivious to my husband's quiet comment that nothing would go back to the old normal until we had a vaccine for COVID19. Now my conversations with fellow quilters are more along the lines of: I don't think we'll be going back to the old normal any time soon.

In the meantime, we will continue to offer online quilting activities in the hope that some of you are getting to do some serious stash busting! Remember – our current situation was always the justification we made for our stash enhancing shopping expeditions of the past.

If you have any other ideas for online activities for our Guild members, please do let us know. We have a lot of talent within the Guild and considerable willingness to support our members.

Rachelle Denny has just begun our third mystery quilt, and if you haven't yet heard about it, please join in with all the fun at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/850224988794269/>. Rachelle established a worthwhile fundraising effort for Backpacks 4 SA Kids along with her mystery quilt and to date has raised over \$5000. Congratulations, Rachelle, and a huge thank you to everyone who supported her GoFundMe efforts.

Our thanks too must go to Lessa Siegele and the Clayton's Committee for running our second successful mystery. The fourth is well into the planning stages, so there's no excuse for not being motivated to spend your *isewlation* time in the sewing room!

One of the first Guild activities that we're reinstating will be our workshops because we can ensure that we meet government regulations with regard to numbers and social distancing. Please see our website for details, which will also be published in the next edition of I-Patch. We're hoping that our Sit and Sew Days might also become a possibility in the near future. We have 2 large rooms that we can use but have to hope that soon we might be able to meet in groups of more than 10.

I've had several emails and phone calls from groups seeking advice as to when they can once again meet and/or hold their AGMs. My message is simple: we all need to follow government guidelines. At the moment we can meet in groups of up to 10 so long as you can socially distance the required 4 square metres. That will be easy for smaller groups who meet in a large room, not possible at all for larger groups.



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Behind the scenes our Executive Committee and Finance Sub-Committee have been reviewing our budget and considering what information we can provide to our members in relation to Guild membership. We've developed a document that will be published in the next I-Patch that will hopefully provide you with all of the details that we know some of you have been seeking. Next week we'll also be emailing information packs out to group convenors in order to ensure that we continue to maintain accurate records of group member details.

Our next I-Patch will feature long arm quilting businesses run by our members. I'm sure that with all of these mystery quilts happening many of you will be needing their services!

In the meantime, I hope that you are all enjoying these more relaxing times and getting lots of quilting done.

Kind regards
Chris

President/QGSA
21 May 2020