



President's Report 10 August 2020

Once again, hello everyone!

As I indicated last month, the Burnside Council is now allowing meetings to reconvene. We surveyed our members and, hearteningly, the response was very positive. The issue was tabled at our Executive Committee meeting two weeks ago and the following factors were identified:

- There is a strong indication that many would like to begin to gather again.
- A significant number, however, have expressed concerns about the health risks to quilters given the general profile of our cohort.
- Kitchen facilities will not be available.
- The library won't be open.
- We can't host a shop because we can't guarantee social distancing in the space available.
- Tables and chairs need to be cleaned both before and after the meeting.

Consequently, the Executive Committee made the decision not to schedule any Guild meetings for the remainder of 2020. We have however, penciled in a booking for the first Thursday in December just in case there is a change in State circumstances and/or government regulations.

Suggestions have been made that we explore options such as Zoom to host online Guild meetings, but we have made the decision not to pursue this strategy in the foreseeable future. We have a strong online presence already and will continue to do so.

In the meantime, we encourage our smaller quilting groups to reconvene, ensuring that current government regulations are met. It is clear that there is a wish within our quilting community to once again share quilting experiences.

The Guild recently hosted a very successful workshop with Pam Holland, and we have more scheduled for the future. Ensuring COVID Safe environments is much more feasible in small group settings.

I was recently invited to participate in a series of three webinars featuring quilt tutors promoting their online classes for quilt guild members around the world. Shortly we will publish this list of links so that interested members can explore options for pursuing online learning in a range of quilt and textile art related topics.

In our September edition of I-Patch, Kerry Brand will bring us all up to date with the Quilt Encounter Committee's plans for Quilt Encounter in October. Kerry expects that there will be class vacancies which will be advertised on both our website and Facebook page. Kerry and her team have worked tirelessly to make this event possible and I'd like to encourage as many South Australians as possible to make the most of this opportunity to learn and share.

I'd like too to take this opportunity to remind members and affiliated group coordinators/secretaries/treasurers that discounted membership will expire at the end of this month. A heartfelt thank you to those of you have already renewed and eased the workload of our membership secretary and banker.

Wishing you all a happy quilting month!
Chris

President/QGSA
10th August 2020