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Market Square Quilters

Chairperson	Geraldine Priest
Treasurer	Barbara Lacy-Smith
Secretary	Pauline Byrne
Workshops	Geraldine Priest Gail Winter Rita Maton
Newsletter	Caroline Ward
Refreshments	Pat Blatchford
Web Page	Cat Nichol
Raffle	Gail Winter Rita Maton
Library	Caroline Ward

WEB PAGE www.marketsquarequilters.co.uk

Insurance—a message from our Treasurer, Barbara

This year for our Quilters Guild insurance we had to fill in risk assessment forms for our club meetings. Although at this moment it does not seem relevant as there are no meetings several issues were highlighted.

- Fire exits—wherever we are meeting we will as the committee remind everyone where these are and ensure that they are not blocked.
- Trip hazards—when we are using sewing machines/irons the cables need to be installed safely to ensure that no one is stepping over the cables.
- First aid—it would be good to know if we have any qualified first aiders or medical staff amongst the members who could help in the case of an accident.



A message of hope made by Sue D which she has hung outside her house.



A message from our Chairperson, Geraldine

Dear Members,

I do hope this finds you all safe and well and coping with the ongoing difficult situation we find ourselves in.

Last Friday saw your committee having the novel experience of a virtual meeting by Zoom.

After much consideration it was decided that we should postpone our October exhibition until next year. It is very disappointing but we talked through all possible scenarios. Certain advertising would have to be done in the next month but our principle concern was that even by October if all restrictions have been lifted it is going to be some time before people feel confident to mix in large groups, if indeed we are allowed to by then. We want our exhibition to be successful and to welcome as many people as possible.

Much planning has already gone into the exhibition and that will stand us in good stead for next year. The raffle quilts are finished and we have a good start for our sales table but the extra time will mean we have even more to sell. Also, on the plus side, 21st Anniversary Exhibition has quite a nice ring to it!

Obviously we don't know when we will be able to meet together as a group. It may only be as smaller sized groups to start with, who knows? I'm sure like me you are missing that contact with your stitching friends. Perhaps it will make us more appreciative of each other and especially how we learn from each other and the friendship it brings.

Happy stitching,

Take care and stay safe,

Geraldine

Quilt shop news

www.ladysewandsew.co.uk

They are advertising a new collection of Philip Jacobs fabrics called Silk Route which have colourful Chinese designs.

They are doing mail order or telephone sales and will do a video call to show you products if wanted.

mailorder@ladysewandsew.co.uk

www.villagefabrics.co.uk

They are advertising a new range of scented fabrics!

They have Tuesday Tutorials to teach various techniques.

www.new_Threads.com

They are offering free p&p on orders over £25 or a Click and Collect service from the shop.

01264 771443

www.quiltersdream.co.uk

They have a Lockdown project with a farm theme which looks fun.

01264 324420

Email: rickyquiltersdream@outlook.com

www.juberry.co.uk

The shop has moved but the web site has been updated and it shows the fabrics etc. which they have for sale online.

Quilters Guild

The Guild shop is of course still open online and any orders will help their finances.

They are holding a virtual AGM on 9th June and members can vote online by 5th June.

They are producing a monthly e-newsletter with links to other items of interest. I see that there is a podcast by comedian and new quilter Mel Giedroyc which could be funny—*Mel Giedroyc is Quilting*

www.quiltersguild.org.uk

Quilters Guild Region 6

They are going to hold monthly virtual coffee mornings, the first being on May 21st, and a summer social.

There is a quilting challenge to make a Lockdown quilt themed Through the Window. This has to be A3 or A4 and needs to be submitted by 31st Jan 2021

The Facebook page has links to all sorts of interesting projects and demonstrations

www.facebook.com/quiltersguild6

Old Chapel Textile Centre

If anybody is having a clear out of books, fabrics etc. they can contact Linda Connell on 01635 38740 to arrange collection.

Festival of Quilts

This is now cancelled for this year. However, the competitions are still open and there are prizes to be won!

thefestivalofquilts.co.uk

Royal School of Needlework

has launched an international hand embroidered **Postcard from Home challenge**.

Have a look and see if you would like to take part.

www.royal-needlework.org.uk

Malvern Quilt Show

This is currently scheduled to take place on 16th-19th July but it remains to be seen whether it will be allowed to go ahead.....

Making PPE

Theresa, Sue D and Janice have been making PPE for local hospitals and care homes. They have made scrubs bags for Newbury Ambulance Station.



Others have been making the actual scrubs (see Geraldine's picture on page 1) which are the clothes worn in theatre.

There are several people nationally who have organised this and collected donated fabrics to distribute. You can find out more by doing an online search but a lot of the sites are American so make sure you have a UK one—

For the Love of Scrubs

Team Scrubbers - a local one

Scrub Hub

I have contacted Team Scrubbers and one of the first things they want to know is what experience you have of sewing techniques. This gives me confidence that things are being made to the correct standard so that they will be truly useful.

The face mask pattern is included at the end of this newsletter

Virtual Show and Tell

Here are some of the pictures I have been sent which show what Members have achieved during **Isewlation**

Julia has been busy with her BOM. This image was sent on 3rd April so I imagine she has made good progress since....



Gail has made a Star quilt which used up some sparkly Christmas fabrics



and a set of crazy coasters with the remnants.

Sue D has made a tote with a Royal Cross block in the centre



Hilary has made up this laptop or craft bag from a kit and it will be going into the exhibition raffle.

and a zipped pouch using a beautiful Liberty fabric.



Bev has a new book about making pin cushions and these fiddly pieces are only 3 inches wide. She has filled them with crushed walnut shells which she says gives them a nice weight.



Sue D has been having a go at hand embroidery with lots of French knots on this piece of printed linen.



This is the central block for a quilt which was quite a mathematical challenge to get the proportions correct . I was helped by a free pattern for the Red House quilt which I downloaded from the Quilters Guild.



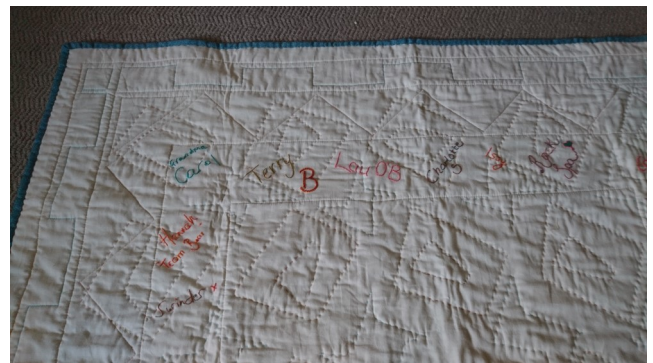
She has also made a lightweight Spring coat for her dog. Very smart!



Here are my makes since the last newsletter -



Reversible trousers for two of the grandchildren.



Pat Bu and I have completed a foundation pieced new baby quilt with a combination of machine and hand quilting . On the back it has been embroidered by Pat's daughter with the signatures of all the family and friends who attended the baby shower.



A ball for a new baby—a pattern that we were given at a monthly meeting some years ago, by Maureen I think, which has been used many times since.





Kirsty made this cushion on a Purple Stitches retreat using the vibrant colours of Oakshot Fabrics.



As well as making scrubs Geraldine has made up two of the blocks from Gail's BOM design.

By the By

Here is a quiz you may like to try—if you're old enough!

It is all about old money and for each clue the answer is a word which will give you a monetary value :-

1. Boy's name
2. Girl's name
3. Type of pig
4. Means of transport
5. Headwear
6. Mars/Jupiter/Saturn
7. Poorly sea creature
8. Singer
9. Incomplete underwear
10. Occupation

The total amount should be £17 17s 9d

Also this topical rainbow cushion. The pattern came from Paula Steels Modern Rainbow Patchwork Quilts book.

Please send me details and photos of what you have been making and I can put them in to the next newsletter

I have left the instructions for face masks on the next page of this newsletter in case anybody wants to make some but as I have said there are a lot more designs online , it depends who is going to be using them as to how complex they should be....

Facemasks

I have left these details in the newsletter as we still do not know whether we will be required to wear masks in the shops and on transport.....

I know that there is a great debate about whether home made facemasks do more harm than good but as long as you understand that they will not prevent you from catching Covid 19 then they could have a place....

Hayfever season is almost here so that means runny noses and sneezing for some. A facemask would prevent spraying droplets (which may unknowingly spread the virus) into the atmosphere; children have ordinary colds; I sneeze whenever I go in to bright sunshine.....

A google search will take you to various sites on how to make one but the one I used was

<http://bit.ly/2UiMkTk>

You need three layers of cotton fabric, a decorative one for the front, a different one so that you know which is the inside and a closely woven fabric for the centre. I used a piece of high thread count cotton sheeting but flannel will also do.

Large 7" x 10"

Med 6" x 9"

Small 5" x 7"

The adult ones can have a piece of elastic which hooks over the ears. I made mine 7" which was a little bit big for me but everyone has a different sized head so they may need a tuck in them to make them snug. For a small child you can make four ties from strips 1 1/2" wide.

I also inserted a piece of plastic coated garden wire (with the ends turned over with pliers) across the top of the adult sized ones which can be squeezed to go over the nose. This is trapped in place by the top-stitching on the edges. (a pipecleaner might do the same job). I don't know how this will wash and maybe I should have made a slot so that it could be removed for washing. However.....

These can only be worn once and should then be treated as if they are contaminated—as soon as you get home they should be immersed in boiling water or put into a sterilising solution and your hands thoroughly washed before touching anything else.

Take them off your face by taking hold of one piece of elastic and easing them off. If you want to take them off as you come out of the supermarket, for instance, they can be carefully dropped into a plastic bag which can then be sealed until you get home.

- Stich right sides together leaving a gap to turn through and trapping the elastic or ties into the sides (they will be inside the layers while you do this)
- Turn through, close the gap by hand and top stitch all the way round enclosing the wire if using.
- Make two pleats on each side and top stitch in place.

I found that the thickness of the layers was difficult for the machine to get through during the making of the pleats and had to stitch them by hand. This will depend upon your machine and the fabric used.

If you use a steam iron during the making up process this will sterilise the fabric to a certain degree.



Anyway, make of this what you will. I have made them for my grandchildren and have said that if nothing else they can be used for role-playing doctors and nurses!

N.B. update

Lady Sew and Sew have a printed panel to make up masks like these and also ones with a rounded front. You can make 6 for £15.95

I have heard of a lady in New Zealand who is churning out masks and then leaving them in a basket by her gate for anybody to take...!