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October 2017
Good morning Ladies,

Hello Ladies.

This is my last newsletter as your Chairman. You may remember that when I was first elected I said I did not have four legs and was not for sitting on. I know it is not very PC to be called Chairman, but that was how I felt, whoever follows me will I am sure will call themselves something different.

Last month we welcomed Melanie Messin Keating to give us a talk called 'Quilts from here to Eternity'. It was fascinating seeing Melanie's progress from the beginning with quilts that we have all probably made early in our quilting history and then watching how she developed into a quilt artist with some fascinating and beautiful work. She was a very entertaining and personable speaker and I thoroughly enjoyed the evening, especially seeing the stunning array of quilts Melanie brought along with her. I hope that she inspired you. Melanie held a workshop the following day entitled 'Dyeing the Colour Wheel'. I was sad I was unable to attend as from all the accounts of the day it was a fun filled and productive day.

On 16th October we held a UFO day at Digswell Village Hall. I was unable to attend this time, but I hear it was a happy and productive day.

Next meeting is our AGM and I promise we will get through the admin of the evening as soon as possible after which we will be having Two Corner demonstrations. It is also the beginning of our new year and subscriptions are due. We have not raised our prices for the third year running and so they are still £36.00, good value for an interesting 11 evenings.

On 7th-8th October it is Icknield Quilters Silver Jubilee exhibition at St Mary's Junior School, St Mary's Way, Baldock, SG7 6HY. £3.500 entrance. There will be plenty of cake and cookies plus a wonderful selection of quilts, so get yourself along there.

My final tip - Labelling your quilt. I know I have not always been the best at this, but it is important to give each quilt a little bit of information. Ideally you should have your name, the title of the quilt, to whom it is dedicated, if appropriate, and the date it is finished. This also helps in documenting for our archives. Quilts can be dated from the fabrics but it also helps us remember when we made a quilt. Quilts also have a huge amount of emotion put into each stitch. Perhaps you can remember a stage in your life by looking at a quilt. Do you also keep a record of your quilts made? Sometimes a photograph taken of a quilt you have given away will remind you of something long forgotten. Labels can be hand embroidered, or made with the clever machines that embroider it for you. You can also iron on freezer paper onto calico and cut it to the size of an A4 sheet of paper. This enables you to put it through your printers. You type your label with all the information you want, include some clip art if you fancy, then print it out and voila you have a very professional looking label.

I have thoroughly enjoyed being your Chairman and I wish you continued happiness in your quilting life.