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Good morning Ladies,

September is fast approaching, children will be returning to school and Idon't seem to have enjoyed much summer and sunshine except for a few very, very hot days in June or is it just me?

In spite of lack of sunshine I do hope you have enjoyed August. There was the Festival of Quilts at NEC which was a riot of colour and retailers. Some of the quilts were magnificent and mind blowing, each to their own at the end of the day. It was wonderful to see one of our own, Penny Chattey, showing one of her beautiful quilts based on her studies of Korean patchwork. Penny, perhaps you could bring it to show and tell for the benefit of those who have not seen it before? A fun packed day with plenty to see and spend but hard on the feet. I think the coach was quieter on the return than on the way there.

In July we enjoyed our summer party and as always you surpassed yourselves with your splendid array of goodies to savour. Thank you to the committee for their support and organisation of the food. Thank you also to Lucy of Secret Garden who brought along her fabulous range of fabrics. After the feasting we were treated to a feast for our eyes. We had the Miniature collection from the Quilters Guild. What a spectacular display there was too. There were postcards plus proper mini quilts perfect in every detail. I hope you were as impressed as I was. Thank you Penny for arranging this.

Next month we will be welcoming Melanie Messina Keating who will be talking about 'Dyeing the colour wheel'. This will be fascinating. Sometimes you work so hard trying to get the correct colour fabric, but if you could dye own you would have no trouble. I look forward to listening to Melanie for some tips on colour choices.

On 16th September we have planned a UFO date for you at the Digswell Village Hall from 10.00 - 4.00. There will be the list for you to sign up at the next meeting. The more of you there are the cheaper it is for you. I just need to cover the cost of the hall.

Dates of two local exhibitions for your diary. Priory Quilters, 23rd September at Royston Market Hill Rooms, SG8 5AL and Icknield Quilters on 7th and 8th October at St Mary's Junior School, Baldock, SG7 6HY.

Tip for the month - How to measure borders for your quilt? The best way to do this is to measure the quilt in the middle. The edges of a quilt twist, stretch and distort while sewing and are not an accurate measurement. Take this measurement and measure your border piece and make the quilt fit the border, not the other way round, adjusting if necessary. Measure the new length, again in the middle, make your borders and adjust and you will have a nice flat quilt with no wobbly edges.

Enjoy your sewing.