

Volume 2, Issue 9

I-Patc

Quilters' Guild of South Australia Inc

A focus on the month.

Hello everyone and welcome to the October edition of I-Patch!

I feel like the weather extremes of this past week are simply an echo of the extremes that have characterised 2020. The weekend before last I put off planting my seedlings because it was too hot then within days it was snowing in South Australia! It has been a challenging year in so many ways, but I am beginning to perceive a greater sense of normality within the community and within my own family. We share a digital calendar on our phones - even my son and daughter-in-law in Canada - and the recent six-month pattern of empty weeks are gradually being filled with routine dentist visits, haircuts, school events and meetings. For me personally it has been the joy of adding such things as Exec Committee Retreat, Sit and Sew days (now twice a month!), book club and lunch dates with friends that have so lifted my spirits.

But it is one event in particular that brings joy to my heart and I hope to many others - Quilt Encounter is almost here! How lucky are we to be able to hold this event during a year in which so many other quilting events have had to be cancelled? Our luck comes down to one simple factor - the commitment and hard work of Kerryn and the Quilt Encounter Committee. Anna, Joyce, Ros, Margaret, Gina, Heather, Leanne and Julie - on behalf of the Guild and the 142 2020QE attendees, thank you all for the tremendous effort you have made in order to make this event happen. Re-scheduling, new venue, border closures, social distancing, COVID implications and hours and hours of liaising with hotel staff were involved along with a small measure of finger crossing. A huge thank you too to our Treasurer, Keith Holland, for his untiring support of Kerryn and financial wisdom throughout this process.

The other wonderful quilting event that is on at the moment is the **War and Pieced** exhibition of Annette Gero's breathtaking military fabric quilts at the David Roche Foundation in North Adelaide. The reports that I have heard have been highly complementary, indicating a not-to-be-missed event. Please check the brochure within this edition of I-Patch for further information about this exhibition.

Last month members of the Guild's Executive Committee gathered in Mannum to share some fun sewing times, to undertake the obligatory trip to Mallee Country Connection in Karoonda but most importantly to farewell Anne Marie Serrano from the committee and to welcome Monique Reed to the committee. During that weekend Monique shared with us a little of her life story and Kathy Rossini was quick to sign her up to write an article for us in I-Patch. I hope you enjoy reading it as much as we enjoyed listening to Monique. Monique, welcome to our Executive Committee! I already know that you are going to be a wonderful asset to the Guild.



- Guild Meetings
- Quilt Shows
- Shop Classes
- Special Events
- Feature Articles
- Member information
- Latest News

I-Patch is a digital online newsletter for **Quilters' Guild of South Australia Inc** members which is sent as near as possible on the first of every month to members' email accounts.

I-Patch is intended to be a service to members in addition to the bi-monthly **Patches Newletter**.

Your I-Patch Team: Chris O'Brien Kathy Rossini

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Members of our Exec Committee are frequently being asked about when we plan to re-commence Guild meetings, so we thought it timely to explain the background to our decision making. The Burnside Council are allowing meetings of around 130 people, appropriately distanced, which we believe will use all the available space in the main hall. Because of COVID restrictions we cannot serve tea, coffee and biscuits so the kitchen wouldn't be available, nor would the library. This would theoretically leave the dining area available for a visiting shop, but we don't believe that we could satisfactorily manage social distancing requirements within that space. Additionally, all equipment and furniture used must be cleaned BOTH before and after the meeting. Cleaning around 250+ chairs is not a task that any of us would relish. So for now, Guild meetings are on hold. Unless government regulations change considerably (which is unlikely) we don't anticipate meeting until our May 2021 Annual General Meeting, which we legally must hold. We are canvassing ideas for a wonderfully fascinating/entertaining guest speaker for that night so if you are aware of a possible candidate please let us know.

I understand that many of us miss the socialisation, the shopping opportunity and the shared experiences of Show and Tell and guest speakers at Guild meetings. In truth, we simply can't go back to what we once had, to what we valued so much. Hopefully things might change next year.....

In the meantime, I encourage you all to enjoy the friendship and inspiration within your local quilting group. If you don't regularly attend one perhaps this is the time to consider joining one. Our Events Team, who manage Sit and Sew days, have added a second one to each month so joining the lovely group of quilters who attend on the second and fourth Wednesday of the month at the Vermont Uniting Church would be another option. It's a wonderfully relaxing day of stitching – hand or machine - and Show and Tell is always inspiring. Workshops are up and running again, thanks to Heather Ford's hard work, so please check out the Workshops page in I-Patch to see if there is a workshop that you might like to attend.

Finally, a huge and grateful thank you to all of the contributors, past and present, of I-Patch. We receive a lot of feedback each month and know that your stories are well and truly enjoyed by our members. It isn't the same as reading our hard copy Patches, but in this 'ever changing world in which we live in' most of us are comfortably adapting to reading a digital newsletter.

Wishing you all a happy and productive quilting month, and hopefully I'll catch up with some of you at Quilt Encounter.

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Chris



186 main South Road, Morphett Vale SA 5162. Phone 08-8384 8881 Email: <u>pbysea@bigpond.com</u> Web site: <u>http://www.patchworkbysea.com.au/</u>

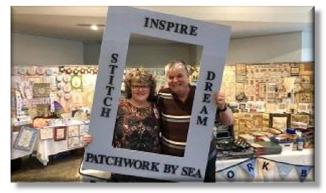
Patchwork by Sea was established in October 1998 by two friends Mary Rothe and Polly Taylor in a small shop on Jetty Rd Brighton. After fast outgrowing their first shop they moved the business to 47 Jetty Rd then again, to a bigger shop next door at 49 Jetty Rd.

Jennifer and Terry first met when they were just 16 at a combined school choir at Emu Plains High School which is at the foothills of the Blue Mountains in NSW. On the 20th September it was 43 years since they went on their first date together to a concert at the Sydney Conservatorium of Music and they have been soul mates ever since and married in 1982.

Jen has always had a passion for sewing from a young age and has even completed her Dressmaking Certificate through NSW Tafe. As a young stay at home mum with 3 young children, almost all their clothes were made at home by Jen. In 1993 Jen formed a small group of quilters in Minchinbury that would meet weekly in our house.

Terry meanwhile worked in the hardware industry and in his spare time played in a brass band, and that is where Adelaide originally came into the picture. After travelling to Adelaide for the Australian Championships over the Easter weekend of 1986, and two more road trips to Adelaide we decided to make the sea change and make the move in 1996.

With Jen's passion for quilting, it did not take long for her to join the Hallett Cove Quilters along with Patapinda Quilters. Terry meanwhile was still working in the hardware field and helping Jen with the cutting of her fabrics. In her spare time Jen also ran an online chat group in the days before Facebook. This kept her busy organising several different swap groups. One of these swap groups was for a quilt called *Autumn Leaves* that was published in an AP&Q magazine; we just had to find the quilt in amongst our collection. This is where the story of Terry's journey begins. Looking through the magazines for the quilt he came across a quilt that he fell in love with and asked Jen to make it for him. The polite reply to that was "if you want that then you can make it yourself". The quilt was a twisted bargello. With Jen's guidance and tuition that became his first quilt in 2001.



Now that we were both hooked on quilting it was always our dream that we would own a patchwork shop, and when Patchwork By Sea was put up for sale in 2007 we jumped at the opportunity to purchase it. Jen worked in the shop seven days a week for the first six months and Terry was still working in hardware six days a week and in the shop on his day off. After seven months he left his job and joined Jen fulltime in February 2008.

Traveling interstate to the Craft and Quilt fairs became a regular occurrence for many years and we enjoyed getting to meet some of our customers from around Australia.

Jen's passion has developed into hand embroidery and machine applique while Terry enjoys piecing and particularly foundation piecing. We work hand in hand with Jen working on the stitcheries for the quilt and Terry putting the quilt together.

After several years we decided to move the business onto Brighton Rd to make parking an easier task but after 2½ years it was decided that the building we were renting would be demolished to make way for a medical centre. That was when we made the decision to move to Morphett Vale were our new shop would have a dedicated area for our classroom for our Sew & Chats and workshops.

We now run a very well -established block of the month program offering over 30 different quilts to take part in with many quilters taking part in 2 or more at the same time. We are always looking for new quilts to add to our program. We have several



planned for release in the coming months with *Bee Mindful* by Michele Hill starting very soon. Another two coming later this year will be *Duck Duck Goose* and *Make Ready for Christmas*.



We keep a large range of embroidery threads in stock with the complete collection of Cottage Garden Threads signature range in stranded and Perle 8 and 12s. Also, from CGT are four of the stranded edit ranges by Katie Dawson, Brenda Ryan, Amy Kallissa and Lisa Mattock. That is another 112 glorious colours bringing the total of stranded threads to 334. We also keep DMC, Threadworx (the old Needle Necessities) and Cosmo solid colours and Seasons variegated threads.

We like to keep a large range of books, patterns, batiks, Sashiko panels and Olympus threads and reproduction fabrics. We are now a stockist of Laundry Basket Fabrics and Tilda fabrics along with the Tilda Club which is a bi-monthly program making small projects designed by Australian designers.

Both Jen and Terry now teach in the shop and welcome beginners to our 8-week beginner's class. Jen focusing her teaching on her passion for hand work techniques while Terry likes to pass on his knowledge of piecing and working with rulers, particularly Creative Grids rulers.

Two years ago, we started running our own Inspire Stitch Dream stitchers retreat which has grown in size and has become very popular with locals and interstate attendees. Located at Hahndorf in the beautiful Adelaide Hills in September, the retreat runs over two days and features three lovely Australian designers each year. This has previously booked out within days of the bookings being opened. Due to Covid-19 this year's retreat has been postponed to February next year, so there will be two retreats in 2021 which will keep us on our toes.



Continued next page

Our journey over that past 13 years has seen some ups and downs and trying times but over that time we have made some very special friendships. Since moving to Morphett Vale business has bloomed and we have been welcomed with open arms. We would like to take this opportunity to thank all our loyal customers for your support over the previous years and we look forward to helping you over the many years to come.

Thank you for taking the time to read a little about us. Stay safe wherever you may be.

Jen and Terry



Note from the Quilters' Guild of South Australia. Jen and Terry have been great supporters of the Guild through their participation at Guild meetings and at Quilt Encounter in 2019.





GUILD RETREAT 2020

The Guild Executive Committee and helpers attended a two-day retreat in Mannum at the beginning of September. Rest, relaxation and quilting were the aims of the weekend. We celebrated Anne Marie's birthday and commiserated with Jo about her impending knee operation. Show and Tell was an important element of the weekend with lots of projects started, underway or finished. (Note: the retreat was at no cost to the Guild).





Back Row: Jane Polden, Dorothy Paterson, Margaret Sampson, Chris O'Brien (President), Heather Ford, Peggy Argent, Michael Barton, Jill Christian, Ann Ewer, Bron Atkinson.

Front Row: Cindy Massey, Monique Reed, Emilie Knight, Jo Reardon. Absent: Jan Goulter, Keith Holland.



Monique is the newest member of the Guild Executive



I have always been crafty with a particular inclination toward fabric crafts. My mother and grandmother loved to sew and embroider (and bake) so I learnt to sew from a young age. I loved the

feel of different fabrics, textures and playing with ribbons, buttons, beads and cottons. I have always loved 'making things', cutting, sticking, colour, shiny things, painting anything creative. I don't have an artistic flare and I don't have an eye for colour, but I love the process of creating.

I started with making dolls cloths and soft toys, winning a prize in the royal show when I was about 12 for a cloth doll. After making a skirt in home economics at school I tried to learn more about dress making and stretch sewing. I drifted away from sewing and spent time trying all the popular crafts at the time – decoupage, folk art, cross stitch, card making, knitting and scrapbooking.



In 1990 I married Ian, my high school sweetheart and made all the crafty additions for our wedding – ring cushions, church decorations, table decorations etc. In 1993 we bought our first home and I made

everything to match in pink – curtains, cushions, table clothes, towel edgings, tissue box covers, everything lace edged and frilly...... it makes me cringe to think of it now.

In the mid 90's I was working shift work in nursing and found myself at home in the mornings while all my friends worked 9-5 and were at home in the evenings. So I was looking for company and a creative challenge and joined a series of weekly quilting workshop classes – I was hooked. I quickly became addicted to quilting and quilting fabrics and although at times I drifted away to get involved in other crafts I have always come back to quilting again as it has been the hobby that has stuck.



Our daughter Ariel was born in 1998 and again I began sewing clothes and made a lot of her little outfits, p.j.'s, nappy bags, toys etc. As friends had their babies, I made them matching cot quilts, sheets and quilted nappy bags.



In 1999 we left Australia to move to China for a year's placement with the intention of returning at the end of that year (I wasn't sure I would last 6 weeks!) but we didn't come back to live in Australia for 13 years.

During that time away we were fortunate enough to travel, live and work in some very interesting locations around the world. Both Ian and I had paid roles and volunteer roles throughout those years and I have loved nursing. It has given me lots of opportunities to work in so many interesting areas and meet lots of wonderful people.



While we were travelling I didn't make a lot of quilts as cotton fabric, thread and wadding

wasn't readily available and I couldn't afford to purchase it and have it posted in, so I made other sewing projects for Ariel and her friends using whatever materials I could source.

I took my Janome everywhere tucked between my

feet on planes - I wrapped it in a towel and put it in a nappy bag on my shoulder and strolled nonchalantly onto planes pretending it was weightless. My husband just shook his head as we got funny looks going through airport security, but as you can imagine it was my precious cargo



and I wasn't moving without it. On one move our luggage was lost - we had no clothes, no shoes, no toiletries - nothing - but I had my machine. This machine had done a million kilometres of sewing for me without a hiccup over the years, mending clothes for lots of people we met along the way, making costumes and making our many temporary homes more homely.

Everywhere we lived I have hunted out the local textiles. In China I visited blue and white calico factories and silk embroidery workshops. In Malaysia I learnt to make traditional batiks by hand drawing wax designs onto vast lengths of fabric. In the United Arab Emirates and Oman – I loved roaming the souk markets, fondling tapestries, carpets/rugs, and heavily decorated upholstery fabrics.



In the UK I stared gobsmacked at the incredible embroidery and tapestries in many historic buildings.

It wasn't until I moved to the Philippines that I really retuned to quilting. I found the fabric printing factories that were making quilting fabric for the USA and was able to buy cheap, excellent fabric there. You can imagine my excitement when I discovered that they sold the fabric by weight and it was incredibly cheap. It was unpredictable as some time you could get whole bolts, and other times only 30 – 50 centimetres, all stored in dusty corrugated iron sheds. These were all 'seconds' fabric of the latest collections heading to the US. Sometimes I would make the trek to the fabric area of the industrial part of the city and find nothing of use and other days I would be in heaven finding multiple pieces from the same collection.

Initially I didn't meet anyone else who was interested in quilting in the expat or local community, so I used

to watch Jenny Doan for patterns and inspiration to make quilts with my fabric finds. I spent a lot of time watching her initial YouTube videos when she really was the only one producing anything like that.



Eventually I met two Americans and a British lady and we would try to meet regularly to sew and share ideas and got involved in teaching hand sewing for local women as a job/home industry creation project.

When I returned to Adelaide, I made a brief attempt to find a quilt group but all the groups I contacted met in the day time and as I was working full-time I couldn't make it to group sessions.

One day I was at the gym and I saw Heather Ford riding an exercise bike wearing a quilting T-shirt from one of the USA quilt shows – that shirt was like a magnet to me. We got talking and she invited me to join The After Dark Quilters – that was 7 years ago and I have made some fabulous friends there and love the time we spend together. I have a bit of a reputation for having far too many things on the go at once and an obsession for making table runners.

I have sporadically attended guild meetings but almost two years ago decided I really wanted to improve my skills and connection to the quilting community so now attend regularly and aim to formally assist into the future.continued from previous page I now have a sewing room, many many many UFO's, I spend way too much money on fabric, I love attending classes and workshops to improve my piecing and I'm looking forward to my first Quilt Encounter experience.

I have talked my sister into starting quilting and really enjoy this sport together.

I wish I had more time to make Art Quilts and I dream of being locked in a fabric store overnight – possibly in a little town in Missouri.



Ian, Ariel and Monique

To access Jane and Cindy's YouTube October I-Patch video interview with Monique, click on <u>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Qg7ejMjuskY</u> or copy and paste the web address into your web browser.

Call for Entries

Australian Quilts in Public Places—2021 Where in the World?



11th November—18th December 2021

Whitehorse ArtSpace, Box Hill Town Hall, Melbourne

Quilters are invited to demonstrate their talents and originality interpreting the theme *"Where in the World?"*. AQIPP is a juried, judged and sponsored exhibition which is open to all quilters in Australia.

The theme *"Where in the World?"* can be interpreted in time, in space, in form and in meaning.

Entries close: 17th September 2021

For entry form: <u>www.australianquiltersassociation.com</u> For more information email: <u>judybell@bigpond.net.au</u>



"On the Way to Appeiltern" Anne Cocks



Embellished Wool Felt Appliqué

Tutor: Jill Christian When: Saturday, 24 October 2020. One vacancy left. Workshop Code: JC9520 Where: Vermont Uniting Church, 576 Cross Road, South Plympton Time: Doors open 9am for 9.30am start. 4pm finish. Cost: \$60 individual Guild members: \$65 members of affiliated groups: \$70 non-members.





Contact: Heather Ford at email workshops.saquilters@gmail.com or phone 0438 272408 to enrol.

Laura Heine with Sue Knuckey

...Ever wanted to make a Laura Heine wall hanging well here's your chance, join the **"Laura Heine** with Sue Knuckey" workshop. Purchase a pattern and Sue will guide you through making a collage fabric masterpiece, a relaxing and creative process. Sue has permission from Laura to teach using her patterns. You can find all of Laura's patterns on her web site at <u>https://www.fiberworks-heine.com/</u>

Tutor: Sue Knuckey When: Saturday, 14 November 2020 WORKSHOP FULL. Workshop Code: SK141120

When: Saturday, 27 February 2021 TAKING BOOKINGS NOW. Workshop Code: SK270221

Where: Vermont Uniting Church, 576 Cross
Road, South Plympton
Time: Doors open 9am for 9.30am start.
4pm finish.
Cost: \$70 FOR INDIVIDUAL Guild members.

\$80 for affiliated members and non-Guild members.

Contact: Heather Ford at email workshops.saquilters@gmail.com or

phone 0438 272408 to enrol.

You can find all information and details including application form on the Guild web site at

http://www.saquilters.org.au/Workshops.htm



Laura Heine Collage—"Caravan"

McLaren Vale Patchworkers with Cindy Massey and Jane Polden

Well your favourite roving reporters have been at it again, but this time we dropped in to visit the McLaren Vale Patchworkers on a lovely Monday morning. This group of funny, lively, artistic and diversely skilled women meet on the first and third Monday of each month to sew, laugh, chat and spend time together perfecting their craft. We've also been told that on the occasions there is a fifth Monday of a month, several members get together and visit, you guessed - it a patchwork shop, and a pub lunch.

They have been meeting for more than thirty years and still have a couple of their original members. Over the years the group has made many quilts to support their local communities, but Heather, the spokesperson for the group advised that the group had chosen to support a local indigenous women's shelter for several years. Every Christmas McLaren Vale Patchworkers donate domestic cleaning products and buckets as requested (and often more pleasing surprises) to women and their children to assist them when moving into their own accommodation.

McLaren Vale Patchworkers also hosts a Soup and Sew day annually (except 2020) where they invite another sewing group to join them for the day. All attendees are provided with a small activity that is completed on the day, and of course soup for lunch. Patchworkers never get together without a show and tell, and this event is no exception with both groups sharing what has been happening within their groups. This is always a great day, enjoyed by many.

Another annual event for this group is a challenge that is issued at the first meeting of the year, previous challenges have included creating "something" that portrayed friendship, a recycling challenge, and this year a Mystery Quilt, we think 2020 will indeed go down as a Mystery Year in more ways than one.

If this sounds like a group you would like to catch up with, or even if you are inthe area, why not contact Jo Reardon on mobile 0418 402 979.

Secret: Jane and I are both member of this group, and they had to be our guinea pig testing group.

To access Jane and Cindy's YouTube October I-Patch video interview with The McLaren Vale Patchworkers click on <u>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JDEVQh1ehPs</u> or copy and paste the web address into your web browser.



Visiting Cheryl Brunato with Cindy Massey and Jane Polden

We have checked out another sewing space, and this one belongs to Cheryl Brunato, a member of McLaren Vale Patchworkers, and on the day we visited Cheryl, her beautiful garden was in full bloom, it looked and smelt amazing. Cheryl happily invited us in and fed us chocolate cake with tea and coffee (this is a tough job, but someone must do it).

Cheryl's mum and gran taught her to sew when she was quite young, but she didn't actually discover patchwork until she was living in Hong Kong with her husband Mark, having moved for Marks work. Cheryl claimed that although she had tried many different crafts, she was hooked on patchwork from the beginning. Cheryl does have a sewing room, which is a beautiful light filled room with a full view of her garden but she also admitted that she tends to have some sewing paraphernalia in every room, (a girl of my own heart) She sews on a Huskvana machine and enjoys both hand and machine work.

Things we learnt about Cheryl

She is a beautiful water colour artist, something she learned in Hong Kong, and she has a very large wine rack, which made it very difficult to get Jane out of the house!!! Not only did we get to check out Cheryl's sewing room, we also had a tour of the garden, which came with all sorts of beautiful cuttings. What a lovely day we shared.

If you would like to share your sewing space with us and the world, please contact us and don't and forget to check out our video

Jane 0400 873131 Cindy 0413 097 546

To access Jane and Cindy's YouTube October I-Patch video interview with Cheryl click on <u>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UhnzLSwtJlI</u> or copy and paste the web address into your web browser.





I have been thinking about the changing world we live in, how 2020 has been so heavily impacted by the Coronavirus and the changes it has placed on our 'normal' way of life. Despite all this, for me 2020 will always be a year that I will treasure, as we welcomed my beautiful first grandchild, Princess Lila, into the world and no virus will ever outshine that.

From a quilter's point of view, it has been a time of mystery (actually many mysteries, which I am still trying to quilt), and a new internet togetherness despite being isolated from each other for many months. We have made new friends all over the world, shared a love of quilting, family, weather, gardens and sewing rooms. This led us to share our sewing spaces on our Facebook mystery sites, leading to the inaugural *Cindy and Jane World Sewing Room Tours*, with us focussing on local South Australian quilters, due to COVID international travel restrictions, Australian border restrictions and the fact that I don't have a passport.

But then I thought, when did quilters actually acquire a dedicated sewing room? I think back to my beautiful Nanna Greenbottle, a name affectionately given to my nan by my Grandad. Greenbottle was a magnificent tailoress, loved knitting and crocheting and was my introduction to the sewing machine and a love of textiles. Did she or any of her friends have a sewing room?? NO, she had a tiny space at the end of the kitchen table, where she would set up her machine, and a wicker cane basket with a lid, which held every sewing delight you could think of , but today would look very meagre when I look at my concoction of tools and gadgets that I have collected. But the treasury of items that came from this kitchen table were beautiful, lasting and some are still very loved today, many years after Greenbottle's passing.

So, when did we feel the need to acquire dedicated sewing rooms or quilt studios? Don't get me wrong, I finally have a sewing room that I love it but it's not big enough! I now call my house my sewing studio, which in my mind lets me have sewing paraphernalia in every room. But on the downside, it means that it is no longer somebody's bedroom.

I think of Ming Su's winning quilt, titled *It's the Singer not the Song*, which she quilted on a Singer treadle sewing machine, and think that maybe we should instead be looking at people's sewing spaces, whether it be an elaborate fully equipped sewing room, a space in the shed or, like Greenbottle, a spot at the end of the kitchen table.



We would love to see your space and your creations, so watch out for more interesting *Cindy and Jane's World Sewing Space Tours*!

2021 Dates

We have recently been notified of the following dates for Craft & Quilt Fairs in 2021.

- AQC Melbourne 15th 18th April
- Perth 19th -23rd May
- Sydney 23rd 27th June
- Melbourne 22nd 25th July
- Canberra 23rd 26th September
- Brisbane 13th-16th October
- The Festival of Quilts in Adelaide is planned for 30th April 2nd May.
- Victoria's One Step Further Exhibition October 1st to November 30th 2021, at the Kyabram Town Hall.

It is possible, depending on the status of the pandemic, that these dates may be altered.





An excited crowd gathered for the **Remarkable Quilters** retreat recently at our local Camp Willochra, after a postponement of two months.

Some of our members had a distance to travel and we do not see them regularly. Projects were started as soon as we set up the room and the fun began.

After a warm Thursday and Friday, we were surprised to get rain over night which was most welcome by farmers and everyone.

As a special treat on Saturday afternoon Jayne and Jerrell opened their little coffee shop for us and Bill came with freshly made scones, with homemade jam and cream.

We were pleased with the response for 'show and tell' after dinner on Saturday night, with a wide array of treasures from the post.

The delighted girls with a lot of started and/or finished projects reluctantly left on Sunday morning.

All voted that it was an excellent time of work, fun and food.

Gweneth McCallum







l was born in Unley in 1946 and have an older sister. When my father returned from war my parents Edna and Bob Howard bought a property in Woodville where I grew up .I attended Woodville Primary and later Woodville High. My father had a semi

Thread painted portrait

trailer business and was away from home lots. When he returned home from his trips he would stop at the gate and blow the horn and I would run out and drive the truck down the drive and park it. I think I was born before my time as I would have made a great "lady truckie" but alas my mother was more interested in making me a "lady". I went to calisthenics classes representing the state in competitions, and later I took ballet lessons and became a member of the S.A. Ballet Co.

When I left school I was a Comptometrist. I worked in Port Adelaide where I met my husband Rob. He was the Accountant and I was the "girl Friday." We married in 1968. I have worked at several firms including Pepsi Cola and General Motors Holden at Woodville. I was on the team that fed data into their computer. This was when computers first started. WOWmakes me feel old! I later worked at Coca Cola and when people asked me what I did I told them I put the bubbles in coke.

Rob and I were married when I was 21 and lived in Campbelltown for a year while we built our home in Pooraka where we still live.

In my heart I wanted to be a teacher and taught Calisthenics at two clubs for seven years, retiring when I became a mum. We started our family in 1972 with our son Damien and in 1975 Melissa arrived. Rob and I built a shack on the Murray River at Zadows Landing which we still have. When the kids were young we would go there most weekends and water ski from daybreak to dusk - til the mozzies sent us home. I don't do any waterskiing now but do a lot of watching having had both knees replaced over ten years ago.

When I was not working and playing mum I went to Tafe at night and did a four year course in dressmaking.

As we didn't have much money I made most of our clothes. I always loved baking and as you did, each year you made birthday cakes for the family so when I saw an advert in the paper that cake decorating classes were starting at Tafe I jumped at the opportunity. I went to classes for about three years and successfully competed in cake decorating competitions. I was approached by one of my teachers to see if I was interested in teaching, so again I took the opportunity and taught Cake Decorating for Tafe for seven years. I just love teaching - it is so rewarding.

I returned to the workforce when Rob came home from work and announced the switchboard girl at his office was going on maternity leave and he needed someone to work for the time she was absent. So back to work I went. Because most of the staff had changed we kept it secret we were married. Clients were unaware, what a joke, I stayed eight years.

One day on his way back from a work trip Rob saw an old Army Landrover for sale on the side of the road....he decided to buy it .Our life would never be the same again! I instantly fell in love with it. My test drive was after work in my white skirt and white high heels.....good colours to drive in a dirty landrover. The only thing wrong with it was it didn't have two steering wheels and I didn't share....much to Rob's dismay.

We joined the Landrover Club and went on many trips - me driving - you had to be quick to get in the driver's seat before me. On one trip we passed an air strip where they were doing parachute jumps and after going in to "have a look" I did my first parachute jump. What a buzz that was!



The only problem was I lost my gold diamond earrings so a farmer near Palmer will have a \$ find one day. It was about six months later I bought myself a Landrover - red - because I knew Rob was missing out. Soon I was known as "Mrs Landrover". I think this was the truck I never had.

In the 4WD club I did training and became a trainer myself. I went to night school to get my Certificate 4 accreditation so I could teach more people on a larger scale, and give talks at 4WD clubs. I was teaching people to drive their vehicles off road. I was the only lady trainer and taught both men and women. I think I started the movement for ladies to drive their 4WDs and not let the guys have all the fun. I became Chairman of the Driver Training Unit of the 4WD association. It was predominantly a male orientated unit and I was soon known as "Madam Lash".

When the company I worked for in Port Adelaide closed, I thought I would retire—not me- I nearly drove Rob up the wall.

I saw a course in the local paper for unemployed people to learn industrial machine sewing. I applied and was accepted. After six months of learning the machines and helping my fellow students, I finished the course and got my certificate for Industrial Sewing Machine Operator. I applied for a job sewing canvas, making camper trailers. I worked there for three years then moved on to making blinds and curtains.

I then decided I had worked for the man for long enough and decided to start up my own business sewing tents, swags, shadehouse covers, quilt frame bags and anything in between.

One day while visiting a pawn shop in Port Adelaide with Rob, I bought my first embroidery machine and this started my quilting life which I still enjoy; mind you I have multiple machines but no long arm - yet! I did a two-year stint on the Quilters' Guild committee as Workshops Convenor. I have been a quilter for approximately fifteen years. My first quilt was for my mother when she was in a nursing home. We both thought is it was fabulous but I have improved a lot since then.

The last quilt I made I entered in the Guild 2019 Festival of Quilts and was awarded the Patron's Award. I have tried to enter



in all the quilt shows and get very excited when I win a prize.



Patron's Award—2019 Festival of Quilts Machine embroidery is my passion, but free motion is becoming a close second.

On reflection I have taught English to migrants in our neighbourhood house teaching them how to read the "junk" mail they get in their letter box.

I was involved with Operation Flinders taking boys and girls at risk to Blinman in the Flinders Ranges.

I have taught many things and love to share my knowledge as it is very rewarding but never taught quilting.... But my journey is not over yet.

Watch this space!



Guild Sit and Sew days will now be held twice monthly due to popular demand.

- Where: The Vermont Uniting Church hall at 576 Cross Road, South Plympton
- When: The second and fourth Wednesday of the month.
- Time: 10am to 3pm.
- **Cost:** \$10 for Guild members and \$15 for non-Guild members.

Come and join in on the fun. You are welcome to bring handwork or your sewing machine.

Due to Coronavirus requirements social distancing will apply and no shared food. Please bring a cup.

If you are interested in attending, please email Cindy Massey at registrar.saquilters@gmail.com

Looking forward to seeing you there.

See below for some photos of Sit and Sew held on 23 September, lots of fun and lots done!



Andie Marten's Story

Andie joined the Quilter's Guild of South Australia Inc in 2014

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I fell in love with the visual and tactile nature of textiles when I was four or five years old. My great uncle George was a commercial traveller in haberdashery and would give me his old fabric sample swatch books – silky fabrics, fine voiles with tiny flocked spots, florals, stripes, strokeable velvets – each one in a tiered variety of colourways. I loved those sample books as much as any story book.

My mother, a very patient woman, taught me how to use a sewing machine when I was about nine or ten. When I was in my 'make an outfit to wear that night' teenage years, my father, seeing me foot to the floor on the pedal, said 'watching you at the sewing machine, there's no way I'm teaching you to drive!' And he didn't!



Spirit of Place—Auckland

I was brought up, the middle child of three children, in a beach suburb of Auckland with a mother who painted, drew, stitched, and later became a spinner and weaver and a builder and boat builder father with the most amazing home workshop that we children could use (as long as we put the tools away), – an old dentist drill for engraving, a wood lathe, masses of off-cuts, wood and metal – something for any project you could imagine. We were always encouraged to be creatively busy. As an adult while working in the corporate world, I dabbled in many crafts – leadlight, silk painting, print making as well as always making clothes for myself, my children, my friends and at one stage, on commission for a local dress shop. In the late 1980s workmates in Darwin introduced me to quilting, the magic of the quarter inch seam and free motion machine quilting (endless stippling at that stage). This in turn led to exploring many 'art textile' techniques with fellow curious quilters.



Spirit of Place-Migration Turtles

Around the same time, also in Darwin, I attended an art bookbinding workshop with American artist, Sandy Webster – the first of many workshops I've done with Sandy, the latest being in Halls Gap in 2019 (her 14th trip to Australia).

When Tony and I moved to Adelaide in 2005, poor little cold Darwinites that we were, we slept for the first little while, until I could quilt it, under a sandwiched and pinned quilt. A fabulous stroke of luck had us move to Belair the year the Coromandel Valley Quilters held their bi-annual exhibition at the Belair Primary School. I'd never seen such stunning quilts! I put my name down on a waiting list and have been a Coro member ever since, proud to be part of such an inspirational group, both in their skills and their strong community spirit.

Chance intervened again. A conversation with Julie Haddrick at Coro one night in 2006 had me sign up to do the Certificate III then IV in *Visual Arts* – *Textiles* at Marden College. Heaven! Every technique you could imagine and no more having to explain to non-textile people just what I was going to do with one crazy piece or another – 'it's homework,' I'd say. And best of all, spending time with a room full of like-minded people, some of whom became my closest friends and collaborators.

Throughout the years I entered quilts and art quilts in the QGSA Festival of Quilts. The first award I won was either a second or third for a small pictorial quilt called '*Quilters wear comfy shoes'*, then, I think in 2010, a first for an art quilt I made using an image of my mother running on a beach superimposed over the poem she'd written on the back of the photo called '*Windblown Waif*'. In 2018 I was surprised and excited to win another first for a large pieced quilt called '*Tangled up in Blue*'.









Tangled up in Blue

Meanwhile I continued with bookbinding and other forms of visual story telling. I had the great privilege of spending a day a week for several years learning traditional book binding and book conservation from Master Binder Anthony Zammit, and for several years have attended a six day workshop first at Geelong then Halls Gap learning various techniques and ways of extending my creative thinking from Sandy Webster.

This all led to my being part of a group of four of who put on two exhibitions at Gallery M, first '*With words/without words*' in 2016 which included a little library I made to hold 23 tiny handmade books on a variety of subjects, a set of six embroideries telling the story of the life cycle of the Monarch and various other books and themed containers containing found objects and tiny books, such as the fish box based on a favourite quote:

The purpose of a fish trap is to catch fish. When the fish are caught, the trap is forgotten.

The purpose of words is to convey ideas. When the ideas are grasped, the words are forgotten.

Chang Tzu

Windblown Waif

The 'Spirit of Place' exhibition was held in 2018. I travelled down four pathways; 'memory of place', where I constructed a series of six tiny houses on small wooden islands representing places I have lived, 'immersed in place', 'the pull of place' which included embroidered panels on migratory creatures, and 'the otherness of place'. I like my pieces to tell a story so I may use stitch, paper, print, 3D constructions – whatever medium effectively conveys the ideas.

In this recent more confined to home time, I've had lots of fun creating a Treasure Island quilt for a six year old grandson's birthday and finished a hand appliqued quilt I call, appropriately, '80 Circles' as well as putting the finishing touches to a 3D piece referencing the constant conversation Tony and I have about downsizing, tentatively called 'She's leaving home'.continued from previous page

A group of friends I meet up with and share a house with in Halls Gap in March each year have set a challenge to make a book a month, with content, each one bound in a different manner. Having started enthusiastically in the early months of lockdown, I seem to have slowed to a crawl. I've a feeling I'm not going to make the current book before the end of the month!

It's all glorious play and I feel very lucky to have the luxury of being able to have a head full of such creative nonsense to keep my heart happy and my hands busy. My mother would approve!

Andie Marten



Paper Fish





Isabelle's Monarch



80 Circles Quilt



She's Leaving Home



Treasure Island



How long do you keep things?

It's nice to have photos as a step to giving things a new home. I have decluttered all my belongings except (until now) my special crafted items.

These examples go all the way back to high school...the crochet poncho, remade later as a pram blanket. Cross stitch for our 'country home' at One Tree Hill. Hedebo lace and wool embroidery via Embroiderers Guild. Paper tole from a weekend craft retreat in Barossa Valley. Tooth fairy cushion (heart) I think I had that idea myself. Basket making, dolls and teddy bears just three of probably ten plus wonderful classes at the annual Flinders Fibre school, Melrose. Stained glass appliqué an early experiment when I discovered Patchwork.

Photos via phone - some of my very first attempts at patchwork quilting - photos taken before they exit the building!







It has been several months since putting 'pen to paper' sharing news! Hopefully everyone has come out the other side of the COVID19 pandemic well! I have to say it is nice to resume a little 'normality', whilst remembering not to become complacent!

Recently the Inman Quilters moved their meeting place to the Inman Valley Memorial Hall at 1713 Inman Valley Road, Inman Valley. Although it wasn't very far down the road it took huge effort and time! Many thanks must go to those who made this happen! We continue to meet on the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays of the month between 10.30 until 2.30. If you are over this way on any of these occasions please feel welcome to 'pop in'' and say hello over a 'cuppa' !

Members have welcomed the opportunity to meet once again, share show 'n' tell and enjoy each other's company, post isolation. Our COVID Marshall model, Helen [below] demonstrates the importance of maintaining social distancing!

Breakfast prior to our August meeting was a great event held at Belicious! This not only provided a great start to the day for 28 of our members with an occasion to socialise but to support local business. Many thanks to Barb Foulds who organised this. Belgian waffles were the speciality, in several forms including with fruit or eggs/bacon and maple syrup, along with coffee. Delicious/ Belicious! Thank you!

"Lockdown" provided a great opportunity to finish off some of those UFO'S. Subject to COVID restrictions and hopefully no fresh outbreaks of COVID our Biennial Quilt Exhibition will be held April 10th,11th and 12th, 2021. So watch this space!

Happy quilting and until next time. Sue McKay Publicity Officer



Two of the many quilts completed whilst in isolation





Breakfast at Belicious



Helen as our model!!



Nancy in her beautiful jacket.



During this time of isolation which has been thrust upon the world by that pesky virus, what did quilters do? They rallied to support each other through their quilting communities, meeting when it was safe to do so and participating in online activities to keep in touch. Quilters' Guild of South Australia President Chris O'Brien, designed the first mystery quilt in April which attracted over 560 members from Australia and around the world. The project was offered in steps on the Facebook platform.

All the instructions are available on the Guild web site where you can enjoy making this beautiful quilt. Go to <u>http://www.saquilters.org.au/2020-casa-felix-mystery-quilt.htm</u>. You will have the advantage of knowing the finished design.

Below is a small selection of some of the finished quilts.



Anne Marie Serrano



Molly Finney



Sheila Oaten



Bron Atkinson



Sharon Heathfield



Kay Wilson



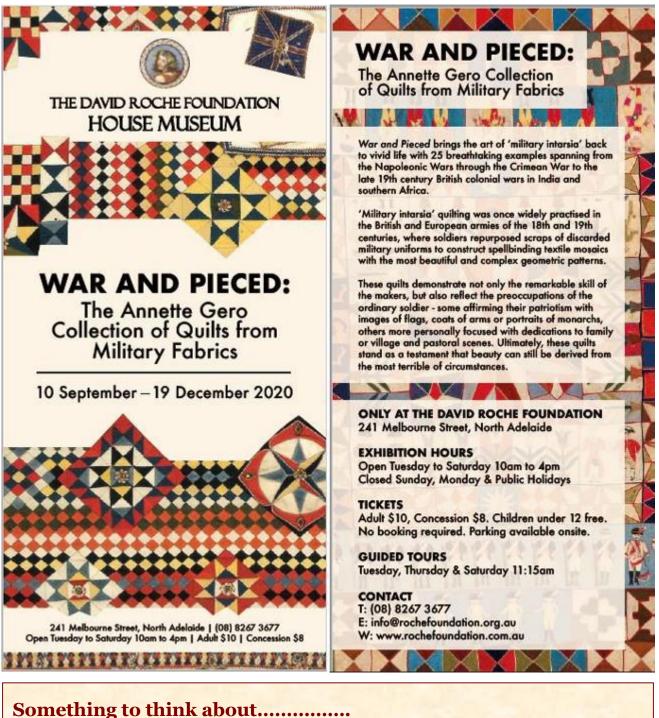
Kathy Rossini



Jill Radcliffe



Susan Snooks



Something to think about.....

A group of students were asked what they thought were the present "*Seven Wonders of the World*".

The following received the most votes:

1. Egypt's Great Pyramids. 2. Taj Mahal. 3. Grand Canyon. 4. Panama Canal.

5. Empire State Building. 6. St. Peter's Basilica. 7. China's Great Wall.

However, one little girl hesitated in submitting her suggestions which were:

And because we can:-

1. To See. 2. To Hear. 3. To Touch. 4. To Taste. 5. To Feel. 6. To Laugh. 7. To Love. 8. To Quilt!