

I-Patch

A focus on Quilting

Hello everyone and welcome to this February edition of I-Patch!

I hope that you all had a lovely summer break and managed to get some quilting projects started or ticked off of your UFO list. Once again I found myself looking forward to starting some new projects in the first week of January – somehow I just can't help myself! I'm trying very hard though to balance new projects with the completion of older ones, and so far, so good.

I overheard my husband whisper to Miss 6 the other day – '*Grandma's on the phone again*', and I realised that life is pretty much back to normal for me. I had no idea when I became President how frequently the phone would ring, and how diverse the conversations would be. As an Executive Committee we have had a lot to talk about lately for we really are aiming to return to our normal(ish) Guild programme. You would have received an email last month informing you that as from February we will be resuming our Guild meetings. It has been 11 months since we last gathered and life has changed in so many ways in that time.

Guild meetings will be a little different for the Meetings Team have had to review our regular processes and layout and modify both in order to conform to COVID safe practices. Our main hall area will be entirely devoted to seating so that we can comfortably social distance. Under the conditions of Burnside's COVID Safe Plan we can have 140 in our main hall area and so as to ensure that we comply we have set up a free ticketing system through Eventbrite. In case you have misplaced your email with instructions on how to access a ticket, here are the links:

NIGHT MEETING

Thursday 4th February 2021 - doors open at 7:15pm for 8pm start
Book your ticket with this link: [Eventbrite Night Meeting](#)

DAY MEETING

Wednesday 17th February 2021 - doors open at 12:45pm for 1.30pm start
Book your ticket with this link: [Eventbrite Day Meeting](#)

Program information for these meetings is available on the Guild web site by clicking [here](#) and in this edition of I-Patch.

Under the conditions of Eventbrite ticketing our event must be deemed free, but to help cover the costs of hall hire we will have a basket at the door should you wish to donate your regular entry fee.

Two wonderful teams of women have plans to help us celebrate our return to meetings, so without giving anything away I'd like to thank Heather Ford and team, along with Sonia Holton and team for helping to make it a celebratory event.

Our shop will be set up where our library usually is and team tables (ie Quilt Encounter, Festival of Quilts, Library, Quilts of Love) will be set up in the foyer area for access before the meeting.

Quilters' Guild of
South Australia Inc



- 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 Newsletter**.

Your I-Patch Team:

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Cindy Massey
Jane Polden
Bron Atkinson

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To unsubscribe please email
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Continued next page....

Our librarian, Michael, will be there to receive the library books that were borrowed almost a year ago, but we won't be making books available for borrowing just yet. We will have a team of COVID Marshals on hand to remind us if we get a little too enthusiastic about being back together and forget about the new 'rules'.

The Quilts of Love team ask that only isolette covers be brought to them for the time being. They have ample supplies of other quilts and absolutely no storage for more. If you made Quilts of Love last year please could you hold on to them a little longer. The hospitals and hospices were not in a position to accept quilts for many months, so we have more than enough to cover immediate needs.

The Festival of Quilts raffle will be drawn at the Thursday night meeting, with proceeds going to DEBRA Australia. If you think that you bought the winning ticket please make sure that you come along!

Please remember to bring along your own drink as we are unable to serve from the kitchen due to COVID Safe regulations and don't forget too to bring along some bright fat quarters for the fat quarter raffle.

Our twice monthly Sit and Sew days recommence in February as will, I suspect, most of our affiliated quilting groups and we have a February workshop scheduled for later in the month. So all in all February is shaping up to be a great month to be a South Australian quilter!

We look forward to seeing you soon. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to email me.

Chris O'Brien, President
Quilters' Guild of SA Inc
Email: [QGSA President](#)

ANNOUNCEMENT - RURAL ROUNDUP

Due to the coronavirus, the **Rural Roundup** in Cleve, scheduled for October 2021, has been postponed until 2022. Date to be advised.

Any enquiries please contact: Carmel Baxter 0428 350584 or Lyn Illman 0448 076646
Cleve Country Quilters

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Guild Meeting News



The Guild Executive Committee has cleared the way for monthly meetings to resume in February. After the long hiatus through 2020 this is welcome news for our members. In accordance with Covid-19 regulations it is necessary for members to book to attend the meetings. Ticketing information and procedure can be found on the Guild web site at [SA Quilters Guild](http://SAQuiltersGuild.com).

Night meeting -Thursday, 4 February. Doors open 7.15pm for 8pm start.

Welcome Address: Chris O'Brien - Guild President

Festival of Quilts: Ann Ewer including the Festival of Quilts raffle draw and presentation of proceeds raised to Laraine the representative for **DEBRA**.

Mystery quilts and the impact on the quilting community worldwide:

- **Chris O'Brien:** *Casa Felix Mystery Quilt* - Show and Tell
- **Lessa Siegele:** *Pick a Box Mystery Quilt* - Show and Tell
- **Rachelle Denny:** *Mysolation Mystery Quilt* - Show and Tell
- **Chris O'Brien:** *Round the Block Mystery Quilt* - Show and Tell

YouTube Introduction: Cindy Massey and Jane Polden

Fat Quarter Raffle: Brights

Library: Returns only

Kitchen: Not available.

Please bring any Show and Tell to help celebrate the New Year



Feature Shop 4 February: Alize Fabrics

Alix's shop is located in Modbury and her philosophy is to make quilting fun, bright and affordable, without compromising on quality. You can find details of all Alix's products and contact details on her web site at [Alize Fabrics](http://AlizeFabrics.com). To find more information and current specials go to her Facebook page at [Alize Fabrics Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/AlizeFabrics).

Day meeting - Wednesday, 17 February. Doors open 12.45pm for 1.30pm start.

Welcome Address: Chris O'Brien - Guild President

Mystery quilts and the impact on the quilting community worldwide:

- **Chris O'Brien:** *Casa Felix Mystery Quilt* - Show and Tell
- **Lessa Siegele:** *Pick a Box Mystery Quilt* - Show and Tell
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Fat Quarter Raffle: Brights

Library: Returns only

Kitchen: Not available.

Please bring any Show and Tell to help celebrate the New Year



Feature Shop 17 February: Quilters Quarters

Lyn's shop is a mobile quilt shop. She will attend quilting group venues, quilt exhibitions, workshops, retreats. The in-house shop is in Lockleys and open by appointment only. You can contact Lyn on 0427 618739 or click to [email](mailto:lyn@quiltersquarters.com.au) and here to visit [Quilters Quarters Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/QuiltersQuarters). Click [Cindy and Jane's tour](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=...) to see the Quilters Quarters quilt shop video tour.

Sit and Sew is held twice monthly on the second and fourth Wednesday.

Join us at the Vermont Uniting Church, 576 Cross Road South Plympton from 10am to 3pm.

Next dates: Wednesday, 10 February and Wednesday 24 February. ALL WELCOME. Due to Covid-19 requirements social distancing will apply and no shared food. Please bring a cup. To manage numbers for Covid-19 please register with Cindy by email on [Guild Registrar](mailto:Cindy@SAQuiltersGuild.com).





Festival of Quilts 2021

~Masquerade~

Friday 30th April to Sunday 2nd May
Adelaide Showground

BERNINA
made to create



HEY MEMBERS! WHERE ARE YOUR ENTRIES?

We have only received four entries since I-Patch was sent out early December, in which we asked you to lodge your entries. The Festival is being held in April, not July as usual. **Entries close on 26th March**, so there is not much time left.

The shops have been telling us that they have been selling lots of fabric and we have heard, and seen on Facebook, that many of you are making lots of quilts. Where are they and where are the beautiful machine embroidered quilts, which is a new category this year? We have received a couple of entries for this category, but want to see more.

PLEASE send in your entries now to be eligible to win a fabulous prize which will be drawn at the Guild meeting to be held on Thursday 4th February – **in a few days' time!** It is time to act NOW!

You will find the answers to any questions about entries in the Handbook. Look for the link at the top of the first page of the Entry web page, entitled "Handbook and Links"

It's not hard to enter – click on the link: [SA Quilters/Exhibitions](#)

Then, click on the link to Enter your quilt. Here is a list of items you require to complete your entry:

Entry Form Checklist

- Your membership number
- For works by more than one person, membership number and status of other entrants
- Entry measurements
- Any special awards for which you would like your entry considered
- Insurance value of entry
- Receipt for payment of entry fee (\$15)
- Technical information and personal narrative
- A digital image of the entry, up to 5MB
- Copyright requirements have been met
- If you carry on a professional quilting enterprise in Australia, your ABN

For more information, please refer to "Online Entry Form Guidelines" in the Handbook



We look forward to receiving your entries.

Festival of Quilts Committee

PLANNING MEETING FOR FESTIVAL OF QUILTS RAFFLE DRAW - 4th FEBRUARY 2021

It's been quite a journey, but the **Festival of Quilts** raffle will be drawn at our next Guild meeting. Representatives from **DEBRA Australia**, our chosen non-profit organisation that supports families of butterfly children – those born with *Epidermolysis Bullosa* (EB), joined members of the **Festival of Quilts Committee** to finalise details of our fundraising effort.

For more details about EB go to the web site at <https://www.debra.org.au/>



Left to Right: Linda Turner, Chris O'Brien, Jan Goulter, Angela Yeates, Laraine Frost

Clues to Change the Needle:

- Wiggly seams, even though you are sewing in a straight line.
- Skipped stitches.
- Thread breaking or shredding.
- Needle snagging or puckering fabric.
- Sewing machine makes clicking, popping or clunking sound.

Easy solution: **Change the needle!**



Rhonda wearing Very Easy Vogue #9347
in stunning Shannon Fabrics Double Gauze.



Stay tuned for exciting 2021 updates, offers & giveaways!
Check out Rhonda's 2020 sewing adventures:

<https://sewmorestitches.com/blog?blogcategory=2020+Sewing>

An interview with Lessa Siegele

by Chris O'Brien

Last month I had the absolute pleasure of interviewing Lessa Seigele. The QGSA has a long and interesting history and Lessa has been a considerable influence in shaping that history. In truth, so many of us learnt the foundation skills of our own quilting journey from Lessa.

Looking back to the late 80s, the Guild's core business expanded with Lessa's brand new initiative - Quilt Encounter. In retrospect those early quilt camp days at the Red Shield Hostel at Victor Harbor were a far cry from what Quilt Encounter is today. In fact, the QE story is now such an integral part of the Guild that it's easy to forget the many transitions through which it has evolved. Lessa recounts some of that history, even revealing a few retreat secrets!

The most rewarding outcome throughout that QE journey though, was the development of enduring friendships amongst the

committee. After 20 years together, that highly committed group of women decided to pass the management baton on to a new committee. For so many committees choosing to step away from a long-term commitment might mean the fragmentation and slow distancing between members. But not this group! Under Lessa's influence (group members will attest to the fact that it is Lessa who most frequently says: I have an idea!) they transitioned to a new and different commitment, becoming the Clayton's Committee. For anyone who has ever wondered where the name came from – Lessa explains all in the video!



A "few" quilts
awaiting distribution



Lessa with some of the Clayton's stash in her garage

Lessa's husband, Roger, has been actively involved in all aspects of Lessa's quilting life from those very early days. So many of us are appreciative of our partners' support of our quilting addiction, but Roger's support has always gone above and beyond. An engineer to his core, he has produced many resources for both Lessa and the group, including a record of every quilt that they have donated to community groups – a staggering number that Lessa reveals. He has also maintained a record of how many thousands of metres of fabric that the group has cut up for Bedford.

My final words to Lessa were heartfelt. If quilt guilds were to nominate wise elders whose role was to educate, inform and guide, there is no doubt that Lessa would be South Australia's quilting elder!



"Cutting Day"



Completed quilts ready for delivery

Members of the Clayton's Committee:

Lessa Siegele	Faye Packham	Roma Goode
Val Pedder	Helen Sparkman	Deb Nichol
Lorraine Cocker	Kay Wilson	Margie May
Michele Hill	Vicky Murphy	

To watch Chris's video interview with Lessa about her experiences with Quilt Encounter and Clayton's Committee, click on [Chris chatting with Lessa](#)

BERNINA Q 16



To view all the details, download a brochure and
Watch what Amanda Murphy has to say about it.
Click [BERNINA-Q-Series-Sit-Down](#)

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Flinders Kids

Kay Lovell and
Shirley Andrewartha



Happy New Year to you all.

Well, 2020 certainly threw up challenges for us all, didn't it! The restrictions imposed were like a double edged sword, the limitations to our movements proved frustrating and isolating but on the other hand gave us oodles of time to stitch to our heart's content and produce so many more quilts and stitcheries for ourselves and others.

Delivering your quilts to the children's ward at Flinders Medical Centre proved to be difficult, understandably a block put on receiving donated items from the public during the height of the pandemic. Shirl and I have been storing a growing number of bags in our homes and were disappointed when planned deliveries had to be repeatedly cancelled. But finally we were able to deliver 170 quilts to the unit this week to the great joy of the unit manager and staff. Since the start of the program back in November 2019 we have provided a total of 282 quilts of varying sizes that meet the need for their specific beds, infant cots and cribs.

Sadly, the need for quilts will continue so that all children and their families who find themselves in need of hospital care can receive a quilt. Shirl and I have now decided that it is time to pass on the baton of **Flinders Kids** to another coordinator. We both find our lives busy for other reasons now making the collecting of your quilts a little harder. We have thoroughly enjoyed seeing the difference your quilts make to the children's ward, brightening up what is normally a very frightening and sterile environment. They provide comfort, warmth and certainly a talking point for all sorts of reasons and I would like to pass on to you the gratitude of the unit staff and all the recipients who are overwhelmed by your kindness and generosity.

If you feel you would like to take over from us as Coordinator of this very worthwhile program, please contact myself or our President, Chris O'Brien or see either of us at one of the Guild meetings in February.

From Shirley Andrewartha and me a huge 'thank you' for supporting us over the past two years. Take care and Happy Quilting.



Car packed ready for delivery to Flinders Medical Centre Childrens' Ward

*On behalf of everyone who has made
Quilts of Love and Flinders Kids
Quilts, and the families whose lives
have been touched by the quilts that
you have provided to hospitals over
many years, thank you and Kay
Shirley for your dedication and sup-
port of the Guild and its members.*

*Chris
for the Guild*



WORKSHOP



LAURA HEINE WITH SUE KNUCKEY WORKSHOP AT FESTIVAL OF QUILTS

The workshop team is excited to announce the following:

WHAT:	A Laura Heine workshop with Sue Knuckey. Come and learn the Laura Heine way of making a collage wall hanging, it's relaxing and creative. Many of you will finish the
WHEN:	Saturday, 1st May 2021. 9.45am to 3.30pm
WHERE:	During Festival of Quilts at the showgrounds
PROJECT:	A choice of two Laura Heine mini (8" x 8") projects, Shellie Snail and Allium Collage
WHAT WILL BE PROVIDED?	Bernina sewing machines and a full project kit, including wadding, backing and binding.
WHAT DO I BRING?	Basic sewing kit, white thread, scissors, pins, pencil for tracing etc.
COST:	\$80-00 which includes the cost of the kit
TICKET TO THE SHOW:	An \$8-00 discounted show entry ticket for the day of the workshop will also entitle you to free entry to the show on Sunday.
HOW DO I BOOK?	Numbers are limited to 12 so email Heather Ford at workshops.saquilters@gmail.com to secure a place.



Allium Collage



Shellie Snail



MODERN QUILT GROUP

Are you interested in modern quilting, are a modern quilter, would like to learn more about modern quilting?

The Guild is planning on commencing a modern quilt sit and sew group and would like expressions of interest from anyone who would like to participate.

It is anticipated that the group would meet once a month on a Sunday, to share friendship, ideas, techniques, knowledge relating to modern quilting, join in challenges and swaps and work on their own modern quilt projects. In other words, have a very enjoyable modern quilt time.

Please contact **Heather Ford** phone 0438 272408 or email heathf@chariot.net.au if you are interested in being part of this new group.



Coro Quilters

Report
by Aileen Wright

'Unprecedented event' was a popular phrase bandied around a lot during 2020 and in common with many others the Coromandel Valley Quilters (CVQ) found themselves in uncharted territory.

We're a biggish group – 52 members meeting on the 2nd and 4th Wednesday evenings of each month at the Coromandel Community Centre (CCC). Because of our size we like to organise our events well in advance so that everyone has the chance to check diaries and to participate in everything.

Early 2020 saw the plans for our biennial May Exhibition already in place. Our Exhibition Committee led by Lesley Miller had done an amazing job including the completion before Christmas 2019 of a Jen Kingwell design quilt as our raffle prize.

Our June 2020 legendary quilting weekend at Adare, Victor Harbor, was, as always, organised with military precision by Julie Collins and her band of volunteers with most spots already filled. This is a 'not to be missed' event on our annual calendar. Fully catered, all that is required is for everyone to relax and enjoy themselves. We have members who join CVQ simply to take part in this weekend.

'Volunteers' to look after our annual Mystery Bus Trip set down for September 2020 had already been approached – well when you've done such a great job in 2019 as did Jill Radcliffe and Sarina Saunders obviously you will be asked to repeat the performance. All that remained was to organise our 2020 official Christmas Dinner.

The Coromandel Valley Quilters were on track and anticipating a great 2020. Then the sky fell in and everything changed overnight.

Corona virus headlines dominated our newspapers. QGSA President Chris O'Brien, in a newsletter dated 15th March 2020, announced that the Guild was recommending all quilting groups suspend their meetings until the situation became clearer. Almost simultaneously the CCC announced the closure of the Centre for the 'foreseeable future'.

In hindsight, like many people, we were naive in thinking that the situation would resolve itself very quickly and that everything would return to normal. Our first reaction was to simply re-schedule both our Exhibition and Camp for later in 2020. However, as June merged into July it became obvious that rules and restrictions being put in place concerning 'social distancing' would severely impact on our events. Consequently CVQ made the reluctant decision to cancel both our 2020 Exhibition and the Victor Harbor quilting weekend; our Mystery Bus Trip was another casualty.

Early August found the CVQ committee attending information and training sessions at the CCC as to how we must conduct our meetings once the Centre re opened. After completing compulsory on-line questionnaires, the committee became COVID Marshals.

When CVQ returned to meeting at the Centre on 12th August, conditions relating to the conduct of our meetings changed. There is an official attendance sheet, chairs and tables are cleaned before and after



Signing in

each meeting, the kitchen is closed and social distancing is practised. Our suppers are a thing of the past; everyone brings their own flask of coffee.

Our first two meetings were, for us, quiet affairs. Many CVQ members, for various reasons, made the decision to delay their return. However, by early November, our numbers had increased to almost pre COVID -19 levels. As group numbers increased we returned to our noisy, gossipy, laughter decibel level, best. Someone commented that, 'the vibe is back'. Then, suddenly, in late November there was the dramatic '6 day lockdown'. Our final meeting on the 27th November, intended to be an end of year celebration of epic proportions, was abruptly cancelled.

Our three gallant CVQ members, (Glenda Dandy, Val Webber, Sue Sutton), otherwise known as 'The Three Musketeers,' who had volunteered to organise the official Christmas Dinner persevered through many anxious, 'will it/won't it be cancelled moments'? So it was with a sense of relief on the 9th December that CVQ members sat down to enjoy a Christmas Dinner at the Club Marion, thus rounding off a very peculiar year.



Social distancing

Continued next page....

Looking back, the bleakest period was between April and August when everything closed down. Nevertheless, like quilters everywhere, we continued to do what quilters do best. We made quilts: for ourselves, our families, our friends and for community groups. The QGSA advertised the first of several mystery quilts and found many CVQuilters eager to participate in the project.

Our Coro Quilters (SA) Facebook page began to play an ever increasing role in our efforts to stay in touch with one another. It's a private website restricted to present and former members plus a few others and our Facebook 'gatekeepers' Maggie Tucker and Jill Radcliffe were kept busy with the amount of postings to our page. CVQuilters shared photos of their gardens, baking – successful or not, quiet spaces, DIY masks, jokes and cartoons, links to other pages and of course pictures of quilts. It became obvious from the volume of comments and 'likes' that our Facebook page was filling an important gap.

CVQ also began a fortnightly newsletter as a replacement for our cancelled meetings. It was intended as a light hearted commentary on the previous fortnight and included birthdays, and other snippets of information designed to entertain. Feedback was very positive. Emailed to all it was another link, particularly to members unable to access our Facebook page.



First meeting
celebration



Hands at work

Between April and our first meeting on the 12th August the Facebook page and the newsletter became our essential links in maintaining contact with each other.

Both Facebook entries and newsletters continue in this post COVID-19 world. After each meeting Jill Iveson posts a range of photos including 'Show and Tell' onto Facebook and the newsletter has morphed into a summary of each meeting. A combination of these two factors means that CVQuilters, unable to attend, still feel included.



Show and Tell

What did we discover about ourselves and the Coromandel Valley Quilters' group during this very 'peculiar' 2020? Well, for starters, we're not a bunch of 'headless chooks'. We're a group of resourceful and resilient women who adapted to 'unprecedented events'. Slightly more hesitant perhaps about making future plans? However, CVQ are optimistic, fingers crossed, June 2021 will see us once more enjoying our Victor Harbor weekend camp and our next Exhibition is planned for 2022.

Hope to see you there.

Aileen Wright



INSURANCE MATTERS



- It is important that groups pay the appropriate affiliation fee and insurance contribution by the advertised due dates to be protected by the Guild's insurance policy.
- If a new member joins a group after the annual fees are paid, details (name, phone number, email address) must be sent to the Guild and the \$5.00 Public Liability contribution per person paid to the Treasurer. If this is not done our records will not show new people as members and they will not be covered by our insurance policy.
- Please remember if non-group members attend a group activity such as a group meeting, retreat or excursion, they do so at their own risk. The Guild insurance only covers financial individual or listed group members.
- Don't forget to organise insurance if your group is planning to hold an exhibition. This should be done at least two months before the event so that paperwork can be finalised in time. Consider the value of the quilts and how you would feel if damage occurred if the quilts are not covered by insurance. The application form can be found on the Guild website. www.saquilters.org.au.
- **Questions?**
If you have any queries about matters relating to insurance, please contact:-
Bronwyn Atkinson
Insurance Liaison Officer
Email: insurance.saquilters@gmail.com
Phone: 0407 797 515

About Me

by Candy Walker



My family emigrated from UK in 1965, when I was six. We arrived at the Smithfield Hostel and moved to Elizabeth Fields when it was brand new. After two years we went to Sydney, back to UK for a year, then Sydney again, settling in Adelaide before High School at Salisbury East where I met my future husband Dave. With the moving plus coming from Liverpool, I learned to say hello to anyone. We married in 1979, had two children Stacie and Nathan and lived at St Agnes, One Tree Hill and Glandore.

My Dad was a toolmaker, my mum wanted to be a home economics teacher, but with family, worked at all sorts of jobs as the need arose. Some female relatives sewed for work, but on the other side of the world. Mum sewed out of necessity until we got 'shape'! We had trousers from the same fabric she made the car seat covers! Didn't everybody...



Candy and sister Michelle

I remember playing at dolls clothes in Elizabeth, but my earliest memory of sewing an item was at school in England. A felt blue and white bunny. At ten, I spent my pocket money on nylon ribbon to knit coat hanger covers and when I saw a clown made from yo-yo's I was fascinated with the 'how'. I don't recall learning to knit and crochet but I did. I loved new paper and pencils and the 'annual' book with craft and activities for Christmas. I enjoyed drawing by way of copying, colouring and school projects. At school in Sydney I did a year of sewing, I remember they had glass cabinets with beautiful nightgowns in them and that's where I learned a French seam. We did embroidery on gingham.

I wanted to do home economics, typing etc but I had to do Maths, English, History and very boring Economics. I was allowed to do Art and for some reason chose to do spinning and weaving as my final year subject.

Mum and Dad bought me a Singer sewing machine when I was sixteen. This was the most extravagant gift I ever had (apart from the very good decision to become Australian) and I remember asking if it was mine, otherwise could I pay for it so it would be mine! I'm a Bernina girl now with my first upgrade coming from Otto when he was in the Adelaide Arcade.



Candy at 15

I made baby clothes because they were small and sold them to the young mums at our Badminton group. The local fabric shop at Salisbury was Hambours. I made toys and gifts and had a market stall for a weekend at the Showground. Clothes for work were next, A-line skirts in pastel colours.

Leaving school I was keen to work and travel so I didn't want to study. I did some Graphic design classes but the whole course was not available in the evening.

My first job with Lands Department was managing the budgets for the War Service Land Settlers. Then residential workshop payments for Strathmont clients followed by staff rostering at Modbury Hospital. I sold clothes with my mother-in-law, Nutri Metics and Tupperware, taught Patchwork then returned to work at Modbury Outpatients and finally a year in the Finance department. I didn't know I was retiring when we moved to Glandore but that's what happened. I became a volunteer.

I loved being at home with the children and discovered quilting after doing a stretch clothing course at a local weekly craft group. We did English paper piecing to begin. It was all very casual and when the teacher moved on I taught the next class and kept just ahead of the students, exploring all the techniques I could find. I read everything the library had to offer. After a short TAFE course I started teaching at home in the evening before there was much else available. I stopped when we moved and Quilts and Threads opened at Highbury.



Early paper piecing

Continued next page....

I attended the Embroiderer's Guild to do a Back to Basics course and finally had that feeling of finding my tribe! This reinforced all those early sewing skills learned at school. I started the Certificate Course which I loved but eventually distance and Saturday childcare became hard so I only completed two levels. When I came to quilting other crafts fell away.

David worked in Management with some iconic SA company's with long hours and travelling. When we moved to One Tree Hill all my creativity went into designing the house and half acre garden. I wanted to quilt more but had no time or energy for it. After cooking dinner I would be out in the garden under lights! That's when I realised being creative and solving problems, in any way, was what I enjoyed most. I'm visual and I've always been good with my budget and organising things. I worked small and won a blue ribbon for a challenge quilt, lots of fun and very encouraging.



Dave, Stacie, Vicky and Dave (Candy's parents), Michelle and Michael (Candy's sister and brother-in-law)



Weekly Art Project

I attended the second Quilt Encounter but the shorter Flinders Fibre School at Melrose was on my calendar for years. The three day retreats provided an opportunity to try different things so I did woven baskets, dolls, teddies, printing, dying, embroidery and lace as well as quilts. Other things I enjoy are collage, decoupage and printing. I recently did an evening of Lino printing, which I loved at school. I'm sure this will incorporate into fabric soon!

When we moved to Glandore fourteen years ago, I was able to attend Guild meetings and after a couple I accidentally became Guild President from 2007 to 2010! Three years in the job and then off committee I updated the website, learned and built up Facebook, sifted through all sorts to form the archives and managed storage at Showgrounds. I was honoured to receive Life Membership in 2015. I've now relinquished almost all these tasks thanks to those who have come forward. I've been 'decluttering' for too many years and finally at the start of 2021 there is not much left to sort, except paperwork including my mother in laws family history files and photos! I am excited to finally have more time to spend in the studio, a garage size space that seems to be working well. (It takes time in a space to work out a good flow!) I've never stopped crafting but I have weeks at a time that I don't do anything. I do better with a deadline. I've often thought not to stress as the time will come, but I think that time has to be now!

I love colour, shape, texture, all sorts of art and nature. My problem is too much choice, so I enjoy 'challenges' that offer restrictions and make me focus on the subject. I also love to share and introduce people to the pleasure of crafting something.



Guild archiving

I've enjoy trying so many techniques, I have lots to draw upon when a problem presents. I like piecing and appliqué but need to practice quilting more. I'm building up the quilt tops in preparation.

The best thing about quilting is having a passion to share with like minded friends.



Candy, Nathan, Stacie and Dave

To watch Cindy and Jane's sewing room visit with Candy, click on [Candy](#).

And in a bonus video, Cindy chats with Dave about life with a quilter, click on [Dave](#).



MASONIC QUILT AND CRAFT GROUP

MANNUM RETREAT by Beryl Aylen



Despite fearing it might not happen we were all arriving in Mannum for our annual retreat. After a start in the bakery for lunch and then a browse in the shops and a walk, chat and snooze in the riverfront parks we were finally heading for the caravan park, delayed by an hour by covid precautions, but not deterred.

The magic of our retreat started when we were able to comfortably fit 12 quilters, with gear, into the Mannum Bunkhouse. Half of the group had accepted the challenge to prepare a project quilt (Bedford style) to swap for another quilt prepared by someone else. Memories were revived as the history of the various fabrics was shared. Others were working on special quilts for family members, while others were determined to finally finish a project that had been around for too long.

And, as if by magic Julie was putting up her finished squares on the design wall for placement suggestions. Most of us thoroughly enjoy this time of contributing our opinions. The comment *one thing we are not short of is advice* is so true.

This advice, however, is bundled with encouragement when a carefully planned project derails. In my case hours of work over many months were sacrificed because of a lack of thorough planning and preparation. This was then exacerbated by a reluctance to stop and spend time carefully thinking through all the options and their consequences. But was there any adverse comment heard? All I received was encouragement and support.

No reminding of the mantra to calculate and measure twice before cutting once. I'd even add reread the instructions! I did pin and sew carefully!

While some quilters were keen to finish projects others were in no rush and happily spent time unpicking the mishaps of others so they could continue sewing. I guess it was no mystery that some mistakes were made as fitness programmes, recipes, cleaning shortcuts, world events, sports, holidays, decluttering, house moving, partner and family members, health and of

course Covid precautions and responses all had an airing.

Magic was also present in the kitchen as scrumptious meals materialised all too frequently to be enjoyed by all. Supplies and treats were willingly offered and shared although the actual drinking of someone else's fresh coffee was not considered appropriate and not only for Covid reasons! If you were wondering, we did sanitise and take temperatures, although there would have to be a question mark over the social distancing!

We had bought with us some of the books from our library and many pleasant interludes were spent browsing the suggestions. Jellyroll suggestions were particularly popular and Janelle, who finished her jelly roll traditional log cabin quilt in navy, red and cream late on the last night, took time out to show us her next roll and spent time planning her next project. I guess we all watch this space!

The final magic occurred as, without rosters, the rooms were cleared of personal belongings, club equipment packed, fridge cleared and all packed into cars and the cleaning completed. A stranger obliged us by taking a photograph and we were off. A final coffee at the bakery and another Masonic Quilting and Craft Group retreat was over. Thanks to Bev, Clare, Derylee, Diane, Janelle, Jill, Julie "do", Julie Dohnt, Kay, Marg and Sue for a great few days.





Roger and Lessa Siegele

Patchwork and Quilting has shaped my life in many many different ways.

Lessa Siegele

I made my first quilt in 1971 for the arrival of our first born. In the mid seventies I signed up for a weekend quilt class where I learnt how to make a Cathedral Window quilt by hand and after just 4 squares in the class decided to make a queen size quilt. Then on a visit to my sister in Oregon she signed me up for a workshop Eleanor Burns "Log Cabin in a day" which was by machine and my journey began. At the time I was teaching basket making at Mitcham Village Art and Craft Centre and showed some of the ladies what I had learnt and so my first Quilting class was scheduled and those classes continued for the next 40 years. I met Eleanor Burns many years later and told her how she had started me on this journey. Many wonderful friends have been made and paths opened up from all those years of teaching and travelling and leading quilt tours overseas and I can't believe how lucky I have been.

I was still teaching quilting and I asked my students if they would loan their quilts and we would stage an outdoor quilt show in the garden and serve morning and afternoon tea and charge people to come in, this was I think 1985. We did this first at the home of good friends in Stirling and we hung quilts inside the house, over the balcony and in the garden. Resthaven baked the scones and so the annual event began and loads of people came. Later the event was moved to our Torrens Park home and we raised money for Cancer so now I was asking my students/friends and the members of the newly formed Quilt Encounter Committee to not only loan their quilts but also to make scones which they all did and of course come and serve morning and afternoon tea. I have found quilters to be an amazingly generous group. My husband Roger and boys have also over the years contributed lots of time and energy to this person who keeps having ideas. This annual outdoor quilt show continued until 2006 when we moved to a courtyard block in Brighton and we could no longer have hundreds of people wandering in the garden and having morning or afternoon tea so this is when I had "another idea".

Since 2008 this committee had also been organising Mystery Quilt kits and raising money for Bedford. This idea got bigger and bigger from raising \$16,000 in 2008 to \$103,000 in 2014. I think I pushed them a little too much that year, that is a lot of cutting.

In 2013 after 20 years we handed over the running of QE to a wonderful new committee and as this group of ten worked together on QE and fundraising we had become good friends and wanted to keep meeting. Someone came up with the name Clayton's Committee for this group, we didn't wish to be named the old QE Committee. Perhaps too near the truth. The name Clayton's after the 80's ad "The drink you're having when not having a drink".



Lessa with Eleanor Burns

My first outdoor quilt show was at Mitcham Village in the mid 1970's. This idea came also from the visit to Sisters Oregon where the local shop owner Jean Wells had an outdoor quilt show which has now been running for 45 years. When our son was just 1 year old my Dad died suddenly and we found that my Mum in her fifties had early onset dementia which they had been covering and so the next years were very difficult for me with two young children and a mother who needed care. In the mid eighties she moved into Resthaven who cared for her for the next 10 years and I felt I needed to do something for this care of my Mum.



Mitcham Village



Quilt Hanging Stirling

Continued next page....

It was at this time that I had "another idea". We still had lots of fabric and I suggested we make quilts to donate to a hospital. We all love making quilts and playing with colour and design and fabric so off we went on this new activity. At first we donated to a private hospital until one day they said they were embarrassed to say they really had too many quilts so one of our members approached QEH Palliative Care Ward and they were delighted to receive quilts. Nobody had ever offered quilts to them but they knew of the system in private hospitals. We take 20 or so at a time and when this stack is running low they call for more.

Then I had a call from a nurse in Royal Adelaide Hospital about quilts and I hesitated about committing to make more but I said to this caller Rog and I have regular appointments in the RAH with Dr. Horvath. Oh she said "this is Dr. Horvath's home ward", so what could I say. Next and quite unconnected I had a call from ICU in RAH about making quilts for them so we began donating to ICU. When we go for our three monthly visit these days we each take a suit case full of quilts to deliver. On a couple of occasions as we trundle these cases staff have said to us "good luck". "Oh we are only delivering quilts not checking in."

Via one of our Guild members we also donate quilts to a number of places in the northern suburbs.



Lessa's first quilt. Queen size hand made.

More recently after a contact with Margaret Tobin Ward (Mental Health) at Flinders we have begun donating to them.

When delivering some quilts to this ward the staff member asked why we made these quilts. The answer "for our own mental health." This is so true, we love doing it and you haven't heard many quilters complaining about this extra time we have had to spend at home this last year.

We have received great feed back from all of these places from members of staff, nurses, doctors and admin. And have received many letters of thanks from patients and relatives about what it has meant to them to receive a quilt.

Faye, a wonderful member of our group purchased a long arm quilt machine a while back and she quilts most of these quilts which we just love. A couple of our members still like quilting but the rest of us are very happy to make tops and pass them on. To date Faye has quilted 770 quilts and she hasn't tired of it yet.

Roger takes a photo of all the quilts we make and we have kept an album and at our meeting just this week I was able to show them we had photographed 1288 quilts since we began in 2015 and now there are another 25 waiting to be photographed.

If, like us, every relative and friend has a quilt or two and you still love making them make enquiries at your local hospital and see if they would like some quilts. We make them 48" square which sits on the bed or over the knee if the patient is sitting out or when in a wheel chair. It also works well with the batting we buy which is just over 100" wide so we can get two across.

PS I did say earlier our group were not cutting Mystery Quilt kits but that only lasted a short time. Beside making quilts for the hospitals we still cut and sell mystery quilt kits for a 48" square at \$50 each with the money going to Bedford.



Some kits cut for Bed-

For the last few years we have offered, and still do, to visit your group and run the class providing the group purchase 20 kits. We always have a fun day with prizes etc. We are happy to go to a country group or a city group at no cost except the purchase of the kits with the group organising and paying for the venue etc. I think we already have seven groups booked in for this year. Our fundraising for Bedford has now gone over \$300,000 from the sale of mystery quilt kits. If your group is interested contact Lessa or Faye to book a date.

Lessa: siegele@internode.on.net

Faye: fayepackham3@gmail.com

To take a quick video tour of Lessa's sewing room with Chris, click on this link - [Lessa Sewing Room](#)



Some of Lessa's miniature sewing machine collection



"SEW WHAT" with Cindy Massey

Volunteers

Volunteer: a person who does something, especially helping other people willingly and without being forced or paid to do it

I always thought that when I retired, I would volunteer at the Broken Hill Hospital Kiosk, which raised money for medical equipment and extras to support the local community. BUT life seldom goes the way we plan, and I retired years before I thought I would, as a widow in a different state. So after I settled in, I reached for my comfort zone, joined a local quilt group and headed off to a guild meeting with the ladies.

It took a few meetings and a couple of coffee dates before I realised *BABBOM*, I was surrounded by volunteers. At every guild meeting, there were the silent achievers, who filled the Quilts of Love tables, and any other charity in need with, seriously, hundreds of quilts to go to hospitals and families in times of need, there was Carolyn, who turned up every month with a smile and a wealth of conversation, making our hot drinks to get us through our monthly gatherings and Michael and his amazing Library team of volunteers.

Hooray to the groups of quilters who together have made an enormous difference to their communities, like Claytons Committee, Orange Tree Quilters, Purple Patch Quilters, Southern Comforters Quilters and the many more I have not mentioned. To the Executive Committee, who have spent months trying to keep the Guild together, united and busy during these crazy times.

The more I looked the more I found, looking back, what about the previous committee members who remain so active in our guild, Kay Lovell with Little Quilts of Love, who retired to take on Flinders Kids, Candy Walker who manages our archives and knows the answer to almost everything. Looking forward, what about Kathy Rossini, isn't she always saying "*look at me Kimmee*", no that's a different story. Kathy is not on any committee but manages our Facebook page and our new I Patch.

Do you know we have Guild members who are active volunteers in the wider community, Jill and her partner Lyn volunteer with Blaze Aid travelling to properties destroyed by fire and assisting to re establish fencing, Emilie and her husband David volunteer with Meals on Wheels, then there's the lady that works with the Food Van, and one who volunteers at the Medical Centre, and don't forget the grandma who listens to children read at the local school.

We also have members who volunteer closer to home, who care for family or friends in times of need, whether it be cooking a hot meal for a neighbour, or dropping in for a cuppa and a chat. This is the tip of the iceberg, I'm sure there are a myriad of members volunteering in a myriad of roles within our community.

I guess that even though I am not working with the Broken Hill Hospital Kiosk, I too am a volunteer, but what about you? Do you do volunteer in your community and make a positive change in someone's life? We would love to hear from you.

Some volunteer statistics:

The most recent estimate of the value of voluntary work in Australia was estimated at \$290 billion to the Australian economy each year (Source: Dr Lisel O'Dwyer from Flinders University).

Why people volunteer:

Help others/community—57%; Personal satisfaction—44%; Personal/family involvement—37%; To do something worthwhile—35%; Social contact—22%; Use skills/experience—16%; To be active—16%; Religious beliefs—15%; Other—20%.

Non-profit Institutions:

NPIs contribute significantly to employment accounting for over one million employed persons and almost 3.9 million volunteers. Volunteers contributed over 500 million hours to NPIs with an economic value estimated over \$17 billion.



Riverton Area Quilters

by Bronwyn Palmer

This group of quilting friends have been meeting on the second Saturday of the month since 2012. This eventuated from a casual conversation re the lack of a quilting group in the local area so the decision was made to start a group to allow us to have a regular catch ups to sew with other like-minded people in a central meeting place.

The group meet at the Riverton Hall and are lucky to have such a great facility, the members come from Riverton and surrounding areas. Since then we have held many of our own quilting weekends, several workshops with tutors, Bedford days, travelled far and wide to various exhibitions, quilt shops and Regional Round Ups. As well an annual Quilt Exhibition at the Riverton Christmas Carnival to display what we have been working on during the year.

Each year we start with a discussion as to what projects the group would like to do for the year. A 2020 idea was to invite the SAQG president Chris O'Brien to run a Mystery Quilt workshop to which she kindly agreed! Mystery Quilts always cause angst – what colours to choose? what will it look like? Nevertheless, it is always good to step out of the comfort zone and try something different. This was meant to have been in August 2020 but alas with how the year turned out this was delayed until November (which gave us more time to get cracking on the cutting!) All plans were reinstated, and the weekend finally went ahead on the 7 - 8th of November.

We arrived armed with sewing machines and various bags of carefully cut fabrics in a multitude of sizes, to start sewing for the weekend. It's always interesting to see the diversity in colours people choose. Chris handed out step by step instructions, capably helped by Kathy with both unpicking/pressing and encouraging us. They were also most helpful when faced with the 'variations' to the instructions that were being constructed. After a full day of sewing at a cracking pace we still had absolutely no idea what we were creating! An early start on Sunday morning saw everyone busy at their machines trying to play catch up – with still more instructions, still no idea what we were doing until finally when Chris and Kathy put us out of our misery with the grand reveal!

Surprise! What a fabulous quilt!

Three completed quilts in three very different colour ways –it was interesting to see how differently people interpreted the colour selection process.

In general conversation afterwards it was agreed most of us while admiring the quilt would have avoided taking on such a project but as one of the Riverton quilters said – by breaking a complex quilt down in to smaller units makes it quite achievable for all levels of quilters instead of being daunted by the end result! It was a good thing for all of us to be pushed out of the comfort zone and tackle a larger more complex project.

Now to get on and finish it!

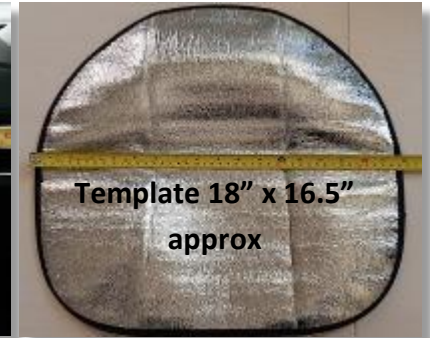


STEERING WHEEL COVER

will fit most steering wheels

This tutorial covers a simple method to make a steering wheel cover to protect your car (and you) from the summer heat. I made it through trial and error and hopefully if you have any tips you can add, please share them.

1. Measure your steering wheel.
2. I purchased a cheap cover from the Auto shop to use as a template and marked the centre.
3. I had some leftover half square triangles which I pieced, sandwiched with batting and backing and quilted (lots of opportunities for some fancy quilting here).
4. The front measures approximately 18" wide x 16.5" high with rounded corners.
5. The back measures approximately 18" wide x 8" high with rounded top corners and curved middle about 2" to go up over the steering column.
6. I placed the template on the quilted fabric and marked with washable blue pen, then marked another half inch cutting line.
7. I then cut the front on the cutting line.
8. I then placed the newly cut front on to the back piece and again marked around and then added half inch.
9. I then eyeballed the shape for the back to about the shape of the template.
10. I cut binding 2½" wide on the bias as it needs to be attached on the curves.
11. I bound along the bottom of the back piece and finished it by machine.
12. Next I stitched the two pieces together on the original marked line wrong sides facing.
13. Then I took it to the car for a fitting, pinning some adjustments for the bottom curves and trimmed it to that shape.
14. Another fitting and all seemed well so I trimmed all the way around to about ¼" with my pinking shears.
15. I then added the remaining binding to the entire cover by machine and hand stitched the binding down at the back.



STEERING WHEEL COVER

will fit most steering wheels

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STEERING WHEEL COVER

will fit most steering wheels

....continued from previous page



Finally:

I gave the red and grey cover to my young neighbour who has a red car which sits in the sun most of the time.

I have a blue Mazda so made one using the same technique and a little thread work to create the Mazda logo.

ENJOY

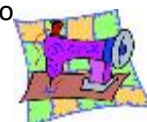
Kathy Rossini - January 2021



Quilters' Guild of South Australia Inc - Classifieds










This page enables members to buy/sell/exchange or give away items that they no longer require but another member may use. If you have a sewing or quilting related item that you wish to advertise, this is the place. **Please contact the seller direct for further item details.**



Simply let us know at saquilters@gmail.com details of your items you wish to advertise .

Please note: Classified adverts in future editions of I-Patch will attract a fee of \$5 per listing.

Name	Contact	Item for Sale	Price
Maxine Westley	P: 0418 819109 E: maxian@adam.com.au	Quilting hoop on stand. 	\$100
Gail Hampson	P: 0403 571407 E: gailhampson@iinet.net.au	Quilt hoop on stand. Very good condition. Folds up easily for storage. 	\$50
Maggie Woodroffe	P: 0419 815166 E: demew33@adam.com.au	Quilt hoop on stand. It has had very little use. 	\$100
Jen Norton	P: 0405 675220 E: norton.5@bigpond.net.au	Quilt frame on stand in perfect order. 	\$70
Cynthia Clothier	P: 0429 321160 E: geoffandcynthia@gmail.com	Wooden quilting frame. 	\$30
Jo Reardon McLaren Vale Quilters	P: 0418 402979 E: theoldcow@gmail.com	PVC pipe sit-down quilting frame. Height 31 inches, inside frame is 36 x 26 inches; outside frame is 39 x 29 inches. 	Free
Dianne Giles	P: 0423 817190 E: dianbob@internode.on.net 	Janome 14000 sewing/embroidery machine Seldom used, comes with all accessories, embroidery module and hoops, assorted sewing/embroidery feet and semi hard cover. Also included is a carry case for all the feet etc. The Janome Digitizer MBX V5 for creating and manipulating embroidery designs is all included (value \$1,200). You can find machine feature details at: https://www.janome.com/machines/embroidery/hmc14000/	\$7,500 ONO