

# I-Patch

## A focus on Quilting

**At the Annual General Meeting in May we will be proposing a Constitutional change to align our membership and financial years (January to December).**

**We will then ask members to pay either for 6 or 18 months. In the meantime our finance team would appreciate it if members would hold off renewing their current membership until after the AGM.**

### **Hello everyone and welcome to this April edition of I-Patch**

Firstly, I'd like to acknowledge the positive responses we've received with regard to the news that our monthly digital *I-Patch* has become the Guild's default newsletter. We will continue to seek and to share the stories of our quilters and quilt shops as well as the myriad ways in which we can indulge in our quilting passions. We know that when we ask one of our quilters if they will share their story that it's not always an easy task, but in that sharing the rest of us are inspired, are amazed, feel empathy but, most importantly, recognize that many of us share similar experiences and personal journeys. Thank you, each and every contributor to I-Patch.

Adelaide has wrapped up its Mad March activities, but we're just getting started in the Guild. First and foremost is the looming Festival of Quilts, which for some of us means the realization that binding, adding a hanging sleeve and labelling a quilt always takes longer than one planned for! After a slow start with entries, I can now let you know that this will be one of our biggest exhibitions in many years so please do plan to come along and be inspired by all the quilts on display. We've been notified that this year the Sewing, Stitching and Hand Craft Show will be held in the Wayville Pavilion at the Showgrounds as SA Health will be setting up Goyder Pavilion as a vaccination centre.

Also held in March was our very first Sunday Sit and Sew Group – whose focus is on modern approaches to quilt making. 22 enthusiastic quilters came to the first meeting and ideas flew around the room at an alarming rate. The group's convenor, Monique Reed, has shared with us her recollections of the day in this edition of I-Patch. A huge thank you must go to Heather Ford for getting this Guild sponsored event up and running, and to Monique and her team for managing meetings. It seems likely that the group will continue to meet on the third Sunday of the month at the Vermont Uniting Church.

The two Wednesdays of the month in which we hold our regular Sit and Sew days continue to be popular, with around 30 quilters in attendance. We welcome anyone interested in sharing a day of hand or machine sewing with a group of fun and enthusiastic quilters to join us on the second and/or fourth Wednesday of the month at the Vermont Uniting Church.

Continued next page....

**Quilters' Guild of  
South Australia Inc**



- Guild Meetings
- Quilt Shows
- Workshops
- 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.

### **Your Communications Team:**

**Chris O'Brien  
Heather Ford  
Kathy Rossini  
Cindy Massey  
Jane Polden  
Bron Atkinson**

### **Important Links**

**I-Patch Editors**

[saquilters@gmail.com](mailto:saquilters@gmail.com)

**Guild Facebook**

<https://www.facebook.com/>

**Guild Website**

[www.saquilters.org.au](http://www.saquilters.org.au)

**Guild Web Manager**

[saquilters@gmail.com](mailto:saquilters@gmail.com)

**Snail Mail submissions:**

**Quilters' Guild of SA Inc**

**PO Box 993, Kent Town SA 5071**

**To unsubscribe please email**

[saquilters@gmail.com](mailto:saquilters@gmail.com)

The last 'special' March event for the Guild has been the raffling of the Singer Featherweight 221 sewing machine that was donated to the Guild to use as a fundraiser. Bids close on the 31<sup>st</sup> of March, so if you would like to own a Featherweight and you are reading this before that date please consider emailing me with your bid. Details were in the last edition of I-Patch.

The task of seeking guest speakers at our Guild meetings is far from easy. We have a lot of talented quilters here in South Australia, but not everyone we identify as a potential speaker feels confident to stand in front of 140 quilters and talk about their quilting journey. Neither do we need to focus on quilt making at every Guild meeting – indeed we have had some inspiring speakers on a range of topics. Close to my heart though, and I've written of this before, is the focus that we need to have on engaging younger quilters. In the same way that so many of them strive for minimalist approaches to furnishings and décor within their homes, we need to acknowledge that the same might be said for the appeal that modern quilt making might have for them.

If you know someone who would make a great guest speaker at a Guild meeting, we'd love to hear about them. Please pass on contact details to one of the Executive Committee members. It is always refreshing to hear of differing approaches to quilt making and, as I've said numerous times, we can always learn something new by listening to others and sharing their ideas and techniques.

Finally, a plea. PLEASE – no more **little** Quilts of Love!! We have a stockpile of around 1000 and the need for them in the community is greatly diminished. We know that many of you love making them as wonderful stash busters, but we ask that you upscale your quilt making to make isolette covers for neo-natal units around the State. Details of these quilt types, which vary from hospital to hospital, can be found on the Guild web site here: [Quilts of Love](#).

Happy quilting everyone, and I hope to see you at Festival of Quilts at the end of April!

**Chris O'Brien, President**

**Quilters' Guild of SA Inc**

**Email:** [QGSA President](#)

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# Guild Meeting News



Our Guild relies heavily on the commitment of committee members to run the various events that we host. At times the workload can be intense, but we enjoy working together and making these events happen. There are occasions, however, when we need extra help – to manage the additional requirements of COVID, to set up and take down our Sit and Sew days, to run a safe and successful Festival – and we really do appreciate those of you who willingly put your hand up to support the Guild. Thank you to each and every one of you. Chris O'Brien, President.

**Meeting -Thursday, 1st April. Doors open 7.15pm for 8pm start.**

**Members meeting fee \$3; Visitors \$5**

<b>Welcome Address:</b>	Chris O'Brien - Guild President
<b>Sonia Holton:</b>	<i>Falling into Quilting</i>
<b>Fat Quarter Raffle:</b>	Solids
<b>Library:</b>	Full Library available. Use your membership card to borrow and/or return books.
<b>Kitchen:</b>	Not available due to COVID safe restrictions
<b>Show and Tell:</b>	Anything goes

**You are not required to pre-book online for the meeting, however we ask that everyone continues to follow COVID Safe guidelines.**



## Feature Shop 1st April:

**Love Lee Fabric, 43 Hurling Drive, Mount Barker SA 5251  
Phone 0421 018099**

Hi, my name is Leonie and I am the owner of **Love Lee Fabrics** which is an online fabric store based in Mount Barker. I stock a huge range of Kaffe Fassett fabrics, currently there are over 450 bolts in stock with another 70 due any day now plus pre cuts and kits. I also stock Anna Maria Horner, Tula Pink, Free Spirit Solids, Moda Grunge, In The Beginning Fabrics, Hoffman Dream Big Panels and so much more, also available are Creative Grids Rulers, Patterns and Wool Mats.

I am happy for people to pick up their fabric from Mt Barker to save on postage. I also welcome visitors but please contact me to work out a suitable time for both of us. '

- The website is [loveleefabric.com.au](https://loveleefabric.com.au).
- Facebook **Love Lee Fabric** - <https://www.facebook.com/loveleefabric>
- Facebook VIP group - <https://www.facebook.com/groups/1596986566998144> which I welcome you to join, VIP members get the news first on specials and updates
- Instagram - <https://www.instagram.com/loveleefabric/>

I can be contacted by phone on 0421 018099 or by email [loveleefabric@gmail.com](mailto:loveleefabric@gmail.com)

When I am not cutting orders I run Leonie's Longarm Quilting concentrating on Edge to Edge designs.



# Guild Meeting News



Our Guild relies heavily on the commitment of committee members to run the various events that we host. At times the workload can be intense, but we enjoy working together and making these events happen. There are occasions, however, when we need extra help – to manage the additional requirements of COVID, to set up and take down our Sit and Sew days, to run a safe and successful Festival – and we really do appreciate those of you who willingly put your hand up to support the Guild. Thank you to each and every one of you. Chris O'Brien, President.

**Meeting -Thursday, 6th May 2021. Doors open 7.15pm for 8pm start.**

**Members meeting fee \$3; Visitors \$5**

## **ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

<b>Welcome Address:</b>	Chris O'Brien - Guild President
<b>Kerryn Brand:</b>	Quilt Encounter Launch
<b>Raffle Quilt:</b>	Quilt Encounter Quilt
<b>Fat Quarter Raffle:</b>	Florals
<b>Show and Tell:</b>	Previous Quilt Encounter Quilts
<b>Library:</b>	Full Library available. Use your membership card to borrow and/or return books.
<b>Kitchen:</b>	Not available due to COVID safe restrictions

**You are not required to pre-book online for the meeting, however we ask that everyone continues to follow COVID Safe guidelines.**



### **Feature Shop 6th May:**

**Melann's Fabrics & Sewing Centre, Shop 5**

**850 Lower North East Road, Dernancourt SA 5075**

**Phone: 0404 499778**

**Email: [melanns@bigpond.com](mailto:melanns@bigpond.com)**

**Web Site: <https://www.melanns.com.au/>**

Here at Melann's, we like to offer a one-stop-shop culture. Therefore, we stock quality machines, sewing and quilting haberdasheries, workshops (quilting, dressmaking, creative sewing and machine embroidery) and machine repairs and servicing.

We aim to make everyone who enters the shop feel welcome and are always happy to help them find what they are looking for.

This will be the first time Melann's has featured at the Quilters' Guild meeting since the shop changed ownership and we are excited for this opportunity and to show what Melann's has to offer.

**Christina Kazis**





# Festival of Quilts 2021

~Masquerade~

Friday 30<sup>th</sup> April to Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> May

Adelaide Showground

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## One month till the Sewing Stitching and Handcraft Show!

### Last collection of masks and quilts at April Guild meeting

Have you marked out one of the days in your diary? Get a friend or two together and have a fun day out. We have over 200 entries and the many and varied quilts are gorgeous. It will be a feast for the senses. Closer to the event [Kym Jones Exhibitions web site](http://Kym Jones Exhibitions web site) will give you full details of demonstrations and workshops available each day.

## STOP PRESS!

- Change in Showground location of Sewing Stitching and Handcraft Show/Festival of Quilts
- Opening Ceremony
- Tickets to Opening Ceremony and Show
- Quilter in Residence – Tara Sniedze – see article and video in this issue of I-Patch
- Special Exhibits - see articles in March and April issues of I-Patch
- Guided Tours
- Come and Have a Go and Sew
- Children's Activities
- Demonstrations

### Change in Showground Location

The Sewing Stitching and Handcraft Show, together with the Festival of Quilts will now be held in the Wayville Pavilion at the Showgrounds, due to the Goyder Pavilion being utilised as a vaccination centre. Wayville Pavilion is located across the atrium/food court from Goyder, which is known as the Showbag hall.

**Quilt Entrants:** All those who entered quilts will be sent revised information about quilt drop off and collection as soon as details are finalised.

It's back!

SA's Largest Quilting & Craft Event

## Sewing, Stitching & Hand Craft Show

featuring Festival of Quilts

There's 100's of New Products from Local & Interstate Suppliers  
plus lots of Ideas, Make & Take Zones & Workshop Areas

**April 30 to May 2**  
Open 9.30am to 4.30pm  
ADELAIDE SHOWGROUND  
Show details at [KJEX.com.au](http://KJEX.com.au)

Admission: Adults \$12, Pensioners \$10, Children U15 Free (if with an adult)

Presented by Kym Jones Exhibitions P: 08 8297 1688 E: [info@kjex.com.au](mailto:info@kjex.com.au) SA Owned & Operated

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# Festival of Quilts 2021

~Masquerade~

Friday 30<sup>th</sup> April to Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> May

Adelaide Showground

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## Lots to See and Do in the Festival of Quilts area:

- **Quilts, quilts and more quilts!**
- **Quilter in Residence: Tara Sniedze** – read all about Tara in the special article in this *I-Patch*. This is a rare opportunity to meet and chat with Tara.
- **Special Exhibits** – 7 special exhibits are planned – including a surprise one not yet announced.
- **Guided Tours of the Festival, hosted by Chris O'Brien and Wendy Hunt**  
11am and 2pm daily. Book at the Guild Enquiry desk, located at the entrance of the Festival of Quilts.
- **Come and Have a Go and Sew**  
Visitors invited to sit and sew isolette covers, supervised by Guild Executive members.  
When: Friday 30<sup>th</sup> April and Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> May.
- **Children's Activities**  
The supervised **Quilting Bee** will be open every day for the little ones to make their own mask, or create a quilt block with fabric and glue! Parents or their minders must remain with the children during this activity.
- **Demonstrations in the Festival of Quilts area (in addition to those at the booths)**
  - Hand Quilting
  - Paper Foundation Piecing
  - Rulers and Storyboards
  - English Paper Piecing
  - Freezer Paper Foundation Piecing

## OPENING CEREMONY & AWARDS PRESENTATION

**Friday 30<sup>th</sup> April—Everyone welcome**

The Guild's patron, Mrs Le, will be presenting the Patron's Award and the Best of Show and Runner Up awards.

**Where:** Wayville Pavilion, Adelaide Showgrounds

**When:** 9am, Friday 30<sup>th</sup> April 2021

**Tickets:** Special Members' price of \$8 for entry prior to 9am and stay all day  
Purchase at venue ticket office on the day

## SHOW TICKETS

- **Purchase at the ticket counter at the Show, or**
- **On-line bookings opening soon - note booking fees will apply**



# Festival of Quilts 2021

## ~Masquerade~

Friday 30<sup>th</sup> April to Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> May  
Adelaide Showground

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## SPECIAL EXHIBITS AT THE 2021 FESTIVAL

Last month, we revealed that there will be six Special Exhibits at the Festival and gave information about:

*The Eye of the Beholder* by 3 Squared (from New Zealand)  
*The Shape of Nature* by Half Page Textile Artists, and  
*Belle Point Quilt Exchange*

### WA Challenge from Western Australian Quilters Association

Each year members of the Association are issued with a challenge. There was no specified theme for 2019, the only restriction was that the quilt size must not exceed 50 x 70 cm<sup>2</sup>. Fabric approximately 30 cm<sup>2</sup> was generously provided by the Paperbark Woman from Darwin, with each quilter receiving a different Aboriginal design accompanied by a description of the artist's inspiration. The result is a beautiful display of quilts that represent the full range of the membership.



*The Shape of Things* by  
Jenni Simpson

### Postcards by Gawler Quilting Circle

Members of the Gawler Quilting Circle held their bi-annual quilt show in October 2019. The theme was *Quilts around the World* and they were issued a challenge to produce a quilt no more than A4 in size in their interpretation of a postcard. Their exhibit illustrates the range of artistic talents within the group.



### Construct – Deconstruct – Reconstruct by Riverlea Quilters' Circle (2020 Projects)

The Quilters' Circle group, consisting of Dorothy Paterson, Elly Coppins, Jacky Eyre, Lynda Savage, Ruth Meier and Sue Megaw, meets with Lyn Uppill at Riverlea Quilts on Unley Road once a month. Lyn draws on her vast experience (and imagination) to come up with projects that challenge the group to take a different approach, to be adventurous and to push gently against their comfort zone.



2020 saw two projects competed, both exploring the concept of making a block, cutting it apart then remaking it in a different form.

The amazing outcome of the works produced in 2020 is the way that, whilst everyone was set the same task at the same time, sharing ideas and learning new techniques, the final quilts are so very different.

In sharing these works at the 2021 Festival of Quilts, the group hopes that they can inspire you to have a go at something different, something that stretches your comfort zone and opens up another world of possibilities.







# Festival of Quilts 2021

~Masquerade~

Friday 30<sup>th</sup> April to Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> May  
Adelaide Showground

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*We are thrilled that Tara Sniedze will be our Quilter in Residence this year and we are sure you would love to visit her at the Festival and glean from her some tips and tricks.*

**Chris O'Brien recently interviewed Tara, which you may view [here](#).**

*Tara describes herself as a **"Sometime Quilter and Fabric Hoarder"** and the following is her quilting story.*

I'm an Adelaide girl – born in 1969 at the Memorial Hospital, and other than a short stint in Whyalla when I was a little girl, I've always lived in Adelaide.

My family on my father's side has a very strong art background – my Grandfather and Auntie are amazing artists, my Great Grandfather an architect (WH Harral – one of the architects of the Freemasons Hall on North Terrace among other things) and my Great Great Grandfather was an artist at Scrymgour and Sons designing labels and packaging, and also fabrics. I have a book filled with swatches of the lovely vintage fabrics he designed. Such a treasure. I'm sure it's through this line of the family that I inherited my spacial thinking and sense of colour.

My Mum was always sewing and knitting, and when I was a young teenager she sent me to David Jones in the city to participate in a series of garment sewing classes. I'm sure I paid attention, but I really didn't pursue it. No doubt I was much too busy doing other 'more interesting' teenage things! At some point after this, my Mum invited a long-time family friend Sue Schaefer to visit, and she taught me how to make those lovely, and ever so stylish at the time, padded picture frames and tissue box holders. This I really loved, and it opened my eyes to fabric crafts. Later I learned that Sue had learned these techniques from none other than the lovely Michele Hill, so with a cheeky grin to this day I credit Michele for starting me on my journey toward quilting.

One of my first quilting 'projects' was a block of the month from a Better Homes and Gardens magazine. I bought a ton of peach coloured fabric from Myer (do you remember those days?) and set about cutting out fabric for some nine patch blocks. I used scissors to cut out the pieces without any thought of measuring and was absolutely baffled when I couldn't get the points to meet. Ha! I know where I went wrong now! Anyway, that project never made it any further, and I occasionally still find shards of those bland fabrics in my scrap stash to this day!

Flash forward a few years – I'd just married Marty (in 1992) and I was working afternoons. Mum had seen classes at Johnsons on Unley road for those delightful Pumpkin Bags that were so in vogue at the time. She signed us up ... my bag was terrible, but I saw the patchwork pieces on the wall in the classroom and I was entranced. I kept going to classes, and really those classes were the beginning of my journey to where I am today.

Continued next page....



**Tara Sniedze - 2021 Quilter in Residence**



My love of vintage quilts was kicked off when I went on retreat with the Golden Grove Piecemakers to Victor Harbour. In one of the lovely shops I saw the Dear Jane book. I thought I might like to make a block or two. How hard could it be? Famous last words from a beginner quilt maker. Maybe if I'd had more experience I would have known to drop that book and run! Fast! But the book led me to internet groups, and local ladies making the quilt, and ultimately to our wonderful Guild. So, I am very grateful for taking that leap. The Dear Jane quilt I made was lucky enough to win the best hand quilting prize the year I entered it in our show, and the Sarah Johnson quilt I entered in the same show won the prize for best first time entrant.

So I became hooked on vintage quilts – and in addition to scouring local quilt stores for their reproduction fabrics, I travelled to the USA almost every other year to feed my new addiction. I was lucky enough to visit Paducah several times, Road to California several times, and so many quilt stores that I can't name them all. I was due to head over to the USA again last year to visit with my wonderful friend Linda and all my other lovely friends, but we all know what happened with travels last year.



*Dear Jane*

Over a lot of years I've been lucky enough to teach quilting to so many lovely people – at shops and through the Guild, and lately independently. There is nothing like seeing people's eyes light up when they achieve a fabulous finish. And people further afield have been able to make projects I designed when I was writing for magazines. I think I had about 20 quilts published – it was so much fun to see my quilts in print.

***My Caswell got Creative by Tara Sniedze***  
**Winner 2017 Hand Quilting Award**  
**Winner 2017 Viewers' Choice Award**



***My Caswell got Creative***  
***Block close-up***

On Thursdays I have the most delightful bunch of ladies visit with me at home for quilting, we've made lots of fabulous quilts together, learned a lot, and become great friends. Thursdays are always celebrated with lots of food, and often champagne too. And the girls are often subjected to whatever my baking obsession is at the time.



***Some of Tara's speciality cooking***

Continued next page....



On the quilting front, I don't do as much designing lately – generally only small things – but I am having a great time working on hand appliqued/ intricately machine pieced and hand quilted vintage style quilts. Some of them take several years to make, and I am just loving them. I've won some prizes at the Guild Festival and the Royal Show for my quilts, and feel truly blessed. Vintage style quilts are definitely my true love, and I hope to be making them long into the future. I have a mighty stash so I need to get busy!

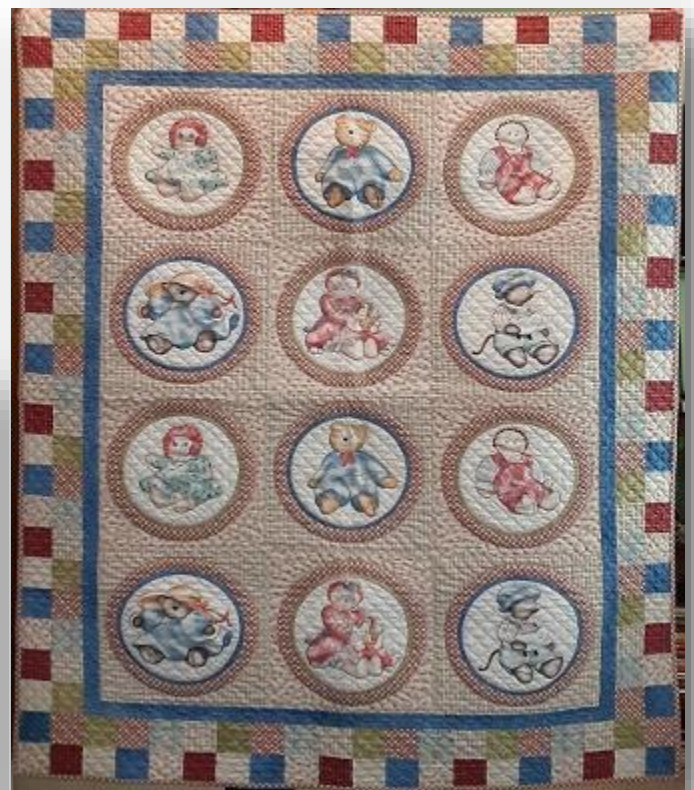


*Tara's amazingly organised stash*



*Recognition for Excellence*

My daughter Amy has lately expressed an interest in fabric and sewing, and we've worked on a few projects together for her new home. I think sewing will be put on the backburner for her though – she's just become a first time mum, so I'm a first time grandmother. I'm excited to have lots of reasons to make small person quilts, and a new granddaughter to dote on.



*Baby Granddaughter's first quilt*



*Tara at her hand quilting frame  
With Guild President Chris O'Brien*

And a bonus video with Tara's Thursday Quilting Group - click on [Thursday Group](#).



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**CA371**  
Block Carry Case  
Size Closed : 37 X 37 cms / 14.5 X 14.5 inches



**CA575**  
Sewing Machine Mat  
Size Closed : 17 X 21.5 cms / 6.7 X 8.45 inches  
Size Open : 60 X 66 cms / 23.6 X 26 inches



**CA58**  
The Supreme Organizer  
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**CA555**  
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**CA540**  
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# GROUP LIAISON

with Guild officers  
Cindy Massey and Jane Polden

## Bordertown

Are we there yet, could be heard in the vehicle once or twice when we headed to Bordertown to join the **Gum Tree Quilters** 25<sup>th</sup> Birthday anniversary. As the newly elected Group Liaison officers, let me tell you it was worth the drive. What a vibrant group of women ranging across three generations. We were lucky enough to join many of the members on Sunday night for dinner at the heritage listed Mundulla pub, a gorgeous little town, ten minutes out of Bordertown with the best steak ever (just saying). We were also privileged to be presented with a show and tell of the groups *Casa Felix*, *Pick a Box* and *Mysolation* Mystery quilts completed in 2020.

We must have behaved, because we were invited to join them the following day on their sewing day. Gum Tree Quilters meet on the first Monday and third Thursday of the month at the CWA hall in Bordertown from 10am to 9pm, to allow everyone in the community to access the group. We were advised that the group intended to celebrate their 25 years of sewing all year, starting on the 18<sup>th</sup> of April, the date the group was first started. They had many special activities planned. We look forward to celebrating with them via Facebook or I-Patch, or maybe even visiting again. You can find a report from Gum Tree Quilters later in this edition of I-Patch.

The ladies were gracious enough to let us video our chat with them while they were working on their projects.

**You can see the video by clicking on Bordertown Gum Tree Quilters.**

Cindy Massey

## APPRAISAL PANEL

Following our COVID-19 enforced shut down the Appraisal Team is back at work and ready to appraise your quilts.

Quilt appraisal is one of the services our Guild offers its members. We appraise quilts for replacement value, in case they are lost, stolen or maybe damaged or destroyed. Should you have a quilt appraised I am sure you will be surprised at the replacement value. Many of you will have a significant value of quilts in your possession and may benefit from having them listed on your household insurance policy in case something unfortunate happens to any of your quilts. Quilt appraisal offers an insurance company a quilting industry estimate of the value of your quilt. It is important that you have recorded the provenance of your quilt and have a detailed label on your quilt.

The team appraises quilts bi-monthly in February, April, June, August, October and December. There are spaces left in the June 2021 appraisal day. Fees are \$20-00 for individual Guild members, \$30-00 for affiliated members and \$50-00 for non-Guild members.

Please contact the Appraisal Panel Co-ordinator Heather Ford by phone on 0438 272 408 or email [appraisals.saquilters@gmail.com](mailto:appraisals.saquilters@gmail.com) for further information or an application form.



**As a Guild member you are eligible to join the Executive Committee and be part of the decision making process. You can find all details on the Guild web site and download the nomination form by clicking [here](#).**





# Modern Quilt Group

22 members came along to the first “official” get-together for the Modern Quilt Group on Sunday 21st March at the Vermont Uniting Church at South Plympton. The group will continue to meet on the third Sunday of the month to share ideas, inspiration and fun making it a fabulous day.

We started with everyone introducing themselves and hearing all about their quilting history that led them to being interested in Modern techniques. Cindy led a discussion about what everyone would like to get from attending this group and reassured everyone that wherever they are in their own “*modern quilting journey*” they are very welcome to come learn and grow together. This is what the members would like from the gatherings -

- new ideas
- show and tell
- challenges
- mini tutorials
- break all the quilting rules
- everyone is welcome to come along



Pip brought in samples and a book display to inspire us and then walked us through an Improv activity where everyone was provided a paper bag of fabric strips to make a wonky quarter log cabin block.....and TahDah all together we made a Banner/wall display for the Group.

Candy brought ‘show and tell’ and told us all her story of making a six inch block a week for a year, with each block reflecting some aspect of what was going on in her life at the time - lots of food for thought for us all.

We stopped for lunch and had a good chat before heading back to our machines to work on our own projects.

**A Challenge for the month has been proposed – to be completed to bring to the group next month.**

- These blocks will be displayed at Festival of Quilts.
- Eight inch block finished (finished by sewing on the backing right sides together and then turning right sides out)
- Solid colours
- Theme/inspiration – March – you can use any technique to make something that represents some aspect of March for you.

**Next Gathering - Sunday April 18<sup>th</sup> 10 -3pm Vermont Uniting Church Hall, 576 Cross Road, South Plympton.**

**Cost to attend - \$10 for Guild members and \$15 for members of Guild affiliated groups and non-members.**

**Any questions? - email Monique – [monireed@hotmail.com](mailto:monireed@hotmail.com)**



**Dear Quilters,**

Thank you for your generous donation of quilts to the Quilts of Love program. Fortunately, over the years pre-natal and peri-natal care have improved and we now have far less need for the Little Quilts of Love. **As we have a considerable collection stored we are no longer accepting Little Quilts (the 16 – 24 inch size).**

In more recent years the Guild has been asked by the Lyell McEwin Hospital to make Isolette Covers and Crib Quilts to brighten their NICU and Special Care Nurseries. This has since been taken up by other hospitals throughout the state. How can you help?

**Due to the overwhelming generosity of the quilting community, we have a large number of crib quilts in storage so we are asking people to please keep them at home until we put a call out for more quilts. We have limited storage space and cannot store any more at this time. Hospitals also have limited storage so can only accept a few at any one time.**

**Isolette covers** are still needed as they are given to the parents when their baby goes home as the hospitals are no longer able to wash them (due to the high temperatures in the commercial laundries....the quilts would not last very long!). The most needed size is the 30in x 48in used by the Lyell McEwin Hospital. Please see below for instructions to make both sizes of Isolette Covers.

#### **Isolette Covers 30in x 48in and 32in x 32in**

These are special purpose covers used by staff in Neonatal Intensive Care Units (NICU) and Special Care Nurseries (SCN). They are used to lay over an Isolette to control the light environment of the baby.

One side should be dark to reflect night time and one side light to imitate day light. The covers also create a less clinical feel to the units. They should have wadding which helps block out the bright lights of the unit especially at sleep time. Please do not use bulky polyester wadding. The covers should be bright and cheerful on the light side and even though the other side is 'dark' it can still be fun as this is the side that will be facing 'up' during the day and we want the unit to still be cheerful! See photos on the Guild website for ideas for the 'dark' side! **Guidelines:** Cotton fabric only. Please be mindful of using fabrics that have words on them as they may not be appropriate. Fabric should also be appropriate for babies. Covers may be pieced, panels or both. One side light and one side dark (see notes above) and should be quilted (not heavily). Cotton wadding is best so they can be washed if needed.

Sizing is important as the staff need to be able to access the portholes and also be able to see the baby at all times. Lyell McEwin Hospital use the 30in x 48inch size while some of the smaller hospitals like the 32in x 32in covers. We also request that no embellishments or buttons are added so that nothing can harm baby's delicate skin if they should lie on the quilts.

**PLEASE NOTE:** All quilts must have loose threads removed and be clean and stain free. They must not have any pet fur on them. Please ensure that all pins are removed.

Thank you for your kind support, your contributions are so very much appreciated.

Any questions or queries, please don't hesitate to contact the coordinator of the **Quilts of Love** program, Jill Clausen, by phone on 0403 016 639. Further details can found on the Guild web site at [Quilts of Love](#).





# Inman Valley Quilters

Inman Valley Quilters are now fortunate to have a new meeting place at the Inman Valley Memorial Hall. We meet the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays of a month (10 until 2), whilst on a 5th Tuesday we generally piece Gifting quilts.

We have 37 members who enjoy various forms of quilting and crafts whilst catching up on news and sharing ideas over a cuppa or two! Show 'n' Tell was amazing when we finally came out of COVID lockdown as we finally completed some of our UFOs!

In January we enjoyed a President's breakfast at the Inman kitchen and more recently held a workshop expertly run by one of our very talented quilters, Jenny Norton. Below is a photo of several of the members who constructed their pincushions on the day.



Our Biennial quilt Festival was to have been held in April 2021 but is now to be held 9th and 10th of April 2022 at the Inman Memorial Hall. Inman quilters however will present a stage display as part of Festival Fleurieu at the Inman Memorial Hall. A large doll's house beautifully crafted by a local of the Valley has loaned it for the occasion. The display will also include baby quilts which will be donated on completion. Hopefully some of our fellow quilters and friends will have the opportunity to visit the Fleurieu and enjoy the Festival atmosphere!

Until the next edition

Happy Quilting



**ADVANCE NOTICE - CLARE QUILTERS**  
**Come to enjoy springtime in the Clare Valley and see**  
**Clare Quilters Exhibition**  
**Clare Town Hall**  
**Friday 1st - Sunday 3rd October 2021**  
**10am to 4pm**  
**Enquiries Ann 0484 372105**

# Judy Simcock - My Journey

The eldest of five children, I went to school in Murray Bridge and lived on a farm at Brinkley. My childhood was happy. I enjoyed school, played sport on Saturdays, church on Sundays and enjoyed many family caravan holidays. Because I had three younger brothers, I never had to do any farm work. My time was spent indoors. I learnt to cook and sew. From an early age I was using Mum's treadle machine to make outfits for my dolls and later myself. (See the dress in photo below)



After school I worked for three years in the local newspaper office. In 1973 I married the love of my life and we moved from the district, first to Crystal Brook, then to Brinkworth where our first two children were born. We then moved to Bordertown and share-farmed a dairy while developing our own farm at Mundulla. I thought I was busy being a "townie" with two children, but it was a walk in the park in comparison. Dairy life meant milking over 100 cows twice a day and every day of the year. This "farm girl" suddenly found out how little she really knew about farming!! .....Our next move was to purchase our own dairy at Jervois, and then later to a larger dairy at The Point. After another ten years, and now with four children, we moved out of dairying to a mixed farm near Bordertown.

All of this time I had been sewing - Clothes for myself, the children and household furnishings. It wasn't until daughter number two was married in 1996, that I had a dedicated sewing room!!

It was then I made my first quilt, using remnants from those years of sewing. (Of course I had thrown nothing away!) I used a piece of paper as a pattern and scissors to cut squares. Nothing lined up very well. It was a hotchpotch of different fabrics. You can imagine the result. I used thick poly wadding from that era, backed it and added a binding, with no thought to quilting it! I still have it. It is a reminder of where I started.

Soon after I discovered rotary cutters and cutting mats and my quilting journey began. Looking back now and knowing I am definitely not a hand sewer and much prefer machine work, I realise if I had started my quilting journey with templates, scissors and hand piecing I probably wouldn't have kept going.

I guess we all have thoughts and plans for our life. At the age of 19, having come from a happy family life, I expected to head into the "happily ever after" of fairy tales. I soon learned that life isn't really like that and my life journey took me to places I had never imagined. There is that saying - "when life gives you scraps, make quilts", and that is what I did. Quilting, my faith and family, kept me on track when life was not easy.

Life moved along, and I made many quilts for friends and family and quilted them on my domestic machine. The quilting was mainly stitch in the ditch and outline quilting. Nothing too elaborate, but a queen size quilt was not an easy task on my domestic. In 1996 I joined Gumtree Quilters, learned a lot more and had, and still do have, a lot of fun. In 2000 we left the farm and moved into Bordertown. My stash was growing, and the moving guys had a lot to say about the large number of boxes that were labelled sewing room!

I had always dreamed of having a longarm quilting machine like I had seen advertised in patchwork magazines, but they take up a lot of space that I didn't have. One day, driving into my carport, the lightbulb came on and I knew I had the perfect space!! It was time for action - building plans, painting, finance arranged and an order was placed for my Gammill machine. It was exciting and terrifying at the same time, as now I was making these decisions on my own and totally responsible for the debt!

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In 2002, my business, Cornerstone Creations Machine Quilting commenced. I felt I was being led on a journey and was at peace. In the Bible, Jesus is referred to as the Cornerstone, and I wanted Him to be the Cornerstone of my life and business also.

It was quite a learning experience to develop my skills, with much PPP (Practice, Patience and Perseverance). Sometime later two good friends thought I was "good enough" and gave me their quilts to do. I am very thankful for all who have trusted me with their creations over the last 19 years and I have quilted about 3,000 quilts for customers. With the great variety of styles, colours and patterns that come through my door, it is like going to a quilt show every day. It is the best feeling to finish a quilt and see how it has come to life. I pin the quilts up behind my machine (who I call Max), and wait for them to "talk" to me about how they should be quilted.

I have been fortunate to win awards in South Australian, Victorian and local shows, as well as travelling to other states for classes and training conferences. In 2006 I was humbled to win the QGSA Best of Show award. Many customers have entered their quilts into shows and won ribbons, although the real prize is seeing your quilt hanging in a state show. (Photo below with my wholecloth quilt, Woven Inspiration, and quilted on my Gammill Premier, with no computer.)



My journey continued and in 2007 I purchased another Gammill, an Optimum with the Statler computerised software. As I had done my "apprenticeship", I now had the best of both worlds by combining the computer with my freehand skills.

After having my Best of Show quilt valued I became interested in learning how to do this and joined the Valuation Panel (now Appraisal). Later I joined the Judging Panel and enjoyed extending my knowledge and venturing to the city. My first Quilt Encounter was when it was at Roseworthy and then Immanuel and these camps were such a lot of fun with fantastic classes and great teachers.

Sometime in those years I taught basic patchwork and embellished quilt classes at my house and quilters came from other areas to join in. In 2010 the house across the road came up for auction, and another lightbulb moment came. I decided this would be the perfect place to renovate and hold quilting retreats. (And I went into debt again!) This house was named "*The Sanctuary*". The perfect place for quilters to come for "time out", leaving the distractions of home behind, to sit, sew and share life.

In 2011 I commenced writing a blog to showcase my quilting and the retreats at The Sanctuary.

Since those early days I have added more of my life and each year I get a book printed. You can follow me on <http://newsfromjude.blogspot.com>.

For the five years I owned that house, we had some great times, with visiting teachers (including Faye Packham, Heather Ridley and Michele Hill), UFO, Mystery quilt and Christmas in July retreats.

Probably the highlight each year was the Pink retreat held in September.

Back in 2008 I had journeyed through breast cancer. These weekends were a fundraiser in appreciation for the help I received. More than \$10,000 has been raised for Breast Cancer Network Australia from the Pink weekends. The retreats have continued in my own house since 2015 until COVID came along. We have had so much fun and many lasting friendships have been formed.

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In 2015 I acquired some surplus shop stock and added another avenue to my business. I have fabric for sale and also cut "Ready, Set, Sew" kits for Mystery retreats or groups to purchase for their own programmes. These weekends have been very popular and a lot of fun. Girls seem to appreciate that the decisions re colour and style are already made, the fabrics are cut and all that is needed is sit and sew! I love to take a collection of fabric, scan them, sit down with EQ8 and design a quilt using them and cut it all up ready for a kit.

A highlight of my quilting journey was in 2018 when I joined Heather Ford and the Aussie Quilters for an amazing trip to the United States. We spent time at Paducah, visited Jenny Doan at Missouri Star, Amish country and many quilt shops. Of course I added to my stash!

2020 was the year of change for many people and for me too. While I still quilt for others, I am doing less. The retreats are on hold for now. I still have a LOT of fabric and will continue to cut packs and kits for sale. It was the year I learnt about Zoom, a new way to hold a sewing day with friends when travel is restricted. There are many ideas in my head about the direction going forward. Maybe I might finish some of my many WIP's?

And so the journey continues.....you never know where life will take you, but I can testify that negatives can be turned into positives and trust that God will continue to lead me.

You can view Cindy and Jane's video visit with Judy by clicking on [Judy's Sewing room](#)



Guild member, Zara Zannettino's "**Monarch Menagerie**" canvas has been juried into "**Impressions of Oceania from Around the World**". This is SAQA Virtual Gallery Exhibition that is now online. You can find the link [here](#).

This honour coincides with SAQA promoting the SAQA's "Oceans Apart Connected by Art Virtual Conference" that opens April 16-24, 2021. This Conference is being held virtually this year due to the pandemic.

Zara's piece "**Fascinating Foraminifera**" was also accepted to New Zealand for the SAQA Regional Exhibition. The theme being **Oceania: Distance and Diversity**. Left is a small snippet of the this beautiful artwork. Congratulations Zara.





# Burra Quilters

The Burra Quilters have been hard at work completing their projects for their upcoming Exhibition to be held in the Burra Regional Art Gallery from Thursday, 29th April to 16th May. We are fortunate to have the use of the Gallery where lighting and the hanging space, to quote Rachael Daisy *"raises the profile and honours the work"*

As many of our members have taken part in Lockdown and other mystery classes we have titled our show *"It's a Mystery"* so take a road trip and check us out (see advert on this page.) Our Quilts will be complimented by an array of hand made Teddies from a deceased Estate. There will also be many Quilt Encounter projects included, as well as original designs.

At our recent Annual General Meeting a comprehensive report was given by our President Jan Cafcakis. Although in Lockdown for four months we made many book satchels for **Backpacks for Kids**, the Burra Library knitting group assisted with a large donation of small knitted Teddies that were included in the satchels and all the books were donated by our members, a small number of quilts were also made for Backpacks and some of us have responded to their call for toiletry bags for boys. More quilts are awaiting delivery to the Adelaide Childrens Hospital Oncology ward and Burra Hospital and Uniting Care have received several quilts. Many local people suffering terminal illness, grieving or in difficult circumstances have also been gifted quilts.

We have made the Rachael Daisy design *Ric Rac Razamataz* for our Raffle Quilt in Kaffe Fassett fabrics, calling it *Ric Rac Daisies*. It looks amazing and we all hope our ticket is the winning one. One of our more recent members, Maree Caplin, is a textile artist and has made our second prize which is a *Gum Blossom Wreath*, this too would look amazing on any wall. The recipients of our raffle proceeds will be the Northern Highlands Soroptimists Wig Library. This library has a selection of wigs that are hired out for a nominal fee for ladies who are in need of this service and we are fortunate to have such a facility in the mid and upper north areas. If you would like to purchase a ticket or feel that you can sell a book (25 tickets at \$2 ea) please contact the us at the phone numbers on our advertisement.

We eagerly look forward to a road trip to one of our members at Black Point to make Saddle Bags and a Rachael Daisy three day workshop later in the winter months.

## Burra Quilters Bi Annual Exhibition

***"It's a Mystery"***

**Burra Regional Art Gallery**

**29th April to 16th May 2021**

**10am to 4pm daily**

**Entry \$4 per person**

**Featuring many lockdown Mystery Quilts, hand-made  
Teddies and Quilt Encounter projects**

**Enquiries: Jan 0416 281587**

**Daphne 0428 814755**





# "SEW WHAT" with Cindy Massey

## Why do you quilt?

Why do you quilt, and don't you get sick of doing the same thing all the time? someone asked me the other day, I laughed it off and answered, because I love it, but later that night when I was sitting on the couch sewing circles of felt to denim, I asked myself the same question.

Immediately my mind went to a happy place and a calmness came over me. My thoughts drifted to sitting laughing and sewing with friends, learning from each other, sharing fabrics and ideas, exploring different piecing techniques. Just generally to be in a safe place to create, make mistakes and find ways to fix them with friends.

But why do you quilt? I am quite sure that most of us, have made quilts for our kids, our grandchildren, our parents, friends getting married, the lady next door's niece and our sons girlfriend's workmate who just had a baby. We have made a quilt out of hubby's shirts, tried hand piecing hexagons and have a box of hand dyed fabrics that we've had for years. I bet you've even considered making quilts to sell online. And yet we continue to make quilts. How many quilts are too many anyway? How much fabric is too much?

But why do you quilt? I heard it said the other day that someone was making an exhibition quilt, and the funny thing is, I didn't know that was a thing.

Don't get me wrong, I love an exhibition, and with Festival of Quilts fast approaching, I'm sure the organisers are hoping everyone is making an exhibition quilt. What an exhibition it should be, with all the quilts that have been produced in 2020.

So why do we quilt, I strongly believe, that like life, a few will produce a quilt that will be recognised in the history of quilts made in the world, many will make design and produce a quilt that will be awarded with beautiful ribbons by judges, many will make a quilt to record our family history, celebrate births or honour loved ones, and some of us will make quilts for people we will never meet to keep them warm or comfort them through their darkest hours.

But all of us will make quilts because of our love of the craft and our joy in creating. Whether it be traditionally hand pieced and quilted, modern machine pieced and quilted, or anything and everything in between. Maybe the points don't match, or you think the quilting could be better. The reality is as members of any guild within a community it is our responsibility to show all of our quilts, demonstrating all levels of ability to our community to let them be in awe of the beauty we create.

## Bring out your quilts.

## TEN REASONS TO QUILT

1. Quilts feed the fabric addict's heart.
2. Quilts create an inviting space.
3. Quilting creates and preserves memories.
4. Quilting gives us a chance to celebrate holidays in style.
5. Quilting does not have a peak season.
6. Quilts make amazing and meaningful gifts.
7. Quilting skills open many doors.
8. Quilting is creative expression.
9. Quilting is about community.
10. Quilting simply rocks.



(Source: Accuquilt)



# 25 Years of GUM TREE QUILTERS

Who would have thought that a decision made 25 years ago to form a patchwork group would have led to Gum Tree Quilters becoming a hub of creativity and community.

In April 1996, quilter Sue Nitschke placed an advert in the local newspaper, putting out a call for interested quilters to form a group. 12 ladies responded to this "call out" and the decision was made to form a group called "Gum Tree Quilters" and by the end of that year, membership was 17.

In February 2004 a meeting was held with the group deciding to become a constituted group. The inaugural President of the Gum Tree Quilters was Lois King, who remains an active member today and is one of the current 43 members, which includes 2 Honorary members – Mignon Turnbull and Pat Matthews.

The purpose of the group has changed little since its beginning, an enthusiasm for patchwork and quilting is still GTQ's main focus. The personality of the group is a happy one. All have very busy lives but friendships have been nurtured and supported in a caring environment, especially for women from rural areas which can sometimes experience tough economic and seasonal conditions.



**Event of the Year Award**

On Australia Day in 2006, The Gum Tree Quilters were awarded the "Event of the Year" in the Tatiara. President Mignon Turnbull gracefully accepted the Award on the group's behalf for the recognition given to the 2005 Quilt Exhibition. This was a very proud moment for all members.

In 2007 the Bordertown Hospital asked GTQ to design a wall hanging for the Aged Care residential wing. The two tactile wall hangings 'Four Seasons' and 'Naive Farm Scene' still hang in the Aged Care corridors.



**Bordertown Hospital Wall Hanging**

Until 2018, the group met at the Anglican Church Hall before relocating to the CWA Hall. The group meetings are held on the 1<sup>st</sup> Monday and the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of each month and this move has meant quilters can now enjoy their craft and conversation in air-conditioned comfort!

Our very first retreat was held at Robe in 2004 for a fun Beach Babes and Calendar Girls weekend. The photo below shows that they are not afraid of a bit of fun as they perform the Calendar Girls sequence, just wrapped in quilts!

Since then, annual retreats at a farm stay camp have been held with tutors in attendance, or one of our members conducting a special project workshop. Sometimes the annual retreat weekend is a sewing catch up to finish items for the exhibition.

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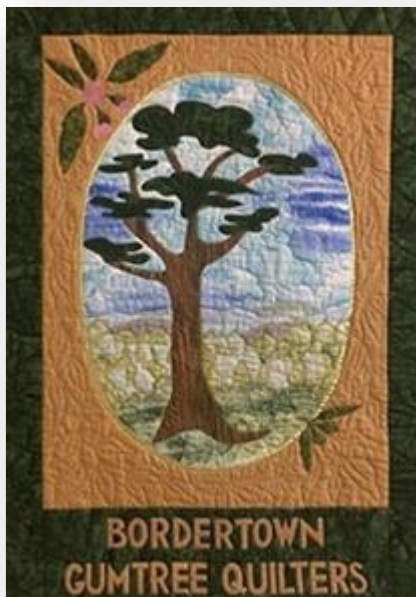
**Calendar Girls - just wrapped in Quilts**

Members have always been keen to learn new skills with a variety of talented tutors who have shared their many and varied skills at workshops over the years. Tutors include Faye Packham, Julie Haddrick, Gina Burgess, Michele Hill, Lessa Siegele, Heather Ridley, Gloria Loughman, Pam Holland, and Kerry Brand.

GTQ hosts an annual joint sewing day with our 'over the border' quilting neighbours from Victoria. Kaniva Windmill Stitches and the Edenhope Flowering Gum Quilters travel to Bordertown once a year (with the exception of 2020) for a sit & sew.

The 'Green Triangle' day is a yearly gathering of quilters from the South East of South Australia and Western Victoria and was always a well attended day with lots of "show and tell" and local shops to tempt us with their wares. Gum Tree Quilters hosted this event in 2000 and 2010.

The age of members ranges from 40 to 90. Consequently 'O' Birthdays are a very special celebration, as is the Christmas Party to end the year. The group banner was designed and made by members and is proudly on show at all of our functions.



Gum Tree Quilters held their first exhibition in 1997 in the original Walkway Gallery, prior to redevelopment. Since then, exhibitions have been held every two years in the Mundulla Hall and Bordertown Civic Centre, with our last exhibition held in the Bordertown Basketball Stadium in 2019. 2021 will be the 13<sup>th</sup> exhibition and the first in a pandemic! In an exhibition year, the President issues a challenge to members to sew a block in a particular pattern, size and colour for a raffle quilt. The money raised goes to a chosen charity. Gum Tree Quilters have been generous in its support of charities and the beneficiaries have been many. The group has also participated in many Biggest Afternoon Teas held in conjunction with the Biggest Quilting Bee and raised funds for the Cancer Council. Since 2005 the group has donated approximately \$25,000 to the Cancer Council and local charities.

During 2020, the year of Covid-19, the monthly email newsletter was up-graded to twice monthly, to enable members to keep in touch and be informed on what everyone was doing. Photos of member's happy sewing spaces, projects, birthdays, news and sometimes a favourite recipe featured. Recently a new segment was included: "A Few Moments with a Member" telling of their quilting journey.

18<sup>th</sup> April 2021, exactly 25 years after that first meeting, Gum Tree Quilters will gather in the CWA Hall for the first of a year of celebrations. We are looking forward to a year filled with Covid Safe events that enables our members to come together and enjoy each other's company as this group has done for a quarter of a century!

Continued next page....





RFDS President, Grid Hubl, receiving Raffle Quilt takings of \$1,620 from Gum Tree Quilters President, Pat Grocock, 2017

Join Cindy and Jane as they chat with members of the Gum Tree Quilters Group, click on [Gum Tree Quilters](#)

## LABELS by Heather Ford

Labels are a way for future generations to know who made a quilt and for whom and why. They can be pieced into the back of the quilt and quilted over or added after the quilting is finished. They can be stitched into the binding on two sides or be “free standing.” A quilt can have more than one label, maybe a second label with the care instructions, techniques used and fibre content of materials used.

### A label should include:

- \* The full name of the maker, place of residence and include the relationship to the recipient
- \* The full name of the recipient
- \* The full name of the quilter if different to the maker
- \* The name of the quilt, it's part of a quilt's identity
- \* The date the quilt was made – started/finished month/year is sufficient
- \* The reason for making the quilt, maybe a special occasion
- \* The design source – original design, pattern, book, BOM, magazine etc
- \* The fibre content of the front, back and wadding and any embellishments
- \* Care instructions eg gentle machine wool wash, gentle spin, dry flat in shade. For delicate textiles which won't be washed eg shake carefully, vacuum through tulle
- \* How the quilt was made i.e. by hand, machine or both

### Create a label by:

- \* Embroidering the details by hand
- \* Use the embroidery alphabet on your sewing machine
- \* Print a label on your computer using inkjet printable fabric
- \* Write a label with a permanent, acid free, fabric marking pen e.g. Pigma.
- \* You can write directly onto the back of your quilt.

### To improve your labels:

- \* Draw them up on paper and then trace onto the fabric
- \* Trace the letters from lettering or calligraphy books
- \* Use a book with label designs
- \* Buy a pre-printed label

**BY LABELLING YOUR QUILT WE “LINK HANDS AND LIVES ACROSS THE YEARS”. *There is no monetary value we can put on this information – it surpasses that boundary.***

With thanks to Susan Murphy who first wrote this in 1997. It remains just as pertinent today.

**Heather Ford**

BERNINA Q 16



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Watch what Amanda Murphy has to say about it.  
Click [BERNINA-Q-Series-Sit-Down](#)

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# Gum Nut Angels

In November 2007 at a meeting of the Gum Tree Quilters, Lois King and Judy Simcock presented the idea of forming a charity arm of the group to make quilts and donate them to groups and individuals in need of the comfort of a lovingly made quilt. It was decided to name the group the **Gum Nut Angels**, and a Gum nut logo was designed by one of the members and is included on the label of each quilt.

The Gum Nut Angels meet every third Thursday of the month at Judy's who has provided storage for the donated materials and a place to cut, sew and quilt. Members arrive to sort the fabrics and partly made tops, plan, then cut and piece together. Using donated fabrics, means that all the quilts are scrappy, and it is sometimes a challenge when the member who started a top the month before is not present the next time, and has left no notes about their plan?? The finished tops are then quilted by members and binding added.

The Angels support and enable local organisations to raffle quilts and raise funds for their causes. Quilts have been donated to the aged care wing at our local hospital. Others have been donated to bush fire victims or national disaster appeals.

Many quilts have been gifted to local individuals and families suffering illness or unfortunate circumstance. While we don't gift the quilts expecting "thankyou's", we have received many notes from grateful recipients who express that they were overwhelmed by the thoughtful generosity of the group. Frequently the recipients comment that the quilts compliment their home décor.

The group collaborated in 2018-2019 with hospital staff and elderly residents to construct two quilts which are now used as "covering quilts" when the deceased are moved from their hospital room.

The numbers of members attending each month's sewing day varies, depending what is happening in their other lives. Some days the sharing and caring takes precedence over the stitching, but there is always a quilt available for someone in need. Over the past 15 years the Bordertown Gum Nut Angels have made more than 150 quilts.

This collaboration of quilters proves a wonderful creative outlet for many of the Angels who have made enough quilts of their own to satisfy themselves and their families.



The Gum Nut Angels finishing binding on quilts





# Guild Meeting Notes

by Bron Atkinson

Thursday  
4 March 2021

President Chris welcomed 116 attendees to the meeting whose number included a visitor from Bordertown. After the usual house-keeping advice which now includes Covid safe guidelines, Chris reminded us that there are plans to make changes to the Constitution at the AGM and these will be published in I-Patch.

A very pleasant duty for Chris was to present flowers to Jenny Loveder, our longest serving Editor of Patches



Jenny with her flowers

Cindy and Monique came to the stage, each wrapped in a quilt. They were introducing the Modern Quilt Group that is being set up under the Guild's auspices. We discovered that it is hard to define a 'modern' quilt as there are many ideas for how they should be designed, sewn and quilted.

As one speaker said, it is hard to define but you know it when you see it. There are no rules, but some aspects mentioned were negative space, improv piecing, straight line quilting, hand/big stitching, hand and/or machine piecing, and sometimes faced rather than bound. Many groups issue challenges. Ann, Pip and Angela had many quilts to show and were also some quilts on display from Lesley, Amanda, Chris and Dorothy.

The group plans to meet every third Sunday of the month from 10am – 3pm at Vermont Uniting Church. Fees apply for attendees.



Some modern quilts

- Kay and Helen from Southern Comforters had 4 pinned quilts for people to quilt. Kay mentioned that Kathy Rossini had quilted 65 quilts for distribution. What a mammoth effort. Well done, Kathy.
- Ann encouraged members to enter quilts for Festival of Quilts. As at the meeting night there were 103 entries. Glenys Elliott won the early entry prize of a wool pressing mat. Please remember to place your name on the White Glove roster if you can help at the exhibition.
- Cynthia brought her shop, Cynthia's Ark, for members to visit and also generously donated prizes for the raffle.



Kate, Cynthia and Maureen

## Show and Tell:

Christine B mentioned that she had finished 34 projects over the last several months. She showed a beautiful bag and a quilt designed by Helen Godden using Lumiere paints.



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Peggy had a child's quilt with elephants designed by Jen Kingwell. Sonia had a strippy modern top in French General fabrics made at QE in a Chris Jurd workshop.



Kathy had four quilts made by her sister-in-law, Baukje, using donated fabrics.



**Chris's take-away thought:**

1. Make progress (no matter how small)
2. Take it slow (life isn't a race)
3. Do more of what I love
4. Refine commitments
5. Experience joy daily
6. Be increasingly calm and meditative
7. Work on life balance

*Embroiderers' Guild of SA—Barossa Branch*

# *Embroidery Exhibition*

St Paul's Lutheran Church Hall  
Corner Murray St & Basedow Rd, Tanunda

**14<sup>th</sup> April – 18<sup>th</sup> April 10 am – 4 pm**

Entrance \$2

Raffle \$2

This exhibition is held in conjunction with the Barossa Valley Vintage Festival.



# TUTORIAL

## Stationery packs from Mini Quilts

### How to make your own by Monique Reed

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Last year the Guild's **Quilts of Love** team were overwhelmed with the generosity and contributions of the smallest size of Little Quilts of Love being made for South Australian hospitals to give to parents of stillborn babies. There were over 500 of these mini quilts in storage and so the team using an idea from **Backpacks for Kids**, decided to re-purpose these littlest quilts into stationery packs for children in need in SA. The quilts are folded, a couple of seams, button and elastic added and then filled with crayons/pencils, colouring books, sharpeners, stickers and reading books ready for distribution. For the older children we filled the pouches with notebooks, pens, puzzle books and mindfulness colouring books. The stationery packs were very well received when donated to Backpacks for kids, Children in quarantine and Refugee Health.

We have asked the membership to hold onto any further Little Quilts of Love as fortunately there is not the need for these quilts in the numbers that were needed previously by hospitals and our storage is full – but we thought we would share the details for making these simple stationery packs so you can make them for friends, family and the little people in your life.

We used a finished bound mini quilt- average size 18 x 18 inches, but you could make bigger or smaller to accommodate the size of the colouring book or story books you are putting inside your finished pouches.

#### Step 1.

Fold the quilt almost in half and pin the sides. Tuck a hair elastic band or piece of elastic in a loop into the right-hand side seam..



#### Step 2.

Sew 3 rows of stitching – up each side and then down the middle. You will be catching the elastic in the seam on right side, we reversed over the elastic a few times to ensure it was caught strongly.



#### Step 3.

Fold the pouch closed and add a button.



#### Step 4.

The fun bit – fill your pouch with the desired books/colouring pencils and other small surprises.