



QUILTERS' GUILD OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA INC.

2024 ANNUAL REPORTS
to be tabled at the

2025
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

To be held Thursday 1st May 2025 at 8pm
at the
Burnside Community Centre
Portrush Road, Tusmore SA 5066

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SA Quilters– Leadership Team 2024/2025

President	Chris O'Brien
Vice President	Rosanne Fuller
Vice President	Heather Ford
Secretary/Public Officer/Asset Manager	Gaylene Morgan
Honorary Treasurer	Keith Holland FCPA
Banker/Assistant Treasurer/Post	Jan Goulter
Insurance/Welcome Desk	Margaret Hurrell
Workshops	Rosslyn Wyatt
Librarian	Michael Barton
Library Assistant	Jackie Harris
Shops	Peggy Argent
Meetings/Attendance Registrar	Wendy Hunt
Membership/Communications	Kathleen Rossini
Merchandise/Raffles	Shez Hobbs
Community/Groups Raffle/ Welcome Desk	Denise Johnston

Leadership Team Support

Archives	Candy Walker
Flinders Kids Project	Chris O'Brien
Quilts of Love	After Dark Quilters
SA Quilters: Comfort Quilts	Jan Strachan
Supper Roster	Carolyn Thurtell
Website/Social Media	Kathleen Rossini
Frame Hire Bookings	Angela Yeates
Modern Mix Quilters	Jill Radcliffe
Sew it's Wednesday	Cindy Massey
Unplugged Stitchers	Jackie Harris
Saturday Stars	Therese May

Team Leaders

Appraisal Panel	Heather Ford
Dare to Differ	Sue Knuckey
Festival of Quilts	Ann Ewer
Judging Panel	Jill Christian
Quilt Encounter	Kerryn Brand

President's Report

It is with much pleasure that I present the 2024 President's Annual Report for the Quilters' Guild of SA, also known as SA Quilters. Membership in 2024 was 550 individual members and 89 affiliated groups.

For the benefit of our members, the **key aims** of the Guild are

- To promote patchwork and quilting
- To provide a forum for South Australian quilters
- To encourage the formation and maintenance of quilters' groups
- To hold, organize and take part in exhibitions and workshops
- To provide information, knowledge and skills with regard to quilt making

2024 was a significant year for SA Quilters with our 40th Birthday celebrations, along with the foreshadowing of celebratory activities planned throughout the following months, being launched at the March meeting. The Quilters Guild of SA (Inc) held its first meeting in March 1984, with Rachel Dettman our first elected President. At the 2024 March meeting a new SAQ banner was released – designed by Jane Polden.

The theme for Festival of Quilts was 'Ruby Red', their challenge was '40', the theme for Quilt Encounter was 'Dazzling Rubies' and Heather Ford designed a multi month sew-along focusing on 40 pieced blocks.

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Attendance at monthly **SAQ meetings** was strong throughout 2024, with attendances of close to 100 members at each meeting. I offer sincere thanks to the **Meetings Team**, made up of Wendy Hunt (Team Leader), Rosanne Fuller, Chris O'Brien, Jill Christian, Heather Ford, Jackie Harris, Ros Wyatt, Peggy Argent, Margaret Hurrell, Denise Johnston, Gaylene Morgan, Diane Lewitzke, and Julie Symons who met on a regular basis to formulate plans to ensure our monthly meetings ran smoothly. Thanks also to Carolyn Thurtell in her role as Kitchen Angel and Nola Pearce as her helper, serving members a cuppa at monthly meetings. Thanks also to Librarian, Michael Barton and Assistant Librarian, Jackie Harris who have kept the **Library** ticking over for members to access books at our monthly meetings.

A very successful **Market Day** was hosted at the Adelaide West Uniting Church in May by the **Events Team**. 35 vendors provided ample retail opportunities for nearly 300 visitors. Thank you to the organising team and kitchen staff, led by June Yam, for a quilter's bargain quilt supplies shopping day.

Thanks to Rosslyn Wyatt the **Workshops** convenor and team members Peggy Argent, Heather Ford, Jill Christian and Wendy Hunt who oversaw a busy and successful workshop programme for the year. Workshops were well attended and were presented by Lessa Siegele, Faye Packham, Jill Christian, Wendy Whellum, Sue Knuckey, Julie Nixon, Chris O'Brien, Cindy Massey, Bronwyn Cant and Jemima Flendt. Thank you to those members who supported these workshops and the tutors for their inspiring teaching.

The **Communications Team** of Kathleen Rossini (Team Leader), Cindy Massey, Chris O'Brien, Jane Polden, Ally Baum, Rhoda Ryan and Tina Robson have worked tirelessly to keep our members informed and entertained. On behalf of us all I would like to thank them for their dedication and many, many hours of work across all our digital platforms, particularly for their promotion of SA Quilter's 40th birthday activities and celebrations.

I-Patch continued its significant role in facilitating SAQ communication with our members and now reaches the inbox of over 900 recipients. Members are kept up to date with news from SA Quilters, groups, shops and the wider quilting community. Our thanks go to those affiliated groups who contributed to a greater understanding of what happened across quilting communities throughout the State with their activity reports.

The **SAQ Facebook Page** is certainly an effective method of notifying our individual and affiliate members of SAQ news and information together with items of interest from the wider quilting world, including our member shops and groups. Reactions have been recorded from across the globe. A new Facebook Group was created for those quilters following along with Heather's Sew Along to share their journeys.

The **SA Quilters YouTube Channel** holds an amazing array of videos, including sewing room visits, interviews and tutorials. Cindy and Jane have developed a high profile not only locally but nationally with their sewing room visits. Throughout 2024, Kathy and Chris interviewed SAQ members who played key roles in the creation and expansion of SA Quilters and our quilting community over the decades. These

videos are crucial archival records of the history and back stories of our Guild.

The **SA Quilters Website** has continued to be an important means of information communication with our members and interested others. Thank you to Kathleen Rossini for her hours of work in keeping our website dynamic, as well as her continued maintenance of the site, which is a mine of information.

Thank you to our **archivist** Candy Walker who oversees the 40 years of accumulated SAQ history. Candy continues to develop the digital archive and can provide a myriad of details to anyone who needs it.

The SAQ **Finance Team**, led by Ann Ewer, has again closely monitored the budget. I would like to acknowledge the outstanding commitment and contribution of Keith Holland, our **Honorary Treasurer** and Jan Goulter the **Assistant Treasurer** in ensuring SA Quilter's financial well-being. **Insurance** continues to be a big expense for SAQ and I thank Margaret Hurrell for continuing to liaise with the insurance broker, our groups and individual members with regard to insurance matters.

The Governor, Her Excellency the Honorable Frances Adamson AC and her husband Mr Rod Bunten are our joint **Patrons**. Both attended the Festival of Quilts venue the day before it opened in order to review the exhibited quilts and select the Patron's Award. Her Excellency was the special guest presenter at our Festival of Quilts Awards Presentation the following evening. In November Rosanne Fuller, Di Bessell, Sonia Holton and Bev McBride represented SA Quilters at an official garden party in the grounds of Government House where they were able to meet and chat with the Governor.

Quilt Australia (formerly Australian Council of Quilters), a group made up of representatives of all the State and Territory Guilds, met via Zoom on two occasions. SAQ was represented by Heather Ford, Gaylene Morgan, Ann Ewer, Rosanne Fuller and Chris O'Brien. Many topics were discussed and this continues to be a valuable method of sharing information among States and Territories.

The National Coordinator indicated that after more than two decades she was stepping down from her role and that representatives would need to discuss the future of Quilt Australia going forward.

Scholarships, Country Grants and City Grants were announced at the AGM in May. Grants were awarded to:

Scholarships: Julie Symons to attend AQC and participate in two workshops.

Country Grants: Barmera Lake Bonney (Rural Roundup 2024), Kapunda Quilters (replacing the Kapunda High School Centenary Quilt), Pirie Quilters (workshop), Port Augusta Quilters Guild (exhibition), Shared Stitches of Mannum (exhibition). Congratulations to all these groups

City Grants: This is the first year of the City groups grants scheme and there was one application. Purple Patch Quilters (backing fabric for isolette covers for NICUs)

Frame Hire continues to not be as active as in previous years. Thanks to Angela Yeates, Frame Hire Liaison Officer and David Hart, Frame Hire Checker for facilitating this service offered to our member groups and individual members.

2024 saw SA Quilters again team up with **Craft Alive** to hold a very successful **Festival of Quilts** in July at the Showgrounds. The theme was "Ruby Red", in celebration of SAQ's 40th birthday. Thanks to the exhibitors, sponsors and all the many volunteers who worked to make it a success, but especially the Festival of Quilts Team. The Team consisted of Ann Ewer (Team Leader), Jan Goulter, Margaret Hurrell, Jennifer Kempson, Wendy Hunt, Jill Iveson, Carmel Loughry, Rosanne Fuller, Christa Mano, Chris O'Brien, Rhoda Ryan, Ann Shuttleworth, Carmel Wauchope and Di Bessell, all of whom worked tirelessly to make it a huge success.

Quilt Encounter was held in September at the Stamford Grand Hotel in Glenelg. As always thanks must go to the participants, teachers, sponsors and shops but especially the QE team consisting of Kerryn Brand (Team Leader), Joyce Chapman, Ros Holmes, Sonia Holton, Bev McBride, Cindy Massey, Jane Polden, Margaret Sampson, Carmel Wauchope and Jan Huckel who spend months each year juggling workshops, tutors, participants, travel arrangements and more, while planning and organising this amazing event. The Team also hosted the 2024 On the Couch evening with Sue Spargo and Jen Kingwell. Thank you, Team, for once again hosting an amazing and very successful QE event.

Dare to Differ was not held in 2024 but held over to 2025 to bring it back into line with the uneven years as was the case pre-covid disruption. Sue Knuckey has taken over as Team Leader for Dare to Differ. Thank you, Sue.

An extremely successful **Rural Roundup** was held in 2024, successfully hosted by the Barmera Lake Bonney Quilters. Congratulations to Julie Plush and her team.

Modern Mix, the SA Quilters Modern Quilt Group continued to meet to share modern quilting ideas, techniques, inspiration and challenges. Team leader Jill Radcliffe, with a steering group of Cindy Massey, Lesley Miller, Michael Barton and Sue Knuckey organised activities, a workshop and guest speakers during the year at the Cumberland Park Community Centre. A glance at the group's Facebook page shows the enthusiasm of all those who attend this group. Thank you to Jill and her team for inspiring this SAQ group.

2024 was another successful year for our Sit and Sew groups who meet at Vermont Church.

The Unplugged Stitchers led by Jackie Harris, are the hand sewers who meet on the first Wednesday each month.

Sew It's Wednesday, led by Cindy Massey, Jane Polden & Jo Reardon are both hand and machine sewers and meet on the second and fourth Wednesday each month.

Saturday Starz, led by Therese May are both hand and machine sewers and meet on the fourth Saturday each month.

All groups have seen an increase in attendance over the year. Lots of happy times, with friendship, laughter and food is had by all. Thank you to the Team Leaders and all who support these groups.

The **Appraisal Team** meets bi-monthly on the Friday after SAQ Meetings, beginning in February. They met five times in 2024, during which time 79 quilts were appraised with a combined replacement value of \$390,215.00. Team Leader is Heather Ford, Gaylene Morgan (Secretary), Sue Wege (Computer Data), Caroline Thurtell (morning tea angel). There are 14 qualified appraisers: Bronwyn Savage, Carolyn Thurtell, Chris Beauchamp, Cindy Massey, Gaylene Morgan, Heather Ford, Judy Carter, Kathleen Rossini, Nola Pearce, Patricia Grocock, Sue Wege, Tina Robson, Vicki Hart and Wendy Hunt with Sarah Addis joining as a trainee in June 2024. Thank you, Team, for all that you do to support our members.

The **Judging Team** enjoyed the opportunity to judge at 7 different locations throughout 2024 and continued to enhance their skills with various education days. Thank you to those groups who have used the services of the Judging Panel in the past, and group exhibition organisers are

encouraged to have their shows judged using the services of our trained and experienced judges.

Four meetings were held through the year starting with an Education/Training day, led by Team Leader Jill Christian, on writing Judge's Reports. The Judging Team comprises Jill Christian, Judy Carter, Heather Ford, Julie Haddrick, Emilie Knight, Bronwyn Savage and Carolyn Thurtell with Chris Beauchamp, Marett Hancox and Gaylene Morgan in training.

SA Quilters supports several groups to facilitate the making and distribution of quilts within our community.

After Dark Quilters, a city-based SAQ affiliated group, represented by Jill Clausen, manages the **Quilts of Love** program and Chris O'Brien maintains the **Flinders' Kids** project. **Comfort Quilts** continued its important work supporting a range of community organisations, particularly palliative care providers. Heartfelt thanks to the Team Leaders, the hard-working groups and to everyone who help in the making of these very much appreciated quilts.

We are very appreciative of the support SA Quilters receives from our major sponsor **Bernina Australia** who in 2024 continued to support Festival of Quilts and Quilt Encounter. Christina Kasiz from **Melann's Fabrics** in Dernancourt continued to support SA Quilters as a major sponsor. Sincere thanks to Christina.

There are many others who support SAQ with **sponsorship** of Festival of Quilts, Quilt Encounter, Dare to Differ, Country Forum and Rural Roundup including local and interstate quilt shops, sewing machine retailers, quilting wholesalers, SAQ affiliated groups and individual SAQ members. We thank you all for your much-appreciated generosity.

Now to you - **our members**. You are why we, some 70+ volunteers who keep our organisation ticking along, put in the time and effort we do during the year to organise all the above activities for you to enjoy. We thank you for the support you have shown during another amazing year.

Last but by no means least, a huge thank you to the wonderful Leadership Team who have supported me once again during this last year. I could not have fulfilled my role as President without the encouragement and enthusiasm of you all. Thanks also to everyone who has worked to make everything run smoothly. We have had

loads of fun and laughter and shared much chocolate while still getting the serious stuff done.

In 2024 SA Quilters was managed by a **Leadership Team** of 16 elected members. These being Chris O'Brien (President), Gaylene Morgan (Secretary), Keith Holland (Honorary Treasurer), Heather Ford (Vice President), Rosanne Fuller (Vice President), Kathleen Rossini (Membership Secretary), Peggy Argent, Michael Barton, Jan Goulter, Jackie Harris, Shez Hobbs, Margaret Hurrell, Denise Johnston, Rosslyn Wyatt and Julie Symons. Representatives from 5 Teams (Festival of Quilts, Quilt Encounter, Appraisal Panel, Judging Panel and Dare to Differ) are invited to attend Leadership Team meetings as required.

Thank you one and all for continuing the work of the Quilters' Guild of South Australia Incorporated, also known as SA Quilters.

In conclusion, I'd like to wish incoming President and her Leadership Team all the very best for 2025. Thank you everyone for your support and enthusiasm throughout my tenure, in particular Vice Presidents Heather Ford and Rosanne Fuller.

Chris O'Brien
President

Treasurer's Report 2024

President (Chris O'Brien), Leadership Team Members, Guild Members, Friends and Guests. I present to you the Audited Financial statements of **Quilters' Guild of South Australia Inc.** for the year ended 31st December 2024.

For the 2024 financial year the **Guild** achieved a Net Surplus of \$3,0529.54 (an increase of \$2,0475.42 over the last financial year). The Net Surplus is a pleasing result that was due to the financial performance of the various **Guild** groups. The Leadership Team together with the Guild Groups need to be acknowledged for their efforts in 2024. Every group activity of your **Guild** had a surplus for the year and together with the increase in Interest Income made for the 2024 Surplus.

Income from Individual & Group Membership Subscriptions were up compared with 2023 again because of the work of the Leadership Team. The increase in Door Income reflects the increase in

membership and member attendance. Overall, the **Guild** has achieved another good financial year.

I would like to acknowledge the valuable assistance of Jan Goulter (Assistant Treasurer/Banker) who contributes significantly to the financial management of your **Guild** Accounts and Finances. Also thank you to **the President (Chris O'Brien)** and members of the Leadership Team for your continued support. Finally, to my wife Pam, son Matthew and our office staff as always thank you for your ongoing assistance and support in assisting me in my role as the Honorary Treasurer of the **Quilters' Guild of South Australia Inc.**

I now submit the Audited Financial Report of the **Quilters' Guild of South Australia Inc.** for the year ended 31st December 2024 for the acceptance and approval of **Guild members.**

Keith Holland FCPA

Honorary Treasurer

**INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT
TO THE MEMBERS OF THE QUILTERS GUILD OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA INC.
ABN : 95 168 292 747**

Report on the Financial Report

I have audited the accompanying financial report, being a special purpose financial report, of THE QUILTERS GUILD OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA INC. (the association) which comprises the Balance Sheet as at 31st December 2024, and the Income Statement for the year ended 31st December 2024, a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory notes and the statement by members of the committee.

Committee's Responsibility for the Financial Report

The committee of the association is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report and have determined that the accounting policies described in Note 1 to the financial statements, which form part of the financial report, are consistent with the financial reporting requirements of the Associations Incorporations Act SA 1985 and are appropriate to meet the needs of the members. The Committee's responsibility also includes establishing and maintaining internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report that is free from material misstatement whether due to fraud or error, selecting and applying appropriate accounting policies, and making accounting estimates that are reasonable in the circumstances.

Auditor's Responsibility

My responsibility is to express an opinion on the financial report based on my audit. No opinion is expressed as to whether the accounting policies used, as described in Note 1, are appropriate to meet the needs of the members. I conducted my audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. These Auditing Standards require that I comply with relevant ethical requirements relating to audit engagements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance whether the financial report is free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial report. The procedures selected depend on the auditors' judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial report, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditors consider internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the financial report in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by the committee, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial report.

In common with organisations of this type, it is not practical to establish adequate records or controls over cash receipts prior to their receipt and entry in the accounting records. Accordingly, my audit of cash receipts was limited to the amount recorded in the accounting records of the Association.

**INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT
TO THE MEMBERS OF THE QUILTERS GUILD OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA INC.
ABN : 95 168 292 747**

In my opinion, as so far as it appears from my testing and examination, monies recorded as receipts have been properly brought to account by the Association.

The financial report has been prepared for distribution to members for the purpose of fulfilling the committee's financial reporting under the Association Incorporation Act SA 1985. I disclaim any assumption of responsibility for any reliance on this report or on the financial report to which it relates to any person other than the members, for any purpose other than that for which it was prepared.

I believe that the audit evidence I have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my audit opinion.

Independence

In conducting my audit, I have complied with the independence requirements of Australian Professional Ethical Pronouncements.

Auditors' Opinion

In my opinion, the financial report of THE QUILTERS GUILD OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA INC. presents fairly, in all material respects the financial position of THE QUILTERS GUILD OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA INC. as of 31st December 2024 and of its financial performance for the year then ended in accordance with the accounting policies described in Note 1 to the financial statements.

Name of Firm: Peter Hall - Chartered Accountant

Name of Partner: 
PETER JOHN HALL

Address: 25 Leigh Street, Adelaide SA 5000

Dated this: 3RD April 2025

Team Annual Reports 2024

Appraisal Team

This is the Annual Report for the Appraisal Team of SA Quilters from January 1st to December 31st, 2024.

The Team comprises Team Leader - Heather Ford, Secretary - Gaylene Morgan, Computer Person - Sue Wege, Morning Tea Angel - Caroline Thurtell.

There are 14 qualified appraisers, this includes Bronwyn Savage, Carolyn Thurtell, Chris Beauchamp, Cindy Massey, Gaylene Morgan, Heather Ford, Judy Carter, Kathleen Rossini, Nola Pearce, Patricia Grocock, Sue Wege, Tina Robson, Vicki Hart and Wendy Hunt with Sarah Addis joining as a trainee in June 2024. The Team meets bi-monthly on the Friday after Guild Meetings, beginning in February.

In 2024, the Team appraised 79 quilts for a total value of \$390,215.00.

In March, the Team travelled to Aldinga to appraise their quilts.

A successful retreat for members was held at Mannum, in May, offering professional development and appraisal of the members quilts.

A professional development exercise saw members all make two quilt blocks with blue and white fabric supplied. Everyone timed their processes from start to finish. Collation of results showed a wide variation in times taken and an average time for making the blocks resulted. More blocks were made and then all were put together with borders by Heather Ford to create a quilt top. Kathleen Rossini quilted the quilt, and it was appraised for replacement at \$4,150-00. The quilt was donated to SA Quilters Festival of Quilts as the raffle quilt for 2025.

Our Team provides appraisal services for both members and non-members, recognising the value of your work and materials. We look forward to assisting you in appraising your quilts in the future.

Gaylene Morgan
Secretary
Appraisal Team

Archives

As previously reported at the beginning of our 40th year as an organisation, with a vast amount of data digitised, I realised that a line could be drawn in the archive as it is unlikely any new information that needs saving will come along.

There is still some organising to do, but what exists for the past will not change.

In the future it is likely that software will be more readily available to all, to allow a search simply by words or phrases. Gone will be the time of flicking through page after page saying.... 'I remember it happening, but when was that'?

Going forward the task will be keeping records of interest about activities and membership, adding to various data bases as needed. Team Leaders are asked to send me data and ensure that events are reported in I-Patch via the Communications team.

For this significant birthday year, I created eight power-point files highlighting various aspects of Guild history:

40 great years; Being Together; Patches; Festival of Quilts; Best of Show Quilts; Raffles; Quilt Encounter Tutors; Quilt Encounter Mystery Quilts

These were shown at meetings during the 'settling in' time and then converted by the Communications Team and added to SA Quilters YouTube channel.

Candy Walker

Communications Team

Communications Team

The Communications Team comprises seven members – Cindy Massey, Chris O'Brien, Jane Polden, Ally Baum, Rhoda Ryan, Tina Robson, Rosanne Fuller and Kathy Rossini. Rosanne joined the team and Rhoda left the team to continue her role with Festival of Quilts in 2024. Chris, Cindy, Rosanne and Kathy are also members of the SA Quilters Leadership Team. Cindy and Jane are also on the Quilter Encounter Team. The Committee is

actively supported by the SA Quilters Leadership Team and other SA Quilters Teams.

The Team is responsible for the management of I-Patch, Facebook, Instagram, YouTube and the SA Quilters web site.

I-Patch

I-Patch continues to keep members up to date with all SA Quilters notices, reports, activities, advertising and quilting related events statewide, nationally and internationally. Cindy and Jane have continued their very active role of video visits with members and Chris and Kathy have shared the role of video visits throughout 2024, to sit down with those inaugural SA Quilters members to memorialise their stories in the organisation's 40th year.

All editions of I-Patch reside on a secure page on the SA Quilters web site and is not listed on the main menu and not available to the public (it is an unpublished page). The link is sent to recipients including SA Quilters Members, Affiliated Groups, National and State Guilds and members of Affiliated Groups who opt in to receive I-Patch. Each edition is lodged online with the National eDeposit. Ally remains the primary editor of I-Patch. There has been a marked take-up in advertising by members and shops and Affiliated Groups advertising their exhibitions.

Facebook

Members of the Communications Team have the required level of permission to post, edit, monitor, moderate and delete on the SA Quilters Facebook page. Facebook continues to be a valuable communication tool for members through posting notices of workshops, interesting quilting related information and advertising for our affiliated groups and member shops.

SA Quilters page has 5,356 followers of which 96.4% are women and 3.6% are men. There were 2,084,244 views on the SA Quilters Facebook page during 2024 with 46% of the views from followers and 54% from non-followers. Associated Facebook pages are also established for SA Quilters Comfort Quilts, SA Quilters Flinders Kids, Modern Mix SA, SA Quilters Sit and Sew and, in 2024, SA Quilters 40th Anniversary Sew Along.

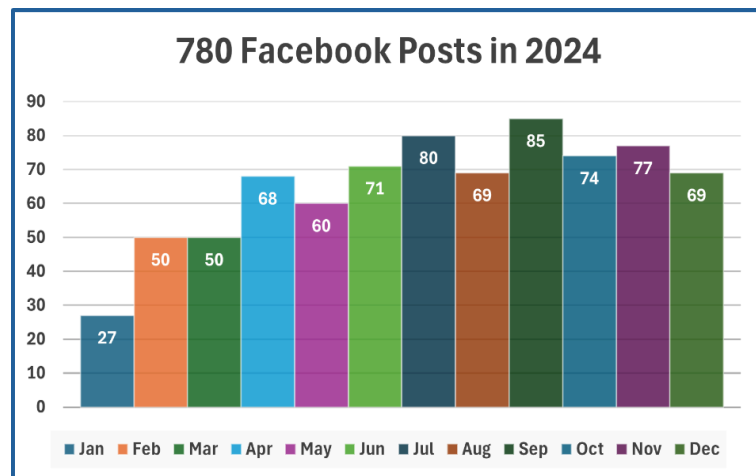
There was a total of 780 posts to the SA Quilters Facebook page in 2024.

Instagram

Tina manages Instagram and posts links of interest from Facebook. SA Quilters Instagram page has 132 followers and had 13,697 views in 2024.

YouTube

SA Quilters YouTube Channel holds a total of 162



videos and has 812 subscribers. According to YouTube analytics the channel recorded 20,134 views of which 92.7% were women and 7.3% were men. There were 2,186 hours of watch time in 2024. The most watched video in 2024 was the February "SA Quilters Sit and Sew" with 1,643 views.

SA Quilters web site

The SA Quilters web site address is <https://www.saquilters.org.au/>.

The web site is progressively updated with advice from the various Team Leaders. The site is a repository for photos and slideshows from events such as Quilt Encounter, Dare to Differ and Festivals of Quilts, Country Forum, Rural Roundup and Sit and Sews. It also holds administrative information in relation to membership, Annual Reports and forms and policies. New pages for one-off events are established and removed as required, eg Market Day and Mystery Bus Tour.

Pages were established in 2024 to commemorate the 40th Anniversary of SA Quilters with a page detailing the history and a page for a 40th Birthday Sew Along quilt which was designed by Heather Ford.

The web site was populated by and is managed by Kathy with backup from Tina.

Groups Liaison

Rosanne has taken on the role of groups Liaison. She has increased the communications with SA Quilters Affiliated Groups by sending a quarterly electronic Groups Newsletter to each of the groups with news of interest including SA Quilters

information, advertising upcoming exhibitions and soliciting feedback via a comprehensive survey.

Kathleen Rossini

Community Quilts

Comfort Quilts

An enthusiastic group of Comfort Quilt quilters met on the first Saturday of the month at the Blackwood Uniting Church Hall, under the team leadership of Jan Strachan. Our sincere thanks are extended to Kate Seinor who unfortunately had to step down from her previous role as Team Leader and to Jan Strachan for stepping up. We appreciate all that Kate and her team accomplished since taking over this role.

The group made good use of donated fabrics to piece together tops that were then forwarded to one of their members, who happily longarm quilted them. Binding was a shared activity. Over 200 quilts were donated, close to double the efforts of the previous year.

Mary Potter Hospice was the main recipient of Comfort Quilt's donations. During the year, Angela Henwood and myself, as representatives of the team, were invited to a morning tea at Mary Potter to acknowledge our contribution to the hospice. Staff recounted situations in which the value of these quilts to recipients and their families, experiencing end of life situations, was incalculable. Families of those who had been recipients of donated quilts reinforced the appreciation felt when quilts were provided for comfort and to add colour to the seemingly sterile environment of a hospice ward.

Towards the end of the year Carolyn Daniels fostered the identification and sourcing of additional client groups, setting up records to equally distribute available quilt resources. Angela also created a strong link with the palliative care unit at Flinders Medical Centre, with staff willing to collect quilts directly from her. The team were also able to supply quilts to Coolock House, the Cancer Council's Greenhill Lodge, the Australian Migrant Resource Centre, the Salvation Army at Marion and Ronald MacDonald House.

Chris O'Brien, on behalf of the team

Flinders Kids

2024 was a bumper year for quilters supplying our programme with quilts for the children's ward at Flinders Medical Centre. It is timely to acknowledge the efforts of both individual quilters as well as the city and country groups who have been able to provide a steady supply of quilts.

We can be assured that we have put a smile on the faces of many children with the range of absolutely delightful quilts that have been delivered on a regular basis throughout the year. Not all quilts that we are given are suitable for young children – we ask that quilters provide bright, cheerful quilts for youngsters experiencing a range of chronic health issues – and some were passed on to other community quilt groups. The majority of children in the ward tend to be under 4 years of age, so we have had regular requests for quilts made from popular fabrics such as Bluey and Frozen. A huge thank you to those quilters who sourced such fabrics and made some delightful quilts.

The staff of the children's ward continue to stress the difference that these quilts make to the ambience within the ward. Last year we delivered 328 quilts, this year 400. However, at year's end we had over 100 quilts undelivered, so in reality 500+ quilts were provided by our wonderful quilters.

We said a sad, retirement farewell to our liaison nurse at FMC in November and have fingers crossed that an equally passionate staff member will continue the relationship that we have maintained for many years.

Thank you everyone who participated in this valuable community quilts programme.

Chris O'Brien

Quilts of Love

2024 saw the delivery of quilts to various organisations, an increase of about 90 quilts from last year. Quilts delivered were:

Crib quilts	4
Little Quilts of Love	0
Isolette Covers 30in x 48in	35
Isolette Covers 32" x32"	133
Pouches for W&CH	86
20" Quilts for W&CH	56
Indigenous Quilts	75
Miscellaneous	32

Quilts were donated by a number of groups and individuals including:

Purple Patches who donated the majority of our Isolette Covers

Cleve Quilters

Tumby Bay Quilters

N.Y.P.Quilters

Guild Leadership team

A special thanks to Margaret Hicks for her ongoing supply of indigenous quilts!

Recipients of the quilts were:

Burnside Maternity Unit

Lyell McEwin Hospital S.C.N.

Treasure Boxes

Helen Mayo House

Northern Aboriginal Birthing Program

Gawler Health Service

W&CH Birth and Assessment Unit

Requests for Isolette covers for Lyell McEwin Hospital have continued to be slow but I've spoken with the Nurse Unit Manager who will monitor their supply.

We continue to supply Helen Mayo House with 32" square quilts to be used as play mats for the babies while in their care. This unit provides care for Mums who have either post-natal depression or mental health issues. Mums and babies are often there for weeks, and the play mats are very much appreciated by both Mums and staff.

Purple Patches are now making pouches and small quilts for the Birthing and Assessment Unit at the W&CH for babies who are stillborn or die shortly after birth.

We now have a strong focus on ensuring all quilts received are distributed as soon as possible and this has enabled us to maintain only a very small supply.

Jill Clausen

Quilts of Love Team Leader

Festival of Quilts

DATES: Friday 5 – Sunday 7 July 2024

VENUE: Goyder South Pavilion, Adelaide Showground

EXHIBITION COMPANY: CraftAlive

THEME: Ruby Red

QUILTER IN RESIDENCE: Jill Radcliffe

DIAMOND SPONSORS: Bernina, Melann's, Olfa, Quality Always

The theme, Ruby Red, was chosen to celebrate the 40th anniversary of SA Quilters. The Challenge category was replaced with a "Red and White" category. This was well supported, with 45 entries, which were separated into 4 categories of Small and Large Amateur and Small and Large Professional.

To set the scene, at the entrance there was a large, quilted birthday cake in red and white, set on an elaborately decorated table. The annual Project was entitled "40", which had to be in red and white and bound in red Shadowplay. These were displayed along the picket fence leading up to the Festival of Quilts entrance

Number of Entries: 170 (3 display only, 2 withdrawn, the rest were judged). The statistics by method of quilting were:

13 hand quilted

15 frame mounted, self guided

43 frame mounted,

computerised/digitised

99 domestic/stationary machine

There were 29 first time entrants and 48 quilts were original designs.

Special Awards

Best of Show

Red and White Delight – Chris O'Brien

Best of Show Runner Up

Hearts and Stars – Christine Boxer

Bernina Amateur Encouragement

Harry Potter and the Eternal Quilt – Tina Gillespie

VIP Award

Diamonds for Madeline – Vicki Daly

3 x Judges' Commendation:

Julie Adamson:

Fragile Beauty – Zara Zannettino

Julie Haddrick:

I Got You a Leaf – Cindy Massey

Heather Ford:

Millie's Dresses – Julie Lynch

Hand Quilting

Floral Ring – Jacqueline Harris

Machine Quilting – Stationary

Shadow Play – Karrin Vorrath

Machine Quilting - Frame Mounted
Red and White Delight – Chris O'Brien

Retaining the Tradition
Windermere – Sheila Oaten

First Time Entrant
Golden Tapestry – Sarndrai Narcisi

Convenor's Award
Radiance in Red and White – Carmel Loughry

Hangers' Choice
My Basket Quilt – Wendy Whellum

Viewers' Choice
King Kawandi – Lara Motta

Awards Presentation: This was held at the SA Quilters' Members' Meeting and the major prizes were presented by Her Excellency, Frances Adamson AC, Governor of SA. Other attendees were Nathan Hammond from Bernina and Mary Hall, President of the Embroiderers' Guild of SA.

Judging – Julie Adamson, was the interstate judge, with local judges, Julie Haddrick and Heather Ford, making up the team. The judging process was very smooth and harmonious. Each judge provided a floor talk on one day, which were well attended.

Demonstrations: Two concurrent sessions were held each day at 11am and 1pm:

- Jill Christian – Wool Felt Embroidery
- Jill Clausen and Monique Reed – Quilted Sneakers
- Heather Ford – Speed Dating with Rulers
- Emilie Knight – Continuous Prairie Points
- Sue Knuckey – Slow Stitching
- Wendy Whellum – Hand Pieced Blocks
- Wendy Hunt – Needle Turn Applique

Special Exhibits

1. Rachel Dettman, the first President of SA Quilters, displayed 8 of her beautiful hand quilted quilts.
2. Burra Quilters: displayed an eclectic mix of quilts made by their members and were very grateful to be invited.
3. The Embroiderer's Guild of SA – presented a beautiful display of different types of perfectly stitched embroidery, including a large tablecloth featuring different styles of stitching.
4. Modern Mix – "Page 23", which was the interpretation of what was on page 23 of a magazine given to each person.

5. Appraisal: members displayed their challenge, which was to make a red and white quilt 40cm square around the theme of "40". All timings and valuations were listed.
6. President's Challenge – this is set for members of the Leadership Team and Team Leaders. The theme was "40" and "Celebration", which had to be bound in red.
7. A vintage red and white quilt, presumed to have been made in the early 1900's, which was bought in Robe 25-30 years ago, was left behind when the owner moved to Sydney. The new owner decided, after living in the house for about 20 years tried, and was successful, in finding the original owner. The quilt was offered for display, before returning it to its original owner.

Annual Raffle

Some years ago, a "Conway Album" quilt top was donated to SAQ, amongst many other quilting items. It was decided that Ann Ewer would quilt it for use as first prize for the annual raffle. Unfortunately, it was not possible to find out the name of the person who beautifully executed the needle turn applique by hand.

1st Prize: "The Mystery Conway Album Quilt"

Quilt maker - unknown; Quilter - Ann Ewer; Won by Nell Ward

2nd Prize: Bernette 05 Academy sewing machine, won by Sheila English

Beneficiary: In addition to the raffle, other donations and SAQ activities raised a total of \$7,000, which was donated to Kick Start for Kids.

Volunteers

There were 65 different people who were involved in setting up, pulling down and management during the show. Everyone worked very well, and we sincerely thank all of them for their support.

Retiring Committee Members

We were sorry to say farewell to Chris O'Brien and Jan Goulter, who retired after being on the Committee for 13 and 14 years respectively, as well as Christa Mano who had been on Committee for two years.

Sincerest thanks to those girls for their untiring support and also to the rest of the team, who are listed in the President's report.

Ann Ewer

Festival of Quilts Co-ordinator

Events

Market Day

Saturday May 4th

Market Day 2024 was a resounding success. 35 vendor tables were sold and almost 300 buyers walked through the door and the venue was perfect. The room was a buzz of voices and many bargains were purchased and the Devonshire tea was well received.

Reports from vendors have been mostly positive, with many making good sales of their unwanted goods. Those selling new hand made goods reported less success. Many hours of letterboxing the area in an effort to attract non-quilting visitors seems not to have had the desired effect.

Many volunteer hours spent sorting and pricing the goods donated to SA Quilters over the last couple of years meant a profit of \$2,300.00 from the SAQ tables for the day. The sale of second hand books went well and \$579.00 was raised and will be used to purchase new books for the SAQ library.

The Clayton's Team sold kits with the proceeds of \$1,200.00 to be given to Kickstart for Kids, the SAQ chosen charity for our December meeting.

We look forward to doing it again in 2026.

The Market Day Team

Mystery Bus Trip

We held a very successful Mystery Bus Tour on Tuesday 8 October 2024. As this was the first one that we had organised we were all very happy with the overall outcome.

A few unexpected mishaps failed to impact on the success of the day.

- 2 buses arrived instead of one
- No coffee at the Jungle in Willunga, due to an electrical fault

40 people signed up for this event. It was a great day with lots of positive feedback.

Cindy Massey
Wendy Hunt

Grants and Scholarships

Country Group Grants

Country grants are available to all SA Quilters affiliated groups to assist with furthering the art of quilting in their area or region. Groups must have been financial members of SA Quilters for a minimum of three years. Grants of up to \$500 each are available and applications close on April 1 in any year. Applications will be considered by the SA Quilters Finance Team.

In 2024 the following grants were awarded to country groups.

Port Augusta Quilters - \$500 toward exhibition expenses for October 2024

Baramba Lake Bonney Quilters - \$500 toward hosting Rural Roundup in 2024

Kapunda Quilters - \$500 toward replacement of KPS quilts destroyed in the school fire

Pirie Quilters - \$500 toward tuition fees for a workshop with Julie Nixon

Shared Stitchers of Mannum - \$500 toward exhibition expenses for October 2024

City Group Grants

2024 saw the implementation of a City Groups Grant programme to be administered as for the Country Grants Programme.

In 2024 one group availed themselves of the grant.

Purple Patch Quilters - \$500 to purchase backing fabric for isolette covers

Scholarships

Scholarships are available to all SA Quilters individual members to assist with furthering their quilting knowledge and expertise. The applicant will have been a financial member of SA Quilters for a minimum of three years. Scholarships of up to \$500 each are available and applications close on April 1 in any year. Applications will be considered by the SAQ Quilters Finance Team.

In 2024 one scholarship was awarded.

Julie Symons - \$500 toward attending and participating in workshops at AQC 2024

Full details of Grants and Scholarships and application forms can be found on the SAQ website - saquilters.org.au

Heather Ford
Vice President
Grants and Scholarships

Group Liaison

In 2024 we had a new group join SA Quilters making 89 groups in total. Of those 36 were city groups and 53 country groups. At the 2024 AGM six groups received \$500 grants from SA Quilters for various projects.

There were quite a few very successful exhibitions held by groups, some of whom invited the Judging team to either judge their exhibition or use the exhibition as a training opportunity for their trainee judges. The Judging Team continue to offer their expertise to groups. The Appraisal Team also offered to visit groups to do talks and appraise quilts.

Burra Quilters shared their beautiful work as a special exhibit at Festival of Quilts 2024.

Thank you to the Barmera Lake Bonney Quilters who hosted a very successful Rural Roundup on Saturday 26th October 2024 at the Field Days venue with about 160 attending, four shops, lots of fun quilting experiences and networking. Along with attending Rural Roundup and the Riverland International Quilters Day event, the Leadership Team were invited to join other groups in their activities which has been a lot of fun for everyone. Please keep the invites coming in.

Inman Valley Quilters have volunteered to host the 2026 Rural Roundup event.

Groups were encouraged to share their activities at Guild meetings and in I-Patch. We had a couple of groups share at Guild meetings and lots of groups submit articles for I-Patch. If groups are not confident in submitting an article, the Communication Team will put one together if the group sends in the text and pictures for the article. Groups were also encouraged to use SA Quilters social media pages to advertise their events, especially exhibitions, which many groups did.

Eight groups took up the opportunity to be involved in a Sisters Group link up.

Groups Liaison:

Groups News newsletters have been sent out to groups electronically on an as need basis, currently one every 1-2 months, with information specifically for groups and group members. Through responses to an initial survey the Sister Groups program was established, donated fabric was given to more groups for their charity quilts. On a positive note more groups have been sharing their news in I-Patch.

An application for an Older Persons Aging Well grant of \$8,850 was submitted in November on behalf of the Country Forum 2025 Team. The results of the application will be known in April 2025.

Several Help Sheets and Guideline documents have been created specifically for groups and distributed with newsletters and put on the SA Quilters website. A new survey was sent out in January 2025 asking for interest in a couple of new ideas.

It has been a busy and productive year for groups, many supporting their local communities through providing quilts, raffle quilts, sewn goods and fundraising. Congratulations on a successful 2024 and wishing all groups and their members an even better 2025.

Rosanne Fuller

Insurance

In 2024 there were 10 exhibitions, 1 Rural Roundup event and 2 retreats covered under the Group Events Insurance.

The insurance cover is not automatic. It must be applied for on the appropriate form and accompanied by a fee of \$50, at least 2 months before the event, so that, for example, displayed quilted items are covered in the event of damage or theft. Display items used to enhance the event are not covered. Limit of the cover is \$10,000 per item so if a quilt has been valued higher than this, then the extra value would be covered by the owner.

Questions are often asked about coverage for occasional visitors at group meetings or retreats. Anyone who attends any group planned event but is not a member, either of the group or SAQ, does so at their own risk. One of the benefits of Guild membership, either as an individual member or as a member of a financial affiliated group, is that

membership fees include insurance for quilting related activities.

The insurance policy covers Public/Products liability (\$20,000,000) which includes General Property (\$100,000), money in transit (up to \$6,000), Personal Accident for volunteers working in an official capacity (various benefits) and Associations Liability cover (\$1,000,000 in any one claim). Also covered are speakers at Guild meetings or group meetings (up to 50 speakers per annum in total) and tutors who do not have their own Public Liability cover. Tutors who do not have their own cover are charged a fee. There is a \$500 excess which applies in the event of a claim.

SA Quilters insurance is arranged through the services of a broker, who does not charge a fee for this service, and the underwriter is CGU Insurance.

Margaret Hurrell
Insurance Liaison Officer

Judging Panel

Four meetings were held through the year starting with this year's Education/Training day meeting held in March being a discussion/presentation led by Jill Christian on writing Judges Reports.

The team also had meetings during May, September and November.

2024 Judging experiences were as follows:

January 2024 McLaren Vale Patchworkers exhibition judged by Jill Christian, Heather Ford and Carolyn Thurtell.

July 2024 Festival of Quilts judged by Julie Haddrick and Heather Ford with interstate Judge Julie Adamson from Victoria.

August 2024 Royal Adelaide Show. Judging the Quilt section was Jill Christian and Pip Porter. Jill also judged the Embellished Wool Felt section.

October 2024 Territory Quilts Exhibition in Alice Springs was judged by Emilie Knight with Jill Christian assisting.

October Shared Stitchers of Mannum Exhibition judging training exercise by Jill Christian with Gaylene Morgan.

The Pt Augusta exhibition in October was attended for a Judging Training exercise by Heather Ford, Carolyn Thurtell and Marette Hancox.

Also in October Jill, Carolyn, Marette and Gaylene, attended the Tea Tree Gully exhibition for a Judging training exercise.

The Judging Team really appreciates these training opportunities and would like to thank those groups who have asked for our assistance in the past and allowed us to attend their exhibition for training purposes.

We encourage group exhibition organisers to have their shows judged, using the voluntary services of our trained and experienced judges, to avoid problems that can arise from having untrained judges.

For SA Quilters to be able to ensure we have competent, confident, well-trained judges available for the Guild and its member group events, real training experiences in exhibitions is an essential part of our training program. So if your group is having an exhibition, please consider having the show judged. Should your exhibition not be judged, we would like the opportunity for our judging team to use it as a training exercise.

Thank you also to the members of the Judging Team and the Judges in Training for volunteering their time and expertise, and also their ongoing support.

If you are interested in joining the Judging Team, please contact Jill.

Jill Christian
SA Quilters
Judging Panel Team Leader

Library

The big change for the SAQ library in 2024 has been the updating of the Bookmark program that we use. Not ever having had the laptop connected to the internet we have been using the original program for many years. WiFi is now connected, and many hours were spent with Dean (the writer of the original program in the Education Department. 73 years young and the only one assigned to the program and helpdesk), to update our Bookmark to the most recent version.

In light of this, a big thank you goes to all of our quilters who have been very patient over the last 2 months when things did not always work in the library checkout process as we had hoped. It was frustrating for us but is hopefully now corrected ready for future borrowing.

Some interesting facts from the 2024 borrowing statistics:

47 books had not been borrowed since 2010 and will now be sold.

The top borrowers were Wendy Hunt and the Glenelg Quilters.

239 people borrowed books in 2024, up from 191 in 2023.

The top 5 categories that were borrowed were Quilts (types), Piecing, Contemporary (quilts), Quilting (procedures) and Basic (quilting skills).

The least 4 categories that were borrowed were Applique, Modern, Japanese, (quilt) Fiction

Finally, an appeal to those quilters who have long overdue library books. After the AGM, we will be sending out invoices for the replacement cost of overdue books, so please check through your bookcase and return books as soon as possible.

With old books and categories potentially being removed, and new books on the way, I want to thank Jackie Harris and Christine, Baker for their support in the library, and to all of you for making our library a crazy but wonderful space to be in. My role as librarian is one that I really enjoy.

Mike Barton
Librarian

The Meetings Team held monthly planning meetings. Thank you to everyone on the team. We had a productive team and we all worked together well.

The SA Quilters meetings that were planned comprised of:

- Shops
- Guest Speakers
- Community Quilt Raffles
- Merchandise
- Raffles (Fat quarter raffle & regular raffle)

2024	Members	Life Members	Leadership Members	Helpers	Guests	Total
1 Feb	111	9	13	7	6	147
7 Mar	114	17	11	7	16	165
4 April	85	13	7	7	6	118
2 May	61	13	9	6	3	92
6 June	72	9	11	6	1	99
4 July	112	13	12	6	27	170
1 Aug	71	8	10	4	4	97
5 Sep	67	12	15	4	15	113
3 Oct	59	9	8	5	10	91
7 Nov	72	16	10	4	3	105
5 Dec	103	13	14	4	16	150
						1347

Meetings Team

Attendance Registrar for 2024

2023 Meeting Numbers: The total attendance was 1355 members attending 13 meetings, including two daytime meetings.

2024 Meeting Numbers: There were 1347 members who attended 11 nighttime meetings.

The numbers for 2024 were slightly lower but there were no daytime meetings held. The daytime meetings were suspended due to poor member attendance. The attendance numbers at monthly night meetings for 2024 were fairly consistent with the 2023 figures.

The first meeting of the year drew a high number of members. March was also popular being the kick off to our 40th year anniversary celebrations. July also had a large number of people attend with the Festival of Quilts Awards Presentation. The December Christmas meeting also drew a large number of attendees.

Guest Speakers

There were 7 guest speakers in 2024. They were Pam Holland, Wendy Hunt, an RAA spokesperson, Heather Ford, Fiona Stuart (presentation of Marcia Watt's quilts), Elizabeth Chadwick and Chris O'Brien.

Raffles

A raffle for a quilt made by the Modern Mix group was drawn at the June 2024 meeting. The quilt was won by Vicki Hart. Another quilt made by the Modern Mix Group was raffled at the October meeting which was won by Jeanie McCarroll.

Welcome Desk

The welcome desk at each monthly night meeting comprised of 3 team members to check off names of members as they enter the room. There is always a separate team member to welcome and document any new members or guests. The Treasurer and Assistant Treasurer were also part of the welcome table. They collected membership

fees as well as payments for workshops being held in 2024.

Wendy Hunt
Meeting Teams Leader

Community Quilt Raffle

During 2024 all but one meeting was booked. The quilts were successfully raffled. All quilts generated income accordingly, for Festival of Quilts who displayed their Quilt in Feb, March, April and May, Modern Mix Group, were in June and Oct. Quilt Encounter July, Aug and September. Renmark Quilters September & Glenelg Quilters in November.

Denise Johnston

Merchandise

The blue quilt bags are the main merchandise item with sales peaking each year prior to the Festival of Quilts. Calico bags with the previous Guild logo are also available. Sales of bottled water remains fairly steady at *meetings*.

Shez Hobbs

Raffles

The SA Quilters raffle remains popular with all tickets being sold out at most meetings and is generously supported by the visiting quilting shops who provide three of the six prizes.

Cost of living price increases has been most noticeable this year and the challenge continues to provide prizes of interest and value.

Also popular is the Fat Quarter Raffle with donated quarters totalling over 100 at more than one meeting in the past year.

Shez Hobbs

Shops Liaison

2024 has been another successful year with shop owners reporting positive outcomes when attending meetings.

With eleven meetings a year, and Quilt Encounter having two shops, there are more shops than the 13 places available during the year.

In 2024, we celebrated SA Quilters 40th anniversary and Lyn Uphill was invited to bring her shop - Riverlea, the oldest member shop, to the March meeting. Lyn has owned Riverlea Cottage Quilts for 36 years.

During my term as Shop Liaison, we have had a significant number of shop owners become

members of SA Quilters. All member shops are listed on our webpage. New member shops filled 7 of the 11 meetings in 2024. We welcome them to SA Quilters and appreciate their support and hope they continue as member shops into the future.

It has been my pleasure to be the Shop Liaison officer for SA Quilters for another year.

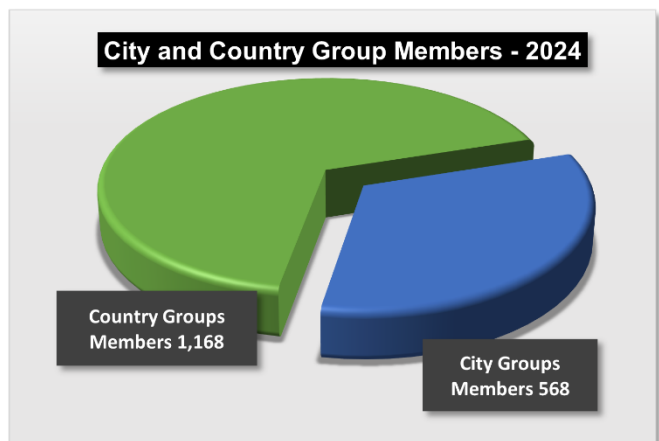
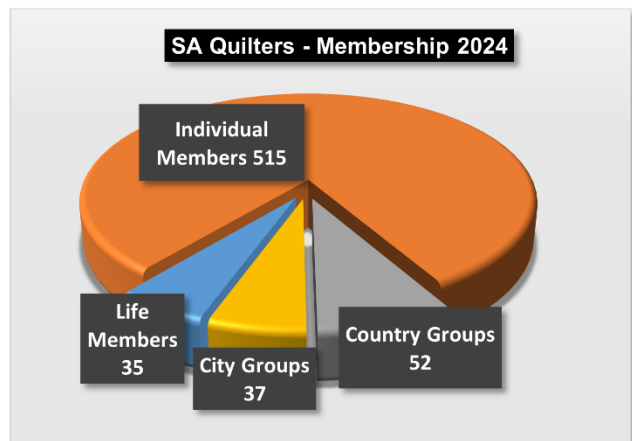
Peg Argent

Membership

Membership

Some statistics as at 31 December 2024:

- Individual financial members 550, including 35 Life Members.
- 71 new members joined in 2024.
- Financial Groups – 89. 37 City Groups and 52 Country Groups.
- Those groups have a total membership of approximately 1,736.
- Three new groups joined in 2024.



Kathleen Rossini

Modern Mix

This year at Modern Mix has been interesting, challenging and vital to the modern quilters of this group. We have a core group of 17 to 25 members that continue to meet monthly at the Cumberland Park Community Centre on the second Sunday of each month from January to November. We have a monthly email that goes out to 80 members advising them of upcoming plans and encouraging them to involve themselves with challenges and workshops devised by the leadership team. We also have a Facebook group with 273 members where our monthly meetings are posted about as well as sharing any relevant inspiration to the group.

Each year the group has been given a "Summer" challenge to be completed over the Christmas break. This has been met with enthusiasm and brilliance in its execution with many amazing pieces of quilting being produced and highlighted as a display at the FOQ in July.

Every second month we encourage our members to work on their own projects with the intervening months filled with challenges and demonstrations provided by the leadership team and other members of the Modern Mix.

Show and Tell has always been an integral part of each month with members encouraged to share their expertise, their inspiration and their achievements with the group.

Highlights of the year include –

- Nina Reagan, demonstrating how to sew modern shoes as part of a Sewalong with an American quilter. Several of the members made shoes during the year.
- The sewing of a group Red and White quilt for FOQ, designed by Pip Porter and subsequently winning a ribbon at FOQ.
- The highly successful Gees Bend day.
- Demonstrations on using shop-a-dockets for foundation piecing and using scrap fabric.
- Continuing our theme of repurposing/reusing we cut up orphan blocks and remade them into something different.
- We had a highly successful Long Day of Sewing with an online course by Carl Brown, an American Modern quilter.

- A group visit to the Art Gallery of SA to see the Radical Textiles exhibition.

Plans for the next year include:

- 2 Long Days of Sewing 9am-9pm with our first being a Brenda Gael Smith workshop via Zoom and the second day later on in the year, as yet undecided on who will be the tutor will be.
- Demonstration days
- Another Gees Bend day concentrating on Triangles.
- Possibly a Round Robin group quilt.

We have a devoted and inspired leadership team comprising of Jill Radcliffe, Cindy Massey, Lesley Miller, Michael Barton and Sue Knuckey. This team has remained unchanged going into 2025.

Jill Radcliffe

On the Couch

2024 Quilt Encounter – On the Couch with Jen Kingwell and Sue Spargo was held on Friday the 20th of September

In 2024, the Quilt Encounter Team volunteered to organise and stage this event which had previously been organised by the Workshops Team. Jen and Sue are both acclaimed international quilting icons and best friends. Much of Sue's work was at the time being exhibited in America, so the format of the evening strayed from a regular trunk show to a more informal "conversation on the couch". The audience of 140 people included people from the quilting community as well as from the SA embroidery community.

Jen and Sue are both extremely talented hand stitchers. Their works that were on display were exquisite examples of hand stitching. Sue's work focuses on felt applique embellished with intricate hand stitching with the audience able to get up close and see the detail in Sue's marine quilt. Jen's work leans toward scrappy piecing with acts of hand stitching and inspiration coming from all around. Also on display were a number of quilts made and kindly lent by SA quilters using Sue's quilt designs.

The hosts of the evening were Sonia Holton and Joyce Chapman, who kept the conversation flowing, with humour and thoughtful questions.

Bev McBride

Team Leader, Quilt Encounter Team

Quilt Encounter

The 32nd Annual Quilt Encounter was held at the Stamford Grand, Glenelg, from the 15th to the 20th of September. The event's theme was Dazzling Zebras.

9 tutors taught at Quilt Encounter (5 for the first time), presenting a variety of workshop options. Sue Spargo joined us from Ohio USA with her famous embroidery and felted wool work. Kathy Doughty and Lynne Wilson from New South Wales with some unique choices in traditional and modern styles. Christine Lethlean from Victoria taught textile art classes. Jan Hales from Victor Harbor presented a functional strip pieced bag. Jemima Flendt from Western Australia and Jen Kingwell from Victoria both provided some great workshop choices too. Added to this were two South Australian tutors - Rachelle Denny and Jacky Eyre. Lots of positive feedback was received throughout the event, most likely as a direct reflection of the great line-up of tutors we were able to present.

It was a full house at the Stamford Grand with 167 participants, 9 tutors and 10 committee members. The Team made some changes to our food options with the help of the hotel staff, and attendees provided positive feedback on this too.

Sunday night Opening Night was again a highlight, with Glyn Singleton (Managing Director of Bernina Australia) officially opening QE 2024. Tutors were introduced with their inspiring workshop samples, plus the Show and Tell from previous years' classes showcased the wonderful projects participants had completed.

We were grateful for the ongoing support QE received from our sponsors Bernina, Olfa, Melann's Fabrics as well as the wider quilting community and businesses. Bernina Australia have supported this event for 32 years and Christina from Melann's continues her valued sponsorship with the provision of Bernina hire machines for interstate students. This year 50% of attendees were from interstate (including 1 from New Zealand), so the

support given to them allowed us to provide a wider range of tutor options.

The two invited shops were also major sponsors with their tempting displays and provision of back up supplies for students. Our sincere thanks to Naomi from Nay's Place in Waikerie and Helen from The Quilting Room in Modbury Heights.

We also received wonderful support from the SA Quilters Leadership Team and community to help to stage this event and ensure that it continues to grow and maintain its nationwide reputation.

Each year participants receive a goody bag with donated items. Many of our participants like to share their own creativity by making various things to be included in the bags – so 180 much appreciated items were kindly made by each of them.

Dinner Night was again a huge success, with Zebras in various formats making their appearance. All Quilt Encounter sponsors were acknowledged and thanked for their generosity at our dinner. The major prize draw was a popular feature of the night.

The design of the raffle quilt, made by the Quilt Encounter Team, was inspired by the event theme with the \$5000 fundraising proceeds going the Royal Flying Doctors Community Support program for SA/NT. The Stamford Grand Hotel provided a High Tea for Six and a beautiful quilt, created by previous attendees and beautifully put together by Sonia Holton, was also raffled.

The staff at the Stamford Grand Hotel were incredibly supportive. Kirsten and Kimberley from the Events Management Team provided guidance in the months leading up to QE, throughout the planning and preparation stages. Hotel staff were reliably on hand to assist us at every step.

The Quilt Encounter team contribute many volunteer hours in the months leading up to Quilt Encounter planning the program, creating the event brochure, collating goody bag and table prizes, allocating classes, overseeing the registration and payment systems, balancing the budget, liaising with the Grand along with the work that happens to stage the event. Their efforts were much appreciated by all involved. The Team is made up of Bev McBride, Kerryn Brand, Margaret Sampson, Cindy Massey, Jane Polden, Joyce Chapman, Ros Holmes, Sonia Holton, Carmel Wauchope and Jan Huckel.

Bev McBride

Team Leader, Quilt Encounter Team

Rural Roundup

Nuts About Quilting

On October 26th the Barmera Lake Bonney Quilters saw over 170 quilters from across rural South Australia join us in Barmera for the Rural Roundup gathering. We held the event in our fabulously appointed Events Centre at the Riverland Field Days.

Our group spent 18 months planning this highly successful event with all members contributing with ideas and sewing of the gift bags. We sought sponsorship from local businesses in supplying almonds and pens to add to the gifts for attendees as well as raffle prizes. We received monetary support from SA Quilters with a grant to assist in hosting the event. We decided on the theme 'Nuts about Quilting' to acknowledge the support provided by local company Almondco.

It was decided to focus the day's program on our local Riverland area and we sought guest speakers accordingly while leaving plenty of time for networking and shopping. Obtaining local guest speakers posed some problems but we hope that the mix of speakers kept it local.

Our first guest speaker, Peter Szabo, set the scene for the day, entertaining all with his talk about commercially growing mulberries. Keryn Gorman from 'Illalangi' promoted the need for us all to shop and eat local while highlighting the many wonderful products generated from the Riverland.

Two local quilters brought and shared their creations: Claire Smith, who is committed to repurposing denim jeans and other 'found' materials into bags of all sizes and Glenys Leske, a fabric artist, who creates quilts and 3 dimensional objects using fabric collage. Glenys particularly enjoys creating birds. We also heard from SA Quilters, in particular how to enter a quilt in Festival of Quilts.

To provide more entertainment during breaks 2 demonstrators showed their creativity. Our local group member, Sue McFarlane, demonstrated her wonderful wool flowers and Cindy Massey from SA Quilters showed us how to make 'Wonky Stars' using fabric scraps. A display from the local Riverland Embroiders group was also available for all to explore and chat to a local member.

Our raffle quilt was pieced, quilted and bound by local members from a gifted kit and other raffle prizes were donated by members, the quilt shops in attendance and sponsors.

Four quilt shops tempted all to purchase and there were many happy faces around the tables.

Whilst we sourced lunch from a local bakery Barmera members supplied morning and afternoon tea for which we received many compliments for the country catering.

We thank our guest speakers, demonstrators, quilt shops, sponsors for their wonderful contribution to the very successful event. Thanks also go to all who travelled to Barmera to attend.

Julie Plush

Sit and Sew

Sew its Wednesday

The SEW It's Wednesday sewing group meets on the second and fourth Wednesday each month, except December when it's the second Wednesday only, from 10am to 3pm. It has proven to be an invaluable asset to SA Quilters, contributing significantly to the organization's financial strength while providing a community sewing space to a wide range of members who share a passion for patchwork and quilting. Attendees brought along their own quilting projects to work on, asked for advice, shared morning and afternoon tea, and shared show and tell of completed works.

Through word-of-mouth, social media, and community events, the group continues to grow, regularly attracting new members to the sewing day and subsequently SA Quilters. There was an average of 32 attendees at each session which peaked at close to 40 on several occasions. 8 new members were welcomed to the group over the year. The ongoing attraction of new members to SEW It's Wednesday is a testament to the group's friendly and welcoming atmosphere. The success of this group highlights the importance of fostering inclusive environments that celebrate diversity and encourage continuous growth.

As we look forward to the coming year, we remain committed to nurturing this wonderful community and celebrating the art of quilting.

Cindy Massey & Jane Polden

Saturday Starz

WOW, what a great year 2024 was for the Saturday Starz Sit and Sew group as it continued to grow throughout the year.....

The 4th Saturday of the month was something quite a few quilters looked forward to each month in order to share their love of all things fabric and sewing related.

Attendance at Saturday Starz continued to grow with regular attendance keeping our monthly sewing day financially viable. We had quite a few regulars who came along, enjoying the space the hall offered—and each other’s company. The group enjoyed watching what others were doing, looking at all the lovely projects people worked on and asking for opinions to help with colour and layout. The group especially enjoyed sharing the lovely delights of shared morning tea, looking forward to the next project and the next show and tell.

Winter months saw us share in warming soups around a table, we enjoyed a Christmas in July lunch together and—also shared a lovely Christmas lunch in November for our last Sit and Sew of the year.

I personally enjoyed sharing my sewing Saturday with all who came along—It has been an absolute pleasure to be the Team Leader of Saturday Starz. Thank you to all the regular attendees who happily welcomed new folk and for making the Saturday Starz group a success. We looked forward to welcoming newcomers to Saturday Starz – there is always room for more.

Therese May

Unplugged Stitchers

It has been another successful year for our dedicated group of hand stitchers. We were successful enough to be moved from the small room to the larger one. Just as that happened, numbers attending dropped off and towards Christmas we were only attracting 6 stitchers. Happily, SA Quilters covered the shortfall for our hall hire for a few months. Numbers thankfully picked up in the New Year and we are now seeing 15 -16 enthusiastic sewers, including 2 new faces as well as the regulars. New faces are always enthusiastically welcomed.

The talent of our hand stitchers is amazing. While we celebrate the talent of everyone, it was especially wonderful to see several of our group take out multiple prizes at the Festival of Quilts and the Adelaide Royal Show. We all basked in their reflected glory!

A couple of months ago I had a reconstruction of my right shoulder, which slowed me down considerably and made setting up the room for

Unplugged difficult. I haven't been able to sew for 6 long weeks, and my fingers are itching! I sincerely thank all the ladies for pitching in and helping me lug furniture about and letting me go home for a nap when I ran out of steam.

Jackie Harris

Workshops

2024 the start of a new year for Workshops – and what an incredible year it was.

Our tutors were all incredible and workshops were well attended. Participant feedback after each workshop was very positive.

The venue where workshops are held has proved to be very successful, providing a large light filled space for learning along with a very functional kitchen – a wonderful environment for everyone to come along and enjoy being with a group of likewise people doing what we all love – quilting.

We are also extremely fortunate to have a team of amazing “Angels” volunteering their time at workshops, providing everyone with delicious food and endless cups of tea and coffee while everyone is hard at work with their projects. SA Quilters Workshop Team members are – Heather Ford, Peggy Argent, Wendy Hunt, Jill Christian, Cindy Massey and Rosslyn Wyatt.

The fee for workshops during 2024 was maintained in order to keep this service to members as affordable as possible whilst still covering costs.

2024 gave us a full year of workshops with lots of wonderful tutors sharing their incredible knowledge, tips, skills, and expertise.

- February, 2024 - We were lucky enough to start the year with a brilliant workshop Mystery Quilt with Lessa Siegele and Faye Packham – 30 Students
- March, 2024 - Sue Knuckey – Slow Stitching – 10 Students
- April, 2024 - Wendy Whellum – 2-day workshop – Hovea Jacket – 11 Students
- June, 2024 – Chris O’Brien – Free Motion Quilting – Fun with Feathers – 15 Students
- June, 2024 – Julie Nixon – Spinning Spokes – 11 Students
- July, 2024 – Cindy Massey – Dancing with the Stars – 11 Students

- August, 2024 – Bronwyn Cant – 2 day workshop – Filling in the Gaps – 10 Students
- September, 2024 – Jemima Flendt – Trinket Box – 16 Students
- October, 2024 – Sue Knuckey – Baby Stars – 9 Students
- November, 2024 – Suzanne Gummow – 2-day workshop - Lace Flowers – sadly this was cancelled due to tutor illness

After Quilt Encounter 2024 an incredible Perth tutor, Jemima Flendt, agreed to stay on to do a workshop for us. Everyone was very keen to enrol for this workshop and it was very successful. Jemima is a brilliant tutor and we hope to have her back for another workshop at some stage.

As you can see 2024 was another incredible year for SA Quilters Workshops – we hosted 9 workshops and all classes were very well attended. We are so fortunate to have so many talented tutors and quilters in South Australia – so much inspiration – so many new skills for us all to learn.

Ros Wyatt

Workshops Team Leader