



## ANNUAL REPORTS

for presentation at the

2015

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

of

QUILTERS' GUILD OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA INC.

to be held Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> May 2015 at the  
Burnside Community Centre  
Portrush Road Tusmore SA 5066



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## FROM THE PRESIDENT

It gives me great pleasure to present this annual report of the activities and achievements of Quilters' Guild of South Australia Inc. in 2014 and is a brief overview of the year; more details from individual group/sub-committee coordinators can be found within the report.

I am delighted to report that the average attendance at Guild meetings throughout 2014 was 169 members and 15 guests at each meeting, even at the AGM! Thank you for your continued support of your Guild.

Kate Conklin began the 2014 Workshop calendar at Adelaide West Uniting Church. This new venue for workshops and events has become very popular because of its size and close proximity for many of you. I would like to thank Suzi Cousins, past Executive Committee member, for liaising with our coordinators and enabling us to hire the facilities at the church. There were eight workshops in all in 2014; one unfortunately had to be cancelled due to a number of student cancellations at the last minute.

The Australian Council of Quilters (ACQ) is held each year in February. ACQ 2014 event was hosted by Darwin Patchworkers and Quilters Inc. and attended by myself, Vicki Hart (President Elect/Vice President) and Keith Holland (Honorary Treasurer). Possessing extensive financial knowledge, Keith proved to be a valuable asset and broadened the scope of discussions. Top of the agenda at the conference was the possibility of ACQ becoming an Incorporated Body, which would have more advantages for Australian quilters than was first thought, including greater recognition. A sub-group will be researching this topic and report their findings at ACQ 2015. Modern Quilting was also hot on the agenda given the confusing and varying definitions of the term and how to best judge them at our shows. The theft of quilts at shows was also under review. We had a very interesting and thought provoking lecture by Prof. David Price who spoke about Confidentiality and its quilting implications. This was a very informative conference resulting in amicable discussions, forward planning and unity across the States and Territories.

Several members of the Executive Committee represented the Guild at Rural Roundup, hosted by Burra Quilters in the historic Burra Town Hall in March. With over 200 country ladies, and a few gentlemen, packed into the hall the Burra ladies made it a day to remember and would like to congratulate Dorothy Lines and her ladies of Burra for such wonderful day.

The Australasian Quilt Convention at the Exhibition Centre in Melbourne in April was especially memorable as Michele Hill was awarded the Rajah Award for outstanding services to quilting and Faye Packham the Lut Da Award for her exceptional contribution to the community through quilting. I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate Faye on this years' achievement, through her Bedford Mystery Quilts, in raising \$103,443 which helps Bedford Industries provide training, employment and accommodation opportunities for disabled and disadvantaged people. The excitement at the award ceremony was phenomenal, which lasted many months. My congratulations to Michele and Faye, both incredibly generous ladies with a tremendous following all over the country... and beyond.

As 2014 was the Guilds' 30<sup>th</sup> Birthday, there were celebrations at our AGM/May meeting with the theme of Diamonds and Pearls. There were four members of the Executive committee retiring, Shirley Andrewartha, Suzi Cousins, Niki Waterhouse and Clare Mahony. Thanks go to these ladies who worked extremely hard to serve you on their chosen committees. We welcomed Christine Baker (librarian) Lara Motta (techno guru/Assistant Shop and Social coordinator) Glenys Elliott (Workshops Assistant) and Jeannie Gregory (Assistant/Room Monitor) onto the Executive Committee. Bron Atkinson was awarded Life Membership in recognition of over 20 years Guild membership and her many roles during that period. Once the formalities of the meeting were

dispensed with we heard from one of the founder members of the Guild, Julie Abbott, who told us a little of how the Guild was formed, swiftly followed Birthday cupcakes and Bubbly.

2014 Quilt Encounter was a great success, held at Immanuel College in July. The theme was 'Birds of a Feather Stick Together,' with the feathered friends of the committee doing an amazing job in providing this much anticipated six day extravaganza. Tutors from New Zealand, interstate and SA filled the college with innovative and inspiring classes to get the creative juices flowing. Congratulations to Kerryn and her 'flock' for this great achievement.

Members of the Guild Executive were again present at the Sewing, Stitching and Craft show in July. Being invited to represent the Guild at this show is an opportunity to promote the guild and demonstrate some of the varied techniques used. Centre stage was a huge three-tiered fabric birthday cake, made by members of the Executive Committee, in recognition of our 30<sup>th</sup> birthday. Once again the Quilters' Guild of SA Inc. was pleased to sponsor the Novice Prize in Quilting at the Adelaide Show.

Our very own Festival of Quilts committee are to be congratulated for coordinating an amazing exhibition of your work. Floor talks, demonstrations and the use of QR Codes enabling visitors to learn more about individual quilts, added to the experience. Congratulations to The Best of Show winner, Rachelle Denny, with her amazing quilt "A Touch of Blue" and every good wish for the next step – The Best of Australia. Our congratulations to all the individual category winners and our thanks to all of you who enter your work, either for judging or display, without which we would not have a Festival of Quilts

Quilters' Guild of South Australia benefits us all in different ways but without the hard work and dedication of each and every one of you, especially those who are able to sit on committees and groups, it just wouldn't happen. Thank you for your continued support, personally, but especially your support of each other, the friendships, the sharing of knowledge and the fun. You are a unique and amazing group of people and it has been a privilege to serve as your President in 2014.

*Kay Lovell  
President*

## **TREASURER'S REPORT 2014**

### **QUILTERS' GUILD OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA INC.**

Madam President (Kay), Guild Members, Friends and Guests I present to you the Audited Financial Report of **Quilters Guild of South Australia Inc.** for the financial year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2014.

The Net Surplus for the financial year was \$ 5007, an increase of \$ 3464 over the 2013 year. The increase can be attributed mainly to increased surpluses from Festival of Quilts (November Exhibition) and Workshops which has reversed the 2013 deficit to a surplus for 2014. In addition the Quilt Encounter Committee has reduced the 2014 deficit from 2013 by around \$ 1600. With further adjustments to fees and expenses for 2015 the Quilt Encounter Committee are hopeful of a small surplus for 2015.

I would like to acknowledge the Executive Committee and Sub-committees (Country Forum, Festival of Quilts, Quilt Encounter and Workshops) of your Guild for the work that they do as they continue to help make the Guild better and stronger for you the Members.

The Executive Committee in reviewing the 2014 Report has decided to increase Membership Subscriptions in 2015 to \$ 60; this being the first such increase in a number of years. However if the Membership Subscription is paid before 1<sup>st</sup> September 2015 there will be a \$ 10 discount making the Annual fee still \$ 50.00. Quilt Encounter has again reviewed the fees for 2015 in order to eliminate the deficit while it continues to make this marquee event (the only one in Australia) stronger.

I again acknowledge Roz McDonald (Assistant Treasurer) for her assistance and support in her role in assisting with the financial management of you Guild's Funds. To President Kay and the Executive Committee thank you for your ongoing support in my role as Honorary Treasurer. Also to my wife Pam and business partner (son Matthew) and our office staff thanks for making my role as the Honorary Treasurer of Quilters' Guild of South Australia Inc. easier and enjoyable.

I now ask that this Audited Financial Report for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2014 be accepted by the members.

**Keith Holland FCPA**  
**Honorary Treasurer**  
**15<sup>th</sup> March 2015**

#### **Attention Guild members:**

If you have any queries regarding these financial statements, please write to the treasurer either by email ([keith@kjholland.com.au](mailto:keith@kjholland.com.au))

or by letter to Keith Holland

PO Box 11

ALDGATE SA 5155

Or contact the President on [president@saquilters.org.au](mailto:president@saquilters.org.au)

**to arrive no later than Thursday April 30<sup>th</sup> 2015**

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

In common with organizations 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, our audit of cash receipts was limited to the amount recorded in the accounting records of the Association.

In our opinion, as so far as it appears from our 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. We 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.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

**Independence**

In conducting our audit, we have complied with the independence requirements of Australian professional ethical pronouncements.

**Auditors' Opinion**

In our 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 31<sup>st</sup> December 2014 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 Accountants

**Name of Partner:**  PETER JOHN HALL

**Address:** 25 Leigh Street, Adelaide SA 5000

**Dated this:** 16 March 2015

**QUILTERS GUILD OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA INC.**  
**ABN: 95 168 292 747**

**INCOME & EXPENDITURE STATEMENT**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2014**

	Note	2014 \$	2013 \$
<b>INCOME</b>			
Door Money		5,206.05	5,209.50
Exhibition , net surplus		2,870.54	376.72
Insurance		6,318.18	4,677.30
Workshops, net surplus		1,087.93	-
Interest Received		3,920.94	5,014.49
Membership Subscriptions		28,357.37	31,805.64
Other Income		1,148.28	3,466.97
Patches Advertising		16,350.00	16,840.00
Raffles, net surplus		2,352.06	3,806.81
		<u>67,611.35</u>	<u>71,197.43</u>
<b>OTHER INCOME</b>			
Country Forum, net surplus		-	58.79
		<u>67,611.35</u>	<u>71,256.22</u>
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>			
Auditors Remuneration - Fees		1,300.00	1,265.00
Australian Council of Quilters		1,384.52	1,425.38
Australian Quilt Convention		759.27	1,812.18
Bank Charges		627.27	218.34
Bank & Credit Card Charges		100.00	685.00
Depreciation		2,110.00	1,509.00
Donations		-	1,150.00
Guest Speakers		1,200.00	900.00
Insurance		7,957.51	8,942.41
Library books & magazines		407.21	1,850.61
Meeting Set Up Costs		1,440.00	1,280.00
Patches expenses		19,118.38	24,213.62
Postage, Stationery & Phone		1,814.20	2,347.15
Quilt Encounter, net loss		4,419.68	6,015.29
Rent - Hall Hire		2,159.76	1,664.32
Scholarships & Grants		5,215.00	6,700.00
Sundry expenditure		12,199.27	6,308.42
Valuation & Judging, deficit		392.04	264.08
Workshops, net deficit		-	1,061.56
		<u>62,604.11</u>	<u>69,612.36</u>
<b>Surplus for the year</b>		<u>5,007.24</u>	<u>1,643.86</u>
Accumulated Surplus at the beginning of the financial year		157,287.98	155,644.12
<b>Accumulated Surplus at the end of the financial year</b>		<u>162,295.22</u>	<u>157,287.98</u>



**QUILTERS GUILD OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA INC.**  
**ABN: 95 168 292 747**

**BALANCE SHEET**  
**AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2014**

	Note	2014 \$	2013 \$
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>			
Cash on Hand		770.00	770.00
Cash at Bank and Deposits		146,820.62	148,947.72
Trade and other receivables	2	26,755.09	19,931.65
Prepayments		1,920.87	-
<b>TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS</b>		<u>176,266.58</u>	<u>169,649.37</u>
<b>NON-CURRENT ASSETS</b>			
Financial assets	3	10.00	10.00
Property, Plant and Equipment	4	7,687.81	9,033.83
<b>TOTAL NON-CURRENT ASSETS</b>		<u>7,697.81</u>	<u>9,043.83</u>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>		<u>183,964.39</u>	<u>178,693.20</u>
<b>CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>			
Accounts Payable		-	2,798.20
Credit Cards		797.45	1,621.71
Other Creditors		8,006.77	6,000.00
GST on supplies		11,105.85	10,985.31
Income in advance		1,759.10	-
<b>TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>		<u>21,669.17</u>	<u>21,405.22</u>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>		<u>21,669.17</u>	<u>21,405.22</u>
<b>NET ASSETS</b>		<u>162,295.22</u>	<u>157,287.98</u>
<b>MEMBERS' FUNDS</b>			
Accumulated Surpluses		162,295.22	157,287.98
<b>TOTAL MEMBERS' FUNDS</b>		<u>162,295.22</u>	<u>157,287.98</u>

## FESTIVAL OF QUILTS 2014

There are many volunteers who help out with Guild operations and we must all treat them with the greatest respect. Without the volunteers our Guild could not function.

For our Festival of Quilts we have a dedicated group of people who willingly help out each year. These people are not all Guild members, as partners and family members are pressed into service to help make our exhibitions the success that they have been. All people have times in their lives when things do not go as smoothly as they would like, but the committee members have worked very well together, taking care of each other at all times so that the common goals can be achieved.

I remember a past President asking anyone who had served or was currently serving on a Guild committee to stand and a large number of the audience rose to their feet. Such is our dedication and respect for our Guild. This year approximately 120 people helped out over the four days of the exhibition. Some came in on more than one day but if you add up the wo/man hours contributed it comes to an impressive number.

I must give my grateful thanks to those partners who helped out when the frames were put up and taken down. This is mostly done late in the day when most people are winding down after a hard day's work, but the partners are more than willing to support their wives. To Larry, Kevin, Russell and Max, thank you for the support you have given to your partners and our Guild this year. Our thanks go to Alex, Max and Alistair too for their assistance when we put up the frames.

To Keith our Treasurer and Roz our banker, thank you for being willing to support our endeavours with prompt payments, reimbursements and advances of funds to help us get the exhibition up and running.

To our many sponsors, we are grateful for your support of the exhibition and the Guild. I know there are many calls for help in the form of goods and money, but we always have an impressive array of gifts for our prize winners.

To the Guild executive, thank you for your support of the exhibition and for Gala Night arrangements. It is pleasing to know that the executive is actively behind our hard work in producing the exhibition. To the members of the judging panel, thank you for contributing to the task of judging our quilt competition. It can be a daunting task to decide who will win in any category. Your professionalism is to be commended.

Candy, thank you for your help on judging day with the photography and getting the images and details up on the website so quickly. That is no easy task and we are grateful for your input, as well as your organisation in sending material to the magazines. Julie, thank you for being our guest quilter this year.

Your corner was spectacular and you seemed to have many visitors, looking at your quilts and asking questions about techniques and processes. Rachele, thank you for your extremely generous donation of the first prize quilt, *Ruby Roses, With Love*, which was very much an integral part of our exhibition in 2014. There were many people anxiously waiting for the drawing of the tickets at the December meeting. Only one could win and I am sure Colleen will treasure the quilt.

To the members of the exhibition committee, my heartfelt thanks for all the many hours of work and meetings that go towards holding a successful exhibition. I think it says a lot that the team working with me as Convenor for the past three years has stayed together and we have had many great times. The annual retreats and our sewing days at Tricia's have been lots of fun.

Anne Marie, you have given us many hours of fun at our retreats. I know that you must have spent hours preparing the games and activities for us all to enjoy, although some this year were a bit hard to take. Did you find your games cards? You have also taken on the task of being the scribe for judging day this year and I know that was a steep learning curve for you. And we mostly took part in the dressing up for meetings to help us all be identified.

Chris, I know you have spent lots of time planning for quilt making. Deciding on the design, fabrics, colours and settings is never easy, as anyone who has made a quilt will know. You have also done an amazing job of preparing the power point presentations for Gala Night. Your help in arranging for guest quilters has been wonderful, and very much appreciated by our visitors.

Michele, it was good to welcome you back to the committee. Your task of receiving entries is a big one, especially as so much work is based on the data being correctly and fully entered into the computer for use for a variety of tasks in preparation for the judging and display of the quilts. Please thank Larry for doing this data input while you were overseas.

Ros, your work has been very much appreciated over the years. Managing rosters for volunteers is not always easy, as things happen which means changes have to be made at the last minute. Your help in sorting out the numbers, both magnetic and cloth, as well as laundering white gloves and

aprons over the years is very much appreciated too.

Jan G, you have kept us well supplied with sustenance for our monthly meetings as well as during the exhibition days. Your management of the demonstrators for the exhibition is very well done, and I think this year especially was very well received by our visitors. There seemed to be lots of talking and watching going on over the four days. Jan S, your task of managing the raffle for us is a major one, as the more tickets that are sold, the more funds we can pass on to our selected charities. From arranging to have the tickets printed, sending them out to groups to sell and then collating the details when they are returned, is quite a mammoth task. Your careful record keeping makes it easier for the auditor to complete his task too.

Jenny, you have put in many years on the exhibition committee, and for that we are grateful. Your task this year has been to organise the special exhibits within the exhibition, and you can take a big bow, as they were many and varied, which adds to the display.

Jill, your job of sorting the donations given to us for prize allocation is not easy. I know that you spend hours organising the prizes so that there is a fair spread across the categories, as well as actually going to premises to collect prizes. Your packaging skills are wonderful and I am sure the recipients appreciate all the effort that you put in to make the parcels attractive.

Sharon, thank you for all the letter writing and chasing up that is involved in asking our sponsors for their help. You have done an amazing job in getting sponsors to respond and to be generous. It is also hard to keep track of those who wish to be a sponsor, so well done to you.

Prue, the speed with which you produced minutes of our meetings was incredible. I know at times it was hard to take notes at the meetings because we were all keen to talk at once, but well done. Thank you also for writing the many articles for Patches to keep members informed along the way.

Of course, the above does not list all of the tasks that committee members carry out. I am sure those would fill a small book.

As I sign off from being Convenor, I thank those on the team who are leaving the committee as well. I sincerely appreciate all the hours of work you have given to the Guild. I wish the 2015 committee all the best, and I applaud those who have taken up the challenge to join the committee next year.

*Bronwyn Atkinson  
Festival of Quilts Convenor 2014*

## **FRAME HIRE 2014**

The guild continues to provide the service of frame hire for those groups wishing to have frames available to hang quilts for their exhibitions. The format remains the same as in previous years, with \$100 bond and up to 10 bags for hire at \$20 per bag. Each bag holds frames to hang 10 quilts. The frames are stored at Wayville Showgrounds and are checked after each use by Terry Brokate and then \$70 of the \$100 bond is returned if all is ok. More information is available about frame hire at <http://www.saquilters.org.au/frame-hire.htm> In 2014 we had five groups hiring frames and also our own Julie Haddrick hired two bags for her exhibition.

The charity quilt space at monthly Guild meetings continued to be popular in 2014, and there are only four months left to book for 2015.

To book this space in 2015 and for all quilt frame hiring please continue to contact June Bull at [junebull@bigpond.com](mailto:junebull@bigpond.com) or phone 8298 5110.

*June Bull  
Frame Hire Coordinator*

## **PORTABLE FRAMES 2014**

The Guild have four portable quilting frames that are very light and easy to manage. They are valued over \$200 each. Throughout the year these frames have been hired to members of the Guild for various exhibitions and teaching commitments.

Currently the cost for hiring these frames is:

- \$25 deposit- refunded if all frames are satisfactory returned
- \$5 hiring fee for each frame per week

*Rosie Player*

## GUILD INSURANCE 2014

In 2014, there were fourteen exhibitions covered under the Group Exhibition insurance. This is eleven less than for the previous year but many groups have biennial exhibitions and the cycle is often heavier in alternate years.

For the first time in many years there will be claims made on the insurance policy for materials stolen from a group meeting place.

It does serve as a reminder, however, that items belonging to groups must be kept in secure cupboards or rooms to avoid the possibility of theft or damage. This will not always prevent a person or persons who are determined to steal or damage property, but at least we can make it as difficult as possible for them to conduct an illegal act.

From time to time there are queries about what is covered by the Guild's policy, and one frequent question is about who is covered for a group retreat. Only people who belong to the group (or an individual member of the Guild) are covered in the event of an incident. Any person not belonging to the Guild as an individual member or who is not a financial member of an affiliated group attending would need to accept their own risk. Our policy only covers individual members of the Guild, and group members whose names are submitted to the Guild for insurance purposes. It is very important that the Guild is advised of any new members of groups that join during the year too.

Our insurance is arranged through the services of a broker, who does not charge a fee for this service, and the underwriter is QBE Insurance (Australia) Ltd.

*Bronwyn Atkinson  
Insurance Liaison Officer*

## JUDGING PANEL 2014

Several members of the Judging Panel were involved in judging in 2014.

- Julie Haddrick travelled to Melbourne in April to take part in the Judging of the Bernina Best of Show for the annual AQC event. Three judges from different states are invited to attend each year. 2014 included judges from SA, WA and the Alice Springs region.
- Nola Pearce and Sally McKenzie took part in the judging of the Royal Adelaide Show along with Rachael Dettman. They all commented on the high standard of quilts entered in the show which is very pleasing to hear. The quality of quilts entered each year is continuing to impress.
- Michelle Bouchier was one of the Judges at the bi-annual Australian Machine Quilters' Festival held at the Adelaide Convention Centre in October.
- Gina Burgess judged the Kingscote show on Kangaroo Island in October. This is an annual event and the organisers always request judges from the Judging Panel.
- Finally, Barbara Hallion and Dianne Assheton joined Jenny Bacon in judging the 2014 Festival of Quilts. It was a pleasure to be able to finally invite Dianne to judge. She is one of the founding members of the Judging Panel who is usually unavailable to judge due to work commitments. A change of date for judging in 2014 meant she was able to attend. Jenny Bacon of Maryborough, Vic is well known for her judging skills having travelled to the US and UK to take part in training. She was able to stay on in Adelaide long enough to give a workshop outlining judging procedures. The day was well attended by both members of the Judging Panel and many other quilters interested in finding out "What the Judges Look For"

Just a reminder, we have judges available to attend metropolitan and city shows and we urge you to take advantage of our services.

*Gina Burgess  
Judging Panel Convenor*

## LIBRARY REPORT 2014

The library has been well patronised over the last year, with approximately 1500 items being borrowed, with magazines and Contemporary/Modern items being the most popular. Several new books and DVDs were added in all categories, both by purchase and by donation; thank you to all those who donated titles during the year. Donated books that weren't suitable for the catalogue were offered for sale and this provided a number of bargains for Guild members during the year.

Quilting stencils are now offered for loan; we have around twenty stencils to help you mark up your quilts – everything from waves and hearts to cats and ducks! They can be borrowed in the same way as a book or DVD.

Those who were at the Christmas meeting in December may have heard the almighty crash at the end of the meeting; this was one of the library trolleys overturning due to a snapped castor and throwing all the books onto the floor! A new library trolley is on order and in the meantime, books from that trolley will be displayed on tables.

In 2015 each meeting will feature a particular library category on display; as you would expect, the first meeting for the year will be Basics (Yellow dots). Many thanks to all the volunteers who helped during the year, and particularly to Gail, Renee, Niki, Judy, Sue, Kyra, Emilie, Caroline and Wendy. My personal thanks also to the Executive Committee for their advice and support during the year.

*Christine Baker  
Librarian*

## LITTLE QUILTS OF LOVE 2014

There has not been as much call for Little Quilts of Love in the past year, but some are still being delivered to hospitals. If a group or individual are making LQLs I am holding about 20doz labels @ \$5 per doz. Please contact me if you need any for your quilts.

Parents often choose to take their little quilt home so it becomes a very precious keepsake.

Little quilts range in size from about 14 inches – 18 inches square with a soft batting and because of the nature of the program really need to be something very special....thank you again.....

*Jan Goulter – Coordinator*

## MEETINGS 2014

Welcome to 2015, and may your whole year be as prosperous as you wish it to be.

What an amazing year 2014 was. Several of our meetings were presided over by our 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President, Vicki Hart, in the absence of our President, Kay Lovell, who spent time overseas on family matters. Thank you Vicki for so capably (and entertainingly!) conducting those meetings.

Once again, thank you to our kitchen volunteers, without whom our attendees would be thirsty.

Please don't hesitate to see me or any other Executive Committee member if you wish to volunteer for the tea and coffee roster – the big payoff is that volunteers have free admission to that meeting, and it's also a great way to meet new people and "get with it"!

Thank you also to the door greeters, who introduce new members to existing members, find them a warming, welcoming cuppa (a great way to meet new people!) and a chair with a view.

Attendance during the year was similar to 2013. An average of 171 people attended, and a general upswing was recorded for guest attendance. The average number of guests attending each meeting was 18. Our busiest meeting was, not surprisingly, for the month of November, following the Festival of Quilts.

Guests will now be given a *laminated* ticket to be used for free entry at a future meeting, so please encourage friends to come along and see what we do.

*Jeannie Gregory  
Welcome Registrar*

## MEMBERSHIP 2014

First up, two words of thanks: firstly to Clare Mahony for making the step into Membership Secretary as gentle as it could possibly be – Clare has been meticulous with her record keeping over the preceding years, which has made my job as easy as it could possibly be. And secondly, to Bron Atkinson, for taking on the responsibility for our groups while I learn the ropes. Your efforts are very much appreciated ladies!

I have enjoyed getting to know more of our membership over the past year, and look forward to spending more time with you all.

As at 31 December 2014, the Quilters Guild of South Australia membership stood at 480 members: 450 individual members, 20 life members, 9 junior members and 1 associate member.

We have 104 groups affiliated with the Guild, 64 of those located in the country, and 40 in the city. Our membership numbers have remained fairly well on par with previous years, and it has been pleasing to see a rise in the numbers of our junior members.

*Tara Sniedze  
Membership Secretary*

## PATCHES 2014

Once again, I must thank the contributors who make our newsletter interesting. You will have noticed a different format for the covers over the last twelve months. Thanks for that must go to Justin, who is our layout design person.

Thank you also to all the people who give positive feedback about the newsletter too. It makes the hours of work all worthwhile. I enjoy the experience of preparing the copy for *Patches*, but there are times when there might be a whole page of space, and sometimes that can be challenging to fill.

It is important to remember to have items sent to the Editor by the due dates for inclusion in the appropriate issue. Deadlines are the first Friday of the odd months of the year for publication a month later each time. Some items are date sensitive (such as exhibitions and sale dates) so need to be sent in time because it takes a month to get the copy ready for the printer. *Patches* continues to be printed by Manning Print Solutions, and Bedford Industries is involved in the packaging and posting of *Patches* for the Guild.

*Bronwyn Atkinson  
Editor – Patches*

## QUILT ENCOUNTER 2014

The 22<sup>nd</sup> Quilt Encounter event was again held at Immanuel College, Novar Gardens, from 11 July to 17 July 2014. This was the second time for the “new” Committee after taking over from Lessa Siegele and her team after 20 years of running this fabulous annual retreat. We were delighted that the event ran very successfully with 132 participants, 14 tutors and 8 Committee living in on the campus. This year we also had 18 day participants who thoroughly enjoyed their involvement by attending workshops on various days. Again we have had enormous support and many positive comments via letters, emails messages etc., which has been very encouraging to us all.

The theme for this year's event was a “Birds” (Birds of a feather flock together). Friday night is Opening Night and our Guild Vice President Vicki Hart performed the official duties. Opening night saw the introduction of our tutors, giving us a brief description of their workshops plus displaying their beautiful quilts. As always the “Show and Tell” from previous Quilt Encounters was first class too. Also introduced were our shops for 2014 Lorraine from Hettie's Patch and Deb from Whyte House Gallery who gave us a brief overview of their tempting wares.

The tutors this year were: Mirjam Aigner from Jindabyne (NSW), Gina Burgess from Port Noarlunga (SA), Amanda Daly from Kenthurst (NSW), Rachelle Denny from Glenelg North (SA), Katrina Hadjimichael from Narellan (NSW), Michele Hill from Noarlunga Downs (SA), Jacqui Karl from Kimbolton (NZ), Gloria Loughman from Drysdale (VIC), Sally McKenzie from Happy Valley (SA), Faye Packham from Happy Valley (SA), Caroline Sharkey from Urunga (NSW), Lessa Siegele from South Brighton (SA) Julie Sutton from Flagstaff Hill (SA) and Wendy Williams from Drummoyne (NSW). The workshops were very well received with a total of 8 workshops being balloted – which is why we request participants list their 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> preferences on their Registration forms.

Once again the staff at Immanuel College, especially Kaye Harris, were extremely helpful during the planning stages and for the week of the event. This year all ran very smoothly with Simon and his staff in the kitchen making every effort to provide for our needs. We received lots of positive comments from the participants regarding the delicious food and the friendly kitchen staff, including those with special dietary requirements.

As usual there were quilters from all states, many who have come year after year and love to catch up and continue the strong friendships that have developed at Quilt Encounter. This year there were 45 “first timers” to this event with some of these being day participants. They all thoroughly enjoyed their experience and assured us they would be back with some friends “in tow” next year.

There are units, houses, single, double and dormitory accommodation along with a very popular “common room” with open fire for meeting and **socializing** in the evening. In the Function Room the two shops presented fabulous displays and we also had a selection of quilts made by Heather Ridley featuring many Australian Birds, beautifully stitched in Heather’s wonderful style, using hand dyed fabrics and embellished with machine embroidery work. Also on display in the Function room were the postcard size art pieces interpreting what Quilt Encounter means to our participants. In the classroom area of the campus, hung on clotheslines, was a variety of quilts made by members of the committee and some students work from previous Quilt Encounters.

The sponsors were very generous again this year and we are very grateful to all who support this event. Our major sponsor, Otto and Penny’s Sewing Centre, this year donated a sewing machine as a prize and also provided machines, at no cost, for country and interstate people to use during their workshops. Otto’s massive contribution continues year after year and his support of our event is outstanding – we are extremely grateful. Horn Australia Furniture donated a cutting table and Bernina Australia, Rokset Industries and Lloyd Curzon Fabrics made great contributions as well. SewEzi via their Australian agent Just Patchwork of Tuncurry donated a portable sewing table. Sydney Sewing Supplies and MiniJumbuk also contributed generously helping to make the event successful. Our local quilt and sewing shops here in South Australia were generous too and we thank all of these and the many other sponsors for their continued support of this event. The two shops who attended, Hettie’s Patch and Whyte House Gallery also provide financial support that assists with the airfares for our interstate and overseas tutors. We appreciate their participation and presence as an integral part of the Quilt Encounter experience.

This year we received two nominations for the Lessa Siegele Scholarship – so named to honour and acknowledge the enormous contribution Lessa has made in establishing and convening this event for the past 20 years. The recipient receives three

days at Quilt Encounter plus \$100.00 in spending money to assist with the purchase of requirements for their workshop/s. The winner and nominating person of this award wished to remain anonymous this year and we respected their wishes with this.

Again the recipient of this award was someone who has contributed an enormous amount of volunteer hours into her community and well deserved a special treat for herself.

Our guest speakers for the evenings this year were Caroline Sharkey and Wendy Williams. Their topics were varied and interesting and they also provided additional fabulous Show & Tell. These evening programs were open to visitors and a number of “non-campers” joined us on these occasions. Visitors were also welcomed on opening night when students and teachers showed their quilts.

Monday is Visitor’s Day at Immanuel College and many people took this opportunity to have a look around. Again this year we were fortunate to have on display the “Car Quilt” made by members of the Guild Exhibition Committee. This quilt (made from “orphan” blocks) is a work of art and it was a lovely surprise for the participants to see as they walked across to the dining room at lunch time. We sincerely thank the Exhibition Committee girls for organising this treat for us.

We thank QGSA for their continued support as we continue to “learn the ropes” of organising such a major event. We have all learnt so much, met more wonderful quilters and are looking forward to presenting another great Quilt Encounter in July 2015. I am very grateful for all the support and hard work put in by all of the Committee members and of course the husbands and families, behind the scenes, who are a constant support to us all too.

*Kerryn Brand  
QE Convenor*

## SCHOLARSHIPS AND COUNTRY GRANTS 2014

In 2014 there was only one application received for a scholarship and the successful applicant used the funds to attend a workshop in Fujino, Japan. The seven day live in experience included learning about the history of textiles in Japan and learning a variety of techniques including shibori, weaving and kumihimo braiding. She also participated in a chiku chiku master class run by Akiko Ike. We look forward to reading the successful applicant's report in the near future. There is \$2,500 put aside for scholarships every year.

Country Grants were used to hold workshops, purchase quilt frames, purchase wadding for charity quilts, a weekend retreat and for purchasing an advertising banner. The Guild was delighted to be able to accommodate each of the seven country group's wishes for funds. Each year we have \$2,500 allocated for country grants.

If you wish to apply for a scholarship or grant, the application forms are on the Guild website. Please complete the application form in triplicate and send to the appropriate executive member by the beginning of April. All details are on the website.

The Guild looks forward to granting more scholarships and grants in the future to enable our members to improve their skills and promote quilting to the wider community.

*Vicki Hart  
Scholarships/Grants committee*

## SOCIAL MEDIA AND WEBSITE 2014

### SOCIAL MEDIA

With the Guild monthly meeting, a network of suburban and country group meetings, Patches issued bi-monthly, the Webpage for static information and Facebook for daily interaction there seems little need for other (Blog, Twitter, Pinterest etc.) communication avenues at this time.

### FACEBOOK

Early in January 2015 we are at 488 likes from 340 at the end of 2013.

It will be great to see that dial click over to 500.

The most recent Likers (fans) have come from Turkey and Nebraska USA! Not everyone gets the Facebook posts on their wall – there is some magic formula of things to be done for more people to get every post, but you make the Guild page a favorite and also like posts, in turn you receive more. It can be all very confusing but still a great way to share information with many people quite quickly. Guild doesn't have a Facebook budget to pay and promote posts as we are only using FB for communication to and from members, friends and associates. Our spread is all 'organic'! (Facebook term).

We do get quite a lot of visitors to FB who come via the Guild webpage, then Google or Yahoo search. There are 422 fans in Australia being SA 242, Melbourne 20, Sydney 12, Perth 7, Hobart, 6 Brisbane 4. USA 25 and assorted countries 1-4. The largest increase in the age of fans this year was in the +65 range.

The question was asked "what made the Guild Facebook and/or webpage useful". There were 20 likes and 10 comments offered:

- A great reminder of the meeting coming up and to keep up to date in general
- The opportunity to chat with other guild members
- Reading feedback and discussion about meetings, for those who can't attend, particularly country members
- A feeling of belonging
- The link from FB to the Guild webpage for more details

After a request for info from a reader, we asked shops offering beginners classes to post and many took the opportunity to respond. It has been an excellent way for people to find us and for interaction with shops, sponsors other organizations for example Embroiderers' Guild.



## WEBSITE

Google Analytics January to Dec 2014 recorded 9443 page visits by 5540 visitors. This is a 4% decline in visits, but a 19% drop in new visitors from 2013. Interesting because website visits had grown steadily each year since 2007 to a peak of 10286 visits by 7294 people in 2012.

Late in 2011 a Guild Facebook page entered the equation. Initially I think it attracted more people to the website, however later posting information directly to the Facebook wall (as well as the webpage) allows people to comment and they often have no need to venture further. I think the interaction is useful and so don't always do web – page links. We are not looking to increase traffic for advertising or sales!

Despite these reduced numbers there is consistently high access each month to the Quilt Encounter, Group and Workshop web pages.

This would indicate that the service in providing static information for these initiatives is being used. Some members at Guild meetings will say that they don't use the website, presumably because information they need is provided at the meetings. I think I can safely surmise that it is the members who are further afield and in the case of Quilt Encounter (many non-members) who will use the webpage.

As always there is a peak number of visits in November during Festival of Quilts (1540 visits by 924 people).

## ARCHIVES

Since 2007 (and probably for some time before) Guild records have been mostly electronic. This means it is easy to back-up and store correspondence, minutes and other records indefinitely. We are required to keep working records for 5-7 years, especially financial receipts etc. Held by the Treasurer for a couple of years for easy access and then into storage, paper records are then destroyed after the required time.

All Executive minutes are electronic and all annual financial reports and AGM minutes have been retained. The archives consist of examples of various things 'from the olden days' of general interest. At this time there is still more 'culling' to do as I made the initial cull some 6 or 7 years ago.

Much of what remains could be scanned for reference. There are many photo albums and some other memorabilia such as products made up with the logo, the 10 year diary etc.

We have two full sets of all issues of Patches containing wealth of Guild activities and history.

## HANDBOOKS

Each executive member should update their position handbook at the end of their term (if not earlier) ready for the new incumbent and provide a copy to the Secretary, who in turn will provide to the President and the Archivist.

## POLICY

I was researching known and accepted Guild procedures (or more aptly by-laws – i.e. how things have been done) to see if there were records in early Executive minutes. This has been way too long a process with many stops and starts, although a full history of Executive minutes now exist electronically. Meanwhile during 2014 Executive formed some new policies. As they are approved policies will be shown on the 'Constitution' page of the Guild website.

*Candy Walker*

*Web Administrator and Archivist*

## TEACHERS' FORUM 2014

2014 saw the Teachers Forum again held in February and August.

The purpose of the forum is to share our collective knowledge and help and encourage new and existing teachers to have success in this, our chosen profession.

The topic for February's Forum was "Problems which can arise during a workshop and how to overcome them." A lively and interesting discussion was held and a comprehensive report emailed to all members on the contact list.

Candy Walker was guest speaker at the August Forum addressing the topic "Copyright Rules".

Candy presented much interesting information, especially with regard to social media, which was emailed to all members on the contact list.

A light supper followed both meetings and we will meet again in 2015 in February and August at the Hare Street Uniting Church, 3 Hare Street, Kurralta Park.

*Heather Ford*  
*Facilitator*

## **SOUTHERN COMFORTERS 2014**

Thank you to all the ladies who have generously given to us completed quilts. Others have finished quilts off for us and that has been appreciated. Last year we were able to pass on just under one hundred quilts. There were several large beautiful quilts given to well-known organisations who then used the quilts for fund raising. Nursing homes, the Australian Refugee Association, Catherine House, Mary Potter Hospice and Anglicare were just some who benefitted from our group. Thank you once again for your help.

*Jenni Bailey  
Convenor*

## **VALUATION PANEL 2014**

This is the 23<sup>rd</sup> Annual report from this Sub-Committee of the Guild.

The reporting period is from the 1<sup>st</sup> Jan – 31<sup>st</sup> Dec.2014 .There have been thirty eight quilts valued over this year.

The Panel consists of fourteen qualified valuers and is coordinated by Heather Ford. It meets every 2<sup>nd</sup> month on the Friday following the Guild meeting.

In February Kim O'Mallon and Elizabeth Camping attended the meeting to acquaint themselves with the workings of the panel and decide if they want to join it.

Our new venue at Colonel Light West Tennis Club is very suitable. As a token of our appreciation for the generosity shown by Tricia of Tricia's Discount Fabrics – to the Guild, for the use of the valuation panel meetings over some time, we presented Tricia with a gift basket. As Valuation records are now kept digitally, paper records kept by the co-ordinator and Secretary prior to the end of 2008, can be disposed of. Reference books and DVDs held by the panel will be returned to the Guild library. Panel members have a list of the titles and contents and can borrow from the library as they choose.

In April both Kim and Elizabeth accepted the invitation to become members of the panel and we welcome the diversity their talents bring to our deliberations. To continue collecting data for the computer programme of Sue Wege, individually we will begin to use our own project preparation and completion forms detailing time spent in various aspects of our quilt making.

In June we were sorry to accept the resignation of Chris Denew from the panel. Chris has been a

member since 1997 and has great expertise in the area of hand quilting – we will miss her very much. The panel vacancy was advertised on the Guild website and also the judging panel was approached to canvas for their interest in the position.

In August Raelene Draheim applied to fill the vacancy and was approved by the Guild. Raelene is an ex-President of the Guild and has much experience and knowledge to add to our ranks. The panel has provided sponsorship to the upcoming Festival of Quilts- with six valuation gift certificates as in the previous year. This encourages more quilters to place a value on their wonderful fabric creations.

In September a live in workshop in the use and application of Sue Wege's computer programme for valuation was held. The Guild executive approved the funding for this workshop, which was held at Bordertown in Judy Simcock's Sanctuary. Nine panel members with personal computers were able to attend. Sue demonstrated and provided instruction in the use of the programme. It became evident that Sue has devoted an enormous amount of time and energy into the formulating and development of this evolving tool in the valuation process and her talent is undeniable. As an exercise we will each construct a 16" Granny's Star block – recording time spent on the various steps taken to produce it. Also time spent in the making of individual types of labels is being recorded. This information will be fed into the data for Sue's programme.

In November the Valuation Exercise being coordinated by Marie Gebhardt, with the various state valuation panels was recommenced. It was conducted whilst the Festival of Quilts was being displayed. Nola Pearce very ably managed the programme in Sue's absence and several panel members were able to attend. Our assessments were forwarded on to Marie for her information and results will be provided to the states participating. It is hoped that uniformity in quilt valuations will be achieved Australia wide, with more of this sharing of our assessments.

In December the final valuation meeting for the year was held, followed by a shared luncheon with the President Kay Lovell and also Vicki Hart who stood in for Kay during her absence.

The panel continues to be impressed by the artistic talent, inventiveness and imagination shown by our own very skilled quilt makers, whilst providing a valuation of their quilts for insurance purposes. All types of quilts are being produced with amazing results. The technical skill and dedication to superb workmanship is a delight to us all and we consider

ourselves very fortunate indeed to be allowed to handle these lovingly constructed works of art. Our hope is that our fellow patch-workers and quilters will realize that their skill in making such beautiful quilts is so very valuable and historically, journals of "The times of our lives."

Heather Ridley  
Secretary

## Workshops 2014

The first workshop for 2014 was Kate Conklin class in January. The workshop was to be over two days but with a week between each class; unfortunately there were not enough students so we condensed the class to one day. It was a fun day.

Irene Blanck, *Message in a Bottle*, with an interesting way of needle turn appliqué, at the beginning of April.

In May; a workshop with Rachelle Denny, *Fancy a Feather*, a one day, machine quilting class, which was very popular.

May was Catch up day, a sit and sew day with friends.

In May Shirley retired and Glenys joined the workshops team.

June was a class with Suzanne Gummow. Creating new fabric, a one day class, again popular.

During August we had a retreat to Mannum for a three day weekend, with Sally McKenzie, *Surf's Up*. A great relaxing weekend with shopping and sewing.

September we had booked a two day workshop with Linda Steele, *Crazy about Australia*, but unfortunately we did not have enough students so the class was cancelled.

Two workshops were added that were not on the WS/Meetings flyer,

The first weekend in November, Jenny Bacon, conducted *What are Judges Looking for?* A one day class, then the weekend after that a two day class was held with Ali George, *Life in Layers*.

Glenys and I thank all our tutors for classes and their generosity to students with their knowledge and time during 2014 and the very helpful hostesses. We also thank the students who participated. We try hard to find the right tutor/classes for you and your support is vital.

Gay MacLeman  
Workshop Convenor

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