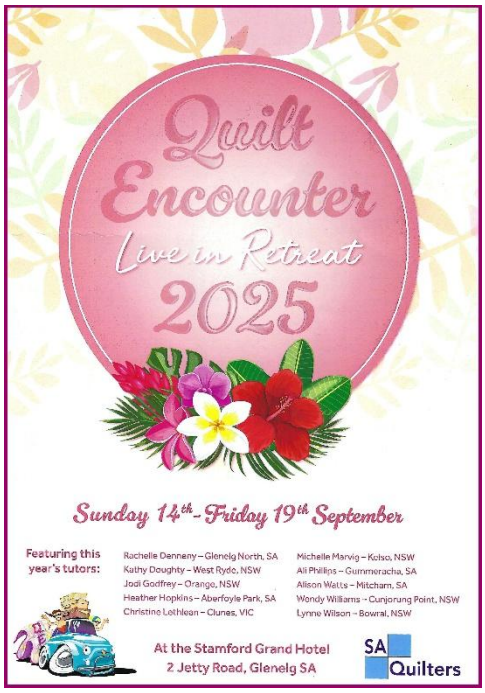
QUILT ENCOUNTER 2025



The 33rd Annual Quilt Encounter has wrapped up with very happy responses from our attendees this year. A reflection of all the work put in by the QE team, our shops and the great line-up of tutors this year. This was our 6th year at the Stamford Grand with 164 participants, and 34 first timers coming from around Australia. The Stamford Grand staff continue to welcome us back and genuinely look forward to our event each year despite all the cotton threads on the carpets.

This year we had two new local tutors teaching at Quilt Encounter for the first time, presenting new workshop options for our participants as well as eight fabulous tutors who have taught at QE previously. Wendy Williams (NSW) joined us with her fabulous embroidery and felted wool work. Wendy's Ollies fish cushion class an instant favourite able to be improv or pieced and a cushion or a quilt. Kathy Doughty (NSW) returned again this year, her Soul-Searching class in high demand as it took students out of their comfort zone to consider colour, tone, scale and texture. Lynne Wilson taught a great fat quarter stash buster quilt and how to make a By Annie Duffel bag. Christine Lethlean (Vic) returned to teach two Textile Art classes, one hand project and one machine project. These are stunning artworks and one lucky QE participant went home with one of Christine's pieces she had donated to our major prize draw. Jodi Godfey taught three English paper piecing projects. Jodi's students were happy but so was Jodi giving a fabulous review on her Instagram page Tales of cloth https://www.instagram.com/talesofcloth/

Michelle Marvig (NSW) taught her new Whirling Pinwheels quilt pattern and templates , and two classes using classic designs Dresden plate and Mariners compass with a twist. Great projects to use up the stash.

SA quilt icon and treasure Rachelle Denneny is always popular at QE teaching her Little Moments quilt. Rachelle's mystery classes is always oversubscribed, this year was no different. Heather Hopkins (SA) two-day class on machine quilting produced some amazing quilting by the participants and they were all really keen to have her back next year. Our first time tutors were two locals. Alli Phillips (SA) experiencing this event for the first time, presented a beautiful, practical sewing journal cover part of her range of practical projects to keep your sewing organised and looking gorgeous . Allison Watts (SA) taught a two-day Sashiko class that was an absolute student favourite. Starting with a single stitch Allison shared her in-depth understanding of Japanese culture and Sashiko.

Sunday night Opening Night was again a highlight, with Glyn Singleton (Managing Director of Bernina Australia) Officially Opening QE 2024. Introduction of our tutors with all their inspiring workshop samples, plus the Show and Tell from previous years' classes is always great to see. The returning tutors were so delighted to see what they had inspired in students work.

We are very grateful to the individuals and businesses who choose to support Quilt Encounter through Sponsorship and of course SA Quilters. There are so many wonderful sponsors who support QE providing so much – from the Goody Bag items to prizes for our Major Prize Draw and you can download a full list of 2025 sponsors from the QE website page

Many of our participants like to share their own creativity by making various things to be included in our Goody Bags – so 180 "things" are made and donated! Always a lovely surprise and everyone appreciates their time and generosity with these "crafty items". For a full list of our sponsors is attached to this page, we value all their support and could not run the event without them.

Bernina Australia have supported this event for the entirety of its 33years and Christina from Melanns continues her valued sponsorship with the provision of Bernina Hire machines for our interstate ladies. This year Bernina increased their sponsorship, and we trialled the Bernina Bar at QE. Bernina set up a mini shop the Bernina Bar at QE supplying all the Bernina accessories you may want, and some demonstration sewing machine. Glynn and Christina were also available to sort any queries participants had with their machines. It was a very popular and successful addition.

Our two shops are also major sponsors with their fabulous, tempting displays and providing the "back up" supplies that we all seem to need! Our sincere thanks Widebacks from in Seaford with Tracey providing amazing support all week and to Julie Nixon from The Patchy Affair in Cunningham Yorke Peninsula to the event. With Julies permission we have included her email bellow.

> *Hello, I just wanted to also say a huge thank you to you and all the quilt encounter team for firstly inviting me to be this year's shop. It was an amazing experience, totally beyond my expectations & was extremely beneficial on all levels. I had a great time meeting the committee members, tutors, participants & putting my face out there for all to know who & where I am on the Yorke Peninsula. I am very grateful for the opportunity to have been there at this year's Quilt Encounter & will happily continue my ongoing support for this well organised annual event.*
>
> *Many thanks again x*
> *Julie*
> *The Patchy Affair*


Ros Wyatt

Dinner Night with this year's Tropicana theme making for a very bright event. This is also the evening that we conduct the Major Prize Draw – always some delighted recipients of the many, wonderful donations that are received. All the sponsors for Quilt Encounter are acknowledged and thanked for their generosity at our dinner. We also celebrated this year's Lessa Siegele Scholarship winner Rosslyn Wyatt.

Each year the Quilt Encounter Committee team make a raffle quilt (in applicable colours to our theme) and we choose a country charity group for the proceeds of our fundraising. This year the money we have raised will be going to the Uniting Country Domestic and Family Violence Service. Funds will be used to provide a safe and comforting space to support women and children in crisis housing. The winner of our bright tropical inspired quilt was Di Krause from Proserpine who tells us she loves the quilt and it matches beautifully with her house! The Stamford Grand Hotel also support us with this fundraising too by providing a High Tea for Six, raffled during the week of QE. A beautiful "Hexies quilt" created by many of our ladies from little packs donated by Kornacraft from last year's Goody Bags and beautifully put together by Sonia Holton was also raffled. It also went to gone to a very delighted winner. A final figure for the Uniting Country Domestic and Family Violence Service will be announced once our figures are finalised.

Our finale evening event on the Friday Night was a "Chat on the Couch" with Wendy Williams and Kathy Doughty – and what a fun, entertaining and insightful night it was! Sonia Holton and Jane Polden from our Committee were the guest interviewers with plenty of interesting questions for our international quilting icons. This was followed by a delicious supper and plenty of chit chat amongst us all.

The wonderful staff at the Stamford Grand Hotel are always incredibly supportive of our event. Kirsten from the Events Management team provide the guidance in the months leading up to QE, through the planning and prepping stages. Then each and every one of the staff at Glenelg – from the kitchen and catering, hotel check-in, Concierge, events team and the capable crew on the Conference floor, moving furniture, setting tables etc are reliably on hand to assist us at every step. We are all so appreciative of the work they do at the Stamford Grand Hotel in Glenelg.

Finally, huge thanks to the Quilt Encounter Team for all the volunteer hours that they have contributed to the success of this year's event. This year we bid farewell a two of our committee Ros Holmes and Margaret Sampson. Ros has worked with Sonia to make sure our classrooms are running smoothly and make sure all the irons are turned off after late night sewing. Margaret has been maintaining and tweaking our database that lets runs QE as well as managing the finances. They will both be missed. Adding to our team are Robyn McDonald and Ellie Sargent. We also owe a massive thankyou to the SA Quilters accountant Keith Holland and Jan Goulter the SA Quilters assistant Treasurer who are always available and assisting us with support and advice. Thanks also to SA Quilters Leadership Team for their ongoing support to make sure this event continues to grow and maintain the fabulous reputation that it holds within the Australian Quilting Community.

The Quilt Encounter Team

