



**QUILTERS' GUILD OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA INC.
[SA QUILTERS]**

**ANNUAL REPORTS 2023
to be tabled at the**

**2024
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

**To be held Thursday 2nd May 2024 at 8pm
at the
Burnside Community Centre
Portrush Road, Tusmore SA 5066**

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Heather Ford

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SA Quilters– Leadership Team 2023/2024

President	Heather Ford
Vice President/Guest Speakers	Cindy Massey
Vice President/Scholarships and Grants	Julie Symons
Secretary/Public Officer/Asset Manager	Gaylene Morgan
Honorary Treasurer	Keith Holland FCPA
Banker/Assistant Treasurer/Post	Jan Goulter
Insurance/Welcome Desk	Margaret Hurrell
Events	June Yam-Stead
Workshops	Rosslyn Wyatt
Librarian	Michael Barton
Library Assistant	Jackie Harris
Meetings/Attendance Registrar/Shops	Peggy Argent
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	Kate Seinor
Supper Roster	Carolyn Thurtell
Website/Social Media	Kathleen Rossini
Frame Hire Bookings	Angela Yeates
Modern Mix Quilters	Monique Reed
Sew it's Wednesday	Cindy Massey
Unplugged Stitchers	Jackie Harris
Saturday Stars	Therese May

Convenors

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 2023 President's Annual Report for the Quilters' Guild of SA, also known as SA Quilters.

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

Following a year of updates and change in 2022 this continued in 2023 with a new logo unveiled at the February meeting. Having registered the business name "SA Quilters" in 2022 we have gradually transitioned to using the new name on all our documents and in our daily running of the organisation. As stated before, our constitution and bank account name remain the same.

Attendance at monthly **SAQ meetings** has picked up gradually over 2023 but numbers are still well below pre-covid times. Day meetings were held in February and May but with continued low attendance subsequent day meetings were cancelled.

I offer sincere thanks to the **Meetings Team** made up of Peg Argent (Team Leader), Jill Christian, Heather Ford, Jan Goulter, Jackie Harris, Shez Hobbs, Wendy Hunt, Margaret Hurrell, Denise Johnston, Gaylene Morgan, Cindy Massey and Julie Symons who met on a regular basis to make 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.

The **Events Team** led by June Yam and including Peg Argent, Jill Christian, Heather Ford, Jan Goulter, Wendy Hunt, Jan Huckel, Margaret Hurrell, Denise Johnston, Gaylene

Morgan, Cindy Massey, Julie Symons, Kathleen Rossini and Ros Wyatt all shared the load during 2023. The **Biggest Morning Tea** was a resounding success in May with \$17,000-00 donated to The Cancer Council. A very successful **Trunk Show** with Jemima Flendt was held in September following Quilt Encounter. **Country Forum** in October was a wonderful day of sharing, friendship and good times. The Events Team has also started planning special events for 2024, our 40th Birthday year.

Thanks to Rosslyn Wyatt the **Workshops** convenor and team members Peggy Argent, Heather Ford and Wendy Hunt who oversaw a busy and successful workshop programme for the year. Workshops were well attended and were presented by Chris O'Brien, Heather Ford, Suzanne Gummow, Bronwyn Cant, Sue Knuckey, Rachael Daisy, Judy Coates Perez, Wendy Hunt and Jill Radcliffe. Thank you to those members who supported these workshops and the tutors for teaching.

The **Communications Team** of Kathleen Rossini (Team Leader), Cindy Massey, Chris O'Brien, Jane Polden, Ally Baum, Rhoda Ryan and in December 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.

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.

Facebook 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 community, including our member shops and groups. Reactions have been recorded from all over the world.

The SAQ **YouTube** Channel holds an amazing array of videos, they include sewing room visits, interviews and tutorials. Cindy and Jane have developed a high profile not only locally but nationally with their sewing room visits.

The new **SA Quilters web site** was launched at the AGM May 2023 meeting and has a bright modern look and is easy to navigate. Thank you to Kathleen Rossini for her hours of work in

establishing the new website and her continued maintenance of the site. The website is a mine of information.

The SAQ **Finance Sub-Committee** 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**. They were unable to attend Festival of Quilts in 2023 due to other commitments. In November Michael Barton, Margaret Hurrell, Julie Symons and Rosslyn Wyatt were able to represent SA Quilters at the 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, again made contact twice, in February and November via Zoom. SAQ was represented by Heather Ford, Gaylene Morgan, Ann Ewer, Cindy Massey and Ros Wyatt.

Many topics were discussed and this continues to be a valuable method of sharing information from state to state.

Scholarships and Country Grants were announced at the AGM in May 2023. Grants were awarded to Burra Quilters (workshop), McLaren Vale Quilters (exhibition), Pt Elliott Patchworkers (exhibition and BMT), Renmark Evening Star Quilters (workshop), Sew Whats (Quilts of Valour Project). Carolyn Thurtell was awarded a scholarship to attend a workshop.

At the December meeting it was announced that the fee to attend monthly meetings would increase, for the first time in 15 years, from \$3-00 to \$5-00. This increase in fees along with funds from general revenue have been allocated to establish a **City Grants** programme to start in 2024. The same criteria will apply as the Country Grants programme.

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.

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 "Mad Hatters Tea Party".

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 worked tirelessly and consisted of Ann Ewer (Team Leader), Dionne Gardner-Stephen (retired early), Jan Goulter, Margaret Hurrell, Jennifer Kempson, Wendy Hunt, Jill Iveson, Carmel Loughry, Christa Mano, Chris O'Brien, Anne Marie Serrano, Ann Shuttleworth

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 Kerry Brand (Team Leader), Joyce Chapman, Ros Holmes, Sonia Holton, Bev McBride, Cindy Massey, Jane Polden, Margaret Sampson and Julie Sutton who spend months each year juggling workshops, tutors, participants, travel arrangements and more, while planning and organising this amazing event.

Dare to Differ was not held in 2023 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.

Rural Roundup was not held in 2023 as this is an alternate year event and will be held in 2024 in Barmera.

Modern Mix, the SA Quilters Modern Quilt Group continued to meet to share modern quilting ideas, techniques, inspiration and challenges. Team leader Monique Reed with a steering group of Ann Retallick, Cindy Massey, Chris O'Brien, Lara Motto, Lesley Miller, Jill Radcliffe and Pip Porter organised activities and guest speakers during the year. 2023 saw

a change of venue to the Cumberland Park Community Centre. A glance at the group Facebook page shows the enthusiasm of all those who attend this group. Thank you to Monique and her team for inspiring this SAQ group.

2023 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 Stars, 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** met five times in 2023 continuing to offer a service to our members. During that time almost 70 quilts were appraised with a combined replacement value of \$451,227-00.

Many thanks to the Appraisal Team Vicki Hart (Secretary), Patricia Grocock, Nola Pearce, Bronwyn Savage, Judy Simcock, Carolyn Thurtell, Sue Wege, Chris Beauchamp, Kathleen Rossini, Cindy Massey, Wendy Hunt, Gaylene Morgan and Tina Robson. The team is led by Heather Ford.

In 2023 the **Judging Panel** 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 I encourage group exhibition organisers to have their shows judged using the services of our trained and experienced judges.

I would like to thank the panel for 2023 comprised of Jill Christian (Team Leader), Raelene Draheim, Julie Haddrick, Judy Simcock, Emilie Knight and Sue Wege with Tracey Browning, Bronwyn Savage, Heather Ford, Murette Hancox and Carolyn Thurtell in training, for continuing to enhance their skills and offering judging services to our groups.

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.

SA Quilters: Comfort Quilts with Sue Zilm, Kate Seinor and Jan Strachan continue its important work.

Heartfelt thanks to the Team Leaders, the hard working groups and to everyone who helps in any way.

We are very appreciative of the support SA Quilters receives from our major sponsor **Bernina Australia** who in 2023 continued to support Festival of Quilts and Quilt Encounter.

Christina Kasiz from **Melann's Fabrics** at Dernancourt, our newest Bernina dealership, continued in 2023 to support SA Quilters as a major sponsor. Very 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 year.

Last but by no means least, a huge thank you to the wonderful Leadership Team who have supported me **again** during this last year. I could not have fulfilled my role as Team Leader 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 2023 SA Quilters was managed by a **Leadership Team** of 15 elected members. These being Heather Ford (President), Gaylene Morgan (Secretary), Keith Holland (Honorary Treasurer), Cindy Massey (Vice

President), Julie Symons (Vice President), Kathleen Rossini (Membership Secretary), Peggy Argent, Michael Barton, Jan Goulter, Jackie Harris, Shez Hobbs, Margaret Hurrell, Denise Johnston, Rosslyn Wyatt and June Yam-Stead. Representatives from 5 Sub-Committees (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.

Heather Ford
President

Treasurer's Report 2023

President (Heather Ford), Executive Committee, 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 2023.

In the 2023 financial year the **Guild** had a Net Surplus of \$ 10053.62 (an increase of \$ 1256.41 over the 2022 year). The Net Surplus for the **Guild** is a pleasing result given the current economic times.

The Festival of Quilts and Quilt Encounter both had deficits again in 2023. Again in 2023 Modern Mix Group, Sit & Sew and Workshops achieved good surpluses. Overall the various 'activities' of the **Guild** resulted in a Net Surplus for the 2023 year.

Income from Individual & Group Membership Subscriptions were down compared with 2022 while other areas of the **Guild** (Door Income & Insurance Income were up compared with 2022

while the increase in Interest Rates made for a significant increase in Interest Income. Overall the **Guild** is from a finance point of view achieving good results.

As in previous years I would like to acknowledge the ongoing 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 President (Heather Ford) and the Executive Committee members for your continued support. And finally to my wife Pam, son Matthew and our office staff for your continued assistance & support 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 2023 for the acceptance and approval of **Guild members**.

Keith Holland FCPA
Honorary Treasurer
5th February 2024

**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 2023, and the Income Statement for the year ended 31st December 2023, 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 2023 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: 31st March 2024

Sub-Committees Annual Reports 2023

Appraisal Panel

This is the Annual Report from the Appraisal Panel, sub-committee of SA Quilters. The Appraisal Panel meets every second month on the Friday after the Guild Meeting.

The reporting period is the 1st January to 31st December 2023. During this time there were almost 70 quilts appraised for a combined replacement value of \$451,227. We appraised some stunning quilts.

The Panel currently consists of 12 qualified appraisers and 1 coordinator. During 2023 we sadly said farewell to Robyn Ferguson and Maxine Smith after long and distinguished times on the Panel. We sincerely thank them for their efforts and wish them well in their continuing quilting endeavours.

Chris Beauchamp, Cindy Massey, Wendy Hunt, Gaylene Morgan, Tina Robson and Kathleen Rossini completed their training, during the year and Di Heeps hopes to recommence her training next year.

During 2023 a retreat for panel members was held at Mannum. Not only was it a most successful 'get to know you' event, but it was a time of professional development and several quilts were appraised.

Our panel is here for members and non-members as a service to help you understand what valuable articles you are producing. Considering the amount and quality of fabric, together with all of the hours taken to design, choose fabric, then cut, appliqué, piece, iron, etc, etc. results in appraisals of sometimes thousands of dollars needed to replace that quilt, should it be lost or damaged. We hope to assist you in appraising your work in the future.

Vicki Hart

Secretary
Appraisal Panel

Archives

2023/24 was the year when stacks of Guild papers finally left the building. Hoorah!

95% of what I had is now scanned. There are some old slide libraries still to check, but I suspect they are photos that have also been printed and scanned.

The job for 2024/25 will be to organise digital files so they are easy to search (just like a fabric collection...) and to update various databases.

Guild at its 40th year, is a good place to draw a line in the archive. There won't be more information to add to our history, what is known, is known.

It should be a much easier job going forward, to update the archive on an annual basis, especially from the excellent annual report which covers all our activities.

If you have documents that you think should be in the archive, please forward to me.

Candy Walker

Communications Team

The Communications Team comprises seven members – Cindy Massey, Chris O'Brien, Jane Polden, Ally Baum, Rhoda Ryan, Tina Robson and Kathy Rossini. Tina joined the team in December 2023. Cindy and Kathy are also members of the SA Quilters Leadership Team. The Committee is actively supported by the SA Quilters President and other Team Leaders.

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

Kathleen Rossini

I-Patch

I-Patch continues to play an important role in keeping members up to date with all SA Quilters notices, reports, activities, advertising and quilting related events state wide, nationally and internationally. Cindy and Jane have created a positive profile for I-Patch through their "roving reporter" video interviews which invite readers into members' sewing rooms. The production of I-Patch was shared throughout the year by Ally, Rhoda and Kathy.

All issues of I-Patch reside on a secure page on the SA Quilters web site which is not listed on the main menu and not available to the public (it is an unpublished page). An email is sent to more than 900 recipients with a link to the page advising that the latest issue of I-Patch is available for download from the site. These recipients include SA Quilters Members, Affiliated Groups, National and State Guilds and members of Affiliated Groups who opt in to receive I-Patch. Feedback indicates that this new I-Patch delivery arrangement has been positive.

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 member shops.

SA Quilters page has 4,225 followers.

During 2023, according to Facebook Insights, the most active post for the year was a quilting caricature which recorded 3,732 comments and reached 359,904, which is the number of reactions, comments, shares and clicks on the page. That post was on 21 November 2023.

The reach to SA Quilters Facebook page is now international with reactions from Australia, United States, Spain, Brazil, Italy, South Africa, United Kingdom, Taiwan, Canada and Costa Rica.

Instagram

SA Quilters has an Instagram page which was established some years ago but has remained dormant. Tina has agreed to take carriage of the Instagram page and is currently investigating access and opportunities for posting content.

Behind every crafter is a huge pile of craft supplies they're definitely going to use. Someday.....



YouTube

SA Quilters YouTube Channel holds a total of 133 videos and has 681 subscribers. The majority of the videos are recorded by Jane and Cindy for inclusion in I-Patch. The videos are formatted, top and tailed with a photo of the subject and credits. They are then uploaded to YouTube and scheduled for release on the 14th of the month to coincide with the release of I-Patch. Additional spontaneous and opportunistic videos are recorded at workshops, sit and sews and exhibitions. The videos are also backed up to the Cloud. Chris and Kathy have the necessary permissions to upload videos and to moderate the Channel. According to YouTube analytics the channel recorded 42,421 views with 4,419 hours of watch time in 2023. The most watched video in 2023 was the "A visit with Bronwen Sayers" by roving reporters Cindy and Jane.

SA Quilters web site

The new SA Quilters web site was launched at the Annual General Meeting in May 2023.

- <https://www.saquilters.org.au/>. It has a bright new interface with easy to navigate menus. On a computer browser the menu shows in full on the left-hand side with drop-down subordinate pages. On smaller screens (ie phone), it adapts to a linear fashion with the word "menu" at the top which, when tapped, drops the menu down. The web site resides on a WordPress platform using the Betheme.

The web site is progressively updated with advice from the various Team Leaders. The site also holds photos and slideshows from events such as Quilt Encounter, Dare to Differ and Festivals of Quilts. New pages for one-off events are established and removed as required, eg Biggest Morning Tea and Market Day.

The new web site was populated by and is managed by Kathy. Tina has recently agreed to shadow Kathy as backup for the web site.

Kathleen Rossini

Festival of Quilts

DATES: Friday 7 – Sunday 9 July 2023

VENUE: Adelaide Showground

EXHIBITION COMPANY: CraftAlive

THEME: THE MAD HATTER'S TEA PARTY

The entrance and a special display area were set up around this theme, which created a wonderful atmosphere – bright, colourful and inviting. This was also the theme for the Challenge.

Number of Entries: 162 (less 2 withdrawn, 3 display only). This was close to our average, which was very pleasing considering our previous show was held, in conjunction with the Australian Machine Quilting Festival in November 2022, eight months earlier.

Categories:

Applique Amateur (6) and Applique Open (5)

Art – Abstract (3) and Art – Pictorial (14)

Challenge (8)

Junior (4)

Machine Embroidered (3)

Modern Small Amateur (8) and Modern Large Amateur (9)

Modern Open (9)

Other Techniques (5)

Pieced Small Amateur (10) and Pieced Large Amateur (12)

Pieced Small – Professional (10) and Pieced Large – Professional (13)

Pieced 2+ persons (15)

Pieced & Applique Amateur (6) and Pieced & Applique Professional (5)

Pieced & Applique 2+ persons (13)

Special Awards:

Best of Show (won by interstate member – Catherine Butterworth)

Best of SA (Wendy Whellum)

Best of Show Runner Up (Jill Radcliffe)

Bernina Amateur Encouragement (Jan Maschmedt)

VIP Award (Margaret Rogers)

3 x Judges' Commendation: Deborah: Jackie Debenham, Jill: Janette Haynes, Emilie: Helen Scholfield

Hand Quilting (Janette Haynes)

Machine Quilting – Stationary (Ann Ewer)

Machine Quilting - Frame Mounted (Chris O'Brien)

Retaining the Tradition (Irene Carrig)

Best Use of Colour (Candice Walker)

First Time Entrant (Patricia Daly)

Convenor's Award (Kay Calder)

Hangers' Choice (Carolyn Mickan)

Viewers' Choice (Ann Ewer)

Awards Presentation: was held at the SA Quilters' Members' Meeting the evening prior to the Festival. Major prizes were presented by the Managing Director of Bernina Australia, Glyn Singleton. Only the ribbons for special awards and Best of Show, Best of State and Runner up were presented. All other ribbons were attached to their quilts on Thursday afternoon.

Exhibition Company – CraftAlive: As we had not had a "Craft" show in Adelaide since 2021, due to it being financially unviable for Kym Jones Exhibitions, we were grateful to CraftAlive for taking a chance on this event in 2023. As a result, it was a financially successful event, not only for CraftAlive, but also the exhibitors. From our point of view, the ambience and quilt display were great and the number of attendees was very good.

Guild members were offered a special discount entry fee and CraftAlive provided everything that we have had to pay in the past, such as walling, electricity supply and logo design. Their new picket fencing provided a great separator between the exhibition booths and the quilt display.

Frame Build – unfortunately it is necessary to build our frames the same day as judging, due to availability of the venue. This causes problems with availability of suitable personnel. This year we sought assistance from Lions volunteers (and gave them a donation), which worked quite well.

Judging – Our interstate judge was Deborah Laurie, with Jill Christian and Emilie Knight making up the team. Local judges were not paid but given a \$50 voucher to spend at any booth at CraftAlive. The interstate judge was provided with a fee, accommodation and travel expenses.

This year we introduced a judge's floor talk on the Friday, which was very popular. Next year local judges will provide these talks on Saturday and Sunday. The guided tours were not as popular as in the past.

Demonstrations: Two concurrent sessions were held each day at 11am to 1pm and 1pm to 3pm, the topics being:

Rulers and Storyboards (Heather Ford)

Paper Piecing – Silk Ties (Kay Hammill)

Scrappy Stars (Cindy Massey)

Wool Felt Embroidery (Jill Christian)

Kawandi Quilting (Jill Radcliffe)

Free Motion Quilting on a Domestic

Machine (Ann Ewer)

Special Exhibits

1. Modern Mix – the Modern group meets regularly and sets challenges, one of which was displayed.
2. Manhole Covers –by Riverlea Quilts Group
3. Japanese Quilts from Riverlea Quilts
4. SAlt (SA Living Textiles) Exhibit

Annual Raffle

Rachelle Denny donated her quilt “Nature’s Paintbox”. The quilt was won by Sharon Jolly and the Bernina sewing machine was won by Wendy Hunt. Proceeds were donated to Catherine House.

Committee Members: Ann Ewer, Convenor, Dione Gardner-Stephen (retired early), Jan Goulter, Margaret Hurrell, Jennifer Kempson, Wendy Hunt, Jill Iveson, Carmel Loughry, Christa Mano, Chris O’Brien, Anne Marie Serrano, Ann Shuttleworth

Ann Ewer

Festival of Quilts Co-ordinator

Dare to Differ

Dare to Differ was not held in 2023 but held over to 2025 to bring it back into line with the odd years as was the case pre-covid disruption. Sue Knuckey has taken over as Team Leader for Dare to Differ.

Events

Country Forum – “Be Inspired”

On 28 October 23, 160 ladies came ‘up’ to Adelaide, ‘over’ to Adelaide and ‘down’ to Adelaide for a special event known as Country Forum, some of them arriving as early as 8.30am from their distant locations. Participants came from as far as Bordertown, Cleve, Pt Pirie, Yankalilla and the Riverland. Good job we had the kettle on ready and waiting for them to enjoy a lovely morning tea upon their arrival!

It was a fun day, even though the venue was a bit squishy! It was great to have so many ‘Show and Tell’ quilts – that is real inspiration, to see what others are making, and to have a couple of shops right there to help you get started! Thank you to everyone who brought something to share.

Throughout the day we had five guest ‘Show and Tells’. Zara Zannettino, who talked about Art Quilts,

Sue Knuckey talked and showed us her traditional quilts, Bronwyn Cant showed us her story quilts, Kay Calder showed us and talked about her machine quilting and in the afternoon, Jeanne Treleven showed us her modern approach to quilting. Such an inspirational day! How do you make a decision about what you will make next? Often it depends on what’s in your stash to create or to play with! Good job the shops of the day could make sure of some supplies once we all got home again! Thank you very much to those five very talented ladies who came and shared their skills and knowledge with us.

Plenty of people to talk to over the lunch break, plenty of shopping to be done and the four demonstrators: Jill Radcliffe, Carol Sanderson, Jill Radcliffe and Michele Hill... were wonderful close-up learning experiences. Thank you too, to those four ladies for sharing their skills and talents with us.

Many of you took home a lucky draw prize, everyone took home a goodie bag with a divine little inspirational bee to remind you of the day. Caroline Chapman, now of Adelaide but previously of Mt Gambier, won the Bee Quilt raffle draw. Michele Hawthorne won the second prize basket full of goodies and Joyce Chapman won the giant knitted bee. Thank you to our quilting friends who donated such wonderful prizes.

It was fabulous for everyone to meet Heather Ford, President of SAQ, as she chaired the event. During the day she talked about quilt appraisal, how the team work together to give a monetary valuation for replacement, to each quilt which is assessed, and the importance of this process. Heather also talked about how the Judging Panel work and their availability to judge at Country exhibitions.

We are hoping that all the ladies who came had a bee-inspirational and memorable ‘quilty’ day, with ‘quilty’ old and new friends.

Thank you for being part of Country Forum 23.

June Yam

SA Quilters held a **Biggest Morning Tea** on 29 April, 2023

It was an exciting and impressive event from 10am to 3pm in the Vermont Uniting Church Hall, 576 Cross Road, South Plympton. Everyone was invited and everyone came!

In fact, everyone came in droves to enjoy the food, the shopping, the quilts, the demonstrations and to chance their luck in the major raffle and an exciting number of shoebox raffles.

An entry fee of \$5 per person applied and this included morning or afternoon tea served at tables clothed with grandma's table linen and decorated with funky teapots containing roses and gum leaves. We used our best china and finest recipes to create a delicious high tea for each visitor. A bottomless cup of tea/coffee was available all day for those who wanted to hang around and enjoy the day and all it had to offer.

Our quilty members made goods for the trading tables. We made small quilts, market bags, place mats, table runners, lavender bags, and small zippered bags. Our knitters and crocheters, and any other crafters, were asked to make small attractive items which would sell easily and add to our fundraising target. We also had a garden trading table selling seedlings and plants.

Money raised was donated to Cancer Research. We registered SA Quilters on the Biggest Morning Tea web site where we entered a very modest target of \$1,000, however, we hoped to exceed that amount and we did! An amount of \$17,000-00 was donated to the Cancer Council.

Thank you to everyone who helped achieve this magnificent donation for such a worthy cause.

June Yam

Trunk Show

The Trunk Show was held in the ballroom at the Grand Hotel at the end of Quilt Encounter on 23 September 2023. Jemima Flendt from Tied with a Ribbon, was invited to be our very special guest.

Jemima is a modern Quilt and Crochet Pattern Designer, the author of 3 books – 'Weekend Quilting', 'Quilt Big' and 'Quilt it Crochet it', International Teacher and Online Course Educator and Fabric Designer from Perth. She has turned her professional background as Home Economics Teacher into sharing her knowledge of quilting with others with a particular passion for delivering helpful skills and tips so that even a beginner quilter/sewer can feel confident in making.

This Trunk Show was definitely fun and inspirational. She brought a specially curated selection of Quilts, Mini Quilts, Pillows and other designs that showcase her signature style and love for quilting. She told us about her own personal story having grown up around crafts and sewing and being encouraged by her Mum and Nanna and many other influential crafting women in her life. Little did she know that one day, these would become the most treasured of memories and the reason why she is so passionate about teaching and encouraging quilters today.

Jemima specialises in modern, fun designs that pack a punch. We were held in awe just looking at the back of her quilts too. Such fun, and a big message we all took home!

The audience from Quilt Encounter, members and friends of SA Quilting were very much inspired by her fresh and colourful approach. Some were lucky enough to win raffle prizes but those who didn't, made a dash for the well-stocked 'Jemima Flendt Shop' in the foyer. Thanks Jemima for bringing so much stock with you.

It was a special night with Jemima and all our quilty friends immersed in colour, design and inspiration.

June Yam

Insurance

In 2022 there were 10 exhibitions, 1 sit and sew 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 should be covered by the owner.

Questions are often asked about coverage for occasional visitors at group meetings or retreats. Anyone who attends any of the group planned events but is not a member, either of the group or QSA, 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 (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.

Quilters SA 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

Thanks to Chris O'Brien for an interesting and thought provoking presentation / discussion on Pieced Quilts and Retaining Traditional for our Education / Training meeting in March.

The Panel also had meetings during May, September and November and review and discussion of the Judging Panel Handbook began in September and November, and will be continued in January 2024. This year we have had resignations from Sally Mackenzie and Sue Wege.

Thankyou both for your time, input and contribution to the SA Quilters Judging Panel. However, the Judging Panel are pleased to be joined by two new members, Heather Ford and Bronwyn Savage.

2023 Judging experiences as follows:

- March 2023 Inman Quilters judged by Raelene Draheim and Emilie Knight, with Heather Ford and Bronwyn Savage in attendance.
- Sue Wege judged the Angaston and the Tanunda shows.
- July 2023 Festival of Quilts judged by Jill Christian and Emilie Knight with Interstate Judge Deborah Laurie from NSW.
- August 2023 Royal Adelaide Show. Judging the Quilt section was Jill Christian and Pip Porter. Jill also judged the Embellished Wool Felt section.
- August 2023 Territory Quilts Exhibition in Darwin judged by Jill Christian with Emilie

Knight in attendance. Critique sheets were also required for many of the entries.

- September 2023 Quilt NSW judged by Jill Christian with Chris Jurd and Anna Brown, both from NSW. Jill also judged Island Quilts in Tasmania with Suzanne Mac Donald and Jess Dobson from Tasmania.
- October Gum Tree Quilters Exhibition, Bordertown judged by Jill Christian and Heather Ford.

We would like to thank those groups who have asked our assistance in the past, and encourage group exhibition organisers to not only have their shows judged, but consider using the voluntary services of our trained and experienced judges, to avoid problems that can arise from having untrained judges.

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

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

Jill Christian

SA Quilters

Judging Panel Coordinator

Phone: 0421 937 352

Email: saquiltersjudgingpanel@gmail.com

Meetings Team

Attendance Registrar for 2023

We have had 1355 members attend 13 meetings, with only 2 day time meetings.

So, we are slowly increasing our numbers at our meetings.

The year 2022 the total attendance was 1059 with the first three meetings cancelled having only 12 meetings.

The Year 2021, there were 13 meetings with 2 cancelled in the middle of the year giving a total attendance of 1188.

The Meeting Team have had planning meetings most months in a café. With a great team working together our meetings have been running well, so thank you to all on the team.

2023	General Members	Life Members	Leadership Members	Total
Feb 2 nd	79	14	11	130
Feb 15 th Day	28	5	8	50
March 2 nd	80	13	9	111
April 6 th	73	7	19	95
May 4 th	78	15	11	114
May 17 th Day	18	9	8	41
June 1 st	66	9	12	99
July 6 th	98	8	9	145
Aug 3 rd	75	9	12	118
Sept 7 th	78	9	11	108
Oct 5 th	73	8	12	101
Nov 2 nd	92	14	8	125
Dec 7 th	92	11	9	118
			TOTAL	1355

Peg Argent
Meetings Team Leader

Shops Liaison

I don't remember how many years I have been the Shop Liaison person, I have kept records since 2018, so maybe for the past 5 years.

With now only eleven meetings each year and Quilt Encounter having two shops attending, there are more shops that places to fill.

2024 being our 40th anniversary, we have chosen to have the oldest member shop attend our March meeting to celebrate our birthday, that being Lyn Uphill original owner of Riverlea Cottage Quilts for 35 years.

With quite a few new shops now as members, all listed on our webpage, we have a total of 33. Just a few are not able to travel and bring their shop to our meetings on the first Thursday of the month.

However, that leaves us in a dilemma each year to place shops in the month that suits the owner, and not all have a place each year.

In 2023 we had four "New" to SA Quilters shop owners attend our meetings and another one attend Quilt Encounter.

This year, 2024 we will have seven, new to SA Quilters shops, attend meetings.

Planning the year, I always leave December vacant till later in the year just in case one of the shops need to be swapped around, it gives me a little wiggle room.

I email all shops to confirm the month allocated to them and again two months prior to their attending, also advising them to place an advert in I-Patch for their upcoming visit, telephone the owner a week before their visit and again a week later to follow up.

Also, when talking to the shop owner I suggest that they are eligible to place adds in I-Patch four times a year at no cost or more with a cost involved to them. I try to keep in close contact with all shops.

After planning the calendar for the year, I email all the shops that won't be given a place this year just to keep them informed.

It is my pleasure to be the Shop Liaison person for SA Quilters for another year.

Peg Argent

Merchandise

The main Merchandise item for sale now are the blue quilt bags with stock being replenished in 2023. A supply of calico quilt bags with the previous Guild logo are still available. Sales of bottled water remain fairly steady at meetings.

Shez Hobbs

Raffles

Raffles continue to be popular with tickets selling out at most meetings. Quilting has also felt cost of living price increases and the challenge continues to provide prizes of interest and value for SA Quilters Members.

The number of Fat Quarters donated to this raffle has seen healthy numbers and quarters overflowed the raffle container at more than one meeting in the past year.

Shez Hobbs

Community Quilt Raffle

During the defined period all but two meetings were booked. The booked quilts were successfully raffled. A total of thirteen quilts generated income accordingly.

The forthcoming year looks healthy and many slots have been booked.

Denise Johnston

Community Quilts

Quilts of Love

2023 saw a lifting of most of the Covid restrictions of the previous 3 years and we were able to deliver quilts to various organisations, although requests were still lower than previous years.

Quilts delivered were:

Crib quilts	111
Little Quilts of Love	18
Isolette Covers 30in x 48in	121
Isolette Covers 32" x32"	45
Miscellaneous quilts	49
Indigenous Quilts	62

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
Chicago Quilters
Modern Mix Group
Sew Whats Quilt Group
Vintage Quilters
Millicent Quilters

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

Recipients of the quilts were:

Burnside Maternity Unit
Lyell McEwin Hospital Special Care Nursery
Treasure Boxes
Helen Mayo House
Backpacks for Kids
A.K.W.A.K.
F.M.C. Birthing Unit
Catherine House

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 now 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.

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 storage supply.

Jill Clausen

Coordinator
Quilts of Love

Comfort Quilts

Comfort Quilts had another busy year making and dispersing quilts to those in the community in need. Meeting once a month at the Blackwood Uniting Church the team of Jan Strachan and Sue Zilm was led by Kate Seinor.

Flinders Kids

2023 was another productive year for Flinders Kids. Our active Facebook page was instrumental in promoting specific designs for quilters to focus on in making suitable quilts, particularly our doggie and kitty quilts. We were able to provide 26 beautiful quilts with unique, pieced doggie designs, along with the occasional kitty quilt. They were all very much appreciated.

I must acknowledge the efforts not only of individual quilters who support our program, but of the groups who came on board to make up bundles of quilts. This included one delivery from Kaniva in Victoria. One of our members moved interstate recently and she too has continued to support the program with packages of quilts and quilting fabrics for us to use.

We are confident that we would have put a smile on many children's faces with the range of absolutely delightful quilts. Again, the emphasis was on providing bright, cheerful quilts for youngsters experiencing a range of chronic health issues. The staff of the children's ward continue to acknowledge the difference these quilts make to these youngsters.

In total I was able to deliver 328 quilts throughout the year – a huge increase on our total from last year. As the team convenor, a huge thank you goes to all who contributed in 2023.

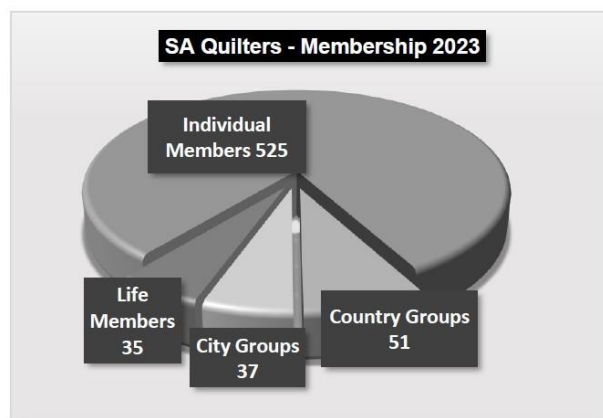
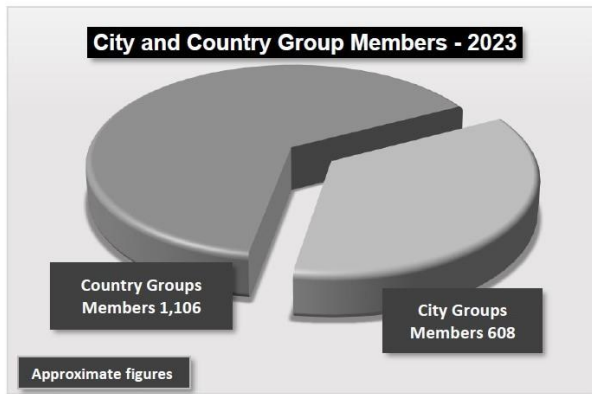
Chris O'Brien

Membership

After the impact of Covid, membership numbers experienced a healthy recovery during the course of the year.

Some statistics as at 31 December 2023:

- Individual financial members 525, including 35 Life Members.
- 72 new members joined in 2023.
- Financial Groups – 88. 37 City Groups and 51 Country Groups.
- Those groups have a total membership of approximately 1,780.
- Three groups elected to not renew in 2023.
- Two new groups joined in 2023.



Kathleen Rossini

Modern Mix

SA Quilters Modern Mix group has continued to strive to provide opportunities for members to share, explore, be inspired, and create in the area of Modern Quilting. The group continues to meet monthly and have Facebook contact between group gatherings. The steering group planned a mix of “freestyling” sessions where members meet to work on their own projects and “structured” sessions where there has been a demonstration, talk or workshop activity. Every session we have the much loved “Show and Tell” where members kindly share their own personal creative triumphs and challenges.

The steering group for 2023 remained unchanged - Pip Porter, Jill Radcliffe, Lesley Miller, Ann Retallick, Lara Motta, Cindy Massey and Monique Reed.

Modern Mix continues to have of 20 – 30 members attend the monthly gatherings. The monthly emails go out to approximately 60 people, and we have 140 plus SA Quilters members following our activities on the Facebook group. In February we moved the monthly gatherings to a new venue for 2023 – Cumberland Park Community Centre.

Highlights of this year have included the following:

- Group exhibition of our Mini lettering quilts at the SA Quilters Festival of Quilts
- Positive/Negative workshop session and challenge
- Kawandi, Siddi and Boro workshop session
- “Ask a quilter” Machine and hand quilting techniques session
- Group visit to SA Art Gallery to see the Frida Kahlo exhibition
- Transparency and colour illusion session
- Mystery jigsaw challenge and group Frida Kahlo mini quilt
- Wearable quilting
- Guest speaker Jeanne Treleven
- Member Pip Porter returned as a winning entrant at Quilt Con USA 2023 and shared her experience and photos as a guided talk to members.

Plans for future Modern Mix gatherings.

- National and International guest tutors as an on-line learning session
- Gee’s Bend quilting session
- 2024 Group quilt entry for FOQ
- Group retreat
- The steering group will continue to seek feedback from the group and plan creative and skill building sessions accordingly.

The 2024 Steering group will consist of Jill Radcliffe, Cindy Massey, Ann Retallick, Michael Barton, Sue Knuckey and Lesley Miller.

Monique Reed

Quilt Encounter

The 31st annual Quilt Encounter was again held at the Stamford Grand Hotel in Glenelg from the 10th to the 15th September. This is such a great location for our annual retreat with the spaces in the

Conference area, the accommodation, accessibility to the Jetty Rd precinct and so close to the beach and jetty for our daily walks! Plus, the fabulous staff at the Grand are always available to help us out every step of the way!

This year we had about 160 people in total – including participants, tutors and committee. The interstate contingent made up 42% of our participants and we had 32 “first-timers” to this nationally renowned quilting retreat.

Our tutors play such an important role for successful Quilt Encounters: our line-up this year was fabulous and we were able to present the program as listed in our brochure.

We were delighted to welcome Irene Blanck (VIC), Jill Christian (SA), Judy Coates-Perez (USA), Rachael Daisy (VIC), Rachelle Denneny (SA), Jacky Eyre (SA), Jemima Flendt (WA), Pam Holland (SA), Christina Kazis and assistant Bernadette Spears (SA), Deborah Louie (NSW) and Mandy Murray (QLD). Their workshops provided a great mixture of various genres of quilting and were all very successful: we’ll be looking forward to some amazing “show & tell” at Quilt Encounter again next year!

The shops that joined us for our 31st Anniversary year both provided beautiful displays with plenty of choice for participants to purchase for their classes or to add to their “stash”! Huge thanks to Barb (and assistant Pat) from Jack ‘N’ Jayde’s (Rostrevor) and Carol & Liz from Strath Sewing & Quilting (Strathalbyn) – we hope you ladies enjoyed your time at the Grand too and know that your sponsorship and support is an integral part of QE and was greatly appreciated by everyone attending.

Christina from Melann’s once again was able to provide the Bernina hire machines for the interstate participants who are unable to bring their own. This support is also a big part of successful Quilt Encounters – especially appreciated by our interstate ladies.

Bernina Australia are also major sponsors of Quilt Encounter and have been an important part of our event for the entire 31 years. This year we had the pleasure of hosting Glyn Singleton, Managing Director of Bernina Australia, from Sydney at the Grand Hotel. Glyn joined us for our event dinner on Wednesday evening, where we enjoyed a delicious meal in the Grand Promenade Restaurant. Our Major Prizes and the Raffle quilt draw also take place at this time. Glyn also spent some time visiting classes and catching up with

our tutors too. It was great that he was able to be in Adelaide at this time, to attend and see how this renowned Australian retreat “works”! Sincere thanks to Bernina Australia - they have been very loyal supporters of Quilt Encounter!

There are so many generous sponsors - they were all identified and thanked too for their continued support as many delighted ladies were the recipients of these prizes. Every participant receives an event “Goody Bag” and once again these were filled with various goods and discount vouchers etc. – always a nice surprise to see what is contained within this lovely bag! 😊 Quilt Encounter is known and appreciated by us all for the amazing sponsorship and support provided each year.

This year our charity fundraising was focused on the Riverland regions of South Australia – after some difficult times for so many businesses, families and properties due to the flooding of the River Murray in the past 12 months. Ski for Life is an organisation that runs a water-skiing event annually from Murray Bridge to Renmark to support Mental Health in these regions. They also work closely with a suicide support group in these areas too – local volunteers working in their local communities providing a valuable service in times of need. The Grand Hotel provide support to our fundraising efforts as well by providing a “High Tea for 6”, which we raffle to add to our Raffle Quilt proceeds. Figures are nearly finalized and we expect to have about \$1400.00 to donate to this great South Aussie organization.

Cindy and Jane introduced a new game at morning and afternoon tea time with “Ring Toss” – we had reindeer “horns” for anyone who was brave enough to wear them! The challenge was then to toss the plastic rings onto the horns – some were successful and scored a few nice little prizes along the way. The photos tell the story – and the fun!!

Kirsten, our Conference Organiser, at the Stamford Grand, provided great support as we worked through the planning again this year. We tried a different plan for the lunch with a “buffet style” menu and this worked well – we have received lots of positive feedback and with a little more “fine-tuning” this should work well for the future too. Huge thanks to Kirsten and all the amazing staff at the Stamford Grand Hotel – they do an enormous amount to ensure that Quilt Encounter runs smoothly – all very professional and attentive to our needs. It was again this year a “live-in” event and works very well in this way – having day participants creates considerable additional work

for this volunteer committee. It is a very special time for the comradery and fun that we all share and enjoy –from the late-night sewing times, coffee/tea and food, plus learning some new techniques from great tutors and enjoying the wonderful location of the Stamford Grand Hotel in Glenelg.

We look forward to seeing lots of you return for the fun again in 2024 – the dates will be the 15th to the 20th September.

Kerryn Brand Quilt Encounter Convenor

Sit and Sew

Sew its Wednesday

Sew it's Wednesday has gone from strength to strength in 2023, welcoming nearly 80 women over the last 12 months, (not all on one day, thankfully). We maintain a core group of regulars, around 27, and our busiest day for 2023 saw 43 women busy sewing laughing and sharing their craft.

We have met many new faces and welcomed 12 new members to SA Quilters and have shared quilting, knitting, crochet patterns, recipes, laughter and tears. Sew its Wednesday has acted as a drop off point for Festival of Quilts, and all of Comfort quilt groups and quilters. To our many helpers who arrive a little bit early and stay a little bit late to help in the setting up and packing up, our photographer Kathleen Rossini, and to our amazing First Man of Quilting Mr Brenton Ford for his ongoing help, thank you very much.

It is an honour to be able to present Sew its Wednesday on a fortnightly basis to members, affiliated members and those who didn't know they needed to be members yet, and we can't wait to see you there on the 2nd and 4th Wednesday of the month - details on the website.

Jane Polden and Cindy Massey

Unplugged Stitchers

Come and join the group of dedicated hand stitchers on the 1st Wednesday of the month in the Glandore Room at Vermont Uniting Church. Corner of New Street and Cross Road, South Plympton

Cost is \$10 for SA Quilter members, \$15 for affiliated groups and \$20 for others.

Whilst most people work on hand piecing and quilting, knitting, crochet and embroidery all make an appearance. We are a small, chatty (not Catty!), encouraging group who greatly admire each other's work and share our knowledge freely. There is a tremendous amount of talent and skill in this group

Off street parking is available in the church carpark. Tea and coffee are provided and somebody usually brings something yummy for morning tea. Please feel free to contribute! Bring your own lunch but the local service station has a wonderful range of food and is within walking distance. 10am till 3pm. More information ring Jackie 0400 281 719

Jackie Harris

Saturday Starz

Well it is fair to say that we are firmly included in the galaxy of SA Quilters

Toward the end of 2022 I asked the question why there wasn't a sit n sew on a weekend for those who are unable to attend the weekday activities of SA quilters? The answer was quite simply - there was no one to run it. I thought fair enough - so of course my hand shot up - I can manage it. Still working fulltime and managing the house and gardens, unless I have a sewing day to get to I tend to miss out on sewing time, so I thought why not run the sewing day and then more time for me.

Once we were given to the big tick and with a key to the kingdom we were set.

We got off to a slow start and for the first couple of months we had a few quilters come along and join in while we didn't cover the costs, we had lots of space to spread out, we had table to lay out designs, cutting tables and a whole table each. From about mid 2023 we started to get 10 attendees on average, which meant we were paying the rent and every month or so we made a profit.

We had a couple of months where there were some clashes with workshops, but of course that was no problem and we all just made do with what space we had. We even shared the hall with a baby shower and a workshop on the same day and I can now tell you how to fit quilters in corridors and corners at Vermont.

Christmas 2023 saw us with a very full house and after adding extra tables to fit everyone in we all

enjoyed a lovely (bring your own) Christmas lunch along with Christmas themed show and tells.

We have welcomed new members to SAQ who haven't sewed or quilted for a while and we have even had some new to sewing and quilting that have joined SAQ and are still coming along.

I personally have enjoyed sharing my sewing Saturday with everyone who comes along and it has been absolute pleasure in managing the Saturday Starz. Thank you to all those regulars attending and welcoming new folk and all playing nice together and for making the Saturday Starz a success – without members attending it would not function. Long may it continue.

Therese May

Workshops

2023 saw us fully moving on from Covid (at last) - Restrictions for a few years unfortunately hampered our ability to provide as many workshop opportunities for members as we would have liked to. 2023 however was a new year and Workshops started up again in full force.

Our Tutors were all incredible and workshops were well attended and the participants 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 lucky to have a team of amazing “Angels” volunteering their time - at the various Workshops providing everyone with lots of yummy food and endless cups of tea and coffee while everyone is hard at work with their projects.

The fee for workshops during 2023 was maintained to be able keep this service to members as affordable as possible whilst still covering costs.

2023 gave us a full year of workshops with lots of wonderful Tutors sharing their incredible knowledge, tips, skills, and expertise.

February 2023 – Chris O’Brien – All over Quilting ideas for Charity Quilts (8 Students)

March 2023 – Heather Ford – Ruler Bag (9 Students)

March 2023 – Chris O’Brien – Free Motion Quilting for Beginners (16 students)

May 2023 (2 days) – Suzanne Gummow – Flowers Always (11 Students)

June 2023 – Chris O’Brien - Free Motion Quilting – Intermediate (14 Students)

August 2023 (2 days) – Bronwyn Cant – Improv - How I tell a Story within a Quilt (11 Students)

September 2023 (2 days) – Sue Knuckey – Beginners Sampler Quilt (15 Students)

September 2023 – Rachael Daisy – Grow Free Wildflowers (15 Students)

September 2023 (2 days) – Judy Coates Perez – Slow Stitching (13 Students)

October 2023 – Wendy Hunt – Needle Turn (17 Students)

November 2023 – Jill Radcliffe – Kawandi (17 students)

What an incredible year 2023 was all classes were 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.

We were also lucky enough after Quilt Encounter to have two incredible tutors who do not reside in South Australia

- We had a teacher from interstate – Rachael Daisy – this was a brilliant workshop and everyone was extremely happy with what they learnt.
- The other teacher was from USA - Judy Coates Perez – slow stitching - another brilliant workshop which everyone enjoyed.

We had students signing up as Members of the Guild to do some of the Workshops we also had two Juniors become members of the Guild to do our Beginners Sampler Quilt so good to see new members and Juniors coming to our workshops.

Overall 2023 was a very successful year for Workshops.

Workshop Team – Rosslyn Wyatt, Heather Ford, Peggy Argent and Wendy Hunt