

Newsletter of the Tasmanian Quilting Guild Inc.

PO Box 181, North Hobart,

Tasmania 7002

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# ISLAND THREADS







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*The President and Committee of Management wish you  
a very Merry Christmas and a happy, safe New Year.*

# The President's Message

Hello everyone,

Welcome to the new incarnation of Island Threads. An enormous "Thank You" to Michelle, our Editor, who has been working hard on bringing this to life. We hope you enjoy it.

Since the last Island Threads in May we have had two meetings, June and September, and Island Quilts 2022 so life has been busy.

The theme for our June meeting was Friendship which meant bring a friend as well as a Friendship quilt for Show & Tell!

September was our general meeting and AGM and, along with changes on the Committee of Management, meant discussion on the future and direction of the Guild. The Annual Report was circulated to members before the meeting and there was an addendum at the meeting – both of these documents are available as part of the AGM and general meeting minutes in the Members Only section of the Guild website. Our thanks (along with a gift and card) went to Danelle Griffin, Disa Cragg-Ohlsson, Leonie Champ, Leesa Greenacre and Tina Thain who all stood down from the Committee. Danelle was making her second attempt to escape the Treasurer's position and this time we have a willing volunteer to take over – many thanks to Pam Johnson!

So, welcome to our new Committee members – Pam Johnson (Treasurer), Kay Bailey (Northern Rep), Johanna Williamson (Southern Rep) and Faye Harding (who has taken on the position of Trader Liaison having been Southern Rep). We are looking forward to having you on board!

And now to the big event – Island Quilts 2022 in partnership with CraftAlive. The Island Quilts committee was smaller than in previous years but Lynne did an amazing job and brought together members work and invited special exhibits. The venue, MAC 02 on the waterfront in Hobart, felt enormous when it was empty but provided us with an excellent space to show off a stunning exhibition. The pictures and write-ups further on in Island Threads tell their own story.

Our sincere thanks go to everyone who provided sponsorship for Island Quilts 2022 and, in particular, to BERNINA Australia and CraftAlive as our major sponsors. And, of course, our thanks go to the members who entered their quilts and all the willing volunteers who gave us their time to help with judging, photography, hanging, taking down, white glove duty ..... And everything else!

I look forward to seeing you all at the Christmas meeting on Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> December.

Happy Quilting!

Pip Scholten

President, TQG Inc.



## Aims of the Tasmanian Quilting Guild Inc.

- To promote the art and craft of Patchwork and Quilting
- To bring quilters together from all parts of the state
- To encourage the establishment of affiliated groups
- To encourage and maintain high standards of workmanship and design in both traditional and contemporary quilting
- To foster interest in the history of patchwork and quilting
  - To organise exhibitions
  - To publish a newsletter
- To arrange for the giving of lectures to members of the Guild on subjects of concern or interest to them

Quilting allows for personal expression and skills development, and can be undertaken for reasons such as relaxation, making a statement, decoration or even to leave a legacy. And research shows that being involved in a creative endeavour in a group setting can increase your wellbeing even more, particularly with regard to social interaction, which has been seriously affected since the onset of the global pandemic. Our wonderful quilting Guild has an eclectic assortment of people who are keen to share their passion for fabric, sewing, colour and design. When you join one of our affiliated groups you'll find a range of knowledge and skill levels among the members, as well as a patchwork of personalities! Our Area Reps have been keeping track of what some of the groups have been up to!

## *News from around our beautiful state...*

### **Lilydale Moderns**

Continue to be an active social group with shared lunches and chat. They will have a farewell lunch for Wilma Ashby on 24 October. Wilma has been a long-term member and is leaving for Western Australia at the beginning of November. A Christmas lunch is also being planned.

### **Tatana**

Is a small but stable group of lovely ladies meet and share stories while each sewing on their own projects. The Tresca Community Centre is a peaceful and relaxed setting for their weekly get togethers.

### **Launceston Patchworkers and Quilters**

The group has a new President from the AGM held on 27 October. Merle Sutton will now lead the group. The next 6 weeks will see the annual President's Challenge and Gert Award, a weekend of quilting at Nindethana near Deviot, and two Christmas lunches with all the traditional activities.

### **Penguin Village Stitchers**

We are celebrating 21 years next year and still have founding members coming regularly. The money we raised at the Friendship Day last year we decided to use for making 100 toiletry bags with toiletry items over the course of a couple of workshops and successfully donated them. With the scrap fabric we help with driver bags and Ukraine donations.

### **Town and Country Patchwork Quilters**

We have had a few thing happening in the last three months. In June a group of us went to Camp Clayton for our annual retreat. Lots of good sewing was done, good food was eaten and lots of laughs was had. We are already planning next years retreat. In July we celebrated our thirty year anniversary with a lovely lunch at a local restaurant. Flowers were presented to our three original founding members. Old photos came out , we had a quiz on our statistics. We've had over 110 members over the years.

Seven quilts have been delivered to Barbara Clark in Burnie to be presented to Ukranian refugees living in Tasmania.

On 6 August, Saturday we had a nine to five day with ten members participating in a crazy patched rose block which was a lot of fun.

### **Wynyard Cottage Patchworkers**

Our annual retreat challenge was to make a bag. We had many and varied. What a good time we had even though we were few. Our Christmas break up meeting is coming soon and the challenge for this is birds.

### **Platypus Patchers**

We continue to meet every week at the Latrobe's Bowls Club. We love having some younger new members and will be happy to welcome more newcomers. Currently everyone works on their own project but we do have some group ideas in the making. We are organizing our end of year function and very much look forward to it.

### **Devon Patchwork & Quilters**

We went on our Retreat to Camp Clayton on the weekend of 18th March 2022. A very enjoyable time was had by all who attended with new projects started and UFO's finished.

Don't forget our meetings each Thursday evening at 7.00pm - 9.00pm at Devonport Paranaple building and our Friendship Day next year on Saturday 25th February 2023.



### Channel Quilters

One of our members showed us how to make paper folded Kusudama Balls using pages from Quilt magazines – see photo. We collected up some quilt tops that were taken to Lismore by one of members to aid in the Lismore Floods. These tops will be sandwiched and quilted by local quilters. Our group will have a Melbourne Cup Day lunch



### Come Quilting

We have welcomed a couple of new members, and celebrated Pam Stewart's 80th birthday with a cake and surprise quilt.

### Break O'Day Stitchers

We had a fantastic Friendship Day in September. One of the highlights was a presentation regarding the Rajah Quilt and Fran Bowden brought her Rajah Revisited quilt for all to see. We had Bag Raffles, show and tell, games and traders, and lots of fun. There was a "Having fun with recycling"

challenge, see photo of the winner as voted by attendees. The proceeds are in support of the RFDS

There has been a display of work in the St Helens Library for the month of September and next up is a display in the St Helens History room of our work which can include work in progress UFOs etc.

We sent quilts to Lismore and the feedback we received was that handmade items were really appreciated and the difference it made.

Some of our members had quilts in the recent Island Quilts exhibition including a Group Quilt made by the members of our Group.



### Aberdell Quilters

Four of our members went to the Quilt Symposium Lower Hutt, Wellington NZ. They had a great time, did some great classes, learnt lots of new things and saw a lot of amazing quilts.



### Beachside Quilters

Our small group are still working on our Farmer's Wife blocks, going at our own pace. We were not allowed to purchase fabric for this challenge and many of us are learning as we go. We would welcome new members. See photo of some of the blocks done so far.

### Scattered Pieces

We had a challenge and were given a FQ piece of 'ugly' fabric that had to be used. Some things members made were a bag, doll, cushion, small quilt – see Kaye's serpent pictured.



Continued →

**Congratulations to the Cottage Quilters Group** for their win at the Bay of Fires Arts Festival. Held each year over the long weekend in June, there is a varied program of entertainment and displays. This year, a Power Pole Wrap Competition was held for the first time. Most wraps were painted but the winner was a quilt made by the 'Cottage Quilters Group', a new group who have only been meeting for a few months. They are a very



*The whole wrap.*

small group - only 6 members so far - and meet every Thursday morning. The group decided to highlight the local wildlife in the wrap and promote the Break O'Day forest area.

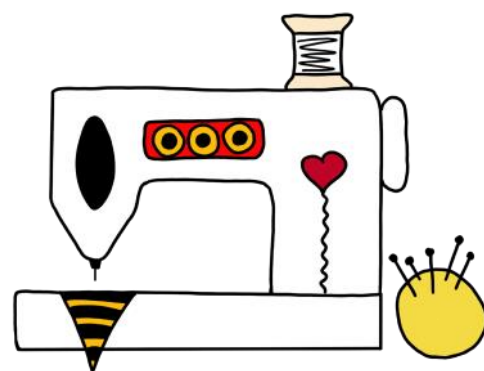


*In situ.*

For more details about groups, please go to <https://tasquiltguild.com.au/groups/>  
For contact details of Area Reps, please go to page 27

# Welcome!

On behalf of the Committee of Management for 2022-2023, I would like to welcome the following new members to the Tasmanian Quilting Guild. You are joining a wonderful group of like minded people who are happy to share their knowledge and friendship with you. Looking forward to seeing you at our meetings!



Margaret Paterson	Pam Eldridge	Leonora Barker	Sharron Shimmel
Jean Rosevear	Deb Wearne	Sheila Hameed	Yvonne Miller
Janice Tindall	Julie Gangell	Irene Koroluk	Maria Chan
Sue Hinds	Mary Herbison	Coralanne Walker	Viv Pettolino
Ross Stewart	Rose Lewis	Robyn Thomas	Sheryl Rainbird
Amanda Baker	Denise Devitt	Michelle de Groot	Johanna Williamson
Lauren Sheppard	Lesley Chintock	Sarah Christopher	Lynette Cherry
Meg Craven	Suzie Jenssen	Margo Barron	Janice Bissett
Thora Bryan	Helen Fleming	Gail Dyson	

*Susan Holdcroft*

Membership Secretary

# Calendar of Events 2023

Date	Event	Location
January		
February		
10 & 11	Rachelle Denny workshop	Perth Community Centre
18	COM meeting	F2F Launceston
March		
18	General Meeting - Island Quilts raffle quilt will be on display	Punchbowl Christian Centre, Launceston
April		
1	Appraisals	<a href="https://tasquiltguild.com.au/appraisals/">https://tasquiltguild.com.au/appraisals/</a>
	Island Quilts - raffle tickets on sale	
30	Island Threads – deadline for article submission	<a href="mailto:newslettereditor@tasquiltguild.com.au">newslettereditor@tasquiltguild.com.au</a>
May		
17 - 21	Poatina Retreat	<a href="https://tasquiltguild.com.au/about/retreats/">https://tasquiltguild.com.au/about/retreats/</a>
25	COM meeting	Zoom
June		
17	General Meeting	Punchbowl Christian Centre, Launceston
17	Island Quilts - call for entries open	
	Island Threads - distributed	
July		
August		
10	COM Meeting	Zoom
14	Island Quilts - entries close	
September		
1	Island Quilts - Judges Announced	
13-16	Island Quilts - delivery of quilts to depots	
16	AGM and General Meeting	Punchbowl Christian Centre, Launceston
16	Island Quilts - return of raffle tickets - Hand over /consolidation of N/NE/NW quilts for transportation to Hobart	
20	Island Quilts - delivery and setup of quilts Judging Day 1	
21	Island Quilts - Judging Day 2	
22	Island Quilts – photography day	
October		
5	Island Quilts - MAC02 Terminal install	
5	Island Quilts – Evening with the Judges	
6	Island Quilts – quilt hanging day	
6 & 8	Island Quilts with Crafts Alive Show	MAC 02, Hobart
8	Island Quilts - MAC02 Terminal Deinstall Consolidation of quilts for dispersal N/NE/NW	
11-13	Island Quilts - collection of quilts from depots	
21	Appraisals	<a href="https://tasquiltguild.com.au/appraisals/">https://tasquiltguild.com.au/appraisals/</a>
31	Island Threads – deadline for article submission	<a href="mailto:newslettereditor@tasquiltguild.com.au">newslettereditor@tasquiltguild.com.au</a>
November		
2	COM Meeting	Zoom
December		
2	General Meeting and Christmas Lunch	TBC
	Island Threads - distributed	

Updates will be sent via our Monthly Enews email.



Every year the TQG holds a gathering for quilters at the pretty village of Poatina in Tasmania. Threads, fabric and fun are the order of the day but for those of you who may be unsure about coming along - especially if you are on your own - Disa is here to tell you all about it!

## *I was a quilt retreat virgin!*

It felt like one of those TQG member experiences that I needed to tick off my bucket list: RETREAT! However, 1) I'd never been on a retreat before; 2) I'm an introvert and retreat sounded like something the same people went to every year (maybe I wouldn't fit in!); and 3) I was still recovering from a broken leg.

Fortunately, these barriers soon dropped away. Not only would I know several of the people going to retreat (half the Committee of Management / Island Quilts Committee), but some of my best quilting friends would be there! My quilt wife Danelle was going, so I'd have someone to share a room with, and my longest quilt friend, Faye, was going and happy to drive!

Having never been on a quilt retreat before, I wasn't certain what to pack. How many projects is appropriate? Would I get though much or would I spend too much time talking? I quickly decided on my big machine instead of my small 'workshop and retreat' machine. (In reality, I always go for my big machine!) As the mother of a young boy who has lots of activities and whose friends are constantly in and out of my house, I have lots of WIPs. (I blame my son, but really I'm the sort of person who will always have a millions WIPs.) I decided to pack a few of those WIPs, plus a jelly roll and some other fabric because...starting projects is lots of fun. I even packed toiletries and some clothes, but let's be honest – not much thought went into that! As meals are taken care of at retreat, didn't need to plan meals. NOT PLAN MEALS. For a mum and the wife of someone who 'cooks' take-away, this was AMAZING!!



*A pile of retreat progress*



*A new WIP is born*

Finally the day arrived! Faye picked me up, and we had a lovely drive to Poatina, chatting and watching the beautiful Tasmanian scenery. The most nerve-wracking part of the retreat for me was walking into the room where some people had already been set up since the day before. I hadn't been to retreat before, so would I find a spot? Would I be welcomed?

I needn't have worried. I soon had a spot, my machine was set up, and my project boxes at my side.

*Continued →*



At some point we checked in at the hotel and put our clothes and such in our room, however that was insignificant in comparison to getting ready to sew! We had arrived in time for lunch, so once we had unpacked we walked the short distance from the hall where we were sewing to the motel where we were staying and where meals were served. As someone recovering from a broken leg, the short distance was about the limit of how far I could walk – but the walk would prove to be an excellent leg-stretch between sewing sessions over the coming days. The meals were plentiful, and they seemed to do a good job of catering to those with dietary restrictions. AND NONE OF US NEEDED TO COOK. WE APPEARED IN THE DINING ROOM AT MEAL TIMES AND WERE FED. This was completely amazing for me! Being released from not just the cooking but also the planning of meals gave me so much more space to sew!



*Busy, busy, busy!*

And sew I did! That first afternoon I put the borders onto two quilts that had sat 'almost finished' in my sewing room for months. I made more progress on some foundation paper piecing. I made progress on my oldest WIP. I started a new project with a jelly roll and white Kona. I was really amazed at how much I was able to get done when I wasn't constantly being interrupted by boys wanting snacks!

Of course I didn't only sew. There was time for chatting, checking out

what others were working on, drinking coffee (and perhaps some gin), getting great ideas for pressing boards and admiring a Very Nice Iron (and realising what a difference it makes compared to my cheap, nasty iron). With breaks for a walk to the dining room for meals, we could sew from the time we woke up until we were ready to go to bed. Some stayed awake quite late to sew! The hall where we were sewing has a kitchen, so we had snacks and beverages (all hail the coffee machine!) whenever we needed a break.

On the afternoon of our last full day there was a show and tell.

Residents of Poatina came to see what we had been working on.

Some people have projects they only work on while on retreat, so they showed off the progress since the year before. Others had different stories to tell with their quilts. The Poatina residents also walked around and checked out what we had in progress at our machines.

The final packing up was rather sad. I'd enjoyed my first ever quilt retreat. I'd strengthened friendships and made new friends. I had enjoyed SO MUCH devoting time to uninterrupted sewing and chatting about sewing and quilts. However I was also exhausted not just from accomplishing so much but because my bed hadn't been terribly comfortable. It was time to head home.

Would I do it again? ABSOLUTELY. Should you consider going on a quilt retreat? ABSOLUTELY. What should you pack? EVERYTHING!



*Danelle's Posh Santa - started AND finished!*

*Words and images by Lisa Cragg-Ohlsson*

The next retreat will be held from **17th to the 21st May 2023**. To secure your place, please complete the form and pay your deposit. The form is available on the website <https://tasquiltguild.com.au/about/retreats/>  
Any enquiries to **Lorraine Hyland 0428422305** or **retreats@tasquiltguild.com.au**  
Covid-19 safety measures will be in practice.



**Congratulations to Pip Scholten for winning the  
Bernina Best of Show Award for her stunning quilt *Meadow Sweet*  
and also for first place in  
Category E - COMBINED PIECED & APPLIQUE – Open**



*Read on for more of the  
Island Quilts  
Awards Gallery 2022*





BERNINA Amateur Encouragement Award for  
the Best Amateur Quilt – Mary Herbison  
*Moody Misty*  
also  
Category N - PICTORIAL QUILT – Open  
First



Retaining the Tradition Award – Johanna Williamson  
*Trail Mix*  
also  
Category A - PIECED – Open  
Highly Commended



Best Use of Colour Award – Brenda Landon  
*Flim Flam*

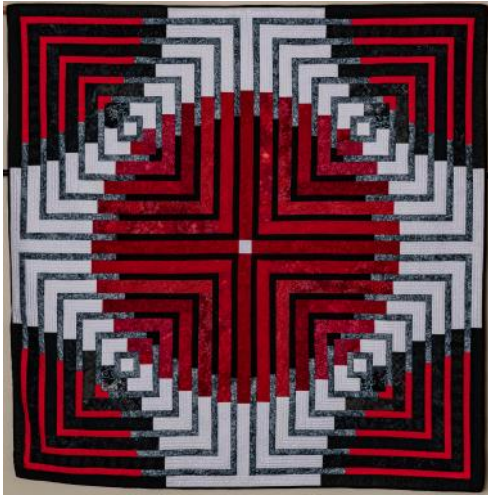


Best Applique (Hand or Machine) - Janine Richardson  
*The Caswell Quilt*  
also  
Best Hand Quilting Award  
and  
Category D - APPLIQUE - Advanced/Professional  
First



Best Machine Quilting Award – Jeanette Leek  
*Let's Dream Big*  
and  
Category H - OTHER TECHNIQUES - Advanced/Professional  
Highly Commended





Best Commercial Quilting Award – Danelle Griffen  
*Antelope Canyon* (Quilt by Wendy Wilson)



Best Use of Mixed Media Award – Sandra Champion  
*Summer Inferno #5*

also

Category Q - ART QUILT - Advanced/Professional  
Second



Category A - PIECED – Open  
First - Michelle Vince  
*Civil War Tribute*



Category A - PIECED – Open  
Second – Helen Wadsley  
*Maze Garden*



Category D - APPLIQUE - Advanced/Professional  
Highly Commended – Kate Berry  
*Indian Tiles*



Category D - APPLIQUE - Advanced/Professional  
Second - Janine Richardson  
*Urns and Flowers with Berries*





Category D - APPLIQUE - Advanced/Professional  
Highly Commended – Lynne Hargreaves  
*The Blackberry Thief*



Category E - COMBINED PIECED & APPLIQUE – Open  
Highly Commended - Helen Wadsley  
*Pomegranate and Star*



Category I - COMMERCIALLY QUILTED – Open  
First – Julie Grassi  
*Solar Flare*



Category I - COMMERCIALLY QUILTED – Open  
Joint Second - Viv Pettolino  
*Quynh*



Category I - COMMERCIALLY QUILTED – Open  
Joint Second - Viv Pettolino  
*Ocean Coral*



Category I - COMMERCIALLY QUILTED – Open  
Highly Commended - Cathryn Stone  
*Carolina Lily*





Category L/M - MODERN QUILT – Open  
Second - Johanna Williamson  
*The Year That Was*



Category L/M - MODERN QUILT – Open  
First – Robyn Thomas  
*Fading Memories*



Category L/M - MODERN QUILT – Open  
Third - Johanna Williamson  
*My Colourful Town*



Category N - PICTORIAL QUILT – Open  
Highly Commended – Lauren Sheppard  
*Willow*



Category N - PICTORIAL QUILT – Open  
Second – Jeanette Leek  
*Welcome*

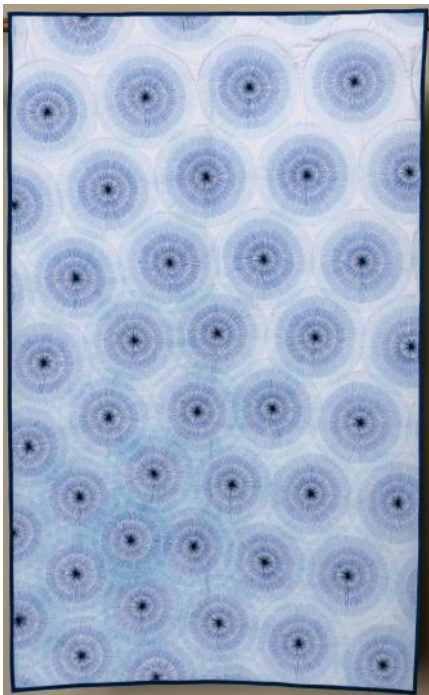




Category Q - ART QUILT - Advanced/Professional  
First - Katherine Jones  
*Lime Leaching*



Category R - TINY QUILT - OPEN  
Highly Commended – Faye Harding  
*Celtic Unravelled*



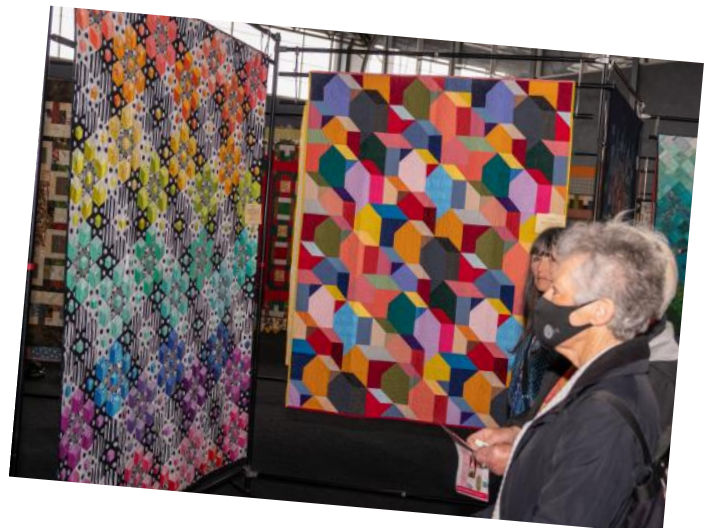
Category H - OTHER TECHNIQUES - Advanced/Professional  
First - Katherine Jones  
*Stung (Bluebottles)*



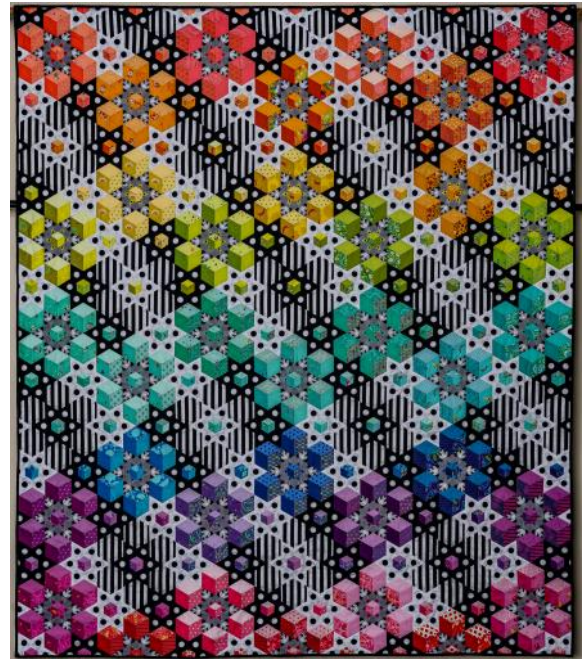
Category Q - ART QUILT - Advanced/Professional  
Third - Irene Koroluk  
*Traversing the Night*



Category R - TINY QUILT - OPEN  
First – Judy Peel  
*Spring is in the Air*







SPECIAL AWARDS - Viewer's Choice Award  
Sarah Christopher  
*Pandemonium*



SPECIAL AWARDS - Judge's Commendation  
Judge: Helen Stubbings  
Awarded to: Helen Wadsley  
*Blue Counterpoint*  
also

Category E - COMBINED PIECED & APPLIQUE – Open  
Highly Commended



SPECIAL AWARDS - Judge's Commendation  
Judge: Jenny Bacon  
Awarded to: Lynne Hargreaves  
*Waverley Best for Rest*  
also

Category Q - ART QUILT - Advanced/Professional  
Highly Commended



SPECIAL AWARDS - Judge's Commendation  
Judge: Barbara Mellor  
Awarded to: Lynne Hargreaves  
*Fog on the Tamar*  
also  
Category Q - ART QUILT - Advanced/  
Professional  
Highly Commended





BERNINA Student Award – Mathilda Scotney  
*Kensington Sunset*  
 also  
 Student Textile Competition  
 Category Z – Secondary



Student Textile Competition  
 Category X – Primary  
 Freya Boost  
*The Devil of Tassie*

## *Participation awards...*



Olivia Robertson  
*The Little Mermaid*



Olive Scott  
*The Cats on Wednesday*



Caroline Senkbeil  
*Delicate Triangles*



Laura Durdin  
*Trot On*



Ella Deane  
*London Memories*



Zoe Ford  
*Couch Potato*



# Judges Report

All three judges enjoyed their experience at Island Quilts this year and would like to thank all the volunteers who so willingly assisted them in their tasks.

There are a few comments we feel may be useful to both Organisers and Entrants, in particular regarding the number of entries. There seemed to be fewer entries this year and this made some smaller categories very hard to judge and selection of our final choices difficult. A smaller exhibition will also be less appealing to the public, with a smaller range of quilts to look at, and fewer examples that may encourage them to take up quilting themselves. It is not necessary for all entries to be difficult to achieve, as simpler types may be more appealing. We would encourage the Committee to reinstate the Category for 1st Quilts as these can be so inspiring for someone looking for what they could achieve. We would also like to encourage members to exhibit whatever their level of expertise, your quilt may be the one that speaks to someone and encourages them to become involved.

Throughout we thought the use of colour was very commendable and was certainly one of the highlights of our time with your quilts!

There are often a few problems with technique and in 2022 we noticed two. Some seam allowances have escaped the pieced line, these will become more of a

problem in the future as they may catch and batting escape from the seam. Bindings are another area that may need attention. All edges should be straight, and corners perfectly square, it will help if corner seams are sewn closed. With any technique it will help to obtain some advice if you are unsure of how to proceed – there may be a class at your local quilt shop, or you may have a friend who can show you. We all need to practice technique!

It is always advisable to read the entry information very carefully. At Island Quilts the Judges cannot move an entry to another category even if they think it should be so. Usually, a quilt should have 3 layers, but often 2 will suffice for Art and Pictorial Quilts – you need to check the directions for any exhibition you might enter.

Lastly, we had a comment regarding your statement about your quilt. We would like to know what it was made from (the materials used in construction) and how you made it (the techniques/methods involved); if possible we like to know why you made it or what you may have been thinking about when you designed your creation.

Thank you again for inviting us, it was a pleasure to work with Island Quilts.

Jenny Bacon, Barbara Mellor, Helen Stubbins



**Jenny** makes all kinds of quilts, both Traditional and Art, and has been enjoying this since the 1970's when she took a patchwork class with the Embroiderers' Guild - they made a silk pincushion! She is influenced by her long-term membership of a quilt study group and now creates contemporary quilts made with the design sensibilities and priorities of the 19th century quilt maker but with the supplies and technology of the 21st century. She also makes art quilts using traditional techniques and processes in non-traditional ways. She has had a number of solo exhibitions and shown work in group shows nationally and internationally and works as a curator and judge.

**Barbara** specializes in art quilts, her work is often pictorial and she likes to research how to achieve effects using different media, usually applying paint onto fabrics. Her other love is for Japanese fabrics and styling and she often use silk in her work. An award-winning artist, she has work in State and national collections 'Mathinna - between two worlds: abandoned: broken' was a finalist in the 2018 Bay of Fires Art Prize and now resides in the permanent collection of the St Helens History Museum. 'By Wagga Design' is now part of the permanent collection in the National Wool Museum in Geelong.



**Helen** is from Hobart and has been quilting for almost 30 years with an active full-time business in the industry since 2001. She has travelled the world teaching her techniques, exhibiting her own quilts and visiting quilt shows, guilds and exhibitions. Helen has won major awards for her work both in Australia and the USA, both by herself and in collaboration with her sister Tracey Browning, including Best of Show Island Quilts and blue ribbons at Paducah, MQS, MQX and HMQS. She has had quilts published in numerous collaborative books and has also published 5 of her own books and over 400 patterns.



# *Island Quilts 2022 - in review*

Island Quilts 'the exhibition' is undoubtedly the visible face of the Guild and gives us the opportunity to engage with the widest possible audience and showcase the art of quilting in all its forms. The theme for this year - Laughter, Learning and Legacy was planned to highlight to visitors the possible entry points to a quilting journey - social, by just joining a group... or maybe to learn a new skill... or in this world of the readymade and disposable to make something significant by hand to pass on. We also showed that it doesn't have to start at the magnificent. Whilst we celebrated some exquisite competition pieces, we also showcased the functional and fun in displays by Care Quilts and Rachael Daisy Dodd's tea towel vintage constructions. Helen Godden's epic pieced showed that you can paint as well as piece and the variety of 'LPQ's 'Agathas', fascinated visitors both in the idea of the mystery quilt but also in the variations that can be achieved by using the same pattern.

Island Quilts 'the competition' is more an internal conversation engaging the membership with the concept of workmanship and quality, of ideas and technique and challenging us all to be better quilters. It's also the biggest annual draw down of Guild resources in that we commission a panel of judges, pay for venues, accommodation and travel to judge and photograph entries and to present the awards. We also hang exhibits, make certificates, labels and sew rosettes and sponsors, local and national donate cash and in-kind to celebrate what we do.

We had targets for 2022 which tried to balance the event with the awards and overall we finished with a bit of a mixed score card.

*Raise profile of TQG and scope of and quality quilting in Tasmania*

We scored highly on this with TV and radio

exposure and over 2000 impressed visitors attending the exhibition. Hosting the Governor has opened up future networking opportunities and it was suggested that we approach her to be our Patron. Best of all we had lots of new member signups.

## *Increase Membership engagement*

To be honest I feel we bombed in this area. The low number of entries, also commented on by the judges, meant that we had to combine categories which really worked against amateur quilters. There were also fewer volunteers and our target to expand our team, coupled with a COVID outbreak put additional strain on an overstretched team. This is something we need to seriously address for 2023

## *Break-Even Budget*

We tried unsuccessfully on many fronts to raise revenue from grants. Something that was raised with the Governor. Craft Alive absorbed additional marketing costs and also generously paid fees associated with the Helen Godden loan. We are still finalising accounts but the deficit has been greatly reduced by good returns from the Raffle and Pick-a-Prize thanks largely to the hard work of Janelle and Pam and Yvonne.

Lynne Hargreaves  
Exhibition Convenor





# Special Guest Quilts



**Helen Godden** is an international multi award winning Art Quilter. Full time artist since 21 years of age she moved into textiles and became an art quilter in 2004 after a dramatic family event. Helen enjoyed immediate success in her quilting as she took her art into an otherwise traditional arena. Pre Covid, Helen was travelling 1/3 of each year overseas and locally teaching, demonstrating and inspiring at the worlds biggest quilt events including USA, Canada, UK, Dubai, South Africa, New Zealand and Australia.

With COVID Helen's travelling schedule was curtailed. Mid winter 2020, with no travel schedule nor competition deadlines Helen needed a more personal challenge. The design she had drawn in 2018 and planned to create it "one day" was realised during the lockdowns. Armed with plenty of time and creative energy, Helen's 6.5m dream became a reality with the production of '**My Australia**'. This amazing quilt took 4 hours per day over 6 months; 75 hours painting with dyes on a single length of cotton fabric; 110 hours freehand machine quilting like "drawing with a sewing machine"; 17km thread; and approximately 4.25million stitches! [www.helengodden.com](http://www.helengodden.com)



A **Mystery Quilt** is a quilt whose instructions are revealed in a series of clues and the final design is unknown until the final clue is revealed. January 2021, Launceston Patchwork and Quilters decided to have a mystery quilt project for the year. Ellen MacGregor kindly agreed to design it and the first month was handed out in February. Each month people eagerly received their new instructions. We finished up with 72 people signing up and using a variety of colour combinations and adaptations. In November we had a day displaying our finished quilts with 54 on show. The quilt was nicknamed the Agatha quilt and it was such a success we have another project this year. Lauri Ryan, President, LPQ .



**Rachael Daisy Dodd** has become synonymous with bold, colourful, eye popping quilts and it's no wonder after 20 years of being a florist experimenting and mastering colour and form. Whilst honouring the tradition of quilting she continues to find fresh ways and new techniques to interpret conventional designs. Her use of 3D elements such as folded and gathered fabric techniques, yoyo puffs, prairie points create beautifully unique textured work. Her fresh interpretation of the art of quilting has seen her quilts awarded many prizes and have been featured in publications both nationally and internationally.

"It's the first time these **Tea Towel Party** quilts have been displayed together, tapping into a lovely sense of nostalgia and hopefully will make people smile" she said.



The **Tas-Mania** quilt is a tribute to Australia's southern state of Tasmania, with its unique flora and fauna, natural beauty and historic places. Apple motifs pop up here and there in honour of the island's nickname, The Apple Isle. The Prairie Points around the quilt symbolise the water around the island. There are blues for water and even some fabrics with fishes on them. She says "I made this quilt in 2019, to share at a trunk show on my Tassie trip the following year, and when I see it, it reminds me of the wonderful time I had there. Yay for Tasmania! And all the fabulous Tassie quilters!!"

[www.rachael Daisy.com](http://www.rachael Daisy.com)



Continued →





## SKIP TO THE LOO MY DARLING

A long term group of friends, with glasses of wine in hand, got a little exuberant one night when talk turned to ageing bladders, and it was decided that the quilting world would benefit from a true Australian quilt with the depiction of an Aussie Icon ... 'you beaut' Australian Dunny. This quilt showcases the talents and collective fun had by: Pam Holland, Pip Scholten, Maureen Harper, Chris O'Brien, Jenny Loveder, Heather Bolt, Claire Warby, Jan Munzberg, Vera Lloyd (quilter extraordinaire), Di Assheton, Pauline Smedley, Liz Needle, Elvie Richardson, Jane Green, Mary Heard. There is no good excuse for this quilt other than an Australian sense of humour.

## Shirley Gillam

has always been involved with sewing. Her mother was an embroiderer and her father a tailor so it was almost inevitable. She did a four year apprenticeship in tailoring starting at 13 years of age and continued until she married and had her children when she started dressmaking from home. In about 1985 Shirley began drawing and watercolour painting and attended Adult Education classes



in South Hobart with Paul Westbury who became a great friend. In the early 1990s Shirley decided to try her hand at patchwork and quilting. She started out teaching herself but joined a quilting group – Come Quilting – in 1991. The group of 8-10 ladies held a quilt exhibition and subsequently Shirley was invited to teach at Kingston and Adult Education in South Hobart. Along with teaching she also contributed quilts and patterns to magazines such as Quilter's Companion. Quilting became Shirley's absolute passion and she joined the Tasmanian Quilting Guild in 1992. Her first love is appliqué and when you look at her impeccable appliqué and hand quilting stitches you can understand how she won Best of Show at Island Quilts twice!



## Care Quilts

is a group which provides the structure within which quilters come together to work cooperatively on quilts for people who are doing it tough. Time is not an issue: people do whatever they can fit into their regular lives. Neither are materials an issue: donations of fabrics, UFOs and even completed quilt tops arrive out of the blue. Support is received from a local quilting group with the supply of wadding, a local trader generously supplying backing fabrics and a professional long arm quilter who gives her time freely. And where do Care Quilts go? Ronald McDonald, City Mission, Womens' Shelters, Bethlehem House. Before Covid, to a wide range of hospitals and homes as well.

To date, we have made 1,200 Quilts! That's a lot of quilts to a lot of people. Most quilters have limited time and resources and, of course, our nearest and dearest have first call when it comes to quilts. But quilters are, by nature, generous souls.

If you're interested, Care Quilters meet on the 3rd Friday of every month between 10.00 and 2.00 at St John's Church Hall, St John's Avenue, New Town. You'd be most welcome . . . even just to see our Show & Tell, it's always impressive! Andrea 0400 564 987 or Pam 0434 335 518





## Island Quilts Raffle prize winners

Congratulations to Pam Jarman of Burnie who won the 1st prize of this beautiful quilt 'Sunrise Supernova', made and generously donated by Disa Cragg-Ohlsson, Danelle Griffin and Kat Jones

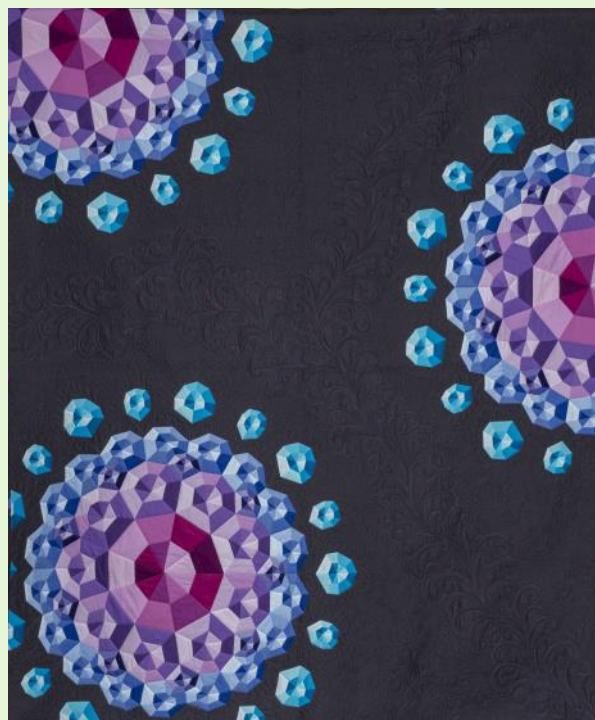
Congratulations also to:

2nd Prize Pennicott Wilderness Tour voucher - Maureen Walters, Ridley

3rd Prize Bridestowe Lavender Farm hamper - Christine Harrison, North Hobart

4th Prize Tasmanian Produce hamper - Leonora Barker, Longford

And the Early Bird Prize winner was Michelle Caldwell, Boomer Bay



**Orange Sky**, Hobart and **Gran's Van**, Devonport are the Tasmanian Quilting Guild's 2022 nominated charities. We hope to raise funds and the awareness of these wonderful services for the homeless through raffling quilts that have been made and donated by members.

Orange Sky Australia is a free mobile laundry service for people experiencing homelessness. 'The Hobart Splasher' van services over 1,500 Tasmanians in 12 locations seven days a week. [orangesky.org.au](http://orangesky.org.au)

Gran's Van Association Inc. was instigated by former Devonport Mayor, Mary Binks who saw a need that no one else was meeting at the time. Since 2006 Gran's Vans have served more than 34000 meals to the poor and homeless of Devonport, as well as distributing donated sleeping bags, blankets, beanies, socks, jumpers and jackets. [info@gransvan.org.au](mailto:info@gransvan.org.au)

**The Tasmanian Quilting Guild gratefully acknowledges the support of  
our wonderful sponsors:**

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Ever wonder why people quilt? Or how they find inspiration? Or what they do with all those quilts they make? Well, to answer some of those questions, this year's *Island Quilts Best of Show* winner, Pip Scholten, was gracious enough to take time out of her busy schedule for an interview.

## Thinking like a quilter...

### How long have you been making quilts?

I've been quilting since the early 1990s when Alan, my husband, came home and told me there was a quilt show at the local community centre. The rest, as they say is history. I went to the quilt show and by the time I came home I had joined the group – Coromandel Valley Quilters.

### Were there special people or circumstances that encouraged you to begin to quilt?

I learnt to sew at boarding school and made clothes for myself and my daughter for many years, so I pretty much started out by teaching myself to quilt. I bought a pattern and fabric and took it along to Coromandel Valley Quilters meetings where there was always someone to give advice if needed. And, of course, I took advantage of any workshop opportunities with people such as Lessa Siegele, Jenny Bowker, Pam Holland, Gina Burgess, Lisa Walton and lots of others. As far as I know there are no immediate family members who quilted (my mother was a knitter) although there is a family connection to the "Rajah" quilt as one of the women on board who is believed to have been involved in the sewing of the "Rajah" quilt is a very distant relative.



*East Meets West - Autumn*

### How many quilts have you made in your life?

I really don't know exactly how many quilts I have made but it would probably be somewhere around 200, possibly more. I always have several projects on the go – usually a hand project for the evenings and machine work for during the day – and lots more on the waiting list!

### When do you normally quilt?

Whenever I have the opportunity – as President of the Guild that time is somewhat curtailed at the moment but as I usually stitch in the evening while the television is on, it is probably almost every day. It really is my sanity saver!

### Why do you quilt?

I've always done craft but have to say that once I started quilting I had really found my passion. While I was working the fact that I could meet up with likeminded people at least one evening a week really was a sanity saver. Now that I am retired it provided the opportunity to meet up with friends regularly and make new ones.

### What kind of quilts do you like to make best?

I'm probably more of a traditional quilter and really enjoy applique.

### How do you decide on the colours and fabrics that go into your quilts?

I love batiks and use them a lot, but I do have a large stash and often a quilt will start with a piece of fabric that has sung to me. Then it is a case of finding the matching fabrics in my stash or going shopping! Packing is always a reality check when you are a quilter – how did so much fabric end up in my possession? Good thing I always do the packing in our house - I was an army brat so it is in my blood and I actually quite enjoy it!

### Do you use established patterns/kits or do you make up your own?

Both, I do use patterns but often that will just be the start for a quilt which will then take on a life of its own. I also design my own but, again, these are influenced by quilts I have seen in books, on line etc.

*Continued →*





### **Have you entered many competitions?**

I only enter my quilts in my Guild exhibition, so in South Australia when I was living there and now Tasmania, not further afield. It is fantastic to win a prize but it is not the reason I enter my quilts – I just love being able to share what I do. I think it's important that people coming to an exhibition are shown quilts done by a wide range of people, from beginner to advanced, and hopefully they are inspired enough to have a go.

### **What inspired/influenced your winning entry 'Meadow Sweet'?**

At the beginning of the pandemic I was in Spain and returned just as Tasmania closed its borders. Of course, I had to do two weeks isolation so I needed a project. Meadow Sweet is an Edyta Sitar pattern called "Common Bride". The pattern had sat in my sewing room for a few years, and I must have attempted an eight-pointed star and then given up as it was in with the pattern, but now I had the time and the stash to get started.

### **What techniques do you use?**

I use machine stitching and hand applique the most and often combined in my quilts.

### **Do you ever have anyone quilt with you?**

Over the years I have belonged to a number of quilting groups – when I was working in SA it was evening groups but when I first came to live in Tasmania Frangipani Fabrics was in Gregory St in Sandy Bay and there was a group that met on Saturday morning. I joined them and we used to sit, sew, drink coffee, and chat with the people coming into the shop (and offer advice!). Currently I am a member of Channel Quilters. Sitting and quilting together, making friends, swapping stories and laughter and providing support are all part of the whole quilting experience.

### **What do you do with the finished quilts?**

Well, I do have a cupboard and a trunk bulging with quilts and there are quilts on beds and a few hanging but usually I give them away, either as a gift or to a good cause. I rarely make a quilt specifically for someone (unless it is a baby quilt) but I do take note of comments when friends and family come to the house and then when there is a special occasion they will receive a quilt they have admired.

### **How do you take care of your quilts?**

Probably not well enough – they are either stacked on the shelving in a wardrobe or in a camphorwood chest that is lined with old sheets before the quilts go in. I do try to take them out and refold at least once a year but ..... I used to have them layered on the spare bed but we decided to get rid of the bed so they are back in the cupboard!



*A Big Blue Boat #2*

### **What would you like to do in the world of quilting that your haven't already done?**

When I retired I bought a long arm quilting machine so that I could quilt my own tops. Prior to that I sent my tops out to be quilted but decided that I would really like to learn how to do it myself. My longarm does not have a computer so everything I do is hand guided and I am still learning but it is a good way to reduce the number of unfinished tops in the cupboard!

*Interviewed by Michelle Murden*



Thinking of having your quilt top professionally quilted? Do your quilter a favour and prepare your top in the best way possible to help achieve a first class finish.

## *Hints For Preparing Your Quilt Top For Longarm Quilting*

By Edith Burgess

When you have finished your quilt top, measure along one edge and then measure through the centre parallel to that edge. These two measurements should be the same. If there is more than one inch difference, the quilting will accentuate this by causing pointed corners, wavy edges or excessive puckering. For the best result remove your borders, measure through the centre of your quilt, recut the borders to the middle measurement of your quilt and re-attach. Sewing a long seam without any pinning or walking foot assistance tends to result in a seam that looks fine, but actually has more fullness on one side of the seam than the other.

This is also relevant if you piece your backing

If there are multiple seams on the edges of your quilt, stitch a stay stitch  $1/8^{\text{th}}$  of an inch from the edge of your quilt to prevent the seams opening up during the quilting process.

Make sure the wrong side of your quilt has the seams ironed straight and that they have not twisted during the sewing process. If they have twisted, snip the seam so that you can press it flat.

Clip any threads that may have migrated to the front of your quilt top. Clip any contrasting threads on the back of your quilt top that may show through the after it has been quilted.

Check all seams for gaps and loose stitching

Remove any embellishment or buttons.

The backing and batting need to be at least 20 cm wider and longer than the quilt top.

Ensure that the edges of the backing are straight on all sides.

If you are piecing your backing, remove the selvedge from any seams that you sew. Join seams with your walking foot. The selvedge can be left on the outside edges of the backing.

If your quilt is directional mark the top of the quilt and the backing fabric.

Fold the neatly ironed backing and quilt top separately to present to your longarm quilter with your batting.



### *From the Appraisal Team*

The last gathering of appraisers this year was a busy one! We welcomed Disa Cragg-Ohlsson as a new Trainee to our group.

In June we held a training day for appraisers to practise a new method of appraising quilts.

**Dates for 2023 are: April 1st & October 21st.** These dates will be posted on our website.

Quilts appraised: 16 + 2 reviews.



Don't underestimate your special skills or the value of your creations!

There is some excellent information on the website about the appraisal procedure.

Please go to: <https://tasquiltguild.com.au/appraisals/> Or feel free to contact either:

Marlene Boatwright      Sharon Thomson

63447467      0437752194

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