



All quilt entries should be now lodged for Victorian Quilters Inc Showcase and only the finishing touches are required on your latest masterpiece. I hope you are all looking forward to seeing all the wonderful quilts on display, it is such an exciting time. Thank you for taking the time to share your quilts with everyone who visits Showcase as part of the Craft & Quilt Fair in July.

Showcase entries

Many members piece the top and then have it quilted by a professional quilter, in many cases the quilt seems to change its personality after the quilter has completed this task. We have received a few entries for Showcase, where the quilter is not a member of Victorian Quilters Inc. We have notified the entrant requesting that the quilter apply for membership of Victorian Quilters Inc. However, if this does not occur, the quilt will be moved to the non-judged category.

Professional Quilters Listing

At the recent committee meeting it was discussed whether or not it would be beneficial to have a listing of Victorian Quilters Inc. members who do provide quilting services on the website. If you are a member and a professional quilter and would like to be included on such a list, would you please email me, president@victorianquilters.org, the information should include your name, VQ membership number, business name and contact details (email address and preferred phone number).

Quilt Exhibition Anderson's Mill Smeaton.

Over the Mother's Day weekend in May, Victorian Quilters Inc., sponsored a quilt Exhibition at Anderson's Mill, Smeaton as part of the National Trust Heritage Victoria celebrations. The Exhibition consisted of quilts from the Goldfields region and a display of Wagga's. There were also displays that included spinners and weavers, hand made wool socks on an antique hand operated knitting machine and steam engines. Read more about this event in the next issue of the magazine.

Committee decisions

The committee continues to review our policies and procedures to ensure that these are consistent with the Rules that were adopted at the 2016 Annual General Meeting. Whilst I am aware that the members elect a committee to make decisions regarding the day to day operations of Victorian Quilters Inc., I think it is necessary for you, the member, to be aware of the type of matters being considered by the committee and the decision that has been made.

Distribution of e newsletter

I was recently reminded that some members do not have access to the internet and may not be getting a copy of the e newsletters. If you know of a member who does not have access to email, would you print a copy and share this with them. I also request that the Secretary of the member groups forward this newsletter to all their members. As the majority of quilting groups now forward their newsletters by email this should not be a difficult task.

Future editions of the e newsletter will also be published on the Victorian Quilters Inc. website.

The next Edition of the Vic Quilter magazine is in the process of being prepared for printing and should be delivered the last week of June.

AO – Officer of the Order of Australia.

Victorian Quilters Inc. wish to congratulate Jenny Bowker for being awarded an AO for distinguished service to Australia-Middle East cultural relations through the preservation of traditional creative and visual arts, and as a textile artist and educator.

Many Victorian Quilters Inc. members have benefited from Jenny sharing her knowledge over the years.

Jenny has not only promoted Australian quilting both within Australian and internationally for many years, she was also instrumental in bringing the Tent Makers of Egypt to Australia. The benefits of this cultural exchange between Australia and Egypt means that many of us are now proud owners of pieces of work created by Egyptian Tent Makers. Australian quilters continue to visit the Middle East to further explore the textiles created by artists of this region. It should also be noted that as the artists sold their work, it provided them with a means to support their families and increased their sense of self-worth.

It is wonderful that Jenny's tireless work has been recognised. Congratulations Jenny!

Take care and I hope you are able to find some time for stitching each day.

Marie Lee

President
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