



Victorian Quilters Incorporated

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2018 Annual Report

For presentation to the
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

on

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Ivalda Masonic Centre

40 Salisbury Avenue

Ivanhoe 3079

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President's Report

The annual report is a review of Victorian Quilters Inc. activities of the past financial year. It has been a year of change and reconnecting with our members, some have maintained their membership for many years, including our foundation members, a number of others have re-joined and we welcome our new joining members.

This has been a year of celebration as it is 25 years since Victorian Quilters Inc. was formed. As we look back over these years we have achieved much and continue to promote the art of Patchwork and Quilting and the activities of our member groups in a variety of ways. I am sure like myself, you are all proud to say that you are a member of Victorian Quilters Inc.

We must not forget the Member Groups who have also supported the activities of Victorian Quilters Inc. by hosting our quarterly Gatherings and encouraging their members to support Showcase by sponsoring new entrants and first time quilters, sponsoring award categories and volunteering for white glove duty.

Every organisation needs to plan for its future and during the year the committee extended an invitation, which was accepted by Janet O'Dell to become Co Patron with Morna Sturrock of Victorian Quilters Inc. We would like to acknowledge the contribution made by Janet to patchwork and quilting, especially through her extensive historical knowledge of fabrics and for coordinating the Quilt Study Group. Janet is an integral member of the group assisting with the National Group Register through the Wool Museum in Geelong.

Activities are undertaken by our Member Groups and it is the role of Victorian Quilters Inc. to promote these events if requested by the Member Group. When Victorian Quilters Inc. was established it was agreed that these activities would remain with the already well established member groups. There are 10 member groups that have been operating significantly longer than Victorian Quilters Inc.

One of the benefits of being a member of Victorian Quilters Inc. is receiving your quarterly magazine which includes articles about quilters based in Victoria, who are members of Victorian Quilters Inc., and also promoting member group events.

One Step Further, a Contemporary Textile Exhibition is also an important calendar event to be held at Bundoora Homestead between July and September in 2019. Further details are available on our website. Sue de Vanny has taken on the role of coordinating this event to rebuild this Exhibition to the highest standard that we know it will be as a State Contemporary Textile Exhibition. I know there are a number of contemporary quilters, in Victoria, nationally and internationally, who are looking forward to creating an entry for this Contemporary Textile Exhibition.

With the advancement of technology Victorian Quilters Inc. are working to bring to our members information that is relevant, current and accessible with the future possibility of entering exhibitions and paying membership via the website being currently being investigated.

The committee is continuing to review the policies and procedures to ensure that they are aligned with the Model Rules that were adopted at the Annual General Meeting in August 2016.

I would like to acknowledge the tireless work of the entire Committee and especially those who have indicated that are not seeking re-election at the Annual General Meeting.

Margaret Parkinson has held a variety of positions on the committee since August 2002 and has played a pivotal role, together with Mary Hitchens, in making Showcase the Exhibition what it is today. Thank you Margaret and we wish you and John a long happy retirement together.

Mary Hitchens has held a variety of positions on the committee for many years. We also thank Mary and wish you and Dennis a long happy retirement.

Margaret and Mary represented Victorian Quilters Inc. at QuiltAustralia conferences for many years and their vast knowledge relating to the background behind the decisions made has been invaluable to us.

Denise Reynolds is a foundation member and has also held either a sub-committee or committee position continuously since 2002. Most recently Denise has been our very capable Secretary and we will miss her knowledge and advice regarding many issues. Denise and Doug are planning to travel and spend more time with family in their retirement.

You will see by the reports submitted by both committee and sub-committee members responsible for each portfolio, that we have maintained the high standard expected from a State Guild in every portfolio. My personal thanks to each of you for your continued commitment to Victorian Quilters Inc.

Last but not least, a huge thank you to those members who quietly go about assisting with the many tasks that need to be done. You are the unsung heroes. Without this type of support, Victorian Quilters Inc. would not be what we are and your support is what makes us proud to be a member of Victorian Quilters Inc.

On a personal note, it is a privilege to have been elected as President and it is my intention to re-nominate for this position again at the Annual General Meeting on 11 August 2018.

Find time for yourself each day and if possible sew a stitch or three with a smile.

Marie Lee

President

Secretary's Report

The role of Secretary has not changed in the collecting, distributing and recording of mail and taking Minutes of Committee Meetings. Our Committee meetings this year have been held at the RSL Box Hill, a much warmer/cooler environment in which to conduct our meetings. Lyn Cooper volunteered and was seconded onto the committee in February 2018, in the role of Assistant Secretary. We have now completed our hand over and Lyn is fulfilling the requirements of the Secretary's role.

If you would like to be part of planning the future direction of Victorian Quilters as we celebrate our 25th year, then joining the committee is not an onerous task when ALL positions are filled. It is important that all positions on the committee are filled to enable our programs to continue.

As I am retiring from committee, I would like to thank all my fellow committee members from over the last 20 years I have been involved in various committee roles, for the friendship and fun while fulfilling our roles to make Victorian Quilters Inc. the best it can be.

Quilt Stands

The Quilt Stands continue to be hired out and the trailer is working well. Doherty Industries Pty Ltd, after 40 years, sold the business and properties in Thomastown. I would like to thank

Robert Sushames for offering the use of ChemPack Pty Ltd factory in Derrimut to store the trailer. It is important to understand that there are times when you may need to wait while other trucks are being loaded/unloaded before collecting/returning the trailer. I understand that at the end of an Exhibition we are all tired and just want to finish packing up, however as I am no longer able to check the trailer on return or between hiring's, please ensure that it is packed correctly for the next Group. So, thank you to all the Groups who take care to pack the trailer as requested and make the next Group's exhibition set up start on a positive note.

The equipment will now only be checked once a year at Showcase.

At this stage, I will continue to take and co-ordinate bookings via email only, as I will be overseas for several months this year, unless you would like to contribute to Victorian Quilters Inc. and become the next Quilt Stand Co-ordinator. It is an administrative role of taking bookings, sending Agreement of Hire forms to be completed, keeping the diary and invoicing, all via email.

Denise Reynolds

Secretary

Travelling Suitcase

Victorian Quilters Travelling Suitcase Exhibition was made up of 10 quilts from the Challenge for 2017 and was requested and Exhibited by a number of Patchwork and Quilting Guilds throughout Victoria.

The committee decided that the Challenge Quilts for our 25th Anniversary year will not be travelling during 2018-2019. It is yet to be decided if there will be a Challenge for the 2019 Exhibition and therefore no decision has been on the future of the Travelling Suitcase.

If you would like to see the Challenge and the Travelling Suitcase retained, please contact the President.

Marie Lee

President

Appraisal Sub-Committee

The Appraisal team has accomplished the appraisal of 45 quilts in 6 appraisal sessions between July 2017 and June 2018, including the Showcase Challenge quilts that make the Travelling Suitcase.

On 4th December 2017, the Appraisal team reviewed the appraisal program and made few changes and updated the appraisal method. Thanks to Lynette Blainey for doing research and reviewing last 4 years' appraisal data.

In the beginning of 2018, the Appraisal team made changes such as changing the appraisal day from the first Monday to second Monday and the venue where appraisal sessions were conducted. From February 2018 Appraisals have been conducted at the new venue at Surrey Hills, Uniting Church. In addition, the Application Form has been updated and now includes appraisal dates and VQ bank details for the appraisal fee payment.

Congratulations to Julie Adamson and Mary Phillips who successfully finished their training and became qualified appraisers in May 2018. The appraisal team welcomed 4 new trainees

(Kaye Hardman, Shirley Lodington, Anna Amory and Alexa Collins) who started their training program from February 2018. Currently, there are 13 qualified appraisers and 8 trainees in the team.

VQ appraisal team members had an educational session on hand quilting in the March session. Julie Adamson and Sugy Kim conducted the program with their hand quilts to distinguish the degree of difficulties on hand quilting.

Appraisal Application forms can be downloaded directly from the website or can be posted on request. You can send an email to Sugy Kim (appraisal@victorianquilters.org) for enquiries and booking confirmation for your quilt appraisal.

I would like to thank appraisal team members for their valuable time and effort at each appraisal session. The team is privileged to see many wonderful quilts from Victorian Quilters' members and from the public, who trust us to value their quilts. The Appraisers work as a cohesive team and take a professional approach to the appraisal of every quilt. Their commitment to training and appraisal is more than evident.

Sugy Kim

Appraisal Coordinator

Sponsorship

Judging Day

Thank you to Shirley Lodington and Marilyn Davidson for their support on judging day and in the lead up to 2018 Quilt Showcase. Between the three of us the two days ran well with very little stress.

Sponsors

Sponsorship values and numbers were down on the previous year. The decline in value and sponsor numbers is a trend that has been visibly declining for 4 years.

- Overall, there was a total 50 industry sponsors that contributed to approx. 60 prizes.
- Total value of Business sponsorships = \$23,645
- There were 25 member groups that contributed to sponsorship prizes
- Total value of Financial member groups sponsorship = \$6,300
- Thank you to Expertise Events and BERNINA Australia and for their ongoing sponsorship.

Given the decline in sponsorship values, prize values were reviewed. Values for prizes were as follows:

First Place to the value of \$500

Runner Up to the value of \$300

Highly Commended winners received a Rosette

Excellence awards to the value of \$800

One Step Further

Thank you to Brother Australia who will be the major sponsor for One Step Further 2019. Their support and sponsorship for the program is greatly appreciated.

AGM

Brother Australia has again donated a Scan and Cut as first prize for the 2018 AGM raffle.

Social Media

Victorian Quilters are currently managing the below two FB pages:

- Victorian Quilts Inc. AUS
- Very Snuggly Quilt Program

Both VQ and VSQ Facebook pages are growing with 515 and 693 followers respectively. Follower engagement on both these pages are encouraging.

VQ FB page gives us the opportunity to share what our member groups are doing, promote our sponsors and the happenings within the industry. We encourage members to be active on this page and well guest posts.

The VSQ program page has increasingly more engagement from VQ members but also community members outside of VQ. The FB page has also become a platform for recipients to say thank you and other community members it is a way to find more out more information on the program.

In addition to Facebook, Victorian quilters is also managing two Instagram pages @victorianquiltersaus and @verysnugglyquiltprogram. These two pages, like Facebook also have great engagement with 504 and 597 followers respectively. These figures are encouraging as they too are growing month on month.

In addition to social media VQ is also communicating on a monthly basis with its individual and member groups via the monthly e-newsletter. The newsletter has been introduced to complement our quarterly magazine and has proven to be a great way to get information out to our members in between magazine publications. We too, have received great feedback from the newsletter.

The average open rate of the email is positive with between 70% -80% of recipients opening the email. We understand that not all Victorian Members have email access and ask that if you know of anyone not getting the email we ask that you print it, so they too can have a read.

Josephine Kelly

Sponsorship Coordinator

Website Report

The Victorian Quilters website's main purpose is to provide information to members about the events and services offered by VQ and member groups. We work through updates of information on the pages in the website on a regular basis. If you are unable to find the information you seek, or should something need deleting or amending, please let us know by email: info@victorianquilters.org.

Each committee position has a generic email address and these are shown in the drop-down menu: About>Committee.

We are happy to upload information about coming events to the Diary Dates and Stop Press sections of the website. Please send all information for uploading to the website in Word .docx or .pdf format. Word .docx is preferred. Information in the body of an email has to be copied and re-formatted before it can be uploaded.

Janet O'Dell

VQ Website Administrator

Quilt Showcase

Another hectic, but rewarding, week we have experienced at Quilt Showcase. We successfully managed all the necessary tasks as well as some retail therapy and a little stitching time.

Our thanks to our volunteers, who make the business side of the show run easier. Without them it would be difficult to ensure your quilts are well looked after from the time you drop them off at the collection point, right through the next couple of weeks and back to you again. Thank you to Margaret Parkinson, Jennifer Wain, Lola Petschauer, Julie Adamson, Kaye Hardman, Janet O'Dell, Josephine Kelly, Chris Serong, Lyn Cooper, Ruth Turner, Mary Phillips, Wendy Blyth, Marilyn Davidson and Marie Lee for all your help.

The combination of colours, techniques, subjects & styles this year again surprised us. How much more can our creative members dream up in cloth & stitch? Entries included celebration & memorial quilts, recreations of antique quilts, innovative new designs, inspiring art quilts of all colours, group challenge results, workshop creations of many designers & teachers, flowers, animals, & birds, bugs & beetles, & wonderful whole cloth quilts in vibrant colours for both fabric & stitch. A magical combination and every quilt was a winner. Thank you for making it a great adventure.

The Judges, Jocelyne Leath, Mary Hitchens and Heather Shepherd reported that the standard of quilts was very high and many times they wished that there were more prizes to award because some very beautiful quilts had to miss out on a prize.

On behalf of all members we also extend congratulations to Julie Adamson for her Best of Show spectacular quilt ***The Apprentice***.

Another change this year was in category numbers, with the distribution shifting between quilts entered in two person sections, especially an amateur pairing with a professional machine quilter. Unfortunately, our Secondary Students have been low with only 2 entries, and we assume that the school work load is increasing daily if not yearly. We congratulate all entrants and especially the First Time Entrants who now know the excitement of seeing their quilt hanging in our prestigious show.

Our 25th Anniversary Challenge did not receive as much interest as we anticipated. Our special thanks to the 5 Member Groups who entered with Lyrebird Quilters taking off the \$1000 prize. We know they will enjoy the opportunity of having a special activity or workshop for their members. Six individual members presented very interesting and diverse takes on the theme, with Ramona Resurreccion winning the beautiful special 215 Bernina machine. Congratulations to everyone.

It is always interesting to view the statistics of any event.

- ❖ 192 general category entries received – 3 withdrawn
- ❖ plus 11 Anniversary Challenge entries
- ❖ Interstate Judge of renown, Jocelyne Leath, WA, with our own Mary Hitchens and Heather Shepherd completing the panel
- ❖ 20 Volunteers for judging days to support the 11 committee members
- ❖ 110 White Glove offers (but many offering more than 1 session &/or doing other volunteer tasks as well)
- ❖ 6 volunteer quilt collection ladies as well as 8 committee members
- ❖ 2 Profile Quilters with a total of 34 quilts
- ❖ 24 Foundation Members showed their favourite quilt
- ❖ a Gloria Flood quilt
- ❖ 30 AQC Challenges – Bridges

- ❖ countless hands-on demo attendees
- ❖ Lots of new members
- ❖ Bags of Very Snuggly Quilts received, blocks & tops prepared for quilting, more bound & finished
- ❖ Raffle Winners: 1st prize Faye Rodger (Lone Star quilt) and 2nd prize Jane Rundle (BERNINA sewing machine)

Our most significant achievements are always the social connections we create, promote & enhance. Touching base with old friends, make the vital link of a name to a new face, but being able to assist anyone with a simple or complex question, or a link to a group, is very rewarding.

Our highest valuable asset is the volunteers who attend to the tasks that make the presentation look so professional & sophisticated. But unfortunately, some of these volunteers are experiencing strength & stamina challenges. So, we need more able bodies to spread the work load. I know I have said this many times over past years, **but can you help us**. Every task is important, even a coffee run.

I wish to thank all those members who I have met over the past 11 years that I have worked on Quilt Showcase. I came in as a 'rooky' white glove worker, moved on to collection and delivering quilts, assisted with Kids Skills and developed it further over the years, then learning the planning and preparation side with Mary Hitchens and Denise Reynolds. As this is my last show (on the organising side) I thank all of you for your help and friendship over the years. I'll still be around the show as an exhibitor as I am planning some new work.

Lastly, but by far not the least, is our continued partnership with Expertise Events & Bernina Australia. Without the support of these two companies we could not present the calibre of exhibition that we do. The association is not only a business one, but has extended to a mutual personal association. Moving forward we see no adverse change for either parties.

Margaret Parkinson

Vice President and Retiring Showcase Convenor

Thank you to Margaret Parkinson, Mary Hitchens and Denise Reynolds for all their many years of service to Victorian Quilters. Their hard work and dedication has resulted in Showcase being such a well-run and organised event. They have been very patient in training me to take over as Convenor and I am aware of the big shoes that I am to fill. I will do my best to keep up to their high standards and hope that I won't make too many mistakes!

I have really enjoyed Showcase this year and I would also like to thank Julie Adamson, Chris Serong and Shirley Lodington who have been a valuable support to me. Marie Lee and the committee have also been very supportive and I am absolutely amazed at all the long hours of work that go on behind the scenes to make Showcase such a success.

I would welcome any comments or ideas on how we can make Victorian Quilters and Showcase even better and would love to have more people volunteer to help us with setting up the show.

Lastly thank you to Expertise Events, BERNINA, and all the other sponsors, we really appreciate your wonderful support; it is so exciting for our lucky prize winners to win a prize and that is only possible because of your generosity.

Linda Steele

Showcase Convenor

One Step Further

'Call for entries' has been launched. Information has been sent out in the magazine, the website and flyers are being distributed. Exhibition dates are July 13 to September 1, 2019 at Homestead Bundoora. The end of May 2019 is the closing date for the 2019 exhibition. One Step Further will also be held at the end of 2020, the dates to be confirmed when a venue is secured. For further information contact Sue de Vanny at sue@suedevannyartist.com.au.

Sue de Vanny

One Step Further

Membership

By the end of the 2017-2018 year Victorian Quilters has 521 members. This includes 92 Groups and 429 Individual members. We have welcomed 68 new members and this includes 1 new group.

It is also pleasing to note that a number of members, whose membership had expired, have renewed. Membership records have been updated as required to ensure that the database is as accurate as possible. Our special membership package, promoted at AQC (Australian Quilting Convention) and Showcase, is very popular and continues to attract a number of new memberships.

Many members have embraced our EFT facility to renew their membership. The details are published in our newsletter and membership renewal form.

I have enjoyed attending Gatherings and Exhibitions and being able to meet with existing and new members.

Thank you to everyone for their assistance with membership.

Val Lewis

Membership Secretary

Teacher Accreditation

Generally, Teacher Accreditation is a very quiet area of Vic Quilters, which is a shame because it can help teachers gain more teaching positions. When you become accredited your name and teaching techniques are published on our website and in our magazine. When we receive enquires from people wanting to know who can teach in their area, it is helpful if we can look up the details and pass this information on to them.

We have had several enquiries about Teacher Accreditation this year, but we currently only have 2 ladies working on their Teacher Accreditation. I would like to have a few more in the future.

Wendy Blyth

Teacher Accreditation Coordinator

Gatherings

The gatherings held this past year by our host groups in conjunction with Victorian Quilters Inc. have been very well attended and enjoyed by all.

Victorian Quilters Inc. hosted the **Winter Gathering** on 12th August 2017 at the Ivalda Masonic Centre and included the Annual General Meeting. Our guest speaker was Margaret Mew. Margaret has been quilting for over 25 years and had recently had her latest quilts published by Quiltmania in a book titled "Quilts from the Colonies". She shared with us many of her favourite quilts and how she chooses fabric to achieve the end result she desires.

For our **Spring Gathering** we travelled to Heathcote on Saturday 18th November 2017 where we were hosted by Heathcote Quilters Inc. On this occasion we had two guest speakers. Glad Jackson and Barbara Dellar, both from Strathdale Quilters, delighted us with their presentations. At this gathering we were also privileged to have Robyn Falloon speak about and to see the Lions Club of Quilters Victoria anniversary quilt.

The **Summer Gathering** on the 17th March 2018 was hosted by Mornington Peninsula Patchworkers Inc. and was undoubtedly our largest gathering this year. Wendy Williams, a tutor of note, was the guest speaker on this occasion and Victorian Quilters Inc. were delighted to be able to assist our host group with a grant to make this possible.

On the 19th March 2018 a pleasing number of members and friends travelled to Stawell for our **Autumn Gathering** which was held at the Stawell Entertainment Centre. At this gathering we had the pleasure of having our Vice President Margaret Parkinson speak of Aspects of Judging and Mr Murray MacPherson, a member of the committee of the Stawell Athletic Club tell us about the history of the Stawell Gift.

Sincere thanks go to our host groups for their hospitality and we look forward to the continued support of our member groups, as without them, we would not be able to make our way around the State sharing the passion we all enjoy.

Lola Petschauer

Gatherings and Groups Coordinator

Publications & Publicity

This year has seen some changes to the media team. Unfortunately Robyn Cuthbertson was unable to continue as Editor. Whilst Robyn was Editor she brought a fresh look to the magazine and this has been continued with the issues published in April and July.

We now have the beginnings of a media team, Emma Sampson has volunteered to take on the role of Editor, thank you Emma. Lorinda Freeman is looking after feature articles and Janine Winchcombe is going to assist with social media. There is still room for someone to look after advertising.

Due to the difficulty in obtaining a volunteer to take on the role of Editor, the committee decided to work with the graphic artist employed by the printer. Although this increases the cost of producing the magazine, this should make the role more manageable and we have had a lot of positive feedback regarding the variety and the standard of the articles.

Don't forget to forward photos and articles regarding any event your Guild holds, as the magazine is about the activities of our members.

Marie Lee

President

Australia's Biggest Quilting Bee (ABQB)

Donations to the Cancer Council for 2018 are as follows:

Geelong Patchwork and Quilting Guild	\$ 1313.50
Southern Cross Quilters - Carrum Downs	\$ 915.15
Cobram Quilters	\$ 142.20
Waverley Patchworkers Inc	\$ 200.00
Patchworkers and Quilters Guild Vic	\$ 1729.75

There may have been several guilds who have raised money from a BMT but have not had their monies accredited to Vic Quilters.

Therese Cossens

Victorian Quilters ABQB Representative

Grants/Scholarship

We have had 2 Grant Applications this year which is good to see that Member Groups are taking advantage of the opportunity to receive our help.

Grants are provided to Groups or individuals who wish to take on a project which is a little out of their ability to fund. It is available for those who want to run a course or study to improve the skills of their Group members and to broaden their knowledge of techniques that are available. It is then expected that they will pass these skills on to other members.

In return we require a report for our magazine and a completed project entered into Showcase within a couple of years.

I look forward to hearing from Groups whom are interested in a Grant.

The profits from our annual raffle quilt is where the funding for these grants come from, so please support our raffle and sell as many tickets as you can.

Wendy Blyth

Grants Co-ordinator

Quilt Study Group

5-11 SEPTEMBER 2017: Our first overseas study tour was to New Zealand. New Zealand has a treasury of quilts in museum collections, some circa late 1700s and brought with migrants in the early days of colonisation, and others made there during the 1800s. We visited selected museums in the North Island by prior arrangement. The trip was successful; museum curators were very cooperative and welcoming. We hope to arrange another study tour to include the South Island at a future time, as we learned that there are other historic quilts to see.

10 DECEMBER 2017: Christmas Brunch at Das Kaffeehaus, Castlemaine, followed by a visit to the Edith Head film costume exhibition at the Bendigo Art Gallery.

25 FEBRUARY 2018: Report on the British Quilt Study Group Seminar in Preston, UK, and the American Quilt Study Group Seminar in Manchester, New Hampshire, USA.

24 JUNE 2018: Janet spoke about historic pattern sources and education; Heather Shepherd talked about her recent quilt study trip to the USA.

All meetings include an in-depth session viewing quilts and related items.

National Quilt Register

The website was launched on 8 September 2017 at the opening of the Art Quilt Australia exhibition at the Queen Victoria Art Gallery, Launceston, Tasmania. This was followed by a second launch at the Geelong Quilt Show in late November. The team promoted the website on the NQR stand at the Australasian Quilt Convention in April 2018.

The National Quilt Register received the Runner up award for the Museums Australia Multimedia and Publications Design Awards – Program Website. It is good recognition and will help steer it to being a sustainable and useful heritage management tool into the future. Receiving the award put the Register into the spotlight and this has led to contacts with a number of cultural heritage organisations and individuals who previously had been unaware of the Register.

The NQR team is now authorised to work on the website from personal computers. The records from the Pioneer Women's Hut Millennium Project have been left unchanged as originally documented. Additions to the NQR are welcome; any quilt held in Australia may be added regardless of origin. The team reserves the right to accept or reject any application. Interested quilters are invited to visit the website and leave feedback.

Janet O'Dell

Quilt Study Convenor

Group Insurance Report 2018

Victorian Quilters Inc. is able to offer insurance cover for Member Groups at a very competitive rate. This is due to the fact that we can combine all the groups into the one policy, therefore reducing the premium for each group.

At present we have 92 Member Groups of which 80 take advantage of our insurance cover. To receive coverage in our insurance policy, your Group must be a member of Victorian Quilters Inc.

The renewal notices have recently been posted to all our member groups and the forms and payment must be received by 17th August 2018 to be accepted. A late fee is charged after that date.

If you want any further information about insurance, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Wendy Blyth

Group Insurance Co-ordinator

Very Snuggly Quilts

Every year the success of this program relies on the generosity of Patchworkers and Quilters throughout Australia and it is because of you are that this program is so successful. On behalf of the children and their families a huge thank you to you all.

Without the support of those who donate completed quilts, fabric, piece quilt tops, quilt the quilts, sew the binding or the person who comes to a quilt making day and looks after the morning tea and lunch and reminds us to take a break from stitching every now and then. Your contribution, no matter small plays a vital role in creating these quilts.

During the past year, we have changed our name from the *Wrapped in Love Auxiliary*, to *Victorian Quilters Very Snuggly Quilt Auxiliary*. The Committee of Victorian Quilters Inc. felt it was important for the public to instantly recognize that this Auxiliary was part of Victorian Quilters Inc. The aims of program remain the same - to bring comfort to children and their families when a child is seriously ill in the Royal Children's Hospital.

During the 12 month period to 31 May 2018, we gifted 1,869 quilts to children who have a chronic, life threatening illness and are patients at the Royal Children's Hospital. There have been some changes to the team that visits the hospital each month, many thanks to those who gave were part of the team, but due to a variety of reasons are no longer able to continue. Welcome to the new members of the team, thank you for being part of this program. We are a unique Auxiliary in that our members are accredited to visit the wards and deliver the quilts directly to the children.

Some days it can be very stressful visiting extremely ill children and seeing how worried their parents are, however, the gift of a quilt can generally bring a smile to both the parent & the child. The reaction is generally one of disbelief that some-one will take the time to create a beautiful quilt and then give it to a stranger.

We continue to receive many donations of fabric, from shops, distributors and individuals. Donated fabric is the basis for our quilts and I really like to be able to use all the fabric we receive. Fabric that is not suitable for quilting is distributed to a variety of community based organisations.

The list of sponsors, groups and people who have contributed to this program during the past 12 months are included separately in the Annual Report. Please accept my apologies if I have missed including your name, it was not intentional.

A special thank you to Victorian Textiles for providing Matilda's Own batting for many of these quilts since 2005. Please remember to support the businesses who sponsor the program, as this is the only way we have of thanking them. Their sponsorship also makes it possible for us to concentrate on making quilts and not having to raise funds to purchase batting, fabric, thread etc.

We have held many quilt making days in Victoria and southern New South Wales, including Good Friday at the Keysborough Bowling Club, a quilt making day at the Royal Children's Hospital as well as demonstrating patchwork and quilting at Quilting Exhibitions and Community Festivals. Due to the number of requests for quilt making days, my visits to some areas will now become biennial; however, many groups are now organizing their own regular quilt making days and forwarding the completed quilts to us.

Quilt making days are a great way of sharing / learning a new skill or technique, catching up with old friends or making a new friendship. If you were one of the brave people who came to a quilt making day on their own, a big thank you and we hope you will be able to join us on

another quilt making day. We encourage people from the local community to call in and join us for a cuppa and see what we are doing.

Very Snuggly Quilts are a gift to each child and is how we can show the children and their families that we, the community, are thinking of them during what is a very difficult time. In some instances, the child and parent are in Melbourne many miles from home or even from interstate or overseas and the child may be spending an extended time in hospital. I cannot imagine what it would be like to be in this situation.

Once again, my thanks to everyone who has continued to make this program so successful, without your valuable contributions it would not be possible to visit the hospital each month. Don't forget to follow us on Facebook and Instagram.

Marie Lee

VSQ Quilt making Coordinator

Very Snuggly Quilts Auxiliary

A year has passed so quickly. Our team consists of Agnes Girdwood, Anne Sushames, Betty Scott, Bronwyn Inman, Elaine Hicks, Josephine Kelly, Judy Malcolm, Robyn Rule and Marie Lee. In April, we welcomed Lorraine Hocking, who has made numerous quilts to the cause, to our team, and in June, Felicity Gilchrist joined us. Betty along with Marie act as our "emergency helpers" who have been called upon to accommodate our holiday makers!

At the beginning of the year, we said goodbye to Ann Flower who decided she longer wanted to continue to volunteer. Thank you to Ann for your commitment over the last few years. Josephine is active in keeping Facebook updated with beautiful photos of the donated quilts as she receives them. This in turn is how we are seeing the patients/parent's kind words.

I have enjoyed my role as Co-ordinator and wish to thank each volunteer for their continued commitment, especially Josephine for preparing the distribution after I have compiled the ward lists.

Also a very BIG THANK YOU to all the ladies (and gents) who donate their time making quilts to make this program a success.

Elaine Hicks

Coordinator, Very Snuggly Quilts Auxiliary (Royal Children's Hospital)

Very Snuggly Quilts Major Sponsors

Expertise Events	Space for demonstrating quilt making during Quilt & Craft Fair
BERNINA Australia Pty Ltd	Demonstration machines for use during the Quilt & Craft Fair
Victorian Textiles	Matilda's Own Wadding, fabric & templates
Westalee Design	Rulers and templates
Horn	Cabinet sponsorship during the Quilt & Craft fair
Accuquilt	Loan of Go Big & dyes
Heights Sewing Centre	Loan of BERNINA Sewing Machines
Brother	ScanNCut
Janome	Quilting baby quilts
Kids Quilts	Patchwork Patterns
Faye Packham	Louisa's Star Quilt Pattern
Stockdale & Leggo Rye	Photocopying
Storage space	
Victorian Quilters Inc	Rosebud Mini-Warehousing Pty Ltd Moor Room, Yarraville
Assistance with travelling	
Yarra Valley Toyota	Rye RSL Sub Branch & Women's Auxiliary
The following organisations provided fabric:	
G J's Discount Fabrics	Millrose Cottage & Gallery
PK Fabrics	The Cotton Factory
Treehouse Textiles	Lily Patches
Millhouse Fabrics	My Little Patch
Lavender Pink Quilting	Verandah Craft
Catharina's Vintage Stitches	Patchwork Unlimited
Lyn's Craft Nest	Charles Parsons
Katies Stitch by Stitch	Palm Beach Quilting
Mrs Martin's Quilt Shop	Patchwork Collections
Serenity Glen	Heights Sewing Centre
Sewing Connection	Periwinkle Patchwork

The following organisations provided facilities for quilt making days or quilt demonstrations.

Mornington Peninsula Shire	Keysborough Bowling Club
Hastings Community Centre	Sorrento Community Centre
Westernport Festival	Westernport Craft Exhibition
Royal Children's Hospital Foundation & Auxiliary Office	
Everything Patchwork & Quilting, Gembrook	

Very Snuggly Quilts Group Contributors

Anglesea Surfcoast Probus Quilters	Heywood Secondary College Hopetoun Quilters
Bacchus March Friendship Group	Kaniva Windmill Quilters
Bacchus Marsh U3A	Lake Mulwala Quilters
Bellbrae Quilters	Mereburn CWA
Bessiebelle Quilters	Patchwork & Quilters Guild Victoria
Blue Gum Quilters	Pelican Quilters
Cobram Quilters Club	Phillip Island Quilters
Cohuna Country Quilters	Regent Street Stitchers
Cohuna Patchwork Group	St Augustine's Primary School
Cubby House Quilters	Sorrento Community Centre
CWA Geelong Region	Strawberry Patches
CWA Werribee	Tocumwal Sew'n'Sews
Dandenong Patch, Stitch & Chat	Wangaratta Centre Quilters
Deniliquin Quilters & Friends	Warracknabeal P's & Q's
Drouin Fireflies	Wattle Park Chapel
Frayed Knots	Westernport Quilters
Geelong Patchwork & Quilters Guild	Embroiders Guild of Vic (Geelong Branch)
Girgarre Quilters	Patchwork Group
Goldfield Quilters Inc	
Patchwork Collections of the Yarra Valley	

Very Snuggly Quilts Individual Contributors

Adrienne Ward	Betty Scott	Colleen	Felicity Garde
Agnes Girdwood	Bev Busiko	Woodhouse	Felicity Gilchrist
Aileen Thompson	Beverley Button	Collette Fike-Lees	Fiona Carruthers
Alice Blyth	Bev Honey	Connie Burr	Fiona Pike
Alison Fanthorpe	Bev Rutherford	Connie Wicks	Fran Batrouney
Alison Hawthorn	Billy Jackson	Corrie Witlox	Frances Toscano
Alison Hingston	Bridget Harrison	Cynthia Hendricks	Gael Thompson
Alison Nixon	Bronwyn Inman	Dallas Windmill	Gai Atkinson
Alison Thaslon	Bronwyn Walkley	Daphne Womersley	Gail Bourke
Alison Von Bibra	Carlie Lincoln	Dawn McKinnon	Gail Cupples
Allison Williams	Carol Arthur	Dawn Vroland	Gail Todd
Alys Gagnon	Carol Bagot	Deb Diplock	Gill Cross
Alyssa Morgan	Carole Bosna	Deb Slater	Gillian Rose
Amanda Calder	Carol Keane	Deb Thompson	Glad Stevenson
Amanda Coleiro	Carole Scholes	Debra Chapman	Glenda Rezmann
Amelia Bicknell	Carol Tresize	Debra Read	Glenis Andrews
Amy Lewis	Caroline Murfitt	Denise Cairns	Glenise Gallagher
Andree Donaldson	Caroline Thompson	Denise Causby	Glenys Thomas
Andrea Armstrong	Carolyn Walsh	Denise Noble	Gwen Michael
Andrea Hall	Cath Horner	Denise Reynolds	Gwen Ward
Anita Maier	Carol Fitzgerald	Denise Padgett	Gwenda Rodriquez
Ann Behrens	Carol Keane	Dianne De Zilva	Hazel McBride
Anne Boundy	Carina Sudholz	Dianne Duggan	Heather Brett
Anne Burgess	Carol Lee	Diane Leadbetter	Heather
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