



### Biggest Morning Tea

Our Liberty themed Biggest Morning Tea was a great success raising over \$1,000.00 for cancer research. One of the highlights was guest speaker Dane Cheasley - a research scientist at Peter MacCallum Cancer Hospital who spoke passionately about his road to become a scientist and his current interest in breast and ovarian cancer and the trend toward personalising treatments for individuals. In addition, Jan and Faye donated 30 quilts on behalf of the gift quilt program which were very happily received by Anne Franz-Ford, Manager of Volunteer Services. We also had fun participating in the birthday games, Shirley's trivia and ogling all the wonderful morning tea available.

Lara McBurnie from 'My Sewing Table' was our guest speaker who not only brought some gorgeous Liberty fabrics for us to buy, but spoke about her love of Liberty fabrics. Lara has created a code for AQA members to shop online at her Etsy store and receive 20% off. The details are <https://www.etsy.com/shop/mysewingtablefabrics> the code is liberty 20. The auction of Liberty charm packs was also a hit. The winner of the Liberty raffle quilt was Rosalie Franzke, the jewellery prize selected by Robyn Packham and Judy McNamara got the Liberty table topper. All in all, a lovely day - thank you to all who helped to make it run so smoothly.

Cindy Steer



### GIFT QUILTS

Our Biggest Morning Tea event was timely for another donation of Gift Quilts. Anne, the manager of the Peter Mac Volunteers, attended and we donated 30 quilts in varying sizes to be donated to their clients. It is lovely to have so many beautiful quilts being made by our members and donated to various organizations who help bring comfort to those in need. Many thanks to everyone who has taken quilt kits to finish, as well as those who make blocks, tops or quilts. There will be some kits and tops (including backing and batting) left on the tables at the back of the hall at each meeting and if you are able to take any for completion it is very much appreciated.

We will be donating more quilts to Anglicare at our next meeting and we look forward to having batting available for those ladies who need it to finish off more Gift Quilts.

Many thanks, the Faye Team, and Jan Mac

### You know you're a quilter when...

your walls have no room for pictures, because they're covered with wallhangings.



Our guest speakers, Fran Snowden and Glenice Hopes, brought an amazing array of their creations topped up with their passion for their cause. The term generally used to describe their genre is Fiddle (Sensory) rugs. Fran and Glenice met at the Seville community house in late 2015 – Glenice has a 16-year background in diversionary therapy for disabled children and adults. Fran has a granddaughter with multiple disabilities for whom she had knitted a big blanket which provided sensory



therapy.

Together they began creating their sensory wonders and invited other craftspeople of the Yarra Valley to assist – they were overwhelmed.

Their first exhibition of these delights was held in October, 2016 at Mont de Lancey homestead at Wandin North. They gave away 300 items to people from various backgrounds (children from special schools, nursing homes). Fran and Glenice discovered that not only was there an enormous need for these goodies, but also the process touched an emotional chord with visitors.

I was amazed at the type and variety of goods created – touchy feely muffs knitted from fluffy yarn with smooth, knobby feely items ‘hidden’ inside the muff; or a board with a power point to switch on and off with perhaps another type of switch which twists or perhaps a flap with a knob. Other boards had fleece and twisty timber handles attached. There were small (about A4) fabric pads/rugs with zips of various sizes and colours which can be opened and closed – other mats had buttons of various sizes sewn over them. Knee rugs decorated with ribbons of various colours, widths and fabric type. Fiddle sleeves – these are knitted sleeves with a cuff and an ‘arm’ to above the elbow, finished off with another cuff. These work on the ‘out of sight out of mind’ theory for those who require an IV, but can’t resist the need to remove or fiddle with it. As Fran said there is no right or wrong way to make the items – as long as they are safe and the carers make the ultimate decision on suitability. Each item always find a home.

I am sure we were all very impressed with Fran and Glenice’s project; the fact that everyday items which would appear to be ‘useless’ can be crafted into wonderfully useful items for those with special needs [cognitive, dementia, autism] raises the question “How can we help?”

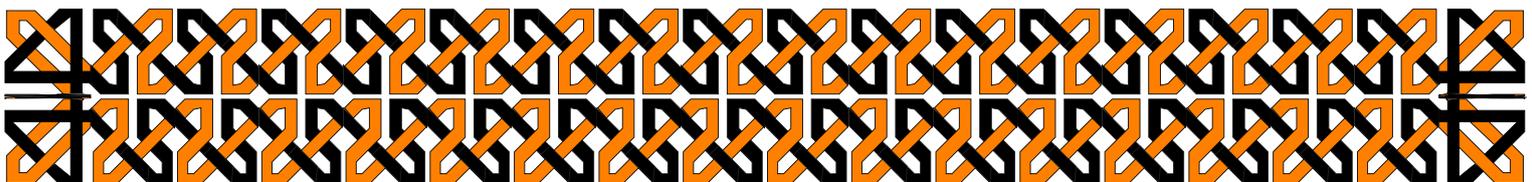
We can assist by attending and bringing a friend to the next exhibition at Mont de Lancey (it was 13-28 May). The next after that is 30 September to 15 October, 2017. Following the overwhelming success of their first event the group is now focussing on 2 exhibitions per year, so keep an eye out for news of each event (check on the Mont de Lancey website).

Please see elsewhere in our newsletter for other ways in which we may be able to help. We have begun support by ‘passing the hat around’ and I am sure there will be other ways in which we can assist – keep your eyes peeled.

A BIG THANK YOU to Fran and Glenice for not only showing us their fiddle quilts/rugs and sharing their passion, but also shining a light on a largely unknown need.

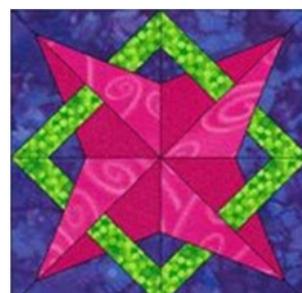
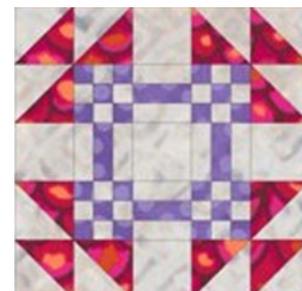
Nanette

### Ten Years Ago—The Biggest Morning Tea in 2007



<b>General Account</b>	
<b>Income</b>	
Door Takings	
1 <sup>st</sup> Monday	406.00
1 <sup>st</sup> Wednesday	38.00
3 <sup>rd</sup> Monday	123.20
3 <sup>rd</sup> Wednesday	48.80
Raffle	82.00
Quilt Bags	18.00
AQIPP	710.00
Membership	2615.00
Library	20.00
Retreat	195.00
BMT Raffle	20.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>4276.00</b>
<b>Expenditure</b>	
Guest Speaker	
100.00	
Newsletter	
Printing	211.31
Postage	103.80
P.O. Box Renewal	299.00
Badges	16.50
BMT Raffle ticket printing	171.33
Symposium	200.00
Petty cash float	200.00
Postage (membership renewal)	40.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1341.94</b>
General Account	19863.11
Special Account	5438.11
Term Deposit	33006.94
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>58308.88</b>

<b>General Account</b>	
<b>Income</b>	
Door Takings	
1 <sup>st</sup> Monday	440
1 <sup>st</sup> Wednesday	50
2 <sup>nd</sup> Wednesday	43
Raffle	124
Biggest Morning Tea Raffle	484
Retreat	390
Membership	2265
Quilt Bags	6
AQIPP	713
Transfer from Symposium A/c	587
Symposium	160
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>5262</b>
<b>Expenditure</b>	
Guest Speaker (Gen. Mtg and BMT)	
200.00	
Retreat	252.00
Insurance	2749.00
Rent	1107.36
Newsletter (May) postage	104.52
Postage (April newsletter)	136.95
Easter raffle prizes	66.73
Gifts	30.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>4546.56</b>
General Account	21837.91
Special Account	6782.12
Term Deposit	33006.94
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>61626.97</b>



**AQA COMMUNITY DONATION PROGRAMS**

AQA supports many agencies through our Gift Quilts program. We continue to support Uplift with donations of bras and knickers. Impact is supported with lovely toiletries. They need regular size soaps, hand creams etc rather than travel size. If you have received more of these gifts than you can use please consider donating. Their next big packing day will prepare packs for Christmas as well as emergencies.

At the May General Meeting our guest speakers Glenice and Fran from the Seville Community Centre Dementia Support and Learning Groups. They showed us a huge eclectic display of items made for children and adults who are living with a range of challenging conditions such as autism and dementia and other neurological conditions. Such conditions may lead these people to need the comfort of tactile sensations be it a quilt, a rug or something that occupies the hands and mind. The report in this Quilters Patch will cover the talk. As a result, there was overwhelming support and wish to contribute to the generosity of this program.

AQA members who so wish to contribute are encouraged to collect and donate all sorts of sewing and other haberdashery and hardware items. The list is only limited by the imagination. Here are just a very few suggestions: zippers, buckles, large buttons and large studs, lurex through to fur, corduroy, silk and velvet, velcro, rough through to smooth or slippery fabrics, ribbons, laces and braids, gloves, hardware - handles, brushes, switches. Think about colour and the repetitive movement of hands. We also saw knitted sleeves that look like those from a cardigan or jumper for adults and children to cover from view cannula and IV tubes. All items are made by volunteers and donated freely to those in need. So, at each meeting there will be a basket for your generous contributions. Nothing is unsuitable as long as you consider safety. Start setting those items aside and we will ensure they are delivered. Ros

*(If you have second-hand clothes or household items, you could put them in the Uniting Church charity bin which stands in the church porch—we can support the church we meet in, too. Jacqy)*

UnitingCare  
**Charity Donation Bin**

For enquiries or House Collections please call 9357 5892

All profits assist the Welfare Work of **Lentara Uniting Care**

24 Hour Emergency Assistance - 0408 177 893



## Phillip Island Retreat

Hi Ho, Hi Ho, it's off to sew we go, with a needle and thread to Phillip Island we head! Hi Ho, Hi Ho, Hi Ho.

Each Mother's Day weekend a number of A.Q.A Members make the trip to Phillip Island for the annual "Patches" retreat. This year was the 29<sup>th</sup> one that has been organized by the Patches committee with the majority of these ladies being there from the start. Some of our Members have been going for over twenty years (Allison Farrell and Ros Robinson 24 years). On arrival Friday afternoon we are warmly greeted and given our room number, name tag and other relevant info, then after unpacking and setting up for your class it's off to somewhere local for dinner. On return we gather in the hall for a formal welcome. The Tutors show what they will be teaching and also put forward possible classes for the following year. Supper is then available in the dining room and you are able to sit and chat or work on hand projects for as long as you like. Last one out turns of the lights.

Sat classes for those participating begin at 8am, there is also the opportunity to do Social and work on your own projects. At the end of the days classes, we are asked to dress for dinner in the chosen theme for the weekend, which was Nursery Rhymes this year. This is not compulsory but a lot of fun. Two of our Members attracted the eye of the judges. Heather Goddard (Queen of Hearts and Allison Farrell( a fine Lady on a White Horse) were chosen as winners. After dinner we are treated to a night's entertainment with acts from the committee and others. 10 and 20 year badges are presented and then Show and Tell. Most of the quilts shown are from previous years classes that have been completed. Supper is again available and you are able to return to your class room till 10pm or hand sew or socialize in the dining room. Many take the opportunity to purchase fabric and accessories from Sandy and Sue's shop, view next year's classes and fill out an expression of interest form over the weekend. Sunday morning we are able to sleep in a little with breakfast at 8am. We are greeted at breakfast with a gift from the committee. Classes resume at 9am and finish at lunchtime. The weekends also supports the Biggest Morning Tea with a raffle with many generous prizes. More than a thousand dollars was raised. Every participant also receives a show bag of goodies sometime during the weekend (130 attendees this year).

After lunch we meet in the Gym for Show and Tell and the drawing of the major raffle, a Brother Sewing Machine. It is then time to say our goodbyes and lots of See you next year before heading home. Thank you to the Patches Committee for organizing such a wonderful weekend.

Cheers, Pam

### FABRIC, FIBRE AND THREAD - MAKING ART

This exhibition brings together four diverse textile artists, who explore textures and manipulate materials to produce an eclectic-range of fibre-based works. The artists are Jan Lowe, Julie Hudson, Lee Robson, and Annette Brauneis.

Works include land and seascapes, containers, Nuno and dry felting, jewellery, paper and framed works, using techniques that stretch the boundaries and experiment with an array of natural, man-made and found materials.

These four artists reflect nature and abstract images in various forms, inviting the viewer to experience the tactile surfaces.

The works stimulate curiosity in the use of ordinary materials to create extraordinary things.

Fabric, Fibre and Thread - Making Art;

The Long Gallery - Montsalvat, 7 Hillcrest Avenue,  
Eltham, Victoria 3095. Ph (03) 9439 7712.

Opening hours daily 9 am - 5pm.

The exhibition runs from July 2 to August 20, 2017.

### SEWING TIP (Courtesy of NOTY)

If you are having trouble getting the blue marks from a water soluble marker to disappear from your quilt, mix up a solution of 1 litre water to 1 teaspoon baking soda. Spray this on those same marks and they will disappear—not to return. This solution will neutralise the colour.

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★	Jan Preston's Textile Art Exhibition
★	first showing at Kimono House
★	"COURAGE & DETERMINATION"
★	This Exhibition follows the legacy of a journey taken
★	by Wilfred Preston during the years of WW11
★	To discover and create
★	with an artistic purpose...
★	To convey the emotions
★	through the passage of textiles
★	in varying mediums and surface design.
★	Kimono House Gallery
★	Level 2 Nicholas Building
★	37 Swanston St. Melbourne
★	Lift access via Cathedral Arcade
★	corner Flinders Lane
★	Exhibition dates:
★	Tuesday June 27th - Friday July 21st
★	Open Tuesday - Saturday 10am - 5pm
★	* A demonstration & meet the Artist
★	July 15th & 19th, 10.30am - 2pm
★	Any questions please reference
★	Cheers Jan
★	Mob: 0409 142 989
★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★	



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### *Happy birthday in June*



Isobel	Addicoat	Marina	Holland
Judy	Bell	Joanne	Krause
Susan	Botta	Yvonne	Maher
Eileen	Campbell	Rosemary	McCall
Jean	Dunn	Jan	McNiece
Margaret	Fleming	Sue	Powell
Lisa	Fong	Daele	Robinson
Gwen	Garkel	Lynn	Steel
Pam	Gladstones	Cindy	Steer
Helen	Hayes	Liz	Willing