



CANBERRA QUILTERS INC

SINCE 1976

INFORMATION FOR MEMBERS

DECEMBER 2003

Dear New Member

Welcome! We hope that your membership of our group is a long and happy one and that you make many lasting friendships.

The aims and objectives of Canberra Quilters Inc. are to:

- promote the art and craft of patchwork and quilting;
- bring together people interested in patchwork and quilting;
- encourage and maintain high standards of workmanship and design in both traditional and contemporary patchwork and quilting;
- foster interest in the history of patchwork and quilting;
- organise exhibitions;
- publish a newsletter.

We encourage all members to read our quarterly newsletter *Connecting Threads* to keep up to date with the activities of the group. Contributions to the newsletter are always very welcome. We also encourage you to share your quilts in Show and Tell at meetings where everyone's work is valued and appreciated,

We encourage new members to purchase a name badge from the Membership Secretary and to wear it to all meetings and other occasions when we meet together.

This booklet contains further information about our group which we hope you find useful. Please feel free to contact any committee member for more specific information.

HISTORY OF THE GROUP	Canberra Quilters Inc. was formed in 1976 by Margaret Rolfe and some friends under the name 'The Patchwork Group'. From this small beginning the group, now known as Canberra Quilters Inc., has grown to a membership of in excess of 500. Canberra Quilters Inc. has a wide-ranging membership, from the beginning quilter to the professional quilter. Many of its members have gained distinctions and awards throughout Australia and internationally, have had work featured in publications in Australia and overseas, as well as having written well-known patchwork and quilting books.
MEMBERSHIP AND RENEWALS	Membership is from January to December each year and can be renewed either by post or by dropping a completed form with payment in the membership box at the rear of the meeting hall. Memberships may be delivered at one meeting and your membership card picked up at the following meeting. However, if you want your membership card posted to you please include a stamped self-addressed envelope.

	Junior Membership - School children up to year 12 are eligible for junior membership at a concessional rate. The junior membership is in conjunction with an adult membership and only one newsletter is posted to the household.
NAME BADGES	Canberra Quilters Inc. name badges can be purchased by completing the appropriate section of the membership application form. You are encouraged to wear your name badge to meetings.
MEETINGS	There are two meetings per month, one during the day, one at night: Evening - first Thursday of each month (February to December) 7.45pm Weston Creek Uniting Church Parkinson Street Weston (near Cooleman Court) Day - third Wednesday of each month (February to November) 9.30am – 1.00 pm Weston Creek Community Centre Visitors are always welcome.
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING	The AGM is held at the April evening meeting and all committee positions for which any member may stand are declared vacant. Audited records are presented to the AGM for acceptance by the meeting. The current committee is listed in <i>Connecting Threads</i> as are the ex-officio volunteers who work in various capacities.

Evening Meetings

EVENING MEETING FORMAT	The Evening meetings are fairly structured and usually include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Sign in on arrival and receive Lucky Door ticket ➤ News and information about interesting events and opportunities from the Committee, accredited teachers, sponsors and other members. ➤ A monthly feature or theme, such as a guest speaker or special activity ➤ Show and Tell where members share their quilts and quilt stories with us (everyone's favorite part of the meeting). ➤ Lucky Door prize draw - the prize is a patchwork-related gift. ➤ Raffle - An informal self-funding raffle is passed around at each evening meeting. Tickets are 20 cents each. A draw is held and winners receive patchwork-related prizes. ➤ Name badge draw wins you a small prize as long as you are wearing your name badge. ➤ Block of the Quarter draw at the March, June, September and December meetings – you may win enough blocks to make a quilt. ➤ An opportunity to borrow from the library ➤ Tea and coffee, and a chance to socialise with other members
BLOCK OF THE QUARTER	Block of the Quarter is a fun activity and all members are invited to participate. It is an ideal way to practice different patchwork techniques and to test your sewing accuracy. Instructions and a pattern for a patchwork block are published in each newsletter. Members construct one block (or more if you have lots of time!) and bring it along to the March, June, September or December evening meeting. All of the blocks are put into a draw and a participant's name is drawn out of a hat during the meeting. If there are lots of blocks there may be several draws. The winner(s) may receive enough blocks to take home to make a quilt!
LIBRARY	Canberra Quilters Inc. has a very well-stocked library of up-to-date books and magazines. Current financial members may borrow up to 4 items each month. New members may borrow as soon as they join. Before the

	<p>meeting you may return items by placing them on the table near the door and select new items for borrowing by placing them on a table with a RESERVED card. All recording of borrowings is done at the end of the meeting. Items are to be returned at the next meeting.</p> <p>Members are encouraged to assist with the library and your name will appear on a library roster list (published in <i>Connecting Threads</i>).</p> <p>If you are unable to return library books at the next meeting, please contact a member listed in the library drop-off points column in <i>Connecting Threads</i>.</p>
ROSTERS	<p>There are two rosters: one for the Library and one for Supper.</p> <p>If you are unable to assist on the night you are rostered on, please find a friend who is able to swap with you and please note the date you are rostered on in your diary so you don't forget.</p>
LIBRARY ROSTER DUTIES	<p>When you are on the library roster, you are asked to arrive early (7:15 – 7:30pm) to help set up. The duties are not onerous and consist of:</p> <p>Before the meeting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Setting up tables ➤ Putting out boxes of books and magazines ➤ Assisting the Librarian to record returns <p>After the meeting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Assisting the Librarian to record loans ➤ Putting away boxes of books and magazines ➤ Putting away tables.
SUPPER ROSTER DUTIES	<p>At each evening meeting, coffee and tea is provided following the formal part of the proceedings so that members and visitors can have a friendly chat. (Remember, this is actively discouraged during the meetings!) Your name will appear on the supper roster in <i>Connecting Threads</i> about every two years. When on supper duty, members are asked to arrive early (about 7:15 pm).</p> <p>The duties are not onerous and consist of:</p> <p>Before the meeting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Setting out the cups, saucers, spoons <p>After the meeting</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Helping to serve the tea and coffee after the meeting, and ➤ Washing up afterwards. <p>Tea, coffee, sugar, milk and tea towels are brought to the meeting.</p>

Day Meetings

DAY MEETINGS	<p>The day meetings are smaller and more informal but again have a relaxed and friendly atmosphere. There is a lucky door prize and a raffle, with quilt-related prizes. Members are encouraged to bring their handwork and lunch. Morning tea is provided by rostered volunteers. Visitors are always welcome.</p>
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Newsletter

CONNECTING THREADS	<p><i>Connecting Threads</i> is the newsletter of Canberra Quilters Inc. and is published in March, June, September and December each year. The deadline for contributions is the evening meeting in February, May, August and November. We encourage all members to read our newsletter each quarter to keep up-to-date with the activities of the group. Contributions to the newsletter are most welcome.</p>
ADVERTISING POLICY	<p>Advertising material must be in finished form ready for photocopying and accompanied by the appropriate fee as detailed in <i>Connecting Threads</i>.</p>
AD HOC ADVERTS	<p>Financial members may advertise up to 3 lines free in <i>Connecting Threads Ad Hoc Column</i>. Additional lines are \$1.10 (GST incl.) for each line or part thereof. Approx. 10 words of average size fits into one line.</p>

Activities

WORKSHOPS	<p>Workshops by interstate tutors are organised regularly by Canberra Quilters Inc. and are advertised in <i>Connecting Threads</i>. Workshops are open to all financial members and are a fun way to learn new skills and to meet other members of Canberra Quilters.</p> <p>Workshops are run on a cost-recovery basis and places are allocated on a 'first in best dressed' basis. Payment for a workshop should accompany the Workshop Application form, which is printed in <i>Connecting Threads</i>.</p>
FRIENDSHIP GROUPS	<p>There are many friendship groups comprising members of Canberra Quilters, however, they are not formally organised by Canberra Quilters Inc. The Friendship Group Coordinator listed on the inside cover of <i>Connecting Threads</i> assists with the establishment of new groups and can help you if you wish to join a Friendship Group or you are a member of a group which would like more members. You may fill out the form in the newsletter and give it to the Coordinator, advertise your needs at a meeting or through the Ad hoc column in <i>Connecting Threads</i>.</p>
EQUIPMENT FOR HIRE	<p>Canberra Quilters has a floor frame and a portable quilting machine for hire. For further information about hiring this equipment, please see the contacts listed on the inside cover of <i>Connecting Threads</i>.</p>
TEACHERS	<p>Canberra Quilters Inc. has accredited teachers who run classes and workshops. These cater for all skill levels, from beginners to experienced quiltmakers. A display of teachers' classes is held at the February meeting each year and teachers also advertise their classes at monthly meetings. For a list of accredited teachers refer to the inside cover of <i>Connecting Threads</i>.</p>
TEACHER ACCREDITATION	<p>Canberra Quilters established a Teacher Accreditation System in 1983 to accredit teachers of beginner's courses to maintain standards of patchwork and quilting techniques and practices.</p> <p>If you are considering becoming an accredited teacher, contact Canberra Quilters PO Box 3297 Weston Creek 2611 for an information package.</p>
DISCOUNTS	<p>As a financial member of Canberra Quilters Inc. you are eligible to purchase goods at a discounted price from participating fabric and craft retail stores in the Australian Capital Territory and New South Wales. This discount does not apply to all goods sold and varies from shop to shop. Please check with the shop first and show your membership card before the sale has been rung through.</p> <p>A list of shops which offer a discount appears in <i>Connecting Threads</i> and is updated as necessary.</p>
A QUILTERS' RETREAT	<p>A quilters' retreat is usually held once a year, towards the end of the year. The idea of this weekend is rest, relaxation, friendship and sharing of ideas. This is a wonderful way to make new friends. Watch out for details in <i>Connecting Threads</i>. In recent years it has been held at Warrambui and is often referred to as "Warrambui".</p>
AUSTRALIAN COUNCIL OF QUILTERS (ACQ)	<p>A conference is held annually to discuss quilting and related issues at a national level. All States and Territories are represented.</p>
QUILTS FOR OTHERS (QFO) and BLANKETS OF LOVE	<p>An important project of Canberra Quilters is the construction of quilts for donation to recommended charities and community organisations, and members are encouraged to participate in this work. Kits are available at the evening meetings and regular working bees are held throughout the year. To find out more go along to a working bee or contact the QFO co-ordinator – for details see Diary Dates and the inside cover of <i>Connecting Threads</i>.</p>

Exhibitions

ANNUAL EXHIBITION	An exhibition of members' work is held annually in conjunction with a major Craft Fair. The Exhibition is not judged or juried and all members are eligible to enter and are encouraged to do so. People attending the Exhibition are given voting slips to record their preferences for quilts in several categories. Exhibition details appear in <i>Connecting Threads</i> .
CHALLENGE	One section of the exhibition challenges members to make a quilt to a specified theme and size. These quilts become part of a traveling exhibition with their creator's permission.
SALES ROOM	A Sales Room is run in conjunction with the exhibition for the sale of patchwork- or quilting-related goods produced by financial members. A small commission is taken by Canberra Quilters Inc.
MARGARET ARMISTEAD AWARD	At the Annual Exhibition, an award for a first-time exhibitor is made in memory of Margaret Armistead, a loved member of our group. Margaret's husband donated this award to encourage new members to display their quilts and all first time exhibitors are eligible. The winner is selected by the guest who opens the exhibition.
SUITCASE EXHIBITION	This is the travelling exhibition of Challenge Quilts from our most recent exhibition. It is provided to other groups on request.
ERINDALE LIBRARY	An exhibition of Canberra Quilters work is on display at Erindale Library. The quilts are changed regularly and are often provided by a Friendship Group.

Other Information

QUILT VALUATION	Canberra Quilters Inc. offers a valuation service for which a small fee applies. A valuation certificate is necessary if you require separate insurance for your quilts at the Annual Exhibition. A list of contact numbers for valuers appears in <i>Connecting Threads</i> . A valuation request form is available on the website, in the Exhibition Edition of <i>Connecting Threads</i> or from the Exhibition Coordinator.
QUILT REGISTER	All members are encouraged to keep records of their quilts, for both personal and historical information. A form to help you with this is available on the website and later in this information sheet.
QUILT SALES	The recording of quilt sale information is an important part of our quilt valuation information. If you have sold a quilt and are willing to share this information with our valuation panel, please fill out the details on the Valuation Form and send it to the Valuation Panel, PO Box 3297 WESTON ACT 2611 The form is available on the website and later in this information sheet.

Administration Information

REIMBURSEMENT OF EXPENSES	From time to time, members of Canberra Quilters Inc incur expenses while undertaking activities on its behalf. To obtain reimbursement of these costs, and petty cash members should a reimbursement form and either give it to the Treasurer or another Committee member at the monthly meetings; or forward it to: Treasurer, Canberra Quilters Inc, PO Box 3297, WESTON CREEK ACT 2611. Please allow a reasonable time, at least seven days for your claim to be processed
FORMS	Forms are available from the website, various committee members as noted above and some appear regularly in <i>Connecting Threads</i> . A Quilt Record form and a Quilt Sale form are included below. On the Website: Membership Reimbursement Valuation application Quilt Record Quilt Sale Commissions Register Friendship Group Interest In <i>Connecting Threads</i>: Membership Commissions Register Friendship Group Interest





