

Pelican Patch

*The Official Newsletter of the Westernport Quilters inc.
P.O. Box 163, Tyabb, Victoria 3913*

On behalf of the Club and the land on which we meet, we acknowledge the Bunurong / Boon Wurrung peoples of the Kulin nation, owners of this unceded land, and pay our respect to their elders, past, present and emerging.

President's Patch January 2026

Well welcome to 2026. I hope it will be a creative, relaxing and healthy year for you. So far, I am having new changes set in. For 10 years I have done Pilates at the same time and place and now it will be a new place and time. Talk about confusing an old girl!

Liz has been busy organizing Guest speakers for this year, as well as Lesley with the Workshops and there will be a bus to AQC as well. Also we have the usual with the Saturday Sit and Sew, the Cancer Council Morning Tea, the Soup and Spud day on our general meeting day and also the Saturday of that month.

If there is anywhere for a bus trip later in the year that would be interesting to go on, please let me or any committee member know.

Like me, I am sure you feel so sorry for the people and animals that have gone through the terrible fires. If it is a Total Fire Ban day on the days we meet, the hall will not be available for us. I hope that will not happen, not because of us but the devastation the fires make.

Looking forward to seeing you all.
Keep well and safe.
Happy sewing,

Heather

Birthdays for January

Happy Birthday to the following members who share a January

Birthday

Brenda K, Carole D, Debra H, Gail E, Nadia K, Pauline M, Rae D, Sue B,



January 2026 Caring Quilts Update

During 2025 we donated 125 quilts, and around 400 other items, including Toiletry Bags to Impact for Women, and knitted teddies to the Wheelchair Kids and other charitable organisations.

We already have more donations accruing ready to donate.

The preferred sizes for our regular donations are as follows:

Premmie Quilts – 20” x 30” (approx. 50x76 cm) with a darkish backing.

Wheelchairs for Kids – about 36”- 39” square (about a yard to a metre square).

Aged Care quilts – about 38”- 45” square or rectangular, suitable for women or men.

Quilts of Valour – at least 50” x 70” (we are warned off florals, pinks and neon fabrics, but we can donate just quilt tops, rather than finished quilts. Yay!)

We can always find homes for other sizes of quilts, too.

Our fabric stash at Tyabb is large and growing.

From time to time, we receive large donations of wonderful fabrics. We hope that you will all rummage and take fabric (for free) to turn into quilts for donation through our Caring Quilts Programme.

If you want to take fabric to make quilts for family and friends, that is also great, but it would be appreciated if you would make a donation towards our Biggest Morning Tea fundraiser.

In this way the families of the donors know that the fabrics are being put to good use in providing comfort and support to many people one way or another.

Happy New Year, and may all your seams be a perfect, or scant, ¼ inch.

Carolyn Sweeting

Meeting Dates for 2026

January

January 20th General Meeting 10am – 2pm

February

February 3rd Workshop - Sun Dyeing with Jenny M - 10am - 2pm
Sit and Sew

February 14th Saturday Sit and Sew 10am – 2pm

February 17th General Meeting 10am – 2pm

March

March 3rd Workshop - Easy Hexagons - 10am - 2pm
Sit and Sew

March 14th Saturday Sit and Sew 10am – 2pm

March 17th General Meeting 10am – 2pm

April

April 7th Workshop - Crochet with Jenny M. - 10am - 2pm
Sit and Sew

April 10th AQC Bus trip

April 11th Saturday Sit and Sew 10am – 2pm

April 21st	General Meeting 10am – 2pm
May	
May 5th	Workshop - Kawandi - 10am - 2pm Sit and Sew
May 9th	Saturday Sit and Sew 10am – 2pm
May 19th	General Meeting 10am – 2pm
June	
June 2nd	Workshop - ½ square triangles - 10am - 2pm Sit and Sew
June 13th	Saturday Sit and Sew 10am – 2pm
June 16th	General Meeting 10am – 2pm
July	
July 7th	Workshop - Christmas in July. Candle wreath - 10am - 2pm Sit and Sew
July 11th	Saturday Sit and Sew 10am – 2pm - Soup and Spud
July 21st	General Meeting 10am – 2pm - Soup and Spud
August	
August 4th	Workshop and Sit and Sew 10am - 2pm
August 8th	Saturday Sit and Sew 10am – 2pm
August 18th	General Meeting 10am – 2pm
September	
September 1st	Workshop - Potato chip - 10am - 2pm Sit and Sew
September 12th	Saturday Sit and Sew 10am – 2pm
September 15th	General Meeting 10am – 2pm
October	
October 6th	Workshop and Sit and Sew 10am - 4pm
October 10th	Saturday Workshop with Irene Blanck - 10am – 4pm Sit and Sew
October 20th	General Meeting 10am – 2pm
November	
November 3rd	Workshop and Sit and Sew 10am - 2pm Loch Retreat Weekend
November 14th	Saturday Sit and Sew 10am – 2pm
November 17th	AGM and Lunch 10am – 2pm
December 12th	Saturday Sit and Sew 10am – 2pm

A big thank you to all the members who have put their names on the Welcome desk and Kitchen roster.

If you cannot attend on a nominated date, please try to find a member to replace you

Kitchen Roster - 3 Members	
January	Raelene W, Marianne B
February	Barb R,
March	Denise S,
April	Brenda K,
May	Mary

Welcome Desk Roster - 2 Members	
January	Liz T, Pauline M,
February	Raelene W, Marianne B,
March	Dawn C, Rae D,
April	Mary
May	Kathy C, Liz G,

WPQ 2026 Committee		Email: westernportquilters@gmail.com
<i>President</i>	Heather Stafford	
<i>Secretary</i>	Gaynor Backx	
<i>Vice President</i>	Carol Hayes	
<i>Treasurer</i>	Debbie Higgs	
<i>Guest speakers</i>	Liz Taylor	
<i>Caring Quilts</i>	Carolyn Sweeting	
<i>Workshop</i>	Lesley Kumar and Yvonne Pullin	
<i>Newsletter</i>	Martina Burnell	
<i>Web page contact</i>	Martina Burnell	
<i>Face book and Instagram</i>	Luisa Waterhouse	
<i>Kitchen</i>	Cynthia Parsons and Joanne Posthuma	

Kawandis (Kawandi Workshop May 5th)

One of our recent speakers, Irene Blanck, mentioned “kawandi”. Kawandi is a form of quilting introduced to India by the African Siddi people who were brought in as slaves. The African tradition is still called Siddi quilting,

Liz Gower and I (Barb) were lucky to watch women making such quilts in a village in the north of India, near the Pakistan border. For many women recycling and making these beautiful, large quilts is their only income source. They are both beautiful and functional, being used as quilts, blankets, and even mattresses.

Traditionally, the stitching has been by hand, using scraps of recycled materials including old saris as the backing . The foundation or backing is overlaid with batting and the scraps, with edges turned under: the three layers are then stitched together starting from the outside edge and working in to the centre.

The four corners are often established first using the same material. The **Phula or flowers** are added to the corners. I have found it easiest to embed them at the start. Many have added decorative patches on top called **tikeli**.

Noted exponents include:

- **Indian villages: the Northern Karnataka & Gujarat states: villages like Analesare, Mainalli, Uttara Kannada District, Dwarwad District**
- <https://www.facebook.com/reel/1173253948104665>

- **Margaret Fabrizio**
- Sujata Shah
- The Dizzy Quilter: Jennifer Strasser

Sally Rule taught a class for WPQs some years ago

Handy Hints / Experience suggests:

- work with sharp pins and needles
- A thimble and a needle gripper can help
- Baste the wadding to the backing fabric
- Various threads can be used: Sashiko, perle cotton (8 or 12 weight), fine crochet cotton (often available at op-shops) or buttonhole thread work well. Embroidery floss is less successful, it seems to twist.
- Some people use a long needle for the running stitch
- I load roughly 3-6 stitches at a time (evenly sized)
- I tend to pin some pieces on (raw edges turned under) and sew right to left
- Some people mark their lines, others keep to a ¼ " or even a finger width.
- The **size of the quilt** is dictated by the size of the backing and batting, from placements to tote bags, art pieces to table runners and large quilts.
- make sure your backing fabric is soft and easy to get your needle through.
- well worn flannelette sheets make great wadding, as do worn tea towels and tablecloths.

A ripple effect often happens, and the batting sometimes bunches as you get closer to the centre which is sometimes called "the belly" of the quilt.

Scraps can be of a similar size, or as they come. Some use glue to paste down the patches. Some stitch random pieces, others work to a design or pattern, or them

Examples: from online, names noted when known..



Mary Hogan



Rebeka Lambert



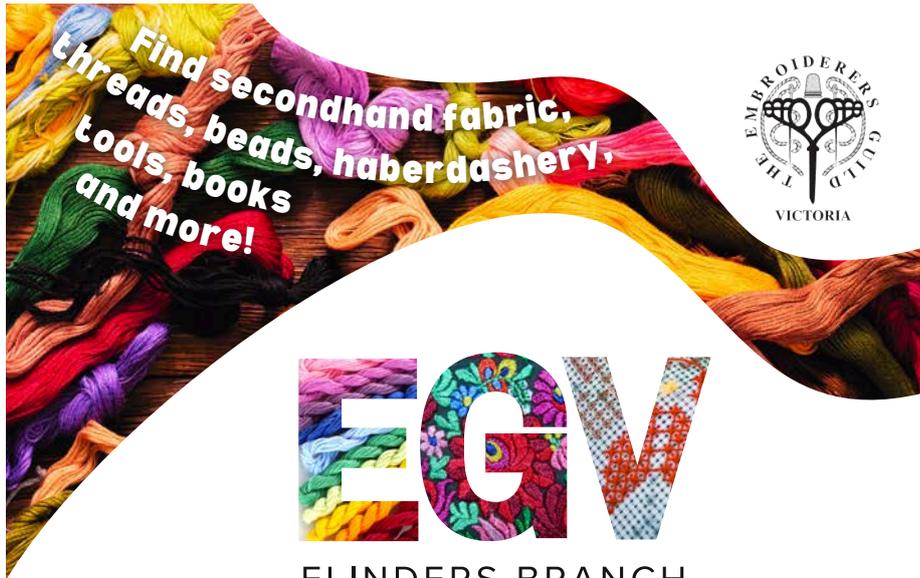
Silverbeet & Ricotta rolls (From Woolworths website) Recommended by Yvonne and taste tested by the committee

- 3 silverbeet stalks, leaves and stems roughly chopped
- 200g fresh ricotta
- 30g parmesan, finely grated
- 1 spring onion, thinly sliced
- 1/2 cup panko breadcrumbs
- 2 sheet Woolworths frozen puff pastry, partially thawed
- 1 free range egg, lightly beaten
- 3 tsp sesame seeds, toasted
- 120g baby spinach leaves
- 1/3g hot tomato chutney (to serve)

1. Preheat oven to 220°C/200°C fan-forced. Line a baking tray with baking paper. Place silverbeet, ricotta, parmesan, onion and breadcrumbs in a food processor. Process until chopped and combined (do not overprocess).
2. Lay pastry sheets on a clean work surface. Place silverbeet mixture along 1 edge of both pastry sheets. Brush opposite ends with a little egg. Starting at end with mixture, roll to enclose filling. Cut each roll in half crossways to make 4 smaller rolls.
3. Transfer rolls to tray. Brush with a little egg and sprinkle with seeds. Bake for 25 minutes or until golden and heated through.
4. Serve rolls with spinach and chutney.

Service directory

<p>Palm Beach Quilting 7/2 Industry Blvd, Carrum Downs Tel. 9775 1601 www.palmbeachquilting.com.au 10% discount for WPQ members Please present 2026 membership card.</p>	<p>Sewing Bee Café 80 Baxter-Tooradin Rd, Baxter Tel. 59715737 www.sewingbeecafe.com.au 10% discount for WPQ members Please present 2026 membership card.</p>
<p>Treehouse Textiles 64 Main Street, Mornington Tel. 0427 570 950 www.treehousetextiles.com.au 10% discount for WPQ members</p>	<p>Snugglelyn Quilts – Lyn Wright 0412 263 539 Computerised long arm quilting Special member prices Open 6 days Fat quarters, wide backing, cutters, templates, mats</p>
<p>Sewing Machine repairs Rick Wise Tel. 59831878 or 0408 557 606</p>	



FLINDERS BRANCH

Craft De-stash Market

10am - 1pm

Monday 26th January 2026 (Australia Day)

St Mark's Anglican Church Hall

1 Balnarring Rd, Balnarring



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