



May 2026 Newsletter

www.coastalquilters.org.nz

E: coastal.quilters@gmail.com



PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Hi all

This month will be a very short report. How disappointing that our May club workday had to be cancelled due to ongoing maintenance in the kitchen, everything should be in place for our June club day meeting.

Fifi Colston will be our guest speaker in June. Fifi is an illustrator, writer, costume and props maker who has entered many WOW exhibitions, looking forward to hearing about her creations.

As you are all aware our AGM is coming up in July, this is not that far away, we still need more members on the Committee. A number of present Committee members will be leaving the Committee in July; this means that there will only be 4 members left staying on the Committee. This is not enough members to carry on, a committee of 8 is required according to Coastal Quilters Constitution. It would be a shame if Coastal Quilters would have to wind up, lets hope this will not be the case.

See you all at our June meeting.

Stay healthy and safe.

Hannie

Congratulations to Prue who recently was awarded a Merit in Fox's Cottage Daphne's Challenge.



Next Sit and Stitch

Saturday, 23 May 2026

St Andrews Church Hall

Doors Open: 10.00 am

Club Day

Saturday, 13 June 2026

Plimmerton Hall, Sunset Parade, Plimmerton

Doors open: 10.30 am

Speaker: Fifi Colston

Inside this issue:

Presidents Report	1
Committee	2
June Speakers	3
Silverstream Retreat Report	3
Mini Retreat	4
Gift Quilts,	4
BOM	5
Library	5
Classes	5
Meeting Duties June & July	6
Symposium	7
Notices, Other Events	8-9
Calendar 2026	10

AGM - 11 July

See important info about Committee on next page. **A nomination form to join the Committee is attached.**

Instead of a Speaker in July we will be having a theme of Wearable Art – what you've made over the years that you could bring along to show and tell or to wear. Get your thinking caps on!! Lets make it a great fun afternoon.

In 2028 Coastal Quilters will be 40 years!!!

Marge has kindly agreed to lead this working group and is making enquiries about the hiring of a space at Pataka for a Coastal Quilters Exhibition in 2028.

If you're keen to join the sub-committee/group or have ideas on what we should do, please talk with one of our committee members. We'd love to hear your ideas.

Committee for 2027

We desperately need members to step up to join our committee for the coming year. Many of our current members are stepping down having been on the committee for a number of years and others having other commitments. Our meetings held once a month for a couple of hours are always a good time to catch up with others and see what's been happening. It will be up to the new committee to choose the timing and when and where they meet. **If you would like to become part of the committee (nothing to stop you, even if you have already been on the committee earlier!) a nomination form is attached.**

Here are brief descriptions of Committee positions. The descriptions are a very brief overview of each role but updates are provided at the Committee meetings which give the opportunity to discuss any issues, concerns or to get input from the whole group.

President	Overview of all CQ activities, normally presides over the monthly meetings, Committee meeting and AGM. (Hannie stepping down but willing to keep on coordinating Retreats)
Secretary:	Manage the record keeping and correspondence for CQ (includes monitoring our gmail account). (Moira stepping down but will stay on doing Archives and help with 40 th Celebrations)
Treasurer:	Responsible for keeping clear and accurate financial records of CQ business and for seeing that the club remains financially stable. Recently has been contact point for venue hires. (Denise stepping down but has Xero up and running so is a much easier task than in the past)
Classes:	Responsible for all matters relating to the holding of classes. (Angela is stepping down with too many other commitments)
Meeting Coordinator	Responsible for contacting potential speakers, arranging the programme and identifying what the speaker requires (tables, screen etc). (Merilyn is staying on committee)
Newsletter Editor:	Responsible for collating the content required for each edition. (Lindy is stepping down)
Block of the Month Coordinator:	Responsible for developing the BOM, making a sample and distributing the pattern/fabrics required. (Judith is stepping down)
Sales and Raffles Coordinator:	Assists with setting up and packing up the sales and raffles (ably run during the meetings by volunteers). (Nicky is stepping down)
CQ Website:	Maintains the Coastal Quilters website efficiently and to update promptly. (Lindy stepping down)
Archives:	Responsible for cataloguing any material that should be kept as a record of CQ activities. (Moira will continue with Archives)

Shelly is also stepping down. Thank you to Lisa Avery and Margaret Wright who have recently joined the committee and will be staying on.

As there are fewer people on the Committee than in the past, the roles below are currently undertaken by non-Committee members. However, different Committee members liaise with the volunteers to give updates on the roles at each Committee meeting.

Gift Quilts – Coordinates use of the donated fabrics for CQ members to make quilts for local charities.

Librarian – Responsible for purchase of new books/ magazines (budget set by the Committee), issuing items and keeping the collection up to date.

Membership - Responsible for membership subscriptions, both renewal and new.

June Meeting Speaker – Fifi Colston

Fifi is excited to showcase her thirty year journey through the World of WearableArt and the making of Meine Erste Leibe, her 2025 Award Winning entry with you. She will share her inspirations, design process, techniques and materials and answer any questions you have about creating a piece for WOW. It promises to be a fun afternoon that will leave you buzzing!

Brief Bio

Fifi Colston is a veteran of the World of WearableArts; a finalist and award winner over the years with 30 finalist entries in show culminating in her 2025 piece 'Meine Erste Leibe' winner of the Open Section and Runner-Up to the Supreme Award. She is also a costumer, novelist, children's book illustrator and creator of more than 50 published and award-winning titles. Fifi has also worked with Weta Workshop, 3 Foot 7 Productions, Pukeko Pictures, Tomorrow Rain and The Production Shed in the New Zealand TV and film industry in costume and props, as a puppet maker, illustrator and trainee scriptwriter. Fifi is very active visiting institutions, schools and community groups, inspiring budding arts and writers through workshops in creative process.



Make sure you put this date in your diary and come along. It is going to be fantastic talk.

Please feel free to bring along a guest or family member who may also be interested.

Silverstream Retreat

Another Silverstream Retreat has been and gone and what a great weekend it was. On arrival Alz was already waiting to help set up the tables and once that was done everyone got ready with their own bits and pieces and the various projects that were brought along. From then on, the machines started humming and our weekend of sewing indulgence started. It was lovely to see one of our new members, Sara, enjoying the weekend.

On the Saturday Jan's husband Don brought along their new guide dog puppy Marley. At only 14 weeks old she was already well behaved and of course we all had to give her a little cuddle. Hopefully Jan will be one of our speakers at Coastal Quilters this year, not only to talk about raising guide dog puppies but also show her amazing quilting.

On the Sunday we celebrated Janine's birthday with a delicious carrot cake which Alz organized for his wife, it was yummy. Definitely no shortage of food at Silverstream. What else can I say, come along and see for yourself how enjoyable Silverstream Retreat weekends are.

Our next Silverstream weekend will be from August 28th to August 30th.

Hannie



Jan with guide dog Marley



Jan's finished BOM Barns



Jan's finished BOM Waves



Marilyn's finished quilt top



Nicola's finished quilt top

Mini Retreat
Our next Mini Retreat at St Andrews Plimmerton will be on Friday 26 June to Saturday 27 June, a great way to carry on with your projects, whether it be hand sewing or machining, or whatever you feel like finishing at the time. We always have a yummy shared dinner on the Friday evening and lunch the next day, with ample morning and afternoon teas – somehow food and sewing go well together. Keep the date free and I will see you there. Hannie

Gift Quilt Workday

What Happens on Gift Quilt Workday?

What happens on Gift Quilt Workday, I hear you ask? Coastal Quilters supports local charities, such as Porirua Women's Refuge, He Huarahi Tamariki (School for young parents), and Foster Hope, by providing quilts, mainly for children, but there are also quilts suitable for women and parents. We work all year round making quilts, sharing the process around members. To keep momentum going and progress some of the harder quilt-making stages, we have a workday each year. Working together is always a lot more fun.

For our **Gift Quilt Workday on Saturday 30 May**, here is a bit more information:

Location: St Andrews Church Hall

Time: 9:30am – 3:00pm. This is the time we will be running, and you are welcome to come for the time that suits you.

What are we doing?

Morning:

- Piecing backings, cutting backings and batting for quilt tops, pinning some smaller quilts, quilting, making binding, sewing binding on to quilts, collating fabric collections for potential quilt tops, cutting scraps into usable sizes for piecing, and so on.

Afternoon:

- The tasks that have been started in the morning can keep going, but in the afternoon, we will run an easy quilt top sewing session.
- There will be a few different, easy patterns along with fabric from the GQ stash to make into a quilt top. I suggest working in pairs, with one person sewing and the other cutting and/or pressing. You can of course swap over as you need. If you'd like to participate, team up with a buddy ahead of time, or work with someone on the day. If you wish to do a Jelly Roll race, let me know.

Bring your tools – Sewing machine, rotary cutter and board, iron, sewing and quilting necessities, etc, but most importantly - your creative brain!

We'll have tea and coffee available but bring your own lunch or purchase from one of the local eateries.

It's going to be a fun day of working together towards creating special quilts for our charity. We're looking forward to seeing you there!

Alison Spurdle

027 306 2822

ajspurdle@gmail.com

Prue Cooke-Willis

027 337 3493

prudencecw@gmail.com

Block of Month

I will have more packs for our latest BOM at our June club day. If you don't get a pack on Saturday, instructions for our latest BOM will be emailed out and are also available on our website.

<https://coastalquilters.org.nz/block-of-the-month/>

Judith Havill

Library

Please talk to our librarian, Maree if you have any particular books or magazines you'd like to see in the library.

Classes

If you plan on attending any class can you please remember to enrol online, <https://coastalquilters.org.nz/> and then pay for the class.

- For a class to go ahead there must be a minimum of nine attendees.
- Confirmation of the class going ahead will be made four weeks out from start date.
- To secure a place within a class, the fee is to be paid in full at least four weeks prior to start of the class.

2026 Dates	Class Name	Description	Payment Code
20 June	Birds Quilt – Marg Rogerson	See photos below	Birds
15 August	Scrappy Quilts – Marg Davidson	All our registered participants for the April class will be rebooked into August. If you can't make it, sing out and we will organise a refund or credit. Please let us know ASAP as I have a waitlist for this class.	
tbc	Churn Dash – Di Barnden	Dates will be confirmed soon	Churn
19 Sept	Caddy Bag – Rosemary Ward	"Like a workman's tool caddy!"	CaddyBag



Scrappy Quilts Class with Marg Davidson



Birds Class with Marg Rogerson

If you have any suggestions of classes that you would like to do, please talk to Angela (email angelaa@xtra.co.nz) or put a note in the suggestion box which is on the sign-in table on meeting days. Occasionally a class will have an additional cost for equipment or materials.

- Your place in class is not secured until you pay. Please ensure you register and pay and do not just turn up on the day.
- All classes start at **9.30am (unless otherwise stated)** and are held at the St Andrews Church Hall, Steyne Avenue, Plimmerton unless stated otherwise. Please arrive early to set up your machines etc.
- **It is important we each remember to help clear up our own area (table away & floor clean) before leaving – we are all volunteers!**
- Please be mindful that attendance at any of our classes is for those members who have enrolled and paid to attend. Turning up without enrolment or popping in puts extra pressure on our limited space, time and tutors. Thank you.

When paying online, use the club's bank account BNZ - 02 0524 0056822 00 and please remember to include your name and the Payment Reference for the class you are doing. Classes are \$40.00 for members and \$55.00 for non members.

Meeting Helper Duties

If you are unable to do your duty please find another member who you can swap with but if you are stuck contact a committee member. Our pool of members able to contribute, especially with heavy lifting, is limited so we really appreciate your offers to help on the day, even though you may not have been down for any duty.

	June 2026	July 2026
Hall:	Lindy Mckeown	Lindy Mckeown
Kitchen:	Jan Lucas Rhonda Walmsley	Moira Butterfield Sara Devlin
Sales:	Jean Corin Verena Coleman Denise Field Nicky Gardner	Jean Corin Verena Coleman Denise Field Nicky Gardner
Raffles	Shelley Knox	Janet Swan
Library:	Margaret McLeod	Margaret Wright
Quilt Holders:	Diana Quigan Georgina Shann	Sue Tattersall Di Barnden
Frames	Alz and Janine Armstrong	Alz and Janine Armstrong

If you are new to helping out with duties, the following is a simple version of what is expected.

Hall	Please arrive by 12.45 to help put out chairs in the hall and at the end of meeting help stack any unreturned chairs to back of hall.
Kitchen	Simone brings milk, biscuits and cups etc. Prior to start of meeting, you need to put out cups, biscuits, coffee, milk in jug, make sure zip is boiled and teabags put in pot ready for the tea break. Help pour tea during break and afterwards wash up any cups and tidy up kitchen area.
Sales	A committee person (Nicky) will direct you as to what is required eg put out fabrics, books etc on sales tables, take in sales and after afternoon tea, help pack up and count all money taken in.
Raffles	Sit at raffles table and sell raffles! At end of afternoon tea, count up money taken which is then given to Denise Daniel (Treasurer)
Library	Maree and librarian helpers will give you a container of pens and as books are taken out, members name and date of return are written on library book cards. (Return date of books is the month following). Cards to be put in numerical order in container and given back to Library Helpers at end of break.

Other Helpers:


Jean Corin, Denise Field, Verena Coleman (Sales Table), Simone Etheredge (Chief Tea Lady), Maree Le Comte, Louise Shirkey, Judy Elliot (Library), Prue Cooke-Willis (Gift Quilts & Membership), Lesley Hall (Mini-retreat, Sit 'N' Stitch), Alz and Janine Armstrong (Frames & Photos), Rachel-Mary Perry (Almoner), Raewyn Hill (Greeter) .

Membership: Prue Cooke-Willis 027 337 3493 Email: prudencecw@gmail.com

Rachel-Mary Perry is our Club Almoner. Please contact Rachel-Mary on 021 1705 151 or email mperry1943@gmail.com if you know of someone coping with an illness or bereavement.

SYMPOSIUM

For those who aren't lucky enough to be going to this year's Symposium in Christchurch in October a copy of the latest **April newsletter is attached**. Besides the great classes being offered there is a fantastic choice of merchants attending and the newsletter covers those and the times they will be open. Enjoy the read even if you aren't able to attend. Class confirmations have just been emailed out to those registered **but it's not too late to register – registrations will remain open right through to September** but if you want the best choice of classes and lecture tickets, now is the time to get in!

<p style="font-size: 24px; margin: 0;">Symposium</p> <p style="margin: 5px 0 0 0;">The next Symposium will be held in Christchurch 1-6 October 2026.</p>		<p>To find out more information: https://quiltsymposium.com</p>
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Subscriptions

Payment of subscriptions can be paid after the end of May. Please include your surname and Subs in the payment reference.

Account Name: Coastal Quilters Inc.
Bank: BNZ - 02 0524 0056822 00
Account No: 02 0524 0056822 00
Ref: Subs

Have you changed your address –snail or email or phone contact?

If so, please let Prue (prudencecw@gmail.com) know so she can update lists and keep you in touch with Coastal Quilters.

SUGGESTIONS OR CONTRIBUTIONS?

Have you any ideas for a class, project, book or speaker? Please speak with one of our committee or put your ideas into the Suggestion Box on the table in the front foyer. We welcome any suggestions.

Coastal Quilters Bank Account Number

Payment of subscriptions, classes, retreats, subs, bus trips etc, please include your surname and the reason for payment eg subs, Bus trip, class name (payment reference)

Account Name: Coastal Quilters Inc.
Bank: BNZ - 02 0524 0056822 00
Account No: 02 0524 0056822 00



Club Day Raffles

We'll have more \$25 vouchers from Thimbles and Threads included in our June club day raffles,

Next Speakers

June: Fifi Colston (See above)

July: AGM and Themed Show and Tell - Wearable Art (Get your thinking caps on about what you'd like to bring along.


August: Lyndy from Stitchbird

Committee 2025/26

Hannie Van Cruchten	President /Retreats	021 0338 070
Shelley Knox	Vice/President Newsletter	027 6311 815
Nicky Gardner	Sales Table	021 0711 571
Denise Daniel	Treasurer	021 433 647
Moira Butterfield	Secretary	021 0345 580
Lindy McKeown	Newsletter/Website	021 2800 315
Angela Ambler	Classes	027 2802 391
Judith Havill	BOM/Gift Quilts	027 3198 235
Merilyn Maclachlan	Speakers	021 0222 1214

Off Committee Roles		
Maree Le Comte	Librarian	04 232 4425
Prue Cooke-Willis	Membership and Gift Quilts	027 337 3493
Alison Spurdle	Gift Quilts	027 306 2822

Patchwork Unlimited Turua
QUILT SHOW
An Exhibition of Members Quilts & Club Challenges



Where: THAMES CIVIC CENTRE
200 Mary Street, Thames


When: August 7th and 8th 9:30am to 4pm
August 9th 10am to 3pm

\$5.00 Entry | Café & Raffles available | Cash preferred, eftpos available

Featuring Aotearoa Quilters Challenges 2026

Merchants: Aroha Quilts, Tis' The Season, Bowerbird, Flossiphy, Patchwork Passion, Fabric Fixation, Katipatch, Tea Time Quilts.

Plus! Explore a wide variety of handmade items in our members **artisan market**



WHANGAMATA PATCH & QUILT
QUILT & TEXTILE ART SHOW

King's Birthday Weekend: **9am-4pm, 30-31 May**
Whangamatā Memorial Hall: **328 Port Road**

Featuring Guest Exhibitor: **Cherie Gurney**

Come visit many of your favourite merchants, including Pfaff and Bernina

Aotearoa Quilters Challenges

Raffles
Café on site
Quilts for sale

EFTPOS available
\$5 entry (kids free)



TPQ.co.nz


Quilt Festival 2026
Stratford War Memorial Centre
61 - 63 Miranda Street
Whakaoahurangi, Stratford
15th & 16th May
10am - 4pm
17th May 10am - 3pm
Theme: Friendship
Cost: General \$10... Under 15 years: Free entry



Quilt Exhibition - Raffles - Guest Exhibitor - Jennifer Patterson
Merchant Mall - Quilter's Shop

Stratford District


THANK YOU TO THE STRATFORD DISTRICT CREATIVE COMMUNITIES NZ FOR THEIR CONTINUED SUPPORT OF OUR QUILT FESTIVAL

Another Podcast – Quilter on Fire

Brandy Maslowski hosts the Quilter on Fire podcast – your weekly dose of quilt-inspired stories to listen to while you quilt. Brandy is an ex firefighter who got into quilting and decided to make a full time business out of it.

Coastal Quilters Events Calendar 2026

May	15-17	Quilt Festival 2026 – Taranaki Patch Workers Exhibition, Stratford
	23	Sit and Stitch, St Andrews Church Hall, Plimmerton
	30	Gift Quilts Workday, St Andrews Church Hall, Plimmerton
	30-31	Whangamata Patch and Textile Art Show, Whangamata Memorial Hall, 328 Port Road
June	13	Club Meeting, Plimmerton Hall
	20	Class: Birds Quilt, Marg Rogerson
	26/27	Mini Retreat, St Andrews Church Hall, Plimmerton
July	11	AGM and Club Meeting, Plimmerton Hall
	25	Sit and Stitch, St Andrews Church Hall, Plimmerton
August	8	Club Meeting, Plimmerton Hall
	7-8	Quilt Show Patchwork Unlimited Turua, Thames Civic Centre, 200 Mary St, Thames \$5.00 entry
	22	Sit and Stitch, St Andrews Church Hall, Plimmerton
	28-30	Full Retreat Silverstream
September	12	Club Meeting, Plimmerton Hall
	26	Sit and Stitch, St Andrews Church Hall, Plimmerton
October	1-6	Quilting Symposium 2026 – Threads of our Time, Christchurch
	10	Club Work Day, Plimmerton Hall
November	27/28	Mini Retreat, St Andrews Church Hall, Plimmerton
December	12	Club Meeting, Plimmerton Hall
2027		
May	14-16	Great NZ Quilt Show, Hamilton