



We're Back!

Hi Everyone,

Ok, here we are, all back from the Australian Textile Exhibition in one piece! A big Thank You to Everyone that visited, sent good luck wishes and of course Everyone that kindly let us exhibit their work for all to enjoy! We are still in the process of sending back exhibit pieces, a lot slower than usual, but we had the complication of 3,000m of fabric arriving RIGHT in the middle of it all, so we had to get all that on the shelves to make the place spick and span before we would safely bring back in all the beautiful pieces.





To get a full look at what we got up to, go to Facebook: [Australian Textile Exhibition](#), there are lots of photos there!

Our Great Australian Bag Challenge Winners were just three from a beautiful collection of Australian Themed Bags. Congrats to everyone who made the effort and got involved. If you had a bag in the Challenge and didn't get there, please be assured your bag was admired by hundreds of appreciative visitors! And not just Quilters, lots of people visiting the Gardens who had the lovely surprise of finding our Exhibition was on, and who were happy to get involved and vote for their favourite!

First Prize

Outback Buddies by Marisa Penklis from St. Helens, Tasmania.

There must be something in the water down there because St Helens has an unusually high number of talented quilters per capita, many of whom are members of the Break O'Day Stitchers! Rumour has it (from Marisa's mouth) that she is pretty much self taught and a mere 25 years old, look out folks, she's just getting started! Check out that 3D knitted and felted gumtree, and don't even get me started on the Kookaburra....



Second Prize

Summer Song by Suzann Moss from Mt. Evelyn, Victoria

I've been a fan of Suzann's work for many years, but I was completely blown away by this amazing entry when she dropped it off at the warehouse, obviously a lot of our voters thought so too. That cicada awakens the senses and the photo doesn't do the free hanging copper metallic gum leaves justice!



Third Prize

Work Mates by Stephanie Allen from Mirani, Queensland

If the name is familiar, you'd be right, Steph was our First Prize Winner last year. If there was a prize for the bag that made people crack an Aussie smile, this would be a finalist, two Aussie kelpies combined with bailing twine handles secured with Blundstone boot heel loops, now what's more fun and Aussie than that!



May Open Days

Now if you are around this week, but didn't make it to the Exhibition, you are in for a treat, as our Open Days are Friday 25th and Saturday 26th this week from 10 to 3. These winning bags will be on display at the Warehouse, along with a couple more favourites of mine that will be featured in a Quilters Companion story later this year. So come along and get up close and personal to check out some amazing work.

Tidy, Shiny and New

This week we have really turned the Warehouse office into a fabric shop, with all my designs, the latest Imperial Collection, the new Melba coordinates and new kits and samples. Out in the Warehouse is our colour wall of coordinates, a big clearance table at \$8/m and loads of beautiful remnants packs. There are also loads of half price threads, a full collection of our patterns and the chance to get some help with your upcoming Winter projects!

Aussie Ottoman

This great project was designed by Carol Lewis, and we have made up a Gumleaf version for our first kit. Every now and then its fun to try something new, and this is certainly a very practical as well as fun project for Winter.

Grab a kit, or just a pattern if you have lots of 6 1/2" squares just waiting to be used! It's 18" x 18" x 18".

[Pattern](#) \$13 [Kit](#) \$55



Centre Stage

Its big, bold and gives you the opportunity to really let your favourite big print shine! Our version features the Project Panel print from Melba, which we also have available in Orange & Cream, Pink & Grey or Pink & Ivory. And yes, we are happy to custom kit it for you in any of these different colour combos.

It's a classic Kaleidoscope design with a few new twists and turns, and it's loads of fun. 75" square

[Pattern](#) \$13 [Kit](#) \$195 containing 5m of feature print plus coordinates and background.



And Lots More

And YES there's lots more, but Rob wants to get cracking on this lot and I can always come back tomorrow night! Oh, and for all those lovely ladies who used to come to my house when we had the shop in the loungeroom and who watched my little boys run around the backyard during Saturday morning classes, Phil is 21 Thursday, just to make you all feel soooo young!

Warm Wishes and Happy Sewing, Leesa

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