

Canberra Quilters Members' Exhibition 2026

held in conjunction with and support from *Craft Alive*

ENTRY PACK

***Please read this document carefully before completing your entry form.
The conditions of entry and categories are designed to encourage all levels of
quiltmaker to enter.***

CHECKLIST

Before completing your entry forms you will need the following information and items:

- **Member details:** your name or the name of the person entering, membership number, contact details.
- **Quilt details:** quilt name, size (in centimetres), appropriate category, 50 to 100-word artist's statement, design source (publication, pattern, artwork, photo or a kit/block of the month), name of the person who quilted it.
- **Copyright permissions (if applicable):** in jpg, PDF or Word format.
- **Photo:** a clear colour photo of the whole front of the quilt you are entering, or for Creative Clothing – back and front.

KEY DATES

Eligibility Date	5 February 2026
Opening date for entry forms	10 March 2026
CLOSING DATE for submitting Sales Room <i>Intention to Sell</i> Form (excluding Exhibition items)	17 April 2026 – 11.59pm
CLOSING DATE for submitting <i>Exhibition Entry</i> and <i>Volunteer Form for Exhibitors and Non-Exhibitors</i> Forms	17 April 2026 - 11.59pm
Receive entry acknowledgement from Exhibition Secretary	24 April 2026
DELIVERY of quilts and Creative Clothing to Canberra Quilters' room at Cook	Saturday, 9 May 2.00 pm to 4.00 pm
Photography Day	TBA
Judging Day	TBA
SALES ROOM DELIVERY Day	20 May 11.00 am to 2.00 pm
Exhibition hanging day	20 May, 9.00 am until done

EXHIBITION DAYS	21 - 24 May 9.30 am to 4.00 pm
Best of Show announced at Exhibition opening ceremony	21 May, 11 am
COLLECTION of items from Exhibition and Sales Room	24 May, 5.00 pm
PRESENTATION NIGHT for awarding of certificates and prizes	4 June, 7.30 pm

KEY ADDRESSES

Delivery of quilts and Creative Clothing	Canberra Quilters' Room at 41 Templeton Street Cook ACT 2614
Delivery of Sales Room items for sale	Budawang Building, Exhibition Park in Canberra
Exhibition venue	Budawang Building, Exhibition Park in Canberra
Collection of quilts, Creative Clothing and Sales Room items	Budawang Building, Exhibition Park in Canberra
Presentation Night	Cook Community Hall at 41 Templeton Street Cook ACT 2614

KEY PEOPLE

Exhibition Coordinator	Maria Morson - exhibition@canberraquilters.org.au or 0412 801 842
Exhibition Secretary	Elaine White - exhibition.entry@canberraquilters.org.au or 0419 268 012
Raffle Coordinator	TBA -
Roster Coordinator	Christine Stewart - exhibition.roster@canberraquilters.org.au or 0427 635 163
Sales Room Sub-Committee Contacts	Kay Provins: 0412 246 420 Joanne West: 0407 158 167

DEFINITIONS

You are an **eligible member** if you have paid your membership of Canberra Quilters Inc. by midnight of the first general meeting of the calendar year – this year that is **5 February 2026**.

A **Professional quilter** is an *eligible member* who:

- has won two or more **major awards** in *a major show*,
- has won Best of Show in *a major show*,
- has financial involvement, teaches or publishes in any medium in the field of quilting, and/or
- sells, designs or participates in making quilts for **commercial gain**. Members who **only** sell quilts through the Canberra Quilters' sales room are excluded.

Any teacher accredited by the Canberra Quilters Accredited Teachers Program is deemed a Professional for the purposes of Canberra Quilters and its annual Exhibition. Once a member has achieved Professional status, Amateur status cannot be resumed. The Canberra Quilters Committee has the final say in deciding an entrant's Professional or Amateur status. Any exhibitor entering a winning quilt as an Amateur and who is found to be of Professional status will forfeit their award and prize, even after the event.

A **major show** is a State or Territory guild's judged Exhibition or competition, or a national or international judged Exhibition or competition.

A **major award** is a first-place in any category that is considered for Best of Show in a major show (excludes Tiny Treasure, Challenge, Creative Clothing or similar categories); or the winning of an Amateur Encouragement Award, and a First Place in any major show. These awards may be won in the same or different years.

Commercial gain is defined as any amount above the cost of creating the quilt, cost of creating any article, design, teaching aids including samples, notes and travel expenses.

A **junior entrant** is a child or teen under 18 years of age, who is either sponsored by a financial member or is a junior member in their own right. Age is determined at the beginning of the school year.

A **novice entrant** is an amateur member over the age of 18 years, who has been undertaking patchwork and quilting for three (3) years or fewer. This includes times prior to the individual becoming a member of Canberra Quilters Inc.

Commercial quilting is quilting done by a commercial quilting business for which payment has been made.

A quilt is at least three layers, held together with stitching or tying, unless an exception is specified in the category description.

A completed quilt (condition 3) is fully quilted with finished edges (binding or some other suitable edge finish). Hanging sleeves and labels are Exhibition requirements and are not regarded as part of the quilt.

ELIGIBILITY

1. Only **eligible members** of Canberra Quilters Inc. may exhibit a quilt or item of Creative Clothing in the Canberra Quilters Members' Exhibition.
2. Quilts and items of Creative Clothing not previously shown at a Canberra Quilters Members' Exhibition are eligible for entry.
3. Quilts and items of Creative Clothing must have been completed after **1 January 2024**. A quilt/Creative Clothing item does not have to be completed for an entry form to be submitted by the closing date, however it should be able to comply with the requirements for a suitable photograph (condition 17).

ADMINISTRATION FEES

4. A **non-refundable** administration fee of \$15 is required with your exhibition entry form(s). This covers all exhibition entries by a member.
5. A **non-refundable** administration fee of \$15 is required with your *Intention to Sell* Form. This covers all Sales Room entries by a member. Members who have entered items in the Exhibition and intend to sell those items, are not required to pay this administration fee, however they **must** complete an *Intention to Sell* Form.
6. Fees mentioned in conditions 4 and 5 are required to be made at the time the exhibition entry form, or *Intention to Sell* forms are submitted. This includes direct debits to the Canberra Quilters bank account. No refunds will be offered unless the Exhibition is cancelled by Canberra Quilters.
7. Junior entrants are not required to pay an administration fee.
8. Interstate and overseas entrants must also pay for return postage of their entered items unless they have authorised another member to collect their item(s).

CONDITIONS OF ENTRY

9. Canberra Quilters Inc. respects the rights of Indigenous Australians to own and control their heritage. Therefore, entrants should refrain from incorporating design elements derived from Indigenous heritage into their quilts without the informed consent of the Indigenous owners. *Note:* Commercially printed fabrics featuring Indigenous motifs are acceptable and are able to be used without issue.
10. Canberra Quilters Inc. also believes that artists, designers or photographers are entitled to have their copyright protected and their work correctly attributed. Please read the section on **Copyright and Attribution** to ensure your entry complies with this requirement.
11. Eligible members may enter up to two quilts for judging. You may also enter a Challenge Quilt, a Tiny Treasure Quilt and up to two items of Creative Clothing. Additional items may be entered in Category 4: Display Only, however not all items may be displayed. Group Quilts (Category 5) are not counted as one of the two quilts, but joint quilts (condition 14) are.
12. A **separate entry form** is required for each quilt or item of Creative Clothing submitted. Entry forms for the Exhibition or Sales Room must be completed **online**. A Worksheet is available to assist members prepare their entry form prior to commencing the online process. If members are having any issues, they should contact the Exhibition Coordinator, Exhibition Secretary or Sales Room contacts listed in the **Key People** section.
13. If entered under one eligible member's name, the quilt must be entirely that person's work, including construction, quilting and binding (excludes quilts in Category 5 and Category 6).
14. If two people enter a quilt or Creative Clothing item, both must be eligible members. You may enter two joint quilts for judging in categories where you are eligible (condition 11). Either of you may individually enter another quilt in a category in which you have entered only one joint quilt. Joint quilts/Creative Clothing items for the purposes of the Canberra Quilters' Exhibition are deemed to be treated the same as a quilt/Creative Clothing item made by an individual member. Where the two members have a different Exhibition status (i.e. Professional or Amateur), the higher Exhibition status will apply. Joint quilts are excluded from Categories 1, 5 and 6. Joint quilts are also excluded from Categories 13 and 14 which have separate conditions.
15. Children and youth entrants may enter only the appropriate school-level category. Quilts must be predominantly the work of the entrant and not be commercially quilted. Unless specifically included, children and youth entrants are not eligible for the special awards.
16. **Category 1: Challenge Quilt** for 2026 is '**Fifty**'. Challenge quilts are not eligible for nomination in any award unless specifically included (Novice Award).

17. A **colour photograph** must accompany each entry form, except Challenge and Tiny Treasure entries. Images must be clear and of the whole front of the quilt. Creative Clothing photos should include a front and back view of each item. Clear images are crucial in ensuring the Exhibition Designer can do their job appropriately.

18. **All quilts must:**

- be able to be pinned on a screen or hung on a rod. No framed items or mounted objects will be accepted.
- be no bigger than 260 cm length or width, unless otherwise specified in the category descriptions. Quilts found to be larger than this size when measured on delivery day will not be accepted and will not be judged.
- have a hanging sleeve sewn across the top of the back of the quilt, to a finished depth of 10 cm. Quilts of 240 cm or greater in width **must** have a split sleeve (instructions are on the Canberra Quilters website).
- have a temporary covered label sewn to the back of the quilt (on the **bottom left-hand side** looking at the back of the quilt) or placed inside the garment stating, at least, the name of the entrant and the title of the item, which preferably should be the same title as submitted on the entry form (instructions are on the Canberra Quilters website).
- unless you are entering your quilt in Category 4: Display Only, have a temporary cover over the label to maintain anonymity during judging (instructions are on the Canberra Quilters' website).
- be able to be folded as part of the Exhibition process. No special handling arrangements are possible for items entered in the Exhibition.

19. It is your responsibility to adhere to copyright law (see www.copyright.org.au for more information). You **must** also include design source details in your artist statement as part of the entry process. Example of the development of an artist statement is included below and on the Canberra Quilters' website.

ARTIST STATEMENT

This is a concise (1 to 2 paragraphs, around 50 to 100 words) statement in your own voice introducing your work. The statement should touch on your vision and how quilting allows you to express that vision.

The suggested themes to cover in your statement are:

1. The inspiration for the work - what motivated you to choose your particular subject and design and why you chose quilting to give voice to your inspiration.
2. Artistic process - the technical aspects of the work such as design, specific quilting techniques, fabric, colours and whether any experimental or unique techniques were employed.
3. Meaning and impact - what you would like the viewer to consider in how the finished work aligns with the inspiration.
4. Context and future goals - how the piece fits in your artistic journey in developing themes and techniques.

Sample Artist Statement:

"This original design was inspired by the shifting colours of Autumn, the quilt represents the delicate balance between change and stability. I chose bold, warm tones to symbolize the fleeting beauty of fall, contrasting them with the cool, muted blues of winter's approach. Using hand-dyed fabrics and a combination of traditional piecing and modern quilting techniques, I aimed to bring out the dynamic energy of the seasons. This quilt is part of my exploration into how nature and emotion intertwine, and how fabric and colour can tell a story of transformation."

Attribution (if required): Pattern Designer, photograph or Publication - is there something that needs to be included here? If so, please read the next section carefully.

Commented [EW1]:

COPYRIGHT AND ATTRIBUTION

Another person's copyright

20. If someone else has drawn a design, or taken a photo, they own the copyright to that design or photo. The original item does not need to display a copyright symbol or statement: the mere act of drawing the design or taking the photo gives the artist, designer or photographer copyright on the image.

21. You must obtain written permission and pay any fee sought to use copyrighted material. You should attach a copy of each permission to the relevant entry form. If you are not able to obtain written

permission your quilt may not be able to be displayed.

22. If you used a purchased pattern, a pattern from a book, magazine or online, or attended a workshop, you have paid for the right to use the pattern for personal use. This includes displaying your quilt in an Exhibition. You **must** detail your source on the entry form – whether you have used the actual pattern or adapted the pattern. Please include the name of the pattern and designer. Also identify the source (publication, book, or website (online address)); and if from a magazine, the name of that publication, date/year and issue, or from a book, the author.

23. If you copied an image from a postcard, painting, book, comic or cartoon, photo, CD or DVD cover or copyrighted website you will have breached copyright law if you do not obtain permission from the copyright owner to exhibit your quilt. If you intend to display your quilt publicly, obtain copyright approval **before** you start your quilt. The copyright holder may not give you permission to replicate their design.

24. You must supply full details and give sufficient attribution if your quilt or Creative Clothing item was made in a class or a workshop (including online), from a kit or block of the month, a publication or commercial pattern, whether printed or online; or is commercially quilted.

25. Copyright does not attach to techniques or to most traditional patchwork and appliqué block designs that are regarded as being in the public domain. However, please identify the traditional patchwork or appliqué block.

Your copyright

26. You own copyright on your completed quilt or item of Creative Clothing. By signing the 'Acceptance of Conditions of Entry' declaration on the *Exhibition Entry Form* you are granting permission for Canberra Quilters Inc. to reproduce an image of your quilt or item of Creative Clothing.

27. Canberra Quilters reserves the right to photograph your entry for its records and to use those photos for publicity and other appropriate purposes, such as the newsletter, website, electronic catalogue or magazine reviews.

28. Unsolicited reports and reviews containing images may also appear in newspapers, print publications and online. Canberra Quilters permits the general public to photograph exhibits for their personal use.

JUDGING

29. You may nominate a **maximum of two quilts and two items of Creative Clothing for judging**, in addition to Category 1: Challenge Quilt and Category 2: Tiny Treasure Quilt. The two quilts may be entered in separate categories, or in one category. Category 5: Group Quilts are excluded from this

provision.

30. If you do not want your quilt or item of Creative Clothing to be judged, you must select Category 4: Display Only on your entry form. Your quilt or item of Creative Clothing must still conform to all relevant conditions of entry. If you enter more than two items for judging as per condition 11, those additional quilts must be entered in Category 4: Display Only.

31. Quilts you have made from **kits** where the fabric has been provided with the pattern must be entered in Category 4: Display Only and will not be judged. Quilts you have made through a **block of the month program** may only be judged when you have made **all** the fabric choices. In both cases you must indicate on your entry form the designer and source of purchase.

32. The judge's decision will be final; no correspondence will be entered into. Volunteers on the day will not discuss the judge's decisions with anyone external to the judging day process.

33. If the judge believes the item submitted for judging (quilt or Creative Clothing) does not meet the conditions of the category or an award, that item will not be judged. This exclusion may extend to artist statements that are required to describe features of that item and why it has been entered into a particular category/award. Please ensure you read the requirements set out in the Description of the Categories and Awards document thoroughly. Also please be aware that if an item is deemed by the judge to be ineligible, that item may not be displayed at the Exhibition.

34. If the judge believes the standard of work is not high enough in a category, the judge reserves the right not to grant any awards or prizes in that category.

35. The judge will not provide written or verbal feedback about any entry. However to assist members, some of the criteria the Judge will consider in examining each item are mentioned below, but this is not a definitive list –

- judging is undertaken to establish the workmanship of the maker as it relates to the construction of the item; the appropriateness of fabric choice for the quilt design; the visual impact and emotional response the item evokes; the tidiness/cleanliness of the item (removal of pet hair; loose threads, etc.); how tidy the back of the quilt looks (have threads been properly buried); whether a false back has been attached to hide messy quilting (the judge needs to be able to see the quilting from the front and the back); the evenness of stitching (hand or machine); the fullness of the binding and the square of the quilt. Originality, creativity, design, surface embellishment and colour are also considered.
- the use of long arm quilting in junior categories can be problematic as the judge may weigh their decision on whether the junior maker stitched the quilting; or whether the machine was computerized and stitched the quilting. This should be clarified on the entry form.

- a judge may seek to hear the artist's statement, particularly for Challenge or Art Quilts to understand the decision-making process of the maker. It is recommended that makers give some thought to the artist statement rather than repeating construction techniques.

36. Neither the Exhibition Coordinator nor the judge will move entries out of their nominated categories without the consent of the quilt maker unless they are entered in a category for which they are not eligible.

37. Categories may be further subdivided at the discretion of the Exhibition Coordinator in conjunction with the Canberra Quilters' Committee. If the number of entries in any one category is low, the Exhibition Coordinator may, without notice, reduce the number of prizes to be awarded.

QUILT AND CREATIVE CLOTHING DELIVERY

38. You must deliver your quilts and items of Creative Clothing to the Canberra Quilters' room in Cook on the specified date within the specified timeframe. If you are unable to do so you must, **before that date**, have arranged delivery to another Canberra Quilters member or Exhibition Sub-Committee member.

39. Items of Creative Clothing must be delivered on a labeled hanger in a labeled garment bag or carry bag.

VOLUNTEERS ON ROSTERED SHIFTS

40. Canberra Quilters is a volunteer run organisation; the Exhibition could not be mounted without our volunteers. Members exhibiting **one or two quilts** are asked to do **one rostered shift** at the Exhibition; those exhibiting **three or more quilts** are asked to do **two rostered shifts**. Should the entry be a joint quilt, only one of the members is required to undertake a rostered shift; the makers to decide amongst themselves whom that should be. Group quilts are also required to nominate a member to undertake a rostered shift. Please complete the *Exhibition Volunteer Form for Exhibitors and Non-Exhibitors*. Junior entrants are not required to do a roster shift.

41. If you are required (or seek) to do two shifts, those shifts are to be done on the same day. A short break may be taken between shifts. Three or four shifts are to be done over **only two days**. You are expected to arrive 10 minutes before your shift is due to start and remain at your assigned roster task for the duration of your shift, except for necessary toilet breaks.

42. To gain entry to the Craft Alive Fair to undertake your rostered shift, you must wear your Canberra Quilters' name badge. To enter the Fair itself, you must purchase a ticket.

43. If you are unable to perform your roster shifts you must, **at the time of entry**, nominate another Canberra Quilter as a substitute to perform your shift.

44. Please consider doing a shift on hanging day or at Exhibition takedown.
45. Shifts undertaken on delivery day, photography day or judging day are recognised as part of a member's roster obligations.
46. **Non-exhibiting members** may volunteer to perform one or more shifts on the roster.
47. To sell items in the **Sales Room** you must do a Sales Room roster shift for each 50 items, or part thereof, submitted for sale. **This is a separate obligation to your Exhibition roster obligation.** Three or four shifts are to be done over only two days.
48. You may have roster obligations in both the Exhibition and the Sales Room. However, volunteers who as part of their roles are obliged to undertake multiple preparatory duties over many days in the lead up to and during the four days of the Exhibition, may have their shift requirements adjusted upon request to and at the discretion of the Exhibition Coordinator.

QUILT APPRAISAL AND INSURANCE

Appraisal

49. Canberra Quilters offers an appraisal service of \$20 per quilt for members. A signed Valuation Certificate will authenticate your quilt's value for insurance purposes. Appraisal is conducted by two experienced appraisers. Please contact Beth Reid on 0410 865 140 to make a booking. Visit <https://canberraquilters.org.au/quilt-appraisers/> for more information.

Insurance

50. Quilts are entered at your own risk and insurance is your responsibility. While taking every care, Canberra Quilters Inc. is not liable for any loss, damage or destruction of Exhibition items, however such loss, damage or destruction is caused, including any negligent act or omission, fault or cause.

AT THE EXHIBITION

51. Canberra Quilters reserves the right to exercise its discretion in the selection and display of Exhibition items.
52. Due to space limitations it may not be possible to display all quilts and/or items of Creative Clothing entered. Where you enter multiple quilts and/or items of Creative Clothing you must indicate an order of hanging or display preference on your entry forms. The Exhibition Coordinator and Exhibition Designer will determine which items to display based on the order of preference you indicated, as well as the photo you supplied.

53. Initial acceptance of your entry does not automatically guarantee display.
54. Items selected for display must remain in place for the duration of the Exhibition.
55. If your Exhibition quilt(s) and/or item(s) of Creative Clothing are for sale, you **must** complete an *Intention to Sell* form and register that item with the Sales Room. You should also provide a sales price for attaching to the item.

SECURITY

56. Craft Alive provides general security at the Exhibition. Canberra Quilters undertakes passive security measures such as secure pinning of quilts to screens, using a security wire through the sleeve of small quilts and undertaking white glove duties during the Exhibition.

PRIZES

57. Prizes and certificates will be given to winners at the Presentation Night on 4 June 2026, starting at 7.30pm in the Cook Community Hall at 41 Templeton Street Cook ACT. All members are encouraged to attend and bring their Exhibition items to show. Except for the Best of Show and major Encouragement awards, prizes cannot be collected at the Exhibition. If members are unable to attend Presentation Night to accept their prize, they should make some arrangement for collection of their prize. Please contact the Exhibition Secretary to organize this.

BEST OF SHOW

58. A quilt judged as Best of Show will represent the ACT at any Australia-wide quilt shows, and therefore your quilt must be available for travel in 2027.
59. Breaking of this contract will require return of all prizes associated with the award. If you withdraw a quilt from this tour for reasons other than misadventure (such as fire or theft) you will be ineligible to have your quilts considered for the Best of Show award in **any** Australian State or Territory guild Exhibition for the following two years. If your quilt is sold, it must be sold under the condition that it be available to tour in the following year.
60. A quilt that has won a Best of Show or Best of State award in any other State or Territory Exhibition at any time cannot be considered for Best of Show in the Canberra Quilters' Exhibition. Please ensure this is noted on your entry. It can, however, still be eligible for a Category Award or a Special Award.

SALES ROOM

61. The Sales Room has a reputation for selling high quality items. It aims to maintain existing customers and attract new ones. Items must be well made and neatly finished, using good quality materials. The Sales Room Information and Condition of Entry brochure details the requirements for sale items.

62. You may not sell items that compete with merchant hall stallholders.

63. If you intend selling items in the Sales Room you must complete an *Intention to Sell* form (available on the Canberra Quilters website) and return it by the entry deadline to the address on the form. You will then be sent a Seller's Kit, which contains barcodes, inventory sheets and other sales information. You need these to get your items ready for sale.

64. Canberra Quilters provides display equipment, cash registers and EFTPOS facilities, collects money and records sales. For these services, Canberra Quilters keeps a 15% commission on items sold and Craft Alive will retain a further 5% commission. After the Exhibition, sellers will receive a statement detailing the bank deposit from Canberra Quilters for their sales, minus the commissions.

65. While we make every effort to keep the Sales Room secure, shoplifting does happen. Canberra Quilters cannot accept responsibility for items that go missing; we strongly encourage sellers to be vigilant while doing their Sales Room roster shifts in order to thwart such antisocial behaviour.

COLLECTING QUILTS, CREATIVE CLOTHING AND SALES ROOM ITEMS

66. You must collect your quilts, Creative Clothing and unsold Sales Room items from the Exhibition venue on the specified date and at the specified time. All items must be signed out.

67. No children under 15 years of age are permitted in the pavilion at this time. Please make arrangements for childcare or authorise someone else to collect your exhibits and/or Sales Room items.

68. If at the time of completing your entry you know you will be unable to attend collection day you must indicate on your entry form that you have authorised another Canberra Quilters member or Exhibition Sub-Committee member to collect on your behalf. If you subsequently learn you are unable to attend you must authorise someone to collect items on your behalf, and inform the Exhibition Secretary in writing before collection time.

69. Our volunteers will start taking down quilts and organising unsold items when the show has formally closed, ensuring all visitors have cleared the area. We must check all items, both Exhibition and Sales Room, off a master list before releasing them to you (or your authorised representative). You may not collect items before 5.00 pm or before they have been checked off the list and will be asked to wait in a designated area until that time.

70. You will need to wear a HiVis work vest while collecting your items. Canberra Quilters will

supply you with one for use within the pavilion. Please collect and return vests at the Budawang Building.

71. Canberra Quilters Inc. will not be responsible for items not collected. The Exhibition Secretary will arrange return of interstate or overseas quilts as necessary.