



### In This Issue

- Message from the President ..... [1](#)
- Meet Our Industry Partners ..... [2](#)
- Upcoming Events..... [3](#)
- Jackie Kennedy, Fashion Icon ..... [3](#)
- Around the Nation ..... [4](#)
- CanSupport..... [5](#)
- Tips and Techniques..... [6](#)
- Easy Cardigan Project..... [6](#)
- Apron Project ..... [6](#)
- Magic Millions Winner ..... [7](#)
- 2017 Sew Chic Calendar ..... [8](#)
- Diary Dates ..... [8](#)
- Contacts ..... [8](#)

## Message from the President



Welcome to a new year and the first edition of AUSSEW News for 2017. Let's kick off with exciting news - plans for the **ASG Convention 2018** are under way. It's been a while since Victoria hosted the event so we're moving to Melbourne. More precisely, the Mantra Bell City Hotel in Preston. For now, mark the dates **6 to 10 August 2018** in your diary. That may seem like a long way off but the reality is it will be here in the blink of an eye. The convention committee has dived in and is working hard to bring you a fantastic event. Stay tuned for

more information.

Meanwhile, Neighbourhood Groups around the country will be busy planning their activities for 2017. Please consider sharing your schedule with everyone by completing the **Planner Template** found under [Diary Dates](#) on the website. It's a great way to attract new members, welcome visits from existing members who attend other groups, and to get inspiration for your own group. Likewise, any retreats, Industry Days or other special events should be advertised on the website. You don't need to wait until all plans are finalised before advertising; if you have a date picked, let us know by sending the information to [webcontent@aussew.org.au](mailto:webcontent@aussew.org.au). We love to hear what you have been doing and what you plan to do. Share, share, share....



Have you booked your seat for the **20th Anniversary Lunch** on **25th March 2017**? It's not too late to secure a spot for what's sure to be a fun afternoon. See [Diary Dates](#) on the website for full details. Hope to see you there.

## Meet Our Industry Partners

Like a lot of you, I have been sewing since I was very young. As I got older I developed a taste for more unusual fabric designs and noticed that they were becoming harder to get in Australia. I was sure that I couldn't be the only person trying to source these fabrics so I went out on a limb and Voodoo Rabbit Fabric was born in 2009 to fill this gap.



In addition to funky fabrics Voodoo Rabbit Fabric has a large selection of bag patterns from many popular designers and one of the largest ranges of bag hardware in Australia so you will find everything required to make stunning professional-looking bags!

An exciting recent addition to our fabric range is cork fabric - created by adhering thin slices of natural cork onto a fabric backing. It is similar to leather but much easier to sew with - making it brilliant for bags and purses. All of our products are available from the website or you can come in and browse our exciting range at your pleasure, oops, leisure! Kylie

Web: [www.voodooorabbit.com.au](http://www.voodooorabbit.com.au)

Blog: [www.voodoo-rabbit.blogspot.com](http://www.voodoo-rabbit.blogspot.com), Facebook: [www.facebook.com/voodooorabbitfabric](http://www.facebook.com/voodooorabbitfabric)

Phone: 0422 215 053, Showroom: Shop 1 / 466 Ipswich Rd Annerley QLD 4103, Open: Tuesday - Saturday

---

Anne Whalley, also known as “The Pattern Whisperer” loves fabric and is an avid sewer. A full-time Personal Stylist, Colour Consultant & International Motivational Speaker, her mission is to help people Dress to Express themselves and feel confident in their skin.

She listens to people and takes them on a journey that help them move forward and break free from situations and take control of their lives. The surprising part is how wearing the right clothes is the key to their breakthrough!

Anne’s 12-month Mentor & Coaching Program - **Next Level Up Sewing with Style Program** is available worldwide.

This includes:

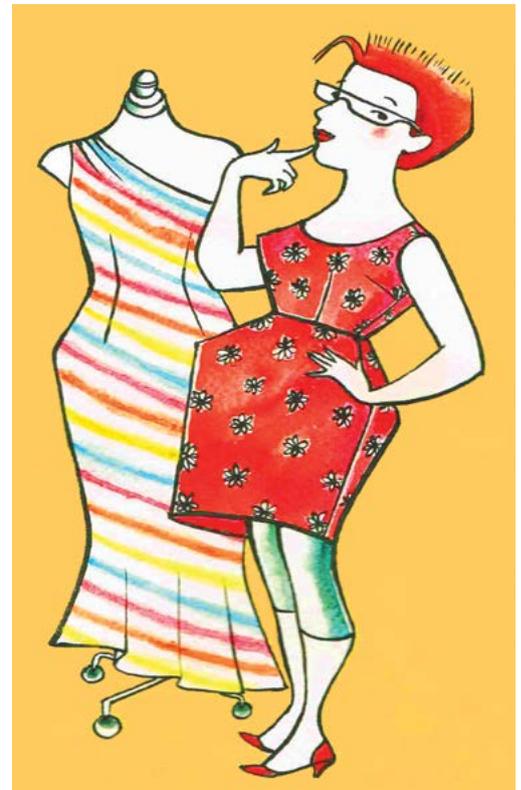
- Initial Analysis of your Style
- 4 Seasons of Sewing, Coaching & Mentoring
- Advice on selecting your best patterns & fabric.

Get ready to get excited about what comes off your sewing table. A 12-month journey at your own pace, to take you from the “as is” on and up to the next level. This program is personally tailored to you. It is fun, challenging and rewarding for every level of sewer. 12-month mentorship \$375- AUD

Blog <http://www.annewhalley.com/>

YouTube series <http://youtu.be/JFN25HeEuko>

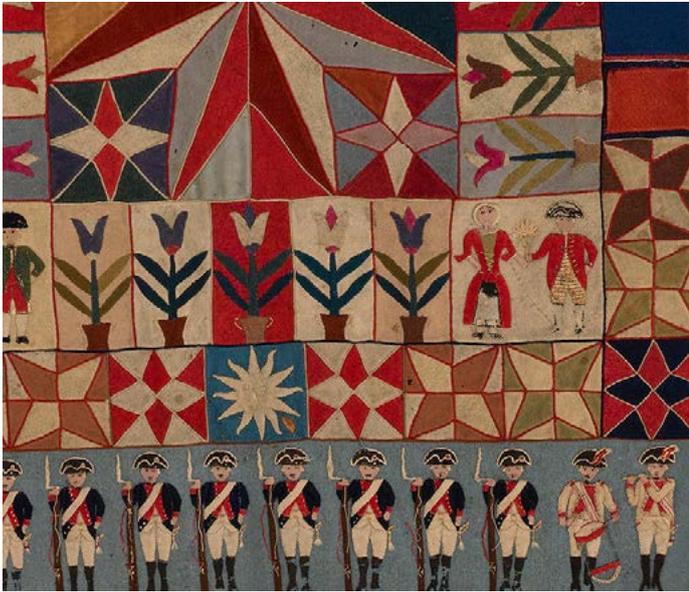
Instagram <http://www.instagram.com/p/BNQ9eMBgZ9V/>



## Upcoming Events

### War-Time Quilts: Quilts from Military Fabrics

# Ipswich ART Gallery



The history of military conflict and the soldier's life is retold through the 'war quilts' of this very rare collection curated by leading quilt historian Dr Annette Gero. *War-Time Quilts: Quilts from Military Fabrics* features a dazzling array of unique and diverse quilts made from 1710 through to the end of the 19th century, covering a multitude of different conflicts, cultures and countries.

While quilting is often considered as the domain of women, this exhibition casts a different spin on the production of quilts during war-time, and shows how the hands of men turned to quilting as a past-time in the midst of the extreme conditions of war.

Made by active soldiers and prisoners of war, the quilts are constructed using rugged and difficult textiles such as thick felt, heavy woollen serge or

worsted twill; all sourced from disused uniforms, army blankets and other discarded military fabrics. The exhibition includes quilts dating from the Napoleonic Wars (1803-15), the Crimean War (1853-56), World War I and World War II.

Although the exhibition presents a solemn and poignant collection of the quilts made in conflicts over the past 200 years, the colours and patterns in the quilts are quite extraordinary and sure to be an inspiration for the exhibition visitor. **18 March to 25 June 2017, Ipswich Art Gallery, QLD.** Entry by gold coin donation

## Jackie Kennedy, Fashion Icon



Jacqueline "Jackie" Bouvier Kennedy was the wife of the 35th President of the United States, John F. Kennedy. She was the First Lady from 1961 until her husband's tragic assassination in 1963. She was young and beautiful, only 31 years old at the start of her husband's presidency, and during her years in the White House she set the fashion style for the nation in the early 1960s. The American public was fascinated by her simple but elegant clothing, her iconic pillbox hats and bouffant hairstyle.

Jackie's chosen designer was Oleg Cassini. This article takes us on a [brief tour of her stylish wardrobe](#).



# Around the Nation

## Couture by You

### Victorian Industry Day



There was a full house on 9 October at the inaugural Stylemaker Series event "Couture by You". The day's program and central location contributed to the success. Tickets sold out 10 days prior to the event with 1/3 purchased by non ASG members. This indicated the desire for an event of this type in Melbourne. Our gold level sponsors **Style Arc** and **Stitch 56** were very enthusiastic about supporting this event. **The Cloth Shop, Tessuti Fabrics, The Fabric Store** and **Can Do Books** were very generous in their promotion and the provision of door and raffle prizes.



Nicole Jenkins shared her passion and extensive knowledge of the history of style from the 1920s to the 1970s. Gems of information such as: hemlines NEVER went above the knee in the '20s; garments were made for ongoing adjustments for when styles or body shape changed; wartime frugality saw less fabric used and the introduction of side zippers in dresses; the freedom of the '50's and the greater availability of fabric resulted in larger skirts, zippers moved from the side to the centre back and Couture fashion expanded. Using an extensive slide show and actual garments



from each decade Nicole kept everyone entranced throughout her talk. Having the opportunity to touch, examine, and discuss the garments was a very popular ending to a wonderful



presentation. One lucky attendee won Nicole's latest book "Style is Eternal" which Nicole donated to the prize pool.



Inspiration abounded with a draping demonstration by Sandra Doustas. Using silk she led us through the basics of draping - folding, pinning and basting. The bias of this lovely fabric, draped on top of a foundation garment created the beginning of a gorgeous outfit. A change to plain cotton fabric enabled Sandra to take us through the steps of creating a pattern employing the draping process. The final display of a fabulous draped gown created by Sandra showed us what is possible when time, patience and attention to detail are used.



Practical skills were on the table with a kit for each person attending and Sandra guiding us through the basic hand sewing skills used in couture construction. From explaining why you should use waxed thread, tying a knot in the thread, basting, seaming and hemming techniques through to how to insert a handpicked zip everyone was kept busy creating a number of samples to take home as a reminder.

The day was complete with everyone adding to a list of sources for couture supplies; a presentation by Helene Goldberg of Stitch56 ; door prizes; raffles; a very popular pattern exchange and shopping at the mini Stitch 56 store.



With a very high level of satisfaction and encouragement reported through the evaluation of the day, the Stylemaker Series committee will soon be working on plans for the next large event.



## in2Mode Inspiration - NSW



Last year Lyn Molloy (Carlingford NG, NSW) was the lucky winner of a tailoring course with In2Mode Fashion College (ASG Industry Partner). After a few hiccups along the way, like surgery to reconstruct her foot, Lyn has successfully completed this fabulous jacket and is now looking forward to making a skirt to match in 2017. Well done Lyn! What a beautifully constructed and fitted garment.

*In2Mode offers a range of classes from beginner through to advanced. Check out their website and class schedule at [in2mode.com.au](http://in2mode.com.au)*



[www.universityoffashion.com](http://www.universityoffashion.com)

**3 more subscriptions for sale**

**Just \$77** will buy you a full year access to University of Fashion's huge online video library (expiring 28 February 2018).

To purchase your ASG discounted subscription contact [web@aussew.org.au](mailto:web@aussew.org.au)

## CanSupport



CanSupport at the Northern Sydney Cancer Centre, North Shore Hospital, St Leonard's, have requested donations of suitable stretch and cotton fabrics for hats and turbans for patients who have lost their hair due to cancer treatment and hopefully assistance with the sewing of these items.

Quite often groups are looking for charities in need of assistance, so if any NGC could encourage their members to offer fabrics and/or sewing, I know their efforts would be most appreciated.

Just about everyone has a family member or friend who has gone through chemo.

Two of the Seaside Sewers Group are amazed at how different they look now that their hair has grown back in quite a new style.

Here is a [pattern for a reversible tie hat pattern](#) made from cotton, as well as a pattern for a stretch fabric turban which I could forward as it doesn't appear on a website.

Please contact me if you are able to help – either with donations of fabric or sewing. I can collect fabric donations within the Sydney area or receive them by post.

The website for CanSupport is [www.cansupport.org](http://www.cansupport.org)

Shan Breusch [sbreusch@bigpond.net.au](mailto:sbreusch@bigpond.net.au)

02 9452 5680 0409 542 752



# Tips and Techniques

## Seam-allowance guide (SAG)

I couldn't believe it when I won a set of the Seam Allowance Guides that the ASG ran a competition for a few weeks ago.

It took me a while to figure out how to get the guide to be level on my Gingher scissors but Hollie (from *Tools by Hollie*, ASG Industry Partner) was very helpful and advised that the yellow SAG goes on the upper blade of my Gingher's and twist it until it is level! It works.

Perfect timing as I am making a toile of V8468 and I wanted to add an additional 2.5cm to each seam, so instead of using my tape measure, I put the SAG on my Gingher's and very quickly cut around all my pattern pieces. I can see this being a wonderful tool to have in my sewing kit.

Sharon Spilsbury  
Rhodes Fashion Sewers NG, NSW



To get your SAG go to [toolsbyhollie.com](http://toolsbyhollie.com)

## Easy Cardigan Project



So Sew Easy have developed another simple but useful garment.

This [transformable easy cardigan](#) can be worn medium-long or tied up short.

The collar/lapel becomes a hoodie for an even more informal, yet exceedingly practical look. The sleeves are long with elegant thumb notches to keep the sleeves all the way to your wrists, or the sleeves can push up.

This is an original design by [So-Sew-Easy.com](http://So-Sew-Easy.com). Please free to explore with different fabrics. It is truly an easy cardigan to make and wear.

## Apron Project



Sharing and furthering the art of sewing – that's what we're all about. What better way to introduce someone to sewing than a project that can be completed in 8 simple steps – no pattern pieces required.

Whether you're a gardener, a cook, an artist or anyone who gets messy, an apron can come in handy! Aprons take a small amount of fabric and are great for using up your mix-and-match scraps. Here's [how to sew an apron](#) that you can customize to fit any activity.

## Magic Millions Winner

We're not sure which horse won the race but we do know that ASG member Pauline Fenech was a winner at Magic Millions on the Gold Coast. She created the dress that took first prize in the fashion stakes. Pauline tells us a bit about the creation process.

*The fabric chosen for the dress is Alexander McQueen embroidered tulle over daffodil scuba. I chose the scuba as it had body and also the stretch required for the tulle. I bonded the scuba to give it more body. The pattern in the tulle was what Stacie wanted me to use to give the all over impact on the dress. The bodice is boned for a firm fit and I then placed the tulle over to create the shape of the torso. The neckline on front and back and sleeve head have been wired by hand to support the shape. To achieve the skirt silhouette I have removed large darts from sides and waistline in eight positions and embroidered them back into the pattern. This allowed the fullness in the hemline and reduced fabric in the waistline. I also embroidered the centre back join to give the illusion of no seams in the skirt. The sleeves have been spliced together with embroidery. The dress had a side zipper so as not to interfere with the pattern on the back bodice. The skirt was held out with a tulle petticoat.*

To view the dress go to [7News video clip](#)





## 2017 Mini Calendar

Featuring the fabulous fashions  
Sew Chic Pattern Company  
as illustrated by  
Annie Jones & Dori Stark



[Click](#) to Get Your 2017 Mini Calendar!

## Diary Dates

See [Diary Dates](#) on the website for full calendar

4 & 11 March - [Be Your Own Designer Workshop with Maureen Thompson](#) (Campbell Town, TAS)

25 March - [20th Anniversary Lunch](#) (Sydney, NSW)

13 May - Brisbane North Industry Day (QLD)

19-21 May - Rhodes Fashion Sewers Retreat (NSW)

29 April - NSW Industry Day

## Contacts

President: Louise Sparrow  
[president@aussew.org.au](mailto:president@aussew.org.au)

Treasurer: Deb Evans  
[treasurer@aussew.org.au](mailto:treasurer@aussew.org.au)

Director: Sallie Saunders  
[director\\_ss@aussew.org.au](mailto:director_ss@aussew.org.au)

Director / Industry Partner Liaison: Jude Ewen  
[partners@aussew.org.au](mailto:partners@aussew.org.au)

Director / QLD State Manager: Colleen Whittaker  
[qldslo@aussew.org.au](mailto:qldslo@aussew.org.au)

NSW / ACT State Manager: Wendy McKinnon  
[nswslo@aussew.org.au](mailto:nswslo@aussew.org.au)

SA State Manager: Susan Fulop  
[saslo@aussew.org.au](mailto:saslo@aussew.org.au)

TAS State Manager: Position Vacant  
[tasslo@aussew.org.au](mailto:tasslo@aussew.org.au)

VIC State Manager: Position Vacant  
[vicslo@aussew.org.au](mailto:vicslo@aussew.org.au)

WA State Manager: Position Vacant  
[waslo@aussew.org.au](mailto:waslo@aussew.org.au)

Membership Secretary: Gayle Wallace  
[join@aussew.org.au](mailto:join@aussew.org.au)

M'ship Renewals Cashier: Carolyn Brooks  
[renew@aussew.org.au](mailto:renew@aussew.org.au)

Public Officer: John Morrissey (JFM Law)  
[publicofficer@aussew.org.au](mailto:publicofficer@aussew.org.au)

AUSSEW News Team: Sallie Saunders, Ros Currie  
[news@aussew.org.au](mailto:news@aussew.org.au)