

HOW WE EVOLVED

Stitching and Beyond began in Hobart as a small informal group of textile artists after a 2005 quilting exhibition. The group soon grew to an average of over 100 textile artists from all regions of Tasmania and further afield, and in 2011 became affiliated with Tasmanian Regional Arts (TRA). This provided us with access to public liability insurance for our group's workshops and events.

Early in 2017, TRA gave notice of the closure of its business after 70 years of operation, due to failing to secure government funding. This decision led to our group becoming the legal entity **Stitching and Beyond Incorporated**, bound by a set of model rules registered for our association.

INCORPORATION

Members of **Stitching and Beyond Incorporated** pay an annual subscription fee. As a not-for-profit association, fees are only charged at a rate sufficient to pay for the hire of venues, the costs associated with exhibitions, website maintenance, public liability and volunteer insurance, and ongoing costs of incorporation.

Hundreds of volunteer hours are contributed in many ways. We could not otherwise run and encourage people to take a turn in a voluntary capacity even if just for a short time.

Incorporation has meant that:

- All workshop participants must be a member to be covered by our insurance.
- Significant decisions for the association are made by the Management Committee at quarterly meetings, or by those members holding sub-committee roles such as the annual challenge, biennial exhibition and workshop coordinators.
- The association must hold an annual general meeting to which all members are invited.
- Formal meeting minutes must be published in a secure area for viewing by members and significant decisions also emailed to members.

WHAT YOUR MEMBERSHIP GIVES YOU

Most immediately your membership gives you:

- Access to the members' only area of our website.
- Access to a diverse range of quality workshops led by renowned local, national and international tutors.
- Email alerts of the workshops as they are scheduled.
- Personal insurance cover provided by Aon Insurance at scheduled workshops, gatherings and other events.
- Free entry to our biennial exhibition, 'Out of Hand'.
- Free entry to our travelling annual challenge exhibition.
- Opportunity to link your personal arts-based website, blog or social media on our public links page.
- Monthly gatherings for friendship and sharing your creative endeavours.
- Regular updates on textile news and group happenings.

YOUR SUBSCRIPTION FEE ALSO COVERS

- The ongoing ability for us to hold our biennial exhibition in such a prominent location as Salamanca Arts Centre.
- Viewers' choice awards at our biennial exhibition.
- Prize donations to textile related events such as the Tasmanian Art Quilt Prize and the Island Quilts prize for the best Art Quilt – our own members are often the winners of these awards.
- Affiliate group membership of the Tasmanian Quilting Guild.
- Public liability insurance cover provided by Aon Insurance, for our exhibitions and other events.
- Annual website and domain-name hosting fees.
- Our webmaster to be in the background to effect maintenance, updating, repairs and requested changes, with assistance from external services where required.