

Omagh Quilters Guild

NIC107858

TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT

For the financial year 1st September 2023 – 31st August 2024

The Charity is an unincorporated association established under a constitution.

In fulfilling the public benefit requirement, the charity trustees have had regard to the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland's statutory public benefit guidance.

The purpose of the charity

The purpose of Omagh Quilters Guild is to provide an organisation that encourages its members to promote the craft of quilting for the public benefit by offering inspiration through regular meetings, workshops and demonstrations.

The information below sets out the activities we have carried out to further our purposes and fulfil the public benefit elements during the past 12 months.

ACTIVITIES

Omagh Quilters Guild reconvened on September 12th after our usual summer break.

As a group we endeavour to organise a group of activities for the benefit of all our members and to encourage and challenge us to push the boundaries on our quilting journey.

Yvonne McKee from Belfast conducted a very inspirational workshop on September 28th - Double Wedding Ring Pattern – challenging techniques were taught. This continues to build on the skills involved in patchwork and quilting.

Autumn was very busy. Our exhibition in the Strule Arts Centre during the month of November gave us all a great focus.

Every member submitted their quilts plus a range of smaller projects.

Vice Chair of Fermanagh and Omagh District Council Ann Marie Donnelly officially opened the exhibition and our Chairperson Ann Taggart suitably responded. The exhibition was viewed by visitors from near and far. Many expressed their delight at the array and variety of projects on display. We hope it will inspire a new generation of quilters.

Ann Taggart submitted a memory quilt she made for a local school which had closed. It was received with much acclaim and will be a reminder of schooldays in Drumduff for many years to come.

Rosemary Cassidy also convened a demonstration of wet felting in the Strule Arts Centre. A number of pupils from local schools and adults attended. It was a new craft for many and was received with enthusiasm.

The exhibition was not only showcased in person but also attracted much media attention both online and in local media. This is so important in keeping our craft current and moving forward to a new generation.

Christmas lunch in the Mellon Country Inn was enjoyed by all.

Show and Tell in group sessions continues to inspire each of us as we enjoy sharing the various projects made by our members.

Our ongoing project with the South West Acute Hospital and Altnagelvin Hospital Prem Baby Units continues faithfully and is much appreciated by the staff and parents.

Rosemary convened a Wet Felting Workshop in January. It was a very stimulating event with absolutely stunning results.

A workshop on April 25th by the very talented Andrea Hayes was superb. Confetti Quilting was a new adventure for us and really pushed the boundaries.

A number of members attended the new Quilt Fayre in the Ebrington Hotel in May.

We were delighted to welcome a number of new members during this year.

We travelled to Clones at the end of June to visit a quilt shop with a huge variety of fabric. Dinner in the local hotel rounded off a very enjoyable outing and brought us to our year end.

FINANCES

In the financial year we collected fees of £1,450 and had income from sale of wadding £216 along with Fermanagh & Omagh District Council's Grant Aid for the year 2023 being paid to the group, provided an income of £2236.00.

Rent was paid to DunUladh Cultural Centre which along with other expenses gave us a total expenditure of £2293.43.

Our assets are two Janome Sewing Machines acquired in 2020 and we have no liabilities.

The Charity's finances are in surplus and accounts are prepared to comply with the requirements of the Charity Commission for N. Ireland.

TRUTEES

The following trustees served during the financial year:

Ann Taggart – Chairperson

Evelyn McLean – Secretary

Elizabeth Gilmour – Treasurer

Gwen Hall – Assistant Treasurer

Signed on behalf of the Trustees by:



Name: Ann Taggart



Date: