



Website: <http://www.mahonebayquiltersguild.com/>  
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Flickr: <https://www.flickr.com/people/mbqg/>

## President's Message

Things are really gearing up for a busy spring in the Guild. We have many workshops coming up as April ends and May begins, including two special workshops (free to members) featuring Karen Neary, to help the Guild celebrate our 35th anniversary.

As I mentioned last month, we streamlined the business meeting part of our activities so the focus is put on our members, our work and getting to know each other. April's meeting was so much fun, and a big part of it was sitting around tables and playing games, all thanks to Sandy Morrow! Getting to know each other is one of the most important things we can do in the guild, I think.

One of the traditional smaller gatherings of quilters is called a "bee" and there are many members who already belong to local bees. I found when I first joined the Guild nearly 6 years ago that these bees were largely closed to new members, not because of exclusivity but because the spaces they meet in tend to be small. That's why our Executive pushed for our Open Sew Days, which are open to all members and which Didi and I have been working on over the last few months.

These Sew Days function a lot like an open bee for all members, and they've been very popular. Most have featured someone demonstrating a quick tip or block or shortcut, and all have seen

## Executive Members

**President** – Nina Scott-Stoddart –  
[president@mahonebayquiltersguild.com](mailto:president@mahonebayquiltersguild.com)

**Vice President** – Vacant

**Treasurer** – Jill Rafuse –  
[treasurer@mahonebayquiltersguild.com](mailto:treasurer@mahonebayquiltersguild.com)  
E transfers: [mbqgtreasurer@gmail.com](mailto:mbqgtreasurer@gmail.com)

**Secretary** – Dawn Pritchard  
[secretary@mahonebayquiltersguild.com](mailto:secretary@mahonebayquiltersguild.com)

**Communications** – Cheryl Borden –  
[communications@mahonebayquiltersguild.com](mailto:communications@mahonebayquiltersguild.com)

**Membership** – Betty Learning –  
[membership@mahonebayquiltersguild.com](mailto:membership@mahonebayquiltersguild.com)

**Library** – Heather McEwan, Pam Hancock  
and Diane Binmore –  
[library@mahonebayquiltersguild.com](mailto:library@mahonebayquiltersguild.com)

**Past President** – Annette Fralic –  
[pastpresident@mahonebayquiltersguild.com](mailto:pastpresident@mahonebayquiltersguild.com)

**Workshops** – Josie (Pina) Wall and Didi Morton-  
Spaan –  
[workshop@mahonebayquiltersguild.com](mailto:workshop@mahonebayquiltersguild.com)  
or 902-693-2018

**Monthly Program** – Sandy Morrow-  
[program@mahonebayquiltersguild.com](mailto:program@mahonebayquiltersguild.com)

**Newsletter** – Sheena Gibbs –  
[newsletter@mahonebayquiltersguild.com](mailto:newsletter@mahonebayquiltersguild.com)

## Next Meeting

Our next meeting is **May 4, 2026 @7:00pm**.  
Doors open at 6:30pm. It will be in-person  
only at the Trinity United Church.  
\*see page 12 for meeting reminders!

For information on Slow Quilting, Sew Zoom  
and other Guild Activities check out our  
Website Calendar:  
<https://mahonebayquiltersguild.com/events/>

attendants get to know each other so much better. I know I enjoy them so much, and we hope to expand these Open Sew Days (a catchier name is coming soon!), adding some weekday times for those who can't make weekends.

Please see the rest of the newsletter, the Facebook page or the website for more news about the Guild and what's coming up, and I wish you all a very Happy May!

Nina

## **2026 ALL STAR SAMPLER PLATTER from Global Quilt Connection**



**May 16 and 17, 2026, online from 3-6 pm (Eastern) each day**

If you've participated in this before you'll know that our guild signs up to this online event every May to offer more variety to our members.

The Sampler Platter is a showcase of some of the Global Quilt Connection's virtual teachers and one YouTube link (to be provided to guild members at the beginning of May) will give you access to the

livestream and a pdf workbook. The recording of the livestream stays up at the same link for seven days after the live event to allow more chances to view it.

Want to know more about the teachers and what they'll be demonstrating? Check out the website: <https://www.globalquiltconnection.com/samplerplatters>

Look for a guild email coming at the beginning of the month sharing the link!

## **Volunteer of the Year Nominations OPEN!**

It's that time of year again where we come together to honour a person who has made outstanding contributions to the Guild over the past year.

At the May meeting nominations will be done in-person by filling out a ballot that will be available at the sign-in desk. All votes are anonymous.

In the event you are unable to attend the meeting, you are also able to vote via email by sending your nomination to Katie at [kaitlinmariechen@gmail.com](mailto:kaitlinmariechen@gmail.com). Please note, by doing so your vote will no longer be anonymous. Email votes will be accepted until Monday, May 25 2026.

Katie will be collecting and recording the votes until the big reveal at the June meeting!

Thanks so much!

Katie

## Gail's Celebration of Life

Thanks to those who have volunteered to make sandwiches or sweets for Gail's celebration of life. I will be in touch with further details. If anyone else is interested in helping out, either beforehand or the day of, please let me know. Please bring lawn chairs the day of. Thanks for your help in celebrating our wonderful quilter friend and Mahone Bay Quilters Guild member who shared her ideas, her time, her games and her laughter.

Elizabeth Tumblin

Please join us in celebrating the life of



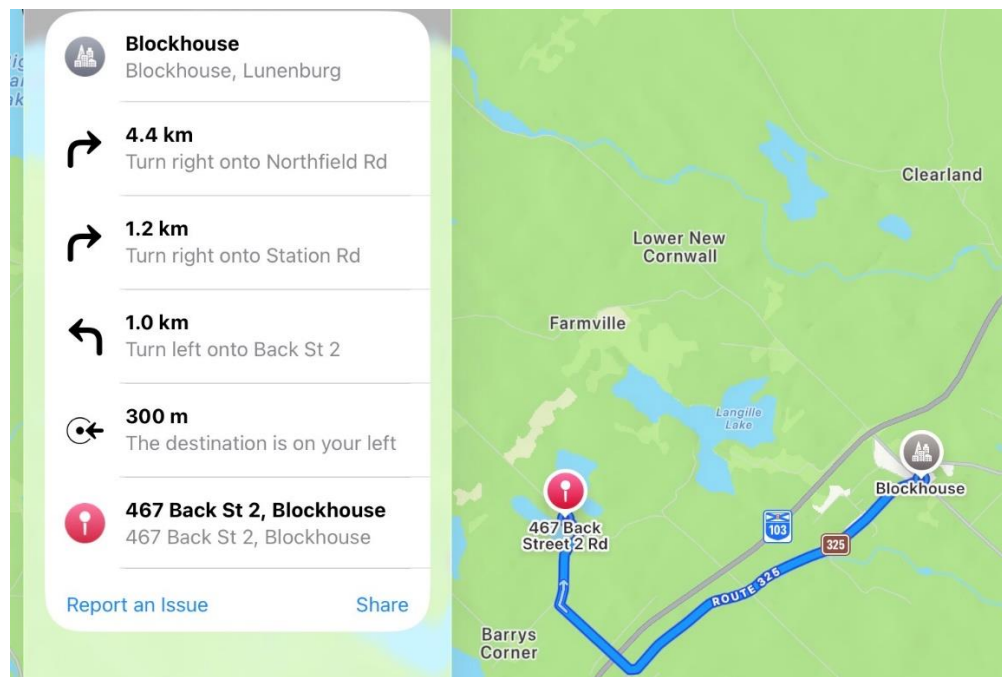
Gail Stryde

Saturday, July 18th, 2026

1:00 p.m.

467 Back St 2

Maitland NS B0J 1E0



## Workshop News

For many of us at the Tamarack Jacket Workshop, it felt like a delightful flashback to our Home Economics days, learning the foundations of garment making. Kate O'Brien of Kate's Open Studio guided us through each step of creating our very own fitted pattern.

There was plenty of laughter — and plenty of *concentration* — as we tried our best not to be precise in our marking and tracing. A nearly impossible task for quilters who live and breathe accuracy.

With her excellent teaching skills, quick wit, and warm humour, Kate patiently answered every question that came her way. Our next homework assignment is to create the fabric for our pattern pieces, and we're excited to see the variety of combinations and design details that will emerge.



## Program News

### May Program Update

We are excited to offer an Auction at the May meeting.

There have been some donations made to the guild, and we would like to see it distributed to the members in a fun filled auction.

Dawn will be our auctioneer.

Please bring CASH for payments. We can accept cheques or e-transfer if necessary.

Our Fat Quarter draw will be "Blues" for the month of May.

## **June Program**

Our meeting in June is our AGM.

There will be a business meeting with the election of new Executive members.

We will be following this with a special treat catered for us as a celebration for our 35<sup>th</sup> Anniversary.

There will be appetizers and cake as well as coffee and tea.

## **Retreat Update**

We are close to GO time!!

There is still a spot left if someone decided they would like to attend!

The doors will be open by 2pm on Friday May 22 at the conference room in the Best Western Plus in Liverpool. The retreat will run through to 4pm on Sunday May 24<sup>th</sup>. The Wooden Spool Quilt Shop will be ready to go on Friday 2-6pm, Saturday 10-5 pm, and Sunday 10-2pm, with a fabulous pop-up shop. We would love to see you at the Pop-up shop even if you can't attend the full Retreat.

I will be preparing a reminder to send to the attendees approximately 2 weeks before retreat with options for eating out in the area and any details you need to know like bringing an extension cord or a table light etc.

It will be a great time, and we (almost) always get lots done!

## **Challenge Quilt Kits for Quilt Show Silent Auction**

I have 5 kits of 4 fat quarters left to sell. They are \$15 each. Colours are mostly neutral blues and greys and if you don't think you can commit to making a piece for our silent auction fund raiser then they would make a great addition to your stash. Completed auction pieces are to be revealed at the September General meeting where they will be turned in and prepared for the Quilt Show.

## **Executive Search**

The time is here for a fresh facelift to our executive committee. This will happen at the June meeting which is our AGM.

I have been chatting with members and getting an idea of what the new executive may look like, and I think we can look forward to good times ahead.

The positions we are recruiting for are:

- President
- Vice President
- Secretary (for one year to finish the term)
- Membership
- Communications

If anyone wants to come talk with me about any of these positions, I would be happy to provide as much information as I can.

## **Library News**

The library has a new book:

Gathered 2 by Jen Kingswell has arrived.

Thanks,

Heather

## Volunteers Needed!

### VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!!!

The countdown to our 2026 Quilt Show and Sale, *A World of Colour* has begun—and it's only 5 months away!!



Please help promote this wonderful event so we have the largest attendance ever. If each and every member commits to distributing the bright and beautiful postcards and posters to quilt shops, businesses and organizations in their area or in places they visit we'll meet and surpass our goal!

**Didi will have** postcards available at the April and May meetings. Posters will also be available at the May meeting. **Please see her to sign up!**

**Please Volunteer to distribute cards and posters in the following areas:**

**Nova Scotia:** Amhurst, Bedford, Cape Breton, Dartmouth, Digby, Fundy Shore, Halifax, Oxford, South Shore, Truro, Valley, Yarmouth

**New Brunswick:** Bathurst, Edmundston, Fredericton, Miramichi, Moncton, Sackville, St. John

**PEI:** Charlottetown, Summerside

**Newfoundland:** Comer Brook, St. John's, Stephenville

## Sew Day

*Mahone Bay Quilters' Guild*



## Upcoming Sew Days

Saturday May 9th

Saturday June 6th

**Time:** 10 am to 3 pm

**Place:** Trinity United Church Hall

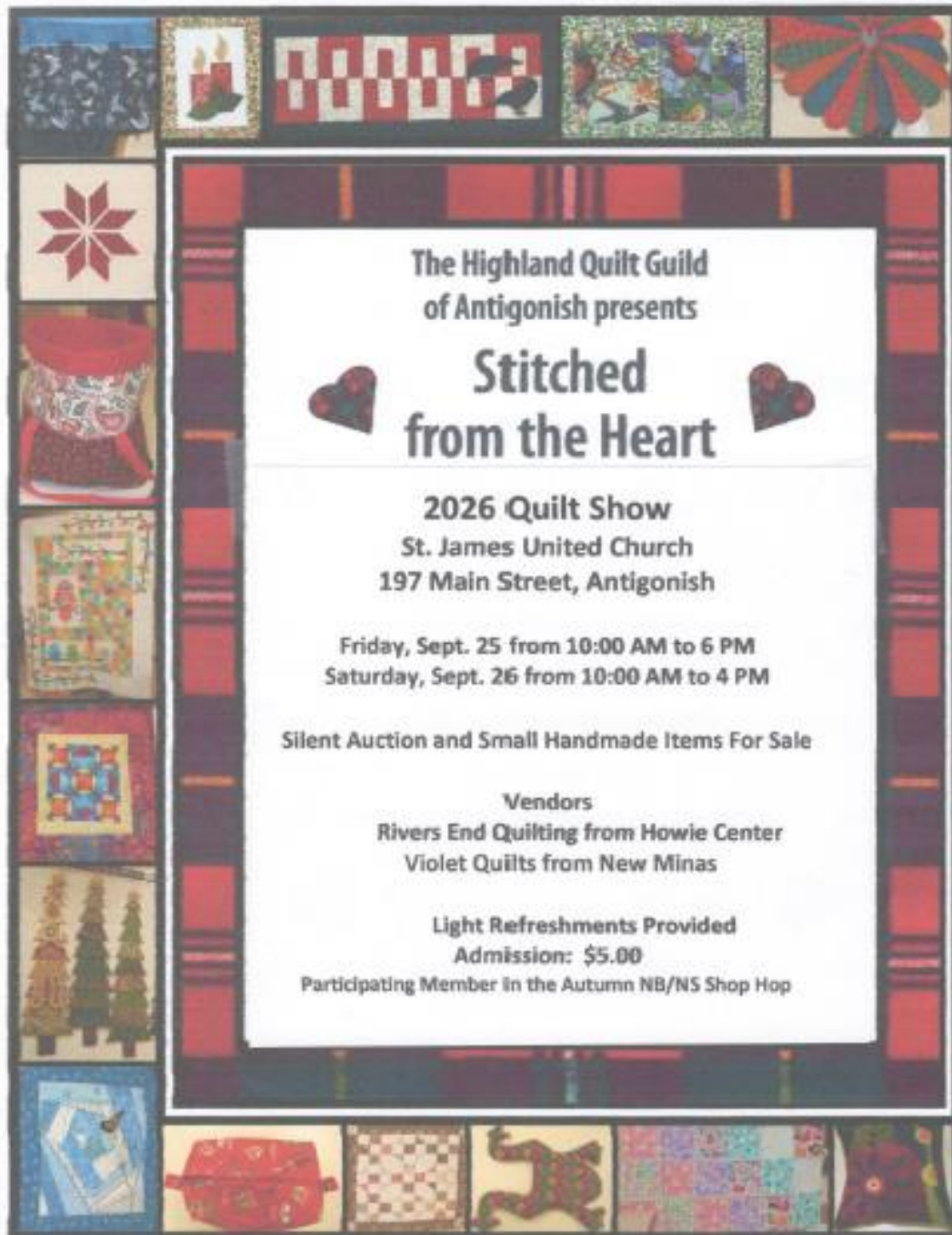
**What to Bring:** You, your machine & project and lunch

**What's Provided:** Friendship & Sharing, Irons & Boards, Beverages

There's always room for more so please join us at this free event and if you have a skill or idea or treats to share, please bring them too!

Didi and Nina

## Highland Quilt Guild Show



The Highland Quilt Guild  
of Antigonish presents

**Stitched  
from the Heart**

**2026 Quilt Show**  
St. James United Church  
197 Main Street, Antigonish

Friday, Sept. 25 from 10:00 AM to 6 PM  
Saturday, Sept. 26 from 10:00 AM to 4 PM

Silent Auction and Small Handmade Items For Sale

**Vendors**  
Rivers End Quilting from Howie Center  
Violet Quilts from New Minas

Light Refreshments Provided  
Admission: \$5.00  
Participating Member in the Autumn NB/NS Shop Hop

## Meeting Reminders

Meeting is at Trinity United Church Hall, Mahone Bay:

- Doors open at 6:30 pm, meeting begins at 7:00 pm
- Wear a name tag, please
- Meetings are scent free
- Treat to share (optional)
- Blue themed fat quarter(s) for draw

Sheena Gibbs, Newsletter Chair