

Blankets of Love

Started in 1992 by Shirley Zions and Jan Polverino, the Blankets of Love program distributes small quilts to the families of babies who die around the time of birth. Not only does the program assist the grieving families by providing a memento and celebration of their babies, but it also provides an opportunity for people to speak out about the loss of a baby.

In conjunction with **Down Under Quilts** magazine and XLN Fabrics, Bernina Australia sponsors the annual Bernina Blankets of Love Challenge. Quilters throughout Australia are invited to make a small quilt for this worthy cause, using fabric donated by XLN Fabrics. The maker of the winning quilt wins a Bernina sewing machine, donated by Bernina Australia.

Each year, at the completion of the **Bernina Blankets of Love Challenge**, the quilts are sent to the Blankets of Love program coordinator and then distributed through State quilt groups to Australian hospitals in the program. Entry forms for the 2008 Challenge will appear in the June 2008 issue of **Down Under Quilts** magazine.

2007 Competition Winners



Winner
Sarah McGiness



Runner-up
Lynne Banwell



Runner-up
Judith Thomson