

Quilting and fundraising

During the First World War and in the years leading up to the Second, quilting was still used as a means of fundraising.

Church Guilds in Hawick in the Scottish Borders for example, worked all year round on quilts to be sold at an annual two -day sale.

Signature quilts became a popular way for groups to raise money and morale for the war effort. Particularly during the First World War, members of a community would pay to have their name embroidered on a patch or block and then a volunteer, usually from a Church group, would sew the blocks together.

One example from the Quilters' Guild Collection is a two-colour quilt made to raise funds to build the Sheriff Hutton Wesleyan Church. Members of the church held a Bazaar in 1898 at which they sold or raffled the finished quilt (below).



Image courtesy of the Quilters' Guild of the British Isles







From top: Hawick fundraising quilt. Courtesy of Quilters' Guild of the British Isles

Photograph of a quilt circle making a signature quilt. Courtesy of Beamish Open Air Museum.

Close-up of WW1 signature quilt from the Quilters' Guild collection.

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