

A Good Yarn

Knitters' Guild NSW



**Knitting:
Festive Rose
by Ambah O'Brien**



**Crochet:
Asher the Ox
by Erinna Lee**

**Group Reports
Meet the Committee
Interviews and more...**

February 2023 Vol. 38 No.1



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 Ravelry: [/groups/knitters-guild-nsw-inc](https://groups/knitters-guild-nsw-inc)

 Instagram: [knittersguildnsw](https://www.instagram.com/knittersguildnsw)

 Twitter: [KnitGuildNSW](https://twitter.com/KnitGuildNSW)

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From the Executive Committee

We hope everyone had a happy and healthy Festive Season. The holidays are always a great time to catch up with family and friends, but hopefully you achieved a little 'me' time to relax with knitting and crochet projects. This summer has again been cooler than usual so perfect for knitting.

The busy renewal season has just finished and, thanks to Raewyn, our membership database is completely up to date. If you are yet to receive your receipt please contact membership@knittersguildnsw.org.au so it can be investigated.

The executive committee has been looking into the best way to update the website and make it more secure. These are changes that are needed to ensure the smooth running of the website and security of members' details. You may not notice much change on the website because mostly this is backend, but it is necessary.

Sydney Eye Hospital Foundation previously asked for help to knit and crochet red poppies for a commemorative area at the hospital. You responded and helped to create a beautiful display. The hospital has sent its appreciation for your time and effort and pictures can be seen on the Eye Hospital Foundation Facebook page. <https://www.facebook.com/sydneyeyehospital-foundation>.

The Annual General Meeting will be held in May. If you haven't attended before I urge you to participate either in person or online. If you have ever thought about standing for the committee please consider doing it this year. It entails attending one meeting per month which is online and is a great opportunity to understand the running of the Guild and all that it entails, as well as participating in decision making.

If you would like to help out but don't want to join the committee then please consider volunteering in one of the many opportunities that regularly arise. At the moment we are looking for people to help maintain the website and if you are interested please contact secretary@knittersguildnsw.org.au. If this isn't for you keep watching KGBytes for other opportunities to volunteer.

Speaking of KGBytes, please read it every month for all the latest news about knitting and the Guild. Previous President Sally Ogilvie is now the workshop convenor and she has some fabulous new workshops organised for early this year as well as lots more coming up later. Workshops vary between online and face to face and are advertised in KGBytes every month. They are a fabulous way not only of learning something new but meeting members from other groups.

Julie Hogan

Vice-President Knitters' Guild NSW



A Good Yarn Edition Deadlines:

May: 15 April | **August:** 15 July |

November: 15 October |

If you wish to place an ad in the magazine please contact: editor@kgnsw.org.au

Retail Profile: Adagio Mills

Can you please tell us a bit about your business?

Together (Donna and Marc) we re-opened Adagio Mills in early 2022 after deciding to expand our original Alpaca small business and both resigning from our full-time jobs (Donna as an Accountant and Marc as an Engineer).

We offer a processing service for Alpaca owners who would like their Alpaca Fleece turned into useable yarn and rovings and also offer quality Australian Alpaca products for retail sale directly online.

Our retail products are completely Australian and are made by us – we do everything from beginning to end. We grow/purchase Australian Alpaca fibre, do ALL the processing, as well as everything after that!

We will be regularly attending festivals and markets this year and will be looking to have our Yarn stocked in a select number of yarn stores, once again, early this year.

What are the fun parts of your job?

Interacting with customers and seeing their beautiful creations take shape.

Spending time with Alpacas and talking 'Alpaca' with people of all ages.

What are some of the challenges?

Having to compete with large retail stores that sell cheap products made overseas.

Keeping up with the latest social media trends and colours.

Tell us a bit about yourself. Do you knit or crochet or both? Who taught you?

Donna – knits and crochets (Grandma taught how to crochet and Mum taught how to knit).

Marc – can do a basic double crochet and has even made a cowl (Donna taught him how).

Do you still enjoy knitting / crocheting even though you work around it all day?

Absolutely! It is something I have grown up doing and wish I had more time to do!

Donna often gets told “you can’t keep every ball of yarn we make for your NEW PROJECT!?”

What’s your favourite yarn right now?

We both love our Adagio Mills Australian Alpaca Brown SANDS and our newest colour Adagio Mills Australian Alpaca Grey MIST.

As both are light in colour they go perfectly when you want to mix and match or have multiple colours in the one project.

Have you had any strange requests

While we thought it was strange at the time we definitely don’t now – will you process my dog fur?

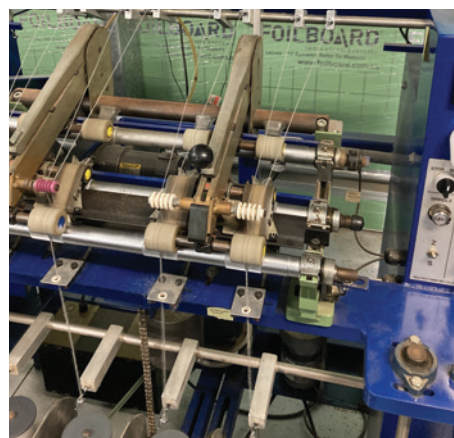
What do you think the benefits are of being a retail member of the Guild?

We have experienced such a strong sense of community who love quality Australian products, are quite vocal about it, who genuinely want to see us succeed and all have a love for yarn...what more could you ask for?!

What project are you currently working on?

Personally...oh geez, this could take a while...there are plenty :)

Business...COLOUR, COLOUR, COLOUR! We are experimenting with colour and are looking to release an all Australian Alpaca Yarn (and Rovings) to compliment our existing natural coloured alpaca range.



Name: Donna and Marc

Business: Adagio Mills

Website: www.adagiomills.com.au

Email: info@adagiomills.com.au

Facebook: @adagioalpamills

Instagram: @adagiomills

Location: Hawkesbury, NSW.



www.adagiomills.com.au



Alpaca Yarn
Alpaca Rovings
Alpaca Knitted Products
Alpaca Fibre Processing



Hospital thanks Guild knitters

Knitters' Guild NSW members have indicated their willingness to be part of the Anzac Day and Remembrance Day services at Sydney/Sydney Eye Hospital.

In a letter to the Sydney Eye Hospital Foundation, the hospital's accredited charity, Guild vice-president Hannah Smith has promised support 'this year and into the future.'

Last year on both Observance Days the Florence Nightingale courtyard at the hospital was a vision of vivid red crocheted poppies supplied by the Guild's members.

According to Linda Fagan, CEO of the Sydney Eye Hospital Foundation, the poppies with their little black centres gave added meaning to the two Services of Remembrance to commemorate our Anzac service personnel. 'The historic Nightingale Wing is named after Crimean War nursing heroine Florence Nightingale, and the notion of filling its courtyard with crocheted poppies for Anzac Day on April 25 2022 came from nurse manager Ann Hodge.

We asked the Knitters' Guild if it could help and we are so grateful that the committee's response was instant. The poppies the members supplied were colourful, attractive and gave a special significance to the service.'

'It was so well received by staff and volunteers who attended that we decided to repeat it at the Remembrance Day Service on November 11 and the Guild members had no hesitation in helping us again.'

Linda said the First World War placed a heavy strain on Sydney Hospital Altogether, 149 staff enlisted, including senior medical officers, resident medical staff, nursing and general staff.

Matron Rose Ann Creal, whose position had been confirmed in 1899, enlisted for war service in August 1916 to be appointed matron of the 14th Australian General Hospital at Abbassia, Egypt.

She was awarded the Royal Red Cross (1st Class) in the New Year Honours of 1919, before returning to Australia in 1920. She resumed duty as matron of Sydney Hospital but died in August of the following year. The Rose Creal Medal, established in her honour, was the highest award made by Sydney Hospital to students of the Lucy Osburn School of Nursing.

Miss A Maud Kellett, Miss Creal's assistant matron, was decorated while on active service (25th General Hospital at Boulogne, France), as were many of the Sydney Hospital nurses.

In 1917 an Honour Board was placed at the main entrance foyer of the administration block containing names of members of the medical, nursing and general staff who volunteered for active service.

Linda said, 'the Honour Board is still there. Last year after the two Remembrance services we gathered up the poppies and placed them around the Board. We intend doing the same thing this year. It's just an additional way of saying thank you to the Guild and their members for their greatly valued contribution.'

Poppies contributed by April 14 2023 will be included in the commemoration for Anzac Day. Please deliver to:

Sydney Eye Hospital Foundation

Sydney / Sydney Eye Hospital
8 Macquarie Street
Sydney NSW
Ground Floor, Centre Block
Opposite Emergency Department and Security office

Or

POST:
Sydney Eye Hospital
Foundation
GPO Box 1614
SYDNEY 2011

Link to poppies patterns

<https://sydneyeyehospitalfoundation.org.au/poppies-sought-for-remembrance-day/>



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HOLIDAY
TO MAKE UP
FOR THE
THREE
YOU HAVE
MISSED?**



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***FORCE MAJEURE NOTE: There may be unforeseen disruption to the featured tour activities due to the sudden implementation of a local COVID-19 restriction. Tour participants will need to be flexible and to "go with the flow" during this unprecedented event. Your health and safety is our primary concern. At the time of printing, the tour itinerary as outlined is confirmed.

Festive Rose

by Ambah O'Brien

I've always been a big fan of Roses – faux and real. The scent, the romance, the beauty. I have a collection of fake roses where I have glued metal clips on, these I wear in my hair, as a brooch, and also use to make garlands for decorating with – I especially love decorating my Solstice/Christmas tree with these. Last year my knit group had a handmade ornament gift exchange for our December festivities and I decided to create a knitted rose for my contribution to the Kris Kringle. I have been meaning to make another for myself and write up the pattern to share, and now the day has come.

The instructions below make a good size rose, approximately 4.5"/11.5cm across (not including the leaf). Use smaller/larger needles and lighter/heavier yarn to make yourself a smaller/larger version, note yardage will vary across the different weights.

Note: Keep your yarn overs loose as the project can tighten up when purling these through the back of the loop.

YARDAGE: ROSE: Fingering weight, 70 yd/64 m **LEAF:** DK weight, 8.5 yd/7.8 m

NEEDLES: ROSE: US5/3.5 mm **LEAF:** US 6/4 mm

NOTIONS: Clip, locking stitch marker, tapestry needle, sewing needle and thread.

ABBREVIATIONS

cdd: central double decrease. Slip 2 stitches together knit-wise, knit one stitch, pass the slipped stitches over.

k: knit

k2tog: knit 2 stitches together

kfb: knit into the front and back of stitch

p: purl

ssk: slip, slip, knit. Slip the first stitch as if to knit, slip the second stitch as if to knit, then slide the left needle into the front part of both stitches and knit them together.

st/s: stitch/es

tbl: through the back loop

yo: yarn over

(): stitch pattern repeat

ROSE

Cast on 20 sts and purl one row.

Row 1 (Right Side): K1, (yo, k1) rep to end. (+19 sts) 39 sts

Row 2 (Wrong Side): P1, (p1 tbl, p1) rep to end.

Rows 3 – 8: Repeat Rows 1 – 2 three more times; 77(153, 305) sts

Row 9: K2, (ssk, k16, k2tog) rep to last 3 sts, k3. (- 30 sts) 275 sts

Row 10: P.

Row 11: K2, (ssk, k14, k2tog) rep to last 3 sts, k3. (- 30 sts) 245 sts

Row 12: P.

Bind Off.



LEAF

Cast on 3 sts and k one row.

Row 1 (right side): Kfb, k1, kfb. (+ 2 sts) 5 sts

Row 2 (wrong side): K2, p1, k2.

Row 3: K1, (kfb, k1) twice. (+ 2 sts) 7 sts

Row 4: K3, p1, place removable marker on this stitch, k3.

Rows 5, 7, 9, 11, 13: K1, kfb, k to last 2 sts, kfb, k1. (+ 2 sts)

Rows 6, 8, 10, 12, 14: K to marked st, p1, remove marker and purl on this st, k to end.

Rows 15, 17, 19, 21, 23, 25: K to 1 st before marked st, cdd, remove marker and place on this st, k to end. (- 2 sts)

Rows 16, 18, 20, 22, 24, 26: K to marked st, p1, k to end.

Row 27: K1, cdd, k1. (- 2 sts)

Row 28: k1, p1, k1.

Row 29: Cdd, tie off last stitch.

FINISHING Block Rose and leaf. Weave in ends of leaf and the BO tail of the Rose. See video for construction.

<https://ambah.co/blog/festive-rose/>



Meet Ambah O'Brien

By Robynn Ross

In the knitting world, you don't have to look far to see an Ambah O'Brien design being knitted or someone wearing their latest garment or accessory by this prolific designer. If you want designs that are fresh, innovative, bursting with colour and with quirky themes, look closely at Ambah's extensive design portfolio and join her newsletter to see what she is working on.

Ambah's first creative career was as a face and body painter, where assignments had her travelling Australia and internationally to paint for events, either as a costume or as a performance where she would be on a stage painting. This also involved creating head pieces/costume accessories for the performers which kept Ambah in her happy place – crafting at home. Painting is her passion and as a maker and creative, Ambah realises the influence this has on her design work today in both the use of colour and form.

The evolution of her ideas morphing into possibilities leads Ambah to seek constant experimentation and exploration. This year she has added intarsia to her designs and continues to play with mosaic knitting to explore colour work. She adores playing with colour. Inspired by nature and the passage of seasons, Ambah actively pursues natural fibres such as wool, subconsciously seeing her colour choice patterns emerging at the year's end. Fashion and art continue to sway her colour selections, leading her on interesting colour paths.



Kinta



Betwixt

Designing with mini skeins motivates her to include these in several designs for her annual Festive KAL running in December. Intentionally, Ambah mixes up simple, repetitive designs with more complex involved works – where she pushes herself to explore the creation of new stitch patterns to be as creative as possible. (This does lead to a lot of ripping out as a part of the process though!)

Because Ambah's patterns are generally fairly accessible for most levels of knitting and she has a strong community in her Ravelry group that provides support and encouragement to knitters, she connects many people to her work. Also, there is the fact that her knitters have the opportunity to play with colour which makes for a fun knit and end result, plus the bonus of participating in knitting and communicating with others.

February, 2023 marks Ambah's 10th 'designversary' when she published her first knitting pattern 'Kinta'. She still loves this pattern even though she has learnt so much since then, as it began her unexpected design journey. (She was still painting people at the time and still remembers wearing the linen version so much that summer.)

Recently, Ambah moved from a wonderful, creative town in central Victoria to a coastal area – where she now lives on an island! She finds herself creating designs that are a direct response to her environment and the different influences of coastal vs bush and the dry inland environment. Also, the types of clothing she now requires has changed a little as much heavier and warmer garments are needed by the coast in her new home.

As challenges go, the Australian distances inhibiting the connection of peers is really difficult, but there are fabulous online communities that

you can join. During the last decade, Ambah has connected with wonderful designers, mentors, dyers and other industry folk who have all contributed to her evolution as a designer.

In a nutshell, Ambah designs creative knitting patterns that are fun to knit and totally wearable. Some are a little more challenging than others and she focuses on shawls, garments and small accessories. She has a vibrant and friendly group on Ravelry where knitters from around the world share their "Ambah" projects, join in knit-a-longs (KALS) and participate in test knitting.



Knit Love Shawl



Moon Flowers Shawl



Summer Solstice

www.ravelry.com/groups/ambah

www.ambah.co

IG: @ambahobrien

Ravelry www.ravelry.com/designers/ambah-obrien



Asher the Ox

PATTERN INSTRUCTIONS: This pattern is written using American terminology and is worked in continuous rounds unless otherwise stated. If Asher is made with the materials described, he is ~12 cm/4.5 inches tall from the tip of his horns to base of body.

SKILL LEVEL: Beginner

MATERIALS REQUIRED (DESCRIPTIONS IN BRACKETS INDICATE THOSE USED IN THE PICTURED EXAMPLE):

1. Yarn (Krea Deluxe organic cotton yarn in (A) Colour 18, (B) Colour 01, (C) Colour 10) or any Brown, White or Pink yarn. One ball of each colour is sufficient.
2. Crochet hook in accordance with the yarn you use (2.5 mm hook)
3. Fibrefill / toy stuffing
4. 6 mm plastic safety eyes
5. Black embroidery thread (DMC Cotton Six-Strand Floss #310)
6. Stitch markers, darning and embroidery needles
7. 0.7 mm Brass jump ring

ABBREVIATIONS: ch = chain | dec = decrease | hdc = half double crochet | inc = increase | rnd = round | sc = single crochet | sl = slip stitch

A VERY QUICK GUIDE TO THE CROCHET STITCHES USED IN THIS PATTERN:

1. Chain (ch): Insert hook, yarn over, pull loop through loop on hook.
2. Decrease (dec): I prefer the "invisible" decrease. For this, insert hook into front loop of first stitch (from the front and under). Repeat into front loop of next stitch. Yarn over and pull loop through two loops on hook, yarn over and pull loop through two loops on hook.
3. Half double crochet (hdc): Yarn over, insert hook, yarn over, pull loop through stitch (there should be 3 loops on hook), yarn over, pull loop through all three loops on the hook.
4. Increase (inc): Work two single crochets into the same stitch.
5. Magic ring: Wrap yarn around fingers to form a loop. Insert hook through middle of loop. Pull working end of yarn through ring and chain the required number of stitches

through. Pull the yarn ends to close the loop.

6. Single crochet (sc): Insert hook, yarn over, pull loop through stitch (there should be 2 loops on hook), yarn over, pull loop through both loops on hook.
7. Slip stitch (sl): Insert hook, yarn over, pull loop through stitch and loop on hook.
8. 3-dc-bobble: Yarn over, insert hook in stitch, yarn over, pull loop through stitch. There should be 3 loops on the hook. Yarn over, pull loop through the first two loops on hook. In the same stitch, repeat the preceding steps twice (note the number of loops on the hook will increase by one each time). At the end, you should have 4 loops on the hook. Yarn over and pull the loop through all loops on the hook.

HEAD (IN COLOUR 18, BROWN)

Starting from the top of the head.

- Rnd 1: Start 8 sc in a magic ring [8]
 Rnd 2: Inc in all 8 st [16]
 Rnd 3: (Sc in next st, inc in next st) x 8 [24]
 Rnd 4: (Sc in each of next 2 st, inc in next st) x 8 [32]
 Rnd 5: (Sc in each of next 3 st, inc in next st) x 8 [40]
 Rnd 6: (Sc in each of next 4 st, inc in next st) x 8 [48]
 Rnd 7-10: Sc in all 48 st [48]
 Rnd 11: (Sc in each of next 5 st, inc in next st) x 8 [56]
 Rnd 12-14: Sc in all 56 st [56]
 Rnd 15: (Sc in each of next 13 st, inc in next st) x 4 [60]
 Rnd 16-19: Sc in all 60 st [60]
 Rnd 20: (Sc in each of next 8 st, dec) x 6 [54]
 Rnd 21: (Sc in each of next 7 st, dec) x 6 [48]
 Rnd 22: (Sc in each of next 6 st, dec) x 6 [42]
 Rnd 23: (Sc in each of next 5 st, dec) x 6 [36]
 Rnd 24: (Sc in each of next 4 st, dec) x 6 [30]

Insert 6 mm safety eyes between rounds 13 and 14, 4 st apart (Picture 1). Use a single strand of black embroidery thread to sew eyebrows over round 12, with each approximately 2 stitches wide (Picture 1).

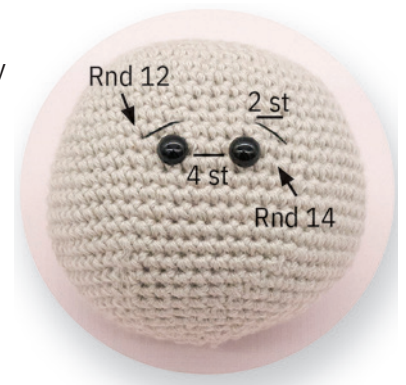
Start stuffing the head firmly with fibrefill and continue stuffing as you crochet the rest of the head.

- Rnd 25: (Sc in each of next 3 st, dec) x 6 [24]
 Rnd 26: (Sc in each of next 2 st, dec) x 6 [18]
 Rnd 27: (Sc in next st, dec) x 6 [12]

Finish stuffing the head firmly with fibrefill.

- Rnd 28: Dec x 6 [6]

Sl st and fasten off leaving a long yarn tail. After Rnd 28, thread the tail through a needle. Weave the needle through the front loop of each of the 6 st, always going in the direction from the centre and under the front loop. Pull the yarn tail and the hole should close. Insert the needle through the middle of the hole and pull through the head. Fasten off and weave the yarn end in.



MUZZLE (IN COLOUR 01, WHITE)

Starting from the centre of the muzzle.

Ch 10. Stitches are worked around both sides of the foundation chain.

Rnd 1: Into 2nd ch from hook, sc in each of next 8 ch, 3 sc in next ch. Continue on the other side of the foundation chain, sc in each of next 7 ch, inc in next ch [20]

Rnd 2: Inc in next st, sc in each of next 7 st, inc in each of next 3 st, 3-dc-bobble in next st, sc in each of next 5 st, 3-dc-bobble in next st, inc in each of next 2 st [26]

Push each 3-dc-bobble stitch outwards to create the nostrils.

Rnd 3: Sc in all 26 st [26]

Sl st in next st and fasten off. Leave a long tail for sewing. Stuff the muzzle with fibrefill.

BODY (IN COLOUR 18, BROWN)

Starting from the base of the body.

Rnd 1: Start 6 sc in a magic ring [6]

Rnd 2: Inc in all 6 st [12]

Rnd 3: (Sc in next st, inc in next st) x 6 [18]

Rnd 4: (Sc in each of next 2 st, inc in next st) x 6 [24]

Rnd 5: (Sc in each of next 3 st, inc in next st) x 6 [30]

Rnd 6: (Sc in each of next 4 st, inc in next st) x 6 [36]

Rnd 7: (Sc in each of next 5 st, inc in next st) x 6 [42]

Rnd 8: (Sc in each of next 6 st, inc in next st) x 6 [48]

Rnd 9: (Sc in each of next 7 st, inc in next st) x 6 [54]

Rnd 10-14: Sc in all 54 st [54]

Rnd 15: (Sc in each of next 7 st, dec) x 6 [48]

Rnd 16: Sc in all 48 st [48]

Rnd 17: (Sc in each of next 6 st, dec) x 6 [42]

Rnd 18: Sc in all 42 st [42]

Rnd 19: (Sc in each of next 5 st, dec) x 6 [36]

Rnd 20: Sc in all 36 st [36]

Rnd 21: (Sc in each of next 10 st, dec) x 3 [33]

Rnd 22: Sc in each of next 5 st, dec, (sc in each of next 9 st, dec) x 2, sc in each of next 4 st [30]

Rnd 23: Sc in each of next 6 st, dec, (sc in each of next 8 st, dec) x 2, sc in each of next 2 st [27]

Rnd 24: Sc in each of next 2 st, dec, (sc in each of next 7 st, dec) x 2, sc in each of next 5 st [24]

Sl st in next st and fasten off. Leave a long tail for sewing. Stuff the body firmly with fibrefill.

ARM X 2 (START IN COLOUR 01, WHITE)

Starting from the tip of the arm.

Rnd 1: Start 6 sc in a magic ring [6]

Rnd 2: Inc in all 6 st [12]

Rnd 3: (Sc in each of next 3 st, inc in next st) x 3 [15]

Rnd 4: Sc in all 15 st [15]

Rnd 5: Dec x 2, sc in each of next 9 st, dec [12]

Rnd 6: Sc in next st, dec, sc in each of next 7 st, dec [10]

Rnd 4: (Sc in next 2 st, inc in next st) x 6 [24]

Rnd 5: Dec x 2, sc in each of next 9 st, dec [12]

Rnd 6: Sc in next st, dec, sc in each of next 7 st, dec [10]

Change to Colour 18, Brown yarn.

Rnd 7-14: Sc in all 10 st [10]

Rnd 15: Sc in each of next 6 st [6]. Leave the remaining stitches unworked

Stuff the hand (rounds 1 to 6) firmly with fibrefill and with gradually less further up the arm.

Flatten the opening of the arm and sc in each of next 5 stitches through both layers to close the opening.

Fasten off, leaving a long tail for sewing.

LEG X 2 (START IN COLOUR 01, WHITE)

Starting from the base of the leg.

Rnd 1: Start 6 sc in a magic ring [6]

Rnd 2: Inc in all 6 st [12]

Rnd 3: (Sc in next st, inc in next st) x 6 [18]

Rnd 4: (Sc in next 2 st, inc in next st) x 6 [24]

Rnd 5: Sc in each of next 9 st, (inc in next st, sc in next st) x 4, sc in each of next 7 st [28]

Rnd 6-7: Sc in all 28 st [28]

Rnd 8: Sc in each of next 7 st, (dec, sc in next st) x 6, sc in each of next 3 st [22]

Rnd 9: Sc in each of next 4 st, (dec, sc in next st) x 6 [16]

Rnd 10: Sc in each of next 5 st, (dec, sc in next st) x 3, sc in each of next 2 st [13]

Rnd 11: Sc in next st, change to Colour 18, Brown yarn, sc in each of next 12 st [13]

Rnd 12-20: Sc in all 13 st [13]

Stuff the foot (rounds 1 to 11) firmly with fibrefill and with gradually less further up the leg.

LEFT LEG

Rnd 21: Sc in each of next 4 st [4]. Leave the remaining stitches unworked

Flatten the opening of the left leg and sc in each of next 6 stitches through both layers to close the opening.

Fasten off and leave a long tail for sewing.

RIGHT LEG

Rnd 21: Sc in each of next 11 st [11]. Leave the remaining stitches unworked

Flatten the opening of the right leg and sc in each of next 6 stitches through both layers to close the opening.

Fasten off and leave a long tail for sewing.

INNER EAR X 2 (IN COLOUR 01, WHITE)

Starting from the centre of the inner ear.

Rnd 1: Start 6 sc in a magic ring [6]

Rnd 2: Inc in all 6 st [12]

Rnd 3: (Sc in next st, inc in next st) x 6 [18]

Rnd 4: (Sc in next 2 st, inc in next st) x 6 [24]

Sl st in next st and fasten off. Weave all yarn tails in.

OUTER EAR X 2 (IN COLOUR 18, BROWN)

Starting from the centre of the outer ear.

Rnd 1-4: Repeat instructions as for inner ear.

Do not fasten off. We will join the inner and outer ears together.

Place the backs of the inner ear and the outer ear together (Picture 2). With the outer ear facing you, sc in each of next 24 st through both pieces [24].

Fold the joined ear in half (Picture 3), ch 1, and work through both sides of the ears, sc in each of next 2 st, sl st in next st.

Fasten off and leave a long tail for sewing.



PICTURE 2



PICTURE 3

HORN X 2 (IN COLOUR 01, WHITE)

Starting from the tip of the horn.

Rnd 1: Start 6 sc in a magic ring [6]

Rnd 2: Sc in all 6 st [6]

Rnd 3: Inc in next st, sc in each of next 5 st [7]

Rnd 4: Sc in all 7 st [7]

Rnd 5: Inc in next st, sc in each of next 5 st, inc in next st [9]

Rnd 6: Inc in next st, sc in each of next 7 st, inc in next st [11]

Sl st in next st and fasten off. Leave a long tail for sewing.

Stuff the horn firmly with fibrefill.

TAIL (IN COLOUR 18, BROWN)

Starting from the tip of the tail.

Rnd 1: Start 6 sc in a magic ring [6]

Rnd 2: (Sc in next st, inc in next st) x 3 [9]

Rnd 3: (Sc in each of next 2 st, inc in next st) x 3 [12]

Rnd 4: (Sc in each of next 3 st, inc in next st) x 3 [15]

Rnd 5-6: Sc in all 15 st [15]

Rnd 7: (Sc in next st, dec) x 5 [10]

Rnd 8: (Sc in each of next 3 st, dec) x 2 [8]

Rnd 9-13: Sc in all 8 st [8]

Stuff the end of the tail (rounds 1 to 8) firmly with fibrefill and with gradually less further along the rest of the tail.

Flatten the opening of the tail and sc in each of next 4 stitches through both layers to close the opening.

Fasten off and leave a long tail for sewing.

BOW (IN COLOUR 10, PINK)

Starting from one long edge of the bow.

With a long starting yarn tail, ch 50.

Rnd 1: Sl st in first ch to close the circle, be careful that the

chain is not twisted. Ch 2, starting in the same stitch into

which the sl st was made, hdc in each of next 50 ch [50]

Rnd 2-5: Into BLO, hdc in each of next 50 st [50]

Rnd 6: Into BLO, hdc in next st [1]. Leave the remaining stitches unworked

Sl st in next st and fasten off.

Wind the yarn tail a few times around the middle of the

bow to squeeze it together (Picture 4). Secure the ends and weave in the yarn tails at the back of the bow.

CENTRE OF BOW (IN COLOUR 10, PINK)

Starting from one long edge of the centre of bow.

We will crochet the centre of bow in rows.

Ch 12.

Row 1: Into 2nd ch from hook, sc in each of next 11 ch [11]

Row 2-3: Ch 1, turn, into 2nd st from hook, sc in each of next 11 st [11]

Fasten off, leaving a long yarn tail.

Wrap the centre of bow around the main bow over the wound yarn that squeezed the middle together (Picture 5).

Sew the ends together on the back of the bow. Pass a few stitches through the bow itself to prevent the centre of bow from sliding around.

Fasten off, leaving long yarn tails for sewing.

NECKBAND (IN COLOUR 10, PINK)

Starting from one long edge of the neckband.

With a long starting yarn tail, ch 32.

We will work the neckband in rows.

Row 1: Starting in the 2nd ch from hook, sc in each of next 31 ch [31]

Row 2: Ch 1, turn, starting in the 2nd ch from hook, sc in each of next 31 st [31]

Fasten off and leave a long tail for sewing.

ASSEMBLY

1. Sew the muzzle to the head over rounds 15 to 19 centred between the eyes, with the nostrils facing upwards (Picture 6). Stuff with fibrefill before sewing the muzzle fully to the head.

2. Sew the body to the head. The opening of the body should fall over rounds 26 to 28 of the bottom of the head (Picture 7). Tilt the head slightly to give him a cuter look.



PICTURE 6



PICTURE 7

3. Sew the arms to between rounds 23 and 24 of the body, with the front corners of the arms 7 stitches apart across the front.

4. Sew the legs to the body. The flat edge of each leg should be sewn over rounds 7 to 12 of the body and fall behind the midline of the body (Picture 8). Sew a few extra stitches along the legs to hold them snug against the body and prevent them from splaying out.



PICTURE 4



PICTURE 5

Guild Information

Executive Committee Meetings are held online (via Zoom) from 10.00am on the third Saturday of the month, except December. Any member is welcome to attend but please advise the Secretary. secretary@knittersguildnsw.org.au.

Executive Committee

President

Vacant

president@knittersguildnsw.org.au

Vice-Presidents

Julie Hogan (Macarthur), Hannah Smith (Inner City)

Secretary

Patricia McGregor (Pittwater)

secretary@knittersguildnsw.org.au

Treasurer

Raewyn Tippett (Newcastle)

treasurer@knittersguildnsw.org.au

Committee Members Robynn-El Ross (Southern Highlands), Margaret Harradine (Inner City), Jayne Kelderman (Mid North Coast), Maureen North (Pittwater), Gerri Ricci (Blacktown)

Sub-Committees

Guild Collection: Merrin Marks (Mid-North Coast) curator@kgnsw.org.au

Information Management:

Raewyn Tippett (temporary)

membership@kgnsw.org.au

Magazine:

Editor: Marianna Thomson (Blacktown)

editor@kgnsw.org.au

Design & publishing: Burkill Media

Design www.burkill.com.au

Publicity Officer: (Vacant)

publicity@knittersguildnsw.org.au

Website: Kate Semler (West Ryde)

web@kgnsw.org.au

Workshop Convenor: Sally Ogilvie

(Woy Woy)

workshops@knittersguildnsw.org.au

Public Officer

Stefanie Vogt (Inner City)

Charity

Maureen North (Pittwater)

charity@knittersguildnsw.org.au

Contact

Guild telephone: 0437 239 391

PO Box 460, EPPING NSW 2121

www.knittersguildnsw.org.au



PICTURE 8



PICTURE 12

5. Sew the ears to the head. The flat edge of each ear should be sewn between rounds 7 to 8 of the head (Picture 9). The front corners should be 18 stitches apart (Picture 9).



PICTURE 9

6. Sew the horns to the top of the head. The base of each horn should be sewn over rounds 4 to 6 of the head, on the inside of each ear (Picture 10). The increases made over rounds 5 and 6 of the horns should face inwards.



PICTURE 10

7. Sew the tail to the back of the body between rounds 7 and 8 (Picture 11), centred between the legs.



PICTURE 11

8. Wrap the neckband around his neck and sew the short edges of the neckband together. Sew the bow to the front centre of the neckband (Picture 12), or in any position as you wish. Place a few stitches along the

“wings” of the bow to hold the bow against the neckband. If you prefer, you can also sew the bow to the centre of the neckband/bow around his neck and sewing it close.

9. Place a jump ring through a stitch just under one of the nostrils (Picture 13).



PICTURE 13

From www.littlehookcrochet.com

should anyone choose to sell their finished make or circulate the pattern.



Meet Lyn Johnson of Ridgetop Fibre Studio

By Robynn Ross



Lyn's and her yarns

For Lyn Johnson, AKA Ridgetop Fibre Studio, knitting and working with fibre have been a mainstay and passion in her life. As a past advertising executive, horticulturalist and event manager (recently working for the Foundation and Friends of the Botanic Gardens), Lyn has always been attracted to colour and influenced by the natural world.

This obsession with all things fibre translates to an excitement when she is pondering about new colourways and techniques and researching trends on Ravelry. The possibility of translating the colour combinations seen in landscapes into unique yarn colourways motivates Lyn to discover new matches and sequences in her dyeing journey.



Lyn's stand at the Winter Wool Fair

Yarn lovers gravitate towards Lyn's dyed yarn as most of her colours are nuanced semi solids. There are always at least two-six colours in her yarns, mostly achieved through glazing tech-

niques. This is achieved by overlaying dye baths on a yarn in an acid environment which results in sections of the previous colours showing through, creating a rich depth of colour.

As an amateur painter who has been taking classes for 15 years, Lyn has learned a lot about mixing paint colours, which has probably translated into her experimentation with colourways. Currently she has over 60 repeatable colours in her Etsy shop. Lyn makes a diligent effort to keep most of them available all the time, which is a bonus for the buyer. She also does a lot of custom dyeing and has 'Dyed to order' listings in her shop.

Because they are the most versatile, Lyn mainly sells fingering weight yarns. Her range includes merino sock yarn 75/25, alpaca sock yarn, merino/yak/silk yarn, merino/silk 80/20 and luxury merino/silk 50/50. She stocks a small supply of merino/yak sock yarn and an unusual mix of alpaca/linen/silk for custom orders. A small quantity of DK superwash yarn is kept on hand along with a lovely squishy merino/alpaca/silk singles yarn. For the warmer seasons, Lyn is presently trialling a 50/50 wool/cotton mix, so keep an eye out for that beauty.



Some of Lyn's project bags

The physicality of dyeing yarn on a regular basis is sometimes challenging and Lyn is a 'one woman band', planning, executing and promoting her yarn herself. Another hurdle to a successful outcome in the dyeing process, is to avoid the contamination of dyes when dyeing large quantities of yarn in different colours, but practice makes perfect.

Ridgetop Fibre Studio has operated for six years as an Etsy shop and really took off after Lyn presented to the Knitters' Guild in July, 2019 as part of Fibre Tasting, along with Fiber Lily and Woolamalo Yarn Store. At present,

Lyn's yarns are for sale at the Hunter Valley Wool Store, Fibre Frolic and Grumpy Ginger Yarns.

Lyn is a member of the successful Sutherland Shire Spinners and Weavers fibre group, as well as a Guild member. She is always focused upon the next version of colour mixes to keep on trend and her yarn prices are excellent value for money. In the future, Lyn would like to expand her range of merchandise. Apart from yarn as she is also a felter, spinner, sewist and all round 'fibre tragic'. Check her out next time you are in the market for top quality Aussie dyed yarn.



Colours in Lyn's merino yak silk range



Dark side range in merino silk fingering yarn



Some of Lyn's speckled yarns

<https://www.etsy.com/au/shop/RidgetopFibreStudio>

Email: ridgetopfibrestudio@gmail.com

<https://www.facebook.com/RidgetopFibreStudio/>

Instagram: @ridgetopfibrestudio

GROUP REPORTS

BLACKTOWN

The Blacktown Group enjoyed two more workshops in the last quarter of 2022; one in October in which Wendy Healy taught us how to crochet a bag, and another facilitated by Gilda Bortolus in November in which we learned the Kitchener stitch. Plans are afoot to continue utilising the many talents of our members for more workshops in 2023. We elected a new Convenor, Gerri Ricci, in November - thank you to our outgoing Convenor Roberta Fassina who led the group admirably through trying times!

In March our meeting date will be altered to accommodate the Blacktown Show. Our group has been assisting with the knitting and crochet sections for the past few years, and for 2023 we have expanded the classes available for knitting to better reflect contemporary projects.

With sadness, we also report the passing of our much loved member Colleen McCunnie. Colleen was a long-standing member of the Blacktown Group and we will all miss her wit, enthusiasm and skill. Our meetings will not be the same without Colleen showing off her latest knits, usually having made clever improvements to the pattern with stunning results. Vale Colleen.

Katherine Flanagan, Secretary

BLUE MOUNTAINS

The Blue Mountains group ended 2022 in style with a traditional Christmas party complete with Christmas crackers, silly hats, and terrible jokes. In addition to a fabulous two-course meal and excellent company, we enjoyed a few of our other group traditions.

The one-skein challenge gave members a chance to show off their skills with prizes for best knitted, best crochet, most colourful and viewer's choice, while bringing up the perennial question... "Is that knit or crochet?" One member had a novel solution: if in doubt, vote for it in both

categories!

The one-skein swap (not to be confused with the one-skein challenge) was also a great success, with plenty of handmade goodies distributed Secret Santa style. Some of us were delighted to receive the same one-skein challenge entry we'd voted for, with many entries hastily wrapped or popped into gift bags for their intended recipient.

It's no small task to throw a party so we are full of gratitude for the work Jan put into making the day a success. Blue Mountains Group plan to carry those good vibes into 2023 as we look forward to plenty of making, sharing, learning, stashing, and a few laughs along the way!

Luke Shilson-Hughes, Secretary

CAPITAL REGION

It's a new year, a new committee and a new venue; we're very enthusiastic to see what creativity comes from our group in 2023! We hosted a brioche workshop in November with Sue Hobbs (of Blacktown), which was not only educational but entertaining, and most of us finished the workshop with a brioche sample to start us on the right track. Sue joined us for our afternoon meeting so we had more practise time. We celebrated the end of 2022 with a seasonal meeting in early December - a fabulous afternoon tea, some craft and Christmas quizzes, and some beautiful projects in Show and Tell. Anne amazed us with her crocheted Christmas baubles, Debbie showed us several garments she'd made while away on holidays and De-Arne very proudly modelled her Twists and Turns shawl. Members reviewed the goals they'd set at the beginning of the year and we're happy to



Capital Region De-Arne Twists and Turns shawl

report that we were all on Santa's good list and rewarded with chocolate (of course!).

Liz McNally, Secretary

CLARENCE VALLEY

Our group is looking forward to 2023 and hoping it is a year of some normality.

We were able to meet for most of 2022 - sometimes at a picnic table in very pleasant surroundings along the shores of the Clarence River. Following our planned program was difficult, but despite the disruptions we did keep busy producing lots of knitting - cardigans, jumpers and socks. The year finished with our AGM as we shared Christmas lunch at the Ulmarra Hotel. For our first couple of meetings, we have decided that we all should attempt making a bag of some description, be it knitted, crocheted or felted. It will be interesting to see what we have created when we come together.

Happy knitting and crocheting.

Jenny Moar, Publicity.



Capital Region Christmas spread

CROCHET TURRAMURRA

It's been a nice few months in our little group. Although we don't have many members we do have some great visitors from other branches so there's always fun and laughter. In October Di taught the group Mosaic Crochet and we did a small purse with a zipper. There was lots of interest so it continued onto November's meeting, and many of the ladies went on to make a few of them. At December's meeting we had a wonderful Show and Tell of what had been finished



Crochet Turramurra Mosaic crochet purses

during the year. Cindy, our Treasurer, and myself have now stepped down with Lana and Dianne holding the fort.
Di Scaysbrook, Convenor

EPPING

Our end of year Christmas party showed not only do we have talented knitters but also talented cooks; well-attended and enjoyed by all. Charity items were well received with many Christmas-themed, handmade toys in the stash, as well as a large range of items. Show and Tell never ceases to amaze the group. Rugs, shawls, toys, jumpers, socks etc the list of items is almost as endless as the amount.

Our resident UFO (unfinished objects) person, Ann Archer, never ceases to amaze and November was no exception. Ann has over the years tackled and finished so many items that would otherwise be discarded. In sheer numbers of items Ann excelled this month, with four UFO rugs completed. We recollect last month's item being a beautiful baby jacket, which Ann found at The Sewing Box, unfinished. We all remember the amazing blanket Ann completed when my friend passed away and the family gave the UFO blanket to me to find a home. Ann completed this and it was given back to her husband, who remembered his wife working on it; he was overwhelmed. Thank you so much Ann.



Epping Ann Archer's Dec UFOs

Another big thank you to Daphne Ferguson (retail member) from Sip Knit Yarn, who ran an optional mini workshop on Entrelac knitting (French for knitting). The workshop was well-attended and excellent notes and guidance given. We eagerly await completed Entrelac items. Daphne wowed us with a variety of items made with Entrelac knitting including a beautiful rug.

Shirely Gregory, Publicity



Epping entrelac blanket Daphne Ferguson



Epping charity knitting toys and other items

EPPING CROCHET

Epping Crochet Group finished 2022 discussing possible projects for 2023. So far three projects will be worked on: a crocheted octopus, corner to corner blankets or cushions and animal towel toppers. As we are starting a new year, we extend a welcome to anyone who wants to learn to crochet or who wants to extend their crochet skills.

Anne Moore, Publicity

GOULBURN

The year has gone so quickly I have had little time to get my act together. It has been a year of growth for our group. We started the year with 18 members and now we have 30, with more on the way. We must have been busy!

2022 started with preparation for the Goulburn show - held on the first weekend in March. It was to be over two days but unfortunately was rained out. We arrived on the second day to pack up the items on our stall and the exhibitions and headed back home.

We did however have a lot of interest in our local club on the first day and ended up attracting five to six new members.

One of us was lucky to take out top prize in the entire show, with a short-sleeved cardigan. We are a clever bunch here.

We also made and sold a lot of cotton string bags and other lovely objects knitted and crocheted by our members. It was a very successful day all round.

We have a new banner for the club which has also attracted attention at other events we have had. We also have a new flyer in the form of postcards (thanks to Narelle and her clever daughter, Lauren), which were redesigned and distributed about the town.

We had a World Wide Knit In Public Day event on 11 June at our local RSL. This attracted much attention and was enjoyed by all.

We have started over last three months to knit a different stitch each month; these are to be put together into a blanket, scarf or whatever members fancy.

October was a busy month, with the Lilac festival in the first weekend. We had another two days showing off our talents at the local RSL, where much interest was shown at this event.

The following weekend many of us headed for the Southern Highlands where we shopped up at Castle Handmade. We had a beautiful morning tea provided by Elizabeth, and she also gave us a very entertaining chat about her life as a crocheter. A very enjoyable day finishing up at a local shop where we had a great lunch. I believe there was some very nice yarn purchased on the day. The weather was very inclement this weekend and some stayed at home to make sure they were safe from water.

We are hoping that 2023 will be a lot less sodden. Although it is lovely to stay indoors to practise our craft, we really can do this anywhere and we DON'T need rain as an excuse. Thanks for being part of our group.

Bev Artiss, Convenor

INNER CITY

It was great to get back into face-to-face meetings during 2022 after the disruption of Covid. While we all miss the vibe of the Redfern Town Hall and the members who have not yet returned after Covid, the move



Inner City group World Knit in Public Day

to Alexandria has brought with it a more intimate setting, with the opportunity of greater connection between the group. We have enjoyed group conversations such as our knitting inspirations chats, and events including World Knit In Public Day at the pub.

Some highlights of the 2022 were the Great Inner City Destash, our workshops learning beaded knitting, crocheted buttons and illusion knitting. We have more great activities planned for 2023 and welcome new members and warmly embrace returning members to our group.

Jo-Anne Hewitt and Kaye Stefanovic, Co-Convenors

INNER WEST

Welcome to 2023. Our meetings will be held at the Camperdown Commons on the third Monday of the month commencing at 10.30 a.m. Everyone is most welcome to join us.

We are looking forward to learning new techniques at the upcoming meetings, and of course Show and Tell; seeing all of the wonderful items that members have completed and giving everyone inspiration to give themselves a challenge.

In November Carol introduced us to sock knitting from the toe-up and the merits of keeping knitted toes and heels in your stash ready to go. It is a good way to use up leftover sock yarn and for those times when you only have time for a small project. For some of us in our group this was a new approach to knitting socks.

Several people had signed up for the 2022 Stephen West KAL. During Show and Tell it was fascinating to see the different colour combinations and to hear why some chose a different finish from the pattern.

Despite the changeable weather we had a lovely Christmas morning tea at our regular meeting place. In January we are looking forward to

exploring summer knitting.

Also, special thanks to Judy, our outgoing secretary of three years.

Judy Lawler, Secretary (former) and Louise Zaluzny, Secretary (current)

KATOOMBA

The Katoomba Group have had some great meetings over the last three months. We have had some lovely new people sit and knit with us and talk about knitting and the Knitters' Guild. Each meeting, as well as our usual meeting, we also have Show and Tell to admire each other's work and marvel at other's skills and maybe even pick up a trick or two.

Whether it be knitting or crochet, the members of the Katoomba Group have been able to answer questions and help solve a problem for those that come and ask.

Our December meeting was particularly enjoyable and we were able to marvel at this project from Kerry Owers and her gorgeous bead work - just look at that amazing doll dress. We also admired Sharn Arcus's cowl and Ronah Tuite's Bowser.

Margaret Hardwick, Secretary



Katoomba Kerry Owers baby doll outfit



Katoomba Ronah Tuite and Bowser



Katoomba Sharn Arcus's cowl

KIAMA

We held our AGM at the November meeting and congratulations and thank you to Anne Phillips (Convenor) and Thea Blanch (Treasurer) who took on their roles for another year. Welcome to Iman Aziza, who took on the position of Secretary as I was required to stand aside after serving three years.

December saw us enjoying our Christmas Party. It was a great afternoon with lots of laughs over our knowledge (or lack of) for musical trivia. Thank you to Irene Curry and Kathy Reed for organising.

We are looking forward to 2023 and planning more workshops for members to participate in.

As we were unable to celebrate our 20th Anniversary in February last year, plans are underway to mark our 21st. We are hopeful that some of the original members may be able to attend.

Jean Shelley, Secretary

KU-RING-GAI

The group met for the final meeting of the year on 28/11/22.

This meeting was the AGM, and the group welcomed two members who will share duties of Secretary (the positions of Convenor and Treasurer remain unchanged).

The meeting was followed by Christmas morning tea and lunch, which brought to a close a year of friendship, workshops and welcoming new group members.

We are all looking forward to the group resuming our meetings in 2023 on the fourth Monday of the month, and social knitting and coffee on the second Tuesday of the month.

Gayle Parker, Convenor

MACARTHUR

Our publicity member Alison just loves to write a good rhyme; a little rhyming ditty to sum up 2022 and preview 2023.

*Well, 2022 is a thing of the past,
And for most of us, it was a bit of a blast.*

*Covid wasn't so much in our face,
So we could get back to our rightful place,*

*Of the Camden CWA Hall,
On a Monday or Saturday*

And we could all have a ball.

*That's a ball of yarn or of wool,
And our 2023 calendar is looking pretty full.*

There are outings, planned lessons and guests,

*And once again we will all try and do
our very best*

*To learn and embrace some new
knitting skills,*

*Because our Macarthur Ladies are
certainly not dills.*

*Our meetings and the company we all
really enjoy,*

*So these new skills we will gladly employ,
To make some creations to get rid of our
stash.*

I'm sure we're all up for giving that a bash!

Hope this little Macarthur rhyme

Will fill in some time,

And fill you with good cheer

To embrace the New Year

**Janice Ferrett, Convenor and Alison
Wooten, Publicity**

MAITLAND

Members have been busy creating gorgeous crocheted and knitted items, ranging from cardigans to jumpers, shawls and blankets. Each project has provided the creator with opportunities to learn new techniques along the way and to share that knowledge and passion with fellow members.

Plans are underway for our outings in 2023, starting with a trip to Sweet Lemon Yarns in February.

Cynthia Mulholland, Treasurer



Maitland Judy Bender (right) with her crocheted blanket



Maitland Carol Wilks proudly showing her crocheted mosaic



Maitland Heather Smith with her completed Winterlights (by Stephen West)



Maitland Jan Brown with her newly completed shawl



Maitland Sandra Cameron showing off her latest cardigan

MID NORTH COAST

The Mid North Coast Group have had a successful 2022 with the inception of a Saturday social meeting, which is making our group more accessible to potential members who are unable to attend our weekday meeting. There has been steady interest, and with the newly elected Committee excited for the coming year, there are plans to be more engaged and visible with



Mid North Coast Christmas party

our community through knitting and crocheting in public (not just once a year) and through social media and regular media promotion.

We wish all groups success and friendship for the coming year.

Tracey Bonfante, Convenor

MUDGE

In November our group was invited along with at least 50 other community organisations to attend the Rylstone /Kandos Expo. The aim of the Expo was to advertise what organisations are available within the community. Two of our members attended and set up a display of items, showcasing the work of the Mudgee branch of the Knitters' Guild. Items on show included some members' personal projects as well as articles knitted for charities. There was a lot of interest in the display, and it was considered a worthwhile event to attend again in 2023.

Our December and final meeting for 2022, saw us sharing our current knitting and crocheting projects, as well as a seasonal afternoon tea. Our first meeting for the New Year will be in February.

Sally Colley, Convenor



Mudgee member Janet de Rooy with the display of Knitters Guild items at the Rylstone Kandos Expo in November 2022

NEWCASTLE

Our AKWAK challenge continued for the remainder of 2022 and members knitted and crocheted many woollen items of clothing and toys for young people in Syrian refugee camps.

For the first time in several years the Hamilton Uniting Church Christmas tree exhibition took place. Local organisations were invited to decorate a Christmas tree to raise funds for a selected charity. Our tree was, of course, covered in crocheted and knitted ornaments. All funds raised (visitors voted for trees by putting money in envelopes) went to support our current charity – Mentor Support Network (MSN). The ornaments will be sold at our 2024 exhibition and will again raise money for MSN.

In November we held a Random Knit/Crochet in Public morning on the deck outside a pub along the harbour foreshore; a fabulous location made even better by good coffee brought to us by staff in the pub and yet another chance to crochet and knit.

And then it was Christmas and we had two Christmas lunches (one for the Wednesday group and the other for the Saturday group - although many of us attended both). There were door prizes, trivia, and on Wednesday, a raffle of donated books – yes, the money raised went to MSN.

The members of the Newcastle group are very enthusiastic charity supporters.
Katherine Heinrich, Convenor



Newcastle member Vivien Brown with MSN Chair Judy Hart after receiving the cheque at Hamilton Uniting Church

NORTHERN TABLELANDS

Our AGM was held in November with re-election of most of our committee and adding some new faces! Since our group is quite small we spent some time discussing how to increase our membership. We concluded 2022 in

early December with a dinner and Christmas lucky dip.

Over the last few meetings we have been accumulating items for our group entry in the Armidale Show in early March. A plan for regular speakers/mini workshops and their publicity was the focus of our last meeting.

Ingrid Chaku, Secretary

PITTWATER

Happy New Year from the Pittwater Group. We continue to meet on the first and third Tuesday, and the first Saturday of each month at Pittwater RSL, for which we are most grateful.

Our AGM was held in November. The committee for 2023 are: Maureen North, Convenor; Janelle Grange, Secretary and Mary Musgrave, Treasurer. Many thanks to our outgoing Convenor, Cathy Aggett, for her contribution.

We held our Christmas lunch in the Glasshouse Grill at the RSL. Judy Thomas prepared and hosted a Crochet Trivia Quiz, which was very informative. A knitting contest and Santa Sack finished off a fun afternoon. Many thanks to Judy.

Our charity work was outstanding for 2022. 1031 items were distributed to several charities, the largest being Ronald MacDonald House (349), Pittwater RSL (212) and The Children's Hospital at Westmead (122). The remainder were divided between 12 other charities. It was a fabulous effort by our members who work consistently towards these donations. We will try and better this result this year!

Workshops and presentations for 2023 are being finalised and our Show and Tell sessions are always interesting as our members' skills are very varied.

We look forward to another year of friendship and creativity together.

Jenny Lucas, Member



Pittwater Christmas lunch 2022



Pittwater Judy Thomas and Janelle Grange during their Stephen West presentation



Pittwater finished Westknits mkal2022 Twists and Turns

SOUTHERN

The last meeting for 2022 was very festive with members enjoying a Christmas-themed morning tea. Members enjoyed a cup of tea/coffee with baked goodies and treats. Along with the usual meeting, members showed off their projects both finished and WIP.

Members also donated food items to Uniting Church Kogarah, where meetings are held. The Uniting Church will distribute these food items to those are in need.

We reminded members to renew their membership for 2023 and look forward to seeing everyone after a break on the first Saturday of February 2023.

Sheridane Kumanidis and Abbey Bongers, Co-Convenors

SOUTHERN HIGHLANDS

After culling our extensive Guild library last year, we are inspired to try some modern patterns and techniques in 2023 as we really do have some brilliant resources. Each member has been given a small pile of our new KG business cards and

we are delighted with our Guild's generosity to its members. We are always promoting our group with its friendship, skills and knowledge and welcome newbies. Our 2023 meetings will commence in February when we will plan our Program of Events.

Robynn Ross, Convenor

THE ENTRANCE

How excited we are to welcome in a New Year; the possibilities are endless. Can you imagine what we all can achieve? Our stash may grow but also our knowledge and the challenges we will welcome. The Entrance Group will this year again be supporting our local charity, We Care Connect. They need knitted acrylic children's garments and other basic needs for Mums and bubs. Our usual focus is also on war-affected children (AKWAK); last year we were so impressed with the efforts of so many. It is heartwarming to see the compassion shown. Our meetings continue to be held in Budgewoi each month. We will be looking forward to learning new skills and showing each other our work. It never ceases to delight us all to share the efforts of many. Thank you for such a supportive and crafty group of like-minded people. Welcome back all and please join us when you can.

Prue Smee, Member

WEST RYDE

No report received/nothing to report

WOY WOY

We had a great Christmas and end-of-year celebration with lunch provided by members, a fun quiz with prizes as well as lucky door prizes. A large quantity of donated yarn has been distributed among members for items to go to AKWAK and We Care Connect. Our now regular knit 'n natter coffee meet up on the first Saturday of the month is popular, as is our monthly meeting on the third Saturday of the month. We are welcoming a steady stream of new members and are searching for a larger venue to accommodate everyone with adequate physical distancing. Our calendar of events of 2023 has been drawn up and will, no doubt, be added to.

Ruth Herman, Convenor

Vale Colleen Margaret McCunnie

22/8/41 – 19/12/22



Blacktown Group said farewell to a very talented knitter who had a wonderful sense of humour and a gift for taking work that didn't quite work out or meet the mould and turn it into something beautiful and serviceable. Often, people would give her squares of all different colours, sizes (and even shapes) and she would turn them into a lovely blanket to be given away. One of our members shared how she was mesmerised by the fact that Colleen could knit without seemingly looking at her work!

She joined the group very soon after it was formed and served as the group treasurer for a number of years, rarely missing a meeting.

I remember that she would come to meetings, with a lovely smile and sense of contentment or happiness. She would enthusiastically explain how she didn't like this bit or that bit of the pattern because it didn't quite fit or suit her shape, so she would redesign it. She also had a knack for taking spare bits of yarn and turning them into beautiful creations. On one occasion, she found some yarn, started knitting and then finished the garment in a complementary colour. It looked stunning. One of her best creations was the flannel flower creation pictured.

We already miss you, Colleen. Rest in Peace.

Geraldine Ricci,
Convenor, Blacktown
Group



Meet the New Committee (part 2)

Jayne Kelderman

Originally a member of Pittwater Group until moving north, **Jayne Kelderman** is now a member of Mid North Coast group. She has only been a Guild member since March 2021 (but it feels much longer!)

What's your knitting/crochet superpower?

I have no superpowers, I just enjoy creating something I like and usually for someone else or for charity.

What's the most recent technique/tip you have learnt?

The most recent thing I learnt was a lifeline; how did I ever manage without it?

How long have you been knitting/crocheting?

I learnt to knit with my Mum, Grandma and Great Aunts.

What do you know now that you wish you'd known when you started out?

I wish I had used circular needles earlier, as Brits we used straight needles tucked under your arms.

WIPs (work in progress) – do you like to focus on one or two projects at a time or do you have more projects on the go than there are days in the week?

WIPs - only one thing on the needles and one thing on the hook or it never gets finished

You notice a small mistake – do you rip back or carry on?

Mistakes - rip back, although after doing the Snarkometer with Casapinka last year a quote that stuck with me is '[a Sharon Snack] is a mistake that you ignore because you can't see it from a speeding squad car', but I still rip back.

Why do you enjoy being a member of the Knitters' Guild NSW?

When I first joined Pittwater they made me feel so welcomed. I especially enjoyed the fact that they did

so much for charity. They are a super group that take a lot to follow.

What are your favourite colours?

Blues and pinks but i'm knitting with a green/brown Noro wool at the moment which I just love.

What would we see in your stash?

Too much but I'm now enjoying knitting with beautiful wools rather than the washable acrylic

When you're not knitting or crocheting you are...

Motorbike riding - both touring and off-road, I recently enjoyed a 10-day motorbike tour of Italy; yes, I did take my sock wool and finished a pair of socks. Don't let anyone tell you you can't take metal DPNs on a plane (I didn't realise I had them with my Rosewood circulars). Oops!



Jayne Kelderman my first ever MKAL the Snarkometer by Casapinka, a great knit during lockdown.

Margaret Harradine

Margaret Harradine has held the position of Secretary of the Inner City Group. She has been a member



of the Guild for more than ten years, and in 2022 joined the executive committee.

What's your knitting/crochet superpower?

Hiding the 'ends' when finishing.

What's the most recent technique/tip you have learnt?

Mosaic knitting (at the Guild Gathering).

What's next on your 'learn to do' list?

Summoning the courage to attempt to learn Continental knitting (maybe).

How long have you been knitting/crocheting?

On and off, for more than 50 years (gosh!)

What do you know now that you wish you'd known when you started out?

How much more fun it is to knit in a group.

WIPs (work in progress) – do you like to focus on one or two projects at a time or do you have more projects on the go than there are days in the week?

I'm not admitting anything on this score.

You notice a small mistake – do you rip back or carry on?

Probably fix it.

Why do you enjoy being a member of the Knitters' Guild NSW?

There are so many friendly members who love sharing their knowledge.

What are your favourite colours?

Blue, always, followed by green and purple.

What would we see in your stash?

An astonishing quantity of (mostly) natural fibres. I clearly believe that I will set a new longevity record: call the people at Guinness!

When you're not knitting or crocheting you are....

Reading, singing, walking, laughing.

Retail members

Introducing a new retailer

The Knitting Nook

Founded by avid knitter and yarn stasher Heather Laurie, The Knitting Nook is a place for community and craft. The Knitting Nook is a new favourite yarn shop providing high-quality yarn, knitting kits and patterns to crafters all around Australia. Sourcing amazing yarn from indie dyers and small Australian businesses, The Knitting Nook is proud to be a part of building a warm and inclusive crafting community. Every day, we help both new and experienced knitters hone their craft by offering the best supplies and a welcoming space to create.



heather@theknittingnook.com.au
www.theknittingnook.com.au

24 Mile Hollow Yarn Co, Kandos

Hand Dyed Yarn, fibre and patterns. Dyed with low impact acid dyes and a mix of immersion, dip dyeing and steaming. Bases from Australian suppliers. Available from selected yarn stores or online. W: 24milehollowyarnco

Australian Alpaca Yarn - Alpaca Ultimate

Luxury high quality Australian Alpaca Yarn. 1-8 ply balls and cones available in a range of colours from our on-line store. Follow us on facebook www.facebook.com/alpacaultimate/
www.australionalpacayarn.com.au
sales@australionalpacayarn.com.au

The Australian Wool Store

Specialising in unique, colourful hand-dyed yarns and a carefully curated range of commercially dyed yarns available only from The Australian Wool Store. KnitPro accessories. W: the Australian woolstore P: 0408 880 441

Batik Oetoro, Gateshead

An Australian, family-operated business, Batik Oetoro has been providing dyes, fabric paints since 1972.
W: BatikOetoro P: 02 4943 8808

Beadoodads

Specializing in stitch markers and progress keepers. Around 90 different ones to suit all tastes. Choose large or small nylon coated wire loops, rings

or lobster clasps. Knitting and travel kits available too. W: Beadoodads
E:beadoodads@gmail.com

Bendigo Woollen Mills

Quality Australian Yarn. Natural Fibres 2 - 12 Ply. Made in Bendigo, Victoria. Contact us for a free shade card.
W: Bendigo Woollen Mills
E: info@bendigowoollenmills.com.au
P: 03 5442 4600

Birdhouse Fibres

Creating beautiful hand-dyed yarns from Sydney's Northern Beaches. Specialising in responsibly sourced luxury yarn bases in a large range of tonal and variegated colours. W: Birdhouse Fibres
E: hello@birdhousefibres.com

Blackwattle Yarn

A carefully curated selection of luxury yarns and fibres, hand-dyed on our farm in Murrumbateman, NSW. Inspiring and catering to knitters, crocheters, spinners and fibre artists. Online or at local selected yarn stores. W: Blackwattle Yarn

Castle Handmade

For all things crochet - Classes, Supplies, Patterns and more. We host a range of crochet classes and sell a large variety of crochet supplies. Located in the Southern Highlands, NSW. W: Castle Handmade

Convent & Chapel Wool Shop, Rylstone

Artisan brands, luxury local and imported yarns and knitting accessories. Hand-dyed yarn and lace specialists in a rural atmosphere.
W: Convent and Chapel Wool
Ph: 0409 564 747

Crafty Frog, Kambah, ACT

A speciality shop with good quality yarns, fibres and tools from suppliers worldwide. Bricks-and-mortar store with friendly, knowledgeable staff and integrated online shop. Always happy to try and source products. W: Crafty Frog

EleventyOne Windmills, Newcastle

Your ultimate online destination for yarn-craft tools and accessories. Hand-made stitch markers, jewellery, spinning tools, fibre and project bags, all produced by hand in my studio in Newcastle. I am also a stockist of a great range of knitting retail products including needles, gadgets, and other goodies.
Web: www.eleventyonewindmills.com.au
Instagram: @111windmills

Euro Sew and Knit

Wholesale Only. Australia has a new

wholesaler for the fantastic knitting and crochet range from Prym. Check the range of knitting needles, circulars and double pointed needles, crochet hooks and everything to make knitting and crocheting enjoyable. Sales to retailers only, ABN required. www.eurosk.com.au or email at service@eurosk.com.au

Fibre Arts Shed, Central Coast

Suppliers of raw materials and tools to fibre artists, incl. wool, luxury and plant fibres as yarns and tops. Locally grown/processed fibres available. Fibre (wool/alpaca) processing service available.
W: Fibre Arts Shed P: 0422 160 506

glenheavenknits

Hand-dyed natural fibres for when only the best will do. www.etsy.com/au/shop/glenheavenknits email: glenheavenknits@gmail.com

Greta's @ Roseville

At Greta's @ Roseville, you will find a range of fabulous yarns, including "Greta's Hand Dyed Yarn", beautiful hand dyed yarns, in extensive colours & bases!
A: Greta's @ Roseville, 72 Pacific Highway, Roseville NSW 2069

Grumpy Ginger, Wyong

Grumpy Ginger Yarn Co. is a community hub for all walks of life, where anyone can drop in and enjoy the company of like-minded people. We offer classes, conversation, convenience and creative inspiration! We have many unique hand-dyed and commercially dyed yarns, handmade and commercial accessories and locally made products and gifts.
Facebook: Grumpy Ginger Yarn Company
Instagram: Grumpy.Ginger.Yarn
Website: www.grumpyginger.com.au

Hive & Gobbler

Destination store in the Hunter Valley nurturing mindful creativity, slow-living and sustainability ideas. Open 7 days in Dungog. SUPPLIES - WORKSHOPS - EVENTS - ONLINE SHOP. W: Hive and Gobbler

Hodgepodge Skeins

Hodgepodge Skeins is a creative hand dyed yarn studio located in the Blue Mountains; it's just a one woman show. I love to create combinations that I imagine and draw inspiration from my surroundings. I have sourced wool from our Australian mills and it's 100% Australian. My colourways are unique and stirring to create with. I hope you love them as much as I do and that it brings you joy to craft with. Hodgepodgeskeins.com kaz@hodgepodgeskeins.com



Retail members

The House of Wool

Australian hand spun, hand-dyed yarns and well-known quality yarns. Workshops available.
www.thehouseofwool.com.au

I Wool Knit, Bungendore

Online yarn shop for quality yarns, patterns and accessories from Australia and Europe. Fast and secure shipping Australia-wide. Free local pick-up. W: I Wool Knit E: sales@iwoolknit.com.au

Jokamamo Textiles

Sumptuous hand-dyed merino, silk, BFL and cashmere yarns. Self-striping yarns ready to ship and dye-to-order and matching mini-skeins. Free winding service on request. We stock quirky, fun project bags. W: Jokamamo Textiles

Kaalund Yarns

Kaalund Yarns manufactures in Australia luxury yarns produced from Australian wool and Australian alpaca. Products can be purchased online or from select local yarn stores. W: Kaalund Yarns

Lyrebird Yarns

Helen Keenan, fibre artist in the Blue Mountains, selling my unique yarns, shawl pins, buttons and knitted and woven accessories at local markets, Fibrefest, Ironfest and Winterfest. Spinning classes at studio. W: Lyrebird Yarns

Marlyn Alpaca, Thornleigh

Quality alpaca yarns, carded alpaca top, alpaca felts and blankets from our much loved flock of individually named alpacas. W: Marlyn Alpaca P: 02 9481 0949

Natural Yarn Co

email: naturalyarnco@outlook.com.au
website: www.naturalyarnco.com.au
All natural hand-dyed yarns, inspired by Australian flora and fauna. Mother and daughter duo combining an on-line store and also serving the Macarthur area and South-West Sydney.

Obsession Yarns

Obsession Yarns – home of gorgeous hand dyed yarns and unique, beautiful handmade stitch markers for knitting and crochet. Based in Canberra and online. W: Obsession Yarns
E: obsessionyarns@gmail.com

SipKnitYarn

Select from our range of accessories to enhance your crafting experience. Our Amish-style swifts pack into neat cocoons for storage. Our Yarn Boxes, in two sizes, are like "a yarn bowl with a lid". We have five

types of timber in our range of Rotating Yarn Butlers. As well as our five Blanket Pattern Books we have downloadable blanket patterns and free video tutorials. Our Craft Themed Tote Bags make great gifts for yourself and friends. W: SipKnitYarn

Spinners' Cotton

Premium-quality, 100% Australian cotton fibre. Spinning and carding tools, books, DVD tutorials, accessories, demonstrations and workshops on hand spinning and dyeing cotton. W: spinnerscotton.com.au P: 0439 408 159

Spunout Fibres, Hill End, NSW

Spunout Fibres are suppliers of natural coloured fleece and fibre, tops and yarns made from coloured sheep and alpacas for spinners, weavers and knitters. E: spunoutfibres@gmail.com
P: Ann: 0409 823 045

Stitchy Witch Co

Stitchy Witches Wool Company is a new online yarn and accessories store, based out of the beautiful Lake Macquarie in NSW. Catering for all levels of knitters and crocheters, we offer a unique range of yarn from well-known brands to independent dyers, as well as a varied range of needles, hooks, nifty notions and fantastic project bags/ cases from Australia and all corners of the world. W: www.stitchywitches.com.au Facebook & Instagram: @stitchywitcheswoolco

This Lush Corner

A socially and environmentally responsible yarn store. You'll find a variety of handcrafted goods, kits, yarns, patterns, tutorials and more. W: This Lush Corner

Tarndwarncourt

The home of Polwarth wool since 1840 in south-west Victoria. Range of home grown yarns and top milled in Australia/NZ available online and Farm Shop. Workshops. Crafty Sundays. Accommodation for a hand-crafted stay. www.tarndie.com

Three Cats Yarn (previously DownUnderDyer)

email: info@threecatsyarn.com.au
website: www.threecatsyarn.com.au
Post: PO BOX 632 Newtown NSW 2042 /

Three Mums' Yarn

Established by Queanbeyan Guild members, Three Mums' Yarn produces quality hand-dyed yarn. Find us at W: Three Mums Yarn.

Virginia Farm Wool Works

Offering equipment and fibres to spin, dye, felt, knit, crochet and weave. Spinning classes and wheels, looms, wool, silks, selected fleeces and blended fibres. W: Virginia Farm Wool Works
P: 0448 866 789

Waratah Fibres and Yarns, Bundanoon

Hand-dyed fibre and yarn. Workshops in skein painting. Open day first Tuesday of the month, also by appointment. Discount to Guild members. E: helen@waratahfibres.com.au P: 02 4883 6138

The Wool Inn, Penrith

Visit us instore or online. Wide range of products (7,500+) including yarns, needles, books, accessories, and looms. 10% discount for current Knitters' Guild members. Group visits welcome. W: The Wool Inn P: 02 4732 2201

Wool 2 Yarn, Morningside

Luxuriously soft alpaca yarns and hand spinning tops from our beautiful fibre. We specialise in colourful silk blends and natural colours. Australian Grown Australian Spun Australian Made. W: Wool 2 Yarn P: 0404 753 840

Woolshed @ Manuka

We welcome everyone. We love natural fibres: their beauty, adaptability and individuality. We support small businesses supplying specialty yarns and accessories and offer something truly unique, including a range of classes. W: Woolshed P:02 6295 0061

YARN CRAFT TOURS by Gourmet Journeys

Join fellow yarn lovers as we leisurely discover the fabulous yarns and flavours of the world. The 2023 fully escorted road trip explores New Zealand's glorious Sth. Island in Spring. Future tours incl; Shetland/Norway, KAN, Tassie and Japan. Let our experienced team take care of it all for you. Contact us: w: www.gourmetjourneys.com.au e: anne@gourmetjourneys.com.au m: 0421 019 879

YarnHub

Hand-dyed yarns in wool, linen, cotton, silk. Unusual yarns such as Habu stainless steel, paper yarns, leather, hemp, nettle. Invite us to your event. W: The YarnHub P: 0401 693 409

Yummy Yarn and Co, Dubbo

All your favourite yarns such as Patons, Cleckheaton, Panda, Debbie Bliss, Noro, Heirloom, DMC, Vinnis Colours Nikkim, KPC Yarn, Lily Sugar 'n Cream and more. W: Yummy Yarn and Co P: 0431 754 909