

# A Good Yarn

**Knitters' Guild NSW**



November 2024 Vol. 39 No.4

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# A word from the President

Since our last issue of A Good Yarn, two major Guild events have taken place – the Gathering over the weekend of 2-4 August, with 140 members enjoying a weekend of knitting, crocheting, workshops, fun and food. And FibreFest which was held on Sunday 13 October at Wyong Racecourse with 50 stalls selling everything a fibre enthusiast needs plus a catwalk parade, an introduction to other craft guilds around the state, and of course food, drink and live music.

None of these events is possible without Guild members volunteering their time, so a HUGE Thank You to those of you who made such a wonderful contribution. And another heartfelt Thank You to our Retail Members for their continued support - and the wonderful raffle prizes they donated to both the Gathering and FibreFest! Their generosity is really appreciated.

Planning is already underway for a repeat of these events – FibreFest in September 2025 and the Gathering in August 2026. In the meantime, don't miss the GUILD CRUISE, over the weekend of 1-4 August 2025. For details of all these events, and others, do remember to read KG-Bytes when it comes out on the first of each month.

Christmas will have come and gone by the time you receive the next issue of A Good Yarn. I hope you all get your Christmas gifts knitted in time, they're appreciated by your loved ones, and your stockings are filled with many yarnie goodies!

Merry Christmas!

Sally Ogilvie  
President



# Launch of our new Designers' Forum

The Guild's new Designers' Forum is open to both professional and budding knitwear designers and is an opportunity to share ideas and skills. If you want to learn more about producing your own designs for personal use, for sale or for pattern sale, or are willing to share your knowledge with others, we'd love you to come along.

The Forum meets via Zoom from 7pm on the 3rd Tuesday of each month. For further information, or to receive the link to the Zoom meeting, please write to [Designers@knitters-guildnsw.org.au](mailto:Designers@knitters-guildnsw.org.au)



## Guild Information

Executive Committee Meetings are held online (via Zoom) on the 3rd Wednesday of each month from 7:30pm. Any member is welcome to attend. Please contact the Secretary to obtain the Zoom link, [secretary@knittersguildnsw.org.au](mailto:secretary@knittersguildnsw.org.au)

### Executive Committee

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 Allyssa Carlton (Macarthur)  
 Kathryn Trippett (Blue Mountains)

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## The Guild Gathering

The Guild Gathering took place at Stanwell Tops over the weekend of 2-4 August, with 140 of us gathering for a weekend of workshops (17 of them!), demonstrations, a mini-marketplace, a quiz, mittens' competition and a lot of food, drink and fun. We were joined by Ann Budd, a Guild Honorary Member and internationally-renowned designer and teacher who lives in Colorado, and many of you went home with signed copies of her books that we gave away. We had other wonderful prizes very kindly donated by our super-generous Retail Members, and everyone who attended was given a \$10 Gift Voucher to kick-start their shopping in the marketplace.

Everything seemed to come together well because of the wonderful team of volunteers – those who packed the goodie bags, others doing a lot of furniture shuffling for each activity, many devoting time to demonstrating new skills and techniques, and of course – the tutors! Guild members with a terrific depth of knowledge who gave their time to pass this on to others. Thank you all!

The Gathering takes a lot of organising and we've already started for the next one in 2026! Put the date in your diary now: 21-23 August 2026.

#### Sally Ogilvie



#### A Good Yarn Edition Deadlines:

**February 2025:** 15 January 2024

If you wish to place an ad in the magazine please contact:

[editor@knittersguildnsw.org.au](mailto:editor@knittersguildnsw.org.au)



## Retail Profile: Bumble Bee Knits

### Can you please tell us a bit about your business?

We are located in Bowral in the beautiful Southern Highland of NSW and are an online yarn store. We sell a handful of quality yarns, patterns, needle & crochet sets. We are however, focusing on our hand dyed yarn range which we are loving. I find hand-dyeing is like colour therapy, it's calming & extremely satisfying. It's loads of fun watching how the colours blend together beautifully most of the time!

### What are the fun parts of your job?

Definitely hand-dyeing yarn, and of course, meeting like-minded people. We love chatting to everyone at the yarn events and getting their feedback as this helps us to understand what people are after or what they would like to see more of etc.

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

I absolutely love knitting and haven't stopped since I was 10 years of age when my mum first taught me how! I can crochet flowers but that's the extent of my crochet experience, however I would definitely love to learn once I have some spare time!

### Who's your average customer? Is there an average customer?

Mainly women, although I have had

some male clients which is wonderful! It's awesome to see a lot of younger people becoming interested in hand-dyed yarns and excited to learn either knitting or crocheting.



### What's your favourite yarn right now?

If I had to pick a favourite then it would be our new hand-dyed limited edition 'Heavenly' 4 ply. It's composed of Baby Alpaca & Mulberry silk, it's just so soft and silky. Beautiful!

It just made its debut at this year's Fibrefest.

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

Being a member of the Guild brings together a great host of like-minded people and the opportunity to attend & be part of some amazing events. Definitely a huge benefit!

The people that run the Guild are to be commended on their commitment to running this organisation. It is greatly appreciated by everyone.

Thank you!



[www.bumblebeeknits.com.au](http://www.bumblebeeknits.com.au)

[info@bumblebeeknits.com.au](mailto:info@bumblebeeknits.com.au)

[instagram.com/bumblebeeknitsandyarns](https://www.instagram.com/bumblebeeknitsandyarns)

## Knitting Pattern

# Canyon Clay

by DROPS Design

[www.garnstudio.com](http://www.garnstudio.com)



Knitted top with raglan in DROPS Paris. Piece is knitted top down with rib. Size: S -XXXL  
DROPS 212-15  
DROPS design: Pattern w-806  
Yarn group C or A + A

**SIZE: S - M - L - XL - XXL - XXXL**

### MATERIALS:

DROPS PARIS from Garnstudio (belongs to yarn group C)  
350-350-400-450-500-550 g colour 65, rust

### KNITTING TENSION:

17 stitches in width and 22 rows vertically in stocking stitch = 10 x 10 cm.

### NEEDLES:

DROPS DOUBLE POINTED NEEDLES SIZE 5 mm  
DROPS CIRCULAR NEEDLE SIZE 5 mm : Length 40 and 80 cm.

DROPS CIRCULAR NEEDLE SIZE 3.5 mm : Length 40 and 80 cm for rib.

Needle size is only a suggestion! If you have too many stitches on 10 cm switch to a larger needle size. If you have too few stitches on 10 cm switch to a smaller needle size.

### INCREASE TIP-1 (evenly):

To calculate how to increase evenly, count the stitches to be increased (e.g. 9 stitches) and divide by stitches of increases to be done (e.g. 2) = 4.5.

In this example increase by making 1 yarn over after alternately every 4th and 5th stitch. On next row work yarn overs twisted to avoid holes.

### INCREASE TIP-2:

Increase 1 stitch by making 1 yarn over. On next round purl yarn over twisted to avoid holes. Purl the new stitches.

### INCREASE TIP-3 (applies to sides of body):

Work until 2 stitches remain before marker thread, 1 yarn over, knit 4 (marker thread is in the middle of these stitches), 1 yarn over. On next round knit yarn overs twisted to avoid holes. Then work the new stitches in stocking stitch.

### DECREASE TIP:

Decrease 1 stitch on each side of marker thread as follows: Work until 3 stitches remain before marker thread and knit 2 together, knit 2 (marker thread is between these stitches), slip 1 stitch knitwise, knit 1, pass slipped stitch over stitch worked.

### RAGLAN:

In the beginning increase 2 stitches towards each raglan on front and back piece (= 8 stitches increased on round), and thereafter increase 1 stitch towards each raglan on front and back piece (= 4 stitches increased on round).

Increase 2 stitches before marker thread as follows: Work until 2 stitches remain before marker thread: 1 yarn over, knit 1, 1 yarn over, knit 1, marker thread is here.

Increase 2 stitches after marker thread as follows: Knit 1, 1 yarn over, knit 1, 1 yarn over.

Increase 1 stitch before marker thread as follows: Work until 1 stitch remains before marker thread: 1 yarn over, knit 1, marker thread is here.

Increase 1 stitch after marker thread as follows: Knit 1, 1 yarn over.

On next round knit yarn overs twisted to avoid holes. Then work the new stitches in stocking stitch.

### CAST-OFF TIP:

To avoid a tight cast-off edge you may use a larger needle. If this also is too tight, make 1 yarn over after approx. every 4th stitch and cast off these as regular stitches.

## START THE PIECE HERE:

### TOP - SHORT OVERVIEW OF THE PIECE:

Work neck edge and yoke in the round on circular needle from mid back, top down. Now divide yoke for body and sleeves. Work body in the round on circular needle. Work sleeves in the round on double pointed needles/short circular needle, top down.

### NECK EDGE:

Cast on 112-118-126-138-144-144 stitches on circular needle size 3.5 mm with Paris. Knit 1 round. Work next round as follows: (Knit 2/purl 2) over the first 8-8-12-12-12-12 stitches, knit 1, insert a marker thread here (= in transition between back piece and right sleeve), knit 1, (purl 1/knit 2) over the next 33-36-36-42-45-45 stitches, purl 1, knit 1, insert a marker thread here (=in transition between right sleeve and front piece), knit 1, (purl 2/knit 2) over the next 16-16-20-20-20-20 stitches, purl 2, knit 1, insert a marker thread here (= in transition between front piece and left sleeve), knit 1, (purl 1/knit 2) over the next 33-36-36-42-45-45 stitches, purl 1, knit 1, insert a marker thread here (= in transition between left sleeve and back piece), knit 1, (purl 2/knit 2) over the next 8-8-8-8-8-8 stitches, purl 2.

Continue in the round like this until rib measures 3 cm.

When rib is done, work next round as follows:

Knit until first marker thread and increase at the same time 2-3-3-3-3-4 stitches evenly – read INCREASE TIP-1, knit over knit and purl over purl until next marker thread and increase at the same time 1 stitch in every purl section – read INCREASE TIP-2, knit until next marker thread and increase at the same time 4-6-5-5-6-8 stitches evenly, knit over knit and purl over purl until next marker thread and increase at the same time 1 stitch in every purl section, knit the last 11-11-11-11-11-11 stitches and increase at the same time 2-3-2-2-3-4 stitches evenly = 144-156-162-178-188-192 stitches. Work 1 row with knit over knit and purl over purl (work the yarn overs twisted to avoid holes).

Switch to circular needle size 5 mm. Insert 1 marker at the beginning of round (= approx. midback), measure yoke from this marker!

### YOKE:

Knit over knit and purl over purl. On first round start increase for RAGLAN – read explanation above. Only increase on front piece and back piece towards each raglan. Increase 2 stitches every other round 9-9-8-10-12-13 times in total, then increase 1 stitch every other round 2-4-6-6-8-8 times = 224-244-250-282-316-328 stitches. REMEMBER THE KNITTING TENSION! Continue with knit over knit and purl over purl until piece measures 12-13-15-16-18-20 cm from marker.

The yoke is finished. Then work in the outermost stitch in each side of front piece and back piece in on sleeves.

Work next round as follows: Work the first 30-33-37-41-47-50 stitches, slip the next 50-54-54-62-66-66 stitches on a stitch holder for sleeve and cast on 6-6-10-10-10-14 stitches on needle (= in the side under sleeve), work the next 62-68-71-79-92-98 stitches (= front piece), slip the next 50-54-54-62-66-66 stitches on a stitch holder for sleeve and cast on 6-6-10-10-10-14 stitches on needle (= in the side under sleeve), work the remaining 32-35-34-38-45-48 stitches on needle. Then finish body and sleeves separately.

## NOW MEASURE PIECE FROM HERE!

### BODY:

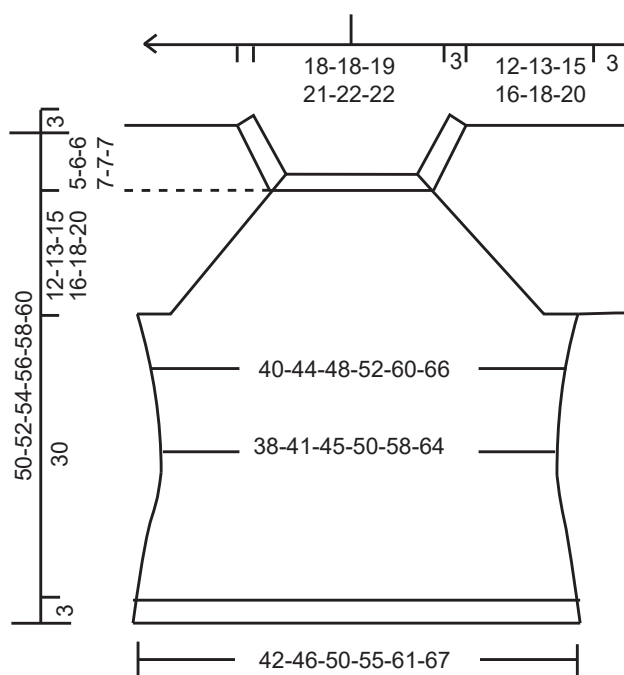
= 136-148-162-178-204-224 stitches. Insert 1 marker thread in the in each side, in middle of the new stitches cast-on under the sleeves (= 3-3-5-5-5-7 new stitches on each side of marker thread). Move the marker threads upwards when working; they should be used for increase later in the sides. Work in stocking stitch in the round. When piece measures 4 cm from division, decrease 1 stitch on each side of marker threads - read DECREASE TIP. Decrease like this approx. every 8-7-6-5-4-3cm 2 times in total = 128-140-154-170-196-216 stitches. When piece measures 20-18-16-14-12-10 cm from division, increase 1 stitch on each side of marker threads - read INCREASE TIP-3.

Increase like this approx. every 3-4-4-5-6-6 cm 4-4-4-4-3-3 times in total = 144-156-170-186-208-228 stitches. When piece measures 30 cm from division (3 cm remain until finished measurements - work to desired length), knit 1 round while increasing 28-28-34-38-40-44 stitches = 172-184-204-224-248-272 stitches. Switch to circular needle size 3.5 mm. Work rib (knit 2/purl 2) in the round for 3 cm. Cast off with knit over knit and purl over purl - read CAST-OFF TIP. Top measures total 50-52-54-56-58-60 cm in total from shoulder and down.

### SLEEVE:

Slip the 50-54-54-62-66-66 stitches from stitch holder in one side back on double pointed needles/circular needle size 5 mm, and pick up 1 stitch in each of the 6-6-10-10-10-14 stitches cast on under the sleeve = 56-60-64-72-76-80 stitches. Work rib (knit 2/purl 2) in the round.

When sleeve measures 3 cm from division, cast off with knit over knit and purl over purl - remember CAST-OFF TIP. Work the other sleeve the same way.



Pattern website along with tips and videos: <https://www.garnstudio.com/pattern.php?id=9692&cid=19>

# Member Focus - Susan Stephens

**M** eet Susan Stephens, the first member of the NSW Knitters Guild to become a Certified Master Hand Knitter. Susan is a member of the Blue Mountains group.



## What is the Master Hand Knitting Certification?

The Master Hand Knitting program was established in 1987 by TKGA, The Knitters Guild Association in America. It is an educational process for members to have their knitting evaluated using specific guidelines. Upon completion knitters have a mastery of basic and advanced knitting techniques, knowledge of knitting related topics such as the care of knitting and knitting traditions, and experience in designing and writing patterns.

## How is the program structured?

Knitters work independently through three levels of the program, each building on techniques demonstrated in the previous level. Each level is completed and evaluated by the Master Hand Knitting Committee before the knitter is able to move forward to the next level. In each level of the program, swatches are knitted, reports written, questions answered and projects completed.

## How long did it take you to complete the program?

It took me 6 years to fully complete the program. Each level took 12-18 months of work, plus time for postage to and from America and time for the submissions to be evaluated and any resubmissions reviewed.

## How much work was involved?

The program is very comprehensive and would be daunting for many knitters. Across the 3 levels it includes 4 reports each approx 2,000 words, 57 Swatches, 4 Worksheets, 61 Questions, 6 Book Reviews, 2 Magazine Reviews and 6 projects including a mitten, a Fair Isle wristlet, a traditional Argyle sock, a vest, a self-designed Aran hat and a self-designed Fair Isle cardigan. Each submission is reviewed by up to 4 Master Hand Knitters.

## What was the best thing about the program?

Definitely the feedback I received from the reviewers. Each and every time the feedback was accurate, appropriate, detailed but communicated very kindly. I felt privileged to have my work evaluated by qualified Master Hand Knitters. I have learned an incredible amount about our wonderful craft. The professionalism of the whole program is astounding.

## What did you find most challenging?

Probably for me the most frustrating task was the time taken for the written aspects of the program, as I felt it took me away from the actual knitting and reminded me too much of work! But I spaced out the written tasks with the knitting to make it more enjoyable.

## What do you plan to do with your title of Master Hand Knitter?

I have learned so much that will not only improve my own personal skills, but I do hope also to share my knowledge and skills with other Guild members and the knitting community. I would also like to start to design more garments.

## How can Guild members find out more about the program?

The TKGA website [tkga.org](http://tkga.org) has not only information about the Master Hand Knitting program, but information about the other Certification and Education programs available through TKGA. There are short courses right through to more comprehensive



*Susan Stephens and Fair Isle Cardigan*

educational programs and six different Certification programs including for Knitting Judges, Technical Editors and Knitting Designers. The website has a treasure trove of information available on a wide variety of knitting topics, and the quality of the information is excellent. If any Guild members are interested in the Master Hand Knitting program please also feel free to chat with Susan. She can be reached at [susanjstep@gmail.com](mailto:susanjstep@gmail.com).

## Congratulations Susan!

*(Both the cardigan and hat pictured were designed and knitted by Susan who also wrote up the patterns for both as part of the course.)*



*Susan's Aran Hat*



# Meet Jake Henzler

by Robynn Ross

In the knitting world, Jake's designs make you stop and look closely as his expertise focuses on buildings and landscape images. You have probably seen Jake's work in class advertisements and workshops under his Boy Knits World handle.

Jake's background in secondary English teaching has influenced him about the way people engage with information, follow instructions, and learn by process. As a designer and writer of knitting patterns, this has shaped Jake's view of pattern design and writing. He believes that knitting as a craft contains many skills that all have various levels of difficulty, and every knitter comes to each of those at different times. It's not a linear set of skills, which is the reason Jake's patterns have a few different entry levels. This allows people of all skill levels to take some pleasure in trying and completing.



His pattern knowledge started when he tried his first knitted pattern from a magazine. He completed this knitted alpaca but found it difficult to follow all the instructions, so he made a lot of it up. The pieces were all

flat panels knitted in garter stitch and then the whole thing needed to be sewn up at the seams. However, that style of pattern piecing sparked something in Jake, as it is still a technique he uses today when he's designing characters and toys.

Much of Jake's recent work has focused on the built environment and the natural landscape. Cotton fibre has been his go-to for these works because of its texture and weight and the ability to be stained, dyed or faded to have unique colours and tones, especially for large projects where colour matching is important.

Living in inner Sydney, the local neighbourhoods have been a key inspiration for Jake's Sydney Terraces blanket and patterns. In 2018 he resided in Copenhagen and his time there was very much the basis for the Copenhagen Building Blocks blanket and patterns.

Another city blanket like his Copenhagen, Amsterdam and Sydney building theme is on the drawing board. Jake begins work on a new project when his design idea seems to be achievable. Like many creatives, he feels the urge to make things; this never leaves him until a particular work has been completed. Self-motivated when working on a new concept, Jake sees his connection to the audience as one of familiarity. People seem to enjoy seeing cities represented as sets of buildings, and maybe that's partly about their memories of and connections to those places. He hopes that people can appreciate the considered design. The result is often quite simple, but the designs themselves can take a long time to get right.

Like many designers, Jake can go for long periods without any desire to

knit or design things. Big projects can be exhausting, particularly when you work every step from zero to published patterns. Often when he finishes a large project, he has to fold it up and put it away to stop looking at it.

Quite a few of his friends knit, but Jake doesn't really have a peer group of knitters or a knitting mentor. That's not really by design, just how it's happened. He takes inspiration from things outside of knitting, thinking of knitting as the language, and the ideas that come from elsewhere get translated into knitting.

However, in a different creative space, Jake's quilting friend Elizabeth Shelton-Agar (@sewelizabeth on Instagram) has become a wonderful mentor. She taught Jake many of the skills of patchwork quilting, which have influenced the way he thinks about colour combinations, shapes and repetition. Her work is so thoroughly considered that talking with her about her projects often reminds him that the time spent getting it right is one of the pleasures of making things.



Boy Knits World is a handle Jake has used since about 2004. It's the name of his Instagram account and Ravelry shop, where he sells patterns for many of his designs. He also exhibits work from time to time and makes some pieces on commission for non-commercial clients.

Check out Jake's unique designs featuring blended colourwork and natural shapes like strawberries and banksias on cushions and rugs. His Country Farm blanket is especially appealing with its toadstools, sheep, beehive, barn and vegetables.

**Email:** [jakehenzler@gmail.com](mailto:jakehenzler@gmail.com)

**Instagram:** [https://www.instagram.com/boy\\_knits\\_world](https://www.instagram.com/boy_knits_world)

**Ravelry store:** <https://www.ravelry.com/patterns/sources/boy-knits-world/patterns>

# Meet the Members

## Janelle Grange



Janelle is currently the Secretary of the Pittwater Group, and also regularly attended Turramurra Crochet. She also regularly attended Kuring-gai group before it folded and now still meets some of those ladies socially. She has been a member of the Guild for eight years.

### **Q: What's your knitting superpower?**

A: I'm not sure I have one, but I do love my work to look neat and I strive to do this.

### **Q: What's the most recent technique /tip you have learnt?**

A: A few unusual techniques whilst knitting Stephen West shawls, one of which is knitting a fine mohair with another yarn.

### **Q: How long have you been knitting/crocheting?**

A: My grandmother taught me to crochet around primary school age, maybe 9 years old, and I made a granny square rug. My mother taught me to knit but I wasn't so keen. I used to knit so tightly and I couldn't fix mistakes. I had a sudden urge to knit a jumper when I was about 18 or 19 and strived to improve tension and learn to correct mistakes. I haven't stopped since and love it the more I do it.

### **Q: What do you know now that you wish you'd known when you started out?**

A: Many things, but better finishing techniques like seaming and blocking. Blocking has been a game changer.

### **Q: 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?**

A: I like to have two or three WIPs but I probably have more UFOs than months in the year!!! I like to have something challenging for my quiet time and something simple so that I can chat or watch TV at the same time.

### **Q: You notice a small mistake – do you rip back or carry on?**

A: Most times I rip back. I have to fix it otherwise I know it will annoy me and hit me in the face every time I wear the garment

### **Q: Why do you enjoy being a member of the Knitters' Guild NSW?**

A: Great groups to attend, lots to learn, and wonderful functions such as The Gathering and Fibrefest. I have attended three Gatherings now and they are the 'best ever' weekend away.

### **Q: What are your favourite colours?**

A: I would say my favourite colour is green but I love lots of other colours also, such as purple, turquoise and aqua, orange and hot pink.

### **Q: What would we see in your stash?**

A: EVERYTHING and even way too much of everything!!!! I also have a large stash of cross stitch kits, machine embroidery items, cloth doll kits. general embroidery, patchwork fabric and other miscellaneous things I've acquired.

### **Q: When you're not knitting or crocheting you are....**

A: Bored. I do like reading too, but knitting and crocheting takes preference. I'm halfway through a very good book which has been put aside because the Stephen West MKAL started !!!

## Trish Archer

Trish Archer is a founding member of the Macarthur Group. She has been actively involved in the Guild, previ-

ously holding the position of Group Secretary.

### **Q: What's your knitting/crochet superpower?**

A: Knitting socks. Family is always asking me to knit them socks. This is my easy knitting. I like lace knitting too.

### **Q: What's the most recent technique/tip you have learnt?**

A: Just recently I learnt the 3-needle cast off and also mattress stitch. Which came in very handy as I was able to use my new knowledge about the 3-needle cast off to help another member of our group.

### **Q: What's next on your 'learn to do' list?**

A: We've just been planning our tutorials for next year in our group so I'm looking forward to learning all those techniques. I'm also currently knitting a cable jacket which uses only a graph for instructions – and I'm don't really like graphs, so this is a bit of challenge.

### **Q: How long have you been knitting/crocheting?**

A: I've been knitting since I was about 12 years old. My mother and my sister were very fast knitters, but I wasn't so I used to knit a sleeve and they would finish it off for me. I've since got a little bit faster.

### **Q: What do you know now that you wish you'd known when you started out?**

A: I wish I knew about the different ways of casting on – all I knew was cable cast on. And all the ways of finishing an item to make it look more professional.

### **Q: 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?**

A: I only like to have a few projects at a time. Usually, one of them is socks so I can watch the TV or be a passenger while I'm knitting. I have 3 projects on the go at the moment.

### **Q: You notice a small mistake – do you rip back or carry on?**

A: Most of the time I have to rip back otherwise it starts to annoy me because I know it's there. But it does

depend on the item and the type of yarn. I was using Feathers recently and needed to fudge a bit – you can't see it with that type of yarn.

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

A: The company, the new techniques I'm always learning, and there's always someone I can go to for help with a problem. And I can even help others with their problems.

**Q: What are your favourite colours?**

A: For myself I like peacock colours – bright aqua, bright pink and so on. Bright colours make me feel happy while I'm using them.

**Q: What would we see in your stash?**

A: [Laughs] Lots! Just about everything. There's some alpaca, cashmere and lots of yarn that I'm 'forced' to buy. It's all 8-ply or lower as I don't like the bulky yarns. Lots of 4-ply for socks and self-stripping yarn.

**Q: When you're not knitting or crocheting you are...**

A: Reading. I'm an avid reader – crime, Australian genres. If I walk past a bookshop with my family, they try to distract me – as if I don't know the bookshop is there!



Trish's Wavy Crochet Blanket

## Pam Martin

Pam Martin is a founding member of the Macarthur Group. She has been actively involved in the Guild, previously holding the position of Group Convenor and Treasurer.

**Q: What's your knitting/crochet superpower?**

A: Lace knitting. Shawls, scarves and anything that uses a fine ply yarn.

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

A: I learnt how to do a type of stretchy cast-off through one of our group's tutorials.

**Q: How long have you been knitting/crocheting?**

A: Since I was 8 years old. My mum taught me how to knit and then I taught myself how to crochet some-time in my 20s.

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

A: Back when I learnt to knit, we only learned one way of doing things. So I wish I knew about all the different techniques that are available now.

**Q: 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?**

A: One at a time and that way I make sure I finish it completely. I don't like half-finished items hanging around.

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

A: Rip it back. You have to with lace knitting. And mentally I have to rip back too because I know that the mistake is there.

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

A: Because everyone is so lovely! I enjoy the companionship of other members, learning new things, and the friendships I've created along the way.

**Q: What are your favourite colours?**

A: All sorts of mauves, blues and pinks. No black – I don't like knitting in black. I like colours that are more in the pastel shades, soft colours.

**Q: What would we see in your stash?**

A: Heaps! Lots of 2, 3, 4 and 8-ply yarns. Nothing bigger because I don't like bulky yarn. There's a lot of my own hand-spun yarn. My stash is very organised though – all stored in plastic see-through shoeboxes. Friends refer to it as 'the shop'.

**Q: When you're not knitting or crocheting you are....**

A: Reading. I'm an enthusiastic reader. I like English-based crime and police dramas. I like series where I get to know the characters well. The Australian category is a favourite too.



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# GROUP REPORTS

## BLACKTOWN

After the excitement of the Gathering we decided not to have a workshop in August but rather to hear from those who went about what we missed and then to just knit and natter together. It was a relaxed meeting.

The workshops in September and October saw eight of us attend two workshops on Steeking with Sue Hobbs.



*Blacktown - Sue supervising Gerri steeking*



*Blacktown - Sue teaching us steeking*



*Blacktown - Sue felting*



*Blacktown - Steeking in Progress*

**Geraldine Ricci, Convenor**

## BLUE MOUNTAINS

As we come to the tail end of 2024, it's been another fantastic couple of months for the Blue Mountains Group. In August, we were visited by Muriel from Kotes by Koby. Muriel runs an amazing business where she collects dog hair which is taken to a mill and spun with 10% nylon into yarn. She also sells lovely soft coats for dogs and people. In September, we also ran a workshop on blocking, including key tips and tricks to get your finished make looking its best. Big thanks to Claire, for taking the time and sharing her expertise with us.

As we look towards November, we are gearing up for the Blue Mountains Group 25th Anniversary. We will be having a high tea and the Glenbrook Bowling Club to celebrate 25 years. We have also organised a Blue Mountains Group 25th Anniversary colour way, hand dyed skein of yarn by Australia Wool Store. This is a unique colourway available to the Blue Mountains Group members.

**Rowena, Secretary**

## CAPITAL REGION

The Capital Region group has had a busy few months with our regular meetings featuring interesting demonstrations as well as Show and Share each month. Members have shown off some wonderful creations, which have demonstrated a wide variety of skills and talents, with many learning new techniques or tackling new kinds of projects.

In July, Teresa showed us the variety of colours obtained with natural dyeing techniques using leaves and bark of plants found in our gardens and local parks. Several members experimented afterwards at home and shared the results at our September meeting. This

was our annual destash meeting when members brought in yarn, notions, books, and patterns that they no longer loved, for sale at bargain prices. Lauren did a fantastic job of organising all the labelling of the items which filled 8 large tables in our meeting room. Lots of goodies changed hands and the challenge was to take home less than you brought as there was so much gorgeous yarn available.

As so many of us have single skeins of yarn that we just had to have in our stash, our October meeting focussed on what to do with a single skein of yarn. Using the projector which the Guild assisted us to purchase in 2023 Christianna showed a short YouTube video on what to do with a single skein of every weight from fingering (4ply) up to super bulky (14ply). We also looked at the diverse ways of searching Ravelry to get inspiration for that one special skein.

**Christianna Cobbold, Convenor**

## CLARENCE VALLEY

Always busy at our Clarence Valley Group. Recently we have worked on slip stitch and mosaic followed by beaded knitting.

Lately we have endeavoured to master Evol's pattern for gloves - knitted sideways on 2 needles. Well, it was a day full of fun, lots of laughter and at times failure for some. All credit goes to Evol for her patience with us. Once we got started it was easier than we thought. Thank you Evol.

Show and tell next meeting will be interesting to compare results.

The end of the year is not far away and we will work on items for gifts or Christmas decorations.

It has been a full and rewarding year with a great group of ladies; looking



*Clarence Valley - Philippa and Pam Knitting Gloves*



Clarence Valley - Evol and Lou Knitting Gloves

forward to the coming year with new and challenging ideas for us to learn and enjoy together.

**Jenny Moar, Publicity**

## CROCHET TURRAMURRA

Our group is small but very enthusiastic and productive and we welcome any new people to our group.

In August we enjoyed a workshop with Pat McGregor on "standing stitches" and discussed how these could be used in our work. We talked about The Gathering and three members showed the fingerless mittens they had made hoping they might be lucky enough to win a prize!

In September we discussed making items for dementia unit patients. One of our members, Trish, had researched what type of things are needed, for example, twiddle muffs, twisty loops and small squares with lots of texture, bobbles, lace, ribbons, buttons, etc attached. We shared some donated novelty yarns between us to make a start on these items. Maureen showed the happy sunflowers and wishing worms that she had



Crochet Turramurra - Xmas Decorations

made for The Mind Cafe in Naremburn.

Janelle had made and was wearing a crochet dress made with Granny square stitch and Bendigo Dolce yarn. It was a very quick project taking only two weeks and is very comfy to wear.

In October we talked about Christmas decorations and gifts and Maureen and Wendy brought along many items to inspire us.

We meet on the first Wednesday of the month from 10am to 12pm which is never enough time for all we want to do and say.

**Janelle Grange**

## EPPING

Early July we had an 8am start bus trip to the Southern Highlands. The Info centre at Mittagong (opposite Victoria House) was our first stop, before venturing on for a fully guided tour of the National Trust house, Retford Park, Bowral. Many of us will venture back to do a garden tour. We then toured on to Bowral town centre, where we could have lunch and visit many shops, including two yarn shops. Last stop as we headed home was Victoria House at Mittagong. Everyone enjoyed the day out only wishing there were more hours in a day.

Our weekly meetings continued as usual with lots of chat and plenty of hand



Epping Group Bus Trip to Bowral



Epping Group preparing to enter Retford Park



Epping - Sharon's mosaic knitted runner knits being shown off at our monthly Show & Tells. Christmas toys are the main focus of our charity knitting at the moment.

In September we were treated to a special "education" meeting. Where a panel of judges and past judges answered any questions members had, about entering their craft in a Show. Members were asked to bring in any item that they have entered into a previous Show, whether or not it received a prize. We could also



Crochet Turramurra - Janelle and her Crochet Dress



Epping - Lesley's crochet granny squares cardigan



*Epping - Shirley's Rowan sock yarn, Ann Budd*

bring something we did not enter, to ask whether it would have been good enough for a Show. Many topics were covered including: Why it is important for Guild members to enter Shows, how to enter, including cost. We were treated to view some outstanding prize-winning pieces.

Another busy quarter over, looking forward to the upcoming Christmas Season.

**Shirley Gregory, Publicity**

## EPPING CROCHET

Our crochet group continues to meet monthly. Most of our own members are doing their own projects. The Group will do some animals for Christmas gifting.

**Lesley Wilkes, Secretary**

## GOULBURN

*No report received.*

## INNER CITY

Inner City group meet monthly with a steady attendance by a great group and continue to warmly welcome new members and visitors from other groups each month. We have been busy completing our blanket project and now have two beautiful blankets ready for donation to charity. Many members have contributed squares with some very patient and hard-working members stepping forward for the task of sewing them together.

In September we had an interesting discussion about the opportunities and pitfalls Artificial Intelligence will bring in the coming months and years. Our convenor Jo recently attended an AI course at Stanford University in California, so she shared some insights into what the future holds in this exciting period of history. The group shared their stories of how they use AI in their work and leisure eg: writing songs and poetry. Whilst it was agreed that AI is still pretty hopeless

at writing patterns, some people are putting the likes of Chat GPT to good use finding patterns, matching yarns and generally solving problems.

We are now planning our Easter Show entries as well as preparing for our 20th anniversary celebrations in November!

**Jo Hewitt and Kaye Stefanovic, Co-Convenors**

## INNER WEST

*No report received.*

## KATOOMBA

*No report received.*

## KIAMA

The Kiama group continues to knit for various charities and several members have been focused on making clothing items for Australians Knitting for War-Affected Kids.

Our activities over the last quarter have seen the group participate in a 'Christmas in July' auction to raise much needed funds to keep the group going. These funds help to cover our hall hire fees. As well, members of our group volunteered to teach children 8-14 years how to knit. This has become a regular annual request from Kiama Council's library staff, and we are more than happy to help. We also did a crochet zippered purse workshop run by members Anne Phillips and Rae Heaton.

The Kiama group is made up of twenty financial members. One of our biggest worries is the sustainability of the group. Without increasing membership and/or group fees, it won't be viable for the group to continue unless we are successful in applying for a community grant to cover hall hire or locate a venue at low or no cost.

On a positive note, a couple of us are attending Fibrefest - we'll be sure to include photos of our stash enhancing activities in the next report. Some members are also looking forward to the Guild cruise next year and talking about their plans. Very exciting!

**Anne Phillips, Convenor and Iman Aziza, Secretary**

## MACARTHUR

The months of August and September were both creative months for our Group. We are rarely idle!

In August Sue Smith, our great crochet guru, taught the novices the basics of how to crochet - plus tips and tricks.



*Macarthur - Group Meeting & Beginners Crochet*



*Macarthur - Group Bag Surprise*

Those who participated were shown the basic stitches from which all crocheting is created. We were provided with a comprehensive booklet with images that detailed the 'how'. It also gave us the various names of stitches in the US and UK. All of us who participated learnt so much, and we thank Sue once again for her expertise, her informative lesson ..... and her patience.

In September we paid homage to Raelene McAdam, as we recreated a lesson she gave our group several years ago. We were provided with Raelene's pattern for a 'Group Bag Surprise'. It's one basic pattern - then you use whatever yarn and needles that you have in your stash! From this basic pattern, an infinite number of unique bags are created.



*Macarthur - Sue H modelling her JSS jacket*

In the last few months our group has increased with two new members, plus we have had several visitors at a few meetings - spreading the good word!

One new member Sue is already an impressive knitter. At 'show and tell', Sue modelled her recently finished Jane Slicer-Smith jacket.

**Alison Wootten, Publicity**

## MAITLAND

Our ladies are enjoying our new meeting space at Easts Golf Club, Maitland. Lots of natural light with a wonderful outlook out over the golf course.

The photos are of Carol Wilks' recently completed hexagon, mosaic blanket and Pamela Green's crochet spinners.



*Maitland - Carol's hexagon blanket*



*Maitland - Pamela's crochet spinners*

**Carol Wilks, Convenor**

## MID NORTH COAST

Our group was invited to promote our Guild at the annual Wauchope Quilt Show. We were able to show some of our crocheted/knitted items, which generated a great deal of interest from the public.

Some of our members have been busy knitting/crocheting pouches for injured wildlife. A member of the BEATS organisation visited us to request our help with this project.

The wonderful Sue Hobbs came to visit us in August. Sue conducted



*Mid North Coast - Promoting the Guild at Wauchope*



*Mid North Coast - What a Mess*



*Mid North Coast - Friends to the Rescue*

workshops for us including Steeking and Brioche. The Guild is indeed fortunate to have a member of this calibre. We were, with trepidation, actually cutting our knitting! The mysteries of Brioche knitting were made much easier by Sue's wonderful talent for teaching.

A group of 10 ladies and our fearless driver, Steve, travelled to Wyong for Fibrefest. For some of us it was our first taste of this marvellous event. Our amazing Mid North Coast member Jayne Kelderman, has done it again. In partnership with Gail, she has organised a fabulous event and we all had a most enjoyable day, with lots of squishy fibre and fun with friends.

**Jan Fuller, Secretary**

## MUDGEE

A comment by one of our members about 'broomstick' crochet stirred our interest and curiosity, so at our July meeting, that was the focus of our workshop. We experimented with various sizes of broomsticks, or large diameter needles, and were generally pleased with our efforts. Although the technique was very effective, it is unlikely that it will appear in a great number of our garments.

In August, we celebrated Granny Square Day, with most members crocheting 10" squares which our secretary, Barbara Gow, kindly offered to put together into an afghan blanket for charity.

September was a highlight meeting for us because we were joined by members of the Southern Group who were visiting Mudgee Region for the weekend. We enjoyed a lovely afternoon, chatting of course, and displaying previously completed items of work. We also spent time explaining current projects. So many intriguing, sometimes intricate, sometimes challenging designs. We were especially in awe of the undertaking by Guy to work his way through a Shetland Lace Book, replicating each of the patterns, often in the finest of fibres. It was an extremely stimulating and inspiring afternoon, and we appreciated our visitors sharing so generously.



*Mudgee September Meeting with Southern Group*



*Mudgee - Broomstick Crochet*

**Sally Colley, Convenor**

## NEWCASTLE

Five members have responded to a request from a local secondary school (Cooks Hill Campus) to assist with an initiative to connect with the local community and offer students a chance to boost their well-being through mindful practice and interactions with others. Five members have volunteered to work with the school – perhaps through a drop-in session, BYO knitting/crochet materials, where students and guild members could chat and share and have a cup of tea.

Participating in charity and community activities is very important for our members. Two recent initiatives are:

1. The local group NOVA for Women and Children, a not-for-profit providing support to women and children in particular those escaping domestic violence, has been selected as our charity for 2024-26. Any charity funds we raise over the next two years will be donated to NOVA.

2. We will financially sponsor 12 knitting and crochet categories at the 2025 Newcastle Show and are optimistic this will encourage more entries and increase membership in the Knitters' Guild.

We are delighted to learn the KGNSW executive has registered with Square and that this will enable each group to accept eftpos transactions. This will greatly benefit both our members, our group and our charity work.

Two mini-workshops have been offered by our members. In September, an amigurumi crochet workshop led by Caroline Sandford, and in October Melissa Russell led a crochet workshop on weaving in ends in a crochet project.

**Katherine Heinrich, Convenor**

## NORTHERN TABLELANDS

Our group ran a crochet and coffee morning at a local cafe which was well attended with several new faces wanting to learn or to get help with their crochet. This emphasised the need to consider an alternative meeting day other than our regular meeting times.

We also celebrated Granny Square Day which gave us impetus over the following couple of weeks to produce a stack of granny squares for a charity rug. Focus topics covered at meetings were: Making colours work together and, Alternative cast on methods.

**Ingrid Chaku, Secretary**

## PITTWATER

Pittwater have had three busy past



*Pittwater - 9th Birthday Celebrations*

months always making items for charity, mostly from donated yarn. Since World Wide Knit in Public Day, our local Spotlight have donated a bag of yarn each month. Several Pittwater members helped at the Guild stand of the Craft and Quilt Fair at the ICC in Sydney's Darling Harbour, able to pass on their skills to many enquiries.

We continued with our workshops which included i-cords by Pat, a variety of cast on methods by Maureen, mosaic crochet by Cathy as well as a fascinating, illustrated talk on Arne and Carlos designers and textile artists, given by Judy Thomas.

In August we celebrated International Granny Square Day by making, of course, granny squares. There were sufficient to be crocheted together, by Mary and Maureen, to make two large rugs; one was donated to the local charity The Mind Cafe in Narrabeen for their fundraiser raffle, while the other rug went to our local women's resource centre.

Each meeting sees an enthusiastic show and tell with amazing results. Cathy had finished her spectacular Shetland Hap shawl worked on for many months and was blocked on a special Hap frame.



*Pittwater - Granny square day rug for charity*



*Pittwater - Shetland Hap shawl made by Cathy*

Members of Pittwater are making "lady bumps" – knitted prosthetics for breast cancer patients in areas of Indonesia who do not have the advantages and facilities of those available to us here in Australia.

October saw us celebrate our 9th birthday with tea and, of course, cake. We also raised a cup to Pittwater member Gwen Lawrence who, though unable to join us, celebrated her 100th birthday in June.

**Pat McGregor**

## SOUTH GRAFTON

As always, our members are busy creating. Our meetings are full of chatter, laughter, needle falling sounds and oh-s and ah-s. Just the way we all like it.

Since our last A Good Yarn report we have held two knitting workshops.

The first one was a tartan workshop lead by our Convenor, Janice. Rather than the usual technique of intarsia, we dropped a row of stocking stitch, then chained 2 rows of the contrasting colour in its place. After that, the coloured rows were completed by needle weaving that colour. The sample in the picture was made by our member, Nancy.

Our other workshop was a journey



South Grafton Stranded Knitting in the Round



South Grafton Tartan Workshop

into stranded colourwork in the round. This was led by our Secretary, Marci. We worked on a beautiful Christmas decoration. For some members it was their first time attempting knitting in the round and using dpns. It was so great to see every person achieve. The pictured sample was knitted by our Treasurer, Barbara.

We had to postpone our food colouring dyeing workshop as it looked as if a number of members would likely become cut off by floodwaters. With a large percentage of our members living on out-of-town properties, it was better to be safe than sorry...

Best wishes for Christmas and the New Year to all our sister groups.

**Barbara Roberts, Treasurer**

## SOUTHERN

The Southern Group has been clocking up the kilometres with knitting-related travels. In July a group of 28 boarded our coach and set off for a day of shopping, visiting The Knitting Nook, Dural, Fibre Frolic in Kurrajong and finishing after lunch at The Wool Inn, Penrith. We were so warmly welcomed at each stop and all walked away with some very luxe goodies.

In August a group joined the Guild Gathering, Stanwell Tops for a fun weekend away. More stash building and lots of learning and laughs, it was great to catch up with other Group members and bring back our newly acquired techniques



Southern Group Members, Cathy and Gail at The Gathering



Souther Group Members at FibreFrolic



Southern Group members, joining Mudgee KGNSW Sept 24

to Kogarah.

Then in September, we headed off a bit further afield to Mudgee and joined the Mudgee KGNSW meeting for some wonderful country hospitality. Thank you to the Mudgee Group for having us, we all really enjoyed the Show and Tell and sharing patterns and tips. Of course, we can't forget our October excursion via train to Fibre Fest, Wyong. Suffice to say there are some very healthy stashes across Southern Sydney!

Now as we head into the end of the year, our Group is preparing for Christmas with some bauble knitting and planning for our end of year festivities. We are also saying farewell to two of our long-standing members, Gail and Leanne who are relocating to Victoria and Tuncurry respectively. We will miss them both greatly, but we send our best wishes as they start a new chapter and look forward to catching up with them online or for a visit before too long.

**Gemma Lawrence, Convenor**

## SOUTHERN HIGHLANDS

Our group has finished lace knitting trials, resulting in a decent number of bright pure wool cardigans that are headed off to a local charity. For some members, this was their first foray into lace knitting, so then we proceeded to test them even further and threw them into a couple of slipped stitch knitting sessions.

Next comes an adventure into scrambling with different yarns, hook sizes and needles. Going without a pattern can be difficult for some, but colour choice, technique, creating organic shapes and drama will be encouraged. It is so much fun having new members who are inter-



Southern Highlands - Lace Knitting

ested in learning new skills.

**Robynn Ross, Convenor**

## THE ENTRANCE

Well, here we are in November and the year is quickly coming to an end. The Entrance Group have had a busy few months. In September we welcomed Angela Seddon from Set on Sewing in Toukley, showcasing her store. It was a great opportunity to purchase a few goodies to take home and add to our stash. At the Gathering we learned new techniques and have been able to share these within the group. In October we enjoyed listening to our fellow member, Susanne. She shared her trip to the Shetland Islands. Susanne joined a workshop on colour work there and showed us some of her pieces. The colours and combinations were beautiful, as well as the scenery she enjoyed on the Shetland Islands.

Of course we can't forget FibreFest which is always something that we look forward to. Our stand at the local Orchid Show in September was a success with lots of interest in our group. Our group put together a flower collage to highlight the guild.

Prue and Berni delivered handmade garments to Good Neighbours Strathfield which will be then sent to Ukraine.



*The Entrance Group at Mingara Orchid Show*

Thank you to those who generously donated yarn and garments. Children in the Ukraine will enjoy some new winter woollies this year. We also continue to support We Care Connect, a local charity for families experiencing severe poverty. Over the last few months, we've learnt how to dye with jelly crystals, we have discovered how to recognise yarn content and we have learnt about blocking our finished garments.

Each meeting we share some beautiful finished items, as well as help each other. We all enjoy and learn the craft along the way. It's time to start thinking about getting ready for the end of the year and the celebrations that come with it.



*The Entrance Group - Prue Smee and Berni Joubert with Ukraine Donations*



*The Entrance Group - Caroline Baker with her Jelly Dyeing*



*The Entrance Group's Flower Collage*

Happy crafting everyone  
**Prue Smee and Sue Page,**  
**Co-Convenors**

## VIRTUAL GROUP

The Virtual Group continues to meet via Zoom on the second Monday of the month at 7pm, Eastern Daylight-Saving Time. Numbers fluctuate but there are usually about 12 members. In September, the group had a very informative lesson on crocheting a granny square. Other ideas for future meetings are under discussion.

New members are always welcome!  
**Marilyn Woodcock, Secretary**

## WEST RYDE

West Ryde ladies recently donated a batch of knee rugs to the Chris O'Brien Lifehouse and we received a personal thank you email from Gail, Chris's wife.

Our group members and some relatives have also supported this amazing facility over the years. Knee rugs are given to all patients undergoing chemo to help them with temperature regulation issues and are always welcome.

Our group continues to grow, with 44 members now.

**Beth Clothier, Convenor**

## WOLLONGONG

*No report received.*

## WOY WOY

Our group had a fun afternoon in August celebrating our 7th birthday with a special birthday cake and the usual excellent afternoon tea supplied by our generous members. A trivia quiz with prizes topped off the event.

A major focus has been a reassessment of which charities to donate to, the logistics of delivering items to them and what items are useful to them.

We continue to support the local children's charity, We Care Connect, who are currently seeking summer donations of knitted and crocheted baby toys, comforters, juggling balls etc. as well as large cot size or single bed size blankets, baby/toddler cardigans (knitted rather than crocheted) in a machine washable yarn.

For the mittens our group has agreed to make for charity, another local charity, Coast Shelter, welcomes adults or children's mittens in acrylic.

Members have been encouraged to make blankets for the Knitters' Guild emergency store. They can be any size or design and in any yarn.

**Ruth Herman, Convenor**



Vale

## Pam Laundry

*Pam, who died on 21st August 2024, was an early member of the Mid North Coast Knitters' Guild, became treasurer in April 2021 and continued in that position into 2022. Pam said that she joined the group "to be with like minded women of her own age", as well as for the friendship.*

*Over the years, Pam knitted numerous items for the Seaman's Guild. She volunteered in a local Op Shop and loved to kick up her heels doing folk dancing.*

*Pam was a mother of three, including two girls, whom she taught to knit and crochet, and a grandmother of five. She was a very family oriented person, where family always came first.*

*She was a sweet kind soul and a quiet unassuming person. Pam was always there to help in any way she could, whether it be in a knitting/crocheting capacity or even on a personal level, where her discretion was assured and absolute. Our dear friend Pam, is sadly missed.*

# Mosaic Knitting

By Hripsime Ansourian

There are many ways to introduce colour in knitting. Some involve two colours, and some involve more than two colours.

Knitting with colours is achieved by combining colours and stitch techniques. There are many stitch techniques to add colour and texture to your knitting. Some are simple, and some are challenging.

The stranded colour technique adds lots of colour to create unlimited patterns and designs.



*Mosaic Knitting in Stocking Stitch*

This technique looks complex to beginners because two or more yarns are applied and worked across the row, leaving the yarn stranded horizontally on the wrong side of the knitted garment. Also, in stranded colourwork, the yarns are handled either together with one hand while knitting or with each yarn on separate hands. While knitting stranded colourwork, keep in mind that maintaining an even tension, not too loose and not too tight, can be a challenge for beginners.



*Mosaic Knitting Jacket by Hripsime*

Mosaic knitting is used in many projects and is suitable for babies and adults. Knitting baby blankets with mosaic patterns is fun. It is also good for hats, sweaters, socks, shawls, etc.

There are many mosaic pattern designs to choose from. Barbara Walker is a knitting expert who developed and defined slip stitch patterns as mosaic knitting and published many mosaic knitting books.

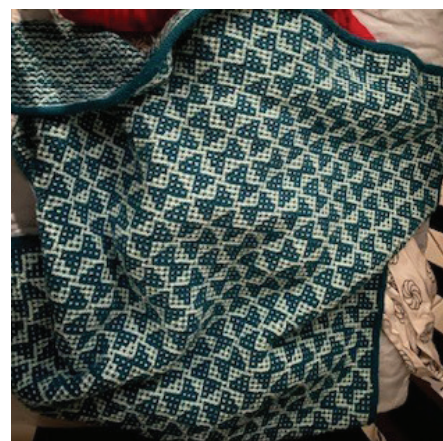
Mosaic knitting patterns come in charts, written instructions or both.

Mosaic charts are easy to follow. When knitting mosaic patterns from charts, always start with one colour at a time, which is indicated at the start of the row. The mosaic pattern is created by knitting and slipping stitches, using one colour at a time. Two rows are worked with the first colour, then two rows with the contrast colour.

You can change the order of the colours in the chart, which gives you a negative picture of the work as the colours are reversed.



*Mosaic Knitting Reversing Colours Swatch*



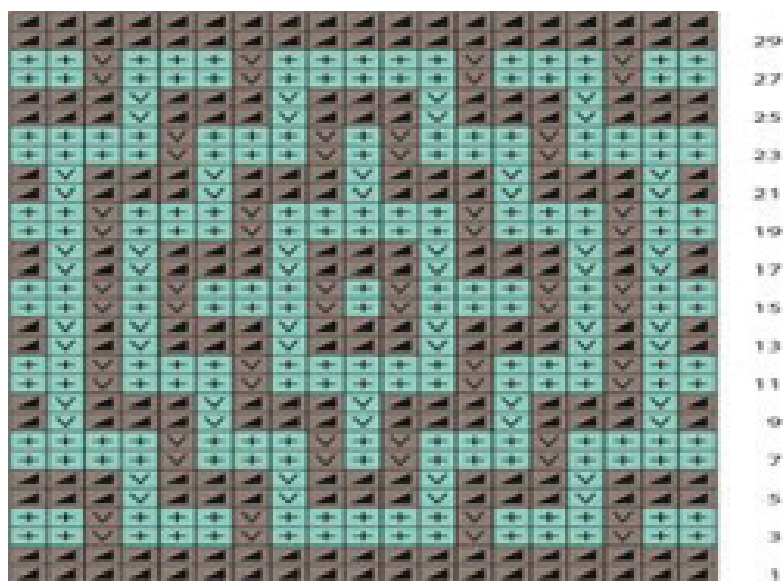
*Mosaic Knitting Blanket for Hripsime's Grandson*

Mosaic or slip stitch is another technique for creating colour patterns in your project. It is much simpler for beginners than the stranded colour technique. Mosaic patterns are knitted in two rows with contrasting colours. This can be achieved using either garter stitch, stockinette stitch, or a combination of the two. The simplest way is to knit with garter stitch.

In mosaic knitting, it is recommended to work with a needle one size larger than the one indicated for the yarn used. Always make a test swatch and check your tension before commencing your project.

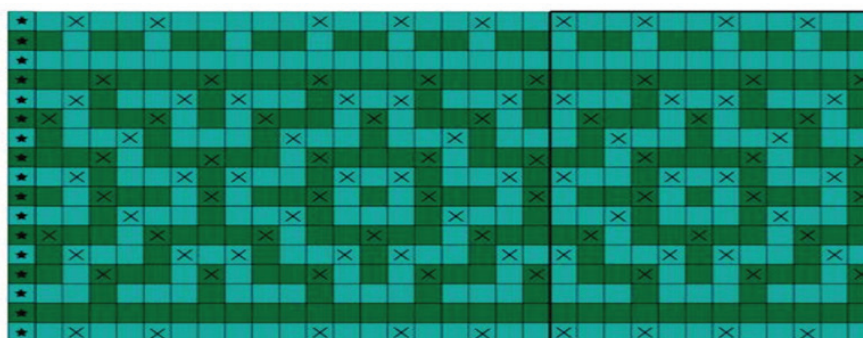
Some charts will provide instructions in two rows per colour as indicated below.

Other charts provide only one row of instruction per colour.



19 sts  
**Chart 1**

Here are some helpful points to follow while using any Mosaic chart:



- Follow the chart from right to left.
- Start knitting with the colour indicated in the first box of the row.
- Two rows are worked with each colour.
- When working the front, slip the stitches indicated in the chart purl-wise with the yarn held at the back of the work.
- On the wrong side of the work, slip the stitches purl-wise with yarn held in the front of the work.
- For the charts with one row of instructions, knit the stitches in the colour indicated on the chart and slip the stitches of the contrast colour. Remember to leave the floats on the back side of the work.

There are a lot of free mosaic charts available to choose from on the internet. And it is very addictive once you get the hang of it!

# Retail Members

## INTRODUCING NEW RETAIL MEMBER

**Signatur Handknits.** Jane Slicer-Smith, author of *Swing Swagger Drape*, designs and runs Signatur Handknits from her Killarney Heights studio in Sydney, Australia. Jane's Signatur garments and kits are designed with 'every body' and every knitter in mind. Many designs include an A-line option to add ease into the hip.

While Jane's classes for knitters and designers took a break over the last few years, 2025 sees her return with new colour, fit and style classes for skill levels through to advanced designer. So revive your passion for a knitting challenge and visit Jane's studio, join an upcoming class, or meet her at shows in Sydney Canberra, Melbourne, Bendigo or Deloraine.

Monthly newsletter: [sigknit.com](http://sigknit.com)  
 Signatur-handknits.myshopify.com  
 FB/IG: [Signaturhandknits](https://www.facebook.com/signaturhandknits)  
 P: 0427 064 834

## 24 Mile Hollow Yarn Co, Kandos

W: [www.24milehollowyarnco.com.au/](http://www.24milehollowyarnco.com.au/)  
 E: [24milehollowyarnco@gmail.com](mailto:24milehollowyarnco@gmail.com)

## Adagio Mills, Hawkesbury

W: [www.adagiomills.com.au](http://www.adagiomills.com.au)  
 E: [info@adagiomills.com.au](mailto:info@adagiomills.com.au)  
 Facebook: [adagioalpacamills](https://www.facebook.com/adagioalpacamills) Instagram: [@adagiomills](https://www.instagram.com/adagiomills)

## Australian Alpaca Yarn - Alpaca Ultimate

Facebook: [www.facebook.com/alpacaultimate/](https://www.facebook.com/alpacaultimate/)  
 W: [www.australianalpacayarn.com.au](http://www.australianalpacayarn.com.au)  
 E: [sales@australianalpacayarn.com.au](mailto:sales@australianalpacayarn.com.au)

## The Australian Wool Store

W: [theaustralianwoolstore.com/](http://theaustralianwoolstore.com/)  
 P: 0408 880 441

## Avalon Fabrics and Craft

4/24 Avalon Parade, Avalon NSW 2107  
 P: (02) 9918 2978  
 W: [www.avalonfabrics.com](http://www.avalonfabrics.com)  
 E: [info@avalonfabrics.com](mailto:info@avalonfabrics.com)

## Batik Oetoro, Gateshead

3/11 Nevin Close Gateshead NSW 2290  
 W: [www.dyeman.com](http://www.dyeman.com) P: 02 4943 8808

## Beadoodads

W: [www.etsy.com/au/shop/beadoodads](http://www.etsy.com/au/shop/beadoodads)  
 E: [beadoodads@gmail.com](mailto:beadoodads@gmail.com)

# Retail members

## **Bendigo Woollen Mills**

4 Lansell St Bendigo VIC 3550  
W: [www.bendigowoollenmills.com.au](http://www.bendigowoollenmills.com.au)  
E: [info@bendigowoollenmills.com.au](mailto:info@bendigowoollenmills.com.au)  
P: 03 5442 4600

## **Birdhouse Fibres**

W: <https://birdhousefibres.com.au/>  
E: [hello@birdhousefibres.com](mailto:hello@birdhousefibres.com)

## **Blackwattle Yarn, Murrumbateman**

315 Patemans Lane Murrumbateman NSW 2852  
W: <https://blackwattleyarn.com.au/>

## **Brindabella Yarn Craft**

W: [www.brindabellayarncraft.com.au](http://www.brindabellayarncraft.com.au)  
[fb.me/brindabellayarncraft](https://fb.me/brindabellayarncraft)  
Instagram: @brindabellayarncraft

## **Bumblebee Knits & Yarns**

E: [info@bumblebeeknits.com.au](mailto:info@bumblebeeknits.com.au)  
W: [bumblebeeknits.com.au](http://bumblebeeknits.com.au)  
Instagram: @bumblebeeknitsandyarns

## **Call of the Yarn**

W: <https://www.calloftheyarn.com/>  
E: [support@calloftheyarn.com](mailto:support@calloftheyarn.com)  
Facebook: @calloftheyarn

## **Castle Handmade**

Shop 21, Springett's Arcade, 302 Bong Bong Street, Bowral NSW 2576  
W: [www.castlehandmade.com.au](http://www.castlehandmade.com.au)  
E: [info@castlehandmade.com.au](mailto:info@castlehandmade.com.au)  
P: 0416307408

## **Convent and Chapel Wool Shop, Rylstone**

52 Louee Street Rylstone NSW 2849  
W: <https://conventandchapelwool.com/>  
P: 0409 564 747

## **Crafty Frog, Kambah, ACT**

107 Marconi Cres Kambah ACT 2902  
W: [www.craftyfrog.com.au/](http://www.craftyfrog.com.au/)

## **EleventyOne Windmills, Newcastle**

W: [www.eleventyonewindmills.com.au](http://www.eleventyonewindmills.com.au)  
Instagram: @111windmills

## **Euro Sew and Knit**

W: [www.eurosk.com.au](http://www.eurosk.com.au)  
E: [service@eurosk.com.au](mailto:service@eurosk.com.au)

## **Fibre Arts Shed, Central Coast**

W: [www.fibreartsshed.com.au/](http://www.fibreartsshed.com.au/)  
P: 0422 160 506

## **Finzah Yarn Studio**

5/15 Lake Ave Cringila NSW 2502  
P: 0466 903 734  
W: [finzah.com](http://finzah.com)

## **glenheavenknits**

W: [www.etsy.com/au/shop/glenheavenknits](http://www.etsy.com/au/shop/glenheavenknits)  
E: [glenheavenknits@gmail.com](mailto:glenheavenknits@gmail.com)

## **Glenora Weaving & Wool, Berry**

W: [www.glenoraweaving.com.au](http://www.glenoraweaving.com.au)  
E: [glenoraweaving@gmail.com](mailto:glenoraweaving@gmail.com)  
Ph: 0424 868 200  
Instagram: @glenoraweaving

## **Great Ocean Road Woollen Mill**

W: <https://gorwm.com.au/>  
E: [hello@gorwm.com.au](mailto:hello@gorwm.com.au)

## **Greta's @ Roseville**

72 Pacific Highway Roseville NSW 2069  
W: [www.gretasroseville.com.au/](http://www.gretasroseville.com.au/)

## **Grumpy Ginger, Wyong**

145 Alison Road Wyong NSW 2259  
Facebook: Grumpy Ginger Yarn Company  
Instagram: Grumpy.Ginger.Yarn  
W: [www.grumpyginger.com.au](http://www.grumpyginger.com.au)

## **Hodgepodge Skeins**

W: [www.hodgepodgeskeins.com/shop](http://www.hodgepodgeskeins.com/shop)  
E: [kaz@hodgepodgeskeins.com](mailto:kaz@hodgepodgeskeins.com)

## **The House of Wool, Leura**

142 Leura Mall Leura NSW 2780  
W: [www.thehouseofwool.com.au](http://www.thehouseofwool.com.au)

## **Jokamamo Textiles**

W: [www.jokamamotextiles.com/](http://www.jokamamotextiles.com/)

## **Kaalund Yarns**

W: <https://kaalundyarns.com.au/>

## **The Knitting Room, Mona Vale**

Shop 20/7 Bungan St Mona Vale NSW 2103 P: 0433 833 453

## **Luxe Handweaving, Toronto**

W: [www.luxehandweaving.com](http://www.luxehandweaving.com)  
E: [luxehandweaving@gmail.com](mailto:luxehandweaving@gmail.com)  
Facebook: Luxe Handweaving  
P: 0417 399 353

## **Lyrebird Yarns**

W: <https://www.lyrebirdyarns.com/>

## **Marlyn Alpaca, Thornleigh**

W: [www.marlynalpaca.com.au](http://www.marlynalpaca.com.au)  
P: 02 9481 0949

## **My Creative Garage**

W: <https://www.mycreativegarage.com/shop>

## **Natural Yarn Co**

W: [www.naturallyarnco.com.au](http://www.naturallyarnco.com.au)  
E: [naturallyarnco@outlook.com.au](mailto:naturallyarnco@outlook.com.au)

## **Obsession Yarns**

W: <https://obsessionyarns.com.au/>  
E: [obsessionyarns@gmail.com](mailto:obsessionyarns@gmail.com)

## **Set on Sewing & Craft**

Shop 2, Ron Alt Lane  
Toukley NSW 2263 P: (02) 4397 2373  
W: [www.setonsewingandcraft.com.au](http://www.setonsewingandcraft.com.au)

## **Spinners' Cotton**

W: <https://spinnerscotton.com.au/>  
P: 0439 408 159

## **Spunout Fibres, Hill End, NSW**

E: [spunoutfibres@gmail.com](mailto:spunoutfibres@gmail.com)  
P: Ann: 0409 823 045

## **Tarndwarncourt Warncoort VIC 3243**

W: [www.tarndie.com](http://www.tarndie.com)  
E: [info@tarndie.com](mailto:info@tarndie.com)

## **This Lush Corner, Snowy Mountains, NSW**

W: <https://www.thislushcorner.com/>

## **Three Cats Yarn**

W: [www.threecatseyarn.com.au](http://www.threecatseyarn.com.au)  
E: [info@threecatseyarn.com.au](mailto:info@threecatseyarn.com.au)

## **Three Mums' Yarn**

W: [www.threemumseyarn.com.au/](http://www.threemumseyarn.com.au/)

## **Three Trees Fibre Craft**

W: [www.threetreesfibrecrafts.com.au](http://www.threetreesfibrecrafts.com.au)  
Instagram: Threetreesfibrecrafts  
Facebook: Threetreesfibrecrafts

## **Virginia Farm Wool Works**

W: [www.virginiafarmwoolworks.com.au/](http://www.virginiafarmwoolworks.com.au/)  
P: 0448 866 789

## **Waratah Fibres and Yarns, Bundanoon**

W: <https://waratahfibres.com.au/>  
E: [helen@waratahfibres.com.au](mailto:helen@waratahfibres.com.au)  
P: 02 4883 6138

## **The Wool Inn, Penrith**

Shop 14 NK Centre 450 High St Penrith NSW 2750  
W: [www.the-wool-inn.com.au/shop/](http://www.the-wool-inn.com.au/shop/)  
P: 02 4732 2201 Use c2317e6fbf to receive 10% off online orders (excluding postage). Valid 01/01/24 to 31/01/25.

## **Wool 2 Yarn, Mornington**

W: [www.wool2yarn.com.au/home](http://www.wool2yarn.com.au/home)  
P: 0404 753 840

## **Woolshed @ Manuka**

Shop 2B, Manuka Court 11-17  
Bougainville St Manuka ACT 2603  
W: <https://woolshed.com.au/>  
P: 02 6295 0061

## **Yummy Yarn and Co, Dubbo**

29 Talbragar Street Dubbo NSW 2830  
W: [www.yummyyarnandco.com.au/](http://www.yummyyarnandco.com.au/)  
P: 0431 754 909

