

A Good Yarn

**MEMBER MAKE:
THAT VIRAL**

1940s JACKET

PRIZES!

- Adagio Mills pattern giveaway
- A chance to win beautiful books for knitters or crocheters

Plus

MEET DESIGNER LORI HARRISON, NEWS FROM AROUND THE GUILD, CELEBRATING 40 YEARS OF KGNSW AND LOTS MORE



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AUGUST 2026



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A WORD FROM THE PRESIDENT

Hi everyone

I hope that you are all well and knitting, or crocheting, up a storm with this cold weather! I have been seeing some wonderful creations appear on different groups' Facebook pages. It is great to see the wide variety of items being done.

By the time that you receive this, we will have participated in another wonderful Craft & Quilt Fair. I would like to thank all the volunteers who helped to make this another successful event for us.

We are fast approaching another Gathering event. There are a number of wonderful workshops being held there. I know that all who attend are going to come away with some great ideas for their work going forward. I wish all who attend a very interesting and rewarding time.

Saying that, don't forget that we have FibreFest again at the end of September. This is a great way to see a wide range of yarns and accessories in one place and to get the right thing for your next project. We will also have our sister Guilds there for you to talk to. Maybe you will start a new hobby!

Stay safe and warm over the next few months. I look forward to seeing what you all have been doing (or are doing) over this time. Happy crafting!

Raewyn Tippet
President

PRESIDENT

Raewyn Tippet

SECRETARY

Pat McGregor

TREASURER

Mary Carlos

VICE PRESIDENTS

Hannah Smith &
Katherine Ireland

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Louise Douglas-Major, Helen Milne,
Marg Rafferty, Louise Sonter

ON THE COVER

Bex Huland's 1940s Wolf Jacket.

Read more about the project on page 19.

CORRECTION

In the list of Guild members who took prizes in this year's Easter Show which appeared in our May issue we omitted to include Kana Mawson, aged 16, from the Inner West group who came second in Class 525. **Congratulations, Kana.**

A Good Yarn

Next issue will be the November issue.

Please have your submissions to us no later than 12 October.



CELEBRATING 40 YEARS

Our 40th anniversary event in May was a chance to celebrate but also to reflect on what has changed and what has stayed the same during the Guild's four decades. Marg Rafferty reports.

On 2 May 2026 the Guild met for the AGM, which was followed by a lunch to celebrate our anniversary. Attendees enjoyed a delicious meal and there were also lucky door prizes, generously supplied by Morris & Sons, Skein Sisters and The Wool Inn. Three grateful attendees were thrilled to take these prizes home.

The event was also a chance to think about the Guild's 40-year legacy. The first meeting of the Guild was on 21 June 1986, with just nine people in attendance. Since then, 34 local groups have been formed, though thanks to mergers and closures the total number of groups now stands at 26. Those original nine members have been joined by hundreds more over the four decades and as of 1 June 2026 just shy of 1000 crafters are members of the Guild.

OUR FOUNDING MEMBER

Our members are a diverse bunch, from around NSW and the ACT. No matter their skill level, age or background, all of these crafters come together regularly thanks to the drive and passion of our founding member, Margot Chick.

Attendees at the 40th anniversary event were lucky enough to be joined via Zoom by Margot's daughter, Joady Chick, who described her mother's work in founding the Guild. We were also lucky enough to hear from one of the earliest members, Eleanor Goldfinch, who spoke about the enthusiasm of those she met who just wanted to learn, and of how the Guild gave her so many of her most cherished friendships.

THE MORE THINGS CHANGE...

The love of learning, community and connection that Eleanor described continues to this day. While the regular meetings where we come together to knit, crochet, chat and learn would feel fairly familiar to any of those original nine members who happened to find themselves suddenly transported to the modern day, other methods of connection would be strange. Virtual groups via Zoom meeting, Instagram and Facebook, and all the modern ways we connect to each other make it so much easier to form a community with our fellow crafters.

Despite all that has changed the enjoyment of connection and community remain fundamental to the Guild's ongoing success. The continuation of the passion and enthusiasm that Eleanor encountered in her early days in the Guild remains and will no doubt still be at the heart of our organisation when we meet again to celebrate our 50th, 60th and even our 100th anniversaries.





DESIGNER PROFILE

THE LOVE OF FIGURING IT OUT

Tunisian crochet designer and author, Lori Harrison, spoke with Robynn Ross about her passion for the craft.



Lori Harrison is a Tunisian crochet designer, teacher and author who is the creative force behind Aklori Designs. Focusing exclusively on Tunisian crochet (TC), she started designing in 2017 and now has more than 150 TC garment and accessory patterns. Lori has been featured in many crochet magazines including *Moorit*, *Happily Hooked* and *Crochet Now*.

An engineer by day, one of her responsibilities is to create and write up procedures for building and testing scientific instruments. While her designing provides an outlet for her creative side and crocheting lets her relax at the end of a workday, Lori believes that her experience as an engineer allows her to write patterns with clear and concise instructions that are both easy to follow and enjoyable to make.

HOW IT BEGAN

When Lori could not find a Ravelry pattern or one from a book that she wanted to make, she began to design her own. Back in 2017, there were so few Tunisian designs. Her friends were knitting these gorgeous lace shawls, but she was not a knitter. Knowing enough about TC, Lori thought that she could get a similar effect from using it, so she started playing around, aiming to design shawl patterns. Coming up with ideas was not the hard part, but turning ideas into patterns that other people could follow really took a lot of learning, practice, trial and error. Her pattern testers have been invaluable for their feedback on turning her concepts into something they can understand, especially with a craft like Tunisian crochet where there is not a lot of standardisation.

In 2020 Lori began to design garments, as she wanted something that didn't exist (in this instance a fingering weight V-neck cardigan). Because she was unsure how to grade a pattern, garment design had been put on the backburner. She realised that pattern grading was a whole new skill without many resources. Fortunately, one of Lori's friends had tailoring experience and had turned her skills to knitwear design. She was able to point Lori to good references and help her extensively through the first few garments.

A THEME OF EXPLORATION

Lori perceives designing as creating art, with yarn as the paint. She loves figuring out how to make ideas become a reality. There's also a problem-solving aspect involved, because stuff rarely works on the first try. It could be something seemingly insignificant, such as figuring out just the right increase stitch to get the perfect effect.

A theme of exploration is evident in Lori's work. She spends a lot of time seeing possibilities within TC simply because she finds it interesting. For her own education and research, Lori owns many knitting reference books. She had to learn how to knit so that she could understand knitting patterns and use that information to try new things in TC such as lace patterns. While you can't just translate a knitting pattern into TC, you can learn a lot from it and adapt those techniques.

Wearability is important to Lori as she wants her garments to be worn often. They also need to be functional and durable. She doesn't design bulky weight

sweaters because she would overheat if she wore them. Instead, Lori focuses on lighter weight yarns (mostly fingering to DK), where TC textures and colorwork can be highlighted.

Lori aims to create designs that are interesting but also easy to follow, including instructions that are appropriate for the difficulty level of the pattern. (Beginner friendly patterns have very detailed instructions while the advanced ones assume you know the basic techniques.) Her patterns are also easily adjustable. Shawl patterns can be sized up or down, based on the maker's preference and her garment patterns include instructions for customising fit.

THE CHALLENGES OF PUBLISHING

Exploring Tunisian Crochet is Lori's first book, designed for adventurous crafters as well as those who are new to TC but don't need someone to hold their hand through the basics like creating a crochet chain. It's also helpful for folks who know the basics but want to explore more advanced TC stitches and techniques like cables, mosaic, colorwork and textured stitches. Lori wrote this book to tell people that there was more to TC than dishrags and a handful of stitches.

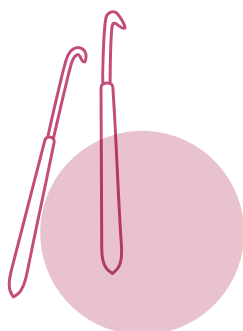
Tunisian Crochet: A Stitch Dictionary with 501 Stitches to Explore came next and is the most thorough TC stitch dictionary on the market. This book is Lori's guilty pleasure/obsession, as she had been wanting a comprehensive stitch dictionary since she first became interested in the technique. As knitters and crocheters have so many reference books and stitch dictionaries, she was frustrated that a high quality TC dictionary didn't exist, even as the technique became more popular. She begrudgingly accepted the fact that if she wanted one, she had to publish one herself. The result is everything she wanted – tutorials, charts, written instructions and photos of the fabric's reverse side. It was two years of work, but Lori is thrilled with the result.

Staying motivated has been the most challenging part of Lori's TC design journey. Designing does not pay well and there is a lot that goes into releasing a pattern beyond just making a sample and writing it up – testing, photography, website updates, marketing, etc. Designs you love can flop. If a design sells enough to break even, it's a win. Having other designer friends to cheer you on, commiserate, and just bounce ideas off, is invaluable. Lori concedes that without amazing cheerleading women like Knot Bad Britt, her success would have been slower.

Lori's stitch dictionary comes highly recommended by our best Australian Tunisian crocheters and designers. You can find out more about her work by visiting her website and you can also find her on Instagram.

W WEBSITE
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@ INSTAGRAM
[@akloridesigns](https://www.instagram.com/akloridesigns)



RETAIL PROFILE

A PASSION FOR QUALITY

Donna and Marc Boere have been running Adagio Mills since 2022 and in that time have helped the business grow and develop. Donna spoke with *A Good Yarn* about the work to date and plans for the future



In 2022 Donna and Marc Boere were ready for something different. The disruption that was created by COVID had brought things to a head for the couple, who realised that they wanted a change. Working with yarn was a logical step for Donna.

"I've always grown up with craft, between my mother and grandmother and have always been connected to the fibre crafts," she says. "We also had our own alpacas and a shed full of fleece."

"I began making products using other people's yarns and then thought 'why can't we use our own?', says Donna.

That idea led the couple down a rabbit hole. "We started looking at where we could get our own fibre processed," she says. As luck would have it, she chanced across a post on Facebook by someone selling their equipment. "It felt like it was now or never," says Donna, explaining that it all began from there.

NEW BEGINNINGS

The reopening of Adagio Mills (the business was begun in 2015 in Orange NSW by the original owners) was the beginning of Donna and Marc's development of the business, which began with an initial passion that continues today.

"It's a desire for Australian Made and it's about wanting to offer something different for our clients," explains Donna.

Those high standards made for a very steep learning curve in the early days.

"Getting the word out to customers to show them it was a quality product took a lot of work. It was really important it was up to our standards before releasing

a product," she says. That hard work has seen success for the business, but despite all that they've achieved, challenges remain.

"There's a lot of competition from overseas manufacturers, who offer cheaper products, and that can be a hurdle. While we still need to price our products competitively, still have Australian operation costs for the business to cover, a farm to run and our own mouths to feed," Donna says.

But despite these difficulties, there are plenty of highs.

"Going to a market or a festival and meeting customers who show us what they've made with our yarns is such a thrill. Then having those people become repeat customers – that's such a great feeling," she says.

GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT

As with any business, it's important to Donna that Adagio Mills keeps innovating. That's what's behind the recent introduction of a range of exclusive knitting and crochet patterns.

"We've decided to release our own range of knitting patterns so we can really showcase and support our own yarn brand just a little bit further. It's a way to add to our brand," she says.

Creating unique designs that cater to all different ability levels is an important part of the new range, but it goes beyond that.

"We're passionate about being Australian made so we wanted to work with a number of Australian designers. It's been great to work with talented people with a different skill set to our own. It's been such a blessing to be able to work with them to showcase our yarn in different ways," she says.



WIN!

Guild members can win a pattern of their choice from Adagio Mills' new collection of knitting designs.

Visit adagiomills.com.au/shop/patterns/knitting and simply tell us in 25 words or less which pattern you would choose & why.

Send your entry via email to editor@knittersguildnsw.org.au using the subject line "Adagio Mills Competition."

The deadline for entry is 30 September 2026 and judging will take place on 1 October 2026.

Winners will be notified by email and the results published in the November issue of *A Good Yarn*.

As both a knitter and a crocheter, Donna appreciates the work involved in these handicrafts. For her, there's an extra thrill from a completed project in knowing the yarn came from her herd.

"Working with yarn from animals we've raised ourselves is amazing. We often reveal special yarns from our animals and one of those is Casper. Casper is a very popular boy and a bit of a looker! We care for him and shear him ourselves. We also wash, card and process the fleece ourselves, which makes that yarn traceable and sustainable. Then wearing something made from that yarn is a whole other buzz. It's just lovely!" she says.

CELEBRATING ACHIEVEMENTS, LOOKING AHEAD

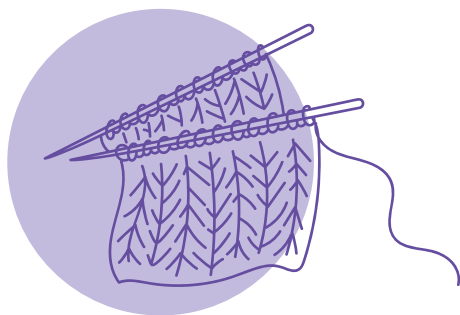
When asked about what Donna is most proud of achieving with Adagio she explains that it all comes back to the people who use and support their products.

"The fact that we do have repeat customers, that people come and find us at festivals. That we can work with Australian farmers that appreciate and love to see their own alpaca fibre being used in Australia," she says.

"Being able to support farmers and other local businesses, from our labelling upwards. I'm just really proud of where we are now, that we've stuck to our vision of creating an Australian brand that supports farmers and businesses," Donna says.

Despite their success, Donna and Marc aren't resting on their laurels. "At the moment we're concentrating on furthering our pattern designs, colour range and different fibre combinations," she says. "It's all about listening to our customers and using their feedback to keep improving what we do."





GROUP REPORTS

NEWS FROM AROUND THE GUILD.

BLACKTOWN

During April, the Blacktown Group had a lovely workshop with Sue Hobbs on Ladder Back Jacquard (LBJ). Our members were certainly keen to apply it to the KG Anniversary Beanie pattern.

In May, a small group of us engaged in a workshop run by Jacinta Wood, focusing on solar dyeing with onion skins. We had some grand colours coming through on the protein-based fibres.

For June, our regular meeting fell on Worldwide Knit in Public Day so we enjoyed getting together with the Blacktown Library Knitters Group to knit and natter at Club Blacktown. A wonderful day was had by all.

On top of that, mostly we were very excitedly planning our bus trip to Bowral in September.

Jacinta Wood

BLUE MOUNTAINS

The Blue Mountains group have had an energetic and successful three months. For our April meeting we invited Kylie from Fibre Lily to display her wonderful yarns and to tell us all about her yarn journey. Members made very good use of the swift and yarn winder for their purchases.

At our May meeting, member Janette conducted a sock workshop using the Magic Loop technique. The workshop was well attended, and we're looking forward to seeing all the

socks at our monthly show and tell. In May, we were able to raise our group profile and the profile of Knitters Guild NSW by having a stall at Fibre Frolic Festival. As well as taking the opportunity to advertise the guild, we also offered the use of the swift and yarn winder for a gold coin donation.

The ever-popular Members Market was the main feature of our June meeting. Members are given the opportunity to sell yarn and handmade items. A perfect opportunity to de-stash and re-stash. Apart from this, we also launched the One Skein Challenge. As the name suggests, members are invited to submit an item created from one skein of yarn to be judged by all members.

The social event on the first Sunday of the Month at Tori Café Pulman continues to provide a nice relaxing catch-up for members.

Jan Marshall, Secretary

CAPITAL REGION

It's been a busy few months in the Capital Region. Our large and active group explored cables in our April meeting, both with and without a cable needle, reading charts for cables and the impact that a cable pattern can have on your gauge swatch and what allowances to make. Thank you to Christianna Cobbold for leading that discussion.

During May, we had our annual live-out retreat, which included four fabulous workshops, plenty to eat and drink and the joyful company of fellow members. A special thank you to Sue Hobbs for travelling down to us again to teach the knitting workshops, and to local legend De-Arne Crawford for teaching the crochet workshops. A great time was had by all, and we are keen to do it again next year. Liz McNally looked after everyone so beautifully throughout the weekend and also deserves a special thank you.

At our monthly meeting for May, we discussed what can go wrong with a project and encouraged everyone to 'bring their own disaster' to the meeting. As a group, we then used the disaster projects to discuss and troubleshoot why a project didn't turn out as planned.

In June, we held a party to celebrate the Guild's birthday, and invited special guests Cat and John Suvalcz

from Fancy Yarns as a thank you for their support of the Guild during the Australian Yarn Show earlier in the year. One of our members, Gareth Hilton-Smith, also gave a talk about his knitting journey to date and his experience with the Guild Certificate course. A special gift of a Vera doll was exchanged between members, too.

Lauren Clancy, Convenor



In June, members exchanged Vera dolls



Classes at the annual retreat were a big success



May's retreat was enjoyed by all

CLARENCE VALLEY

Recently, our Clarence Valley group has been working on crochet. Expertise and assistance came from Helen. We appreciated her knowledge and patience. Evol introduced us to the world of bobbles and nupps – some interesting shapes evolved.

We were privileged to have Merrin with us for two days during June when she ran four workshops with our Group. We were very grateful for her skill and patience. Thank you, Merrin. It was a most enjoyable time spent together.

In July, we have a Group get-together at the B&B at Seelands on the banks of the Clarence River. For those who can come, it is a time of relaxation and, of course, knitting. Cynthia is planning to join us.

Following on in August we are off to the local Wahgunerry Alpaca Stud for a day of wool dyeing and information.

Jenny Moar, Secretary



The group enjoying their meeting

CROCHET TURRAMURRA

Turramurra expresses gratitude to our members who have been out in the community letting people know about the Knitters Guild. Pat H and Janelle had a display at the Berowra Art and Craft Fair, and this month some members joined the Pittwater knitters at Belrose for the 'Worldwide Knit and Crochet in Public' day, and at a Fibre Market Day in Warriewood.

With the cooler weather, everyone is happily occupied using their wool to create beautiful items. Shawls and rugs, always impress us all, and we loved seeing Pat's 'First Sunrise' rug in rich burgundy colours. Following a workshop on crocheting stylised houses and the need to pay close attention to the instructions, we were amazed when Janelle brought

her gorgeous 'Houses of Reykjavik' rug, which took us to another level altogether.

We all enjoy our workshops – thanks to Ronah, who has been patiently helping us create items in crocodile stitch, and Janelle, who showed us how to make crochet baskets.

A. Murphy, Secretary



The group has enjoyed learning crocodile stitch from Ronah



A workshop on creating stylised houses with crochet was popular

EPPING CROCHET

The Epping crochet group has been learning different Tunisian crochet techniques, something they plan to continue. The members also teamed up to complete a group project, a rug and other members have been working on their FibreFest shawls.

Lesley Wilkes



A member's completed bunny



The members worked together to complete this rug

EPPING

There was a very good attendance to Jill Rowling's introduction to Tunisian crochet workshop, where we saw plenty of sample pieces of Tunisian crochet and learnt the basics of the craft. We will soon see completed items at our upcoming Show and Tell. Again, the Epping Group saw very good attendance at Louise Sonter's workshop on felted children's slippers. Louise provided an extensive amount of yarn and notes prior to the day and showed us both children's and adult felted slippers, at all their stages. At the next meeting, Ann Archer presented her knitted children's sock, ready for felting. We will see them and others completed very soon.

Anne Moore organised this year's first of three "Teach the Public to Knit and Crochet" all day events. As always, it was well attended, with a wait list.

Seven members of the Epping group attended the Wool Inn at Penrith's Worldwide Knit in Public Day. At the Wool Inn we joined in the trivia quiz, but sadly, we were beaten by the Blue Mountains group. We enjoyed lunch together, then returned to the Wool Inn in time for two of our group to strut the red carpet for the fashion parade. We all enjoyed a great day. Naturally we shopped, and with the discount, why not?

Shirley Gregory, Publicity



Alex's first ever knit, a scarf



Display of blanket, scarf and Anniversary beanies



Hilda strutting the red carpet with Adrianna's crochet reversible scarf



Jill's tunisian samples



Knit in Public day at Penrith waiting for lunch



Louise Sonter's felted slippers stash for education

GOULBURN

The last three months have been calm and relaxing, with the cooler months keeping our knitted and crocheted garments in high demand. Between our monthly workshops, our main event this quarter was our Worldwide Knit in Public day. Celebrated at the Goulburn Soldiers Club, with over 20 guild members, with participants from our Knit and Natter group, and visitors from Wrap with love.

Each month was guaranteed to have something interesting for new and experienced fabric artists. Our workshops ranged from mending, joining yarn, stitches to join seams, and crochet, with July seeing many members road tripping down for the Bendigo Sheep and Wool Show.

Christina Wall, Publicity Officer



The group celebrated Worldwide Knit in Public day at Goulburn Soldiers Club

INNER CITY

The winter season has been filled with inspiration, learning and friendship for our knitting group, with members enjoying a range of engaging events throughout May, June and July.

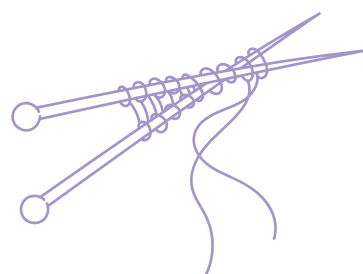
May saw us celebrating the Guild's 40th Anniversary with a High Tea, and we also enjoyed our now Annual Destash, during which much yarn was sold and eagerly acquired. In June, a few members travelled to Rylstone to attend the Black and Coloured Sheep Breeders Association (NSW) Rylstone Wool and Natural Fibre Muster. The popular event showcased a wonderful variety of natural fibres, yarns and wool products, giving members the opportunity to connect with fibre producers, gather ideas for future projects and relax in the country surroundings.

Later in June, members were treated to a presentation by Marg Rafferty on using Ravelry. Marg delivered an online demonstration highlighting the platform's search and filtering functions. Participants gained valuable tips and tricks for finding patterns, organising projects and making the most of Ravelry's extensive resources. July featured a practical workshop led by Andrea McFarland on repairing knitted garments. Members learned both invisible and visible mending techniques, gaining new skills to extend the life of treasured hand-knitted items while celebrating the art of thoughtful repair.

Bryony Mika, Convenor



Some of the group enjoyed a weekend in Rylstone in June



INNER WEST

Our Inner West group has had a very busy quarter two in 2026.

In April, we focused on all things socks with a particular focus on heel and toe construction. What became very evident was the depth of curiosity about the various techniques used, with lots of interest in tips for larger-sized feet. The sock examples inspired one of our members, Susan, to have a go. She shared her progress at our next meeting.

A celebration of the Guild's 40th Anniversary took place in May, with a morning tea at Camperdown Commons. Our longest-serving members shared their insights into the history of the Guild as well as its evolution into what it is today and how the Inner West group has grown and changed. Special thanks to Mary-Helen, Sandra, Lynne, Cristiana, Stephen and Helen for sharing their knowledge. Thank you also to the Guild for the generous contribution to our celebration.

June brought Worldwide Knit in Public Day, and 14 of the group participated. We had some interested people engage with us, and several children were very curious about learning how to knit. As a result, needles and yarn were gifted to encourage further practice.

Our members also donated beautifully knitted and crocheted garments to our charity, the Aboriginal Women & Children's Crisis Service. Overall, we had 54 items: 25 beanies and nine garments.

Cheryl Dolan, Secretary.



The focus on socks in April inspired Susan



40th anniversary celebrations



International Knit in Public Day at Marrickville Library



The group with our charity contributions

MACARTHUR

The Macarthur Group have experienced some highs and lows over the past three months.

Our sad news was the very sudden death of one of our newer members, Carmen Lee. Carmen was a delight. She always had a cheery smile, and was often knitting something pink. Several members attended her funeral, so we learnt more about her amazing life. Her daughters have told us how much she enjoyed attending the meetings and outings, always felt so welcome and always gave them a lengthy recount after each meeting. Vale Carmen. She will be very fondly remembered and sadly missed.

On a happier note, we had a very successful day out celebrating Worldwide Knit in Public Day on 13 June. We held an 'extraordinary meeting day' to coincide with the International date. We had about 15 people knitting or crocheting, including both members and some guests.

Our star member of the day, Marjorie White, arrived a bit late,

proudly wearing her newly finished Jane Slicer-Smith jacket, inspired by Frida Kahlo. Marjorie advised that its completion took a lot of persistence; her smile definitely shows a sense of achievement.

Alison Wootten, Publicity Officer



Marjorie White, resplendent in her just-finished jacket



The group celebrated Worldwide Knit in Public Day

MAITLAND

At the Maitland Group, our members have enjoyed a wonderful month of 'Knitting in Public', including outings and a display of members' knitwear, toys and more in our local library. The display was very popular both with adults and children ... especially Bluey and Bingo!

Cynthia Mulholland, Treasurer



Members created a display at the local library

MID NORTH COAST

We welcomed Sue Hobbs to run a workshop on Twisted Stitches. She shared her valuable skills, showed us her Kate Davies "Sark" sweater and explained how beneficial the Trusted Stitch Sourcebook by Norah Gaughan is for those interested in this technique. It was such a wonderful workshop for those who had never tried this skill.

Over the past few months, we have continued to build on our "Show and Tell" sessions. These have provided a great inspiration for future projects, which have been so encouraging for the group to see. In addition, our members participated in a workshop on how to weave recycled t-shirts, a great way to minimise waste. We also worked on learning some different cast-on techniques, including provisional cast-on. For the future, we are planning a charity blanket knit project to provide to the Guild and are on the look out for patterns that can easily provide us with mitred squares for efficiency.

Rebeca Mendez, Convenor



The group's show and tell sessions inspire future projects



Sue Hobbs showed the group her Kate Davies "Sark" sweater

MUDGE

The onset of cooler weather in Mudgee has turned our minds, and hands, towards comfort items such as beanies, scarves and blankets for charitable donations.

Scarves have been articles of personal preference, while the knitting/crocheting of squares and combining them into rugs is very much a group scheme.

For beanies, we turned to the pattern for the 40th Anniversary beanie and were very pleased to use that project to have a workshop revising stranded fair isle knitting as well as to experiment with continental stitching. We were all very pleased with the results.

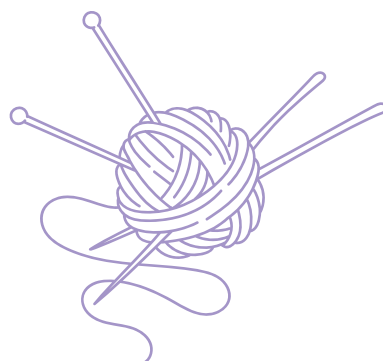
Some of our members took the opportunity to visit the Rylstone Wool and Fibre Muster over the long weekend in June. Lots to see. Loads of lovely yarns. A large selection of fleeces as well as demonstrations of spinning and weaving.

Our group marked Worldwide Knit in Public Day this month, proudly flying the flag for Knitters Guild NSW. It was lovely that the weather celebrated with us: we found sitting and knitting outdoors in the sunshine most pleasant.

Sally Colley, Publicity



The group celebrated Worldwide Knit in Public Day in June



NEWCASTLE

The Newcastle Group has had a couple of very busy months. In early May, we held our biennial exhibition, which was well attended by both the public and our members. The Fundraising Table was a huge success, selling a great number of items for our charity, NOVA for Women and Children.

The exhibition included a beautiful presentation of our members' knitting, crocheting and felting from the past two years. It was certainly a stunning and colourful display to intrigue and engage all those who entered through the doors.

The members also had an opportunity to sell their work, which was very well supported. A highlight was the kits for knitting a Norwegian hat designed by Newcastle member Synnove Mackintosh. All the items presented were a pleasure for the senses.

The café supplied our visitors, members and volunteers with delicious homemade soups, tea, coffee and sweet delights.

In total, the exhibition raised \$6,782 for NOVA for Women and Children.

All of this was possible because of the dedicated work of our volunteer members who willingly gave their time and effort to make our exhibition a success. And the people who attended and supported the Newcastle Group. Thank you from all of us.

On the 13th of June for Worldwide Knit in Public Day, our members met in Lambton Park, to share our craft with the public and each other in a very relaxed and sunny spot.

Kate Zimmerman, Convenor



Members met in Lambton Park for World Wide Knit in Public Day



The kit designed by Synnove Mackintosh for the Newcastle Biennial Exhibition

NORTHERN TABLELANDS

The Northern Tablelands group has had a lovely time knitting and crocheting beanies, scarves and an enormous quantity of blankets for distribution through the local Women's Shelter.

Worldwide Knit in Public Day was celebrated at one of the local coffee shops and attracted wide and very positive attention.

Shown are just some of the finished articles and WIPs from our latest Saturday get-together.

Tracy Everett, Secretary



Group members shared some of their recent makes

PITTWATER

At Pittwater, we've seen growth in our group, and meetings are lively with 'show and tells', fascinating workshops and visitors. We have had our book of favourite food and yarn 'recipes' published and purchased by members for \$2 apiece.

Our member, Janelle's, Houses of Reykjavik Blanket was spectacular. A Stephen West design, it represents a lake surrounded by houses, mountains, forest and sky. The vibrant colours

were inspired by Janelle's memories of her trip to Iceland

Other fabulous projects were Cathy's Eva Shawl of delicate Shetland Lace and Julie's Emotional Support Chicken. All patterns are available on Ravelry.

We saw Deb give a workshop on how to knit a top-down child's jumper, and Rhona give one on the technique of Scrumbling.

Apart from that, Marianne from Jokamamo Textiles brought her hand-dyed yarns and fabric bags and gave a fascinating insight into her process. It will be interesting to see what members make from her colourful yarns.

Nine generous members assisted Brigidine College in volunteering to guide students in knitting blanket squares to be donated to the Wrap with Love project.

Barb's 3D Flower of the Month project continues with one design released each month. We are up to July, a Water Lily.

For this year's Worldwide Knit in Public Day, 17 members congregated outside Spotlight at Belrose HomeCo. Spotlight donated a quantity of tangled and unlabelled yarn, which Mo painstakingly untangled on the day and later made into a blanket.

Many more items have been lovingly created and donated to charities.

Meredith D'Alton, Member



Janelle's House of Reykjavik blanket is spectacular



Rhona's scrumbling workshop was a hit



Barb's 3D Flower of the Month project continues

SOUTH GRAFTON

No report received.

SOUTHERN

The highlight for the Southern Group was our 40th Anniversary High Tea. We went to town decorating our usual meeting spot and invited former members to join us for the celebrations, including founding Southern Group member Heather Morrison and former convenors Bernadette & Steve. It was lovely to catch up with you all again. Thank you to our helpers who baked, decorated and served on the day. We also enjoyed some show and tell, and hearing about how our members went at the Royal Easter Show this year. Congratulations to Johanna and Karen.

Gemma Lawrence, Convenor



Karen's entry in the Crochet Garment category was highly commended



Johanna earned a blue ribbon for her Child's Garment at this year's Easter Show



the 40th anniversary high tea was a chance to catch up with current and former members

SOUTHERN HIGHLANDS

This second quarter has seen members working on new techniques in a knitted shawl, such as a tab cast on and lace knitting with increases. Pouring over patterns and discussing wearability and style has energised many within the Southern Highlands Group. We had a lesson on the use and implementation of short rows and the reasons why each method adds to the professionalism of the finished product. Two stitch types were tried - Japanese and German. Everyone went home with a decent sample for their knitting portfolio and definite ideas about the method they preferred.

In June, we had a 'Knitting Clinic' where anyone could get their WIP questions answered or a technique tried with the help of an experienced knitter. There are some wonderful people in our group who also knit for charity. Shonagh Moore primarily organises this and shows us the finished blankets, beanies, gloves and jumpers before they head off to local hospitals and refuges.

Robynn Ross

THE ENTRANCE

In May, The Entrance Group helped celebrate the Guild's 40th anniversary, marking four decades of community and craftsmanship with a wonderful anniversary cake beautifully crafted by Carol Hewitt.

June proved to be an equally busy month, starting with the announcement of the 25cm Square Challenge winners: Helen Williams, Lea Lane, Relle O'Brien, and Carol Hewitt. These contributed squares are currently being assembled into rugs for donation to WeCareConnect, a local charity supporting families in need. Guild members also took their craft into the community to celebrate Worldwide Knit in Public Day, gathering at a local coffee shop to share their passion.

To start July, we were lucky enough to host a Double Knitting Workshop led by Beth and Jean, focusing on the technical skills needed to create reversible, double-sided fabric. The Entrance Group's Facebook group remains highly active, providing a fantastic space where members consistently share new ideas, patterns, and project updates.

Rachel Harris



The group enjoyed a double knitting workshop



Squares created by the group are assembled into blankets for donation



Celebrating with this cake decorated by Carole Hewit

VIRTUAL

The Virtual Group welcomes group members and visitors from other groups on the second Monday of the month. We have a set topic each month and in May we discussed different Cast On methods. As the second Monday in June was a public holiday there was no meeting but we are now back to our schedule for the year. In July we will be looking at Cast Off (Bind Off) methods, and in August we'll talk about Blocking.

Sue Frost, Secretary

WEST RYDE

No report received.

WOLLONGONG

The last three months have been quite full with a variety of yarn related events across the Illawarra that most of our group have participated in. Across the Illawarra, we have a thriving community that showcases yarn arts and crafts. As a group, we've attended or actively participated in the Wollongong Spinners & Weavers exhibition, the Black & Coloured Wool Festival in the Southern Highlands, Worldwide Knit in Public Day and A Night at the Movies – the latter two events hosted by our local yarn store, Finzah Yarn Studio.

Several of our members also attended the Crochet Guild Conference at the Novotel in Wollongong and joined in a few of the workshops.

In June, we decided on a one skein wonder project with some lovely shawls and socks in progress.

Iman Aziza, Convenor



Marilyn showed us her spectacular blanket



June's challenge to create a one-skein project led Sharon to create this beautiful shawl

WOY WOY

At our April meeting we held three mini-workshops, learning various ways to join knitted pieces – mattress stitch, Kitchener stitch and a 3-needle cast off – while in May we shared our knitting and crocheting hints and tips. Our June meeting was spent stuffing teddies and sewing on their faces for our collection of 40 teddies the group is making for the emergency services, to celebrate the Guild's 40th Anniversary. We hope to have these all made in time for our Christmas party. We've also all been knitting coloured strips to make a blanket to go into Guild storage for donation when required.

To continue our charitable work with local organisation, We Care Connect, members donated two HUGE bags of toiletries which were gratefully received. This year's anniversary celebrations will also include a group party in August, with games, competitions, prizes (and, of course, lots of party food).

Sally Ogilvie, Convenor

IN THE NEXT ISSUE

Look out for our November issue where we'll be bringing you more great news, interviews and prizes..

- Meet designer Libby Jonson, AKA Truly Myrtle
- More book giveaways from Peribo publishing
- Member makes profiled
- And lots more





BIG MORNING TEA

The group came together to raise money in support of cancer patients. Shirley Gregory reports.



Despite our donation total not meeting our pre-COVID achievements, we are still proud of the \$893 raised at this annual event and we are very thankful to Lesley Davis and her daughter Alex who stepped in to organise this successful event.

The chosen cancer this year was Multiple Myeloma, and our colour for the competition entries was ruby. We were delighted with the plethora of knitted and crochet items submitted by our members, many of which will be, as usual, donated to the Cancer Council branch in Parramatta.

The culinary efforts of the group members provided us with a delicious morning tea. Many of us nominated Michelle Waltisubuhl's basket of home-made quiches as our favourite item: we certainly missed her quiches when she was away travelling for last year's event.

The \$10 entry charge was a bargain for our generous high tea, and the spread was enjoyed by all those in attendance. The entry fee also covered one competition

entry, with a small donation being paid for any other entries.

There were numerous people whose contribution to the event helped ensure its success. Help was provided for the set-up, managing of the float and banking, contributing best china tea sets, managing raffle sales, competition judging, packing up and of course all the wonderful food donations. It was certainly a group effort.

Congratulations to Judith Rowling who won first prize for her knitted shawl and to Yvonne Fazzolari for her crocheted hat. They each received a lovely prize.

Throughout the morning the 19 raffles and two lucky door prizes were drawn with excellent prizes from our sponsors Convent and Chapel Wool Shop at Rylstone, Jokamamo Textiles, Bendigo Woollen Mills, Glenheaven Knits, Marlyn Alpaca, The Australian Wool Store, Panetta Mercato fruit shop Macquarie Centre and In Bloom florist also at Macquarie Centre. Please support our sponsors as they have supported us for many years.



BOOK REVIEWS

PLAY TIME FOR CRAFTERS

With these books of patterns for knitters and crocheters you'll be creating beautiful toys in no time.



KNITTING PETER RABBIT

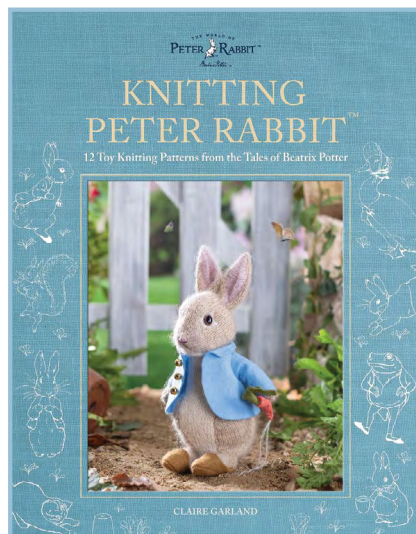
BY CLAIRE GARLAND

Whether it's the original star of the Beatrix Potter world, Peter Rabbit, who you love, or one of the other cherished characters who are your favourite, this book is sure to delight.

Along with the patterns for 11 beautifully detailed toys, the book also features delightful illustrations and quotes from the original Beatrix Potter books.

The patterns include instructions for creating each character's clothing and accessories, meaning you'll have all the information you need to make your favourite, whether that's Jemima Puddleduck, Mrs Tiggy-Winkle or one of the other cherished Beatrix Potter creations included in this beautiful book.

RRP: \$59.99



WEEKEND MAKES: CROCHETED TOYS

BY EMMA OSMOND

One of the most lovely things about being a crafter is being able to use your skills to create handmade gifts for your friends and family. If you're looking for inspiration for something to give to a baby or child in your life, look no further than this book.

With 25 quick and easy projects, ranging from finger puppets to teddy bears, cars to stacking cubes, there is sure to be something to suit any young person in your life.

Each pattern includes clear and detailed instructions so you can whip up a gift for that special someone in no time at all.

RRP: \$42.99



WIN!

We have one copy of each of these books to give away to our members thanks to Peribo Publishing.

To enter, send an email to editor@knittersguildnsw.org.au using the subject line "Book giveaway" and tell us in 25 words or less which book you'd like to win and why.

The deadline for entry is 30 September 2026 and judging will take place on 1 October 2026. Winners will be notified by email and the results published in the November 2026 issue of *A Good Yarn*.



ON THE COVER

Q. What's the name of the pattern you followed?

A. Mary Maxim No. 449, Wolf Jacket, a pattern which was first published in 1950.

Q. What inspired you to make this item?

A. I really enjoy reproducing vintage knitwear, and always admired this particular 1950s Wolf Jacket (the original knit sells for many hundreds of dollars). When I saw the pattern used for Ryan Gosling's jacket in the recent Project Hail Mary movie I took it as a sign to knit it asap! As a side note, there are nearly 600 other projects on Ravelry for this pattern now, though when I started mine it was just 40! It's definitely gone viral.

Q. How long did it take you to create?

A. Just four weeks – the chunky wool knits very quickly.

Q. What were some of the challenges of making it?

A. I couldn't quite achieve the gauge of the original pattern, so needed to make some width and length adjustments to compensate. I also found the intarsia/stranded method to be quite complicated to work; at one time I think I had over 20 colours being worked on a single row!

Q. What yarn did you use?

A. The original yarn is closest to a 14ply weight, but I used Knitpicks Wool of the Andes Bulky, which is a 12 ply.

Q. If you had to give a three word description of the process, what would it be?

A. Trust the chart!

Q. What do you love most about the finished product?

A. I'm really happy with my zipper insertion. I think we've all had challenges inserting a woven zipper into a stretchy knit, and I'm so happy that my zip doesn't buckle or pucker at all. My secret is to back the edge with ribbon first, then sew the zip in.

Q. Would you make it again?

A. I will definitely make another Mary Maxim and graphic knit again (my partner requests one every year for their birthday) but I don't think I would make the Wolf again. Although my partner is dropping hints about how much they like mine, so never say never I guess!

Q. What will your next crafting challenge be?

A. I'm currently working on a 1930s knitted suit in a lovely open stitch, and will soon cast on for another vintage chunky graphic knit for my partner's birthday – this time it's from 1961 and features very kitsch aeroplanes.

Q. Is there anything else you'd like us to know about the project?

A. I think this would be a great project to make for the sci-fi fan in your life – and it knits up fast, too!



GUILD INFORMATION

Executive Committee meetings are held online (via Zoom) on the third Tuesday of each month from 7.30pm. Any member is welcome to attend. Please contact the Secretary to obtain the Zoom link by emailing secretary@knittersguildnsw.org.au

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WHAT'S ON


**FIBREFEST
2026**
by Knitters Guild NSW

SUNDAY 27th SEPTEMBER
10AM - 3PM

**WYONG RACE CLUB &
FUNCTION CENTRE**
Howarth St, Wyong NSW 2259
A short 5 min walk from Wyong Station

More information:
www.knittersguildnsw.org.au
festival@knittersguildnsw.org.au

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