



# KG Bytes

February 2016

## Group Meetings

### Epping

**Monday 7th March:** D'Arcy Sharpe from Guide Dogs for the Blind will speak about the work Guide Dogs do, something very relevant to the group when Gail attends with her guide dog Trina.

**Monday 21st March:** Various types of cables.

### Epping Crochet

**Monday 14th March:** making a Tunisian purse using 2 colours of Sublime Egyptian cotton DK and 4mm Tunisian crochet hook. If you are just learning Tunisian crochet take 2 colours 8 ply yarn and 6mm Tunisian crochet hook.

### Blue Mountains

**Saturday 20 February:** a retail visit from Ann Collins Textiles; Part 2 of their *Entrelac* workshop with Lynne Byass. The workshop will start at 10am.

### Castle Hill

**Tuesday 15th March:** Felted slipper workshop.

### Inner City

**Saturday 12th March:** The group will be exploring variegated yarns. They will be looking at yarn with short or long colour changes and learning about which kind of patterns work for each. Members are welcome to bring in any skeins that are puzzling them or for which they require assistance.

### Newcastle

**Wednesday 9th March:** A lesson on knitting lace squares, to be made into a rug.

### Pittwater

**Tuesday 16th Feb:** *Intarsia* with Gwen Lawrence.

**Tuesday 1st March:** *Knitting on the Edge* with Sue Wise.

### The Entrance

**Thursday 18th February, 7.30:** Tuggerah Westfield Coffee Club.

**Saturday 5th March, 9.30am:** An *Introduction to Short Row Shapings*.

## Group Events

The **Castle Hill** group is hosting a *Techniques for Freeform Knitting and Crocheting* workshop with Prudence Mapstone on Saturday 18th June. (The weekend before the Glebe Island Craft Show.) The workshop will run for 6 hours, please bring your own lunch, morning and afternoon tea will be supplied. Venue: Restore Church, 47 Britannia Rd, Castle Hill. Cost: \$50. For more information, or to make reservations, contact the Castle Hill group at [kgnsw.ch@gmail.com](mailto:kgnsw.ch@gmail.com).

The **Blue Mountains** group is organising a bus trip to the *Mudgee Fibre Muster*.

The Bus will depart from Penrith at 7.30am on Saturday 30 April 2016. The cost will be \$45 per person. For more information or to book your seat in the bus please email [Holsteinsharon@gmail.com](mailto:Holsteinsharon@gmail.com) or phone 0400 036 833. For details of this year's Muster, visit [www.gulgee.com.au/html/muster.html](http://www.gulgee.com.au/html/muster.html). An entry form for the knitting, crochet, felting and weaving competitions is attached to the email accompanying this issue of *KG Bytes*.

## Guild Workshop Bookings

The *Modern Crochet Workshop* (12th March) is now fully booked. If you missed out on this workshop and would like to get priority booking on a repeat one, please contact the Workshop Convenor, [workshops@knittersguildnsw.org.au](mailto:workshops@knittersguildnsw.org.au).

We have a number of people interested in taking part in another *Short Row Techniques Workshop*, having been unable to get a place on our January one. We'll endeavour to organise another shortly and will contact those people to give them priority booking.

## Yarn Tastings

We have two more *Yarn Tastings* coming up, both with Knitpicks Yarns from the USA. Australians have only recently been able to buy these yarns as Knitpicks had no system in place for shipping to us, but they now have an Australian website and free shipping on orders over AU\$60. So this is a good time to come along and try their yarns.

Saturday 2nd April – Penrith

Saturday 16th April – Queanbeyan

To book (\$5 each), please visit the Guild website.

## High Tea

Don't forget that we're celebrating the Guild's 30th Anniversary with a special High Tea at the Radisson Blu Hotel on Saturday 7th May (after the AGM). The cost is \$30 per person, unless you're a Guild Life Member, in which case we'd like to invite you as our guest.

To book and pay, go to the Guild's website. To reserve a place if you're a Life Member, please contact the Guild Secretary.

## Stitches And Craft Fair – Rosehill

The Stitches and Craft Fair runs from 3rd–6th March at Rosehill Gardens Racecourse, Sydney and we're looking for Guild members to help on our stand. Please email Sharon at [holsteinsharon@gmail.com](mailto:holsteinsharon@gmail.com) with your preferred day and time (10.00–1.15 or 1.15–4.30).

(p.t.o.)

## Craft And Quilt Fair – Sydney

The fair will be held this year at Glebe Island from 22nd – 26th June. As usual, we're looking for your help. This would involve managing a roster of volunteers to work on the stand, to help set it up and take it down; to help source items for display, look after the items and ensure that they're returned to their owners. Please contact the Guild Secretary if you can help.

## NSW Machine Knitters' Association Workshops

This association is running a series of workshops in March, in Wagga Wagga, Newcastle, Epping and Wollongong with WA-based fashion designer, Tony Bennett. The workshops are not limited to machine knitters, but would be of interest to anyone who designs, or wishes to design, knitted garments. Please note their Members' price also applies to members of the Knitters' Guild. Details are available at [www.mkansw.org.au/macknit\\_003.htm](http://www.mkansw.org.au/macknit_003.htm).

## Inner City – Knitting For Refugees

Last year, the Inner City group collected knitted hats for Syrian refugees in Germany. This is a lovely German TV news story showing the hats being distributed and many can be identified as coming from members of IC. There are some really beautiful and warm hats there. Well done to you all!

See <http://tinyurl.com/zgu9ylm>.

## "The Gathering" – Central Coast

Central Coast Hand Weavers, Spinners & Textile Arts Guild Inc. invite us to *The Gathering 2016*, Friday 11th March, in East Gosford. 10am-3pm.

The theme is *The Sea*. Exhibition is on the following 2 days 12 + 13th March. 10am-4pm. All details are attached to the email accompanying this issue.

## ✧ Convenors' Corner ✧

The Guild will no longer be issuing a separate letter to Convenors each month, as much of the information is being duplicated in KG Bytes. So we'll have a Convenors' Corner each month in KGB with the information that may be of interest only to a Convenor or other Group Officers.

### *Treasurers' Reports*

If your group hasn't yet submitted a financial report for the 2015 year, would you please do so immediately, or contact the Guild Treasurer who is happy to help with any problems. When submitting your report, don't forget to include copies of all receipts and bank statements.

### *Group Life Memberships*

Some groups may not be aware they can award Group Life Memberships. The Guild awards Life Memberships to those members who have made a great contribution to the Guild as a whole, but you may have a member who has worked tirelessly for your group and made a substantial contribution to it. In that case, you could consider awarding a *Group Life Membership*. It has become accepted within the Guild that the group pays the annual fee of any of its members who hold these Group Life Memberships.

### *World Wide Knit in Public Day: Saturday 18th June 2016*

If your group has any plans to celebrate this year, do please let us know. There are no "WWKIP Police" so you are not compelled to hold the event on the 18th. A suitable date around that day is fine. Some Guild groups organise train trips, or knitting in local cafes, pubs and libraries or knitting outside in the parks, if the weather is fine, of course.

## Library

The demands on the Guild's library, housed at the Epping Creative Centre (ECC), have decreased significantly over the last few years, partly because of the wide-spread use of the internet to obtain patterns and technical guidance and partly because of the ever-increasing cost of postage.

Few members are able to attend the library in person and have depended on the Guild's policy of sending books to members free of charge and asking the member to pay the return postage. Currently the cost of posting the smallest and lightest book in our library is \$8.25. Some cost \$14 or \$15. If we posted out 5 small books a week, the cost to the Guild would be over \$2,000 a year, and when we factor in the cost of the larger, heavier books, this would probably increase to \$3,000+ a year. In addition, we don't believe members want to borrow a book that is going to cost them in excess of \$14 to post back.

We have therefore decided to re-house our library books at Singleton Public Library, where they will be kept in a safe and clean environment by professionals, and will



be available to our members at a greatly reduced cost through the Inter-Library Loan system. Each local authority sets its own rate for inter-library loans but it is generally \$3 - \$6 per book, far less than the current postage costs. Singleton Library is currently cataloguing the books and will have them available on their website. If you want to borrow one, you ask your local library to get it for you, and you then return it to the same library.

We are increasing the number of knitting and crochet DVDs we hold and these will be available for members to borrow directly from the Guild. The cost of postage for DVDs is between \$1 and \$2.

As the library books have now been removed from the ECC, the Collection and other Guild items that were also housed there are being moved into secure storage. The Guild will no longer have a presence at the ECC, except of course for the two Guild groups holding their meetings there.

We'll make sure you all know when the books have been catalogued by Singleton Library and are available to you.