

Crochet Extra

36th EDITION - AUGUST 2008

Hello to all from the elves at Crochet Australia. Some of you may have noticed that we now have Chris on board processing the orders and Lorraine packing your orders so that Ray and I can get on with other pressing parts of the business - ordering more goodies and keeping the internet up to date, the newsletter and answering lots and lots of emails and phone calls. This is the oddest retirement of all but keeping the mind tuned.

We are proud grand parents again with Susanne and Mick having a safe delivery of their first child Steele Xander. This little bundle of boy weighed in at 7lb 10 oz and gave his mother plenty to think about during the 20 hours prior to pushing his way into the world. We have been off to Townsville for a quick visit, so apologies if your call went to answer machine. Please leave messages and we will always call you back. Unlike some larger companies, your call IS IMPORTANT to us.



A special "hope you are feeling better" message to one of our long term customers Marie W from Mortdale. Marie tells me that while on the dialysis machine, which is now a frequent occurrence for her, she bent over to pick up a roll of sticky tape and broke her sternum. Ouch! The good news is that although daily chores and laughter are out while she is on the mend, crocheting still puts a smile on her face.

We have had a scoop buy of packaged Lugana, Sulta and Aida, so check in the new section for some bargains. These are limited while stocks last, so be quick.

The new Madam Tricote #5 perle colours are doing well, so we will be ordering some more new colours next month. The last 51 cartons just filled the space in the spare storage area. Who needs to go to the gym?

We have had a few dramas with porcelain doll supplies so hopefully next month I have rectified the problem. The dolls and beads move out as fast as they come in. We now have a new supplier to help with the task.

We have noticed that more parcels are going out with registered post labels for peace of mind. A lot easier for Aust Post to track as well. Remember to add this option in your postage especially if there is a large dollar value involved with the goods.

Who said there are no advantages working here. An order to Mexico included an invitation to purchase cheap tequila if the need arose. We passed on that one. Wednesdays off is working well for us. We are getting business related jobs done and a bit of free time tossed in as well.

By far the best selling product for July was Tunisian and reversible Tunisian (on the double and crochenit). Seems that there are a lot of grey nomads in caravan parks and groups of ladies sharing this skill. This is certainly an old craft with a "new" twist about it. We still have lots of books and hooks, but going by the phone calls and emails, we must be one of the few suppliers who have these products and actually know what the customer is asking for.

Please keep us abreast of anything new in crochet that we should know about. Our customers are always thirsty for knowledge.

Many thanks to you all.

Happy Crocheting..... Vicki



PRODUCT OF THE MONTH

ELIZABETH HIDDLESON BOOKS AND PATTERNS

You may recall that we featured this author some time back. These Vintage patterns and leaflets are worth another look as we may not be able to get them for much longer. Elizabeth Hiddleson was an American crochet pattern designer from the early 1950's. Some of her patterns have featured in Crochet Magazines as well. Her patterns have written instructions and very good sharp black and white photographs, which make them easy to follow. Also very good for those people who do not read patterns but prefer to work from the picture.

There are 35 books and 47 pattern packs to choose from. All but one of these Edition (EH1A baby & girls clothes) are for doilies, tablecloths, runners and chair backs. These books and patterns are for all thread crocheters, and no matter what size thread you prefer, just choose the design of choice, and use the thread and hook to suit. Elizabeth loved pineapple and spider web designs. Her designs are diversified to include rounds, ovals, edges, tablecloths, filet and more.

Please note that these books are old (not second hand) and have been in storage in America for some time so there may be rusty staples, discoloured pages, but the books are new. So if you want easy designs with a touch of class, don't go past these. They may be from another era, but they certainly complement modern décor.

Pattern packs of 5 patterns are \$7.50 and books are only \$10.00ea. We have a special this month which allows you to get a free pattern pack. See page 4 for details.

These are in the 2006- 2007 catalogue pages 95 -99 or on the web at http://www.crochetaustralia.com.au/category78_1.htm

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WE'RE HOOKED ON CROCHET!



CROCHETER'S CORNER

and

Masterpieces of the Month

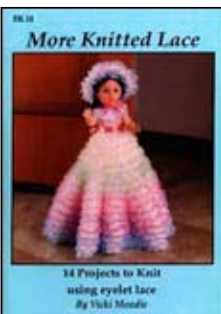


Send us a photo of your masterpiece and tell us what book it came from and your masterpiece could feature in the next edition of "Crochet Extra"

Here are some customer comments and masterpieces for this month!

Hello! Just a quick note to let you know that my parcel arrived today, safe and sound. Thank you for my gift book, and also my chocolate which I devoured whilst reading the newsletter.

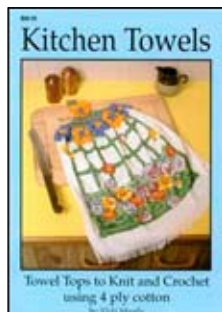
When I was placing this order (for books) I did not realise that I was purchasing them from the actual author. The women from my craft group had mentioned "whilst clutching their own very well-loved copies" that these books were hard to find. I can



Ricki D of Moora WA recently forwarded this picture of a doily she completed using Aida #20 crochet cotton (or substitute Daphne) from a pattern in Elizabeth Hiddleston's book EH24.



These books are the Product of the Month and also feature in the Specials on page 4.

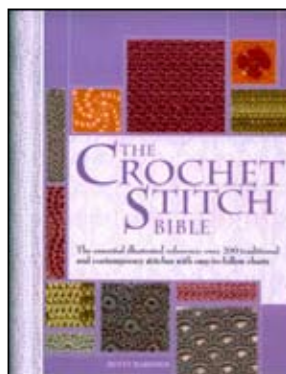


not wait until our next meeting and let them know how they can all get them direct from you, yourself.

The only problem (not really a problem so much as a delicious dilemma) with me buying so many of your different books at once is "which project do I start first" as most of the items have captivated my interest and my fingers are twitching to start them all. (Especially after a drought of not being able to find any patterns for knitting & crocheting with lace and doing the same towel top over and over again.)

Thank you for a great safe, enjoyable internet transaction. And thank you for creating such wonderful, easy to follow patterns and books. **Veronica F Gulliver QLD**

Ed note: Our own Vicki Moodie is the author of most of the range of the Craft Moods series of books and editor of most of the Paragon series of crochet and knitting books. Vicki also developed most of the crochet patterns and kits that are available through Crochet Australia. Her passion is crochet and in the near future she hopes to be able to republish many of the old Paragon patterns that have not seen daylight for many years.



Crochet Stitch Bible Book arrived yesterday in perfect condition, but then you wrap things so well there is little chance of anything being damaged. Just thought you would be interested to know that I have been trying to buy this book for at least 18 months only to be told in various book stores that it was "unavailable" No one ever told me it was out of print, discontinued or whatever. One book store suggested I try www.bookfound.com and yes, I could have got a second hand copy from them for nearly \$80 plus postage! You going to that warehouse was definitely fate. It's a lovely book, thanks. **Janet C of Kelso NSW**

Ed note: This book has been out of print for a long time now and we managed to pick up some copies when visiting a warehouse on a recent "day off".

Happy Hookers Competition

The Crochet Australia Team is proud to announce the winner of our "Happy Hookers Competition" who will receive a \$20 gift voucher. This is the winner from the JUNE 2008 period.



**Congratulations
Belinda W
STANTHORPE QLD**



Entering the competition couldn't be easier. All you have to do is place an order. All orders will enter the random draw which takes place on the last day of every month. Good Luck!!



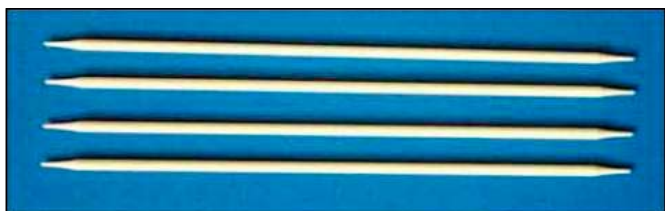
Handy Hints



Handy Hint from Colleen G Murwillumbah NSW

Readers may like to know, when making an item in pure wool that needs small quantities of contrast colours, instead of buying and then wasting a large ball of yarn, simply buy tapestry yarn. This wool comes in 100's of colours and is great if you need a colour you are not likely to use again for another project. The same goes for thread crochet, if I need a small contrast amount I use stranded cotton, starting with 1 strand with #20 thread and 6 strands with 4 ply cotton.

I would like to thank you so much for your efficient and fast service, I received my Liteflex needles today and they are just



perfect. I will certainly be ordering from you again, thank you also for the newsletter it is great reading.

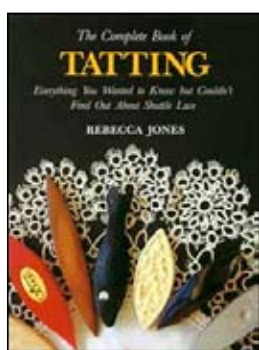
Denise M of Nambour QLD

WOW!! That was just brilliant service, got box of wool today only after ordering it 3 days ago. Loved the colours of the wool too, I think it will crochet up very nicely too. Thanks once again for great service.

Ollie W of Kapunda SA



Maureen L of Everton Hills QLD tells us her daughter recently



had twins and she has been very busy and says "This is what has been keeping me off the streets lately! Booties tatted in DMC 80, pale pink and pale blue, for the top of the twins' christening cake." The pattern is on page 94 of the Rebecca Jones book on Tatting, SS4446.



Edna M of Kallangur QLD has been busy again making this textured throw and cushions. Edna used Dazzle 8ply acrylic yarn.



Just wanted to let you know that I got my parcel today with all the crochet threads I ordered and the free book. Thanks so much I love the book. I went to two shops in Griffith to get #10 threads and even three shops in Melbourne. I think I will just forget about the leg work next time and come straight to you. Thanks so much. **Terri R of Whitton NSW.**

Marie M of New Lambton NSW sent us this picture of an unusual doily. Marie crocheted hers in Perle #5, although the pattern, from the Crochet Magazine March 2003, uses #10 thread



You know those days when everything goes wrong or everything you touch goes pear shaped and you wonder why you bother to come to work anymore... well thank goodness for people like **Karen D of Toowoomba QLD** who recently wrote - "I just wanted to take this opportunity to commend you on the customer service you deliver.

I have placed orders with your business a number of times now and I am in awe with the efficient and friendly service that I have received with every single order. The professionally packed parcels always arrive quickly and safely, and I have to mention the added bonus of Freddo, which my kids look forward to when I open my parcel (I am yet to enjoy one). You obviously love what you do and care about your customers because it shows with the high level of service you deliver. I wanted to tell you how happy I am in dealing with you and I believe that when someone is doing something right, they should be told. Keep up the excellent service, because that is what sets you apart from everyone else, and naturally it keeps us all coming back."



Thanks for your kind words Karen, it's feedback like this that lifts our spirits and reinforces our belief that what we are doing is making a positive difference to the lives of many of our customers.