

Crochet Extra

44th EDITION - MAY 2009

Welcome to the May 2009 newsletter and Happy Mother's day to all the mums, grandmas and nannas, adopted mums and carers. You all do a great job so hope that Sunday the 10th is a special day for you.

Here at Cro Aus we were very busy putting together all those never ending orders. Seems that our new Almina 4ply is a great hit and last month's specials were certainly tempting for you. Tunisian was ever so popular. Hope to see some of your finished articles in future editions of the extra.

The recession seems to have had a reverse affect for us as we are having more and more new customers find us on the internet and by referral. We are seven years strong now and there is no sign of crocheting becoming less popular. We are often asked if we sell crochet goods overseas. Well this month we posted to Japan, USA, UK, Puerto Rico, Sri Lanka, Malaysia, Canada, New Zealand, Republic of South Africa, Argentina, Netherlands, Fiji and Malta, but the most interesting one for the month was the Aussie money order made out to Crochet World. Just as well the local postmaster knows us well.



Have you ever wondered what it is like to be on the other end of the phone or the emails when we receive great comments from our customers. It makes the job worth while at this end and we do give positive feedback to the helpers. Well to be fair, this month, we also had two unhappy customers, so we will share their woes with you.

The first one thought we were unfair as she failed to collect her goods from the post office in USA after being notified by them that it was being held there after they were unable to deliver to her home address. Naturally when she failed to collect, the parcel came back return to sender all the way from USA. Don't really see how we could be at fault but we promptly refunded the value of the goods. (If she loses because the US dollar exchange rate has changed then who can we blame?)

The second was just as intriguing. We received an order for 80g beads, which cannot go as a letter unless you wanted crushed beads at the other end. She was appalled that we sent it as a parcel wrapped in bubble wrap and charged parcel rates. (Guess you can't please everyone all the time!)



Some of our customers mention chocolates in their parcel. Please note that we cannot put these in envelopes that go as a letter. Again - squashed chocs. Also, sometimes the chocs would take the parcel into the next postage bracket so we leave it out rather than charge you more to send you a free choc. Others talk of free gifts. We like to sent out a little pressie with their order as they have purchased near or over \$100 worth of goods. If you order online there is a section where you can choose your own free gift. That makes it easier for us too.



Once again many thanks for your support. Hope you enjoy this month's specials.

Vicki

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PRODUCT OF THE MONTH

Beads



This month we feature beads and accessories and have conjured up some great specials on the way. For those not familiar with sizing, #8 means 8 beads side by side measure 1 inch, #10 is 10 beads to the inch and #11 is 11 beads to the inch.



By far our most popular beads are the glass Apple #11 beads (2.2m) on a string. These are made in Japan and used for bead knitting and save a lot of time as they are pre stung ready to use. Each hank has 6 strands each 50cm long.

Our 8mm glass jug beads in opaque (solid colour) and transparent have been used mainly by our jug cover crocheters. These beads have a larger hole and are used to help weigh down the jug covers. This month we have a free jug cover pattern for you. Just ask when you buy some jug beads, or if you are a subscriber to this newsletter it is already free in your envelope.

Hotspotz glass seed beads are available in #8 and #10. We have these in 20g bags and also larger quantities at reduced rates are available



For other work like bags, clothing and hair wraps, where large holed 8mm beads are required, we carry a range of plastic beads in transparent and opaque colours.

We also carry big eye beading needles (for threading loose beads) and bead spinners to help the job to be finished faster - leaving more time for crocheting.



Our purse frames range in size from 25mm to 200mm in gold, silver and bronze. Except for the smallest size, all these have holes in the frame to make attaching your work a little easier.

There is a comprehensive range of beading books featuring jug covers, purses, necklaces, bracelets and earrings, larger bags and of course the popular bead knitting and crochet for the porcelain dolls. For your convenience, we have included a list with this newsletter.

Please ask if you need colour charts or more information on pricing.

If you have not used beads with your crochet work before, there is no time like the present to grab a bargain from the specials and have some fun.



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!

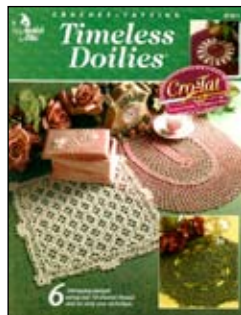
Many thanks for the prompt despatch of my order for crochet cotton! Love your service! I received a free gift which was 4 spools of fine cotton thread (Venus brand) which is perfect for the kind of work which I do, but cannot find it on your website (at least, not in the section of crochet cotton, but I may be having a Senior Moment and looking in the wrong place!) Please let me know if you do sell these small spools and where to order on the website. **Lesley M of Beacon Hill NSW**
We promptly directed Lesley to the appropriate web pages and she found even more good stuff to purchase.



Hello, I would like to thank for your extremely prompt service. My sister put an order in yesterday for me and I was pleasantly surprised when I went to the letterbox. A parcel from you was there, the order that was sent through yesterday (there was even a little surprise in there which I enjoyed very much.) I will certainly be ordering off you in future. Thank you so much again. **Kathy D of Kerry QLD** *Kathy loves the new Almira 4ply so much that she has had a few orders this month.*

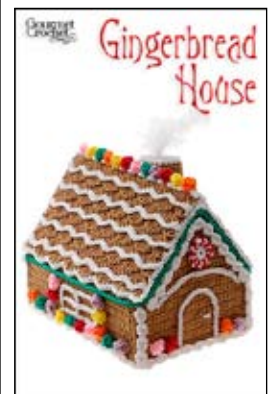


Please find attached photos of the crocheted Ginger Bread House that I have completed from the book (GC50107 **Gingerbread House** by Carolyn Christmas - \$10.00) that I had bought last year from you. **Merrilyn T of Mornington VIC**
What do you think - looks good enough to eat!



Gwen L of Woorim QLD recently showed us this cro-tatted doily she completed from the book **872811 Cro Tatting Timeless Doilies** (\$14.70) which has 6 cro-tatting patterns using #10 thread plus instructions on how to cro-tat.

Cro-tatting has the look of tatting but the ease of crochet - so if you want the tatted look without having to learn to tat - this could be for you.



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 MARCH 2009 period.



**Congratulations
Helen W
CABOOLTURE 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



From **CL5988 Crochet Answer Book** by Edie Eckman \$21.95** plus extra postage - Solutions to every problem you'll ever face in crocheting.

When beading with crochet - the first step is to thread your beads onto your yarn before you begin to crochet. The beads wait near your yarn ball until you are ready to use them.

Our extra hints - thread more beads than you need because when you get to use them some may appear unsatisfactory so simply crush them using some pliers to remove them from the thread. Please ensure you wear eye protection and place some fabric around the bead to catch the bits.

Dear Crochet Australia people, Thanks for the prompt shipment of my hankies. Hemmed stitched handkerchiefs are rare and expensive. Yours were very reasonable and the hemstitching is very good quality. **Eva B USA**

Just a note to let you know I received my order today and all is Great. Thanks for your fast delivery, and my chocolate bar - not good for the waist line, but great for motivation when working on a difficult crochet pattern. I'm new to crocheting and find your website helpful and informative. All going well with my new hobby - I will be back to order more.

Jenny K of Morphet Vale SA

Just a note to thank you very much for your quick service! Pity not all companies share your ideals. Thanks for the choos, I am sure that the Grandchildren will love them when they come this afternoon.



Cheers **Dorothy McC of Warwick WA**

Thank you for your prompt service. Order arrived safe and sound within two days and was as fantastic as I had been told. I look forward to dealing with you in the future. **Robyn A of Glenfield NSW**
Robyn came to us on the recommendation of Rita C who is one of our happy customers also – thanks Rita.



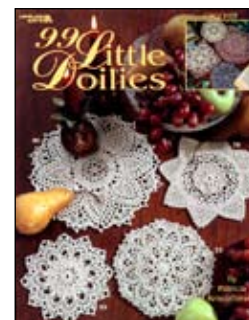
Beattie C of Gatton QLD called recently and showed us her latest creations. Both pieces were made with #40 crochet cotton and are from Elizabeth Hiddleston Patterns in **EHPACK13**. Roses with Bow (Left) from pattern 49A and California Rose Bowl from pattern 1959 (Right). Both patterns were adapted from chair back patterns. *Very clever Beattie!!*

*Thanks to **Annette W of Thornlands QLD** for providing the one liners (quotes) at the bottom of each page of this newsletter.*

Got my package and have looked at the new 4 ply Almina/Myra cotton. All I can say is wow wow WOW - wonder if I can get a second mortgage on the house? Soft and silky - if cotton can



be butter - this is it!! I love it and am so pleased there is someone in Australia willing to source this stuff. Thank you for the cotton. **Linden B of Coffs Harbour NSW**



Firstly, I'd like to let you know that my first order from Crochet Australia arrived this morning, and I am absolutely thrilled with it. The Crochet Hook case is wonderful, and exactly what I needed. I would recommend this to all your customers. The book **LA3228 - 99 Little Crochet Doilies** (\$36.25**) is awesome. I couldn't believe how beautiful they all are, and I cannot wait to start making some of them. Living in Tasmania it is very hard to get crochet supplies of any kind, but crochet lace supplies are almost non-existent. So you can be sure you will be receiving many orders from me in the future. **Christine C of Kingston TAS**

Super-quick delivery as usual. You have probably already heard the comments (on the ABC website) about the Italian earthquake - that when a 98 year old lady was rescued from the rubble she told the reporters she'd filled in the time awaiting rescue by doing her crochet!! gives it a whole new meaning.

Margaret M of Monash ACT



I have been buying crochet books from you for a couple of years now and they have been great. Your selection is brilliant. I bought 2 of the Carolyn Christmas books of cakes and cookies. This has been the best fun I have had in years. Making cakes, oreo biscuits and choc chip cookies with no mess in the kitchen. Service, selection and satisfaction are all A1. **Jan T of Hamilton VIC**
GC31007 Chocolate Sweets and Treats & GC32107 Cupcake Tree (both \$10.00)



Kim is an avid Tunisian crocheter and loves to play with her own designs. The Donkey blanket is made for a donation to the Good Samaritan Donkey Sanctuary at Clarence Town, about an hours drive from home. This is the second blanket Kim has Crocheted for the sanctuary. **Kim & Robert S of Wallsend NSW**

Letting you know that the parcel has arrived - safe and sound. Thank you it is lovely didn't expect lollies hehehe. I just love the "Clown Nursery" patterns. You will definitely be seeing me again in the future. **Sharyn R of Slacks Creek QLD**

I'd like to thank you for your quick service. Also I would like to let you know your new thread Babylo is great to work with. It has a nice and smooth feel. I think you are on a winner.

Sheila S of Bundaberg QLD

Sheila is also a fan of our Daphne and Maxi. We hope to have the full range of Babylo soon in sizes #10 #20 & #30.

Thank you once again for your prompt and friendly service, my parcel arrived safe and sound today. I've already browsed though my Crochet Monthly and MYM magazines and am trying to decide which project to do first! I highly recommend these magazines to anyone who likes following charts rather than written instructions.

Julie B of Malvern East VIC

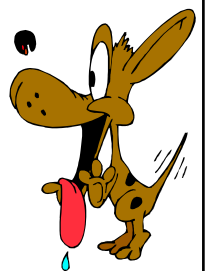
Christina purchased some of our new Almina 4ply. She tells us that it is a beautiful and easy thread to use when crocheting edges for face cloths. **Christina K of Salisbury QLD**



Look what we found!!



This new section in the newsletter will provide a glimpse of some of the new and interesting things we have discovered during the month.



How simple is this granny triangle hat and scarf shown on the cover of **LA4671 Accessories to Crochet in a Weekend** (\$23.95), just what we need with winter nearly here!!

Get into the fashion scene with 23 of the hottest crocheted accessories around. All you need is a weekend and basic crochet skills to complete these fashionable but easy accents, such as scarves, hats, ponchos, and purses. Check out these projects from the editors of Better Homes and Gardens for ways to incorporate beads into a scarf or a choker, to fashion an up-to-date creation that recalls yesteryear, and to add bobble stitches for a pop of colour on a hat or bag. Pick out a pattern and some lovely yarn. Then treat yourself to a relaxing time as you create something special.

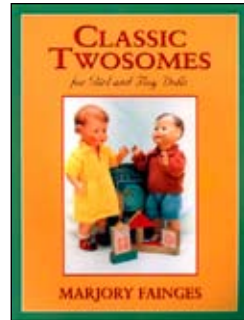
23 Projects: Beaded Lace Scarf, Beret & Scarf Combo, Plush Fringed Scarf, Made-for-Shade Cap & Choker, Triangle-Granny Hat & Scarf, Striped Warmer, Rolled Brim Cap, Blue Jewels Scarf & Beret, Triple Treat (headband, belt, or scarf), Easy Crochet Hat & Bag, Block-Beauty Tote, Disc-Go-Bag, Backpack, Cell Phone Holder, Swinging Shoulder-Strap Bag, Vanilla Wrap, Lacy Poncho, and Fur-Trimmed Capelet. 48 pages



If you are into classic dolls, then these Australian books by Marjory Fainges could be for you.

SS7178 Classic Knits for Boy Dolls (\$21.95* plus extra post) Contains patterns for the types of clothing originally worn by antique, collectable and more modern boy dolls. 15 outfits to suit dolls in size from 15 - 48cm (6 - 19"). Colour photographs of all outfits. (60 pages)

SS9246 Classic Twosomes for Girl and Boy Dolls (\$22.95* plus extra post) Contains 24 patterns (12



each for girl and boy dolls) reworked from the classic designs of the early 1900s. Ideal for matching pairs or twins to suit dolls in size from 18cm (7") to 41-46cm (16-18") in height. (48 pages - Knit)



Love the 3D look of this Pansies and Lace afghan, and to add to the charm, note that the edges are not straight. This, plus another 4 floral projects, are available in:-

LA75023 Floral Afghans (\$6.50)

Pick any of the five perennial wraps in this Little Book to refresh your home all year 'round. Our flower patch of afghans is blooming with pansies, roses, wildflowers and more that will bring out the warmth and beauty of spring, in and out of season. All use worsted weight yarn. 26 pages.

For the filet crochet fans, here is an unusual three piece set using #30 thread. The mats are about 28cm square and the centre/runner is about 66 x 28cm.

This pattern (and many more graphed designs) is available from the Spanish MYM book **PANOS18** (\$13.95* plus extra post)

45 Pages. Filet and symbol patterns for round and oblong 3 piece sets. Some with motifs and edges. Filet floral and geometric.



Some Mother's Day Ideas in Handkerchief packs



HANKALTINCOMBO Pack of 4 Hemstitched (spoked) handkerchiefs with Altin Basak Threads \$27.00

3 x Coloured Hankies and 1 x White Hanky and 4 x matching #30 (European #50) Altin Basak Crochet Cottons

Hankies are 100% cotton, coloured, straight or scalloped edge with motif, (approx 24.5cm [9½"] square)

Choose Straight or Scalloped Edge



HANKVENUSCOMBO Pack of 5 Hemstitched (spoked) handkerchiefs with Venus Threads \$25.00

4 x Coloured Hankies and 1 x White Hanky and 5 x matching #70 Venus Crochet Cottons

Hankies are 100% cotton, coloured, straight or scalloped edge with motif, (approx 24.5cm [9½"] square)

Choose Straight or Scalloped Edge



HANKP12OBCOMBO Pack of 5 Hemstitched (spoked) handkerchiefs with Oren Bayan Perle #12 Threads \$27.20

5 x Coloured Hankies and 5 x matching Oren Bayan #12 Perle Threads

Hankies are 100% cotton, coloured, straight or scalloped edge with motif, (approx 24.5cm [9½"] square)

Choose Straight or Scalloped Edge



HANKMIXCOLSCAL Mixed Pack of 6 Hemstitched (spoked) handkerchiefs \$22.50

100% cotton, coloured (blue, pink and lemon 2 of each colour) scalloped edge with motif, (approx 24.5cm [9½"] square)

HANKMIXCOLSEGE \$22.50 for Straight edge.



HANKMIXCOLMTF Mixed Pack of 6 Folded edge handkerchiefs \$20.50

100% cotton, white, straight stitched folded edge with embroidered coloured motif, pack will contain 6 prepacked designs of the 11 available designs.

(approx 28cm [11"] square)



HANKMIXMTFAUST Mixed Pack of 6 Folded edge handkerchiefs with Australiana Motifs \$16.45

100% cotton, white, straight stitched folded edge with embroidered coloured Australiana Motif

(Wattle, Bottle Brush, Flowering Gum, Kangaroo, Koala and Waratah)

approx 28cm [11"] square

Up to 20% off any of the Beading Books listed, while stocks last.

Crochet

Title	Was \$	Now \$
TFDHB Crocheted Heirloom Beaded Bags	12.10	11.00
CL1420 Beaded Crochet Designs	39.95	31.95**
LA3962 Crocheted Wire and Bead Jewelry	19.95	15.95
ASN1373 Learn to Bead Crochet	13.35	12.00
875560 Beautiful Beaded Necklaces	13.45	12.00
LA3656 Beaded Beauties to Crochet	22.15	17.70
876550 Easy Bead-As-You-Go	22.45	17.95
DO5224 Bead Crochet Basics	22.95	18.35
876501 Wire and Bead Crochet Wonders	18.30	16.50
LA4014 Crochet Overlay Jewelry	26.20	20.95
LA4395 Elegant Wire and Bead Crochet Jewelry	18.05	16.20

Knitted

Title	Was \$	Now \$
TTDSCR Christening Romper for 6" Doll	8.75	7.50
TTDSCD Christening Dress for 6" Doll	8.75	7.50
TTDSTHU Top and Handbag for Ursula	5.25	4.50
TTDSRA Rebecca Ann	8.75	7.50
TTDSMNO Marilyn's Night Out	5.25	4.50
TTDSDEBBG Diana's Evening / Bridal Gown	8.75	7.50
TTDSSS Sailor Suit for 6" Doll	8.75	7.50
BBS048 Bead Knitted Pendant Bags 1	26.95	21.55
LAC6676 Classic Beaded Purse	19.95	15.95

** Indicates a heavy book and extra postage applies.