



Crochet Extra

46th EDITION - JULY 2009

Welcome to the July 2009 Crochet Extra. As most of you have already worked out, Ray (my best friend, husband and the other brains of the business) is the right hand man around here and when I asked the simple question of what shall we have as a theme for July, quick as a flash he suggested we concentrate on Winter Warmers. Guess he has been feeling the cold. From this, all that came to my mind was a hot cup of coffee and warm socks. The mornings have been a little chilly to say the least but the late nights in the office brings to mind the hot coffee and the warm socks. This is the catch up time for all the other chores like newsletters, ordering all the goodies, unpacking large shipments and answering the flow of emails and for Ray the daily updating of the internet and paying the bills. Seems that I am forever creating more work for him.



The Annie's Attic order has just come in so a few new crochet and knitting books to peruse in the idle hours. I opened the first box and surprise, surprise it was full of 8" baby Berenguer dolls. They look as real as the porcelain baby dolls and made from a soft sweet smelling plastic. Oh yes I am impressed!!

We were graced with 18 new tea towel designs this month, plus a few of the old favourites like cats and roosters came back into stock. Some of those are just about out of stock again. We buy mixed boxes but have no choice in the 6 designs that go into a box and some designs barely make the shelves. We have also put together the mixed pack of 12 tea towels for the astute buyer looking for a bargain - priced at \$20 per pack. They go fast too, so do not miss out on them.



The Babylo thread has been in short supply but we have received more and we have all colours now except in #30, still 7 to come. We have been able to fill most orders so far, so please be patient if you are waiting for a specific colour and size. We can always back order them for you. Colour charts are available on request.

The next cuppa is looking good and waiting on my desk, so until next month, keep warm by crocheting!

Vicki



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PRODUCT OF THE MONTH



AFGHANS / RUGS / BLANKETS

Whatever you call them, Winter is the time for making knitted and crocheted afghan rugs. I was curious to know why the Americans call rugs "afghans" and here is an answer that sounds feasible: Yarn was used mainly for clothing and the bits left over were combined to make granny squares or other colourful combinations. The squares were sewn together to make useful items like blankets and shawls. These blankets looked like the colourful floor rugs from Afghanistan and were nicknamed afghans. Here we call them rugs and today we have many types and here are a few:



The most popular is the granny but now we have floral grannies, squares, triangles and all styles of motifs available, that when combined make beautiful rugs. Each takes on a different persona depending on the colours and styles used, and quite often it can be a window to see the true feeling of the crocheter as they put together these works of art.

These would have to be closely followed by the ripples, sometimes referred to as chevrons or waves. Different stitch combinations have been used to make more exciting designs and today with all the fancy yarns available we are seeing tremendous changes.

Baby rugs are often made with pretty all over lacy designs and then a fancy lacy edge complements the picture. These designs are often seen in adult rugs using colour as the defining factor to achieve the desired effect.



Mile a minute afghans must have been created for those on the run, as these strips of crocheting are truly portable and are small enough to take anywhere. They now come in beautiful floral designs and there a few stunners out there.



My favourite are the Arans with twists and cables. They have stories to tell like the fishermen who wear Aran jumpers to keep themselves warm on the high seas.

Then of course the interesting ones would have to be the sampler afghans. When you are itching to crochet lots of designs but have time for only smaller squares, these are the answer. Combined together they look great.

Whatever the rug you choose to make, remember a little bit of you will always be there giving someone else that warm fuzzy feeling, especially if your masterpiece becomes a family heirloom.

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!

Thanks so much for sending my hankies through so quickly. And thanks for the yummy chockie and beautiful embroidered "gift" hankie too! My daughter quickly spied the extra hankie and has asked very sweetly for it! **Sarah B, West Ryde NSW**

Thanks very much for your prompt responses to my orders. **Yvonne O, Whyalla Norrie SA** Here is a picture of the blanket Yvonne made and donated to the Vic bushfire victims.



That's amazing, I ordered Thursday afternoon, and the goods arrived 9am the next morning. I'm very impressed and will definitely tell my friends. Thank you so much!

Cherie H, Maryborough Qld



Janet does a lot of hardanger work and produced this masterpiece of a runner for a friend. This is a marvelous achievement as Janet had a stroke awhile back and is stitching her way to a recovery. **Janet W, Rosebud West VIC**



I want to say a big thank you actually for all my orders over time that I have received from you, I go through snail mail and receive them fairly promptly as I am in Perth. I received my order for the arthritic pen style clover crochet hooks, what a difference they make, already crocheted a baby jacket with the size 3.00mm hook, much easier on my hands and also there was a baby leaflet that I had ordered as well and thank you so much for the chocolate bar that was in my parcel. It was really nice. Thank you so much for the excellent service I have always received from Crochet Australia. **Jennifer V, High Wycombe WA**

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 MAY 2009 period.



**Congratulations
Joanne S
COOLBELLUP WA**



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 SS2107 The Crochet Stitch Bible by Betty Barden.
(\$36.95** plus extra post)**

Have I enough yarn to finish the row?

Try to avoid running out of yarn in the middle of a row. When you think you have enough yarn left for TWO rows, tie a loose overhand knot at the centre of the remaining yarn. Work one row. If you need to undo the knot, there is not enough yarn to work the next row. Begin the next row with a new ball.



Margaret K, Hervey Bay QLD recently showed us this runner crocheted from the MYM Spanish book SELEC07 using Daphne #20 thread. (While this book is no longer available, we have this particular pattern.)

Good Morning all at Crochet Australia. I just wanted to drop you a short note to let you know that my parcel arrived this morning and how pleased I am with the items I purchased and also how pleased I am with your wonderful service. Many, many thanks. I will definitely be back to purchase more items when I can save some more cash. During the winter my daughter and I tend to do more crocheting, as we tend to hibernate with the weather being cool down here. At the moment it is 7 degrees C and I need to keep my fingers moving. **Irene H, Moss Vale NSW**



Thank you for my order, as usual you have broken all postal records again. I do knitting for a couple of charities, one in Sydney and one in Brisbane (being an ex Queenslander) and was getting bored with my old patterns. I can't wait to try the new ones. **Lyn G, Baulkham Hills NSW**



(Lyn is trying LA3202 Precious Layettes to Knit \$15.30)



Colleen K from Rockhampton QLD called in a few weeks back and stayed overnight on her way to Toowoomba. Mind you, we are no where near Toowoomba but sort of on the way if you travel by train. She does a lot of crocheting for others, but recently purchased the free form books and

is treating herself to some indulgent crocheting time. Keep up the good work Colleen.



874533
How to Free-Form Crochet
\$15.35

Thankyou for your quick response to my order. It is such a pleasure to do business with efficient people. I now have my supplies replenished....so time to start. I'm using Grandma's crochet hook - at least 100 yrs old!!!!..She taught me to crochet but I am unable to read patterns, so rely on "borrowing" doyleys. I am so pleased to find an outlet for variegated cottons. Some that I have were my Grandmother's.....and they are special. Thanks for the Fredo frog....have just eaten him!!!!. **Liz H, Alstonville NSW** (Liz is using Oren Bayan cotton perle #8 and #12 - colour charts are avialbale.)



Gwen L, Woorim QLD has been busy again with this rug from the Big Book of Afghans.

The 2009 Leukaemia Doorknock Appeal runs from 18 - 31 July - your donation will help!!

Shirley M from Margate QLD crochets these hats for charities and leukaemia patients. If YOU would like to help, simply ask for a FREE pattern by email or with your next order. You can either donate your hat to your local hospital or send to us and we will give them to the Royal Brisbane Hospital.

As most of you are aware, our granddaughter Jessie is currently undergoing treatment for leukaemia at the Royal Childrens Hospital in Brisbane on a regular basis and would be pleased to deliver these for you.





Afghan books we found



< LA75047 - \$8.30

LA75105 - \$8.30 >



< LA4592 - \$17.50

LA4423 - \$29.95* >



< LA4238 - \$52.50**

LA4422 - \$48.10** >



< LA3846 - \$13.85

LA3861 - \$21.80 >



< LA3889 - \$30.60*

LA3694 - \$19.70 >

