

Crochet Extra

52nd Edition - February 2010

Welcome to 2010 and the year is already well on the way. The desk calendar quote for 1st Jan says it all "that list of New Year Resolutions you made last year can be used again - it's as good as new." This year I have come up with something different for you. Try a new form of Crochet and you will have this skill for life. To help with the task, this month we have put together some "learn to" books so you can challenge yourself to a new beginning.

Well, as most of you know, we have made the big shift from Wamuran to Maleny - new contact details are shown in the box. Yes we are well and truly over unpacking boxes but happy to say the new relaxed life style is good for the soul and that we are fitting in as locals quite well. This building is a bit smaller and a lot older than the previous one, so not a lot of spare space but we have found a home for all the cottons, hooks and books. I just need to put the thinking cap on when it is time to pull orders. It is a bit like trying to find the bread board in someone else's kitchen.

This year we will be working more relaxed hours, so please phone before you visit. We are currently still traveling between the two locations so we do not want you to come up the mountain and miss us altogether. Also we are now in a different postal zone so your orders may be delayed by an extra day. The good news is that we still have service with a smile, and we hope to locate some more interesting products as the year rolls on.

Vicki & Ray

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PRODUCT OF THE MONTH

Forms of Crochet

This month we are discovering other forms of crochet. Here are a few to ponder:

Tunisian crochet may be called "tricot crochet", "Afghan crochet", "shepherd's knitting", "hook knitting" or "railroad knitting". Tunisian crochet uses a tricot hook which is similar to a standard knitting needle with a hook rather than a point. Each row is made by placing loops on the hook and then working them off again. The work is not turned, so one side of work, usually the front, always faces you. We also have cable Tunisian hooks to make wider articles.

Crocheters can now add the delicate tatted rings and picots to their favourite articles. **Cro-tatting** blends the delicate look of tatting and the ease of crocheting with the use of a single cro-tat hook. This hook has an extended shaft of uniform thickness from the handle and holds the thread like a tatting needle. Change between cro-tatting and crochet all in the one article, using the same hook and still achieve a delicate tatted look.

Crochet on the double, which may be called "cro-hooking", "reversible crochet" or "crochenit" is a crochet technique using a double ended hook (cro-hook) which quickly produces a soft, knit-like fabric. This technique is similar to Tunisian (tricot or afghan) crochet but uses 2 or more colours of yarn and produces a soft, reversible finish. Stitches are drawn up through either the vertical or horizontal bars with the loops left on the hook (like knitting). When all loops are on the hook the work is turned, colour is changed and the stitches are taken off in 2's or 3's or as the pattern indicates. The yarn colour is changed every 2nd row so there are no ends to sew in later, just run them up the side of the work. Crochet on the double appears to be called "crochenit"

when thicker yarn and hooks of 9mm or more (crochenit hooks) are used.

Broomstick Lace (jiffy lace, peacock eye crochet) is worked using a crochet hook and a large knitting needle. Using a larger knitting needle as the loom will create a lacy fabric. Broomstick Lace can be worked in conjunction with normal crochet and is quick for shawls and clothing.

Hairpin lace crochet is worked in strips using a U frame (known as a hairpin staple) and a crochet hook. The strips are then worked together to create edges, doilies, garments, rugs and bags.

Plastic bag, rag crochet and fleece crochet use recycled plastic bag or strips of fabric to create wonderful crocheted items usually worked on a larger hook. Good one for using up all the excess bits in the cupboard.

Filet crochet uses squares and blanks to create a picture within a mesh. The open mesh forms the background. Used for doilies, rugs and wall pictures.

Tapestry crochet uses multiple colours of yarns and is worked in dc to create beautiful designs used where a denser fabric is required.

Freeform crochet or scrambling is the crocheters form of using a hook and yarn instead of paint and a brush to create a canvas from within. With this technique your crocheting is never wrong, just a unique piece you will create and add to many more colourful pieces to form a shawl or a bag with chosen colours and textures of yarn and the type of crochet that flow from your hook.

Now that we have given you a glimpse of what you can do - the rest is up to you - be brave and try a different form of crochet!!



CROCHETER'S CORNER and Masterpieces of the Month



Following are comments from our customers this month. Please email or drop us a line if you wish to share your views, your creation or crochet humour with our newsletter readers.

We would like to thank all our customers for their Christmas cards, Christmas wishes and good luck thoughts with the shift. Yes it did make the transition easier. So a BIG THANKS to all. **Vicki**

Thanks

Late in 2008 I purchased black Panda regal cotton from you to crochet my granddaughter's formal dress. The formal was in November 2009. Thought you'd like to see the results. Thanks for all your help. **Yvonne D of Keperra QLD**



Just received the parcel and wish to thank your for such prompt service. It's absolute pleasure doing business with you.

Mirjana Z of Biggera Waters QLD

Thank you for your help over the past year, especially the mauve cotton. It matched my doll perfectly and the free gifts. I am looking forward to making the pin cushion "Hearts-a-plenty".

Val P of Yarrawarrah NSW



I would like to thank you and your staff for the great service and quality products you offer to your customers and also wish you good luck in the last stage of your moving. While moving is horrible, what is at the other end when all is done is fabulous. Hugs to all.

Summer J L of Upper Fern Tree Gully VIC

We have shared some pictures of our move further on in the newsletter, to give you an idea of how it all went.

My order of some Almina yarn arrived today. Love, love LOVE this yarn! Many thanks to Ray for his help in coordinating some colours for me! They look terrific and I can't wait to start working them up. And arrived so fast too. It's a bit of a bummer you are moving further away – I wish I had discovered you earlier! I only live at Redcliffe but with 2 girls under three sometimes it's easier to order over the phone. **Deanne R of Redcliffe QLD**



Lorraine L of Crows Nest QLD showed us these runners late last year. The oval above is from Crochet Monthly 278 using #20 cotton and the runner below is from an Ondori book My Crochet Laces using Cebelia #20 cotton.



Happy Hookers Competition

The Crochet Australia Team is proud to announce the winners of our "Happy Hookers Competition" who will receive a \$20 gift voucher. These are the winners from the Nov & Dec 2009 period.



Congratulations
Jan W, Maleny QLD
Susan W, Kahibah NSW



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



Another use for knitting needle tip protectors.

Jan T of Hamilton Vic tells us that she uses one of the smaller knitting tip protectors on the sharp points of her embroidery scissors.

Learn with DVDs

When learning a new skill, DVDs are great as you can replay over and over again till you get it right. We have DVDs on crochet, knitting and tatting, including a new 3 DVD set on everything crochet.

Shirley L of Kallungar QLD called late last year and showed us her "garden". This is a pic of just some of her work using 8ply acrylic, from the book SM3975 Flowers to Knit & Crochet.



Good luck with your moving venture. Hope that everything goes smoothly with the move to your new home of Crochet Australia. I thank you for all your good work in keeping all of us crochet fans so interested in the work that we have achieved through your help. I am working on a doiley from the book - "Enchanting & Elegant Ladies" which I purchased from you (*but is no longer available*). The pattern has 6 crinoline ladies around it edged with a cro-tat border. I am pleased with the way the cro-tatting is going.

Merrilyn T of Mornington VIC

Our lace group is having a party on Saturday, and it only occurred to me this morning that balls of Venus thread (perfect for bobbin lace) would be an ideal Christmas Present from me to everyone. **Noelene L of Cooma NSW** Noelene bought our mixed box of 20 Venus and yes it is an economical way to share a small gift with others.



Just wanted to say thank you for the great job you do with CrochetAustralia. I have been a user of your small books for years and I have had many happy hours of crochet and knitting. I discovered your web site only this year, by accident, when I was looking for 4ply cotton. My friend and I now have the full range of colours for the new cotton and it is great to work with. Crochets up beautifully. Your service is great. We could not believe it when we placed our first joint order and it came the next day. We thought that it was a bit of a fluke. But, the next two orders came the next day as well. And all orders since. Awesome!!!!!!!!!!!!!! The bickies and the chocolates are a great touch, and great to munch on whilst checking out your order. **Carolyn C of Fitzgibbon QLD**



Just a really quick note to say thank you so much for the Kimberli Jacket Pattern, I've only just this second opened it - haven't read the newsletter yet, and I LOVE it, the jacket that is. Gorgeous, and so many options with it. So thank you very much, I was a bit worried that I might

miss out because of your big shift, but heaved a sigh of relief to see the parcel in the mail. Congratulations on a fantastic business and I hope after the exhaustion of your big move your business only gets bigger and better, but I know it can't get any better customer service wise, you guys are the best in Australia.

And a further comment from Jo about a previous newsletter item: I love FILET crochet, I find the patterns (*diagrams*) SO simple and easy to follow, no translation needed just use as if you were following a cross stitch chart. Obviously this lady didn't really LOOK at the patterns, she just saw Spanish and said "Oh no no puedo entender el espanol lo voy a hacer?" Which translates to "Oh no, I can't understand Spanish, what will I do? I find reading (*word*) patterns SO difficult, especially the American ones. Yes I know we can translate to the British/Australian way, but bwah, why oh why can't they publish both in one book? Just smile!!!

Jo K of Watsonia VIC



Thought I would let you know that my order arrived about lunchtime today and I spent quite a few hours halving the tea-towels and overlocking tops and bottoms of each half. My dear MIL (90 years old!) will be thrilled with her selection (though I did keep some for myself along with the cottons). The colours of the crochet cottons are fabulous and I am very happy with my selection. Thanks

for your great service and be assured that I shall order again when we have ploughed through our stash of towels.

Gail O of Leichhardt QLD



I have found that your **BK21 More Jug Covers** book and the patterns in it are so simple and easy to follow. Some patterns I've tried are a little vague or tell you things in a back to front order, but not yours. They are just fantastic. I have made 4 and looking forward to making more.

Melanie S of Thornbury Vic

Thankyou for your prompt service. I really love the Fincrochet #50. It is lovely to crochet with and the knots slide beautifully when I use it to tat. **Jewel M of Kurri Kurri NSW**

We stock this quality European made Egyptian cotton thread (Presencia Finca Crochet Cotton) in basic colours in sizes 30 and 50 in 50g balls and also white and ecru in 80 and 100. Sizes 60, 80 and 100 are also available in white in 20g balls.

Thank you so very much for processing my order so quickly. I was aware that you were on a break, and didn't expect you to send it till after next weekend when you are officially back. So thank you so much, it was much appreciated. **Barbara B of Dunlop ACT**

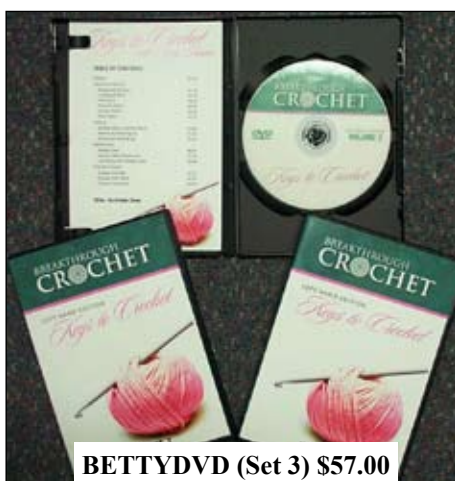


Look what we found!!

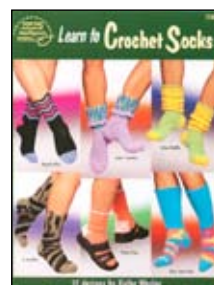
The following list of books / DVDs generally provide instructions on how to learn specific techniques. We hope you will find something here to inspire you to try something new. Go on - live dangerously!!



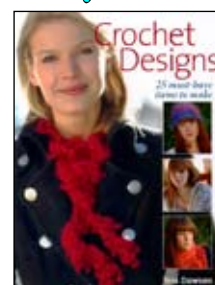
743X \$11.00



BETTYDVD (Set 3) \$57.00



ASN1308 \$15.95



CL4347 \$29.95*



ASN1390 \$15.30



LA3914DVD \$32.90



LA3912DVD \$32.90



ASN1304 \$32.60*



ASN1387 \$13.35



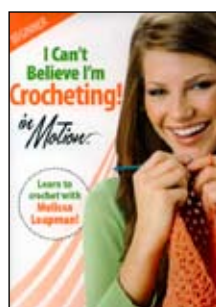
CL833X \$29.95**



ASN1373 \$13.35



LA3911DVD \$32.90



LA3915DVD \$32.90



LA4253 \$21.80



KP12272 \$15.95



LA107450DVD \$32.90

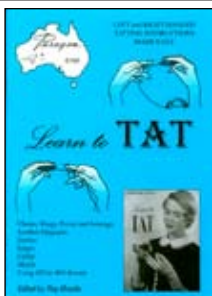


ASN1413 \$13.40



CL6208 \$24.95

Prices with * or ** indicate extra postage may apply.



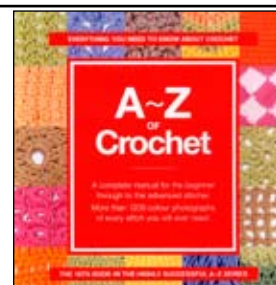
PARC104 \$8.95



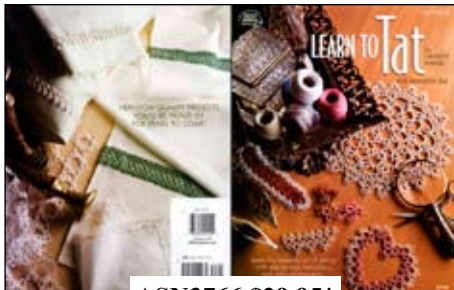
PARC126 \$8.95



ASN1281 \$17.40



AS7639 \$34.95**



ASN3766 \$29.95*



ASN1354 \$18.50



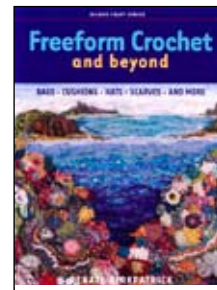
LA4263 \$28.75*



878543 \$15.95



LA75071 \$8.30



SM3852 \$44.95



ASN1428 \$35.70*



ASN1351 \$13.35



875564 \$14.20



878531 \$15.95



ASN1458 \$15.95



SS2794 \$39.95*



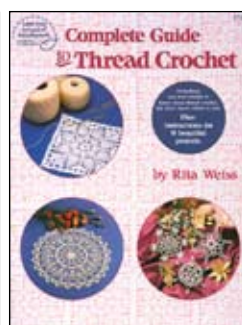
LA4423 \$29.95*



ASN1453 \$16.95



GC45107 \$10.00



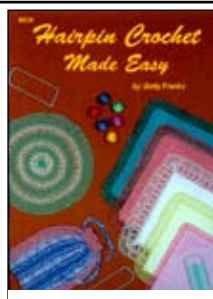
ASN1186 \$13.90



LA2887 \$17.10



ASN5101W \$8.95



BK29 \$8.95



SS2107 \$36.95



ASN1438 \$18.50



874053 \$14.30



SM3248 \$44.95**



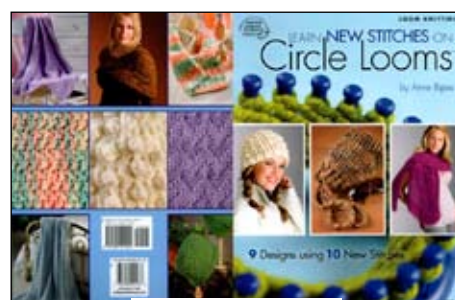
ASN1291 \$14.95



121026 \$19.55



ASN1405 \$16.95



ASN1433 \$16.95



LA4484 \$27.90*



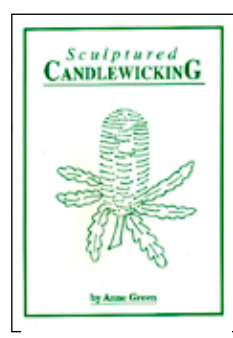
PAT1239 \$9.70**



SP2244 \$52.95**



GC71108 \$10.00



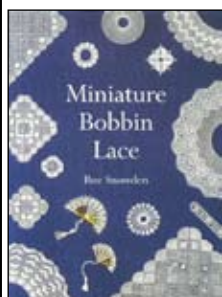
BKAG01 \$8.95



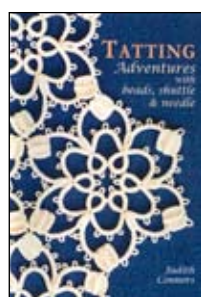
LA4466 \$32.20*



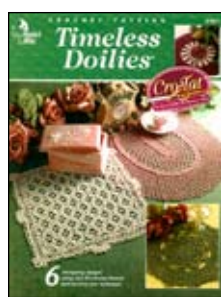
FA1086 \$39.75*



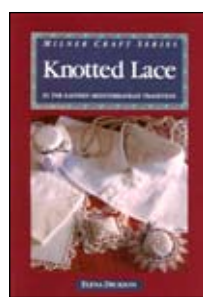
A0867 \$34.95**



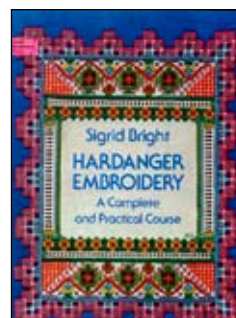
LE77 \$39.95



872811 \$14.70



S1210 \$29.95**



DV5920 \$12.95



CP9159 \$18.95

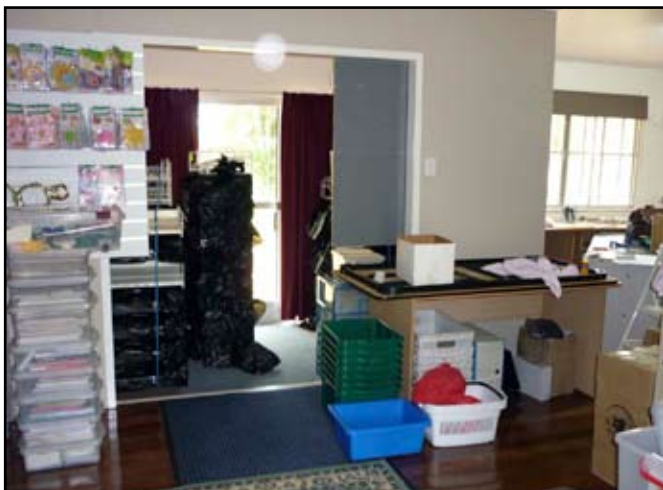
Some pictures of our move.



From order (above) to chaos (below) - packing to leave Wamuran



We made it to Maleny, hope it all fits - even brought the windmill!!



MOVING CAN BE SO MUCH FUN!!