

# Crochet Extra

99<sup>th</sup> Edition - May 2014

**H**appy Mothers' Day to all the Mums, Grandmums and those who have always been like a mum to someone. We hope you have a relaxing day and perhaps even enjoy some crocheting.

Have you ever wondered what a day is like in the world of Crochet Australia. For a start no two are ever the same. The day usually begins with down loading orders off the internet, perhaps a visit into the post office to check the PO box for orders, or payments of accounts and then back to the desk to log in all the orders and type up the labels - you know those sticky labels that no longer stick to the new improved Aust post satchels so we have to use sticky tape to keep them on!! By now the phone is ringing and as I chat my way through each call, I somehow manage to pull all the orders and put them in tubs with their appropriate labelled postal satchels, working out postal charges and doing dyslexic adding up as I go.



Then there are the morning visitors and they have a play in the threads and the books, we are solving the world's problems as we go. Laden with lots of goodies Sammy sees them to the gate to say goodbye. Then it is back to the desk for more phone calls and labels before the lunch time hungries set in. You can always guarantee a phone call then as well, so lunch is on the hop.



During the morning Ray has the exciting job of doing all the accounting which seems to be a never ending battle, making lots of coffee, playing check out chick for the visitors and answering the phone when I just do not seem to be able to do the length of the building quick enough. It seems I spend a lot of time in the thread rooms missing those calls. Of course there are courier deliveries to contend with as well and so Ray is out there with the wheels for the heavy boxes.

After lunch Ray spends several hours putting all the orders through the system, checking address labels, my adding up, dyelots of the threads etc making sure that everything goes out correctly. Some where in that time I busily pack the orders, answer calls, emails and download more orders and follow through as per the morning procedures. Some days the afternoons are chaos, but we always seem to get it finished. Then it is time to do the daily balances etc, fill the canvas postal sacks with all the parcels, drag them to the car and off to the post office. That afternoon coffee after the post office visit is the time to relax. Sometimes we fit in a walk with Sammy to clear the cobwebs of the day.



Then Ray's back in the office doing website updates and I am unpacking wholesale orders which create more paper work, and when time permits fax off more orders to the suppliers. By then it's time to go home. Towards the end of the month we test ourselves writing, printing and packaging the newsletter. That has to be the biggest challenge of all - so enjoy!!

Vicki

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## Nick-Nacks

Like everyone else, I have scraps of thread and yarn and stash them away in tubs and boxes, and yes maybe I will use them up one day. I relate my room of bits to a smaller version of Ray's shed. You know - the man cave of total rubbish that you go into to tidy up because he is too busy or too tired or my favourite, there's nothing untidy about my shed, I just can't find things. Yes ladies, our stash is at least methodical to us, even when strewn across the lounge room floor in exacting piles or hiding in baskets near your favourite chair. You know - that favourite chair that gobbles up crochet hooks, pins, small scissors, the odd pencil and sewing up needles. The extra contents must be worth more than the chair over a lifetime.

My stash also includes beads, buttons and fabrics just too precious to throw away. I must admit a few years ago I gave my treasures away to several people and I bet most of it still sits in their stash. That's what we do, we redistribute our wealth and happiness. How often has some well meaning person given you a bag of bits they think you can crochet up into a useful rug or two.

So this month let's see what we can come up with to help use up those bits and pieces, referred to by some as stash busters and perhaps turn them into nick-nacks or usable gifts. First things that come to mind are bookmarks, pin cushions, dishcloths, tea cosies, ornaments, small doilies, gloves and mittens, coathangers, jug covers, small toys, granny squares, flowers and small pillows. Hint is that if you have cheapie acrylic yarn/4ply cotton that you wish you had never bought, run a thin crochet cotton with it for strength and it becomes usable. Great for making bags of all shapes and sizes. Also with those smaller bits make pompoms, tassels, button covers, hair accessories, jewellery, small purses and more.

We also stock small tools that turn these pieces of yarn or fabric into flowers and cords. Maybe a rag rug is your next project. So this month lets have a mid year resolution to use up those bits and reduce the stash. Perhaps you have other ideas you would like to share with us.



*Look at the stash busters we found!!*



**ACCKNITFRENCH - French Knitting**  
Nancy SB \$9.50



**ACCFLOWERLOOM - Clover Flower**  
Loom (Art3146) \$32.65



**LA4748 Triangle Treasury** \$16.40



**LA4419 Crochet Embellishments**  
\$48.10\*\*



**ACCBKADKNITTER Clover French**  
Knitter Bead Jewellery Maker \$21.95



**BEADPOMIX75G - Plastic Jug Beads,**  
8mm, Opaque Mixed (Pkt 75g/260  
beads) \$11.00



**ACCBUT18MIX Pkt of 18mm buttons**  
assorted colours \$7.50



**LA3967 Purses for Sassy Girls** \$17.10



**ACCEMBKNIT - Embellish Knit**  
Automatic Spool Knitter \$29.50



**HOOKHAIRPINC - Hair Pin Lace**  
Tool (Clover) \$28.20



**LA4014 Crochet Overlay Jewelry**  
\$26.20\*



**LA2039 Fancy Feet** \$8.50





**LA4013 Crochet Flowers For Every Wear \$21.80**



**GC31107 Chocolate Sweets & Treats \$10.00**



**879541 Little Things Decorate/Adorn/Embellish \$15.00**



**LA4178 Breit little things in Thread Crochet \$20.25**



**CS0202 Victorian Crocheted Treasures \$7.35**



**879519 Itty Bitty Animals \$17.95**



**HHT374 Button Abecedarius \$17.95 (TAT)**



**CS0201 Quick Crochet Gifts \$7.35**



**SP7066 Crocheted Flowers 20 to Make \$12.95**



**GCSK01107 Knitted Yummies \$10.00**



**ASN1260 Orchard Urchins \$12.20**



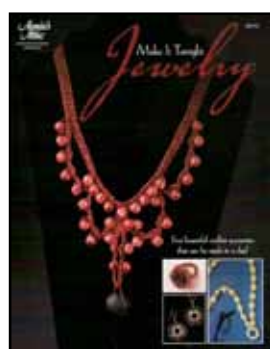
**SP6663 Tasty Knits Made with Love \$21.95\*\* (KNIT)**



**GC46107 Holiday Sweets & Treats \$10.00**



**885112 Make it Tonight Jewelry \$9.95**



**SP6335 Crocheted Bears 20 to Make \$11.95**





**SP6069 Knitted Mug Hugs 20 to make \$11.95 (KNIT)**



**S4170 - 75 Birds, Bees, B'flies & Bugs \$34.95\*\***



**NB2864 Fantastical Hats and Beanies \$19.95\*\***



**SP5406 Knitted Fruit 20 to Make \$10.95 (KNIT)**



**S4408 100 Lace Flowers to Crochet \$39.95\*\***



**MCPA915 Marnie Milk Dolls \$11.75**



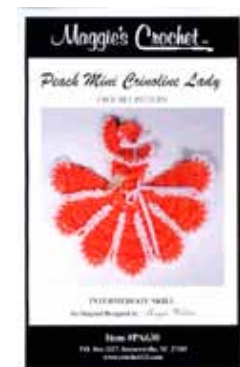
**SP5390 Knitted Vegetables 20 to Make \$10.95 (KNIT)**



**P5302 Tiny Yarn Animals - Amigurumi \$19.95\***



**MCPA630 Peach Mini Crinoline Lady Pattern \$11.75**



**SP3617 Knitted Cakes 20 to Make \$12.95 (KNIT)**



**BK09 Keep it Cosy \$12.95 (Knit & Cro)**



**BK28 A Crocheted Library of Bookmarks \$12.95**



**SM3975 - 100 Flowers to Knit & Crochet \$39.95\*\***



**BK16 Kitchen Towels \$12.95 (Knit & Crochet)**



**LA5152 A Zoo for You \$13.95**

