



# Crochet Extra

102<sup>nd</sup> Edition - August 2014

July was the beginning of a new chapter for Crochet Australia, with its new owner, Lynda, but it also represents the beginning of a new chapter in her life too.

## Message from Lynda:

*I'm Lynda Tomkins - the new owner of Crochet Australia. I learnt to crochet when I was a youngster - taught to me by my mother - when I lived in rural Queensland. It was only when I started my career as an accountant (and all the study that goes with that) that I put it all down. I then didn't really pick it up again until many years later when my son was born - 9 years ago. This has slowly reignited my creative side, and after 25 years as an accountant, I've decided to put down the pen and spend more time with yarn and needles.*



*While my time as an accountant has been rewarding, allowing me to visit, live and work in many countries around the world, it has also been very demanding, and I am very much looking forward to a change. But ending one chapter takes time. I'm wrapping up my current life in Sydney and moving back to Queensland - this time to the Sunshine Coast. Fortunately*

*Vicki and Ray have agreed to stay on and manage the business during this time. This means that things won't really change.*

*While I don't have the experience and depth of knowledge that Vicki has for all of the products, I am enthusiastic and learn quickly. My passion is to bring back crochet as a widely practiced art - in both adults and children - and I'd like your ideas and support on how to do this.*

Lynda

We have had many customers concerned about the possible changes to Crochet Australia. The answer to all the questions is yes. Yes you can still visit the premises, or phone, ask questions, have a chat, place your order as you usually do, know that we do care about your order and it will be dispatched as soon as possible. Remember some of those difficult requests sometimes take a bit longer.



The biggest yes has to be that Ray and I are 100% behind Lynda and only a phone call/email/45 minute drive from her new premises and we will be there to help when she feels the need. We are still her support team and wish to see this business grow to the next level. So hang on tight and follow my old dream, which has become Lynda's future, and see where this takes us. We are still proud to be part of the process and the many years of building this great business has been an enjoyable challenge and our reward will be seeing Lynda's success.

Vicki

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## Jewellery



This month we are having a look at Jewellery making, the methods, the tools and cottons, and the books.

For us threadies this is a good way to use up some of those smaller scraps of yarn, to make flower brooches and earrings, hair clips and of course a matching bracelet. If you want to add some glitz to these we have the #30 Metallic Klasik in 12 colours that is great for tatting, crocheting and knitting. If you prefer a thicker glitz yarn then you cannot go past the Excel metallic yarn in 16 colours. Almost any thread or yarn can be used, remembering the thicker the thread the chunkier the article and of course the faster to make.

With today's fashion trends it seems that almost anything goes. I have seen the humble button made into great necklaces both crocheted and tatted. Shells, beads both glass and plastic, metallic bits and keepsakes can always be incorporated into your creation and of course to recycle is a bonus.



If you can only manage a chain stitch in crochet then there is a simple necklace in 871407 Fun with Colour Thread. Or perhaps knitting/crochet/tatting are not for you then we have the Clover Jewellery maker, the Knit Wonder and the Embellish - Knit. The tools themselves come with instructions and ideas to follow.

The beauty of making your own jewellery is that you can then make other accessories like little amulet bags and belts that mix and match your wardrobe. With a little bit of imagination and the series of books we have found for you on the subject, that creative genius hiding within will surprise you every time.



Perhaps this month email or post us some pictures of your creations that you are happy to share with the world. We all like to be inspired by others.



## 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!

When reading your story by Wendo & Baz D re Clover Amour crochet hooks, in your recent newsletter, I thought you may be able to pass on what I do when I use fine hooks. At the moment I'm using #60 thread and 0.75mm hook and I use a piece of LEUKOSILK 2.5cm available from Pharmacies. By using this piece of plaster (and it is white) I do not get a sore finger with holes etc. Yes, the new Clover hooks are very good but mostly I'm using arthritic ones. Sorry to hear that you have sold but pleased for you that a new door has opened for you and please enjoy your life. I'm doing that at the moment, after being so ill last year and I'm back into this fine crochet again. It has been a pleasure to work with you both. Best to you both, kindest regards from **Lesley E and Nelson S Innisfail QLD.**



**Rita C of Macquarie Field NSW** has a beautiful rug and pillow to share. This is a photo of the last afghan worked with Purple Mums, a bit different to the pattern as I alternated the squares one plain one flower, not a very good photo but my 80 year old friend loved it. I do scrapbooking and made a card with the same flowers with Maxi #10 to match. It was a white embossed card and the ribbon was also a mauve colour.



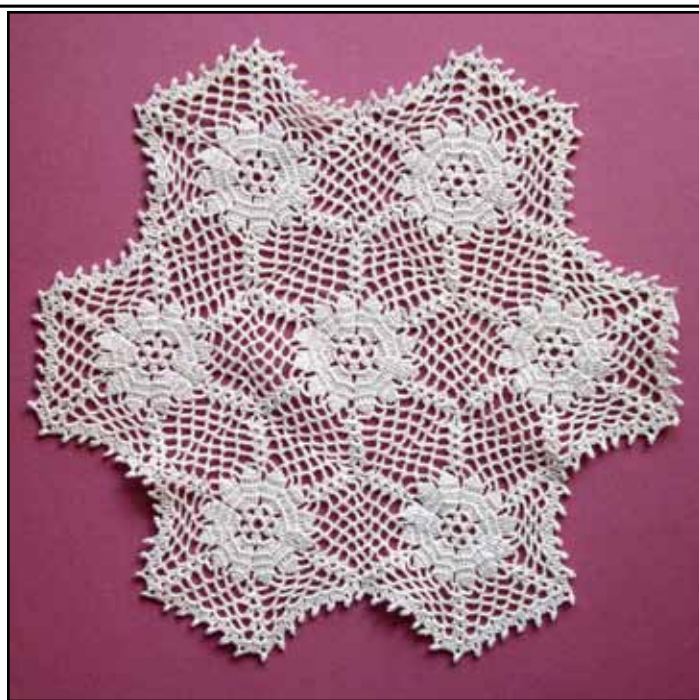
**YO L of Gympie QLD**, has shown us a couple more of her inspirational rugs from CL3059 Heirloom Afghans to Knit & Crochet (above) and LA108213 Best Loved Afghans (below) using our 8ply Dazzle yarn.





Sorry to hear you will be 'going' later in the year. I still haven't been to see you again (nearly 7 years since I called - and spent up - to your Wamuran place) but will get there one day and meet Lynda. I haven't had much time to do anything great with my crochet work since I moved but hope to get back to it soon. The patchwork has gone to the basket too! Hope you both enjoy your new life when you get away from the business. Will you be doing work with your patterns? If so keep the crochet ones going. Thanks for your help over the years. **Marg D, Yangan QLD.**

Thank you for the service over the past few years. Have always meant to get out to see your new premises, but each time have been thwarted. As you're aware, have been working on New Zealand designs (some of which you have already published in newsletters). Here is the latest. Like the last, it's using DMC Cébélia #20 cotton (Col. 3865). The pattern is based on one by Yoko Suzuki in Crochet Monthly Number 72 (1985). Enjoy your 'retirement', which will possibly be much like ours - working in a different direction. My husband has just turned 74 and continues his accounting practice; I remain teaching. We just take more time to explore the world. Between heart attacks and cancer strikes, we're making every moment count. **Sheryl M, New Zealand.**



**Dorrie B of Lower Tent Hill QLD** called in recently and showed us some of her prize winning exhibits using Cebelia #20 cotton.



The crochet hats were really good and much easier than knitting with four needles. I haven't tried the knitted ones yet, but will be shortly, as the son and daughter in law want more. Thank you for your good advice and magic service. I am pleased you will be able to do what you have in mind now you have sold. Will surely miss your wonderful approach to every inquiry that you have helped me with. All the best for the future, but no doubt will be in touch before you leave in October. **Yvonne A, Woodridge QLD.**



Sorry to know that you are going ,but know there are things you both want to do so I am pleased for you both but have mixed feelings and will miss you. **Julie P, Green Point NSW.**





You have put many years into your business and certainly deserve a break now that you and your husband have sold the business. However you will be very missed. You have given me such great prompt service. You have always answered my queries and emails that day. I thank you so much for the service. It certainly has been an asset to my business to get such great service, good quality goods and the range of colours in the yarns have been so good. I wish you and your Husband a happy future.

**Di's Gifts of Elegance, Dubbo NSW.**

**Shirley S of Caboolture QLD** sent us this picture of a cape from Patons 520 which specified Bluebell 5ply but Shirley used 8ply.



Just read your newsletter and see that you have sold your business. I guess you must be pleased about this, but I have to say that I will be sad not to know that I can count on your expertise. I would like to thank you for all the help you have given to me over the years and I wish you and Ray all the best. It must be the season for it, we have sold our business and are in the midst of finalising it and hopefully early next year will be moving up to Maroochydore for a few months before going to Bli Bli. Take care and I hope if you are retiring, it will be all you have hoped for if you have another venture in mind hope it is very successful for you.

**Elaine R, Cornubia QLD.**

**Gloria J of Gatton QLD** forwarded us this pic of her recent doll creation.



**Lorraine S of Kingaroy QLD** called in recently to show us some of her show winning exhibits. The pretty layette above is from 871209 Heart's Delight Baby Layettes and the eye catching rug below certainly stands out in the crowd.



I'm glad for you both that you have sold Crochet Australia but Australian and other crocheters will miss you very much. Your fantastic stock and knowledge, combined with great business efficiency and excellent service have been outstanding. Thank you and best wishes for a happy third age.

**Barbara B, Drummoyne NSW.**





## Look at the Jewellery ideas we found!!

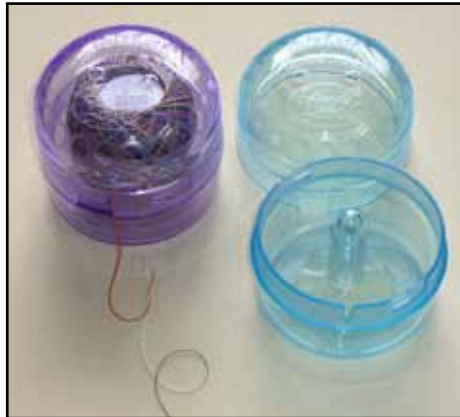


**Excel Metallic Yarn 20g ball, \$4.35ea**



TA2 Silver, TA5 Red, TA23 Light Gold, TA1 Old Gold, TA6 Lilac, TA96 Purple, TA95 Mauve, TA19 Green, TA12 Magenta, TA91 Turquoise, TA3 Aqua, TA4 Royal, TA13 Blue, TA46 Copper, TA9 White, TA99 Charcoal.

**Lizbeth Thread and Ball Holder \$14.95**



Consists of a 25g ball of Lizbeth #20 thread with a durable poly carbonate plastic ball holder. Available in : Purple, Teal, Green, Pink, Red, Clear Sparkle

*Note: Books with \* or \*\* after price indicates heavy book and extra post may apply.*

**871120 How to Crochet Bead-Tube Jewelry plus DVD \$22.95\***



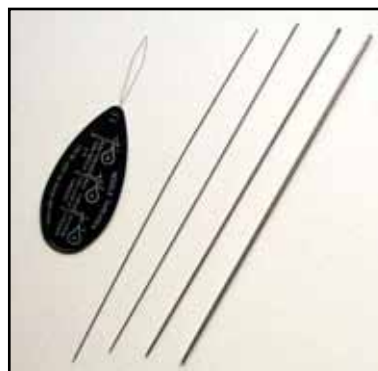
**LA4014 Crochet Overlay Jewelry \$26.20\***



**Clover Wonder Knitter \$13.95**



**Set of 3 thread tatting needles (+ 1 FREE needle) \$18.95**



**LA4395 Elegant Wire & Bead Cro Jewelry \$18.05**



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



**Set of 3 yarn tatting needles \$24.95**

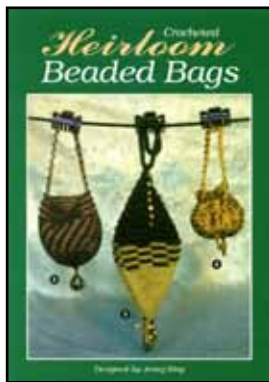


**876501 Wire & Bead Crochet Wonders \$18.30**

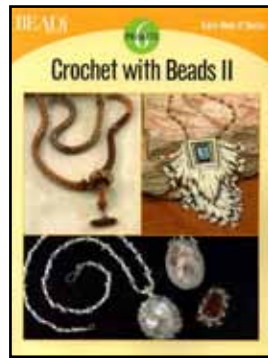




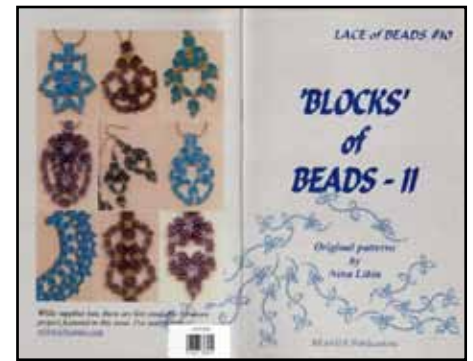
TFDHB Crocheted Heirloom Beaded Bags \$12.10



KP12303 Crochet with Beads II \$15.95



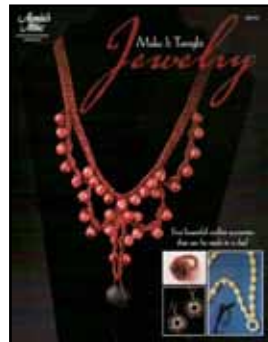
HHT286 Lace of Beads #10 - Blocks of Beads II \$12.10 (Tatting)



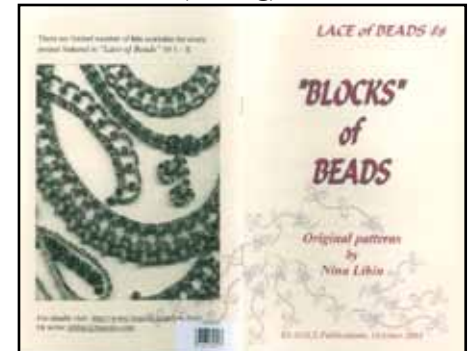
875560 Beautiful Beaded Necklaces \$13.45



885112 Make it Tonight Jewelry \$8.95



HHT274 Lace of Beads 8 - Tatting Blocks \$13.50 (Tatting)



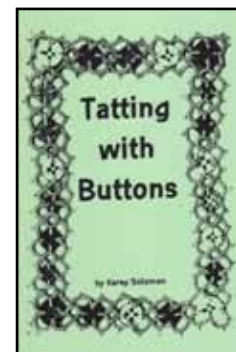
LA3962 Crocheted Wire & Bead Jewelry \$19.95



121073 Little Knitted Jewels \$19.95\*



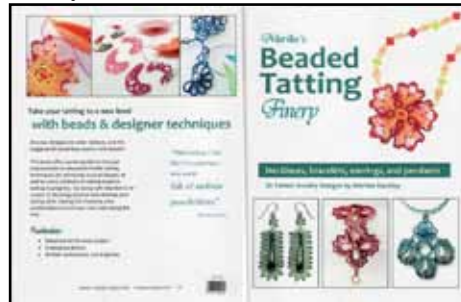
HHT135 Tatting with Buttons 1 \$14.95



LA3656 Beaded Beauties to Crochet \$22.15



HHT424 Marilee's Beaded Tatting Finery \$51.95



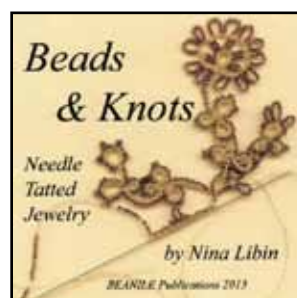
HHT143 It's in the Bag \$23.95 (Tatting)



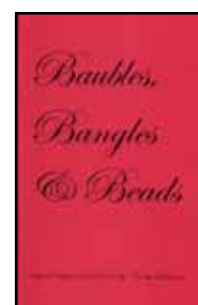
NMTA07761 Crocheted Hearts & Flowers \$17.95



HHTCD25 Beads & Knots Needle Tatted Jewelry (CD) \$37.95



HHT361 Baubles Bangles & Beads (Tat) \$14.35



**HHT354 Up and Tat 'Em \$42.95 (Tat)**



**HHT373 Crochet and Tatting Lace (Japanese) \$59.95\*\***



**HHT336 Boutique Tatting \$43.95**



**HHT353 Tatting Jewellery \$29.95\*\***



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



**LA75136 Dazzling Mini Bags \$9.30 (Knit)**



We take this opportunity to thank you all for your best wishes for our future without Crochet Australia. Many of you have wondered what we will do on our "retirement" to keep ourselves busy. Well - rest assured we have plenty to keep our minds and bodies active for years to come. As we are staying here at the same property in Reesville, we plan to have a well earned break for a few months then throw our energy back into the garden and our publishing business, Craft Moods, both of which have been sadly neglected for many years. We need to publish a few crochet books Vicki has written but Ray has yet to proof and along with creating new crochet patterns we will try to resurrect some of the old Paragon patterns that are buried in our archives and we hope to stay in contact with Crochet Australia, through Lynda, to keep up with all the news.

For those of you who may not know, Craft Moods is a family operated business that has been concentrating on the design, publication and distribution of Australian craft related patterns and crochet/knitting/needlework books since 1990. Paragon crochet, tatting, knitting and craft books have been distributed throughout Australia since the 1930's. Craft Moods took over the copyright and publishing of all Paragon publications in July 1995, and is in the long process of revising and republishing many of the old books that have been out of print for decades.

Crochet Australia stocks the full Craft Moods range of publications and patterns, but please visit our web site at [www.craftmoods.com.au](http://www.craftmoods.com.au) to find out more.

Ray & Vicki