



# Crochet Extra

108th Edition- March 2015

February proved to be a very interesting month with the effects of Cyclone Marcia passing our way. While we didn't get the high winds that those further North did, we did get lots of rain. Given we are so high up the Maroochy River I hadn't expected to see the effects of the king tides. I was very surprised to look outside my window the first day of all the rain to discover that my backyard had gone and had become part of the river - it was all so quick. By next morning, it had all gone, to arrive again by the middle of the day.

Fortunately our house and the business are high up on our block out of reach of the water, and we were able to continue to fill your orders.



We've had quite a few visitors during the past few

weeks, bringing in their projects. Some are still works in progress and I'm looking forward to seeing the finished result. There are certainly some talented people out there, and we feature some of their projects in our Customers Corner.

Thank you also for the feedback and the information on the charities you are involved with. As expected, they are very varied. A full list is included on our website and will be updated on a regular basis.

Our major new product this month is the Addi Swing Crochet Hooks. Addi is a German company, and have introduced this new range of crochet hooks with ergonomic handles. If your wrists ache when you crochet, then these may be the answer. This adds to our extensive range of hooks, leading to both our theme and tip for this month - crochet hooks.

Lynda



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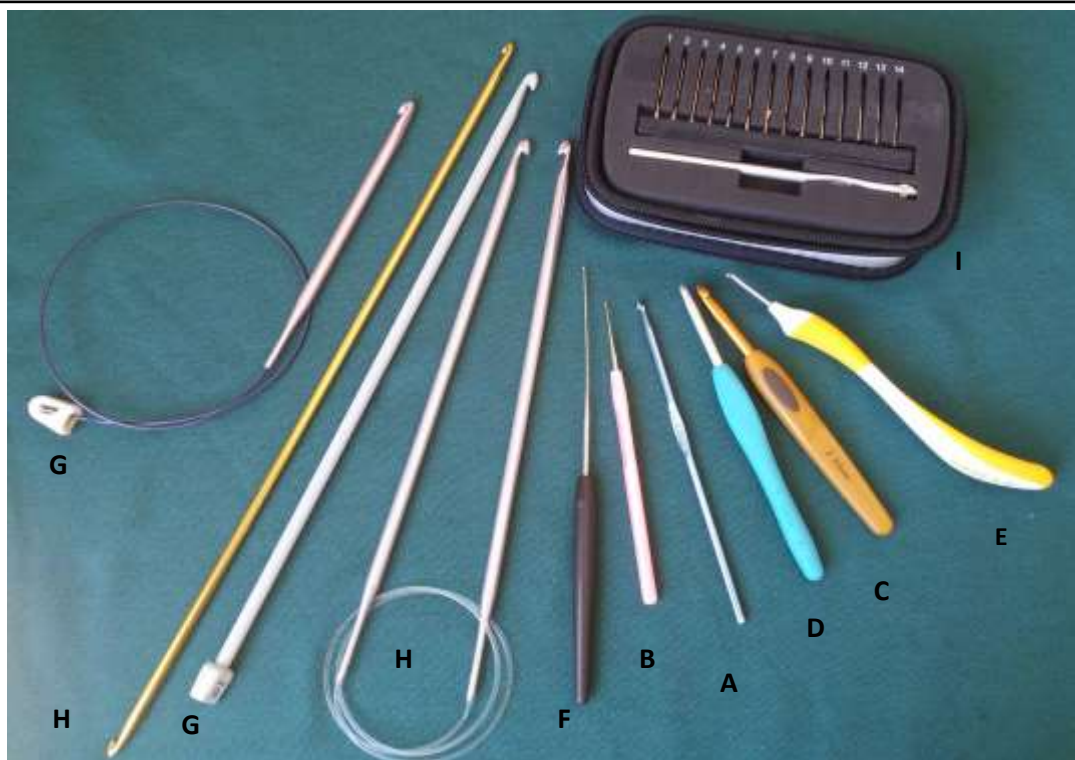
## Theme of the Month - Focus on hooks

People are generally overwhelmed when they come into our shop and see the 'hook wall' - the amazing array of hooks that are available - and of course we don't stock all of the hooks that are on the market. If there are hooks you would like us to stock, please drop a line and I will look into it.



So our focus this month is the hooks that we sell and how they are all used. The picture on the next page, is a sample of the different hooks - each of which is explained in the next two pages.

- A Steel/aluminium hooks (Boye and Lotus)** - standard crochet hooks. Steel is used for the thinner hooks for strength (generally up to 3mm) and aluminium for the larger sizes, keeping them light. Steel hooks are suitable for working with thread. Birch and Susan Bates also available as a set.
- B Gold-tipped hooks (Suzanne's and Addi)** - tips of fine steel hooks are coated making them suitable for working with very fine thread - strong and easier to see.
- C Soft Touch (Clover)** - ergonomic handle brings relief to arthritis sufferers. The handle is wider and flat with a soft pad for the grip, for those who use a 'pen-like' grip.
- D Amour (Clover)** - are great for beginners. Non-slip ergonomic handles fit comfortably in the palm of the hand, and the head has a deeper throat.



**E** Swing (Addi) - ergonomic handle brings relief to aching wrists. The handle is curved to fit comfortably into the hand, and great for those who use a 'knife-like' grip. These are new to Crochet Australia – see our new products for more details.

**F** Cro-tat Hook (Lacis) - ideal for bullion stitch and lace making. It has a long shank with a consistent diameter, small throat and no finger/thumb grip, for even stitches.

**G** Tricot/Tunisian/Afghan Hook (Birch and Boye)- a crochet hook with a long shank of the same diameter without a finger group, to hold many stitches, for Tunisian crochet. Also comes in a swivel or flexible hook for wide work (Susan Bates and Bamboo). Bamboo hooks are reported to result in less stress on your wrist and hand when crocheting.

**H** Double-ended Hook (Boye and Susan Bates) – has a long smooth shank with no grip with identical sized heads at each end. Used for a variation of Tunisian crochet when using two colours. Also comes with a swivel or flexible hook for wide work.

**I** Interchangeable Hooksets (Boye and Denise) - one handle where the hook can be changed for the size needed.

There are also numerous books that explain how to use the different hooks. In the section Look What We Found we feature these hooks and the various sets available and suitable books.

**Australia Post have announced price increases to some of their services. This will mainly effect the cost of postage of large parcels and some small books. The postage information on our website has been updated to reflect this, as has the postage information on our mail order forms.**

**This also means the subscription to receive a hard-copy of this newsletter will rise. From March, a 12 month subscription (to receive 11 issues) will be \$13.00.**





## Tip of the Month



### *Which crochet hook should I use?*

Whether you are starting out crocheting, or looking to change your hook to crochet your next project, how do you determine which hook to use, given the range on the market? The best hook for you will depend on your own crochet style and habits and the project you are doing. Things to consider include:

1. How do you hold your hook – do you use a 'pen' hold - a 'knife' hold? While the steel/aluminium hooks can be held either way, the Soft Touch hooks are more suited to those who use a pen hold, while the Addi Swing hooks are more suited to those using a knife hold.
2. Are you a tight or loose crocheter? If you are a tight crocheter, you want to use hook with an inline throat (such as Susan Bates and Amour) rather than a tapered throat (such as Boye and Lotus).
3. Does your yarn slip off the hook regularly as you crochet? If so, then you want to use a hook with a deeper groove at the throat (such as Lotus and Amour)
4. Do you roll your hook when crocheting? If yes then you want to avoid a hook with a thumb grip, as this is designed to hold the hook steady while you crochet.
5. Do your hands ache after crocheting for a while? If yes then you want to look for hooks with comfort grips (or purchase the grips separately) or with ergonomic handles. Amour, Soft Touch and Addi Swing include such handles.
6. Are you using a yarn that splits easy? If so, then you want to avoid hooks with a pointed head and instead look to hooks with a rounded head.

Got a question you would like answered, or a tip you would like to share? Email it in to us.

You will find all the tips on our website in the learning centre.



## Book of the Month



**871106 Irish Crochet**—by Kathryn White. Create traditional to modern designs with the timeless technique of Irish crochet. The designer has come up with 8 interesting projects. Choose from a bridal necklace, hair comb to match, ring bearers pillow, beautiful doily, light weight scarf, trefoil doily, ladies shawl with shamrock motifs, roses and picots, and a 16" open doily finished like a 12 sided star. 48 pages.—**\$13.95**



## Customers Corner

Here are some customer comments and masterpieces submitted by customers over the last quarter.

Send us a photo of your masterpiece (by email or on our facebook page—[www.facebook/crochetaustralia](http://www.facebook/crochetaustralia)), telling us which book it came from and which yarn or thread you used, and you could feature in a future edition of Crochet Extra.



### Janet – Landsborough, QLD

A rug made from 8ply Dazzle yarn, 12 squares by 12 squares, crocheted together. A friend made the board for keeping squares on during construction.

*The Board is a great idea to keep order for such a project. Dazzle acrylic comes in 45 colours, has a soft finish and is \$3.85 a ball.*



### Carley — Baldivis, WA

I received my order this morning and I am astounded by the quality of the thread (Lizbeth). It is honestly lovely and I will be ordering a lot more colours in the future.



*Lizbeth has an extensive colour range of over 200 colours, in sizes 10, 20, 40 and 80.*

### Julie — Naremburn, NSW

Made this vest from blocks (see close up) and granny squares for the back, from Dazzle acrylic yarn. The back pattern was also used in making a shawl with the leftover yarn.



### Louise — Tawonga, VIC

Hours of fun created for the kids with these hacky sacks and baubles – made from clever country 4 ply cotton.

### Lynda — Yandina, QLD

On a similar theme – these hacky sacks were made from dazzle acrylic. The insides were made from balloons filled with a mixture of rice and birdseed to make them nice and tough to kick around.



**Christine — Summerland Point, NSW**

This jacket was made for baby Elise (my granddaughter), from Madame Tricote Perle #5. I loved the brilliant shade of crimson/pink I used as contrast, and so did her Mother. The cotton was wonderful to work with and the jacket held its shape very well.

*MT Perle has a shine to it and suits 4ply cotton patterns. It comes in 57 colours and is \$4.95 a ball.*



**Susan — Yandina, QLD**

Dish/jug cover made with Babylo #10 cotton with glass beads.



*Babylo comes in sizes 10, 20 and 30, is available in 39 colours and is \$5.80 a ball*

**Lynda — Yandina, QLD**

Dexter the Dinosaurs and Bruno the Lion made from Dazzle and other scrap yarns in my stash. From the book – Amamani Puzzle Balls. Great success with my son and nephew. The first one was a little tricky, but once I'd mastered the art, it was easy to make the second one.





**Alex — Richmond, VIC**

The threads (Fince, Cebelia & Almina) are lovely, and the parcel was well packed so they were in perfect condition. I look forward to buying from you again.



**Dianne — Gold Coast, QLD**

I bought two packets of the Susan Bates 5 Finishing needles last year and since I received them I have used them most days. It is so wonderful to be able to thread the yarn needles with the large eyes. None of them have broken. They work well also with thinner crochet threads and also are very useful for the plastic canvas embroidery. I would recommend them to anyone who has difficulty threading even larger needles for sewing up knitting and crochet projects. So thank you so much for buying them in for me and stocking them. They are really great.

*This pack of Finishing needles is \$8.95. We are temporarily out of stock, but should have a new delivery mid March.*

**Kay — Lara, VIC**

This is a photo of my first completed 5 inch doll costume from Itty Bitty Babies by Annies Attic. I made it in size 10 thread, the white is Altin Basak Maxi and the red is Cebelia. I am making a series of dress up costumes for my 5 year old niece. Some others are almost ready, it's just the hand-sewing to finish off that slows me down.

*879516 Itty Bitty Babies is \$13.70*



**Ashley — Brisbane, QLD**

The book I ordered arrived super fast, with great service .

**Lorraine — Noarlunga Centre, SA**

Thank you for the wonderful service on my order of Metallic Yarn. Excellent product, excellent packaging and speedy delivery. Happy to recommend you to any crochet lover.

Best Wishes

*Excel Metallic Yarn comes in 16 vibrant colours, and is \$4.35 a ball.*



**Theresa — The Ponds, NSW.**

I received my parcel yesterday. Thank you so much the little baby dolls are so cute!!

My order was very nicely packaged and everything arrived safely.

*These itty bitty dolls, come in 7 different facial expressions, and are \$10.50 each*

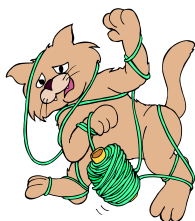


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## Look What We Found



### Clover Amour Crochet Hooks



#### HOOKCVAMOUR

Sizes 0.6—1.75 mm **\$13.95 each**

Sizes 2—6 mm **\$12.45 each**

Sizes 6.5—10mm **\$13.65 each**

**HOOKSETCVAMOUR6- \$75.50** Set contains 6 steel hooks: 0.60mm, 0.75mm, 1.00mm, 1.25mm, 1.50mm and 1.75mm.

**HOOKSETCVAMOUR7—\$87.95** set contains 7 steel hooks: 0.60mm, 0.75mm, 0.90mm, 1.00mm, 1.25mm, 1.50mm and 1.75mm.

**HOOKSETCVAMOUR9- \$99.90** set of 9 aluminium hooks: 2mm, 2.5mm, 3mm, 3.50mm, 4.00mm, 4.50mm, 5.00mm, 5.50mm and 6.00mm

**HOOKSETCVAMOUR10—\$125.95** set of 10 aluminium hooks: 2.25mm, 2.75mm, 3.25mm, 3.50mm, 3.75mm, 4.00mm, 4.50mm, 5.00mm, 5.50mm and 6.00mm

**HOOKSETCVAMOUR—\$118.95** set of 9 aluminium hooks with a getaway pouch: 2mm, 2.5mm, 3mm, 3.50mm, 4.00mm, 4.50mm, 5.00mm, 5.50mm and 6.00mm

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### Clover Soft Touch Crochet Hooks (Arthritic Pen Style)

**HOOKCVARST—** Sizes 0.5—1.75mm **\$10.00 each**

**HOOKCVARAL—** Sizes 2— 6mm **\$11.75 each**



**HOOKSETCVARST8—\$72.00** set of 8 steel hooks: sizes 0.50mm, 0.60mm, 0.75mm, 0.90mm, 1.00mm, 1.25mm, 1.50mm, 1.75mm.

**HOOKSETCVARST10—\$101.00** set of 10 aluminium hooks: sizes 2.00mm, 2.50mm, 3.00mm, 3.50mm, 3.75mm, 4.00mm, 4.50mm, 5.00mm, 5.50mm, and 6.00mm.

**HOOKSETCVARALGETAWAY—\$99.90** set of 8 aluminium hooks plus getaway pouch: sizes 2.75mm, 3.25mm, 3.50mm, 3.75mm, 4.00mm, 5.00mm, 5.50mm and 6.00mm.

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#### **HOOKPOUCHCVARGETAWAY - Clover Crochet Hook Pouch (Soft Touch) \$19.95**

Clover Brand striped "Getaway" style crochet hook pouch, perfect for storing Clover Soft Touch (Arthritic) crochet hooks or Clover Amour hooks. Room for up to eight hooks. Pouch folds up and secures with velcro.

## TRICOT HOOKS



**HOOKTRICOT— \$3.75—\$9.15 each**

Sizes 2.50mm, 3.00mm, 3.50mm, 4.00mm, 4.50mm, 5.00mm, 5.50mm and 6.00mm.

Or get all 8 in a set

**HOOKTRICOTSET—\$34.85**



**HOOKTRICOTFLEX—\$9.90 each.** Bamboo hooks with 60cm long plastic flexible tubular cable (total 84cm). Sizes 6.50mm, 8mm, 9mm and 10mm

Or get all 4 in a set

**HOOKTRICOTFLEXSET—\$36.00**

**HOOKAFGHANFLEX—\$9.80—\$10.15 each depending on the size.** Susan Bates aluminium hooks with 43cm long plastic flexible tubular cable (total 57cm). Sizes 4mm, 5mm and 6mm.



**LA5599 Ultimate Beginners Guide to Tunisian Crochet \$18.75**



**LA75434 Everything the Internet didn't teach you about Crochet—\$15.95 \* Heavy book**

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**HOOKCROLGE—\$9.50 each.** Double ended aluminium hooks 35cm long. Sizes 3.75mm (F), 4.25mm (G), 5.00mm (H), 5.50mm (I), 6.00mm (J), 6.50mm (K) and 9.00mm (N)

Or get all 7 hooks

**HOOKSETCROLGE—\$59.85**

**HOOKCROTAT- \$7.95**

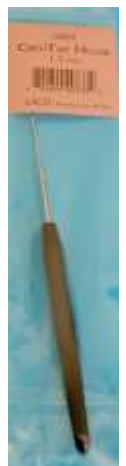
Shaft size is 2.5" with a plastic handle. Sizes: 1mm, 1.5mm and 2mm.



**871063 Double-ended Hook Crochet \$12.95**



**871233 Beautiful Bullions \$13.80**





**HOOKGOLD—\$8.80 EACH** Susanne's, small sized gold tipped crochet hooks. Sizes: 0.40mm, 0.50mm, 0.60mm, 0.75mm, 1.00mm, 1.25mm, 1.50mm, 1.75mm.



Or get the set of 8 with a mesh pouch

**HOOKSETGOLD—\$72.00**

**HOOKSETLOTUS—\$58.00**



Set of 19 Lotus steel/aluminium/acrylic crochet hooks with pouch. **A truly economical collection of crochet hooks with steel sizes to 3.50mm.**

Set consists of a mesh pouch with 10 steel, 6 aluminium, and 3 acrylic hooks.

Steel sizes: 0.60mm, 0.75mm, 1.00mm, 1.25mm, 1.50mm, 1.75mm, 2.00mm, 2.50mm, 3.00mm and 3.50mm.

Aluminium sizes: 4.00mm, 4.50mm, 5.00mm, 5.50mm, 6.00mm and 7.00mm.

Acrylic sizes: 8.00mm, 9.00mm and 10.00mm.

Or hooks can be bought individually. Prices range \$2.60—\$4.40 each, depending on the size.



**LA5572— Use Up that yarn \$15.30**



**871130— Crochet Compendium \$26.95**

**\*\* Heavier Book**



**ACCHOOKCUSH** Crochet Hook Comfort Cushion. **Set of 2 \$4.95**

Small— hooks up to 4.25cm

Large—hooks up to 6.5mm

**HOOKSETBIRCH 24—\$30.00**

24 piece hook set with zippered case



**HOOKSETCHANGE—\$42.95**

Boye interchangeable hook set—14 sizes with durable case

