

# Long Buckby Machine Knitters

newsletter

August  
2021



Reduce



Reuse



Recycle

## From the Editor

It is now several months since I published a newsletter: the reasons for its absence are my ongoing sight problems [wet AMD] which are now a little better, and the unexpected death of my younger brother, which left me in some disarray.



But now we are back, in many different senses.

The club meets again today, August 16<sup>th</sup>, and we hope to see many members in actual, rather than virtual, reality.

This newsletter is short, but I hope to resume a longer version soon. Club members will be asked to get and read this online in future, I will only print a few copies for those who do not have internet access.

And, finally, I can mention a fellow knitting club [in Scotland] <https://ayrmachineknittingclub.wordpress.com/> whose secretary, Alice Muir, was kind enough to contact me and compliment the club - their website is well worth a look for the work done by members

Stay safe!  
Lynda Fiendley

### Today's meeting

Forum style - sales of yarn and other machine knitting items/ show and tell/ chat!

### Future Club meetings

Demonstration meetings will be a single demonstration in front of all attendees:  
Open Forum meetings will be multiple small demonstrations in a 'marketplace' style

We may adjust these to fit members' preferences

- September 13<sup>th</sup> - demonstration meeting [basics of machine knitting]
- October 11<sup>th</sup> - open forum, setting up ribber and other equipment in mini demos
- November 8<sup>th</sup> - demonstration [knitting for Christmas]
- December 13<sup>th</sup> - open forum

## Recycling

This month's theme has at least two facets: I wanted to revisit recycling, and I am aware of returning [coming round] to the theme I began at the beginning of the pandemic [although I am aware that our 'beginning' was recognised a little late and was more like a few months into it].

My mantra [for myself] has been to try to use what I have at home, rather than buy new stuff. I have only had partial success, but I have used quite a bit of my stock of yarn, fibre, and cloth. In addition, I have used the software I have to make patterns for knitting and dressmaking, instead of buying new ones - but not exclusively. And I have tried to use more of my many machines and equipment. But I still have bits of kit that I bought at fibre festivals and have never used.

So, what else can be said about it?

Patterns: if you don't have software for making patterns, you may have patterns which can be adapted. The style might be adapted fairly easily, by adding pieces, or taking away bits. But if the pattern is in the wrong gauge for the yarn you wish to use, you will need to do a bit of calculating. This link is for a page with advice for adapting patterns, albeit hand knitting ones, but the calculations are similar [https://www.annbuddknits.com/My\\_Favorite\\_Formula\\_v020310.pdf](https://www.annbuddknits.com/My_Favorite_Formula_v020310.pdf) And you can also use cut and sew techniques, which takes away the need to adapt tension. You can even use the fabric created to make garments without patterns - but I wouldn't recommend this for the faint hearted. I started dressmaking by doing this, using existing garments as templates, but, as ever, I did have a few disasters.

Yarn: if you have lots of leftovers, or if you have yarn in limited quantities, consider yarn/colour combining techniques: stripes, weaving, garments with different segments etc. Use necessity as a design feature.

## Reviews

### Masks

Two years ago, Pat and I visited Yeoman Yarns on their open day, and also their near neighbour, Stoll, who manufacture knitted items on industrial machines. We talked to a software engineer and knitwear designer, who showed us around, including some innovative technical knitwear for sports and medical use. I saw these masks for sale last year using some of these techniques, and recently bought one from Yeoman

<https://yeoman-yarns.co.uk/products/category/75/premium-face-masks/productlist/163/unisex-protective-face-masks>



The fit is great, and the yarn is anti bacterial. I like it as a reminder of our visit!

### Needles



Pat found these needles, which will be great for quick threading and sewing up with yarn

<https://fabricateshop.co.uk/products/clover-darning-needles-with-latch-hook-eye?variant=30924355436618>

I picked this link rather than Amazon - but they sell them too - and you can find these on a Google search easily.

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## Off topic

Sewing machine repair

Both Pat and I have had machine issues - hers was an easy and cheap fix of her Singer machine, mine less so with a Janome electronic which had completely jammed. But we were both impressed with the service offered by this Northampton repair service <https://www.yell.com/biz/jeff-haynes-sewing-machine-services-northampton-2319954/>

## Suppliers

These are still operating an online supply

[www.wools.co.uk](http://www.wools.co.uk) - Uppingham Yarns

<https://yeoman-yarns.co.uk/> Yeoman Yarns

<https://www.yarnoncone.co.uk> Yarn on Cone

and this one deals in recycled fibres <https://www.iinouio.com/>

## Other information

Sally Butcher has a [Kalamunda Crafts](#) page on Facebook. Sally is an inspiring machine knitter, with lots of ideas and videos to keep you busy! And now she has her own YouTube channel

[https://www.youtube.com/results?search\\_query=sally+butcher+machine+knitting](https://www.youtube.com/results?search_query=sally+butcher+machine+knitting) which is well worth a visit. Well done, Sally, a marvellous resource.

<http://handymachineknitting.libsyn.com> is a regular podcast

<http://knitwords.blogspot.com/> is a blog

## And Finally

I would like to involve others in this newsletter, so please let me know of anything I can include

[Administrator@longbuckbymk.com](mailto:Administrator@longbuckbymk.com) is my club email address.