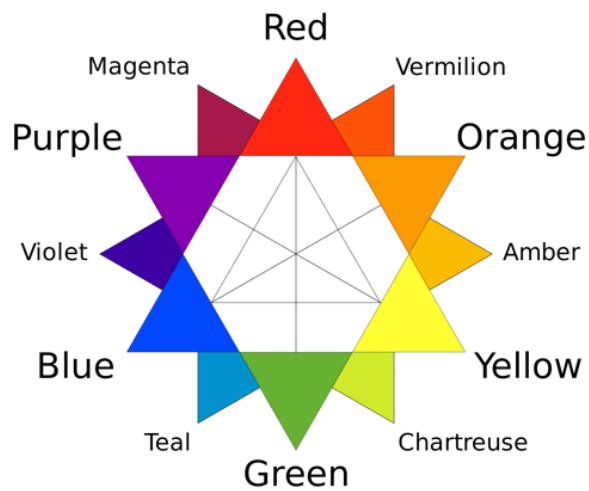
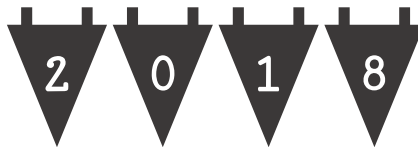


# LONG BUCKBY

# MACHINE KNITTERS



## FORTHCOMING EVENTS

### CLUB MEETINGS

Today

13<sup>th</sup> August COLOUR AND DESIGN

### COMING UP:

10<sup>th</sup> September STITCH PATTERN TECHNOLOGY

8<sup>th</sup> October RIBBING with Sue Booth

12<sup>th</sup> November GADGETS and MACHINES – display and maintenance

10<sup>th</sup> December END OF YEAR CELEBRATION – AGM, competition, display and sales

- At meetings where we do not have an outside speaker, club members are encouraged to participate: please see Lynda if you would like to demonstrate or show a special technique or item
- Please let us know if you have a special requirement in case of emergency, e.g. a mobility problem which would mean a special arrangement in case of evacuation of the building
- Please also respect the demonstrators and other members, some of whom have hearing impairment, by not talking during the demonstrations. **\*\*PLEASE SWITCH OFF YOUR PHONE!\*\***

### WORKSHOPS



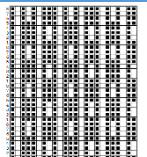
**ALL WORKSHOPS RUN FROM 1-4 [ARRIVE FROM 12.30, BRING YOUR LUNCH IF YOU WISH] AT LONG BUCKBY COMMUNITY CENTRE. COST £15 TO INCLUDE USE OF EQUIPMENT. THE MAIN FOCUS OF THE WORKSHOPS IS AS BELOW, BUT ALTERNATIVELY, AS EVER, JOIN OUR WORKSHOPS TO PRACTISE OR LEARN ANOTHER SKILL OF YOUR CHOICE [BUT DO DISCUSS THIS WITH US FIRST!]**

Tea and coffee provided. Machines also provided, let us know which machine you prefer, so we can make it available.

17<sup>th</sup> Sept ONE PUNCHCARD, MANY PATTERNS/book by August meeting

### SEPT 17<sup>TH</sup> ONE PUNCH CARD, MANY PATTERNS

This is an opportunity to play about with punch card or electronic patterns. There have been several booklets published on this theme, which will be available, as will worksheets, punch cards, yarn and advice.



Try tuck, slip, weaving, lace, plating.....and more!

### CLUB NEWS

The committee met before the June meeting, and decided to make the following changes to membership:

December meetings will now include an AGM/Membership subscriptions will be payable in December at £5/The monthly cost would be £2.50 [£4 for outside speaker] for members and £4 [£5] for guests [who can visit up to three times a year]

## OTHER EVENTS



<<<<<See left for a late entry to this newsletter!

1st September 2018: Southern Wool Show, Newbury Race Course  
[www.southernwoolshow.co.uk/index.htm/](http://www.southernwoolshow.co.uk/index.htm/)

21st-22nd September 2018: Crafting Live, Stoneleigh Park, Coventry  
[www.craftinglive.co.uk/](http://www.craftinglive.co.uk/)

November 10-11<sup>th</sup> 2018 Nottingham Yarn Expo  
<https://www.nottinghamyarnexpo.com/>

Market place Sunday 11th November 2018/Workshops Saturday 10th and Sunday 11th of November 2018

Nottingham Conference Centre, Goldsmith Street Entrance, Nottingham. NG1 4BU

## CLUB SERVICES

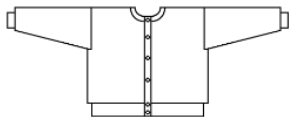
### EQUIPMENT HIRE

We have a comprehensive list of equipment available for loan, including full machines as well as accessories. See Margaret for details.



We are also setting up a free lending library and would welcome donations of hardback machine knitting books for this purpose.

### PATTERNS



In addition to patterns available in this newsletter and on our website, Lynda is also willing to make bespoke patterns via Knitware for members: these will be available as printouts or pdf files. Form attached for orders, or just let Lynda know the details.

## Small Ads

### BUSINESS ADS

#### ❖ Knits 'n' Bits [Long Buckby]

We buy and sell used [serviced] knitting machines and accessories, and also sell books, punchcards, spares and more. Contact Wendy on 01327-842335 or email [knitsnbits@live.co.uk](mailto:knitsnbits@live.co.uk). N.B. Response will be a little slower at the moment than usual, but she is still in business.

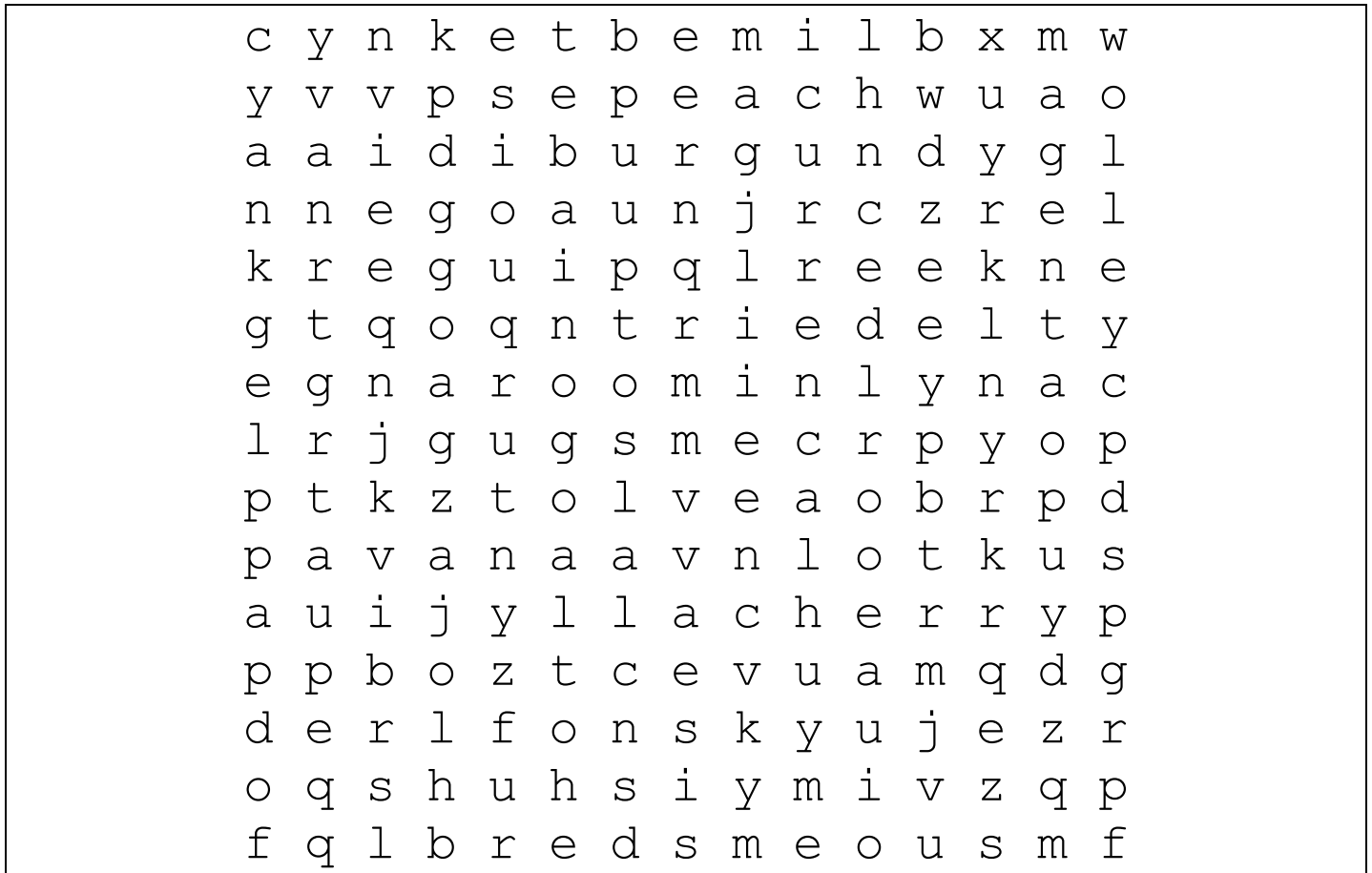
❖ **Elsie's Wool Shop: Ma's Buttons** in Victoria Road, Rushden, just off the high street. They supply wool, all plies, including cones and a large selection of buttons and haberdashery items. <https://www.masbuttons.co.uk/>

### FOR SALE AND WANTED

No items at the moment

**PLEASE LET ME HAVE DETAILS OF ANYTHING YOU WOULD LIKE TO ADVERTISE IN THIS SPACE. SALES AND WANTED – FREE ADVERTISING!**

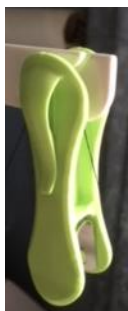
COLOUR WORDSEARCH



- |         |         |       |          |           |        |         |
|---------|---------|-------|----------|-----------|--------|---------|
| apple   | apricot | beige | blue     | burgundy  | canary | cherry  |
| crimson | cyan    | green | lavender | lemon     | lime   | magenta |
| mauve   | mint    | navy  | orange   | peach     | pink   | purple  |
| red     | royal   | sky   | taupe    | turquoise | yellow |         |

TIPS

**PEGS AKA YARN WEIGHTS**



Found in Aldi recently, this robust peg, which we think would be ideal for a number of machine knitting purposes [and for weaving]. Use a peg to attach to the end of your yarn when casting on, and it will provide a temporary anchor, for example.

Also available at Amazon for a higher price <https://www.amazon.co.uk/18-HEGS-Saving-Clothes-Shatter/dp/B00PI9CKC4>

## SLIP STITCH EDGING FOR STOCKING STITCH

If you attended July's Heart of England meeting, you will have seen Jill Brownjohn demonstrated this simple edging. It is good for strips, or any knitting where a seam is involved. It can be joined easily by putting needle, either knitting needle or sewing needle, or crochet hook, through both loops of the slipped stitch and then joining as desired by 3-needle bind off or any other method.

### MACHINE INSTRUCTIONS.

Cast on required number of stitches. RC 000. Knit one row (CL) Put machine to HOLD position

Pull end needle opposite carriage to HOLD and k1 row.

\* Pull end needle opposite carriage to HOLD. Push needle nearest carriage to KNIT position. K1 row\*

Repeat from \* to \* for required number of rows.

NB. When joining seams by any method pick up both loops of slipped stitch for a firm edge.

(Hand knit version is Sl 1, knit to end, Sl 1 purl to end)

### 3-NEEDLE BIND-OFF

3-needle bind off is worked two ways according to whether it is joining knitting without a cast off edge, such as the stitches still on needles for the front and back shoulder of a sweater, or whether it is joining already cast off edges or side seams.

First envisage the shoulder join where you have not cast off the stitches. If you want a sturdy but hidden seam, then place your knitting right side to right side with both needle points to the right (you may have to knit one more row to make this possible). For a feature ridged seam then place wrong side to wrong side. Ensure you have exactly the same number of stitches on both needles. Place the needles one behind the other.

With a third needle put the needle in the front stitch of the front needle as if to knit, and then into the back stitch as if to knit. Now knit those two stitches together and carefully drop them off the two needles (one stitch on your spare needle). Again, needle into the stitch on the front needle, then into the back needle, knit and drop off the two needles (two stitches on your spare needle). Now pull the first stitch on your spare needle over the second stitch and you have cast off one. Continue to end and you have completed your seam. A refinement of this, if you can manage it, shown by Bob Morley, is to knit into the front of the stitch on the front needle, and into the back of the stitch on the back needle - this makes the ridge exactly in the middle of the seam. Thanks Bob.

To join two side seams, or two strips of knitting where you have slipped the edge stitches, you will need one or even two circular needles and one straight needle. Align your strips, wrong side showing if you want the ridge on the inside, or right sides showing for a feature seam. Using the same colour, or a contrast to emphasise the join, and a circular needle, pick up and knit every slipped stitch from the top of the strip to the bottom on the left-hand side of strip one. Here it can be useful to safety pin the two strips together at the bottom edges. If you are using one circular needle, then pull the cord out so you can use the point to work up the right-hand side of the adjacent strip bottom to top, making sure you pick up exactly the same number of stitches. (I often use a second circular needle for the second strip). Once you have picked up all your stitches, align the points one behind the other and proceed with your 3-needle bind off.

Today we are looking at two elements of colour in machine knitting: colour theory and how to use colours for effect; and the practical techniques of producing the coloured work.

## COLOUR THEORY

We will look at colour theory, and use this presentation as the basis

[https://view.officeapps.live.com/op/view.aspx?src=https://resource.mccneb.edu/foundationart/Art%20Foundations%20Classes/ARTS1020\\_files/colortheory2.ppt](https://view.officeapps.live.com/op/view.aspx?src=https://resource.mccneb.edu/foundationart/Art%20Foundations%20Classes/ARTS1020_files/colortheory2.ppt) .

This worksheet also outlines the theory

[http://lfhs.lfcisd.net/UserFiles/Servers/Server\\_904/File/ECCastillo/Color%20Theory%20Worksheet.pdf](http://lfhs.lfcisd.net/UserFiles/Servers/Server_904/File/ECCastillo/Color%20Theory%20Worksheet.pdf)

And there are many online colour scheme designers, of which this one works quite well:

<http://www.paletton.com/#uid=1000u0klIllaFw0g0qFqFg0w0aF>

But it is fairly obvious to me that, mostly, colour is a matter of individual choice. So, we should not be too afraid to express ourselves with colours we like. It has also been said that natural dye colours emulate nature and there are no colour combinations that don't 'work' there.

At the Horniman Museum in London, there is currently an exhibition, until 28<sup>th</sup> October 2018, Colour: The Rainbow Revealed <https://horniman.ac.uk/visit/exhibitions/colour-the-rainbow-revealed#image-0>

## MACHINE KNITTING TECHNIQUES

### STRIPES

This is the simplest way to combine colours, and you can use any machine to do it. Striping alternate colours in equal numbers of rows is the simplest, but possibly more effective is varying the width of stripe, or the number of rows used.

This link shows how to deal with the floats at the side of the knitting

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IGniEjMxt04>

And this one is to a 'stripe generator' which enables the knitter to preview colour and size combinations

[http://www.biscuitsandjam.com/stripe\\_maker.php](http://www.biscuitsandjam.com/stripe_maker.php)

### FAIR ISLE

Using a punch card or stitch pattern, two colours can be combined per row, and more complicated patterns can be achieved by striping. If you have issues with floats in this technique, Diana Sullivan has a video on achieving a Fair Isle technique without them <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=afqi8TJPY64>

### MULTICOLOUR TUCK AND SLIP STITCH

Both of these techniques are a variation on striping: because some stitches extend across rows, they will 'drag' their colour across the alternative colour stripe: this video shows tuck stitch with two colours

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=izVS7MiJC-4>

And this cardigan was knitted in multicolour tuck stitch: find the Brick pattern on the website

## BRICK

An open-fronted cardigan in 7 sizes, using a multicolour slip stitch pattern. The original has a wide scoop neck: there are alternative instructions given for a crew neck.



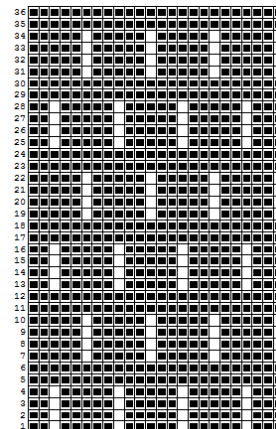
### Finished chest measurements:

38/40/42//44/46/48/50

**Yarn used:** Drops Fabel sock yarn, 'bricks' in Green Print [B], 'mortar' in plain brown [A]. Second size used less than 450g total, about 150g of plain brown, 300g of Green Print.

**Tension:** using T7 on Brother KH891 29 stitches and 50 rows to 4 inches/10cm, in pattern.

**Stitch Pattern:** Stitchworld 306 or punchcard as shown: after knitting hems, set to knit pattern in slip stitch. Knit 2 rows in colour A, then knit 4 rows in colour B. Continue with



this sequence throughout.

## WEAVING

Using the weaving technique enables the knitter to combine a variety of different yarns and colours, and this can be done in a regular pattern, or randomly, and is worth an experiment! I would recommend the Iris Bishop Kaleidoscope Project, available here <http://metropolitanmachineknitting.co.uk/shop/iris-bishop-kaleidoscope.html> for £6.75, as an impressive start to knit weaving. I found it a fairly easy project, but a stunning result, and the instructions give you a really clear idea of how to develop your style.

## INTARSIA

Another technique for adding colour and pattern is intarsia, comprehensive video here <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EpNvclh31Qs>. We have had demonstrations of this technique, but few members have taken this challenge!

## HIGHLIGHTING

Use colour in small quantities on borders and embellishments. See above for Jill Brownjohn's slip stitch edge, for example.

## PLATING

Use the plating feeder to feed in two different coloured yarns. Knit in stocking stitch for double sided fabric, or knit in tuck stitch for a subtle two-coloured effect [or stripe for a more complex colour scheme].

## OMBRE EFFECTS

If you don't like the shade of your yarn, and would like to modify it a little, try knitting alongside a suitable shade of sewing thread: it won't alter the weight of the knitting by very much, and can have a subtle, but dramatic, effect on the outcome [ombre effect]. You can also stripe the sewing thread to create a subtle and sophisticated pattern. If you place the sewing thread spool in a bag, it will contain it and stop it rolling away.

## SOME OTHER ADDITIONS TO MACHINE KNITTING

### FABRIC PAINT

You can use fabric paint pens to add small patches of colour, which can make it possible to make more complex designs, or highlights. They are available widely, both online, and in craft stores.

### DYEING

Not strictly limited to machine knitting, but well worth an experiment or two. **But remember safety rules: wear protective clothing, use face masks when handling powder dyes, and avoid contact with food containers.**



This project I tried for the Guild of Machine Knitters, <http://www.guild-mach-knit.org.uk/membersgmk/forms/journals/Nov2014.pdf> in which I used Procion dye to colour a neutral Grigna cardigan

I used my own pattern [Grigna Waterfall for Long Buckby Machine Knitters](#), which, as the name implies is a waterfall-style cardigan in Yeoman Grigna [which is 65% viscose/35% acrylic and therefore suitable for this dyeing]. The original colour was a pale blue, with white flecks, and I was not sure whether the dye would take very well because of the acrylic, but it was fine. To try this for yourself, please follow the directions below!

1. First knit the garment. Be sure to use a plant fibre for this project: cotton, viscose or linen, for example. If, like me, you use Grigna, and you finish the garment by sewing with thread, as I did, you may wish to consider the fibre used for the thread. I used cotton thread, as I did not want white thread to spoil the finished effect.

Now you need to put on your rubber gloves! It gets dirty and slightly caustic from here on.

2. Soak your garment in a bowl of cold or lukewarm water, with two tablespoons of soda ash/ sodium carbonate/ washing soda added. I also added the same amount of salt, which is supposed to help fix the dye, but I have dyed before without the salt, and it was fine. Leave for at least half an hour.



3. Prepare your dyes. If mixing indoors, or if you have breathing problems of any sort, wear a mask. I used two colours, blue and green. I mixed each one with warm water. Put half of teaspoon in a plastic or glass container, pour on about 300ml of water, and shake gently until the powder dissolves.



## Dyeing

1. Squeeze out your garment, taking out as much surplus water as possible, and lay out on a plastic tray, or a sheet of plastic or the equivalent.



2. Decide how you want to colour your garment. I did mine in rough stripes. Put a small amount of dye where you want the colour and work it in to the fibre with your hands. If you put too much dye solution on you will have a lot of liquid about, which makes it harder to keep the colour where you



want it. I found it easy to keep the liquid down by using small amounts and working it in, but if you wanted to be more careful, you could use an old cake cooling rack to keep it drained while you are working. My colours did cross over a bit at the edge of the stripes, which then turned a jade colour, but this adds to the effect. Make sure that the garment is coloured throughout, as any material 'underneath' may not be unless you check.

3. When you are happy with it, cover with more plastic, and leave for 24 hours.

## Finishing

Wash by hand in warm water, and rinse well. You will get lots of dye in the rinse water, but it will eventually clear, and you can admire the effect. If you don't quite like it, you can always repeat the process!

## And then, for the same publication, I tried another cardigan with wool!



The method was similar, except that the garment needs soaking in an acid bath i.e. water with citric acid or vinegar added.

This was a bolero knitted in Yeoman Sport [merino wool]. I found it a little challenging, compared to the cold water Procion dyeing. This is what happened:

When I finished putting dye on the bolero I put it in a microwave dish and 'cooked' it for 10 minutes, before leaving it to cool, then washing it and drying it. The result was a little more varied, because it is harder to keep the colours separate.

I painted the colour on the bolero, and there was quite a lot of smudging, which did not bother me much, but it is quite random.



## PUZZLE ANSWERS

Apologies for lack of answers this month – technical hitch!