

# Long Buckby Machine Knitters

Newsletter

November  
2021



## From the Editor

Welcome to our November newsletter!

Note to members: I will continue to produce this newsletter online and will endeavour to publish online on the Sunday before the meetings. I will only print out extracts for those who are unable to access online versions.



This month we are focusing on knitting for Christmas [see below]. Apologies for including a handknit pattern [again!] but I was asked to do this one. I have considered using it as a template for a MK pattern using diagonal strips, but it is only in my fevered brain at the moment! I have also included a very small MK pattern, but one I have found useful.

The 2022 calendar is available below too, and we are hoping to continue with a brilliant new year!

Stay safe!  
Lynda Fiendley

## Today's meeting

November 8th - Knitting for Christmas  
2.00 refreshments and show and tell  
2.30 presentation of ideas

Also available - sales of yarn etc.

## Future Club meetings

Proposed format:

2.00 start with refreshments [bring your own cup] and show and tell [bring what you have made.

2.30 onwards

**Demonstration meetings** will be a single demonstration in front of all attendees:

**Open Forum meetings** will be multiple small demonstrations in a 'marketplace' style - everyone is encouraged to take part - if you want to show something!

## Knitting for Christmas

At this time of year, you may be thinking of knitting presents. You don't need to knit large items, we have plenty of smaller ones to share! And, if you don't want to give them away, why not do some for yourself?

The following include some of the suitable items on our website [www.longbuckbymk.com](http://www.longbuckbymk.com). You will find them under Patterns, which are subdivided into categories if you are looking for something specific.

### LBMK Patterns for Christmas knitting



Tree bauble

<http://www.longbuckbymk.com/images/stories/nov2011/christmas%20tree%20bauble.pdf>



Stocking

<http://www.longbuckbymk.com/images/stories/patterns/christmas%20tree%20stocking.pdf>



Teddy

<http://www.longbuckbymk.com/images/stories/patterns/machine%20knit%20teddy%20pattern.pdf>



Owl

<http://www.longbuckbymk.com/images/stories/july2012/owl.pdf>



Lovey

<http://www.longbuckbymk.com/images/stories/patterns/Yellow-Rabbit-Lovey.pdf>



Crescent shawl

<http://www.longbuckbymk.com/images/stories/patterns/crescent.pdf>



Fringed cowl

<http://www.longbuckbymk.com/images/stories/patterns/fringed%20cowl.pdf>



Tuck scarf

<http://www.longbuckbymk.com/images/stories/patterns/hgtuck.pdf>



Hat

<http://www.longbuckbymk.com/images/stories/patterns/simple%20single%20bed%20hat%20pattern.pdf>



Machine knit necklace

<http://www.longbuckbymk.com/images/stories/patterns/machine%20knit%20necklace.pdf>

## Other ideas

Here are a few small items for knitting from Ravelry:

<https://www.ravelry.com/patterns/library/turban-knot-headband-3>

<https://www.ravelry.com/patterns/library/twisted-ear-warmer-5>

<https://www.ravelry.com/patterns/library/drawstring-neck-gaiter>

<https://www.ravelry.com/patterns/library/zigzag-tuck-scarf>

<https://www.ravelry.com/patterns/library/fingerless-mitts-48>

<https://www.ravelry.com/patterns/library/machine-knit-wristwarmers>

[https://youtu.be/KTc\\_t\\_SBYg0](https://youtu.be/KTc_t_SBYg0) - is a link to Diana Sullivan's Knit Tam



And it is worth exploring the wire knitting route - Erica's video shows how to start:

<https://www.ericaco.uk/>. [Machine Knitting With Wire](#)

Erica has many fantastic ideas to make with wire. I used her i-cord idea quite simply by twisting it and threading Pandora style beads on it - this took me minutes really, and, when I gave it to my sister-in-law, all her friends wanted one.

Erica's own creations are much more sophisticated and skilful - have a look for yourself on her website. [She is visiting us next year - see the calendar - and will bring her 'shop']

Finally, this is a good way to use up your oddments to make a sheep: it is a free pattern, and the website is worth a look anyway.

<https://knittynellie.wixsite.com/my-site/post/stash-busting-sheep>

## Roly

a small DK hand spun neck warmer pattern idea of mine, named after my grandson's favourite character in Hey Duggie!



I started by knitting the left hand one by hand - with 5.5 mm dpn needles, about 80 stitches in a circle, and I knitted for about 5 inches. Loosely cast off, that was it finished.

The right hand one was knitted on the LK150, tension 7 and 70 stitches [I would do 80 next time]. I knitted 35 rows - the carriage jammed on this row, so I called it quits, and loosely cast off.



Both versions roll back on themselves naturally.

If anyone wants to knit it but hasn't got handspun DK, I would suggest Drops Delight as a good alternative, knit double on the LK150 or chunky, or single on a standard gauge.

I think this might also work well as a neck edge.

<b>LBMK calendar 2022</b>	<p>All meetings are from 2pm to 4pm, and doors are open from 1.30pm.</p> <p>Membership fee: annual £5, plus £3 for most meetings, £5 for those with visiting speaker [marked with ***]</p> <p>Guest fees: £5 most meetings, £7 for those with visiting speaker.</p> <p>Tea/coffee and biscuits included, please bring a cup, and take it with you for washing later [we are limiting use of the kitchen post-Covid]</p>
<b>Date</b>	<b>Topic</b>
<b>10th Jan</b>	<p><b>Machine Knitting Forum – a chance to catch up on skills and friends!</b></p> <p>Multiple rolling demonstrations, basic skills to more advanced, patterns, gadgets and garments. Also, software demonstrations.</p> <p>Bring your projects to show, work on or seek advice about</p>
<b>14<sup>th</sup> Feb</b>	<p><b>Modular Knitting</b> How to join knitting, merge other crafts with your knitting, add on edges with crochet etc.</p>
<b>14th March***</b>	<p><b>Visiting Speaker – Claire Newberry</b> who will talk about her experiences as a knitwear designer, show her designs, and demonstrate some knitting machine techniques</p>
<b>11th April</b>	<p><b>Machine Knitting Forum – a chance to catch up on skills and friends!</b></p> <p>Multiple rolling demonstrations, basic skills to more advanced, patterns, gadgets and garments. Also, software demonstrations.</p> <p>Bring your projects to show, work on or seek advice about....</p>
<b>9th May</b>	<p><b>Necklines – hoods, cowls, collars etc.</b></p>
<b>13th June***</b>	<p><b>Visiting Speaker: Erica Thomson</b></p> <p>Erica will demonstrate how to use pressing to enhance your knitting</p>
<b>11th July</b>	<p><b>Machine Knitting Forum – a chance to catch up on skills and friends!</b></p> <p>Multiple rolling demonstrations, basic skills to more advanced, patterns, gadgets and garments. Also, software demonstrations.</p> <p>Bring your projects to show, work on or seek advice about</p>
<b>8th Aug</b>	<p><b>Holding Position</b> How to use this simple technique for shaping and other effects.</p>
<b>12th Sept</b>	<p><b>Edges [hems necks bands etc]</b></p> <p>Demonstration of edging techniques on the knitting machine, and other ways to finish your knitting</p>
<b>10th Oct</b>	<p><b>Machine Knitting Forum – a chance to catch up on skills and friends!</b></p> <p>Multiple rolling demonstrations, basic skills to more advanced, patterns, gadgets and garments. Also, software demonstrations.</p> <p>Bring your projects to show, work on or seek advice about</p>
<b>14th Nov</b>	<p><b>Maintenance.</b> DIY maintenance and tools</p>
<b>12th Dec</b>	<p><b>AGM/ COMPETITION, DISPLAY AND SALES. End of year celebration</b></p>

# Patchwork Wrap

I designed this cardigan in a slightly haphazard way, and, because of this, it is quite easy to alter!

I used my stock of hand spun DK, 300g of one variegated green shade of Merino [with lots of other colours], and odd bits of other colours.

I used 5mm needles for the body and 5.5mm needles for the sleeves.

My mitred squares measured 5 inches square [on the diagonal], so on this diagram 5 inches tall and 5 inches wide.

If you need to match mine precisely, and find it difficult, you could experiment with needle size, or even stitch count. My finished wrap fits me well [size 14]. If you want to make a bigger or smaller one -rather than make lots of calculations, I would increase/decrease the needle size or stitch count.



## Mitred Square

This is the basic shape in the body: you will knit many of these and join as you go. You can change colours where you want to, but it is better, I think to have a base colour for all the garter ridges and change the stocking stitch colour as you go. This means fewer joins and a more coordinated garment.

### Basic square

Cast on [or pick up] 29 stitches in Main Colour [MC].

Row 1: MC K28, slip 1. [The last stitch is slipped on every row, which makes picking up stitches much easier]

Row 2: Alternate Colour [AC] Knit 13, slip 1, K2tog, pssso, K12 slip last stitch.

Row 3: AC P26, slip 1

Row 4: MC K12, slip 1 K2tog pssso, K11 slip last stitch

Row 5: MC K24, slip 1

Continue in this way, alternating colours, and decreasing on front of square, until 3 stitches remain. K3 together.

### Side [half] square

Cast on [or pick up] 15 stitches in MC.

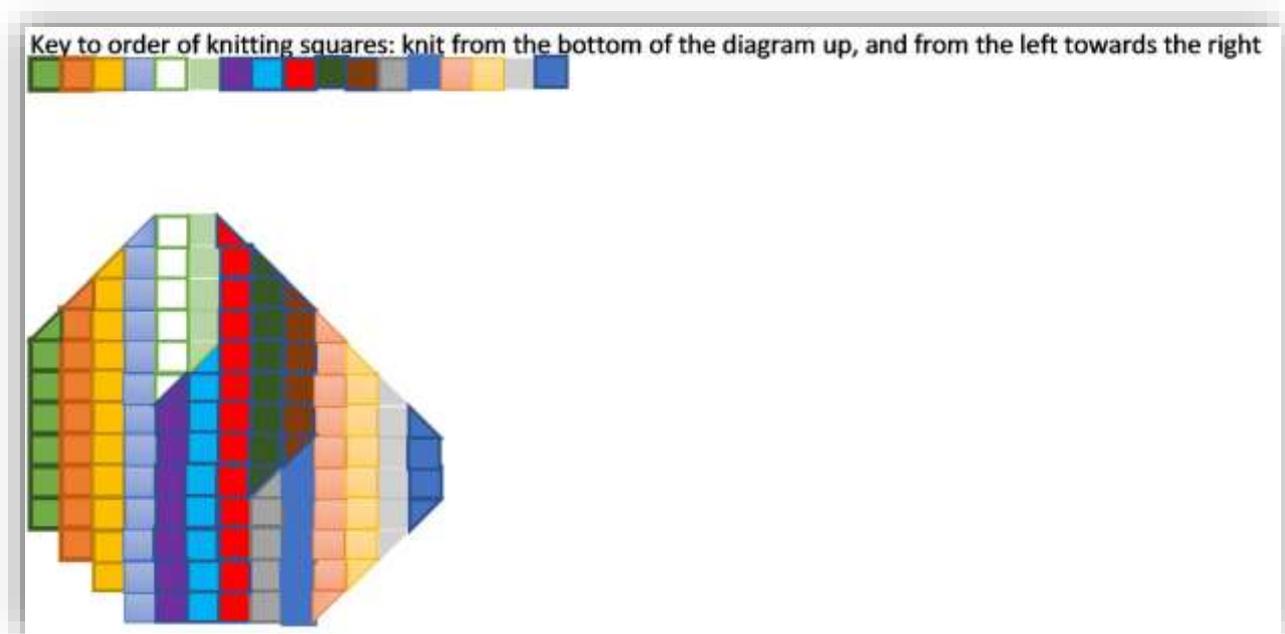
Knit as for basic square, except that the decreases will now be at the side of the piece. For a left sided half square, knit 1 decrease at the end of row 2, and following alternate rows. For a right sided half square, knit 1 decrease at the beginning of row 2 and following alternate rows.

### Top half square

Pick up 29 stitches in MC. Knit as for basic square but decrease 1 stitch at either end of even rows as well as the centre decrease.

## Knitting the body

The following diagram shows the order of knitting – the colours are only significant regarding knitting order! The body is shown on a slant because I could only do it this way. For a real life idea of it, look at the centre picture in my collage on the title page!



To knit the body [diagram on left] you will be knitting these squares in strips. You do not need to cast off in between squares.

### Strip one

Knit one square. The first one should be the bottom most left hand [green] square on the diagram.

To knit the second square, pick up 15 stitches along the left side of your current square [including the stitch left over from knitting that one], then cast on a further 14 stitches, and knit your second square as above.

Keep going until you have a strip of 6 squares, then finish with a left side half square.

### Strip two

As strip one, but after the first square, you will be picking up from the first strip instead of casting on.

### Strips three and four

Knit in same way as strip two.

### Strip Five

This time you will start with a right side half square, picking up stitches from the eighth square of the previous strip.

Continue with these strips as shown on the diagram.

You will have two slits for sleeve openings.

## Sleeves

I used a larger needle size for the sleeves. It makes them a little looser, which suits my needs.

I picked up 69 stitches around the armhole slits – I did this on a circular needle, then changed to double pointed needles as I decreased.

I knitted stripes of 10 rows. I decreased 2 stitches at the armpit every 10 rows but increased this to every 5 rows after the 4<sup>th</sup> decrease. I think a decrease every 8 rows evenly would be better, but I was knitting on the hoof! I continued knitting until the sleeve seemed long enough – you can tell with this type of top-down knitting.

## Finishing

I folded back the top row of mitred squares to make a 'collar' and stitched it inside the wrap, which I thought looked better than outside.

I crocheted round the remaining edge – 1 row double crochet, and three rows of treble crochet.

Then I steamed it, put a button on the front and finished!

## 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

<https://woolyknit.com> Woolyknit

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/channel/UCSDxy6pQHAs4qd5XBztYWmw>

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.

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