

# Long Buckby Machine Knitters

**Newsletter**

November  
2022



## From the Editor

Welcome!

This month's meeting is about maintenance of your machine, which is a part of machine knitting often forgotten.



There are basic tasks which should be done very regularly, such as cleaning and lubrication, as well as actions, such as changing the sponge bar and needles, which will keep your machine working well. And, if you cannot do all of it yourself, there are some suggestions further down for suppliers/engineers, which are increasingly rare.

Last month, we asked members to give us some feedback on our meetings, which started a discussion at the meeting. Broadly, people wanted more demonstrations. We would like to focus our demonstrations on skills which people want to learn, so we ask members to communicate their preferences in advance of the meetings. This also gives us a chance to practise the skills before the meeting [we may be 'rusty' in certain areas!]

Contact information:

Lynda - [administrator@longbuckbymk.com](mailto:administrator@longbuckbymk.com)

Pat - [chairman@longbuckbymk.com](mailto:chairman@longbuckbymk.com)

As the meetings are now much smaller than they were, we may split into Brother and Knitmaster groups, and forego the camera, as members have a better close up view with fewer people.

We would also like members to bring their work in for a Show and Tell each meeting: we will allocate the first half hour for refreshments/sales/show and tell. Please bring work in, even if it is not machine knitted; everyone is interested in what others are doing!

To this end, I am including a few iterations of the same jumper as my show and tell in this newsletter, including the pattern.

Special request: Pat would love to recycle any empty cones - please bring any you have to the club meetings!

Hoping to see you there,

Lynda

PS next month is our annual celebration, with a competition for all to enter something they have knitted!

12th Dec	AGM/ COMPETITION, DISPLAY AND SALES.	End of year celebration
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## Knitting Machine Maintenance

Rather than reiterate my article on this from two years ago, I will point you to it: <http://www.longbuckbymk.com/images/stories/newsletters/Nov2020.pdf> where I have outlined various maintenance schedules to try [in my case, rarely, but then I know who to blame if things go wrong!]

### Repairs

Do contact before visiting!

<http://www.knittingmachinerepairs.co.uk/about.php> which is based in Norwich but does operate collection and delivery to some areas. It would be worth contacting them.

<https://www.bsk.co.uk/> Bedford Sewing and Knitting - which may well still do machine maintenance. **Sadly, I have discovered it is closing down imminently!**

Richard Jones, tel: 07818 033563 eves (Midlands, UK)

Silver Reed <https://www.silverviscount.co.uk/> based in Rushden

### Supplies

<https://www.silverviscount.co.uk/>

<https://www.bsk.co.uk/>

<https://www.andeeknits.co.uk/spare-parts>

<https://www.ebay.co.uk/str/tprknittingmachineparts>

If you need other parts for your knitting machine, there is also this Hong Kong supplier Sunny Choy <https://shop.sckmcl.com.hk/> who I have found to be reliable and has reasonably fast delivery. Some [or all] parts may be copies, but this may be the only way to get them! There is also eBay, where he also has a shop, but I believe most prices are higher via the eBay shop.

<https://www.smartcoknitting.com/> for sponge bars and other supplies [they manufacture items, as well as selling some used machines and equipment]

For 3d printed parts, try <https://vzv3d.com/>, which is always at the end of this newsletter! Any plastic part can probably be reproduced.

## Other useful links

<http://www.needlesofsteel.org.uk/maintenance.html> - a whole collection of links to further information

<https://www.theanswerlady.com/Youtubelinksaskjack.html?fbclid=IwAR2zMfUeN-qz8tRuf1tpgS-3TQnq-bpFYrQGIE Nuc3CoQdaxrlk1UxuQ7g4> - comprehensive list of how to videos, this gives you an idea of some of what is covered

if you happen to spot a bad link or an error, please draw it to our attention via e-mail. We want to keep this page current and useful.

[Answer Lady home page](#) [Ask Jack info page](#) [loom knitting patterns](#) [the entire "Ask Jack" playlist](#)

**MAINTENANCE AND REPAIR ISSUES THAT APPLY TO ALL KNITTING MACHINES**

[What should I use to clean my machine?](#)  
[Deep soaking carriages in Marvel Mystery Oil](#)  
[Jack's favorite machine maintenance chemicals](#)  
[cleaning needles with a copper scrubby pad and some other refinements](#)  
[reviving a dead carriage by freeing frozen flippers](#)  
[changing a sponge bar](#)  
[fixing a carriage that sticks going in one direction](#)  
[cleaning a dingy needle bed](#)  
[trouble shooting a ribber carriage](#)  
[repairing a ribber carriage](#)  
[DIY waxer-a homely but effective invention from Jack](#)  
[changing the number strip](#)  
[re-building a sponge bar](#)  
[what should I use to clean and lube my machine?](#)  
[fixing a carriage that sticks going in one direction](#)  
[taking apart and deep cleaning the sinker plate part 1](#)  
[taking the sinker plate apart and deep cleaning part 2](#)  
[Jack repairs a ribber carriage](#)  
[ribber setup and bracket repair](#)  
[taking sponge bar clips off and on](#)  
[replacing brushes and wheels on a sinker plate](#)  
[Deep cleaning a machine from start to finish-demo on SK 150 but much alike for many.](#)  
[static control](#)  
[reassembling the knitting machine bed](#)  
[hand cleaning the inside of a carriage-demon on SK150](#)  
[re-assembling a carriage-demon on SK150](#)  
[Cleaning Old Needles with Magic Erasers](#)

**ADDI KNITTING MACHINES**

[making a bigger crank](#)  
[replacing the yarn guide replacing the yarn guide](#)  
[lubricating the Addi](#)

**GARTER CARRIAGES**

[the products Jack uses and why](#)  
[the products Jack uses and why](#)  
[the products Jack uses and why](#)  
[dis-assembling for cleaning](#)  
[finding the dirty spots to clean](#)  
[lubricating after cleaning](#)  
[more reassembly details](#)  
[a look inside before and after cleaning](#)  
[more about dis and re-assembly](#)  
[where does this spring go?](#)  
[How does a garter carriage change direction?](#)

[reasons why a g-carriage might fail to change directions](#)  
[what Jack uses to lubricate and why](#)  
[Repairing the foot assembly](#)

**BROTHER MACHINES MAINTENANCE AND REPAIR**

[screws to release a Brother carriage cover and placement of the hair-pin like part](#)

[freeing a stuck Brother carriage](#)  
[trouble shooting the card reader](#)  
[where do these parts fit? 2](#)  
[where do these parts fit? 1](#)  
[dismantling and deep cleaning the carriage](#)  
[Inside the ribber carriage](#)  
[unsticking the buttons on a brother knit carriage](#)  
[more about the brother knit carriage buttons](#)  
[Inner workings of the card reader](#)  
[changing the timing belt](#)  
[setting up the card reader for use](#)  
[removing and replacing a stitch dial](#)  
[replacing the Brother buttons after cleaning the carriage](#)  
[cleaning and lubing the Brother card reader](#)  
[Cleaning and lubing the Brother card reader in much greater detail and depth](#)

[Inside the Brother card reader](#)  
[Inside the Brother ribber carriage](#)  
[freeing a stuck carriage](#)  
[trouble shooting the card reader](#)  
[refurbishing a brother linker part 1](#)  
[refurbishing a brother linker part 2](#)  
[changing the KX350 sponge strip](#)  
[why the card reader might fail to advance](#)  
[Lubricating the Brother drive belt cog](#)  
[Brother KA8310 how it walks and troubleshooting if it doesn't](#)  
[replacing the button assembly](#)  
[Brother 8 button machine playlist-20+ movies full of both knitting skills and mechanical info](#)

[how the 2 center buttons work and why we deep clean this area](#)  
[setting the timing. Shown on a Brother 260 but similar for all Brothers](#)  
[the KH800-how it works and how to get into it for cleaning and maintenance](#)

[cleaning and servicing the card reader](#)  
[unsticking the buttons-beyond the basics](#)  
[diagnosing part button problems](#)  
[Brother card reader adjustment](#)  
[missing spring in a Brother ribber bracket](#)  
[fixing fairisle failure in Brother machines](#)  
[cleaning the cam rod on electronic machines](#)  
[card reader adjustment](#)  
[cleaning the cam rod on electronic machines](#)  
[Inside the Brother 930 Bed](#)  
[Hyperlink](#)  
[Brother maintenance playlist](#)

[repair tests-when Jack repairs a machine, I test it. We make videos of these tests for the customers. It turns out that others like to see them too so, as they are not "personal" here are some for you to watch.](#)

## The Future

Calendar 2023 - draft for discussion - see below

<b>LBMK calendar 2023</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 [all Mon]</b>	<b>Topic</b>
<b>9th Jan</b>	<b>Colour theory: presentation/ ideas for combining colours/ demo of knitting techniques etc</b>
<b>13<sup>th</sup> Feb</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 <b>demo colour changing/ weaving</b></p>
<b>13th March***</b>	<b>The speaker for this meeting is currently being negotiated after a cancellation</b>
<b>17th April</b>	Plating and Weaving <b>date change because Easter Monday is 10<sup>th</sup> April</b>
<b>8th May</b>	<b>Machine Knitting Forum – a chance to catch up on skills and friends!</b>
<b>12th June</b>	<b>Fair Isle techniques</b>
<b>10th July</b>	Knitting for babies and children
<b>14th Aug</b>	<b>Machine Knitting Forum – a chance to catch up on skills and friends!</b>
<b>11th Sept ***</b>	<b>Claire Newberry - lace</b>
<b>19th Oct</b>	<b>Squares / Accessories</b>
<b>13th Nov</b>	<b>Yokes/ hand tooling</b>
<b>11th Dec</b>	<b>AGM/ COMPETITION, DISPLAY AND SALES. End of year celebration</b>

## Pattern/Project/Show and tell

### OJ [oversized jumper]

An oversized jumper/tunic - plenty of ease, but still fitting on the shoulder, and A line to thigh length.

This was a project of mine - I have now knitted three iterations in different yarns, and with different methods.

I started with some hand spun yarn, [merino/silk spun on a drop spindle - over 600grams] which was between DK and Aran weight, but which I hand knitted on 5.5 mm needles to an Aran tension of 18stitches/22rows per 4 inches/10cm.

I felt it worked really well and managed to knit a collar roll on the LK150 to match it - T6 seemed to be right for it.

Then I tried handknitting one with two strands of 4 ply Superwash wool to the same tension. This worked too.



Lastly, I knitted one with two strands of 4 ply Superwash at T6 on the LK150 and achieved the same tension. The result was the same size as the previous versions but took much less time to knit! I also used the plating function of the machine, which works like a dream.

Most of the Superwash wool came from our club sales, so these were all economical makes.

The LK150 was a good fit for the yarn, but I think it would be equally good for chunky machines. I also tried a tension swatch with Drops Nepal [wool/alpaca] yarn, and achieved the same tension at T6, so may well knit another, which I am sure would work. The feel of the different yarns varies a lot, however, even between the different brands of Superwash.





I also tried a new [to me] gadget, the Needle Beetle, which I got from [KrisKrafter](#). I used it to set the needles for a tuck stitch pattern and knitted a collar roll and pockets for the jumpers. It was easy to use, if a bit expensive, and you can do the patterning without it - it made things much quicker though.



This pattern is for an oversized jumper, with A line shaping and a scoop neckline. I have not included any rib or border, as I used an open cast on and finished the edges by hand knitting.

If you wish to knit this, and prefer a shallower neckline, I would divide for the neck about 20 rows later than stated, then continue shaping in the same way. The roll collar would obviously have [approximately 20] fewer stitches picked up at the neck edge on either side.

Sizing: to fit chest 32/34/36/38/40/42/44

BACK:

1. Cast on 98/104/110/114/120/126/132 sts . Hem to Hips. Dec 1 st at each end of every 14th row twice.

94/100/106/110/116/122/128 sts remaining. Work even to total 40/40/42/42/42/42/40 rows.

2. A-line Shaping (Hips to Bust). Dec 1 st at each end of next row, then every following 20<sup>th</sup>/20<sup>th</sup>/15<sup>th</sup>/20<sup>th</sup>/20<sup>th</sup>/15<sup>th</sup>/16<sup>th</sup> row 3/3/4/3/3/4/4 times to 86/92/96/102/108/122/118 sts. 102/102/104/102/104/ 104/106 rows total. Work even for 20/20/22/22/22/22/22 rows (122/122/126/126/126/126/128 rows total). COR.

3. Armhole shaping. Cast off 4/4/4/5/5/5/5 sts at beginning of next 2 rows. COR.

4. Raglan shaping. Dec 1 st at armhole end(s) of every 3rd row 18/16/16/14/12/12/8 times, then dec 1<sup>st</sup> at armhole every 2<sup>nd</sup> row 0/4/5/9/13/14/20 times

5. Total 178/180/186/188/190/192/194 rows with 42/44/46/46/48/50/52 sts remaining for back of neck. Place sts on holder.

FRONT:

1-3 Follow steps 1, 2 and 3 as for back. COR.

4. Armhole. Dec for armhole at both ends, as for back. Continue until 144/144/150/150/152 rows total, with 66/72/74/78/82/ sts remaining. Then shape neckline as follows, continuing raglan shaping AT THE SAME TIME.

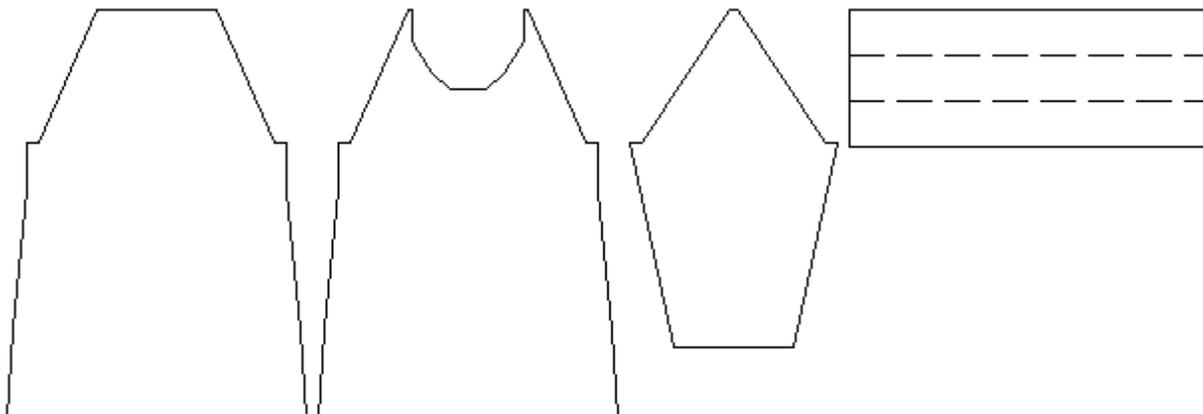
5. Shape neck. COR. Thread center 14/14/14/14/14 sts to WY. 26/29/30/32/34 sts each side.
6. Right neck. LH needles in HP. Continue armhole shaping. Dec 1 st at neck edge every row 6/6/7/7/7/7/8 times, then dec 1 st at neck edge every other row 6/7/7/7/8/8/8 times, until 7/8/8/10/9/10/9 sts remain.
7. Work 16/16/15/17/15/17/16 rows even at neckline, continuing shaping at armhole. Total 178/180/186/188/190/192/194 rows. Cast off remaining 2 sts.
8. Left neck. COL. Work as for right neck, reversing shapings.

**SLEEVES:**

1. Cast on 44/46/48/48/50/50/52 sts in MY, using TD6, Stocking Stitch and closed edge method.
2. Inc 1 st at each end of every 4<sup>th</sup> row 0/0/0/0/0/5/5 then every 5<sup>th</sup> row 0/0/1/13/13/14/14 then every 6<sup>th</sup> row 14/14/14/4/4/0/0 times to 72/74/78/82/84/88/90 sts (86/86/89/89/89/90/90 rows total).
3. Work even to total 92/92/94/94/94/94 rows. COR.
4. Shape cap. Cast off 4/4/4/5/5/5/5 sts at beg of next two rows (64/66/70/72/74/78/80 sts rem). Dec 1 st at each end of every 2<sup>nd</sup> row 24/25/25/26/27/27/26 times, then dec 1 st at each end of every row 6/6/8/8/8/10/12 times. Total 148/150/154/156/158/160/160 rows. COR. Cast off remaining 4 sts loosely.

**SCOOP FRONT NECK COWL COLLAR:**

1. Bring out 126/128/134/136/140/146/152 needles to HP.
2. With RIGHT side of work facing, rehang 42/44/46/46/48/50/52 sts from back neck holder (extra sts from holder should be incorporated into shoulder seams or doubled), 2 sts from left sleeve, 33/33/35/36/37/38/40 sts from left front neck edge, 14 sts from front neck holder, 33/33/35/36/37/38/40 sts from right front neck edge, and 2 sts from right sleeve. COR with TD6.
3. Work 64 rows. Cast off very loosely.



## 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

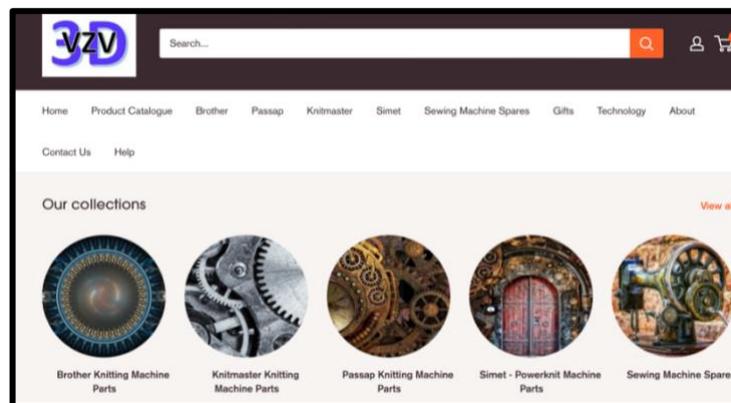
<https://www.yarnoncone.co.uk> Yarn on Cone

<https://woolyknit.com> Woolyknit

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

For 3d printed  
try

<https://vzv3d.com/>



parts

## 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/UCSDxy6pQHAs4gd5XBztYWmw>

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.