

## NOVEMBER 2015

Already,

it's the end of 2015, and, as usual, we cannot believe how fast the time has flown! World of Maths has been busy for me, and many of you had various events that kept you busy. Welcome back to **Barbara Macgibbon** and husband John who have returned to us from their world tour – Europe and then sailing through the Panama Canal and across the Pacific. Having been well and truly bitten by the travel bug, they will be off again for part of next year to more far and distant lands. I hope Barbara collects some fibre from exotic locations!

Our thoughts and prayers are with **Louise and her family**, following the diagnosis of her Mom's illness and the uncertainty that has followed. It seemed little enough to sign send a card of good wishes, yet it was very much appreciated and Louise sends her thanks.

**Jo Adams** has recovered well from her back surgery and joined us for spinning with the Vikings, and the trip Bendigo, where she and her friend Lea had a fabulous time visiting all the craft stalls. Jo and Lea also had a great time at the Wool Museum.

Deb and Mrs Kelly from **Nancraft** visited us in June, giving a quick chat about the new season yarns, and also about their trip to Gallipoli. (They were recipients of some draw tickets) Deb showed us photos of the countryside and the ceremony and we were all quite impressed.

In the school holidays, I decided to venture up the hill to **Kallista Market** there, since I had not done one for a while, and I was pleasantly surprised by the attendance because it was misty raining the whole time. That was good for sales, but not so good for my living room where I had all my stock draped and trying to dry for 4 days....

While I was in Euroa for Maths, I met **Jill Harricks**, from whom I purchased some of her gorgeous fleeces from "Elwood" (the name of her sheep). It caused a bit of a sensation in the main street ---a car with the trunk up, a small box trailer, another car with the trunk up, and two women walking back and forth with big black bags... I do not have a picture for this one – you will just have to imagine the look on the faces of the people passing by -- What *are* they doing?



**The Vikings** came again, this time to teach us the TROLLEN WHEEL. Set up as a small clock face, with slots instead of numbers, the coloured cords are moved north and south always into the next slot, all the way around the wheel. The result is a woven cord, like a belt. Lisa Robson is making her creation. Anita brought along enough wheels for each of us so we would practice at home. It's easy enough to take it with you when you travel, too. As with all good things of the craft nature, it takes a while to complete.

Spinning at **The Royal Melbourne Show** did not happen for us this year. Contact from RASV was too late for me to organize effectively so they had to go on without us. Instead Katherine and I participated in the Fleece Judging. It was my 15<sup>th</sup> year, but Katherine's first. She was a bit tentative to start, but soon warmed to the task and really enjoyed herself. Surprised to recognize Paul Ferronato as one of the Judges, it took her a while to place him as in charge of the tour for the wool scouring plant in Laverton.



We were invited to **Stringybark** again this year and, now being with Knox Craft Collective, the whole area focused on craft. We were front and centre as you walked in to the community centre, and had much chat and activity because of it! It was great to have Katherine on Saturday, and Barbara and Jill on Sunday afternoon. Sunday morning brought Kieran Matheson and his wheel to join me in display. Kieran was taught up at Gulf Station a year and a half ago. He had not picked up his wheel since yet sat and spun 2 beautiful bobbins of "Elwood Grey" in the time he was there. And did a fabulous job. He was much admired by the public, who continue to think that spinning is for women only. Not true!

The four 4 **Antarctica** talks this year (2 in Williamstown and one in Blackburn for Probus Service clubs and one for Glengollan Village) made me start thinking about the Ice. I'm longing to return but have only thoughts at this point. May Battista (I spin her poodle fibre) is a travel agent, so I might start making enquiries. In the meantime, the **Mawson's Huts Foundation** loved the husky scarf and beanie I sent to them as a sample of Antarctic-related craft to have on sale and display in Hobart. The original suggestion was knocked back they had no real concept of what I meant. That's why I sent the samples. That made all the difference! The scarf has been sold, no word on the hat, and now I will be spinning husky on a regular basis so we can stock their "Husky" shelf. (Could have combed my hair...)



Speaking of Husky, so many people have been asking me about spinning their pet fibre that I have decided to add it to the range --- So a new website is born [www.spinningpetsyarn.com.au](http://www.spinningpetsyarn.com.au)

As the name suggests, pet owners will go to the site for inspiration to have their pet's fibre assessed and spun. The first exposure will be in Cranbourne on 13th December **DOGS DAY OUT** at KCC Park. The market stall will be up, so owners can chat with me about their fibre, with a view to having it spun. **May and Mango** have agreed to be on the Poster. Please come and join me for a day of spinning (you can bring wool, that's ok) and talking to pet people.





We had a lovely time at the **Wool Museum**. The quilts were first thing we visited. The seashell quilt (the winner) was very inspiring. The artist quilted a **Murex** (a medium sized, deepwater shell covered in boney spines) and did an amazing job of bringing the spiny texture to life. The background was the scientific names and data of the shell – and that was quilted too! For us, Jill gave a critique of some of the quilts, an insight into the artist's craft.

Then we moved into the **Wool Harvesting** area – history, breeds, equipment, procedures, interesting information, a shearing hologram and the highlight for me was the brief on North Tuppall Station and the re-enactment of the Shearing of the Rams (Tom Roberts). I was there for that weekend! I know those people! I worked the board at **North Tuppall**! Loved re-living it!

The Museum started the carpet machine while we were there, so we had a good look at the carpet being woven. Very complicated and inspiring at the same time. The next layer of museum was the old machines and their operation. We had a good play with the **pantyhose machine**! And how many of you know what a "teasel" is? We museum goers do! The colloquial aspect of wool was shown in a re-created 1930s house, with all the trimmings including a basket of knitting near the radio. For some of us it was like "going home". The top layer of the museum was the dinosaur display and the Auction rooms. Jo wore a triceratops to the auction podium. Fetched only smiles, though, no bids!.



During the last term, both Lindas had an amazingly good purchase. **Linda Vaughan** acquired and Ashford Traveller and asked me to help assemble it. I love this sort of thing! And now everyone knows our secret – we are both left-handed. I say this because we put the wheel together left handed. (as you do) Then took it apart again to correct it!. \*Sigh\*



Thankfully **Linda Clements** had no such problem because her JOY came fully assembled, and now that she is used to the new tension, the wheel is functioning perfectly – as expected. Thanks Ashford!



This Saturday, we will be at **Chesterfield Farm** and it's our last meeting for the year, so if you haven't been for a while, this is your perfect opportunity to reconnect in the pleasant atmosphere of the outdoors and good company. I would love to see you ALL there. We start shortly after opening at 10am and stay till closing at 4pm. Cost for the day is only \$10. Please buy your lunch at their new café – they have lovely light meals. **Sheep to Shawl** is scheduled for 11am. There will be no "Advanced" contest this time since the teams are unavailable; the one "beginner" team will race the clock and try to beat the last "beginner" record of 2hours 49 minutes. We will use some of the stunning English Leicester that Bruce Starritt supplied for us last year.



Remember,  
There is a trophy at stake!

....Ready?..... Set? >>> *Go!*

And now, here are our new spinners.....

**Smiling in Achievement!**

(well, maybe not Nathan...😊😊)



Sara Van Der Monde  
Narre Warren



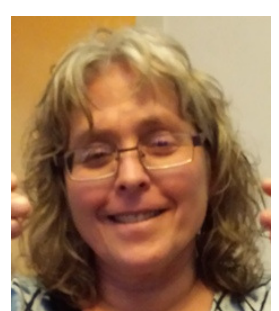
Kate Proctor  
Alice Springs



Angela Constantine  
East Brighton



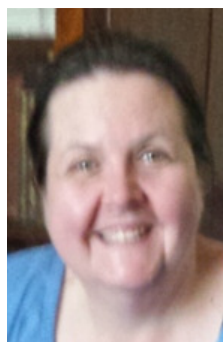
Louisa Dretzke  
Balwyn



Claudia Guersezaig  
St Kilda



Nathan and Joel  
Kew



Natalie Oakley  
The Basin

## Summary:



Come with me to  
**DOGS DAY OUT**

Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> December

KCC Park, Cranbourne

Arrive 830am/bring wheel/talk to public

Introduce NEW WEBSITE

[www.spinningpetsyarn.com.au](http://www.spinningpetsyarn.com.au)

By popular demand:

Next meeting is  
**Food Colouring Dyeing**  
January 16<sup>th</sup>

Marion's House (13 Vivienne Av, Boronia)

Arrive 1030am/bring rubber  
gloves/waterproof apron

Bring wheel if you like

\$10 each

Lunch provided

**RSVP by 12<sup>th</sup> January**



During the year,  
Please remember that fees are payable IN ADVANCE  
\$15.00 monthly for regular Crossfibres  
\$20 monthly for "Casual" Crossfibres.