



# Hello Everyone!

Welcome to the latest ewes....

**Since I LEFT COLES** at the end of May, I have been much more flexible with my time and my teaching, and it has been a joy to be able to add in events and opportunities as they arise, without having to be concerned about work. Such was the case when I went to Tocumwal, Bendigo, Lang Lang, Philip Island (coming up) and the other invitations we have had for spinning days and special events

At the time of writing, it is now 78 days till December and a further 25 days after that till I fly out on my big adventure. I have purchased my survival clothes and some new boots, and had the pleasure of checking their effectiveness at **Mt Hotham in August**. Remember that big snowstorm? I was there for part of that! I had just come down off the mountain, just before the road was closed, and it was snowing in Harrietville when we landed. (My girlfriend Rosalinda, said she had prayed for Antarctic conditions – It worked!) I am so glad I went. That was the first time I have actually stayed on the mountain, right in the snow – all 3 feet of it! I took “Junior” with me – my smallest and least bulky Sheridan wheel, whom I have always thought of as ugly – a huge solid drivewheel and very simple construction – but I tell you, after his sterling performance at minus 5 degrees, I have changed his name to “HERO”. Check out the Dress Rehearsal page on the Website: [www.spinninginantarctica.com](http://www.spinninginantarctica.com).



Before I went to Hotham, we took the bus to Bendigo for the **Sheep and Wool Show**. Carolyn is an accomplished driver and took us safely there and back but I think the most noteworthy news is of Barbara who bought up BIG in Fibre while also buying a Majacraft Little Gem from Mandie Chandler of Ewe Give Me the Knits. Barbara brings her Gem to the Crossfibres meetings, and sits and purrs in the corner! The Little Gem is the wheel I will be taking with me to Antarctica, because it is light and small and compact plus it fits in its own shoulder carry bag, all the same reasons why Barbara decided on one – as did Jean, and Leticia and, earlier this year, Ann. (I have tried to convince the girls to form a “Little Gems” team for Sheep To Shawl).



I had the pleasure of meeting **Glenis Poad, from Majacraft**, and we chatted for quite a while about fibre, spinning and Antarctica. I will be addressing her group in New Zealand when I am there, after the trip.



Scottish Regiment and the Hussars, on horseback, hassled the motley French troops in preparation for the storming of the straw bale Bastille. Sacré Bleu! The straw bales did not stand a chance!

Mont Delancey had **Bastille Day** celebrations this year and Chris Winkett and I had a lovely day of spinning in a French atmosphere. To spin, in French is to "filer la laine" and that is what we did to the sounds of an accordion playing Edith Piaf and other famous French songs! We 'cancan' sit and spin, at the same time sing along! When it came time for the re-enactments, we went over to the far field where the British 42<sup>nd</sup> Foot, a



The June issue of **FELT magazine** had an added interest for our group. Carolyn Jones has been pictured in a featured article about a felting workshop she attended. She told us at The Basin Crossfibres and showed us the piece that she is holding in the picture. Carolyn is talented in all

mediums, and is very crafty. She really enjoyed the **Fibre Sandwich** (below) that we made that meeting, which is not something I can say for the rest of us! It felt like we were back in beginners, producing such big, fat, chunky yarn that kept catching in the flyer. Carolyn had an answer for that- she bought a jumbo flyer and bobbins! And took home the rest of the fibre. You go, girl!



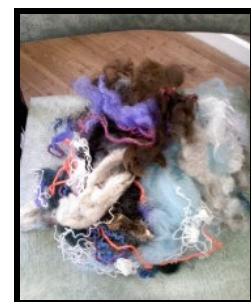
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Carolyn's ball



Lynda



Leticia's Gristle



Ann: not impressed



Linden's skein



That top right picture show what we were working with....

Leticia did not even want to touch hers! She is smiling though.



Those who listen to **98.1 FM radio** would have been surprised to hear me interviewed by Deanna Roberts on her Thursday program – back on July 1<sup>st</sup>. We spoke for about 20 minutes, first on spinning in general and then on the Antarctica trip and my reasons for going. It was a pleasure to share my information with a wider listening audience, and also to watch Deanna operate all those knobs and buttons. Deanna released the interview on Youtube. And in case you missed it, here are the links:

PART 1 <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gKR3sy2aGnc>

PART 2 <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gNbpSYwdnkU>

**Ann Taylor** has come a long way since she first learned to spin at Spotlight all those years ago. Not only does she spin, but she also knits, making many items – some small things like scarves as well as intriguing shrugs and shoulder length capes – which always cause a lot of positive comments especially from fellow knitters and from the teachers and schoolchildren who are there when we visit Gulf Station. Although she works with different fibres, Ann tends to work mostly with Alpaca, using the fibre from her own animals. Meet Brian, Edmund and Jupiter.



In July, Cheryl Castledine, a former student and fellow spinner, told me about a project that really grabbed my imagination – the **Melbourne Satellite Reef**. This is a project, American in origin, that sets about illustrating in 3 dimensions some scientific and mathematical problem that only crochet can explain. The art work is astounding and the colours are fabulous but it is the fascinating shapes that lure me. Every continent in the world (except one, and I will fix that) is represented, contributing to their choice of reef – Bleached (using pale and white yarn), Recycled (using recycled materials) and Classic (using all manner of colours and styles of yarn). The Exhibition is from 9<sup>th</sup> October to 9<sup>th</sup>

of January 2011, at Berringa in Upwey. Melbourne Project Manager Tracey, from the Gallery, was kind enough to let me borrow some of the “coral” to show at Chesterfield Farm. Newcomer Erica Smith took up the challenge on our behalf and made a coral for the reef.

**Chesterfield Farm** invited us out to add flavour to their Draught Horse Festival and even though it was a cold and somewhat rainy day, 10 of us were very cozy in front of the roaring log fire in the Homestead. We had the pleasure of the company of Fran, Margaret and Geoff from Belfairs, and Erica Smith joined us for the first time. Leticia really looks the part, doesn't she?



Our next big event is the **Sheep to Shawl Competition** at **the Royal Show**. On Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> September. I am pleased to say that The X-Factor will return to defend their title and their time of 3 hours 15 minutes. .Do we have some serious challengers? Indeed! I have hired the bus again, and we will be going in together with all our gear in the back. It is always a great day for the public and for spinning when we can showcase our skills and make people aware of the time and effort it takes to do our craft well – and have fun at the same time.

Then of course is our **Mont Delancey** meeting in Wandin at their monthly Market Day on Saturday 9<sup>th</sup>. October. We will be having a stall this time, so please bring your items and skeins for sale. I will need to have them with me BEFORE the day, already priced. Cost of the stall will be divided amongst the contributors. If you have items for sale and cannot attend, I will sell them for you, like last time, on commission. It is also **100gm Skein Contest day**,: Who will beat Jean's record of 60m? Our recently joined Crossfibres warrant a Section of their own, judged accordingly. Cost will be **\$5 per entry**: I have some rather special prizes to award for the winners of each section.

## **Welcome to New Spinners:**



**Jackie Grace**  
Gembrook



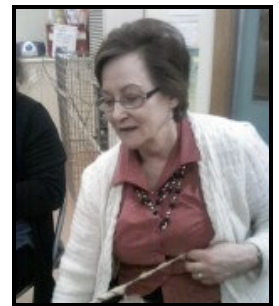
**Lynda Dixon**  
The Basin



**Kirsten Yarra,**  
Selby



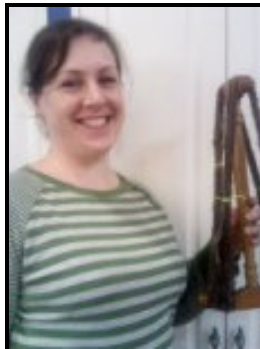
**Melinda Dixon,**  
Selby



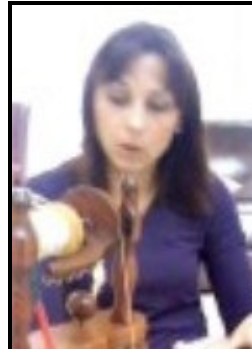
**Wendy Currie**  
Selby



**Georgina Sidon**  
Albion



**Tess Davies**  
Kingsville



**Sandra Schilling**  
Wantirna



**Bianca Schilling**  
Wantirna

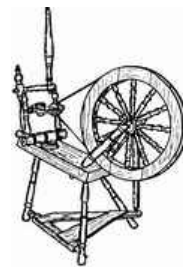


**Erica Smith**  
Ringwood E

Georgina and Erica will be joining us at Sheep to Shawl, and are looking forward to an eventful and satisfying day. Not only will it stretch their spinning skills, it will give them a chance to do some public speaking. Lynda has joined us at The Basin, choosing fibre sandwich day, which tested her determination to succeed. Melinda has since bought a second wheel. All can join in for Mont Delancey and the 100gm Skeins, on 9<sup>th</sup> October.

# The Crossfibres

Updated Timetable Term4, 2010



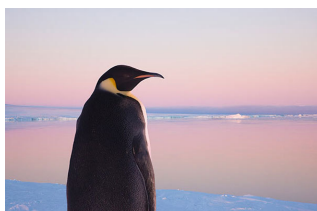
There are no events in December 2010 and January 2011

Month	The Basin Community House	Selby Community House	Doncaster Try Activity Ctr	Special Event
<b>Sept</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>26<sup>th</sup> RASV Sh2Sh Comp</b>
<b>October</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>9<sup>th</sup> Mont Delancey</b>
<b>November</b>	20	18	25	<b>27<sup>th</sup> Chesterfield Farm All Welcome</b>

## Extra Opportunities and Events:

Month	Event	Time	Activity
<b>October 2<sup>nd</sup></b>	<b>Kallista Market</b>	<b>8am-130pm</b>	<b>Display and selling</b>
<b>October 14<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Philip Island Spin in</b>	<b>10am-4pm</b>	<b>Group spinning and socializing</b>
<b>October 15<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Doncaster Knit Workshop</b>	<b>930am-130pm</b> <b>Includes lunch</b>	<b>(Washing Garments)</b>
<b>October 15/16<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Wandin Silvan Field Days</b>	<b>8am-5pm</b>	<b>Display and selling both days</b>
<b>October 20<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Knitting Class Doncaster</b>	<b>10am till noon</b>	<b>Own project</b>
<b>November 17<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Knitting Class Doncaster</b>	<b>10am- noon</b>	<b>Own project</b>
<b>November 19<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Doncaster Knit Workshop</b>	<b>930am –130pm</b> <b>Includes lunch</b>	<b>(Christmas Craft)</b>

There will be another newsletter for 27<sup>th</sup> November at Chesterfield Farm, which will contain the timetable for 2011. I will be scheduling a talk on weaving, and one on designing different kinds of yarn, and I am interested to hear who would like to visit Cheryl Crosbie at Granite Haven Alpacas. Shall I schedule another bus to Bendigo and how about a visit to the Wool Museum in Geelong? Just a few thoughts to tide you over till the next edition.....



**Regards,**



# SPINNING IN ANTARCTICA

*Marion's 'spin' on the frozen continent*



Send your favorite or special photo and its description to the **Photo Competition** on the Website:  
It does not have to be anything to do with sheep or wool, could be just noteworthy.  
Every entry will receive a special, handwritten and signed Postcard mailed from Antarctica!

Please email as a JPG or PNG file

Email to: [Photo@spinningyarninAntarctica.com](mailto:Photo@spinningyarninAntarctica.com)

Send one photo per email, each with its own description

You can provide a pen name for publication,  
but provide your real name also



