

# WISH - Edition 28



Hello and welcome to another edition of WISH!

We are delighted to announce our next WISH Get Together will take place on the 19th May (further info on **page 2**).

Thank you, as always to our wonderful contributors, from baby blankets to paper crafting, there is much in this edition to get your creative juices flowing!

I hope you enjoy reading it as much as I have enjoyed compiling it :-)

Look forward to seeing some of you in May!!!

With best wishes, Rebecca :-)



# WISH GET TOGETHER 2017

**WHEN:** Friday 19th May 2017  
9:00am - 3:00pm

**WHERE:** The Bike Shed, Grant Street,  
Inverness, IV3 8BN

The arts venue is a short walk from the city centre.  
There is also parking nearby.

**Morning Session - Mosaic Workshop by Sally**

**Afternoon Session - Card making workshop by  
WISH member Susan (featured in this issue).**

**WHY:** FUN! An opportunity to meet  
like-minded crafters!

No previous experience required all materials and  
equipment provided. Just bring yourself!

Also a YUMMY LUNCH is provided :-)

If you would like to come along for the Get Together, please can you contact the office and let us know (also if you have any special dietary requirements) by Tuesday 9th May:

Telephone: 01463 235675

E-mail: [alanduncan@befriendershighland.org.uk](mailto:alanduncan@befriendershighland.org.uk)



## [Mermaid Scale Baby Blanket by Sally](#)

### Requirements

- 5mm needles or circular needle.
- Size – pram size approx. 27 x 36 inches. You can make bigger by adding multiples of 6 extra stitches.
- Use 2 different colours of wool – Main Colour (MC) and Contrasting colour (CC). The lacey border is knitted in the CC.

### **Abbreviations**

k = knit

p = purl

sl = slip

st = stitch

wyif = with yarn in front – keeping  
yarn to front of work

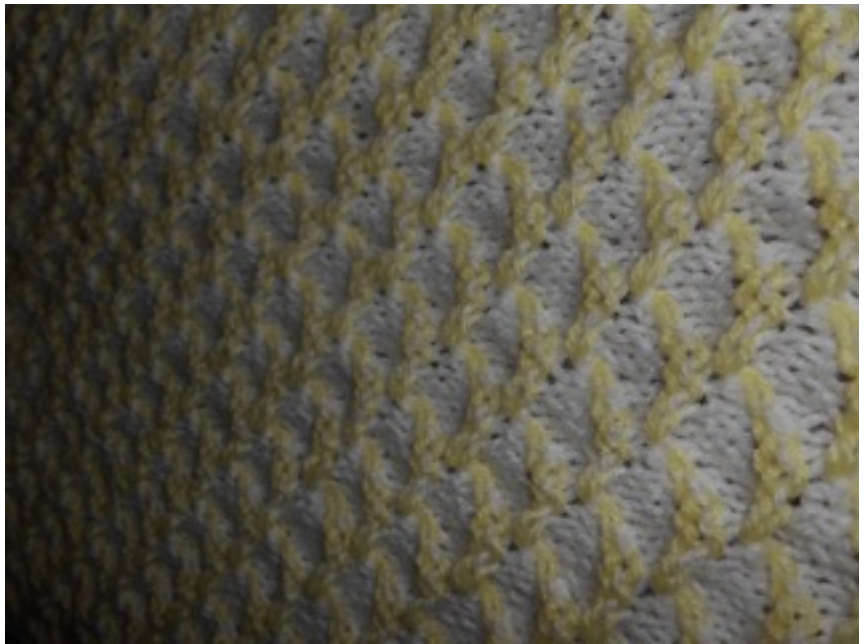
wyib = with yarn in back – keeping yarn to back of work

yfwd – bring yarn forward (as if you were going to purl next stitch) then knit next stitch which automatically creates another stitch as yarn is brought across needle.

K2tog – knit next 2 stitches together

Lift up loops = Insert point of working needle under the 2 loose strands, moving the needle up from

below the strands, knit the next stitch, then pass the 2 loose strands over the stitch just knitted and off the point of the needle.



## **Blanket**

**Cast on 107 sts.**

**Row 1** (right side) – knit

**Row 2** (wrong side) – purl

Follow the mermaid scale pattern below starting with Row 1

**Row 1:** CC. K1, P3, \*wyif sl3 purlwise, p3\* rep from \* to last st, k1

**Row 2:** CC. p1, k3, \*wyib sl3 purlwise, k3\* rep from \* to last st, p1

**Row 3:** MC. knit

**Row 4:** MC. purl

**Row 5:** MC. K5, \*lift up loops, k5\* rep from \* to end

**Row 6:** MC purl

**Row 7:** CC. p1, \*wyif sl3 purlwise, p3\* rep from \* to last 4 sts, sl3 purlwise, p1

**Row 8:** CC. k1, \*wyib sl3 purlwise, k3\* rep from \* to last 4 sts, sl3 purlwise, k1

**Row 9:** MC. Knit

**Row 10:** MC. Purl

**Row 11:** MC K2, \*lift up loops, k5\* rep from \* to last 3 sts, lift up loops, k2.



**Row 12:** MC purl

Repeat last 2 rows until work measures approx. 36 inches or desired length. Then cast off.

**For lacey edge.**

**CC.** Cast on 8 stitches.

**Row 1.** (Wrong side). Sl1, k1, (yfwd K2tog) twice, yfwd, k2 (9 sts)

**Rows 2, 4 & 6** = sl1 and k to end

**Row 3.** Sl1, k2 (yfwd k2tog) twice, yfwd k2 (10 sts)

**Row 7.** Sl1, k4 (yfwd k2 tog) twice, yfwd k2 (12 sts)

**Row 8.** Sl1 K11

**Row 9.** Sl1, k11

**Row 10.** Cast off 4 sts. K to end (8 sts)

Repeat these set f 10 rows until the border is long enough to go round the outside edge of the blanket. Stitch the edge of the border to the outside edge from the underside.



## Paper Piercing - by Susan



I'm a paper crafter. That means I have a craft stash which will last beyond my life expectancy! Some of the beautiful designer papers that I have in my stash are just too lovely to use, and then if I do use them, I can't bring myself to throw any of the offcuts away. I also have lots of those paper pads that come as a free gift with craft magazines, some of which are useful, but some are quite bright and bold so you just put them away with your stash until you find the right project!

As a result of my hoarding I have ended up with a huge store of paper and an equally huge amount of paper scraps!! If any of you are paper crafters you will understand, so I thought I would share a technique with you which will help you to use up some of those bits and pieces of paper – paper piecing.



Basically, this technique involves using a rubber stamp to stamp an image onto both plain card and patterned paper (or two complimentary and contrasting patterns). You then cut out elements of the image on the patterned paper, and stick them onto the image on the plain paper. The technique can be used for all sorts of occasions and projects, card making, scrapbooking and home décor.

Included in this article are a few examples of cards I've made using this technique – I hope they give you some inspiration to have a go yourself.



### **TOP TIPS**

- If you don't have rubber stamps, you could use a stencil or draw your own design to create the same effect and use patterned paper from a magazine, paper bags or even the inside of envelopes
- Choose a design that is quite easy to cut out and then it's quite a relaxing, rather than frustrating technique!
- Use a glue that dries clear, tacky glue rather than very wet glue, otherwise your paper pieces may wrinkle up.
- A glue pen is really useful if your pieces are very small and fiddly.

**A note from the editor** – If you fancy giving this a go Susan will very kindly be running a card making workshop at this year's WISH Get Together, this technique will be incorporated in the workshop.

See **page 2** of this edition for more details on the WISH Get Together.



## My Granddaughter's Jellyfish Pillow by Janet

Janet wanted to share with the WISH readers a project she recently completed with her Granddaughter.

My Granddaughter made the below pink jellyfish and wrote to me asking for my help to make her creation into something she could give to her Mum, her letter read:

"I made this in textiles last term and it is a jellyfish. I worked really hard to make this jellyfish. I was wondering if you could make it into a pillow for mum for her anniversary ...."

I have just finished the edges and made a label for her.



## Chevron Log Cabin Cot Quilt by Janet

I made this recently for a cousin who has just had a baby boy.

This is an easy variation of traditional log cabin pattern. It is made by setting strips or “logs” against the square in chevron design, which means sewing strips to two side of square only. It is easy to piece by hand or machine. The examples shown used centres 2.1/2” square and strips 1.1/2” wide



The chevron blocks are set on point all in the same direction and are joined **diagonally** using plain triangles to fill in at sides and corners. Put simply, starting at top left hand corner :

1<sup>st</sup> row should comprise 1 large triangle, 1 square and 1 large triangle.

2<sup>nd</sup> row should comprise 1 large triangle, 3 squares and 1 large triangle.

3<sup>rd</sup> row should comprise 1 small triangle, 5 squares and 1 large triangle.

4<sup>th</sup> row should comprise 1 large triangle, 5 squares and 1 small triangle.

5<sup>th</sup> row should comprise 1 large triangle, 3 squares and 1 large triangle

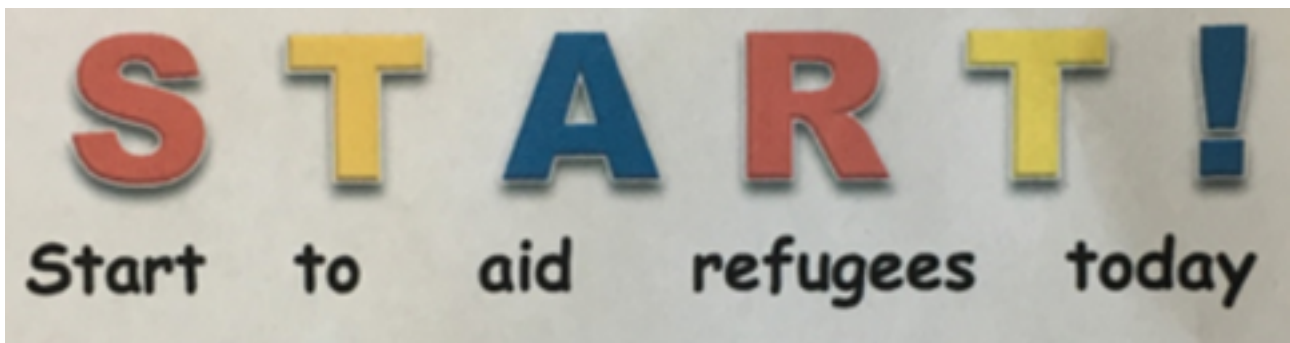
6<sup>th</sup> row should comprise 1 large triangle, 1 square and 1 large triangle

Finally join each row, matching corners neatly and add final 2 small triangles at corners. Borders are 4” wide.

The two brightly coloured cot quilts were made using matching chevron squares many years ago. The blue cot quilt was made using a variety of blue scraps for a cousin who knew she was having a boy and wanted a contemporary ‘all blue’ cot quilt. I finished with label with name and birth date



**'Many woollen make more warmth'**



**Can you knit or crochet?**

**Then join us in making 6" x 6"  
squares to create blankets for  
Refuges!**

**When:** Tuesdays at 2:30pm

**Where:** St Columba's Church Hall

Tea, Coffee and Biscuits provided

For more information, contact: Caroline on 01667 455383



## The Start! Group in Nairn

The Start! Group in Nairn is an excellent initiative set up to provide blankets for Refugees, WISH member Caroline started the group 1 year ago.

The group has 6/7 people who regularly attend the group at St Columba's Church Hall. Other members knit from home and send knitted squares in 2/3 of the members then sews & crochets the squares together into blankets



The blankets then get dropped to the Findhorn Foundation to be sent on to places such as Greece & Lebanon

The Start! Group is always looking for new members. If you would like to join & go along for a friendly knit & chat in Nairn. You can also get involved from home and send on knitted squares to the group.

For more information contact **Caroline** on **01667 455383**

**WANTED**

The group is always on the lookout for unwanted balls of wool that can be knitted into blankets. To donate wool please get in touch with Caroline.





## Swirl Hat by Janet

Patterns by Mandie Harrington (©  
2009 Amanda Harrington)  
[SheepyTime@gmail.com](mailto:SheepyTime@gmail.com)

This is an easy knit hat, worked with soft fingering weight yarn that is quick to work up and stretchy enough for longer wear in growing children. Soft yarn and close fit makes this great for chemo caps.

**Yarn:** 20-50 grams of Sheepy Time Yarns Panda Feet.

**Needles:** US Size 3 (3.25mm), or size needed to achieve gauge. Use circular or DPNs as desired.

**Gauge:** 13 sts=2 inches in stockinette stitch.

**Sizes:** To fit head measuring:

Preemie 12"-13"

Newborn 13"-14"

4-12m 14"-16"

12m-2y 16"-19"

Child 18"-20"

Adult 20"-22"

### Directions:

Cast on 72 (80, 88, 96, 112, 128) stitches. Join, being careful not to twist.

\*K2, P2\* around for 8 rounds.

\*K2, YO, K4, K2tog\* Repeat each round until work measures 4.5" (5", 5.5", 6", 6.5, 7") from cast-on edge.

*Begin crown shaping as follows:*

1. \*K2, YO, K3, K3tog\*, repeat. 63 (70, 77, 84, 98, 112) stitches remain.
2. \*K2, YO, K3, K2tog\*, repeat.
3. \*K2, YO, K2, K3tog\*, repeat. 56 (60, 66, 72, 84, 96) stitches remain.
4. \*K2, YO, K2, K2tog\*, repeat.
5. \*K2, YO, K1, K3tog\*, repeat. 45 (50, 55, 60, 70, 80) stitches remain.
6. \*K2, YO, K1, K2tog\*, repeat.
7. \*K2, YO, K3tog\*, repeat. 36 (40, 44, 48, 56, 64) stitches remain.
8. \*K2, K2tog\*, repeat. 27 (30, 33, 36, 42, 48) stitches remain.
9. \*K1, K2tog\*, repeat. 18 (20, 22, 24, 28, 32) stitches remain.
10. \*K2tog\*, repeat. 9 (10, 11, 12, 14, 16) stitches remain.

Sizes 12m and larger:

11. \*K2tog \*, repeat. 9 (10, 11, 6, 7, 8) stitches remain.

Break yarn and pull through remaining stitches. Draw closed, and weave in all ends.

## Crochet Blankets by Susan

I'd like to share a couple of crochet blankets that I finished recently which were both quite simple patterns, although the king size one took ages to complete because it was so big.

The first blanket I made for my friend who has just adopted a baby girl called Ellie, who is a toddler, rather than a new baby, so I wanted something other than pastel colours.

I used a free crochet pattern by Joanna McVey that I found on Pinterest which came from her blog:  
<http://southerndaisy.com/2013/10/02/chevron-baby-blanket-free-pattern>.



The pattern was super-easy to follow and it grew quite quickly which was great to keep me motivated. My only concern was that the free pattern didn't tell you how much yarn you required so I had to guess and had a fair bit left over. I ended up using about 3x50g balls of pink, and 6x50g balls of both white and taupe, a size 5mm crochet hook, and used a washable double knitting yarn by Bergere de France, called Sonora, which was 50% cotton and 50% acrylic. The only other point to note is that the pattern uses US crochet terms, so don't forget that if you're going to make one yourself.



I saw a similar blanket for sale on Etsy, which had a little applique elephant and heart on it, so I made up a pattern myself (sorry I didn't make a note of how I did it!), as I thought it made the design a bit more child friendly. With some of the other leftover yarn, I also made a little elephant from the Ed's Animals book by Kerry Lord - this is the seventh animal I've made from this

book, so beware they are very, very addictive! Little Ellie is using her blanket in the car to keep her warm and cosy, so I'm pleased she likes it.



The second blanket is all done in one colour so it grows quite quickly, and you can make it whatever size you choose.

I started it back in April last year, from a pattern in the "Crochet in no time" book by Melody Griffiths. The book promised the project could be completed in a day, and honestly, if you did a small blanket of the proportions in the original pattern, it probably would only take a day!

The project is comprised of large "granny" squares, with quite a simple pattern (easy to remember after doing so many) which incorporates a bobble type stitch, and which starts with a circle of treble stitches around a magic ring.

The squares are joined together with a zig-zag crochet pattern, but I have modified the pattern slightly for the corner areas between the squares, and I also added a wide border around the finished blanket, finished with a picot edging.



The pattern uses a chunky lightweight yarn, but I used an aran yarn, and a large 7mm hook and it worked perfectly. Sorry I can't replicate the pattern for you, but if you want a copy I'm happy to copy it and leave it for you in the office for collection.

**Keep on Crafting  
and  
Keep on Shining!!**

The deadline for the next issue of WISH is **Friday 30th June 2017**

You can get in touch in the following ways:

**Telephone:** 01463 235675  
**E-mail:** [alanduncan@befriendershighland.org.uk](mailto:alanduncan@befriendershighland.org.uk)  
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**'Befrienders Highland'**



**@BefHighland**