



Annual Bulletin 2013



Twenty years and 300,000 + Wraps!

On 24th October 2012 Wrap with Love celebrated 20 years of operation. Formed in 1992 and based on the simple idea of asking volunteers to knit squares which could be sewn together to make a warm blanket, the organisation has grown spectacularly. From the first shipment of fifteen wraps sent to Mozambique, Wrap with Love now donates over 30,000 wraps each year through bona fide Aid Agencies who distribute them all over the world to areas of trauma and need. Coinciding with the celebration of our 20th birthday we achieved the milestone of a total of 300,000 wraps distributed. Our wraps have now reached more than 50 countries as well as providing warmth to many needy people in Australia.

Our birthday celebrations included morning teas at the warehouse at Alexandria, where members of knitting groups could see for themselves how squares are sorted by size and colour into bags for assembling into wraps, and the packing of finished wraps into strong yellow bags for transportation. We also welcomed a group of workers, volunteers and donors who have provided invaluable help over the years. Wrap with Love is a non-denominational, non-racial and non-political organisation incorporated with the Department of Fair Trading NSW. Its continuing success depends on a wide network of supporters, to whom we say a heartfelt THANK YOU.

WRAP with LOVE Inc.

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www.artsandcraftsnsw.com.au/Wrap.htm
Office/Warehouse Hours 10.00 am to 2.30 pm
Wednesdays and Fridays only

Next Annual General Meeting:
Friday 21 March, 2014

Wrap with Love Inc Annual Holidays
Close: Wednesday 18 December 2013
Re-open: Wednesday 5 February 2014

Management Committee
elected at 2013 AGM

Chairperson: Jayne Goodes
Secretary: Gail Rochester
Treasurer: Roy Rigotti
Committee:
Michel Roser
Lorraine Sutton
Joan Secker
Jennifer Gordon
Alex Gonzalez
Poppy Becher
Alida Gray
Lorraine Downey
Janet Birmingham



Chairperson's Report Annual General Meeting 27th March 2013

The year of 2012 was WWL's 20th Birthday Year and was satisfyingly busy. During 2012 we had sent 36,744+ wraps to 'cold humanity'.

The morning teas held in September were very enjoyable. Up to five visitors from any knitting groups were invited to visit the warehouse. Most had never been to Alexandria and after the visit the word most used was "gobsmacked" at the work carried out there.

In August, we had the final Knit In with the ABC in Ultimo with Linda Mottram being the host. There were sheep, a shearer, sheepdog, singing, music, interviews and much conversation and camaraderie.

It was a wonderful finale and now this year, 2013, we are encouraging Knitting Groups throughout NSW to have their own Knit Ins during the months of June and July. The ABC will help us with media support regarding times and places for the events. The ABC Knit In brought in over 10,000 wraps - a record for the tenth year. Over our ten year association with the ABC, the total for the event reached over 50,000.

The WWL 20th Birthday Celebration was held in the warehouse on the 24th October. A very successful evening, with food prepared and served by Michel Roser, a volunteer, and his friends. Many WWL supporters from over the years were present as well as representatives from companies, councils, and businesses that had helped WWL over the past 20 years.

We finished the year packing and dispatching right up to the week before Christmas. Since we returned to the warehouse in February the wraps have poured in. In my time as a volunteer I have never known us to be so busy at this time of the year. This means that our dedicated Knitters must be creating over summer! No stopping them, and the need for a Wrap with Thanks to all the Volunteers who come to the warehouse each Wednesday and Friday to do the packing, sorting, office work, quality control and so on.

This year, we have already packed and sent Wraps to: Madagascar; Kenya; Nepal; Australia; and, East Timor.

Jayne Goodes
Chairperson
March 27th, 2013 AGM

<u>Wraps distributed</u>	<u>2012</u>
Australia	2135
ADRA	1056
Africa	43
Argentina	2509
Armenia	2557
East Timor	140
Ethiopia	27
Fiji	150
Hong Kong (Crossroads)	2158
China, Taiwan, Pacific Islands	
Madagascar	1041
Mission Without Borders	4047
Albania, Bosnia, Bulgaria, Moldova, Romania, Ukraine	
Mongolia	4081
Nepal	23
Philippines	1021
PNG	148
South Africa	10
Tanzania	538
Thailand	1609
Uganda	14
World Mission	57
World Vision	8106
Zambia	40
<u>Annual Total</u>	<u>31510</u>

Total Number of Wraps

Dispatched since 1992

323648

The Yarn Line



Our 20th birthday cake

Many hospitals and waiting rooms now make yarn and needles available for patients and relatives. Knitting is a relaxing activity requiring little concentration, and we're told it helps. We are always pleased to receive **yarn** at the Warehouse, so if you have a cupboard full you're not going to use, please think of Wrap with Love. And tell your friends!



Some of our knitters like to include a **kangaroo** in one of the squares, but this is absolutely your choice. It is NOT a requirement, as some people seem to have heard. We do like to have our WWL label sewn on each wrap, though. **We don't know how the rumours start** ... There is NO truth in the story that we have dumped wraps because of an oversupply, or that less-than-perfect squares are thrown away. All contributions are utilised at WWL.

... in fact we have treasures amongst our volunteers who take up the challenge of these less-than-perfect squares and transform them into warm and attractive wraps. Works of art, indeed. If you're curious to know what happens at the warehouse in Alexandria, you can arrange a visit for **morning tea** on a Wednesday or Friday morning. Ring a few weeks in advance to arrange a time.



Knitter Mavis, who is in care at Penrith, has only one hand, but she doesn't let that fact stand in her way. When her daughter Lorae visits, they take one needle each and away they go. Phyllis Sinclair, a knitter with the Lower Mountains Neighbourhood Centre, turned 100 on May 1. Congratulations Phyllis. We know we have another knitter of 100 who is blind, and she's very productive on Wrap's behalf. As is another of our contributors ... at 104. We recently received a wrap from a 17 year old boy with multiple sclerosis whose gran taught him to knit. If you have a story, let us know. We wonder who our youngest contributor is.

Sonia's first squares were knitted in **wool**. These days we welcome squares in **all types of yarn**, and they can be **crocheted**, too.

Our policy at Wrap with Love is that wraps are a **free gift**, and must not be sold, traded or raffled. We carefully check the bona fides of the organisations who accept our wraps, and ask for their guarantee that our wraps will be properly distributed.

Parcel Post Plus plastic bags are the most economical means of posting wraps and squares to the warehouse. A normal wrap, when folded tightly, will fit into the 1kg bag.

Addressing goods for the warehouse correctly is really important! Please put your name and group name, and number boxes 1/3, 2/3, 3/3 so that we know how many to expect.



'When I wake up in the morning I like to cuddle my blanket'

'My blanket is really special because I cuddle it every night'

'When I'm cold I always wrap myself in my blanket'

'I like to cuddle my blanket when I'm cold, it makes me feel safe'

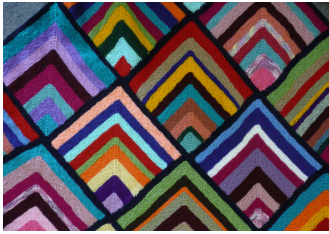
'When I'm in bed my blanket keeps me warm'
'My Love Wrap is amazing'

Children from St Johns, Lambton



Kay Wright sends news of the **Clinical Excellence Commission** whose 'Clinical Knitting Commission' has been working for us for a number of years. To recognise the contribution the group has made to Wrap, CEC's CEO organised a 'men's lunch', where the men did all the cooking. What a great idea.

Belinda, on behalf of **Anglicare NSW Southern Tablelands**, has sent a 'thank you' for wraps we provided to support families experiencing homelessness, domestic violence and other life-changing situations.



CANADA BAY, Sydney

Wrap with Love has been running very successfully in the Canada Bay area since 2004. A new Library was built in 2008 and we were asked to start a knitting group which has been popular since commencement. The librarians have been so co-operative and local knitters have been encouraged to drop their wraps there any day of the week.

A lot of knitters outside the area have heard of us and squares and wraps appear at my front door regularly with no name attached. A large number of aged and sick women knit from their homes and I pick up the finished wraps. Local young women have encouraged men and women well away from Concord to be part of our achievement.

I attempt to contact every knitter with a Christmas letter skiting of the number of wraps delivered to Head Office that year.

On 31st July we are holding a birthday party to celebrate five years at the Library and also a Wrap with Love Knit-in. We have a lot of fun.

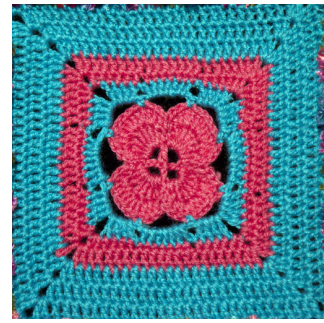
Bernice Harper

EDEN HILLS, SA

The actual group of women meets about every six weeks to knit and chat, 'show and tell' and generally catch up. It comprises about 20 but the number attending is growing. We meet in the home of two of the members, one of whom was an instigator of the first ever WWL meeting in this particular area. Last year we had our first ever South Australian Knit-in, hired a hall, brought our lunches and about 35 women attended and we had a good time.

...[We have discovered that] Booth's Transport, a local wine transport company who sent goods interstate on a regular basis as part of their business were prepared to backload our carefully packed bags of wraps and get them to the Sydney depot at no charge. What a great gift to Eden Hills. We seem to be attracting a lot of squares from wherever, not all the regulation 10 inch squares, so soon we will be holding a 'feral fixing day' to try and use these well-meant efforts. Thank you Elaine Bagshaw at the Alexandria depot for your training in this particular exercise!

Lyn Wells

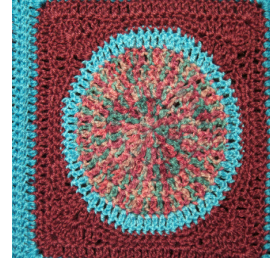
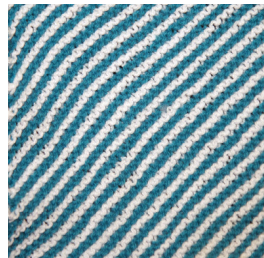
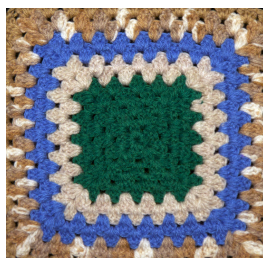


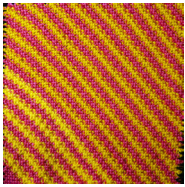
NORTHERN BEACHES

In 2002 a friend and I heard Barbara Holborow on the ABC speaking about Wrap with Love. We both felt we should do something to support Wrap. We have grown to a group of twelve who come together to sew blankets every few weeks. We call ourselves 'the Newport Ladies'. These days are always relaxed and fun. As a result of the ABC Knit-in there is a group of knitters and sewers who come together every Friday morning at the Mona Vale Library. The staff of the library are most supportive. As a Drop Off person I am also in contact with Pittwater Palms Retirement Village, Newport Probis, Peninsular Gardens Retirement Village, Minkara Retirement Village, the Rehabilitation Unit of Westmead Hospital and the Maria Regina Church. As you can see we are pretty busy groups out here. WWL is a wonderful organisation and we are very pleased to be a part of it.

Liz Daly

VALE 2012	
Patricia Bush	Barbara Holborow
June MacDonald	Edith Lundie-Jenkins
Edith Morrison	Margaret Murray
Carol Parkinson	Patricia Stenning
Helen Turner	Mary Walsh





NEWCASTLE/ LOWER HUNTER, NSW

Wrap with Love has a ripple effect!! Knitting with love has been the Friday lunchtime order at Maitland Public School all year. Boys and girls from Kindergarten to Year 6 have gathered with parents, grandparents and teacher Mrs Jane Fincher to create knitted squares which will be made into blankets to send overseas.

As far as Mrs Fincher is concerned, knitting and sewing are essential life skills that all children need to know. 'These sorts of activities also enhance a child's fine motor skills,' she says. 'Our students have achieved many positive gains in self esteem through their involvement in this initiative.'

The Hunter Knit-in will be held at the Lake Macquarie City Art Gallery on Friday 19th July, with the theme of FLOWERS.

Shirley Chapman

SPECIAL THANKS

To the many transport companies which have provided assistance (too many to acknowledge individually)

To the Guardian Funerals Group which provides drop-off facilities for knitters and transfers goods to our Warehouse

To Rotary International which organises the transfer of goods from the Knit-in venues throughout NSW.

RED CROSS

Recently, Red Cross Migration Support Programs received a donation of wraps from Wrapped with Love. We work with people who are vulnerable in the migration space, most of whom have limited English, limited capacity to access work, and limited resources to purchase essential household goods. Caseworkers and clients alike were overwhelmed with the generosity and thoughtfulness of the creators of the wraps and would like to thank everyone involved for making our clients feel welcome in the community. **Janelle Sayers**

CENTRAL COAST, NSW

Here on the Central Coast we have been busy sending down since February already 400 wraps (as at 7 April).

This can only be done with the many willing hands up here. Importantly is news that we are to hold a Knit-in on August 2 and this has come about due to the generosity of the Mayor Laurie McKinna who has waived costs in connection with hiring the Auditorium at Erina Fair, essential as we are going it alone this year and the venue was important. It is to be known as the Central Coast Knit-in as the ABC have no involvement this year.

The local people will do what they can to assist us on radio. Meanwhile there is always much to do and we look forward to a productive year. A highlight was coming down for the AGM for Wraps in March. More folks should attend this meeting as from it we learn a lot.

Felicity Pyke

NEW LOOK KNIT-INS

The highly successful Wrap with Love ABC Knit-in, set in motion ten years ago by Angela Catterns, inspired a number of spin-off events, and for 2013, instead of holding one major knit-in we're encouraging groups, large and small, to organise their own during the months of June, July and August. We believe that this arrangement will have a number of benefits. More of our supporters, particularly those people away from major centres, will have an opportunity to participate directly.

And at the warehouse we'll receive the wraps and squares over a period of months, instead of all at once! The ABC continues to offer support, and has agreed to publicise local knit-ins for us. So if you have plans for a local event, let us know and we'll pass the information on to the ABC. And if you don't know of an event in your area, why not approach your local Library, Club or Council? 5

Wraps Around the World



Papua New Guinea

PAPUA NEW GUINEA

‘... The Baruni Rubbish Dump can be found on the outskirts of Port Moresby. The Food For Life program supports the hundreds of families who live there, providing food, clothing, and other essentials.

A school was built last year and an immunisation program has begun. One of our aid agencies ADRA, supports the program, and took Wraps with him on a recent trip to the area. The faces in the photos show the Wraps were well received...’



Moldova

MONGOLIAID

Barry Jiggins, a radiologist from Cairns, tells us that he has now sent 30,000 blankets to Mongolia, half from Wrap with Love. He has been delivering containers since 2009, paying for the transport himself. In the future he plans to focus on the setting up of a satisfactory water supply for the region.



Papua New Guinea

CROSSROADS FOUNDATION

‘...The blankets we have received from you over so many years are consistently of the highest quality. Their bright designs, snuggly feel, protective warmth and durability make them one of our most frequently requested items in our warehouse. Not only do they provide warmth, but they also convey sense of dignity, respect and of course love to those who receive them. When such people are battling poverty, disease, oppression, malnutrition, disasters, war on a daily basis, the donation of a WWL blanket is a significant gift indeed...’

Malcolm and Sally Begbie, Directors



The Philippines

Papua New Guinea



MADAGASCAR

'...Our Rotary team has travelled some 2,500 kilometres on very rough dirt roads of Madagascar over the past three weeks reaching the capital of Antananarivo and also to the remote and forgotten areas of the south. In general the inhabitants within the communities were very caring and considerate towards their elderly and sick, therefore we encountered no distribution problems as each identified recipient was called up and was wrapped by our volunteer Rotarians. Each wrap was personally placed by the volunteers around the shoulders of each and every one of the 1,000 recipients, with the words 'We wrap you with love.' It is possible that someone expressing caring and love had not been experienced by them for some time. Our wraps were possibly the only new item of anything these people have ever received. Meesowtra (Thank you)'

Peter Pearce, on behalf of the seven dedicated (and tired) Rotary team members
Shelterbox Australia Disaster Relief
Rotary Club of Gosford North.

Burundi

NEPAL

'...our epic trip to a small mountain village in the Gulmi district of Nepal. We went there to be present at the opening of the new wing of the Hope Disability Clinic. The blankets were very well received, although not needed at the time as it was 35 to 40 degrees every day. But winters get very cold here and they have no heating at the clinic...'



Meg Peterson

Mongolia



Papua New Guinea

The Philippines



South Africa



South Africa



Papua New Guinea



Santa Teresa, NT.



Romania



The Philippines



Armenia



South Africa