



ANNUAL BULLETIN 2021

Warming the World with Love



‘Our mission is to distribute wraps through aid agencies and charities to those needing warmth’

CONTACT US

Wrap with Love Inc
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www.wrapwithlove.org
ABN 54 188 564 833

OFFICE/WAREHOUSE

10.00am to 3.00pm
Wednesday & Friday only

MAIL AND PARCEL POST

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4 Huntley Street (off Bourke Rd)
Alexandria NSW Australia

Report from the Chair



I am sitting at home thinking about our past year. How this time in May we were opening up our warehouse with a skeleton staff due to “The Virus” all very positive that it would pass as quickly as it arrived. Well how wrong were we. Thankfully, our amazing knitters just ploughed-on regardless in fact some people actually said “being able to knit for us kept them sane”. We think it is now the new meditation. Our volunteers at the warehouse have been wonderful as shipping still continued.

The highlight had to be a full container of 3000 wraps leaving from our Sydney warehouse as Melbourne was in lockdown to go to another refugee camp in Syria along with boxes of dates.

The photos we have since received of people in long lines waiting for a wrap and a bag of dates really makes me realise how lucky we are.

Spotlight came on board as a drop off point all over Australia in conjunction with World Vision. This was a great help as they also paid for the postage on to be delivered to the warehouse.

We received the equivalent of 3000 Wraps which have since been sent to Somalia by World Vision. We are also very grateful to Millers for their campaign in April and May which collected a total of 2,488 squares and 11 wraps.

Thank you to DHL who once again have been great. We re-use their bags to pack all our wraps and we would struggle to find appropriate replacements. In the last two years Wrap with Love has sent out 49,500 wraps to keep people warm. What a fantastic effort! To the knitters, crocheters and quilters a huge thank you for all your amazing work of keeping people warm in Australia and all around the world. Thank you to all our volunteers, area contacts and drop off facilities.

Thanks to: Chris Fewtrell who travels many kilometres to various warehouses picking up wraps, Sydney Council for our accommodation grant, Guardian Funerals, Rotary Clubs, Meg and Tom Gervay, Kate Molyneaux and Gillian Mauchan (for our web page), all libraries and transport companies for their contributions throughout the year. A huge thank you to Dale Halloran, Sue Edwards and Jennifer Gordon and must not forget Reg Edwards for production of this bulletin.

We are constantly asked when is our bulletin coming out as it has such interesting stories and is a much-loved read.

Keep safe, healthy, and strong and most of all keep knitting so we can continue keeping people warm.

Lorraine Sutton

Wrap with Love Committee Members 2021

Chair- Lorraine Sutton

Treasurer & Public Officer – Roy Rigotti

Secretary – Patty Bruniges

Asst. Secretary - Kate Molyneaux

Committee Members – Lynne Bates,

Jennifer Gordon, Gillian Mauchan

Jan Whitford.

Dates for the Year

Friday 19th November 2021 - Last day for drop off

Friday 3rd December 2021 - Warehouse closes

Friday 28th January 2022 – Warehouse reopens

A Chat with Angela Catterns

It was a very cold winter. My darling father, Basil was in hospital and he kept complaining about how cold he was. So, I knitted him a scarf. I'm a very basic knitter ... I can knit a long straight scarf and can add tassels to the ends. And that's about it..., nevertheless, I mentioned on the 702 ABC Sydney Breakfast Show (which I was presenting at the time) that I was doing a spot of knitting.

And the floodgates opened! Everyone called in to talk about knitting. I did interviews about knitting in the pub and with the author of a book about knitting. And after seeing a small magazine article about Wrap with Love, I interviewed Sonia Gidley-King. Because of the surprising interest in knitting amongst our audience, the Promotions Manager at the radio station suggested we conduct a knitting competition of some sort.

I wasn't sure about a competition, but after some thought, I came up with the idea of a Knit-in. It was a way to harness the enthusiasm of the audience and contribute to a worthwhile cause – Wrap with Love. The first Knit-in was held in the cavernous atrium at the ABC's Ultimo headquarters in 2003. It was packed with hundreds of knitters who came from far and wide to knit squares and sew wraps together. There was a blind woman who was an astonishingly good knitter and a young schoolboy who'd come all the way from the Blue Mountains. It was a spectacular and heart-warming event and one which Sonia, as she literally lay dying, made me promise to continue. The Knit-in was held at the ABC every winter for 10 years.

Today, there are still knitting groups around the country who came together for the Knit-in.

Sadly, I'm still a pretty average knitter.



Editors' Note: We believe that Angela helped to put Wrap with Love "on the map" and as its founder, the late Sonia Gidley King OAM, noted: -

"At the end of the first Knit-in Program in 2003 we had 10 completed wraps as well as 248 squares, 10 large striped bags of yarn and hundreds of new volunteers. In addition, we received over 1400 telephone requests for information and offers of help..... Squares were joined together by willing hands and the outcome was the best year we have ever had. 11,600 wraps were distributed to those in need....." Wow!

A Great Effort

A HUGE THANK YOU to all our wonderful volunteers who, in the spirit of COVID-19, produced **22,923 wraps in 2020** making a grand total of **543,550 wraps to date**. As Sonia Gidley King OAM said: "When one considers that all wraps start with an inspirational idea, it just amazes us what can be done by humans caring about other humans."

The tale of the travelling wrap

Ever wondered how a wrap moves from point A to point B? This is the unique story of how a wrap began its' journey in Richmond Victoria and exchanged hands across the kilometres many times before ending up at the warehouse in Alexandria. Sue Davis took her wrap 10 km from Richmond to Lorraine's (Chairperson)) son in Brunswick who in turn travelled 646kms to his mother-in-law in Canberra for a stopover. He then travelled another 490kms to Lorraine in Fingal Bay who then took it 210kms to Forestville and finally the remaining 24kms to Alexandria. The total distance travelled was 1380kms before it was delivered to the warehouse. Wow what a journey!!!



Volunteers at the warehouse



Alexis Lander attended 4 ABC Knit-ins whilst still working. On retirement she became a volunteer at the warehouse taking on various responsibilities and enjoying the camaraderie. Alexis worked for Corrective Services for 24 years and is a member of the Women's Advisory Council (which advises the Commissioner for Corrective Services NSW on all matters relating to women inmates in gaol and women offenders in the community). She proposed to the Commissioner the idea of setting up a knitting group at Silverwater Women's Correctional Centre. The group, which meets weekly, began in late 2020 with yarn supplied by Corrective Services NSW and Wrap with Love. The women can knit for themselves and their families providing that they each produce 2 squares a month for Wrap with Love. This has been a very positive program providing much enjoyment for those involved.

Jan Whitford joined Wrap with Love early 2008 after listening to Angela Catterns. Her roles have included packing, quality control and as a committee member. Over the time she has been inspired by the change in colour usage, the amazing creative designs and the generosity of people. She feels that Wrap with Love is a lovely part of her life, being able to do something for someone whom she will never meet. Her husband, David has also knitted for Wrap with Love.



John Christian a long-time volunteer, was always the friendly face of Wrap with Love pre COVID-19 who would warmly greet visitors at the warehouse on Fridays and record and keep a tally of all the contributions. Due to pandemic concerns, John and his wife Helen, also a greatly valued volunteer at the warehouse continue sewing up squares at home.

Julie Robertson became aware of Wrap with Love twelve years ago when the late Sue Ritchie brought squares to book club to sew together. 5 years ago, Julie joined the "sorting of squares" team under the quality guidance of the late Poppy Becher. Julie has developed a floor grid system enabling the assembly of a wrap from squares of different sizes i.e., a system of jigsaw puzzles and colour coordination. She is pleased with Wrap with Love's use of "boomerang bags" for the 28 square packages thus avoiding the use of plastic bags. Julie enjoys the camaraderie of fellow volunteers and takes great delight in knowing that she is helping keep humanity warm.



Marilyn Pryor enjoys a very full community life. She joined Wrap with Love in 2007 when the organisation was smaller and with not as many wraps arriving at the warehouse. Her roles have included mending, packing and machining the labels onto the wraps. She has enjoyed being involved in the ABC Knit-ins and in particular our 2019 Knit-in at the Masonic Club. She loves the camaraderie developed with other volunteers at the warehouse and finds it heart-warming to see photographs of the smiling recipients of our wraps. Special thanks are also due to Marilyn's husband Phil who has contributed to Wrap with Love by travelling many kilometres out to truck depots to collect wraps.



Roy Rigotti has been a vital part of Wrap with Love for over 20 years in his roles as Treasurer and Public Officer. He became involved after sharing a class with our founder the late Sonia Gidley King OAM at the Aquinus Academy and offered to write up the books for Wrap with Love. He has witnessed the growth of the organisation, and especially after the ABC Knit-ins, with a current data base of approximately 3,500. Roy enjoys the nice company of the volunteers and the fact that he is doing something within his capability at the age of 87. He also finds peoples' many donations remarkable.

Catching up with some knitters, crocheters and stitchers



Gerry Eltis has been crafting beautiful wraps since 2007. Some thoughts from her COVID-19 Lockdown. "What better excuse to just go on knitting (so long as supplies hold out!) Hard times for many here in Oz, but harder, no doubt, for those for whom all those wraps are destined, here and abroad. So, thanks from us knitters to all those who also do the organising that makes the whole, giant exercise such as success".



Janette Frost of Bramley and Copeland Gardens Beecroft realised that the residence lives would probably change for ever with the COVID-19 lockdown in March 2020. She was concerned that their lovely community would be split without having the activities and social functions that they enjoyed.

She came up with the idea of having a "COVID-19 Knitting Challenge" whilst during lockdown. Residents were invited to knit squares to make wraps in May. It was a great success and Janette with the help of her

friend **Carolyn Smith** were able to send all the wraps they made to the warehouse. Residents expressed their joy at picking up needles and knitting for a purpose which was something many had not done for years. This was a community activity which has helped those less fortunate and allowed their community to stay connected with one another during this difficult period.



Margaret Mayes loves her craft work and for many years has been sewing squares together into works of art. She credits her grandmother for teaching her the art of knitting and crocheting, which now enables her to help out Wrap with Love. Hardly a day goes by in her busy life without having wool and needles in her hands. In the last 12 months she has created 275 wraps. Well done Margaret on an outstanding contribution.

Around and About with Community Groups

New South Wales

Burwood and Carlingford Library's (featured in 2020) **Helen Sibraa** has been involved with Wrap with Love since 2008 and currently looks after the two library groups. At Burwood she has 30 participants from various backgrounds who are eager to meet regularly. She is blown away by their creativity, friendliness and willingness to teach and inspire one another.



Dee Why Gardens Retirement Village has been involved for over 20 years. A regular knitting group of 20 now meets weekly. **Joan Lowe** reports that they produce 8 wraps per month as well as making articles for the South Coast communities devastated by bushfires. They also make and sell knee rugs to fund the purchase of yarn.



Donald Robinson Village (Kirrawee) Craft and Coffee members have been contributing to Wrap with Love after being inspired by the ABC Knit-ins some years ago. A wonderful committed group of approximately 24 enjoys meeting, knitting and chatting over a cuppa. Ten are original members with the eldest knitter being 99 years young! During the COVID-19 lockdown much knitting went on and in July



2020, they celebrated the completion of their 1000th wrap with an outdoor display on the Village Terrace - equivalent to many hours, balls of wool/yarn and 28,000 squares.



Fern Bay Wrap with Love began as a craft "Finishing School" which met weekly in the clubhouse of the Palm Lake Resort. This was aptly named by the coordinator **Sandra Davies** to encourage residents to finish off any incomplete projects they had. Soon her enthusiasm for creating Wrap with Love wraps rubbed off on the others. Now there are approximately a dozen members who have worked tirelessly to produce 415 wraps since 2017. Even during Covid-19 lockdown they continued working at home.

Sandra has been involved with Wrap with Love since 1994 when the Rotary District centred in the Hunter Valley introduced a project to provide squares for Wrap with Love. She continued her association over many years with **Shirley Chapman's** Lower Hunter group before moving to Fern Bay. Sandra's sister **Maureen Janas** became involved with Wrap with Love when Sandra would collect bags of different sized squares from the warehouse at Alexandria. As an important member of the group, Maureen enjoys the challenge of creatively assembling these squares into colourful wraps.



Goodwin Village in Woollahra has fourteen ladies all over 80 years of age in their knitting group. The group has been running for 20 years with **Jenny Wilton** having the responsibility for sewing the squares together.



Hills District Inner Wheel Club's Pamela Makin continues each year to creatively put together wraps from members' knitted squares. She has been doing this for over 10 years with numbers increasing from the start to over 20 wraps each year.

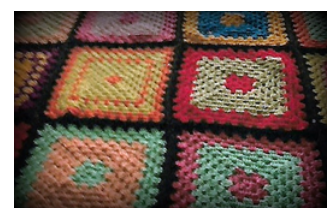


Italian Catholic Federation (FCI) of Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church, Mt Pritchard "Our group started knitting back in 2007 following an inspiring talk on the ABC. One of our group said nonchalantly in February 2020 "let's try to get to 2020 wraps completed by our group over the years by the end of the year". It seemed an impossible task but all our volunteers rose to the challenge, and with their usual good humour and wonderful community spirit, not to mention their fabulous skills, we met our ambitious target. Our group would like to thank Wrap with Love and send our love to all our kindred spirit volunteers across Australia. We are very happy that our wraps have contributed to the more than 500,000 wraps warming people across the world." **Rosina Tribbia**

Knit 2 Give Group from Toukley participated in a day of fun. An hour for a photo shoot, another hour for a take away coffee at Canton Beach Reserve on Tuggerah Lake, much laughter and chatter filling a wonderful time had by all. Squares we ask? Yes, knitting was part of the day.



McKillop Grange Retirement Village at Mosman supports a **Knit 'N' Natter Group** of 8 members with ages up to 97. The group gets together regularly to knit/crochet squares whilst having a chatter over afternoon tea. Convener **Judith le Gras** is kept busy sewing most of the squares together and offering support. One particular crocheted wrap was raffled within the village with great success, and the group was pleased to donate proceeds to "Wrap with Love".



Northern Beaches Secondary College Manly Campus introduced Wrap with Love to the college in 2007. From 2010 **Barbara Harrison and Heather Crawford** have coordinated the program with approximately 100 students participating. They enjoy learning the skill of knitting and are proud when they complete a square and see their square in completed wraps displayed in the library. They are surprised that knitting is relaxing. The program aligns to the School's Campus ethos of "giving back to the community." Over the years the program has extended to the wider school community of parents, teachers and friends.



Pennant Hills Library Group, coordinated by **Patricia Grant**, has produced 3,200 wraps over the last 10 years. Donated squares, including 600 from one nursing home resident, are sewn into wraps. Pre COVID-19 the group consisted of 18-20 meeting weekly and during COVID-19 met in a private home. Everyone is committed to the philosophy of Wrap with Love. Some of their wraps have gone to the Paediatric Ward at Westmead Hospital and to Bathurst Palliative Care.

Penrith Valley Rotary Club's Robyn Burton became involved with Wrap with Love in 2009, when Meg Gervay from the Rotary Club of Sydney Cove contacted Rotary Clubs to pick up and deliver wraps and squares to the Warehouse. Each visit Robyn now delivers approximately 70 wraps from the Penrith Community Knitters.



Yamba's Alma Bailey first heard of Wrap with Love on the ABC during an interview with Sonia Gidley-King. Alma had been taught to crochet by her niece Jane who was running a crisis centre and wanted to make rugs for people in need. Following the interview, Alma made contact with Wrap with Love for a contact in Maclean. Alma and husband Rex lived in Yamba and for years they would either drop wraps off at Maclean or transport wraps to Sydney whilst visiting their children. They were familiar with the Grafton newspaper, *The Daily Examiner*, so Alma decided to promote Wrap with Love by writing articles for the paper. As a result, many people donated wool and squares to her. When the local contact became too frail Alma took over the role. A family affair with Wrap with Love then began. Firstly, her sister **Maree** from Grafton started knitting groups and is now a local contact for many organisations. Alma's son **Larry** then moved home in 2012 and started helping Alma with the collection, packing of wraps and stitching of squares together. Larry's partner **Christine** then began knitting prolifically and helping him. Alma's daughter **Anna** now makes wraps and has volunteered at Wrap with Love in Alexandria. Alma who will turn 90 in September still distributes wool and collects wraps across the Yamba district. She intends to have a display of wraps on a table at her party. We thank Alma for the many years of service to Wrap with Love. Happy 90th Birthday Alma!!!

South Australia

The South Australian Branch of Wrap with Love started in 1996 and in that time, they have completed 32,116 wraps. Congratulations to all the members for the wonderful contribution they have made over the years. **Susan Crouch** who is the Hills Area Coordinator and her husband Phil deliver the wraps to Booths Transport. Many thanks to Susan and Phil for ensuring that the wraps arrive at Alexandria.

The Belair/Blackwood groups led by **Sue Jackson** have continued to create wraps while **Lyn Wells and her Corowood group** have continued knitting and crocheting with great dedication. They have met in a hall yard while maintaining safe distancing and were able to send 200 wraps to Alexandria in the last 6 months. Teresa aged 94 from Madeleine Marin's group has completed her first wrap and was very happy to help Wrap with Love.

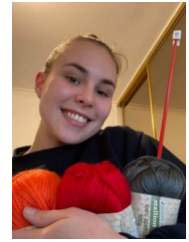
Many thanks to all the South Australian contributors for your continued commitment to Wrap with Love over the last 24 years.



Queensland

Bremer Waters Knitwits in Moores Pocket Retirement Home started in 2019 with just a few members and now hosts 22 regulars at weekly get togethers. **Liz Fisher and Sharyn Fuller** are valued members assisting the group to distribute completed wraps in the local Ipswich area to victims of domestic violence and to Rosie's Friends on the Street Van. Through the local Spotlight store, they were able to send approximately 300 squares to the warehouse.

Origin Energy Foundation had 136 passionate volunteers involved in the World Vision "Wrap with Love" Campaign during COVID-19. The volunteers, including children learning a new skill and the amazing 84-year-old mothers of staff, found that they had another purpose during the lockdown. In all 320 balls of wool produced 1000 crocheted or knitted squares, the equivalent of approximately 35 wraps.



Wrappers from Coolangatta was formed by **Joan Songaila** after **Valmay McKeague** of the Gold Coast gave her a Wrap with Love Bulletin. The group consists of residents from Joan's apartment block in Coolangatta. They catch up regularly to sew their squares together and label the wraps. Recently an appeal for unwanted yarn on their notice board produced several half-finished items which were quickly unravelled and made into colourful wraps. Joan's motto is "Long may we spread love and warmth around the world".



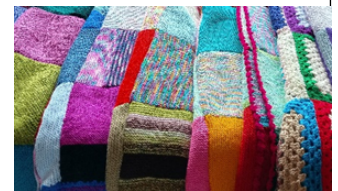
Many thanks to all the Queensland contributors for your continued commitment to Wrap with Love.

Victoria

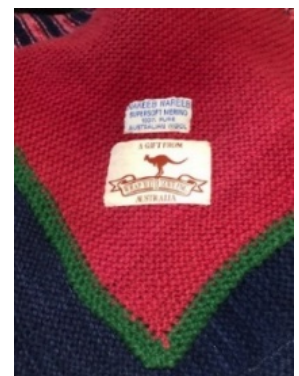


North Balwyn Uniting Church Knitters

has been supporting Wrap with Love since 2004 and have provided 1013 wraps during this time. The **coordinator Lesley Harden** is proud of their efforts in bringing comfort and warmth to so many needy people and is grateful to **Kent Removalists** who cheerfully transport the wraps to Alexandria free of charge.



Rosie Fairbairn reports that **The BH Knitters - What's App Group** from Barwon Heads near Geelong in Victoria was formed as a subgroup of **The Kings Cross Knitwits Group (KCKG)**. The group began with just a small number of friends knitting squares. After some bottles of champagne, the group has grown and members now take turns hosting the monthly get togethers. They have already completed wraps and squares which Rosie brings up to the warehouse. The group has so far been funded by KCKG, Charles Henry and Rosie Fairbairn. **Frankie Beggs** from "Nareeb Nareeb" near **Hamilton** in Victoria knitted squares for the KCKG from super soft merino wool grown on their family property which was established in 1848. Frankie has always been a great knitter and her squares were sewn together and the edges crocheted all in wool from "Nareeb Nareeb" by her sister Rosie Fairbairn.



Many thanks to all the Victorian contributors for your continued commitment to Wrap with Love.

Thanks to Libraries

Wrap with Love would like to acknowledge the many **Library Staff** involved in the excellent support given to their knitting groups.

With grateful thanks

Distribution of Wraps

Country or Agency	2020
Australia	4929
Armenia	1991
Cambodia	300
East Timor	10
Lebanon	200
Syria	3000
World Vision	8140
Annual Total	22,923

BaptistCare Shalom Centre

Macquarie Park residents were the grateful recipients of a delivery of patchwork quilts. These were given to the senior members of the community, who require extra support and need to move into an aged care facility, as a gift on their arrival or on their birthday. They were especially welcomed during the restricted community access time and helped to provide a more homely feel in their rooms.



Jenny from Mogo

on the South Coast says thank you for the beautiful wraps which were given to Jenny, her husband and four children. They lost absolutely everything in the 2020 bushfires leaving them with no home, no food and no clothes. The family, now in their new home, love their wraps.

Kirsty and Scott Woodward from Sydney started helping some friends with collecting and delivering wraps and winter clothing for a largely Indigenous community in the Northern Tablelands of NSW. Originally the second hand and new goods came from their church and friends. Blankets, a very important part of the support because of the very cold winters in the area, became scarce over time. A friend who had been collecting for her registered charity, Reach Cambodia, suggested they approach Wrap with Love and they have now been supported with wraps for about 5 years. The wraps really bless the community, with the leaders always asking if they will be bringing up wraps in their next run. They love the beautiful wool and colours (bright is best, or colours from the Aboriginal Flag). Whatever they can't use, they pass on to other communities in need in Northern NSW. Thank you, Wrap with Love for your role in supporting the community.



National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Corporation (NATSIC)

– the Transport and Community Services Division delivered Wrap with Love wraps to the small Aboriginal Malabulgimah and Baryugil communities in North Eastern NSW. They have also been delivered to very remote and isolated communities in the Anangu, Pitjantjatjara and Yankunytjatjara (APY) lands through NATSIC's

Health and Wellbeing Programs. Recently wraps were delivered to Aboriginal controlled organisations and community members in the Brisbane and the Moreton Bay region. The wraps continue to provide warmth and comfort to many. Thank you for your great work.



Young People Making a Difference was founded by **Ben Loewikus** who had been involved in NSW with Youth Insearch and who saw the need for establishing a support group for young people, between the ages of 12 and 19, in Central Queensland. **Darren Belling** is a volunteer with this group which organises 6 camps a year including 2 for leadership training. The camps, which focus on counselling and confidence boosting, average 50 – 75 participants from areas such as the Sunshine Coast, Bundaberg, Mount Morgan and Rockhampton. At these camps each new attendee receives a wrap from Wrap with Love.

Some other recipients of wraps include: Aboriginal Foundation in Redfern, Anglicare Moruya, Hammond Care Nursing Homes, Manly Women's Shelters, Newcastle Wrap with Love group donated to various local charities, Nymboida Community, Providential Homes, Ringwood (Victoria) donated to local needy people, Taree flood victims, Women's Shelter in Launceston and Youth Insearch.

International

Armenian Christian Mission (ACM) - Blankets for a War Zone



Nagorno Karabagh (ARTSAKH) was in a war in which they lost three quarters of their land making it another year of hard work for all of us. Today there is an influx of some 40,000 refugees into Armenia. Many lost loved ones in the war and there are many wounded soldiers. People have lost their businesses, cattle, farms, houses and their



belongings. In the harsh winter months when temperatures are often 30 degrees below zero, ACM has distributed food to many of the refugees and in the past six months we have sent four containers of aid – clothing, medical and hygiene products, some furniture as well as much needed and much-loved wraps supplied by Wrap with Love. On behalf of the refugees, we thank everyone for their hard work in knitting and sewing wraps. We are thankful to Wrap with Love for supporting our Mission.

Jesus said in His Olivet Discourse:

The King will reply, “Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me” (Matthew 25:40). Indeed, there will be rewards for your hard work. May the Lord bless you all and Blessings - Pastor Harry Kiuajian Chairman, ACM Australia

Australian Syrian Association Victoria (ASAVIC)



Amyna Helou reported that “In 2020, ASAVIC was not able to send the annual winter campaign container from Melbourne due to the COVID-19 restrictions. We called our friends from Wrap with Love and asked if they could help to get some wraps together to have them sent from Sydney instead. Together with some of our other Sydney friends, Wrap with Love was able to put together 3000 wraps, load them into a container and get them sent to the internally displaced camps in Syria. We at ASAVIC greatly appreciate the help of Wrap with Love in getting these lovely warm wraps

to those in need at a time when the world was still at the peak of the pandemic. Thank you very much”

Wrap with Love is pleased to acknowledge that the latest delivery of wraps which were held up in the Suez Canal due to a ship running aground have now arrived in Syria.



Monsignor Brian Rayner OAM from St Catherine Labouré Catholic Church, Gympie coordinates transportation of wraps to the **Montford Institute in Fiji**. The Institute provides accommodation, technical competence, possible job placement and general life skills for underprivileged rural youth. This empowers them to be productive members of their communities.

One Square at a Time - World Vision Australia

David Towill, Manager Corporate Partnerships. How often do we take warmth and comfort for granted? Although 2020 was a tough year for many of us in Australia, it was even tougher for vulnerable children and communities around the world. Every year, Wrap with Love donates thousands of wraps for distribution through World Vision projects. These vital resources are integrated into our emergency responses and maternal and child health programming - to provide protection from the cold and help prevent illness.

A light of hope last year was our partnership with Wrap with Love and Spotlight for the “One Square at a Time” campaign. With Spotlight stores offering to be a drop off point for squares and wraps, businesses and families knitted and crocheted to bring warmth and hope with over 5000 squares and 384 wraps collected. Wrap with Love provided a vital purpose for many during lockdown. Some of us learnt a new skill or picked up the skill again, with a passion to do something practical for someone else, one square at a time. During the period from 01/10/2019 to 30/09/2020, Wrap with Love donated 10,617 wraps that were distributed to places such as Somalia, Burundi, South Sudan and the Democratic Republic of Congo. Thank you Wrap with Love for the difference you make one square at a time!

Somalia story

As a result of ongoing conflict, the people of Somalia have been facing financial challenges, food insecurity and their country is currently homing approximately 2.6 million displaced people. In the Horn of Africa, World Vision provided a donation of warm wraps around Somalia that had been made and provided by our partner Wrap with Love – a group of dedicated volunteers from Australia committed to helping vulnerable communities through knitting needles. Although a blanket may be a staple for some, Wrap with Love wraps are acting as an important health promoting tool for the mothers who excitedly receive them, as they are used amongst themselves, their children and newborns in the community. With financial hardship being experienced for many in these areas, the purchase of a blanket often isn't able to be at the top of the priority list and Wrap with Love's wraps are making a huge difference for these families.



Zariki Primary School in Tanzania where wraps were delivered by Charles Henry and Rosie Fairbairn for the children who are boarders at the school. Of the school's 550 students, 100 boarders and teachers have been using Wrap with Love's 2019 donation of 144 wraps. These wraps are laundered weekly in the water from the fishing village on Lake Victoria (no washing machines) and have lasted very well. Charles and Rosie's donations of \$110,000 have enabled the school to buy a larger bus and 12 hectares of land for a proposed polytechnic and for growing vegetables. COVID-19 has caused their income to drop, however, there have only been 2 cases of the virus in the village and surrounds. The new kitchen and dining hall called Australia Hall were completed in 2020. The 5 graduating 2018 students were placed 1-5 in a class of 98 students in the local government secondary school. Charles continues to fund raise to supply necessities such as computers, photocopiers, printers etc.



Retiring Volunteers

Mary Luttgens has retired as the **Wangaratta** area contact for Wrap with Love. We would like to thank her for her many years of dedication to the organisation and we wish her well. She has now handed the baton onto Jenny Brown.

Photo courtesy of Wangaratta Chronicle



Vale

We acknowledge the passing of the following much loved contributors to Wrap with Love during the past twelve months: Marie Armstrong, Anne Berry, Edna Blayden, Judi Bristol, Jane Green, Coleen Hewitt, Gwen Jago, Barbara O'Brien and Leila O'Toole.

We would particularly like to acknowledge Edna Blayden's contribution to Wrap with Love. Edna, a WW11 Airforce veteran was a member of Jenny Rzepa's Batehaven group, along with a group of buddies who were very important to her. Edna, who was in her 98th year, crocheted wraps 7 days a week for many decades and was still crocheting on the day before she died.

DONATIONS

The WWL Committee would like to thank the many donors who have contributed to our success. We have unavoidable expenses of about \$12,000 per year and your continuing support is appreciated.

Your donations can be made by **Direct Debit**:

- Commonwealth Bank Society Account - BSB 062 112 Account No.1012 9742
- by sending a cheque to the following address, made payable to Wrap with Love Inc.

Wrap with Love

PO Box 10 Rosebery NSW 1445

AUSTRALIA

- via the **Give Now** Website - www.givenow.com.au - 



Editor's Note

Special thanks to **Jennifer Gordon** for her

contribution to the layout work and **Reg Edwards** for his time and excellent organisational and IT skills. Please look at our Website and Facebook for new patterns, instructions and up-to-date information. Happy reading,

Dale Halloran and Sue Edwards