

Long Buckby Machine Knitters

Newsletter



April 2024

From the Editor



Welcome to our April newsletter.

This meeting is about being inspired by the environment.

We will begin with our usual show and tell, then proceed with suggestions about inspiration from things we see around us.

This includes patterns and colour schemes, as well as man made items giving us ideas for things to knit.

We will also suggest tools to use for exploring these ideas.

Lynda
[and Pat]

Contacts:

Lynda administrator@longbuckbymk.com

Pat chairman@longbuckbymk.com

Calendar 2024

LBMK calendar 2024	All meetings are from 2pm to 4pm, and doors are open from 1.30pm. Membership fee: annual £5, plus £3 for most meetings, £5 for those with visiting speaker [marked with ***] Guest fees: £5 most meetings, £7 for those with visiting speaker. Tea/coffee and biscuits included
Date [all Mon]	Topic
8th Jan	Knitting in different directions
12 th Feb	Machine Knitting Forum – a chance to catch up on skills and friends!
11th March***	Neil Collison – knitting machine maintenance ****
8th April	Inspiration from the environment
13th May	Machine Knitting Forum – a chance to catch up on skills and friends!
10th June***	Erica Thomson – sewing machines for machine knitters
8th July	Yarn technology
12th Aug	Combining crafts
9th Sept ***	Claire Newberry – combining stitches
14 th Oct	Machine Knitting Forum – a chance to catch up on skills and friends
11th Nov	Adapting hand knitting patterns for the knitting machine
9th Dec	AGM/ COMPETITION, DISPLAY AND SALES. End of year celebration

**** Neil has kindly offered to look at any machine knitting parts which are causing issues, except for garter carriages, during the session.

Last Month

We were delighted to welcome guest speaker Neil Collison, who informed and entertained us on the subject of machine maintenance.



During the session, he disassembled a club machine and reassembled it as we watched, while explaining how to look after it, and what to avoid doing.

It was fascinating to see the inside of some parts of the machine, as well as bits that he had prepared earlier from other machines.

We all came away with a resolve to clean and care for our machines.



April

Inspiration from the environment

Pat and I were at the KCG convention in September, where Emma Vining [<https://www.emmavining.com/>] gave a keynote address on this topic, specifically finding patterns in everyday environments. She gave examples such as tramlines crisscrossing on a street and Belgian roof profiles.

While she was focused on hand knitting patterning, this encouraged me to look around at objects and nature in a more specific way for patterns. At the time, I looked at the conference chairs, and the pattern they made when stacked [which could apply to the chairs at the Community Centre].

The technical side of this is how to recreate both pattern and texture. Machine knitters have various techniques we can use to do this: cabling, tuck stitch and lace being a few.

Looking around for colour schemes is also a good way to start planning projects. The obvious place to look is in nature, flowers and trees/earth and sky/sand and sea etc. But even man-made objects can provide colour inspiration, either by design or by the way they are arranged. These are random items from my house - and already I can see colour schemes waiting to be transferred to projects.



Tools we can use.

Colour wheel: either physical or web based:

[Color Wheel Tool Online \(rapidtables.com\)](https://rapidtables.com/color-wheel/)

[Color Wheel - Color Calculator | Sessions College](#)

Stitch pattern design

The best way of doing this for knitting machines is DAK

The free way is through Stitch Fiddle

[Stitch Fiddle | Online knitting and cross stitch chart pattern editor software](#)

Which is fine for general planning

May

Next month we have a forum meeting. We have two workshops planned: drop spindle spinning and Knitting to Fit [including bust darts]. Let us know if you wish to join in.

OTHER EVENTS

Machine Knitting

2-days of knowledge sharing
'Gauging' level of interest



Organised by
Jane Harrisson

**SUN 2- MON 3
JUNE, 2024**
10.30 am-16.30 pm

Art at the Alex
72-73 James Street
RUGBY CV21 2SL

To find out more contact
jane@needlesofsteel.org.uk

**IF SUFFICIENT INTEREST
THIS WILL OFFER**
£20 for two days
(incl. tea/coffee),
non-residential, (social
meal as optional extra),
CSMs welcome
ARE YOU INTERESTED?



The Lewy Body Society
Helping people with Lewy body dementia

Thursday
17 October
2024
Manchester

A scarf for Lewy

Our giant scarf is coming to
Central Hall, Manchester M1 1JQ
on Thursday 17 October 2024

This year, we're asking for volunteers to get their knitting
needs out again. We need as many people as possible
to get involved with this unique challenge: Help us make
a real splash by knitting gloriously colourful scarves.

Your scarf should be roughly 30cm wide and as long as
you like, any yarn and colour. We need sufficient scarves
to make a mile-long banner for maximum impact.
The scarves will eventually be donated to charity.

Please send all your lovely scarves to:
Green Tree Court, 81 Harrington Lane, Easter Elix BHS
You can also send a scarf and wear it on the day.

If you'd like to help or you need more information contact:
e. info@lewybody.org t. +44 (0) 1942 914000
f. [@lewybodysociety](https://www.facebook.com/lewybodysociety) t. [lewybody.org](https://www.lewybody.org)

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OFF TOPIC



[IKEA VATTENKAR Desktop Shelf, Black, 49x15 cm](#)

I became aware of this via a sewing post on Facebook, and am going to buy at least one for my sewing machine table. But I think it would be good for machine knitting too. It comes in white also, and costs £15 - if you can't get to IKEA, delivery is £4, I think.

And, in a strange way related to this, [the post was in a group about projector sewing] I have been setting up my sewing workplace for projector sewing. I have bought a second hand Ultra Short Throw projector, an A0 cutting mat, which is mounted on an A0 whiteboard, propped up on two IKEA Kallax units, and I can connect this to my laptop, projecting pdf patterns on to the mat for cutting. Which means no more paper for me. Very quick and easy now, because, very recently, two apps have been released which enable calibration and projection almost instantly.

If you are interested in this here are some links to follow:

- (1) [Projectors for sewing | Facebook](#) which is an amazing resource with extremely helpful people behind it
- (2) [PDFStitcher](#) which is a free app for converting pdf patterns containing multiple pages to a single page for projection - brilliant
- (3) [Pattern Projector](#) which is a free web app for calibrating and projecting
- (4) [Project&Cut - Project. Cut. Create. \(projectandcut.com\)](#) which is an app for calibration and projection, 21 day free trial followed by a small payment if you wish to continue using it.
- (5) Inkscape is an open source free drawing program, which you can use to edit pdf patterns. [Inkscape 1.3 - Windows : 64-bit : msi | Inkscape](#) this is a link for Windows
- (6) If you are interested and look on the Facebook group page, you will find masses of pattern sources. The best ones are the ones made for projection, but others can be used with a little effort. [I have the added bonus of being able to make patterns with Garment Designer and print A0 pdfs with it. And I have found a way to use DAK like this too]

For Sale

Brother Electroknit Machine	KH965	£500
Ribbing attachment	KR850	£300
Knitleader	<u>KL116</u>	£30
Colour Changer	KHC820A	£40
Intarsia carriage	KA8210	£40
Linker	KA8310	£50
Knitting machine table (collapsible)		£20
Assorted ribber weights and accessories		£10
Instruction Books		
Video instructions for electronic machine		
Hague Linker		

I would be pleased to accept any reasonable offers for the above if anyone is interested.

Barbara Rose
fibrose@live.co.uk

07534104444

Club Sales

Contact Pat at chairman@longbuckbymk.com

We have 2 machines, both Brother electronic
2 x Ribber KR850

Suppliers

www.wools.co.uk - Uppingham Yarns

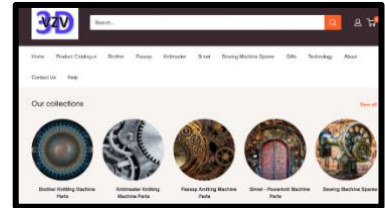
<https://yeoman-yarns.co.uk/> Yeoman Yarns

<https://www.yarnoncone.co.uk> Yarn on Cone

<https://woolyknit.com> Woolyknit
and this one deals in recycled fibres

<https://www.iinouiiio.com/>

For 3d printed parts try <https://vzv3d.com/>



Other information

Sally Butcher has a [Kalamunda Crafts](#) page on Facebook. Sally is an inspiring machine knitter, with lots of ideas and videos to keep you busy! And now she has her own YouTube channel

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCSDxy6pQHAs4gd5XBztYWmw>

which is well worth a visit. Well done, Sally, a marvellous resource.

<http://handymachineknitting.libsyn.com> is a regular podcast

<http://knitwords.blogspot.com/> is a blog

www.twam.uk is a good place to offload unwanted yarn, machines and accessories - they will send them to Africa to help people start up small businesses. Local centre in Rugby.

And Finally

I would like to involve others in this newsletter, so please let me know of anything I can include

administrator@longbuckbymk.com please include LBMK in the subject