

National Knitting Week 2009



Knitting needs YOU!

WOW! Where has the year gone? National Knitting Week has once again crept up on us and it's time to get those needles at the ready to join in the fun.

Going Home packs

Last year your donations went directly to help the Bliss Family Support Helpline. This year Simon Crowson (partnership manager, Bliss) has decided to direct all this year's funds to help cover the distribution costs of 40,000 Going Home Packs.

When babies spend days, weeks or even months in hospital, parents come to rely heavily on the doctors and nurses who care for their child. The unit becomes almost a second home to them, and when the time comes for their baby to leave, it is natural for many to feel anxious and alone. This is why Bliss has launched the new Going Home Pack – to help families through the next big step in their babies' lives.



Following on from the huge success of last year's NKW, where many of you joined in and helped Knitting raise nearly £10,000 for Bliss - the special care baby charity, this year, with your help, we are going to continue our support.

On your marks!

As some of you will remember, last year Sharon Newman and her merry band of Avicraft Knitters, raised a massive £5000 for the National Knitting Week 2008 Bliss campaign. Following on from her huge success, Team Sharon have set about knitting an Olympic size blanket in time for – you guessed it – 2012. Sharon, despite her self-imposed target of raising £10,000 for Bliss, is determined to succeed raising that amount with her latest venture.

As part of NKW 2009, we would love to get as many knitters as possible to give Sharon and her crew a real boost, to help them fly off the starting blocks and achieve their goal in record time. To be a part of

this Olympic challenge and raise more money for Bliss here's what you can do!

Raid your stash and knit up a rectangle measuring 50x100cm (for double knitting you will need to cast on 120 stitches and use 4.5mm needles. For Aran you will need to cast on 95 stitches and use 5mm needles). **Send your blankets along with sponsorship money/donations (cheques payable to Bliss) to: Knitting Magazine (Bliss), 86 High Street, Lewes, East Sussex, BN7 1XN.**

WIN! WIN! WIN!

GMC and Bliss will be giving a fabulous knitting prize worth £150 to the reader who raises the most money. To enter this competition, your blanket and cheque must be with us no later than January 31st.



Lewes, BN7 1XN. Please make all cheques payable to Bliss.

Finally, this is just one idea. Please don't forget to carry on with all the usual (and unusual) events which have helped raise so much money in the past! To register your event, or find one near you, visit www.knittinginstitute.co.uk



The Knitting and Stitching Show 2009

Check out the multitude of treats awaiting you at the Knitting stand G14, Alexandra Palace 8th-11th October 2009

DESIGNER PACKAGE

It's official, not one, not two, but three fabulous designers will be gracing the Knitting stand (G14) for this year's Knitting and Stitching Show!

We're very excited to have the lovely Debbie Bliss, Nicky Epstein and Cornelia Tuttle Hamilton gracing us with their presence, signing their latest books (check out P40 for reviews) and chatting to readers throughout the weekend, so don't miss your chance to meet them! To view the schedule and get planning visit

www.nationalknittingweek.co.uk

Student Textile Awards

With a record number of entries, this year is going to be better than ever, so don't miss the Student Textile Awards showcase, exhibiting in the West Hall, to see the knitting designers of the future.



EXCLUSIVE SUBSCRIPTION OFFER

We have an exclusive Knitting and Stitching Show subscription offer, so don't miss out. Come to our stand G14 and check it out. Not only do you get to save money when you subscribe, we throw in exciting gifts too!



CORNELIA



NICKY



DEBBIE

Knit 1 – pass it on

Knit 1 – pass it on is a new national campaign launched by the Crafts Council in partnership with the UK Hand Knitting Association. The aim is simple: to support at least one other person (child or adult) to learn how to knit or crochet. All you need to do is pass on your knitting skills! Depending on the age and ability of the person you are teaching, this could be finger knitting or the basic knitting or crochet stitch, progressing to casting on and plain or purl knitting. The main thing is conveying the pleasures of yarn crafting and having some fun!

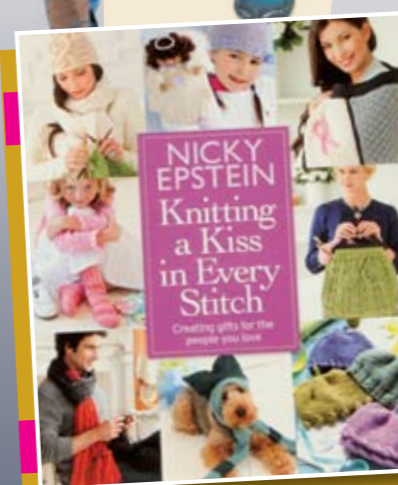
To kick start this exciting new campaign, 'Knit1 – pass it on' why not get sponsored for your efforts and raise more money for Bliss? This could be done as an individual or a group. All you will need is a handful of willing students, who have so far slipped through the knitting net (yes apparently they do exist) and pass on your skills!

The sponsor form can be downloaded from www.knittinginstitute.co.uk or www.ukhandknitting.com. Alternatively send an A4 SAE to us here at: **NKW Sponsorship Form, Knitting magazine, 86 High Street,**



SPECIAL BOOK DISCOUNT OFFER

In addition to the standard show discount of 10% off all GMC books, Knitting readers can claim an extra 10% off any book purchase from the Knitting/GMC stand G14 when they show this page (photocopies are accepted), for a total 20% discount.



WORLD EXCLUSIVE

We even have a world exclusive of Nicky Epstein's latest book, Knitting a Kiss in Every Stitch, so why not make use of the great book discount offer below, and get up to 20% off!

WORLD EXCLUSIVE