

HANDCRAFTS MONTHLY



NOVEMBER GATHERINGS

NOVEMBER 10

10:00 to noon at Sewing World in the upstairs classroom, 136 71 Ave. SE

If you wish, please bring along a snack to share. Remember to park in the rear and to mention us when you shop.

NOVEMBER 26

1:00 PM to 3:00 PM at Sharon Kimmel's, 114 Confederation Villas NW. Gate code is 01818.

Please RSVP at kimmels@shaw.ca

*NOVEMBER
at a glance*

November 10 - Sewing World Gathering.

November 26 - Gathering at Sharon's.



Give us a hand!
Photo from Knits and Pieces at blogspot

NEWS FROM HANDCRAFTS COMMITTEE

WE ARE OVERWHELMED!

Well done, Ladies. Very, very well done. We would have thought a rest was in order but already many have asked, "What sold best?" and "What should I make now?"

Custodians have been busy taking stock, counting and sorting. This month find, in place of the usual articles, feedback from Wearable Accessories Custodians Janice Meeking and Glenda Sweetland. Other product areas will follow.

COMMITTEE COMINGS & GOINGS

In November, we usually make adjustments to the Handcrafts Committee membership based on experiences from the sale. This year is no exception. At this date, no one is leaving the committee but a few members are changing seats and a few new members will be joining the committee.

Eveline Goodall joins to take over Jewellery.

Joan Benedict and Donna Russell join Barb Doll and Rose Besler in Home Decor.

Dawn Bolger continues as Chair and Fabric Custodian.

Leslie Buckle continues as Bags and Purses Custodian.

Roz Cooper-Key and Mieke Van Dijk continue as Children's Items Custodians.

Patty Cucman continues as Secretary, Newsletter Editor and Workshop Co-ordinator.

Janice Meeking and Glenda Sweetland continue as Wearable Accessories Custodians.

Janice McDonald continues as Sale co-ordinator and Yarn Custodian.

Norma Will continues as Pet Custodian.

WEARABLE ACCESSORIES

WHAT WE SOLD

138 hats - 55% of inventory
 103 scarves - 53% of inventory
 121 cowls and neck warmers - 90% of inventory
 72 shawls and shawlettes - 79% of inventory
 64 pairs of mittens & fingerless gloves - 74% of inventory
 32 pairs of slippers - 76% of inventory
 47 pairs of boot toppers and leg warmers - 80% of inventory
 9 caftans - 100% of inventory
 Overall: Sold 65% of inventory

WHAT TO MAKE

This year we labelled items that contained unusual or special fibres such as alpaca, silk, mohair and we have very few of those items remaining. We're not suggesting you rush out and spend huge amounts of money on expensive luxury yarns, but if some does find its way into your knitting, be sure to note the fibre content on the tag so that we can add the enticing *Luxury Fibre* labels for the sale. Now from bottom to top here is what sold.

SLIPPERS

We had a great selection of slippers this year and we more than doubled the number sold. Most of those were the colourful, felted variety. We would welcome a range of sizes and colours. [RAVELRY](#) is a great pattern source. Be sure to check copyright or ask permission.

BOOT TOPPERS

Inventory and sales of boot toppers almost doubled this year. We sold 43 pairs vs. 20 last year which was 90% of inventory. All styles of toppers are encouraged. Embellishments such as unique buttons or beads are real eye-catchers.



Patterns abound on [RAVELRY](#) and the patterns posted on our website and in previous [Monthly issues](#) are proven sellers.

LEG WARMERS

We had only 4 pairs of leg warmers this year and could have sold more if we'd had them. We'd love to have a larger variety of styles and colours next year. Consider adding stitch patterns and/or cables with perhaps some irresistible touches such as beads or baubles, leaves or flowers. Neutrals and vibrant colours were equally popular. If you are wont to wear leg warmers, you probably want them to be showy.

MITTENS

We are especially interested in having more of the felted or thrummed variety of mitts which pretty much flew off the table. Instructions abound on the internet for making these mittens. Try these: [thrummed mitts](#), or [mitts made from felted sweaters](#).



FINGERLESS GLOVES & MITTENS

Fingerless mitten sales dropped off slightly this year but they were still good sellers and more for next year are welcome. All styles sold equally but there was special interest in a pair with medium-sized, multi-coloured beads so, maybe, adding some funky embellishments is the way to re-ignite interest in this category.

SHAWLS

Shawls are still popular, particularly those made with neutral and earthy colours or varied types of yarns in bright colours. Both these colour options sold better than pastels. The traditional, old-fashioned, highland shawls have gained in popularity and attracted young buyers. Shawlettes were admired but were not as popular as full-sized shawls. That said, the smaller bandana and kerchief shawls were sought after. They're quick and easy to make so consider one as a carry-along project.

COWLS

Are cowls the new scarf? They were very popular at BB&B and surpassed scarves in sales this year. Infinity scarves, included in cowls, were also popular in both yarn and fabric. Those with embellishments of unique buttons or contrasting trim sold especially well. The neutral-coloured, chunky cowls sold quickly.

SCARVES

Although scarves did not sell as well as cowls overall, the unique, one-of-a-kind scarf was a big draw. Identifying *Luxury Fibres* got buyers attention and those scarves sold quickly. Scarves like all fashion, change with the seasons. What sold really well one year may not be as popular the next year. If you are wondering what is popular and what will sell, ask the young ladies in your lives. Our daughters and granddaughters are our best critics!

HATS:

This year we sold more than 80% of felted and luxury fibre hats and more than 55% of all other varieties. We have about 100 hats to carry over but will need more of all varieties. Again, try [RAVELRY](#) and other internet sites for eye-catching designs. The choices are endless!