

*Knitting for The Vulnerable Children of the World*

**Newsletter. February 2008**

We do hope you all had a good holiday season. We asked you to hold off on knitting until you heard from us in February, well February has arrived and here is what we would like you to do if you still wish to continue to knit for the Vulnerable Children of the World.

After a lot of serious talking between the three of us, we have decided to keep going but in a slightly different way. If you have any completed jumpers/hats or beanies please get them into us as soon as you can as we are only going to concentrate on blankets and dolls from now on. **These are the only two items we are asking for.**

We have found from our association with the Aid Agencies that they cannot get enough blankets. This means we will be able to continue to get the goods away regularly and hopefully not have thousands stored at the warehouse. That of course is if we can carry on raising enough funds.

Unfortunately jumpers are still arriving by the hundreds so if you know of anyone who has a pattern please ask them to stop.

Delivery and telephone calls to U3A Nunawading and the volunteers that come in on a regular basis to pack and deliver to the warehouse is working well. Thank you to the ladies and U3A committee of management who came onboard to make this happen. If you would like to help, ring the office and Elsie will be in touch with you.

By mid February we will have sent well over 500,000 jumpers away plus many hundreds of blankets and dolls to Vulnerable Children all over the World. Many thanks to the ladies who have been running the project from other states well done everyone.

**NSW Knitters please note** Unfortunately our contact in NSW has decided not to continue, Lyn is finding it difficult to get the goods away, any items you may have completed for NSW can still be sent to Lyn but no more knitting for NSW unless someone is prepared to take the project over. Please do not send your knitting to Victoria as we are flat out placing all the knitted goods we receive daily from within Victoria.

We are always looking for shipping containers that are going overseas in which we can include your knitting. This is a significant financial saving in getting the goods to the children. If you have any contacts or hear of any organizations that would like to include some of the knitting please let us know. Email: Lyn and Ken [copper@vic.chariot.net.au](mailto:copper@vic.chariot.net.au) or Elsie [elsiem@bigpond.net.au](mailto:elsiem@bigpond.net.au) or if not on email call 03 9878 3898.

The latest on where the knitted goods have been sent. Over the Christmas period we received some lovely mail from Sr. Lee in Tzaneen and sr. Francis in Botswana thanking us for the

parcels that arrived in time for Christmas for the children. Another load has gone to the Zomba Hospital in Malawi.

**Donations If you can help with a donation no matter how small to go towards running costs such as couriers to container sites and general costs of stationary etc. it will help us to keep the project going. If you would like a tax deductible receipt please make your cheque or money order payable to The Australian Aids Fund and Mr Brian Haill the President will issue one. Mr Haill puts out all our latest news on his website it is worth a visit [www.aids.net.au](http://www.aids.net.au) this will also reassure all of you that the knitting is reaching the children.**

If you would like a newsletter enclose a stamped addressed envelope or your email address with your parcels, it has become impossible for us to continue to acknowledge your kind donations without this as we receive many hundreds of parcels each week.

**Remember we are only asking for blanket, from now on any size knitted or crochet lots of bright colours. Use your own patterns. If you are unable to manage a full blanket why not ask a friend or friends to join in together with the sewing of knitted squares or make it a community project. Some of you enjoy making the comfort dolls and they bring much joy to the children, if you would like to continue with the dolls they will be included with the blankets. Please pass this information on to anyone you know who is knitting for us.**

**Knitting from within Victoria (delivery & postage) is to be sent to Nunawading University of the Third Age. Nunawading Community Centre, 16-20 Silver Grove. Nunawading. 3131. Melways ref 48/E/9. Between the hours of 9.30 am to 3pm Monday to Friday. If you are unable to deliver during these times please telephone 03 9878 3898 to make other arrangements.**

A big thank you to the people who are collection points for the project, remember these people then bring your knitting to us, please pack your goods in a strong bag. Remember it is up to you to get the goods to us, we cannot continue to travel all over Melbourne doing pickups, the cost of petrol is making this impossible. Avoid plastic bags where possible. The ideal thing to pack your knitting in is the stripey bag from the reject shop cost \$2.00. this is what we send the knitting away in and is a considerable saving to running cost if they arrive in these bags.

Listed below are the collection points that we have in Victoria and interstate if you would like any of these contacts please call 03 9878 3898 or email: [elsiem@bigpond.net.au](mailto:elsiem@bigpond.net.au) but remember the main drop off point for Victoria is the U3A office at Nunawading.

**Victoria - The Mornington Peninsula, Boronia, Oakpark, Hampton, Murrembeena, Werribee, Lilydale, West Rosebud, Ararat, Shepparton, Scoresby, Leongatha, Warragul, Traralgon and Donald Frankston. South Australia: Kathie Montague 8388 8071 or Gail Harrison 8278 3196 West Australia: Marcia Stretch 9439 3633 Tasmania; Gill Reid. 03 6394 7797 Queensland: Karen Gard. 07 3888 0107 or 0407177657**

*Ken Lyn & Elsie say many thanks from the Vulnerable Children of the World.*

