

*Knitting for The Vulnerable Children of the World*

**Newsletter. March/April 2008**

Thank you to all the knitters who are now concentrating on blankets and comfort dolls, the blankets you are producing are works of art. The blankets help us to place the knitting more easily as the various aid genciesAid are always happy to take them and our little dolls are an absolute smash hit.

**We are still receiving many of the small jumpers from knitters who are working off the original pattern, if you know of anyone who has this pattern please give them the updated information blankets and dolls only. As previously stated in our last newsletter we can now only accept knitting from Victoria it just became to difficult for us to manage the whole country please contact the coordinator in your State, unfortunately the NSW lady has decided to stop and we thank her for her huge contribution.**

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 who make this happen. If you would like to help, ring the office and Elsie will be in touch with you.

**By end March we will have sent over 550,000 jumpers and hundreds of blankets and dolls to children all over the world.**

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 news as to where the knitting has been sent....A huge load to **Zimbabwe**, and three huge parcels to The Sisters of Nazareth in Johannesburg, **South Africa**. A large walking group are on their way to **Peru** and have taken many many items with them for children in need in this country. Another load has gone to **Eastern Europe** and another load to the our own Indigenous children in **outback Australia**

If you can help with a donation no matter how small to go towards running costs, 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 its President, Mr Brian Haill, will issue one. He promotes 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.

**An idea as to how your donations are used.**

**Stamps for newsletter, stripey bags from reject shop to send knitting away in, cost of couriers to container sites sometimes to interstate sites cost can reach \$1000 or more and the list goes on. We will be unable to continue without monetary help and it is always a constant worry. Nunawading U3A also help considerably with running cost for which we are very grateful.**

*Remember we are only asking for two items from now on any size knitted or crochet blanket 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 Thursday, 9.30 – 12.00 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, 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.

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. No points in NSW.

**Victoria - The Mornington Penninsula, Boronia, Oakpark, Hamilton. Murrembeena, Werribee. West Rosebud, Ararat, Shepparton, Scoresby, Leongatha, Warragul, Traralgon, 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 please call during evening hours no later than 9pm**

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