

Olive Pesto

We Make, Learn, Laugh and Share

This Month

- Stories from the Lock-down
- Report from World Wide Knit In Public Day Zoom event
- Invitation to join weekly Zoom Knit Alongs



Art work by Mel Drury

STOP PRESS

- Our regular monthly Meet-ups are in recess due to the COVID-19 restrictions on gatherings.
- We will let you know via email and in a Newsletter when our Monthly Meet-ups are to recommence.
- Our decision to recommence is guided by the Brunswick Uniting Church Council.
- The Church Council has set up a Reference Group to communicate with leaders of activities about when groups can start up again.

•NOTICE BOARD

Keep in touch with friends and Olive Pesto happenings by joining our Olive Pesto, Brunswick Uniting Church Facebook Page. Find the Group by typing in the address (in Red above.) Ask to Join and you will hear back from the Administrator very soon.



Natalie Papworth “WORKING FROM HOME”

Pre-Covid-19 going to and from work I would usually knit on the tram, (unless I was reading a book I couldn't put down.)

I would also knit at lunch time while drinking coffee and going home waiting for the tram.

I have been working from home since mid-March. When we were first sent home I did like most people and started cleaning and sorting my room and my wool stash. Pulling out my knitting projects that I had started but not completed. I like to have multiple projects usually because I can't wait to use a new wool or try a new pattern. You have to concentrate on a new pattern or multiple-stiches But then there are other projects where you can pick up and zone out/meditate - usually a beanie, that I think I can knit it in my sleep (some friends think I knit in my sleep!).

I have found knitting a stress release after a full of day of work looking at 2 computer screens, and also feeling the stress of the current events of Covid-19. I start my working day at 7 am and then log off 3.10 pm. Then I usually pick up my knitting for an hour or so before organising our dinner and other jobs around the house. After tea, I again pick up the knitting. I have also been enjoying our many ways of connecting to our Olive Pesto group through Facebook, Zoom knit-a-longs, Messenger Olive Way Group & Messenger knit-a-longs.

I have finished quite a few projects. Some for KOGO, for my family, or for myself - knitting has kept me warm on our cold Melbourne mornings. Recently I have also started on a few beanies to donate to the Olive Way drop-in centre at the Brunswick Uniting Church.

How to JOIN the Weekly ZOOM Knit-Along Sessions

Contact the Host directly by email to obtain the Zoom login details. The host for the session will be announced on the Olive Pesto, Brunswick Uniting Church Facebook page



Ann Soo writes on her hosting of FRIDAY KNIT, CHAT AND A CURIOUS QUESTION KAL (KNIT ALONG).

Without our monthly Olive Pesto, gatherings our connections were in part satisfied by friendly exchange and banter via our wonderful FB group page. However, with the return of Stage 3 restrictions, the desire for an end of week KAL surged to the fore front of our minds. The biggest challenge for me was to find enough Zoom skills to host. So, necessity became the mother of invention. I decided that my few skills on Zoom would be good enough—the rest would be learned along the way. I knew the group would always be kind and patient with me sothe birth of a Friday KAL began!!!

Thank you to everyone who has come along to our three meetings so far. We've had strong numbers (up to 14) and it's been fantastic to have a sense of community on a regular basis on this new platform. Sharing our projects, hearing each other's news, using the chat box and being stimulated and entertained by our answers to School of Life Conversation starters has been loads of fun.

Last week, we nominated a song to help us through these challenging times. Here are some responses: *Georgie Girl, Over the Rainbow, Lean on Me, You've Got. A Friend, Bridge Over Troubled Water, Hallelujah (Cohen), Walking On Sunshine, We'll Meet Again, Always Look on the Bright Side of Life, etc.*

Fridays swing round pretty quickly so.....it is great to close the working week with some fun , familiar faces and new folks, as we continue to knit, make and create through COVID 19!!

Always Look on the Bright Side of Life!!! Cheers!

Email Ann on annsoo11@tpg.com.au for the Zoom links.

A FEW WORDS ABOUT THE OLIVE YARN SESSIONS Joanne Yi Van Ravenswaaij

Olive Yarn, a Knit & Craft Along on Zoom, began because I wanted to start knitting again and felt that some company as I did so would make it even more enjoyable. Turned out others liked the idea of company as well, and now the sessions run every week for about 90 minutes (alternating Tuesdays at 4 pm one week and Wednesdays at 11 am every other week).

Sometimes we come seeking inspiration for a new project or a knitting problem we've struck. At other times we share our progress or show off our finished project to many Ooohs and Aaahs - we're a very supportive bunch of people! We knit, crochet and sew all sorts of things, from

beanies to socks, blanket squares, jumpers, face masks and baby clothes - we're diverse! As we work, we enjoy cups of tea and coffee - we're all so civilised! - and chat about things both everyday and profound - we go with the flow!

I've loved hosting the sessions. The company is wonderful and I'm getting to know people better in a very relaxed setting. As a not very confident knitter or sewer, I've also appreciated having access to a fantastic Brains Trust to help me navigate the myriad pits I keep falling into.

Everyone is welcome at the Olive Yarn sessions. Just BYO yarn and cuppa.

Email: joanneyv@gmail.com for the Zoom links.



OLIVE PESTO FACEBOOK GROUP

If you haven't already done so, *do* join us by becoming a member of our Facebook Group. Find us at—Olive Pesto, Brunswick Uniting Church— Request to join and one of our four friendly Admin people will welcome you. The group is curated carefully to ensure the safety of participants. We have about 50 members, hundreds of useful and fun posts, and notices about our face to face Zoom meetings in small groups with JOANNE 's Olive Yarn sessions and ANN's online Knit-Along sessions. *There is a lot happening, and we welcome your involvement*

WWKIP DAY 13 June 2020, hosted by Olive Pesto craft group

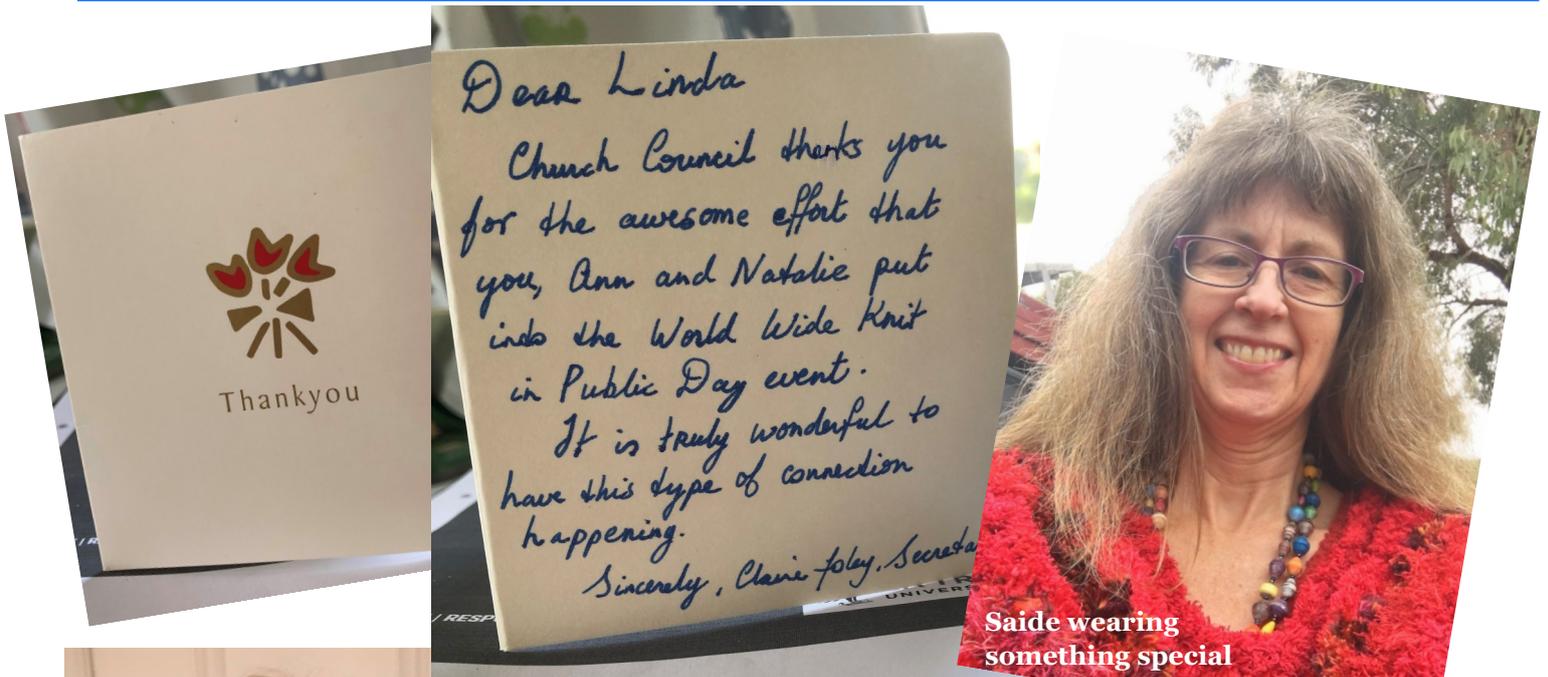
We have met for the last 3 years in the BUC Big Hall and Olive Way, supplied continuous teas and a soup'n'bread lunch for over 100 participants from the community and congregation, supplying yarn, needles, patterns, instructions and encouragement. It is part of our mission of community well-being, encouraging folk to "connect, be active, give, take notice and keep learning" as per the poster below. This year we successfully worked around the COVID-19 social distancing rules to engage with 35 people from the community and congregation. This was done with :

* 3 separate Zoom KnitALongs during the day, and * individual Walk-Knit-Chats, where people would 'go public, knit, chat and take a photo'.

Most (27) participated in the Zoom KnitALongs hosted by Ann, Natalie and Linda; 8 individuals provided photos for the 'WWKIP2020' photo album. The day was fun, involving chat about knitting, families, community, what's happening at BUC, and, yes, politics. One Zoom group was even visited by the "Icicle Tricycle Man". What a treat!

The WWKIP Day was publicised through a newsletter emailed to our craft community mail-list, posts on KOGO and the OP BUC Facebook Group page, listing on the WWKIP homepage <http://www.wwkipday.com>, BUC's Olive Press and webpage (thanks, Saide!), posts on individual's FB pages, and personal invitations. These all worked well.

Thanks to all involved.



Saide wearing something special



Linda loves a motto



Christine & Alison knitting out of doors

Scenes from our Virtual WWKIP Day in June



Christine's beautiful rug finished



Julie C Rugged up with her knitting