





# ABOUT THE PROJECT

Welcome to the Common Grace Knit for Climate Action project! You are one of many knitters from across Australia committing to knit a scarf that represents the truth of climate change. These climate scarves will be gifted to politicians and church leaders to show that Christians are deeply concerned about God's creation, as well as highlighting the need for a bold and credible national plan to tackle the climate crisis.

The scarf represents the average global temperature across 101 years, based on Professor Ed Hawkins' [#ShowYourStripes](#) graph. Our project was inspired by the [Cambridge Federation of Women's Institute's 100 Years Climate Scarf](#) and uses Dr Mick Pope's temperature data from 1919 to 2019. Each temperature is assigned a different colour and then a stripe is knitted to correspond to each year.



# INTRODUCTION

## AN INVITATION FROM BROOKE PRENTIS TO KNIT FOR CLIMATE ACTION

SEPTEMBER 2020



It's getting hotter. It was only a few months ago that every state and territory in Australia was burning. Many remember the heat, and smoke, from the 2019-2020 bushfire season. It's hard to believe, as we come out of 2020's cold winter, that the next bushfire season has already started, with a bushfire reported on the 19th of August, 2020.

I know that in the centre of these lands now called Australia, ceremonies that have taken place for thousands of years are under threat because it is too hot to perform them. I myself have felt the hottest day on record, a sweltering 46.6°C in Adelaide, Kurna country on the 24th of January 2019. We know it hasn't always been this way. We feel it. But what if we could see it?

As Christians passionate about creation & climate justice we know we must do all we can, individually and collectively, as community and as a movement, to care for God's beautiful earth. This includes calling for political action. Imagine if we could do that in a creative way!

Imagine our parliamentarians, and in particular every member of the Senate as a starting point, and church leaders wearing a Common Grace scarf with 101 years of average global temperature data - we could all see how over 101 years it's getting hotter. Imagine the hauntingly beautiful way we could call for climate action through knitting for creation and climate justice.

So let's unite for the common good, finding common ground and sharing in common grace as we knit, gift, and wear scarves for climate action.

**BROOKE PRENTIS**  
COMMON GRACE CEO



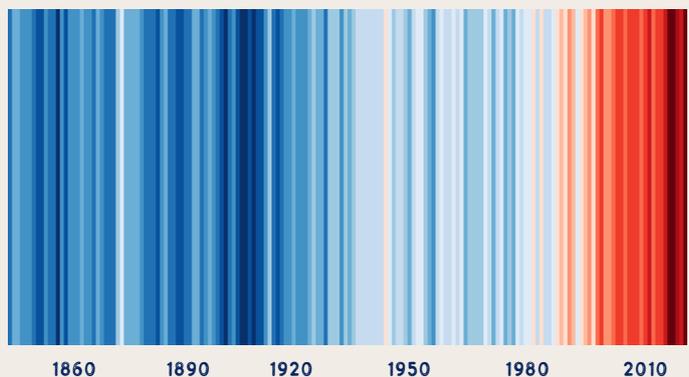
# REFLECTION

## JESSICA MORTHORPE REFLECTS ON VISUALISING CLIMATE CHANGE IN WOOL

I got so excited the first time I saw a climate stripe graph. These graphs, developed by climatologist Ed Hawkins, show the long-term increase in average global temperature (usually from 1850 – 2018) using a progression from blue (cool) to red (warmer) colours. I loved this approach because you can so clearly see, in a single glance, the warming of our planet. I think it's an incredibly powerful piece of communication and helps to cut through the detail and show people the science in a way that is easy to understand.

Soon after, I learned that people were turning these graphs into scarves and tapestries, to help get the message out. Having worked with eco churches for over a decade (check out [fiveleafecoawards.org](http://fiveleafecoawards.org)), I immediately wondered about using the pattern as a stole (a symbol of ministry), and asking clergy to wear them while preaching as a subtle expression of support for climate action in the church, and Australia.

WARMING STRIPES FOR GLOBE FROM 1850-2019



Annual average temperatures for Region: GLOBE | Date Range: 1850-2019 | Data Source: UK Met Office  
License details: Licensor Ed Hawkins (University of Reading) License Attribution 4.0 International (CC BY 4.0)

I really wanted a scarf to wear when preaching on climate myself as well. I am deeply passionate about the church's call to care for God's creation, and to protect God's creatures. This means we need to be talking about, preaching about, and acting on climate all the time. This has been my vocation for many years, but it is also part of the deep and faithful discipleship of all Christians. It comes with many opportunities for the church as well, as we can show people how to use community and Christian values around the image of God in all people and in creation, concepts of sabbath and 'enough' and serving God rather than money, to lead our society away from some of the factors that have contributed to climate change. Taking up this role would give us a deeply relevant and vibrant place in forming our future and connecting with our communities.

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I searched online for patterns, and found a free one for UK temps, which became my first scarf. With that finished, I asked a climate scientist friend to do the maths for me on the world data, and started knitting one of those as well.

What I really love about knitting these scarves is the way they bring the science to life. I'm not much of a knitter, I really just do it as anxiety relief, but it's amazing to watch the warming pattern build between your fingers. I feel like it has given me a better understanding of the weather too. Sometimes the colours seem really random, jumping back and forth between hot and cold, with seemingly no rhyme or reason. They rarely just go from cool to hot in a neat, predictable way. Particularly when you knit one of the patterns for particular places (the pattern is a bit clearer in the global data). This really helps you to appreciate the difference between weather variations and other influencing factors, and the long-term trend of global warming. Despite the jumping around, you can always see the general trend and pattern in the end. I feel like next time someone tries to tell me that global warming is not a thing because it's cold today, I might just rip out my scarf and give them a quick visual lesson in weather vs climate.

When I mentioned the scarves to my friends at Common Grace, they also got super excited about the idea. They even had a bigger vision that I had - what if instead of just church leaders, we also got politicians to wear the scarves!

And so this project was born. I hope it fascinates you, as it has me, and that you both enjoy knitting the scarves and see them as part of participating in a higher cause - protecting the climate of God's beloved creation.

**HAPPY KNITTING!**  
**JESSICA MORTHORPE**



# INTERVIEW

## JAN FROM ADELAIDE SHARES WHY SHE KNITS FOR CLIMATE ACTION

### **Common Grace: How long have you been a knitter?**

Jan: Seventy five years! Knitting dolls' rugs and clothes as a young girl. Dad would help me as Mum was always too busy. He would cast on the stitches continually and I would drop them constantly!

### **What do you love about the craft?**

The sense of achievement and satisfaction when an article has been completed. It's a relaxing, creative hobby. I quite often listen to music or audio books. Knitting has kept me sane during COVID-19, it's very therapeutic.

### **What inspired you to be part of this climate scarf project?**

Being able to help in some way to make people care more about the state of the planet and put pressure on our politicians to do more to reduce Australia's carbon footprint.

### **What has been the trickiest part of the project?**

Working out the colours and sourcing the yarn. I would have loved to have used all-Australian wool, but it is difficult to get in some of the colours. The occasional dropped stitch is also tricky!

### **Have you been involved in any other climate or social activism projects?**

I was a team member of residents who stood up to our local council to save a native reserve from housing development and WON! Encouraging young people marching for climate justice - when I approached some young people doing a climate protest in Adelaide and gave them thanks and encouragement, they were amazed that an older person was interested and invited me to join the next march! Knitting trauma teddies for children in hospital, as well as Kanyini and Binna Aboriginal teddy bears.



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**What do you think about as you knit each scarf?**

Do you really want to know, ha ha? Solutions to a world in chaos! The struggling environment, the eroding Adelaide coastline, the lack of trees in suburbia, the demolition of houses & the subdivision resulting in former gardens being built over. What it was like growing up in the days before refrigerators, televisions, air conditioning, computers. How many rows before my next coffee and chocolate!

**Favourite knitting nook?**

Sitting on the back deck, feeling the warmth of the winter sun on my back and hearing the native birds.

**Any tips for people who are knitting a scarf for the first time?**

Have a go! Be inspired to help our planet. It is very rewarding knitting something to make others more aware of global heating.

THANK YOU, JAN



# PROJECT PATH

These steps are detailed on the following pages.



## KNIT

Knitters across Australia register with Common Grace and knit 101 scarves.



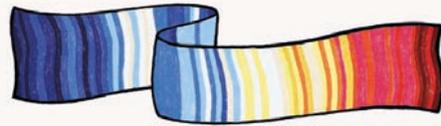
## COLLECT

Knitters send completed scarves to Common Grace who readies them for distribution.



## DISTRIBUTE

In early winter 2021, scarves will be delivered to church and political leaders.



**We believe these scarves are an opportunity for conversation at every step of the process:**

- In their creation, you'll have the opportunity to discuss with friends, church community and family as you purchase wool, follow the pattern and knit your scarf.
- Your scarf will then give local constituents a beautiful item to centre their conversation around as they engage with their MP or Senator.
- The scarves will provide opportunity for conversation with key church leaders across the country and then as church leaders wear them, give opportunities for whole church communities to go deeper in exploring how to love our neighbours through climate disruption.

# STEP 1: KNIT

## INSTRUCTIONS

### Skill level:

Beginner

### Approx. finished scarf size:

20 cm x 1.5 m

### Needle size:

4 mm

### Yarn:

8 ply (DK) yarn in 16 colours. The colours range from navy blue (colour 1 for the coldest temperature) through to dark burgundy (colour 16 for the hottest temperature). See the colour guide on the next page. You only need small amounts of each colour, so this could be a good opportunity to use up your own yarn stash.

### Creating your own colour key:

Before you begin, create a colour key to work from. List the numbers 1 to 16 on a piece of cardboard, then stick a small piece of of your chosen yarn next to its corresponding number for a working reference.

### Pattern:

Using colour 1, cast on 40 stitches.

Knit 6 rows using colour 1.

Change to colour 2 and knit 6 rows. Continue knitting 6 rows for each year stripe, changing yarn colour as required by following the year list on the next page.

Each year stripe will be three garter stitch 'ridges' (1 ridge = 2 rows).

Cast off all stitches to finish.

Weave all the yarn ends into each corresponding coloured stripe to neaten.

### Knitting Tips:

YouTube is a treasure trove of how to knit videos! Here are some great ones:

### HappyBerry Knitting

- [How to Cast On in Knitting - Two Ways](#)
- [How to Knit Stitch \(k\) in Knitting](#)
- [How to Cast Off in Knitting](#)

### Studio Knit

- [How to change yarn colours](#)

### kellsbells69666

- [Changing yarn colours using a joining knot](#)

### For neat edges:

Slip the first stitch of every row knit-wise with the yarn in back, then knit the remaining stitches. When you change colours, knit the first stitch of the row instead of slipping the stitch.

### Where to buy yarn online:

- [Spotlight](#)
- [Lincraft](#)
- [Morris & Sons](#)
- [Bendigo Woollen Mills](#)

### Create a tag:

You are welcome to sew a tag on your scarf, no larger than 8cm x 5cm with the following details: Made by Name, Postcode, State  
For example: Made by Polly, 2000, NSW



# COLOUR GUIDE & YEAR LIST

	YEAR	COLOUR		YEAR	COLOUR	
 <b>NAVY BLUE</b> 20m / 8g (4 stripes)	1919	1	<input type="checkbox"/>	1969	5	<input type="checkbox"/>
1	1920	2	<input type="checkbox"/>	1970	5	<input type="checkbox"/>
 <b>DENIM BLUE</b> 50m / 20g (10 stripes)	1921	2	<input type="checkbox"/>	1971	4	<input type="checkbox"/>
2	1922	1	<input type="checkbox"/>	1972	5	<input type="checkbox"/>
 <b>BLUE</b> 60m / 24g (12 stripes)	1923	2	<input type="checkbox"/>	1973	6	<input type="checkbox"/>
3	1924	2	<input type="checkbox"/>	1974	4	<input type="checkbox"/>
 <b>MID BLUE</b> 60m / 24g (12 stripes)	1925	2	<input type="checkbox"/>	1975	5	<input type="checkbox"/>
4	1926	3	<input type="checkbox"/>	1976	3	<input type="checkbox"/>
 <b>LIGHT BLUE</b> 70m / 28g (14 stripes)	1927	2	<input type="checkbox"/>	1977	7	<input type="checkbox"/>
5	1928	2	<input type="checkbox"/>	1978	5	<input type="checkbox"/>
 <b>WHITE</b> 45m / 18g (9 stripes)	1929	1	<input type="checkbox"/>	1979	6	<input type="checkbox"/>
6	1930	3	<input type="checkbox"/>	1980	8	<input type="checkbox"/>
 <b>BEIGE / CREAM</b> 30m / 12g (6 stripes)	1931	4	<input type="checkbox"/>	1981	8	<input type="checkbox"/>
7	1932	3	<input type="checkbox"/>	1982	6	<input type="checkbox"/>
 <b>LIGHT YELLOW</b> 35m / 14g (7 stripes)	1933	1	<input type="checkbox"/>	1983	8	<input type="checkbox"/>
8	1934	3	<input type="checkbox"/>	1984	6	<input type="checkbox"/>
 <b>DARK YELLOW</b> 20m / 8g (4 stripes)	1935	2	<input type="checkbox"/>	1985	6	<input type="checkbox"/>
9	1936	3	<input type="checkbox"/>	1986	7	<input type="checkbox"/>
 <b>ORANGE</b> 15m / 6g (3 stripes)	1937	4	<input type="checkbox"/>	1987	8	<input type="checkbox"/>
10	1938	5	<input type="checkbox"/>	1988	9	<input type="checkbox"/>
 <b>PINK ORANGE</b> 15m / 6g (3 stripes)	1939	4	<input type="checkbox"/>	1989	8	<input type="checkbox"/>
11	1940	6	<input type="checkbox"/>	1990	10	<input type="checkbox"/>
 <b>TOMATO / PINK RED</b> 50m / 20g (10 stripes)	1941	7	<input type="checkbox"/>	1991	9	<input type="checkbox"/>
12	1942	5	<input type="checkbox"/>	1992	7	<input type="checkbox"/>
 <b>CRIMSON</b> 10m / 4g (2 stripes)	1943	6	<input type="checkbox"/>	1993	7	<input type="checkbox"/>
13	1944	7	<input type="checkbox"/>	1994	8	<input type="checkbox"/>
 <b>DARK RED</b> 5m / 2g (1 stripe)	1945	6	<input type="checkbox"/>	1995	10	<input type="checkbox"/>
14	1946	4	<input type="checkbox"/>	1996	8	<input type="checkbox"/>
 <b>BURGUNDY</b> 10m / 4g (2 stripes)	1947	4	<input type="checkbox"/>	1997	10	<input type="checkbox"/>
15	1948	3	<input type="checkbox"/>	1998	12	<input type="checkbox"/>
 <b>DEEP BURGUNDY</b> 10m / 4g (2 stripes)	1949	3	<input type="checkbox"/>	1999	9	<input type="checkbox"/>
16	1950	3	<input type="checkbox"/>	2000	9	<input type="checkbox"/>
	1951	4	<input type="checkbox"/>	2001	11	<input type="checkbox"/>
	1952	5	<input type="checkbox"/>	2002	12	<input type="checkbox"/>
	1953	6	<input type="checkbox"/>	2003	12	<input type="checkbox"/>
	1954	3	<input type="checkbox"/>	2004	11	<input type="checkbox"/>
	1955	3	<input type="checkbox"/>	2005	12	<input type="checkbox"/>
	1956	2	<input type="checkbox"/>	2006	12	<input type="checkbox"/>
	1957	5	<input type="checkbox"/>	2007	12	<input type="checkbox"/>
	1958	5	<input type="checkbox"/>	2008	11	<input type="checkbox"/>
	1959	5	<input type="checkbox"/>	2009	12	<input type="checkbox"/>
	1960	4	<input type="checkbox"/>	2010	13	<input type="checkbox"/>
	1961	5	<input type="checkbox"/>	2011	12	<input type="checkbox"/>
	1962	5	<input type="checkbox"/>	2012	12	<input type="checkbox"/>
	1963	5	<input type="checkbox"/>	2013	12	<input type="checkbox"/>
	1964	2	<input type="checkbox"/>	2014	13	<input type="checkbox"/>
	1965	3	<input type="checkbox"/>	2015	15	<input type="checkbox"/>
	1966	4	<input type="checkbox"/>	2016	16	<input type="checkbox"/>
	1967	4	<input type="checkbox"/>	2017	15	<input type="checkbox"/>
	1968	4	<input type="checkbox"/>	2018	14	<input type="checkbox"/>
				2019	16	<input type="checkbox"/>





## STEP 2: COLLECT

To maximise the impact of this project, Common Grace will coordinate the delivery of scarves to Senate leaders, MPs and church leaders in Winter 2021. To that end, we need all scarves to be sent to Common Grace HQ in Sydney by 31 March 2021

### **Scarf submission deadline: 31 March 2021**

We are also interested in knowing more about you, why you have participated and who you would like to see wearing your scarf. So please complete the form on the following page and send it in along with your scarf.

#### **MAIL TO**

Common Grace  
Parcel Locker 10136 87442  
21 Enmore Road  
Newtown NSW 2042

#### **EMAIL COMMON GRACE**

You are also welcome to send us photos of you as you knit as well as stories about your involvement in the project to [info@commongrace.org.au](mailto:info@commongrace.org.au)

# RETURN FORM

Download and complete this form when you return your scarf

## Your Details

Full Name

Postcode

State

Electorate

Email Address

Phone Number

## Optional Answers

Why were you motivated to knit for climate action?

What message would you like to send to the recipient of your scarf?

Who would you love your scarf to go to?

Common Grace will take your desire into account alongside the campaign goals.

Please tick if you agree that Common Grace can use the following text in any marketing and press materials to promote this campaign:

- Your name as written above
- Your optional answers as written above

**Please sign here**

# STEP 3: DISTRIBUTE

Common Grace will coordinate the distribution of scarves to Senate leaders, MPs and church leaders in Winter 2021 to highlight the need for a bold and credible national plan to tackle the climate crisis.

Working through the Christians Together for Climate Electorate Lobby Group leaders and other Common Grace networks, we will arrange for locals to meet their MPs, Senators and church leaders, gift them with a scarf and share the stories of lived experiences of climate change.

**Wouldn't it be amazing if all 76 Australian Senators received a scarf?**

**How might denominational church leaders receive the gift of a scarf?**

**Imagine if numerous Senators and MPs wore them to a Parliament sitting!**



We are also exploring media opportunities to ensure the delivery is covered in local and national media.

**Imagine if Brooke Prentis our CEO was able to gift a scarf to a politician on an Australian Breakfast TV program and make the case for climate action?**

We believe your scarf will help bring greater awareness to the public and government leaders that Christians are crying out for a better response to the effects of climate change in this country and across the world.

**THANK YOU**  
FROM THE COMMON GRACE  
CREATION & CLIMATE JUSTICE TEAM

