

# ST PANCRAS KNITTERS & KNIT A SQUARE

Newsletter May 2023



*Hi all you wonderful KAS St Pancras Knitters!*

How are we all? Hope you are feeling inspired as the Spring sets in, the flowers begin to burst into bloom and the trees turn green!

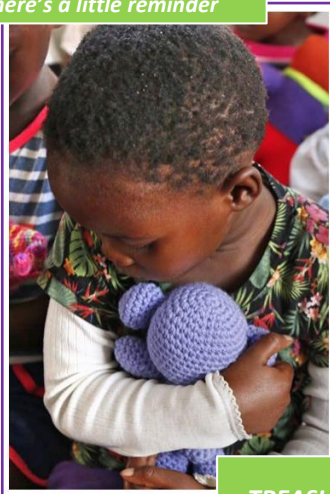
*First let's update everyone with news from home:*

To the end of May our running total of blankets sent now stands at 948!! Our next target of 1000 is getting ever nearer!! Congratulations everyone on such an amazing achievement. We did have an issue with Royal Mail in January for a few weeks, whereby no parcels could be sent abroad, but this did not deter us from continuing to prepare the parcels and eventually getting them sent off. As it takes at least 56 days for them to reach KAS in south Africa they only received 2 parcels from us in April but look out! They have a massive surprise coming next month when all those parcels we have sent since start to arrive!

Penny continues to do us proud with her crocheted blankets to help various needs including the 'Soup Run' for the homeless, and the Dementia ward at Mount Gould. Her running total stands at 100! It is good that we are able to support 'home and away' and are also able to use the chunky wool that comes in, which we can't use for South Africa, for such good causes. Nothing is wasted!

Please pass the word around for donations of unwanted double knitting or chunky wool. 'Every little helps!' However, we now have an abundance of bubble wrap so thank you but no more please for the time being.

*Just in case you ever wonder why you buy yarn and send parcels to SA, here's a little reminder*



**TREASURES – BOTH OF THEM!**

*Now for News from KAS South Africa*

What a beautiful picture and my heart leapt when I realised that this is one of the toys we sent in a parcel donated by one of our knitters! This makes it all so worthwhile.

*And...* As I looked on the website for news to include in the newsletter.... What did I find?

On 7th March

*“Another parcel opened by Connie from Trish Gribble’s team.”*

.... How lovely to see one of our parcels opened on their table after travelling all those miles!!

Recognise your squares, toys and handwarmers?



Then.... on March 14<sup>th</sup>...



**OH NO! IT HAPPENED AGAIN!!!**

*“Ronda arrived to discover we had had another flood. A deluge of water must have swept into the barn moving our big black storage boxes from one end to the other. It’s difficult to imagine that a box full of beanies can move so far, heavy plastic containers full of the bags we use for the Gogos squares moved meters, heavy bags of 10 blankets per bag pushed over, a saturated green carpet and drenched blankets.”*



*Blankets were hung all around at the barn and some travelled to homes to dry/air out.  
Thankfully all were recovered and the work continued!*

## Distributions:

Athele and Estelle visited the Clay Oven Informal Settlement on February 27<sup>th</sup>. They were given permission to post the children's faces so get to enjoy the wonderful expressions on every face.

Some of the sweet, desperately vulnerable children of Clay Oven informal settlement and the bright blankets, beanies and cuddly toys they received from Knit-A-Square's loving hands around the world that made it possible. For many these were the first toys they've ever been given. Many of this community regularly go to bed hungry.



*The place they call home, makes them some of the most vulnerable children in our community.  
"Estelle and I were grateful to be able to be the last link in the chain of loving care that represent  
the Knit-A-Square global family."*

Vivienne distributed 54 blankets on 24th February at the Batus Center Mapetla and a further 56 blankets on Monday, February 27 in Mapetla.



## A Plea from KAS!

**Please** may we remind you to make sure you weave in **all** your yarn ends, **except for one** 20" (50cm) tail for the sewists to use.



**BUT** remember to butterfly that 20" (50cm) tail and attach it to your square like this ...

How to "butterfly the tail"

Use contrasting yarn and follow these directions:



*Oh, what a tangled web we weave when all those pesky ends we leave ...*



## From Trish and Sue:

This is why it is so important to sew in those ends and do the butterfly ends correctly attaching it through the square and not left dangling or they all get tangled together. Don't worry, we check all of ours before sending but if you are able to do them it saves us a lot of prep. time!

...Finally

## A PRAYER...

Lord, we pray for all those committed to helping these little ones and thank you for the privilege of being able to see a glimpse of the joy this brings them. We pray for each and every one of them that you will provide their needs and that they will come to recognise your love for them through this work. Amen



**Thank you everyone! Keep up the good work!!**

You can contact St Pancras Knitters via the church office at: [admin@stps.org.uk](mailto:admin@stps.org.uk)