

All Strung Out Fine Yarns and Fiber Arts

January 2009 Newsletter

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Store Hours

Tuesday: 10am - 6pm
Wednesday: 10am - 6pm
Thursday: 11am - 8.30pm
Friday: 11am - 8.30pm
Saturday: 10am - 5pm
Sunday: 11am - 4pm
Monday: Closed

Hello and Happy New Year! I hope you all had a safe and happy holiday season, and I hope each of you found a little time for your knitting/crochet/crafting during this hectic time.

Here at All Strung Out we've had an amazing time in our first month. Our Grand Opening Party was a complete success - over 150 people came through the store on November 29th, and everyone was so excited to see all the beautiful yarns and fibers available. Over the next few months I hope you will all find the time to stop in again to see the new yarns, fibres, books, and patterns that we will be adding to our shop.

All the best,
Ashley

New Yarns

Two new yarns have arrived in the last few days. Briggs and Little Heritage is available in 21 colours, and this durable, 100% wool yarn is an amazing deal at only 5.99 for 100g. If you are looking for something unique to make socks, scarves, hats or mittens out of, you have to stop in to see Lorna's Laces Shepherd sock yarn, a handpainted superwash sock yarn available in 18 dazzling colourways.

Keep checking back with us - there are more new yarns and fibers on the way all the time!

Did You Know?

The UN has declared that 2009 is the International Year of Natural Fibres! Make it a challenge to knit/crochet/craft with natural fibers this year! For more information about natural fibers like wool, silk, alpaca, and cotton, visit this site:

<http://www.naturalfibres2009.org/index.html>

January Knitalong

Come out to our Thursday Night Knit and Chat or our Saturday Afternoon Knit and Chat this month and participate in a knitalong of the extremely popular Clapotis pattern. By knitting this project together at the same time, we will all be able to share our triumphs, help each other out, and perhaps make some friends in the process!

The pattern for Clapotis is available at

<http://knitty.com/ISSUEfall04/PATTclapotis.html>

You will need:

- Approximately 420 yards of sport or sock-weight yarn. We recommend Lorna's Laces Shepherd Sock Yarn, or Noro Silk Garden Sock Yarn.
- 5mm straight or circular needles

If the Clapotis is not your cup of tea, check back in February - We are doing a Knitalong of the February Lady Sweater: the pattern for this adult-sized adaptation of a classic Elizabeth Zimmerman pattern is once again available online at:

<http://www.flintknits.com/blog/?p=151>

Weekly Events

Knit and Chat

Wednesdays, 10am-12pm
Thursdays, 6pm-9pm
Saturdays, 1pm-3pm

Come Knit and Chat at All Strung Out! Bring your knitting/crochet to work on and hang out for a while in our community area. Meet other local crafters, show off your finished (and unfinished!) objects, and enjoy a few hours of knitting, good company, and good conversation.

Sunday Spin In

Sundays, 1pm-3pm

Are you a spinner? Bring your wheel, your drop spindle, or your handcards to our Sunday Spin In, a gathering for spinners to hang out, spin some yarn, and get to know some fellow fiber artists. Even if you don't spin but want to see what this craft is all about, bring your knitting and come visit for a while!

Class Schedule

Learn to Knit

One 2hr session
Saturday January 17th
10am - 12pm

OR

Sunday February 1st
11am-1pm

If you are just getting started with knitting or you need a quick refresher, this is the class for you! Learn how to cast on, knit, purl, and cast off: everything you need to know to get started on your first scarf project!
Cost: \$25 plus materials. Minimum 3 students, Maximum 5.

Beaded Knitting

One 2hr session
Friday January 16th
6.30pm-8.30pm

OR

Sunday February 15th
11am - 1pm

Mix it up by adding some beads to your knitting! In this class we will make a pair of beaded cuffs as an introduction to the fine art of beaded knitting. All you need to know for this class is how to cast on, knit, purl, and cast off.
Cost: \$30, beads included. Minimum 3 students, maximum 8.

Intro to Drop Spindling

Two 2hr sessions
Saturday January 3rd and 10th
10am-12pm

OR

Saturday February 7th and 14th
11.30am -1.30pm

Learn how to make your own yarn on the drop spindle, an ancient, portable spinning tool. In this class students will learn how to draft, spin, ply and finish a yarn made from combed wool top. Students will receive their own drop spindle and 100g of handpainted fiber.
Cost: \$70, includes materials. Minimum 3 students, Maximum 6.

Quick and Easy Mittens

Two 2hr sessions
Tuesday January 13th and 20th
1pm - 3pm

OR

Friday February 6th and 13th
6.30pm-8.30pm

Warm up your hands with these quick-to-knit mittens. In this class we will learn how to knit on double pointed needles and how to knit a gusset thumb - everything you need to know to keep your hands warm this winter!
Cost: \$40 plus materials.

Finishing 101

One 2hr session
Sunday January 18th
11am -1pm

OR

Wednesday February 4th
1pm – 3pm

If you have ever struggled with sewing up seams, picking up stitches, grafting, or blocking, this is the class for you.

Learn how to give your completed garments that professionally finished look by a variety of tricks and techniques. In order to take this class it is best if you have a project which you have finished knitting but have not yet sewn up. Minimum 3 students, maximum 5.

Please bring or purchase: darning needle, crochet hook, and optionally straight pins or safety pins.

Cost: \$35 plus any materials.

Easy Lace Scarf

Two 2hr sessions
Friday January 23 & 30th
6.30-8.30pm

This simple eyelet lace scarf is a great introduction to lace knitting, and it makes an excellent gift. In this class we will learn basic principles of lace knitting, including how to read charts and how to block finished pieces.

Minimum 3 students, maximum 5.

Cost: \$40 plus materials.

Knit a Simple Hat

Two 2hr sessions
Saturday January 24th & 31st
10am - 12pm

Tired of knitting scarves and washcloths? A simple hat is a good way to expand your skills. In this class we will learn how to knit in the round on both circular and double pointed needles, how to work a simple k2p2 ribbing, and how to decrease. Minimum 3 students, maximum 6.

Cost: \$30 plus materials.

Learn to Crochet

One 2hr session
Saturday February 7th
2pm - 4pm

In this class, our resident crocheter PJ will teach you how to work basic crochet stitches and follow a simple crochet pattern for a scarf, baby blanket, or other project of your choosing. If you need a quick refresher or have never tried this fascinating craft before, this is the class for you. Minimum 2 students, maximum 5.

Learn to Knit Socks

Two 2hr sessions

Saturday February 21st and 28th

2pm - 4pm

OR

Wednesday February 18th and 25th

1pm - 3pm

There's nothing more comforting and cozy than a pair of hand knitted socks. In this class we will learn how to construct a simple sock worked from the cuff down by knitting a miniature sock that will teach you all the skills you need to make socks to fit your own two feet! In this class we will learn how to knit on double pointed needles, how to work a gusset heel and decrease for the toe. Minimum 3 students, maximum 6.

Learn to Knit Thrummed Mittens

Two 2hr sessions

Saturday January 24th and January 31st

1pm – 3pm

Originating in Newfoundland, these mittens are made extra warm with a layer of fleece stuffing. Some materials will be provided for this class - a skein of Briggs and Little and 2 oz of fleece stuffing. You may either purchase or bring in a pair of 3.5mm knitting needles. Minimum 3 students, maximum 6.

Cost: \$50 incl. materials.