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SPRING NEWSLETTER 2009

It looks as though 2009 will be another exciting year for Spin A Yarn. We'll be celebrating our 3rd year in July, which will be a real milestone as apparently most new businesses go under within the first 2 years. On the contrary we are getting busier and busier - all thanks to our wonderful customers!! It's brilliant to welcome so many new knitters to the shop. I've lost track of the number of new customers who walk in and say "I haven't knitted for 30 years



but so love the texture and colour of the new yarns that I'm tempted to start knitting again. As most of you will know, recently we've been featured on West Country tv, in the Western Morning News and in the Dartmoor magazine. Knitting seems to be getting more and more popular as people want to enjoy more peaceful, sociable and relaxing hobbies

Spin A Yarn Workshops

We've arranged an interesting new workshop schedule for the Spring which includes 3 professional finishing workshops run by ever-popular Claire Crompton. Hopefully this will allow more of you to benefit from Claire's expertise at teaching the techniques which will allow you to sew up your garments to a high standard.

We are delighted to have 3 Rowan workshops run by Alison Crowther-Smith, Rowan Design Consultant who proved to be a popular teacher when she taught a workshop in May last year. Also, we have sock, lace and continental knitting workshops taught by Anniken Allis (who has published patterns appearing monthly in the Yarn Forward magazine).

Other workshops that are scheduled for Spring are crochet, spinning, felting, peg loom and willow working all taught by experienced teachers.

The Natural dyeing Workshop held last September was such great fun we have scheduled another for Monday, 1 June. The photos to the right show some of the beautiful colours that were produced



Natural Organic yarns

You must have noticed that all the main yarn companies are now competing to produce the best natural and hand dyed yarns. They seem to have woken up to the fact that using natural fleece, especially local fleece is an ideal way of using natural resources. At last the farmers are starting to receive a little more money for this natural product, when only a couple of years ago so many fleeces were wastefully burnt. Rowan British Sheep Breeds and Colourscape are examples of the beautiful natural new yarns that are being produced by our British yarn companies.

The popularity of the wonderful hand dyed and handspun yarn from such companies as the Japanese spinner Noro and the beautiful New Zealand yarns Touchyarns and Rareyarns have played a huge role in persuading British companies that there is a huge market for naturally

produced wool and alpaca and we've all benefited from the ever-expanding ranges of natural yarns from all over the world.

Other successful new Yarns this last year have been the Artesano Alpaca yarns from Peru and the new Manos del Uruguay range which is looking beautiful hanging from the rafter in the stockroom. The variety of single patterns from these companies is brilliant, especially the new "Curves" range for curvacious ladies!

The Sirdar Eco and the self-patterning Escape wool have also, been a huge success partly because the pattern support is so good.



New Spring Yarns arriving soon as well as Rowan Book 45!

Rowans's latest spring yarn is made from wood pulp and is called Lenpur Linen. I was so impressed with its smooth feel that I decided to order all the 12 vibrant colours available. Noro Silk Garden sock yarns are finally arriving, in Europe in Spring. I can't wait to see all the wonderful new colours. Early in the New Year, we are looking forward to the second issue of the Debbie Bliss magazine after the runaway success of issue 1. The new Debbie Bliss yarn for Spring is ECO, an Organic fairtrade cotton range in Aran weight. The 16 vibrant shades are made with a new generation of chemicals, which are non-toxic and non-allergic. The wool is processed through a new treatment system that leaves the residual water, after dyeing, clean enough to drink

NEW YEAR SALE!!!

We're starting the year on Friday, 2 January with a Grand Sale. All the yarns will be at 10% discount. Loyalty card holders, however, will be getting a huge 20% discount off all the yarns including Noro, Debbie Bliss and Rowan

New Patterns

The Spin A Yarn patterns have proved a huge success. Soon, we will be scheduling a new photo session up at Houndtor with Gail Lithgow photographing the new Claire Crompton patterns for a fitted cardigan and jumper in DK and Aran weights which will be available in the shop soon.

Monday Opening

I mustn't forget to let you know that from the end of January we will be opening on Mondays. Sue is going to be in charge for the day and is very excited at the prospect.

Finally, A big thank you to everyone for all your support again during this second year!!!

Best wishes

Joyce xxx

Don't forget you get a 10% discount on purchases made at a workshop and loyalty card holders get 15% on that day.

Note!! Loyalty cards can be automatically renewed if you are a regular customer without any further qualifying purchases necessary. New cards will have a customer number on them, so please bring your out-of-date cards in to be renewed. Also, could everyone try to remember to show your cards at the till otherwise you might miss out on your discount!!