



WINTER
2018

*"I am always doing that which I cannot do,
in order that I may learn how to do it."*

– PABLO PICASSO

118 MADRONE LANE, BAINBRIDGE ISLAND, WA 98110
TELE 206.780.2686 CHURCHMOUSEYARNS.COM

OPEN SUNDAY–SATURDAY 10–6. THURSDAYS 'TIL 8. CLOSED EASTER SUNDAY, APRIL 1.

a quick
NOTE

I hope you'll join me in stepping boldly (and gently!) into this new year with what Zen Buddhism calls 'beginner's mind' or *shoshin*. This way of being in the world is characterized by openness, eagerness, curiosity, a lack of preconceptions. Zen teacher Suzuki Roshi says, "In the beginner's mind there are many possibilities. In the expert's mind there are few." *Lion's Roar* magazine describes this state of mind as "not yet solid with concepts"—don't you love that image?! Contemplative Christian teacher Richard Rohr suggests, "Ignorance does not result from what we don't know, but from what we think we do know."



If I can bring this open posture to my knitting—indeed, to everything I do—I might, as the Picasso quote on our cover suggests, just learn a thing or two!

At Churchmouse, we've been thinking a lot lately about *why* we do what we do, and which results make it worthwhile. At the top of our list: "Our knitters are successful."

We don't mean success in the "climb the ladder" sense, more in the feeling of accomplishment we get when we do what we set out to do. That feeling of rightness when a project turns out to be worth the money, and even more importantly, worth the time (after all, you can get more money but you'll never get that hour back!).

Here's how that feeling sounds: I did it! I finished it. I learned a really cool

thing. I did a little better than last time. It turned out even better than I'd hoped. I wear it. I use it. My husband wore it out. My daughter asked if I'd make her one. It fits. It makes me feel beautiful. A perfect stranger asked where I bought it. I want to make another one...

These are the things we hear from you—the things that make this the best job in the world. Notice, "It's perfect!" isn't on the list.

And sometimes success sounds like this: I totally messed up, but I get it now. I nearly gave up but I didn't. Or, I just wasn't loving it so I frogged it. As teacher Susanna Hansson (page 12) says, "Not all projects *should*

be finished." Knowing when to pivot, when to bail—that's success, too.

At our first Churchmouse Classics retreat last fall, we explored the life cycle of a project, from starting with good choices, through the doing (and learning) phase, to a successful finish. This year, we'll continue sharing some of this content with all of you in our Classroom and on our website. Let's be 'beginners' together.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Kit".

Kit Hutchin

P.S. This April we'll be sponsoring our third Knitting With Company Retreat at IslandWood, where the focus will be on knitting companionship. For more details, see page 15.

project SUCCESS



In our perpetual quest to become just a bit better at our craft, we always welcome a little help. Here are a few of the things we like to keep beside us. **Good materials:** Look for yarns that are made to last from top quality fibers. We're adding *Woolfolk* yarns to our mix this winter (*Sno* above left; more details, page 6). **Good design:** Start with well designed projects with thoughtful instructions by publishers you trust.

Good tools: We don't go for a lot of fussy gadgets, just useful things that help us stick to our 'best practices' (see some of our favorites on page 8). The weighty *Brass Catchall* from *Sir/Madam* (right) keeps all our bits



corralled right next to our knitting chair. **Good information:** See some of our very favorite reference books on page 8.



Good light: Because the rest won't matter if you can't see it! The *Naturalight Magnifying Lamp* (at left) is one of our Featured Fave lamps, 10% off through January (see the *Foldi LED Lamp*, page 8).

Good friends: Because project success is so much sweeter when we share it.

yarn of the MONTH

In 1968, *Manos del Uruguay* set out to create jobs for women in Uruguay's countryside. For nearly 50 years, they have succeeded in giving economic, social, and personal development opportunities to women—evolving one of the first fair trade yarn collectives in South America!

Without leaving their hometown, women can provide for their families by hand-dyeing *Manos'* range of vibrant yarns—including *Maxima*, January's **Yarn of the Month** at 10% off.

A soft, cuddly yarn with lots of possibilities, *Maxima* is a worsted-weight, single-ply strand of 100% extrafine merino wool. It's plump and lush—very plush!—and super soft. And in *Maxima*, *Manos* has mastered a striking, joyful color palette!



Combining research and traditional techniques with nearly half a century of experience, *Manos del Uruguay* uses an artisanal dyeing process. Small lots of yarn are dyed up to six times in pots heated over wood fires to achieve the vibrancy that sets *Manos* yarns apart.

The hanks are then dried outside in the Uruguayan sun. No shade is entirely solid—instead, each skein of *Maxima* is nuanced and unique, the tonal variations reaching glorious depths. They're tagged with the name of the artisan and the co-op's location, connecting the knitter with the person

who created the yarn.

Manos Maxima is so easy (and such a pleasure) to work with, we think it's a perfect yarn for beginner knitters. We use it in each of our *Churchmouse Classroom Learn-To-Knit* and *Learn-To-Crochet Companions* (at left) and *First Projects* patterns!

We think it's so much more satisfying to learn with good quality, beautiful—and soft!—materials. In fact, *Maxima* is the first yarn a few of our mice ever worked with! The space-dyed nature of each skein adds fun to even the simplest of stitch patterns.



CABLED MOSS STITCH COWL

This chunky, cozy cowl takes advantage of doubled yarn for a quick knit and plump cables. First time crossing cables? Have no fear—you'll be surprised how easy it is!

Size: Approx. 9½"/24cm tall (with edges rolled) x 28"/71cm around.

Yarn: 2 skeins Manos del Uruguay Maxima (219 yds/200m each).

Notions: US 10½ (6.5mm) 24"/60cm circular needles, or size to obtain gauge; 10 st markers (1 in a different color); large cable needle; darning needle to finish.

Gauge: 14 sts/22 rounds = approx. 4"/10cm in pattern stitch, with yarn held double.

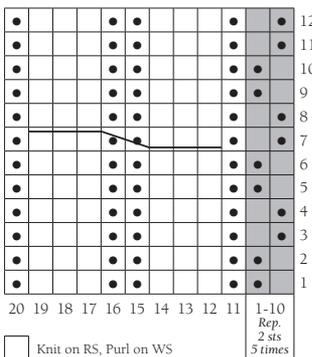
Glossary: CN = cable needle; K = knit; P = purl; PFB = purl into front then back of same st; PM = place marker; RM = remove marker; Sl = slip purlwise; SM = slip marker; St(s) = stitch(es).



Cast on: With yarn held double, using cable cast-on method, cast on 90 sts.

First welted edge: PM of different color and join in round being careful not to twist. Purl 2 rounds. Increase round: (P8, PFB, PM) 10 times. [100 sts]

Cable pattern: Round 1: *(K1, P1) 5 times, SM; P1, K3, P2, K3, P1, SM*; repeat between * * 4 more times. Round 2: Repeat Round 1. Round 3: *(P1, K1) 5 times, SM; P1, K3, P2, K3, P1, SM*; repeat between * * 4 more times. Round 4: Repeat Round 3. Rounds 5 & 6: Repeat Round 1. Round 7 (cable twist): *(P1, K1) 5 times, SM; P1, Sl next 3 sts to CN and hold in front, K3, P2 (when working the 5 sts that will be hidden behind cable, some sts will change from K to P and vice versa; this won't



Knit on RS, Purl on WS

Purl on RS, Knit on WS



Slip next 3 sts on CN, hold in front, K3, P2, K3 from CN.

show), K3 from CN, P1, SM*; repeat between * * 4 more times. Round 8: Repeat Round 3. Rounds 9 & 10: Repeat Round 1. Rounds 11 & 12: Repeat Round 3. Repeat Rounds 1-12 twice more. Repeat Rounds 1-11 once more. [47 pattern rows]

Final welted edge: Round 1: *P10, RM, P2tog, P2, P2tog, P4, RM*; repeat between * * 4 more times. [90 sts] Rounds 2 & 3: Purl.

Bind off: Bind off all sts purlwise, firmly.

Finishing: Weave in ends on wrong side. Wet block to specified dimensions, pulling cast-on (shoulder) edge a little wider and nudging bind-off (neck) edge a little narrower; dry thoroughly.

we're MAKING

When the calendar flips, why not jump resolutely into next year and try something new? A new style. A new yarn. A new skill. Or visit an old favorite anew. It could be time to get back to that project or technique you set aside—maybe you'll find a new understanding, now that you've let it percolate a bit. Reboot!

Welcome Woolfolk:

A former architect, Portlander Kristin Ford learned to knit from her grandmother, Katherine Temple Woolfolk. When she launched her yarn company a few years ago, how could she name it anything else? We're so pleased to welcome five of Kristin's exquisite *Woolfolk* yarns to our shop and website collections in January.

We'll be starting with fingering-weight *Tynd* (Danish for 'thin' or 'slender') and its cousin *Sno* (to 'wind' or 'twist'), a high- or low-contrast marl. Heavy-worsted-weight *Tov* ('rope') and *Tov DK* are cable-spun—plied, then plied again—for amazing stitch definition. Chunky *Luft* (appropriately, 'air') captures merino fluff in a sheer cotton sleeve.

Kristin's Danish roots are also evident in her design sensibility ("wearable, clean, and minimal") and beautiful color sense. Lisa and Anna are knitting the wonderfully textured 'Solv' ('silver') scarf

(see below) in *Luft*, designed by Cecelia Campochiaro. Alicia's knitting the 'Fure' ('furrow' or 'seam') ribbed fingerless gloves in *Tynd* in feathery grey. We are decidedly 'wool folk'.

Revisiting the Classics: Both Cornie and Beth are knitting the Churchmouse

Classics 'Slouchy Pullover' that we launched in fall. Cornie's is in *Rowan Brushed Fleece* in Rock. Beth's is in *Brooklyn Tweed Quarry* in Moonstone, a tranquil icy grey with blue "snow shadows." Carolyn debated doing a second 'Slouchy' but opted for the Churchmouse Classics 'Quintessential Cardigan' in lofty *Daruma Genmou*, picking Wheat for a "chartreuse-y wardrobe pop." She appreciates "the

pattern details that enable me to find the right ease and sleeve length." Laura's knitting a 'Quintessential Cardigan' in *Isager Alpaca 1* and *Silk Mohair* (new online), "because we need a new one every season, don't we!?"

Susan's making a 'Better-Than-Basic Pullover' in *Brooklyn Tweed Shelter's* golden Hayloft for her twin sister. She'll be applying several techniques she's learned in Churchmouse accessory patterns—tubular cast-on, clip-and-turn short rows, sewn bind-off—in these garments. She says, "I love gaining confidence on



Woolfolk 'Solv' scarf in *Luft*

a smaller project!” Leila’s making her second ‘*Modern Wrapper*’ (her first was a MW Fine), mixing *Isager Alpaca Merino 2* with *Rowan Kidsilk Haze* in go-with-everything black.

Love learning: For a little New Year’s stretch, Alicia’s knitting her first color-work yoked sweater. With *Baa Ram Ewe Dovestone DK*, she’s using the *Tin Can Knits ‘Strange Brew Recipe’* for designing your own custom Fair Isle sweater. In with both feet! Lauren N.’s learned a new skill as well—she’s delighted with jogless striping while knitting the *Luffe Mittens* by Lone Kjeldsen of *Hyggestrik*.

Scarf style: Did Marianne Isager name the ‘*Bateaux Mouches Scarf*’ for its graceful, boat-like shape or its careless Parisian chic? Sally’s is in *Isager Alpaca 1* in brick red; Kit’s (her second) is in a complex heathered olive! Marianne says the simple style is great on women or men, so Gregory can’t be far behind. Wendy’s knitting the ‘*Second Chance Scarf*’, a lightly felted triangle of *Isager Spinni/Wool 1* with a whimsical pop of *Silk Mohair* crocheted around the edges. Pam’s knitting our ‘*Simple Sideways Triangle Scarf*’ in *Daruma Genmou*, taking advantage of this Japanese yarn’s frisky color palette to add hot pink tassels to sedate grey. Sally’s just finished re-yarning our ‘*Ribbed Lace Scarf*’ (above) in fluffy, fabulous *Berroco Ultra Alpaca Chunky*. She chose charcoal grey (naturally).



Churchmouse Classics *Ribbed Lace Scarf* in Rowan Cocoon.

A bit o’ the Irish: Both Mimi and Gregory have picked *Tahki*’s handsome, classic *Donegal Tweed* for quick accessory projects. Mimi’s knitting the ‘*Boyfriend Watch Cap*’ and Gregory’s doing the ‘*Ferryboat Mitts*’. Both projects take advantage of *Donegal Tweed*’s sturdy worsted weight and K2/P2 ribbing for bounce-back stretch and extra woolly warmth.

Step it up: Gregory’s knitting the new worsted-weight adaptation (free online and in the shop) for our Churchmouse Classics ‘*Basic Socks*’ pattern in *Manos del Uruguay*’s hand-dyed *Alegria Grande*. He had a heckuva time choosing between all the fun and fanciful color combos.

A plumper version of fingering-weight *Alegria Grande*’s soft blend of superwash merino and nylon makes it perfect for kids’ knitting, too!

Sharing Shibui love: When our friend Sandy Barnes from *Shibui Knits* visited last month she left us inspired—and casting on! True to their name’s implication of “unobtrusive beauty”, *Shibui* projects are simple, subtle and wearable. Lauren F.’s knitting ‘*Trace*’; Cathleen’s knitting ‘*Avenue*’; Lisa’s knitting the ‘*Aurora*’ vest in *Cima* and *Reed*. Susan has convinced Kate to do a ‘*Varna*’ sweater KAL (Susan’s mixing *Maai* and *Pebble*). And Denise is knitting the Churchmouse Classics ‘*Modern Wrapper Fine*’ in *Silk Cloud* and *Cima*. We promised Sandy a little ‘staff fashion show’ when she comes back!

little
HELPS



Wired for success: At our Churchmouse Classics Retreat last fall, we beta-tested *Swatching Wires* devised especially for us by *HandWorks Northwest*. At just 10" long, they're so nifty, so easy to use, that we've converted a few skeptics to swatching—mission accomplished! You'll also learn to love blocking your FOs (finished objects) with *Clover's* two-pronged, U-shaped *Fork Blocking Pins*. Twice as fast and super flexible!

Sharp ideas: We've gathered a selection of keen Italian scissors from *Studio Carta*, beautifully suited for working with textiles. We love the teensy *Le Piccole* (above). With handles large enough for most fingers and precision-sharpened, carbon steel blades, you can snip away easily and accurately.



Daylight savings: In January, we're taking **10% off** two favorite lamps. When the work gets a little detailed or the day is dreary, the sleek, portable *Foldi Lamp* (left) has thirty bright, long-lasting, full-spectrum LED bulbs to increase contrast and reduce glare. It's battery powered and has a USB connection. The full-spectrum *Naturalight Magnifying Light* has two lens strengths. No more tired eyes!



Project portability: These roomy totes from *Baggu* keep projects organized and ready to go. The cotton canvas is sturdy yet soft enough to fold and stow.

Shelf help: Of all the tools in our arsenal, knowledge is certainly the most potent. A few of the texts that comprise our 'canon':

Cast On Bind Off by Leslie Ann Bestor. An encyclopedia of the perfect start and finish for every knitting project.

A Stash of One's Own by Clara Parkes. Essays by knitters on loving, living with, and letting go of yarn.

Charts Made Simple by JC Briar. A primer on making sense of stitch pattern charts.

A Treasury of Knitting Patterns by Barbara Walker. The first in a series of seminal stitch dictionaries.

The Principles of Knitting by June Hemmons Hiatt. A core comprehensive reference of methods and techniques.

Vogue Knitting: The Ultimate Knitting Book. This February, a brand new edition from *Vogue Knitting Magazine*, filled with techniques, tips and design fundamentals.



anytime
TEA

For **January's Tea Fave**, we've picked one that's great 'round the clock. *Tick Tock Tea*, **10% off** this month, is a delicious infusion that's naturally caffeine free so you can enjoy it morning, noon and night!

Tick Tock Tea is a British company with a one-hundred-and-ten-year history—starting in the Cedarberg Mountains of South Africa. There, rooibos (pronounced, roughly, 'roy-boss'; also known as redbush), is still grown and harvested by hand.

Dried and fired like black tea—it still has a bit of a tannic 'bite' that makes

for a more tea-like herbal alternative. Rooibos is renowned for high levels of antioxidants—so it's good for you, too.



We've long carried the *Tick Tock Original Rooibos Tea* (a perennial favorite) and the *Green Rooibos Tea*—which processes *Tick Tock's* redbush with Chinese tea-making techniques. It retains its green color and subtle taste—like green tea but without astringency.

This winter our tea buyer Erika brought in deliciously bright *Rooibos Earl Grey Tea*, uniting two great tea traditions to enjoy anytime you like!

ROOIBOS GINGER ELIXIR

Take advantage of all the soothing, healing and hydrating properties of Rooibos tea while winter rages. Fresh ginger adds an invigorating kick. For our followers 'down south' or 'down under', it's great iced, too!

4 bags or 4 heaping scoops of Rooibos tea
(we used *Tick Tock Tea*, above)

2 cups water

Approx. 1 Tbsp fresh grated ginger

2 Tbsp honey

2 cups cranberry juice

In a saucepan, bring water to a boil. Add rooibos and fresh ginger; stir. Steep for 10 minutes. Stir in honey.

Strain into a teapot or Thermos®, pressing firmly on tea and ginger. Add cranberry juice and serve warm.

Keeps in the fridge for up to two days.

WINTER 2018 IN THE CLASSROOM

'DROP IN' CIRCLES: Help With Your Project(s) When You Need It

MONDAY MORNINGS 10:00am–12:00pm with Leila McCall

TUESDAY AFTERNOONS 2:00–4:00pm with Cornie Talley

THURSDAY MORNINGS 10:00am–12:00pm with Sherry Goldsworthy

FRIDAY MORNINGS 10:00am–12:00pm with Sherry Goldsworthy

Maximum: 6 students. \$16 for 2 hours; \$8 for 1 hour (second hour only, please) or \$64 for a card of 10 prepaid Circle hours.

OPEN TABLES FREE!

TUESDAY MORNINGS 10:00am–12:00pm.

SUNDAY MORNINGS 10:00am–12:00pm. No open table on Sunday, April 1

THURSDAY EVENINGS 6:00–8:00pm

Bring your knitting, crocheting, or stitching for a chance to hang out in good company. It's not a formal class but a chance to gather with like-minded fiber fans; you'll be surprised at what you can learn alongside your neighbors!

CHARITY CIRCLE FREE! ALL LEVELS WELCOME

Third Thursday afternoons 1:00–3:00pm 1/18, 2/15, 3/15 with Sally Dunbar

We meet the third Thursday of each month for charity knitting, crochet and conversation. This winter we're knitting hats, scarves and gloves for a teen shelter in Seattle, but we can also find a good home for any project you'd like to tackle. Won't you join us?

KIDS ARE KNITTING!

KIDS KNITTING: Learn to Knit or Pick a Project with Jennifer Burlingame

Wednesdays 3:30–4:30pm or 4:30–5:30pm 1/3, 1/10, 1/17, 1/31 Note: class skips one week.

Wednesdays 3:30–4:30pm or 4:30–5:30pm 2/7, 2/14, 2/28 Note: class skips one week.

Wednesdays 3:30–4:30pm or 4:30–5:30pm 3/7, 3/14, 3/21, 3/28

Parents: Please arrive 15 minutes early to purchase supplies for first class.

Miss B has a collection of patterns for great projects: everything from scarves to hats, and teapot or iPod cozies. If you've never knit before, come learn! If you have unfinished projects, bring them to finish up so you can start something new! Ages 7 and up.

Maximum: 7 students \$30 for 3-session workshop; \$40 for 4-session workshop

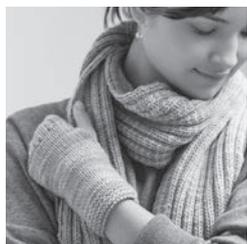
The fine print: Minimum class size is 3 students. 'Go' date is 7 days before the first session. You may cancel up to 7 days before your first class for a full refund. If you cancel later, we cannot issue a refund unless we're able to fill your spot from a waiting list. You may send a friend in your place. Your place is reserved with full payment. You'll receive a 10% one-time discount coupon on the first day of class (expires in one year); cannot be used for class fees or combined with other discounts.

A STRONG FOUNDATION

LEARN TO KNIT, STEP ONE: Fingerless Gloves

Friday afternoons 2–3:30pm 1/12, 1/19, 1/26 with Sherry Goldsworthy

Friday afternoons 2–3:30pm 2/2, 2/9, 2/23, (no class 2/16) with Cornie Talley



With these on-trend fingerless gloves, you'll practice all the basics you'll need for a lifetime of knitting. *You'll learn:* Cast on, bind off, knit, purl, garter stitch, stockinette stitch, ribbing, and mattress-stitch seaming. *You'll make:* A stylish set of fingerless gloves (worked flat). No previous experience required. *We'll provide:* Churchmouse Learn-to-Knit Companion, Churchmouse Classroom pattern, tape measure, darning needle. **Maximum: 6 students \$60 (3-session workshop)**

LEARN TO KNIT, STEP TWO: Ribbed Hat

Wednesday evenings 6:30–8:00pm 2/7, 2/14, 2/21 with Sherry Goldsworthy

Friday afternoons 2–3:30pm 3/9, 3/16, 3/23 with Cornie Talley



If you've learned the basics of knit and purl (or taken our 'Step One' class, above), you're ready to knit in the round. This will open the door to hats, cowls, loops and top-down sweaters. *You'll learn:* Joining in the round on a circular needle, and working with double-points. *You'll make:* A cute ribbed beanie (for him or her) and you'll have the skills you need to make handwarmers to match! *We'll provide:* Churchmouse Classroom pattern. **Maximum: 4 students \$45 (3-session workshop)**

GARMENT PROJECT SUPPORT with Laura McCormick

Saturday afternoons 3:00–5:00pm 2/24, 3/3, 3/10, 3/24, 3/31 (Note: Skips the week of 3/17)

Whether it's your first garment or your fifth, it's way more fun and inspiring to get started—and keep going—with a supportive group and an expert at hand. *You'll learn:* How to choose a size, swatch for gauge, track shaping, pick up stitches for bands and more. Basic knitting skills required. *We'll provide:* A Churchmouse Classics pullover, cardigan or wrapper pattern (\$12 value). **Maximum: 7 students \$100 (5-session series, 10 hours)**

NEW! NOW YOU CAN SIGN UP FOR CLASSES ONLINE

Our webmasters have created an easy way to view classes, see how many spots are open, sign up, even get on a waiting list, all from your computer, tablet or phone! *Note: Sign up for 'Drop In' Circles in the store or by phone with a credit card.*

Just click the 'Classes' button on churchmouseyarns.com, pick your classes and check out. You'll see the supply list and homework (when applicable), and receive an email confirming your spot. Of course, you can also sign up in the store and by phone: 206.780.2686. See you in the Churchmouse classroom!

START TO FINISH

GREAT BEGINNINGS: Cast-on choices for success

Saturday 10:30–1:30pm, 2/3 Susanna Hansson

If you only know one or two ways to cast on, Susanna will open a universe of great tools to get your knitting projects off to a great start! Different cast-ons create different edges and having several at your fingertips will enhance your finished pieces. *You'll learn:* New versions of long-tail cast-on, crochet provisional cast-ons, tubular cast-on for 1x1 ribbing, and a sweet picot cast-on perfect for baby projects!). Class presumes familiarity with basic long-tail cast on; come to a Knitting Circle (see page 10) to learn or brush up. **Maximum: 6 students \$45 (1 half-day session)**

OOPS! (Or The Anatomy of a Stitch) New two-session format!

Saturday mornings 10:00–11:30am 2/10, 2/17 with Kit Hutchin

Tuesday evenings 6:30–8:00pm 3/13, 3/20 with Kit Hutchin

Our two-hour class has been expanded to three hours in two sessions to allow a week for practice in between and time for a few 'extreme measures'. *You'll learn:* How to 'see' the structure of a stitch so you'll know what to do when something goes wrong; how to un-knit and rip, and a few tricks so you won't need to. Basic knitting skills required. **Maximum: 6 students \$30 (2-session workshop)**

FINISHING FOR THE FINICKY with Susanna Hansson

Saturday 10:30am–5:30pm 3/17 Class time includes a 1 hour lunch break.

Susanna says that the decisions you make even before you cast on can make a big difference in your finishing. *You'll learn:* Professional tricks and techniques that will save time, make finishing easier and ensure a beautiful outcome. Basic knitting skills required; previous garment experience helpful. *You'll receive:* homework swatching instructions upon sign-up. **Maximum: 12 students \$90 (1 all-day workshop)**

TAKE GOOD CARE

HEALTHY HANDWORK HABITS

Saturday 10:30–12:30pm 3/17 with Marsha Novak

Do you have pain in your back, neck or arms when you knit? Or is your handwork pain-free and you'd like it to stay that way? This course, informed by the Feldenkrais® Method, includes some gentle seated movement activities and a Feldenkrais-inspired yarn experience. You'll take home a movement sequence to use for a warm-up or as a break during your day. **Maximum: 8 students \$20 (1-session workshop)**

STUDENT DISCOUNTS

On your first day of class, you'll receive a one-time 10% discount card (expires in one year).

SKILL SETS



INTRO TO SOCKS

Wednesday evenings 6:30–8pm 3/7, 3/14, 3/21 with Becky ffitich

This is the basic sock our mothers (and their mothers) knew by heart. *You'll learn:* A slip-stitch heel-flap pattern, turning a heel, gussets and Kitchener stitch for toe grafting. *We'll provide:* The *Churchmouse Classics* 'Basic Sock' pattern. Basic knitting skills and experience with double-points or two circular needles required. Come to one of our Knitting Circles (page 10) to get your homework cuff started if you're rusty. Maximum: 6 students \$45 (3-session workshop)



INTRO TO LACE

Tuesday evening 6–8:30pm 3/6 with Becky ffitich

Monday afternoon 2–3:30pm 3/19 with Becky ffitich

In one short session, Becky offers everything you need to start your first lace knitting project—it's easier than you think! *You'll learn:* Yarn-over eyelets and decreases, how to read a chart, and how to read your knitting. *We'll provide:* *Churchmouse Classics* 'Ribbed Lace Scarf' pattern for lace-weight or chunky yarn. Maximum: 6 students \$15 (1-session workshop)

SPECIAL WORKSHOPS

TWO-THIRDS SACHET: The secret's in the proportions

Saturday 2:30–5:30pm 2/3 with Susanna Hansson

This beautiful beaded sachet makes an ideal gift—for hostess, bridesmaid, Valentine, mom... It's a great little presentation bag for a gift card, too. *You'll learn:* How to knit with beads, create a picot edge, make eyelets for ribbon, and knit the sides together for a no-seam finish. *We'll provide:* One of Susanna's 'Two-thirds Sachet' pattern, a beading needle and dried lavender (great for discouraging moths), compliments of our new neighbor, Pelindaba Lavender. Maximum: 6 students \$45 (1 half-day workshop)

'RAVELRY' HOW-TO

Saturday morning 10:30–12pm, 3/3 with Alicia Vause

Ravelry—www.ravelry.com—is an online knitters' community that is changing the way many of us approach projects and stash. If you've ever wondered "What can I do with 2 skeins of X?", your fellow 'Ravelers' may have the answer! Bring your laptop or tablet and learn how to use all the fun tools on the site. While you're at it, you can join our Churchmouse group (7,700-plus members and growing!)

Maximum: 6 students \$20 (1-session workshop)

familiar FACES

Ana Alvarez joined our inventory team last April. She helps keep our shelves full and our orders coming. An MFA graduate in creative writing from the University of North Carolina–Wilmington, Ana has done design work for several literary presses. Now on Bainbridge Island with her family and her cat Claude Garamond, she continues work on her second novel. A new knitter, Ana loves the “immediate, tangible” satisfactions of knitting, saying “a novel can take ten years.” Should we break it to her?



Sarah Hardi comes to us via Denver and a seven year career as a baker. When she first learned to knit at 12, she “hated it!” When she picked it up again at 22, the “quiet, solo” aspect of the craft was a perfect balance for the rigors of the commercial kitchen. And now she loves the community aspect of her work in the shop. Sarah fits her knitting time in around “reclaiming” an old house—she and her partner even learned to pour concrete! Sarah’s favorite projects are those that keep her loved ones “warm and happy.”

Denise Johnson May has been a customer since we opened in 2000. She joined our service team in August. A social worker and trainer in women’s healthcare for 30 years, Denise says she has been “humbled” by learning to translate her own knitting skills to help others. A knitter since her boys were little, most of Denise’s projects are gifts to mark special occasions; a pullover to honor son Nate’s PhD is in the works. When she’s not knitting, Denise loves “hiking, biking, rowing” and “gardening in the shade.”



Cathleen Slattery joined us in September, just in time for the busy season! Her family, including three teenagers, have lived on Bainbridge Island for three years—after four moves in eight months! Like many of us, Cathleen learned to knit, sew, cook and bake as a little girl but she revisited knitting at a Churchmouse class last January. And she’s been knitting non-stop ever since! Cathleen says her “heart is in customer service”—a perfect mix with a passion for knitting.

this WINTER

RETREAT SIGN UPS

Save the date! Our third annual 'Knitting With Company' Retreat at Bainbridge Island's legendary IslandWood will take place on the long weekend of April 26th–29th.

Registration opens on our website (churchmouseyarns.com) precisely at 10:00 am Pacific, Saturday, January 27th.

'Company' founders Julie Hoover and Catherine Lowe will be joined this year by longtime writer, editor, creative director Melanie Falick, and New Yorker Kay Gardiner, the northerly partner of Mason-Dixon Knitting fame. Good company, indeed! It's the perfect opportunity to step away from the day-to-day, relax, eat well and enjoy time with other knitters (the best people in the world, right?!).

MONTHLY OFFERS

Our next printed mailer goes out mid-March. Between now and then, we don't want you to miss a thing!

Sign up for our periodic email notes and you'll get timely reminders about new Featured Faves (10% off!) each month, up-dates on what we're knitting, the latest goods to grace our shelves, and reminders about classes and events. Share your birthday month when filling out your profile and you'll get a wee gift in your birthday month.

To sign up, go to any page on our website (churchmouseyarns.com). Or just send a note to contact@churchmouseyarns.com and we'll do the digital 'paperwork' for you. We never share our list and you can unsubscribe at any time.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Smith Tea Tasting: January 27th, Saturday, 12:00–3:00pm. Tea wallah Alix Walper of Portland's Smith Tea company shares samples and stories.

Hot Chocolate Tasting: February 10, Saturday, 12:30-2:30pm. Seattle's own Chocolat Vitale offers a truly memorable cup of cocoa.

Madrona Fiber Arts Festival: February 15th-18th in Tacoma. We won't have a booth this year but we hope to bump into you in the marketplace!

Brooklyn Tweed Winter 2018 Trunk Show: Feb 24th-March 11. See—and try on—finished pieces from their Winter 2018 Collection. Can't wait!

Knitting With Company Retreat: April 26th-29th, Thursday–Sunday, sponsored by Churchmouse at IslandWood. Sign-ups start January 27th (see above).



118 MADRONE LANE
BAINBRIDGE ISLAND, WA 98110

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

NEW 'FEATURED FAVES'

WINTER CLASSES

FREE COZY COWL PATTERN

WARMING RECIPE

