



SHALL WE KNIT?

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Saturday, August 22nd is a very special day – **SocksEd!** We will be hosting Kate Atherley at a book signing of her newest book. Whether you knit them toe-up or top-down, getting just the right fit on hand knit socks can be a major challenge! In *Custom Socks*, Kate Atherley sets out to teach knitters of all levels the skills and tools they need to understand sock fit, and to knit a pair of socks that fit properly. She calls on her years of experience as *Knitty's* Managing Technical Editor, where she has edited hundreds of sock patterns, to share this information in a way that is easy to understand with patterns that inspire.

A quote from Kates' website - *"I've taken my Plain and Simple Sock patterns - both Top Down and Toe Up versions - and created a book all about how to make them actually fit your feet. I've provided the basic formulas and templates for both directions, and created the numbers for you for gauges from 4 to 9 sts/inch (including the important 6.5 and 7.5!), for finished socks from 5 to 10.5 inches in circumference. That's covering feet from 5.5 to 12 inches in circumference, and pretty much any possible yarn you might ever want to use.*

And then. THEN. I've given you a ton of info on how to measure your feet properly to determine your fit needs, and how to customize the socks for those needs. Oh yeah, and there's some fancy patterns, too. Texture stitches, cables, lace, colourwork. All sorts of lovely socks.

The book also has all my sock knitting tips and advice and wisdom from nearly 20 years of sock knitting, and 10 years of teaching sock knitting."

If you've been around us for any length of time then you will know that we can't "just" do a book signing. So **SocksEd** came into being.

SocksEd is a full day of all things socks, or sock related, or sock yarn related or what the heck - lets just have some fun. You are invited to join us from 10 – 4 for a special knit in public event. Below is a list of some of the things happening during the day.

- Kate will be joining us to do book signings throughout the day
- indigodragonfly is doing some fun dying – mason jars!
- free demos on a wide variety of topics
- sign up to take a ½ hr class with Kirsten and crank your own sock tubes
- sock tube contest
- hanging out with knitters and just having fun
- sock yarn swap
- draws – various draws throughout the day

And one day is never enough with Kate or Kim of indigodragonfly, so on Sunday both of them will be teaching classes. Kate will be doing 2 sock classes and Kim will be doing a more involved dyeing workshop. All classes can be registered for online.

So mark the dates on your calendars and get ready for some serious fun!

We will have door prizes throughout the day for everyone who has visited us during the day. Did you ever have a chance to use our house brand **Willow Street Silk**? We haven't had any for a couple of years and we still get asked about it. Well with the last order of it that we got we also bought some natural and were going to have it dyed. It got put in a cupboard and forgotten about until last summer when I was getting ready for indigodragonfly dye camp. I remembered it and it came to dye camp and I got to play. And boy did I have fun! If you have a chance to go – GO! So we have a couple of skeins that we will be having draws for.



Sock Tube Contest – what's a sock tube you ask? Well a sock tube is done on a sock-knitting machine. Kirsten has an antique sock-machine and is the talent behind the sock tubes. A sock-knitting machine is skillfully cranked by hand, no computer, no electricity and 75+ moving parts. The hand-knitter chooses how to transform the tube, for example, knee-length socks or fingerless gloves. The tedious part (such as a sock's mid-foot section) has been machine-cranked.

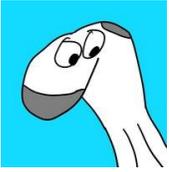
Each tube is quality fingering weight yarn, knitted in a continuous spiral, 60 stitches per round with waste yarn securing the live stitches on both ends of tube. A typical 100gm skein yields about 50 inches of tube.

So now you know what a sock tube is, now you ask what you do with it?? Thus the contest! We have samples in the shop of socks, knee high socks, mittens, fingerless mittens but we know that there are an awful lot of creative people out there! So put your thinking caps on and let's have some fun.

Category 1 – you have bought a tube and will bring in a finished item. It can be anything, but has to start with a basic fingering tube of 60 stitches in stockinette.

Category 2 – concept – you don't actually have to make this but we need it on paper with enough detail that someone could take your idea and make it. So don't tell me you will make an airplane – but something that actually can be made – your imagination is the limit.

Why?? Why should you do this? Prizes!!! 1st prize in both categories will be a \$50 gift card. 2nd & 3rd prizes will be \$25 gift cards. Submissions will be judged by Kate Atherley & Kirsten Dyer



We will also be hosting another **Sock Yarn Swap** during the day. Bring your remnants of sock weight yarns and swap with others to get a variety of colours. This is a free event and works on the honour system, previous ones have been a lot of fun. Bring your finished scrappy yarn socks, blankets, garments – finished or unfinished to show off! If you have any finished projects that you have finished using scrappy yarns and would like to lend them to us for display, please bring them in any time in July – and Thank you.

15 minute Demos – Free – there will be a schedule for these 15 minute demos posted in the August newsletter so you can plan your day to take advantage of as many as possible.

Kate Atherley

- Foot measuring – do you know how to properly measure feet? Having the wrong measurements means your sock won't fit as well as it should or last as long. Kate will show you how to get proper measurements.
- Choosing a sock size – do you just go by your shoe size when you knit socks? Do they fit the way they should? Let Kate help to figure out what proper sizing is.
- Tips for holeless gussets – don't you hate that hole that you can often get on the corners of gussets of socks whether you are knitting top down or toe up? Kate has some hints to solve that problem.
- Stretchy cast on for Top-down socks – we hear it regularly “the socks fit but the edge is too tight”. There is a solution and Kate is the one to show you.
- Stretchy bind off for Toe-Up – you've knit that wonderful fitting sock but that last row – the bind-off is just too tight. 15 minutes with Kate and you will be smiling.

Beth Graham

- How to Make a Tunisian Mitred Square - Beth demonstrates how to make a Tunisian crocheted mitred square, the basic building block for her free Bandwagon Blanket pattern, which uses sock yarn scraps in her interpretation of Shelley Kang's classic Sock Yarn Blanket.
- Duplicate Stitch: A Simple Method to Preserve Much-Loved Socks - Beth shows how Swiss darning can strengthen weakened areas of hand-knit socks. It's easier than you think, and will make you feel rather clever (not to mention frugal)!

Janelle Martin

- Mitred Squares: Also known as Domino or Modular Knitting, this technique is easy to learn but has many applications. Once you learn the technique, you can make mitred squares of any size that may be used in various applications, including socks.
 - Judy's Magic Cast-On: In the spring of 2006, Knitty.com introduced the world to Judy's Magic Cast-On. As Judy herself states, " a more *humane* way to start toe-up socks" was needed, so she developed it.* Easy to learn, it can be used in almost any toe-up sock.
- Knitty.com, Spring 2006: <http://knitty.com/ISSUESpring06/FEATmagiccaston.html>

Jen Plaskett

- Do you have leftover sock yarn? Of course you do – we all do! Try a hexi-puff! Tiny, quick and they add up to a whole lot of options.

Kirsten Dyer

- Curious about Circular Sock Machines? SWK's SocksEd is your opportunity to see, learn, and even try your hand at cranking! Kirsten Dyer, creator of "Transform-a-Tube", will share her Circular Sock Machine (CSM) with us.
- **Cranking Service** - Your choice of sock yarn, custom-cranked by Kirsten. \$12 per 100 gram skein. Drop off & pick-up at SWK at a later date upon completion.

Lynne Sosnowski

- Kitchener stitch/grafting – for top-down sockateers, Lynne will demonstrate how to graft the toes using Kitchener Stitch. She'll have a great big worsted weight sample, so that no one has to bring a magnifying glass.
- I-cords – For your sock embellishing needs, Lynne will demonstrate how to work an I-cord bind-off and as a bonus will be demonstrating how to knit the “integrated I-cords” that are used in her forthcoming sock design



Classes



As we are moving into the warmer weather we will be cutting back on our classes. When the warm weather hits everyone wants to be outside and enjoying it (us too) and it makes it hard to schedule classes.

We will still be doing a few special classes over the summer but in the meantime if there is ever a class you would like please let us know. We can put you on a wait list and as soon as we have enough names on the wait list we can book a class. Another option is that if you get together with 3 or more friends you can book a private class. What would you like to learn???

Guided Project Class

TUESDAYS 1:00 – 2:00 \$10/session

The guided project class is gaining in popularity is perfect when you need help but can't wait for a special class and it's more involved than we can help with over the counter.

This is dedicated time when you can sign up, come with whatever project you are working on, and get help. You can pick a single project and get help with it each week along the way, or you are welcome to bring a new problem to each class and get help with something new each time. Guided Project class is a book as you go - you pay \$10 for an hour of guided time.

***Please call the shop to register **BY PRIOR SATURDAY** with the date you are interested in as well as information on the project you are working on.

Mason Jar Dying with Kim & Ron of indigodragonfly

Sat. August 22nd 10:30-12:30 & 1:30-3:30 time slots available \$32 for Merino sock yarn, \$40 for MerGoat sock yarn

We will have 2 choices of yarn that you can choose from and then you can play. This is a very simple basic dye technique (a more involved dye workshop is available on Sunday) but you will be able to create a one of a kind skein of fingering weight yarn or maybe 2 or 3?

Yarn + squirt bottles of dye + a little colour guidance = 1 skein of unique sock yarn they can take away.

"choose a skein of yarn, choose a colour or 2 or 3 of dye and put it all in the jar. Come back in 45-60 minutes to pick up your yarn" thing.

Your Turn to Crank! With Kirsten

Saturday, August 22nd ½ hr sessions available at 10:30, 11:30, 12:30, 1:30 & 2:30 \$20

Have you ever been curious about Circular Sock Machines? SWK's SocksEd is your opportunity to see, learn, and even try your hand at cranking! Kirsten Dyer, creator of "Transform-a-Tube", will be onsite sharing her Circular Sock Machine (CSM) with us. Sign-up for a fun chance to crank your own knitted tube.

Our SWK community is always intrigued by creative yarn possibilities. The more possibilities, the more fun! We're one of the first shops to experience Transform-a-Tube, a concept that invites hand-knitters to collaborate with a Circular Sock Knitting Machine. CSM's are really cool, but not every knitter wants to own one of these expensive, heavy, tricky, rare machines. Transform-a-Tube helps you achieve custom-fit socks...FAST!

Prerequisite to cranking, the participant should already be comfortable hand-knitting with small needles (2.5 mm-ish) so they can successfully transform their tube into socks (free pattern provided).

Your 30-minute session will begin by learning how skeins are prepared for cranking. Bring a 100-gram skein of sock yarn (fingering weight).

Two Socks on Two Circulars with Kate

Sunday, Aug. 23rd 9:30-12:00 \$45

This class teaches how to knit two socks at the same time on two circular needles. We'll discuss both top-down and top-up techniques. A nice addition to the sock-knitter's toolkit, this technique helps banish Second Sock Syndrome and ensures that your pair matches exactly.

Using 2 colors of medium-weight yarn, I show how to cast on and work two complete, separate socks at the same time with two circular needles. We work a sample pair of mini socks in the class, and I provide a pattern for use with sock yarn. As a bonus, I'll also discuss the use of two circulars to replace any type of double-pointed knitting.

*****Skill level**: Intermediate; students must have knitted at least one pair of socks but need not have experience working with circular needles for sock knitting

Sock Fit Master Class with Kate

Sunday, August 23rd 1:00 - 4:00 \$45

and puzzling questions you have about sock fit. Having trouble making standard sock patterns fit you well? Have a particular fit need, or unusually shaped or sized feet? Want to use a different yarn? Having trouble matching gauge? This class dives deep into sock fit: we'll explain how socks should properly fit, and how to tweak an existing pattern or build your own from scratch to meet your specific needs. Whether you want to work toe up or top down, whether you're a DPN-er or Magic Looper, whether you want to use fingering or sportweight, this class has answers for you.

This is also a good way to start designing your own socks, too!

*****Skill level** : Intermediate - must be comfortable with sock knitting & construction

In conjunction with Kate's new book, this class aims to answer all those pesky

Dye Workshop with Kim

Sun. August 23rd 10:00 – 1:00 \$100 includes 3 skeins of yarn

Ever wanted to dye your own yarn? Have a colour of yarn that no one else has? This is your chance to take a workshop with Kim & Ron of indigodragonfly and make your own beautiful colour.

Choose from a range of colours to dye your own sock yarn. In this workshop, you will walk away with 3 skeins of yarn hand dyed by you, all in the same colour way, or work with others to dye a variety of colours. Dye for socks, a shawl or other small projects.

♪ *Summertime...I can hear Ella Fitzgerald in my head as I type that. But summertime has a couple of dates for us to celebrate and once we started pondering them we decided to celebrate something every week for the months of June, July & August. We are telling you all the yarns ahead of time so you have time to wander Ravelry and plan your projects. We hope you enjoy.*

July 7th – 11th **Classic Elite Cottons** 20% off
(includes Sprout, Cerro, Canyon, Sandpiper, Bella Lino, Firefly, Provence, Chesapeake, Classic Silk & Cricket)

July 14th – 18th is **Closet week** & 20% off all **Mohair** yarns

July 21st – 25th **Filatura Di Crosa Dolce Amore** 20% off

July 28th – August 1st is the Week of all holding – 20% off all knitting **bags and needle cases**

August 4th – 8th is our 8th Anniversary **so BLING** – jewellery, jewellery kits, and any SWK labeled items 20% off
Everyone that comes into the shop will get a draw slip to win one of our **Ltd. Edition Willow Street Silk**

August 11th – 15th long days of Summer means **long slow colour change yarns** 20% off – Silk Garden, Kureyon, Taiyo, Freia Sport & Sock

August 18th – 22nd our **Special August Event** is on the 22nd (info next week)

Buy 2 sock yarns and get a free SWK stitch marker tub

Buy 3 or more sock yarns and get a free stitch marker tub and a draw for a special limited edition TBA yarn

August 25th – 29th Berroco **Remix** 20% off

****usual fine print - Sale is only on instock items*

In the Gallery for month of August will be Janelle Martin with her newest collection, Northern Landscapes.

Janelle says -

This past summer I traveled to Newfoundland, to the arctic coastal tundra region where the Vikings had the first European settlement in North America. Such gorgeous landscape! It's inspired a collection focused around the landscape of this area of Newfoundland and its geological cousins in Iceland and coastal Ireland. I've been lucky enough to visit all three places over the past 10 years. I find the remote and stark landscapes inspiring – nature has such beautiful lines and movement.

During my visit to Newfoundland's Great Northern Peninsula (the location of the first Viking settlement in North America) inspiration struck quite quickly and before the week was out, I had the core ideas for the Northern Landscapes collection. This accessory collection of 30-40 pieces focuses on shawls/stoles, scarves, hats, and cowls. I knew right away that the beautiful, natural colours and textures of Bare Naked Wools paired perfectly with this landscape. The collection also features indie dyers, focusing on colours drawn from the three landscapes.

The collection will be released in three parts and will be available as an ebook or individual patterns. Part 1 will be published mid-August, part two will be released at the end of 2015 and part three will be released in spring 2016.

The pieces on display at Shall We Knit? are those featured in part one of the collection. The teaser pattern for this collection, Secret Society is available July 6. The rest of the patterns in part 1 of the collection will be available mid-August 2015. Special pre-order price for the collection is \$24.95 until the collection is released, at which time the price increases to \$35.95 (patterns purchased individually would cost \$75.00). Patterns may also be purchased individually.



SALE CLOSET OPEN

July 14th – 18th

August 18th – 22nd

SUMMER HOURS

TUESDAY & WEDNESDAY 11:00-5:30

THURSDAY 11:00-8:00

FRIDAY 11:00-9:00

SATURDAY 10:00-4:00

SUNDAY & MONDAY CLOSED