

# Australian Quaker Tapestry

## Newsletter - November 2008

### The Yarn Barn

The Yarn Barn at West Coburg (Melbourne, Victoria) is a Dickson family owned and operated business and has been established for over 10 years. It has the widest range of hand knitting, machine knitting, felting and weaving supplies in Australia. So it was a natural choice to look for Australian wool at the Yarn Barn to complement Bilby yarns for combining in weaving the backing cloth.

The Dickson Family has always been involved with the textile industry in one way or another. Kerry Dickson has been in the industry for over 30 years with his son, Aaron, following in his footsteps having been in the industry for over 10 years. It was not until about 8 years ago, when they were in Paris for a Textile Machinery Exhibition, that they came across a little village. There they discovered a Frenchman making unusual yarns, these yarns were very exotic and nothing like anything they'd seen in Australia. This was the beginning of Yarn Barn.

[http://yarnbarncomau.melbourneitwebsites.com/page/about\\_us](http://yarnbarncomau.melbourneitwebsites.com/page/about_us)



The number of Textile Manufacturers has rapidly declined in Australia, giving little opportunity for the craftsperson to obtain supplies in small amounts. Aaron saw an opportunity to service this market. As this developed, enquires started to flow in from a wide variety of people: from Crochet to Hand Weavers to Felt Makers to Machine Knitters where they found it hard to find their supplies at a reasonable price. This led to a new range of products that Yarn Barn offered to its customers.



### Central Committee

Cathy Davies  
Garry Duncan  
Frances Love

**All enquires to:**

[tapestry@quakers.org.au](mailto:tapestry@quakers.org.au)

### Website

[www.freewebs.com/australianquakertapestry](http://www.freewebs.com/australianquakertapestry)

**Exchange ideas** about the Quaker Tapestry on the yahoo group link below.

<http://au.groups.yahoo.com/group/australianquakertapestryproject>

Click on **Join this Group**.

Donations for the ongoing support of the project can be made via the Quakers Australia office PO Box 556 Kenmore QLD 4069. Cheques should be made out to Australia Yearly Meeting (Tapestry Fund).

### Meetings for Stitching & Design

**Blue Mountains (NSW)**

Contact Frances Love

**Brisbane (Queensland)**

Contact Jude Pembleton

**Canberra (ACT)**

Contact Catherine Dabron

**Darwin (NT)**

Contact Elizabeth Kwan

**Melbourne (Victoria)**

Contact Tessa Spratt

**Newcastle (Mayfield, NSW)**

Contact Annie Frizell

**Perth (Western Australia)**

Contact Trish Wood

**Sydney (Waitara, NSW)**

Contact Cathy Davies