

Crafting Community UPDATE

SEPTEMBER 2026



Care Bag's
Made with Love



Repurposing  
Giving Everyday Items a Second Life

Sometimes the things we no longer need at home can become something useful and meaningful for someone else. With a little creativity, gently used items and leftover materials can be repurposed into practical items for Care Bags — helping us reduce waste while creating something made with care.

TOWELS

Gently used towels can be transformed into useful facecloths or washcloths, finished with a pretty crochet or fabric edging. Smaller pieces can also be made into soap bags — simple, practical and perfect for a Care Bag.

TIP: Quilting charm squares make colourful wash cloths. Sew together with flannel and add an optional loop for hanging and drying.



PILLOW SLIPS



A pretty, gently used pillow slip can be given a completely new purpose and transformed into a child's nightie.

Pillow slips can be repurposed to make drawstring bags.

SOAP BAG/FLANNELS

[Cosy Sewing Nook - Sewing Pattern](#)

[Melly Sews - Sewing Pattern](#)

[Rose Tinted World - Sewing Pattern](#)

PILLOW CASE IDEAS

[Pillow Case Dress - Sewing Pattern](#)

[Little Dresses for Africa - Sewing](#)

[Drawstring Bag - Sewing Pattern](#)

LEFTOVER FABRIC

Those small pieces of fabric that are too good to throw away can have a purpose too. They can be used to make XX-small bags for tissues and packing hospitality and travel-size amenities, ready to be added to a Care Bag.



X-SMALL BAGS

[Mini Drawstring Bags - Sewing Pattern](#)

[Pocket Tissue Cover - Sewing Pattern](#)

[Mini Drawstring Bag - Sewing Pattern](#)



YARN STASH-BUSTERS

Quick and easy patterns which bring a lot of joy include these cute mini jelly fish and octopuses for infants, hand puppets for toddlers, and worry worms for just about anyone who needs some comfort. Ideal for using up your scraps of yarn and feel free to get creative!



COMFORT TOYS

[Mini Jelly Fish - Crochet Pattern](#)

[Mini Octopus - Crochet Pattern](#)

[Dog Hand Puppet - Knitting Pattern](#)

[Worry Worm - Crochet Pattern](#)



Don't like adding eyes and faces?
Not a problem - one of our
volunteers will complete facial
features on donated projects.



Find the worry worm printable on
our website under useful resources



A happy recipient
turned her worry worm
into a key chain



A Little Creativity Can Go a Long Way

Before throwing something away, take a second look and ask: "Could this be made into something useful for someone in need?"

Your leftover fabric, an old towel or an unused pillow slip could become a small act of kindness — repurposed, handmade and given with love.

Care Bag's Made with Love – Turning what we have into something that helps others.

We accept a variety of gently used and new items. Contact details and drop off locations below. Thank you for being part of this sustainable initiative.



- Gently used linen including:
 - Towels & facecloths
 - Tablecloths & napkins
 - Linen & pillowcases
 - Bedside rugs & bath mats
 - Handkerchiefs

- Fabric & yarn
- Fiction reading books
- Notebooks & pens
- Hotel toiletries
- Shein/Ziploc bags
- Gently used clothing & shoes
- Toys
- Board games & playing cards
- Colouring books & crayons
- Storage containers



REQUESTED ITEMS

Items low on stock

- Soap bags
- Flannels
- Bedsocks
- Gently worn clothing

CONTACT & DROP OFF

Knysna

📞 Linda Wambach
071 349 5561

📍 Acton Signs
38 Cove Street
Business hours

George

📞 Sarah Huddy
072 333 4204

📍 Needle Nook
Meade Street
Business hours

NOTES

- There are no set patterns. We do provide suggested links to get you started, but please feel free to be creative and use any preferred pattern and fabric.
- Please mark clothing with sizes.
- Consider using unisex yarn colours. This helps balance our stock when gender-specific items run low.
- The health and safety of our Care Bag's recipients is of utmost importance, particularly for patients with weakened immune systems. Therefore, items need to be free of smoke and pet hair.



SEWING

- **Drawstring bag:** all sizes welcome. Use your fabric pieces as a guide.
 - Suggested sizing: Sml 23 x 32 cm, Med 35 x 40 cm, Lrg 45 x 45 cm
 - Tip: use t-shirt yarn as drawstring
 - Basic: madeeveryday.com or kids backpack: orangebettie.com
- **Toiletry/wetbag:** to store wet items discretely. Sizing: 15 x 20 cm
 - Tip: use PEP plastic tablecloths for the waterproof lining.
 - Suggested pattern: madeeveryday.com
- **Bufs:** For teen boys and males.
 - Suggested pattern: thelaststitch.com
- **Fabric beanie:** For chemotherapy patients.
 - Suggested pattern: rileyblakedesigns.com
- **Mastectomy pillow:** Post-op pillow for breast cancer patients
 - Tip: use PEP pillow inners for stuffing.
 - Patterns: createtodonate.org or shannonfabrics.com or sparklesofsunshine.com
- **Neck travel pillow:** Suggested pattern: Treasurie.com
- **Microwaveable hand warmers:** For colon cancer patients.
 - Suggested pattern: sumoftheirstories.com
- **Drainage bag:** Post-op for cancer patients. Sizing: 23 x 27 cm
 - Suggested pattern: cancersupportyorkshire.org.uk
- **Soap bag:** Serves as a washcloth and storage for soaps.
 - Tip: Use new or repurposed towelling.
 - Suggested pattern: beginnersewingprojects.com
- **Dental/pencil pouch:** For children with bright fabrics.
 - Suggested pattern: youtube.com
- **Reusable sanitary bag:** For cervical cancer and teen bags
 - Suggested pattern: youtube.com
- **Face mask:** Suggested pattern: hellosewing.com
- **Memory games:** To keep children mentally engaged during treatment.
 - Pattern: sewmariana.com



KNITTING & CROCHET

- **Blankets:** To keep patients warm and comfortable during treatment.
 - Sizing: All sizes welcome. Suggested size 120 x 120 cm or 47 x 47 in.
- **Mittens/gloves:** To keep patients warm during treatment.
 - Knitting: knit-a-square.com
 - Crochet: knit-a-square.com or youtube.com
- **Soap bags:** Serves as a washcloth and storage for soaps.
 - Knitting: snapdragonlife.com
 - Crochet: youtube.com
- **Beanies:** All ages, men's, women's, child and infant beanies.
 - Knitting pattern: <https://www.knotsoflove.org/patterns>
- **Bedsocks:** All ages. Please mark bedsocks/slippers with sizing.
 - Knitting: bevscountrycottage.com
- **Baby and children's clothing:** All ages from infant to 17 years
 - Knitting: mariannaslazydaisydesigns.com
- **Soft toys:** Avoid choking hazards like buttons.
 - Ball: startknitting.org
 - Crochet octopus: crochet365knittoo.com

