



Creations Chronicle.



Issue no 69

April 2017

Busy Busy month

Emma Maye has been out of the water, the temperature blanket has a bit of pink in it, we've new yarns aboard, Colin's had a railway picture published in the Railway Magazine, Easters nearly here and soon after that will be Yarn Shop day 2017.

It must be the warmer weather, and the lighter nights but we seem to be busier than ever.

First off we have some new yarns aboard for you to try again from West Yorkshire Spinners, two new pinks to add to the Signature 4ply sock range and a new range,



Wensleydale Gems.

The yarn is 100% Wensleydale Wool in a Double knitting weight and comes in 100g skeins, (225 meters)
We have taken an initial order of 4 of the 20 shades available to see how they go, what do you think?



We can order in the other shades, and will extend the range we carry ready for yarn shop day on the 6th of May.
Cost at 6.4.17 £8.50 per 100 gram skein or £7.65 at Teds mates rates.

Colours and shades here are, from left to right, Blue, "Cobalt" (shade 155) Grey, "Moonstone", (113) Purple, "Amethyst" (776) and Pink "Topaz" shade (537).

Carole is working on creating a hat from this fleece and reports it's knitting up very nicely.

While we were at Burscough Wharf last weekend it was actually warm enough on the Saturday for **Carole to be sat on't bank knitting** for a few hours, this picture sort of summed the warmth. We suggested that people may like to join her on the Sunday, but the breeze took the edge off the temperature, so it didn't really happen. We'll see if we can organize it to happen again later in the year when it should be even warmer.



Colin was made up over this, there are lots of railway enthusiasts out there that are taking pictures and submitting to magazines, and after not getting anything accepted for a while he got there...now to build on it and get out there with the camera more.

Scan of page 103 of the April 2017 Railway Magazine which has printed a copy of my picture of DB Cargo 66125 at Knowsley Freight Terminal Kirkby
On Saturday the 11th March 2017 Pathfinder tours ran an enthusiasts railtour from Didcot in Oxfordshire up to the North West of England. The tour was called The Waste Train as the idea was to visit two waste loading depots. The train first visited the Knowsley Freight Terminal near Kirkby on Merseyside. From here some of Merseyside's domestic waste is containerised and loaded on to freight trains that take the waste to a incinerator on Tyneside.
The 2nd place to be visited was Bredbury in Greater Manchester from where again domestic waste is taken to Runcorn again for incineration in a waste to power plant.

Both of these sites are not normally accessible on a passenger train.

The train had a DB Cargo diesel locomotive on either end of the carriages to enable the train to run into sidings and always have a locomotive leading when they came out again.

Here the train with locomotive no 66125 is in the siding at the Knowsley Freight Terminal at Kirkby on Merseyside.

The train ran under headcode 1Z31 and left Didcot at 06.41 that morning and returned at 23.04hrs



The annual celebration of your local yarn shop is on the 6th and 7th of May for us, and we're at Burscough Wharf this year. Offers on yarns, free patterns, lucky bags for the first few customers of the day and more....put the date in your diary.

Image's of the Month.



Spot the difference

Some people say it should be done every 2 years, some every 3, but we just never got around to it, until now. That is re blacking "Emma Maye's" hull. She had been in the water since her launch date of the 1st of June 2011, until Friday the 24th March 2017.

She was floated onto a cradle at Scarisbrick Marina in West Lancashire, the cradle was pulled out of the water up a slipway by a tractor, then Andy from the marina power washed the hull off and she was sat on some wooden blocks.

It was then up to Colin. He took the angle grinder and wire brush on the drill to the scale and rusty bits the power washer wouldn't bring off and then over the next few days repainted the hull with a bitumen based coating.

The hull along the water line got 4 coats, below the water line 3 and above it a couple of coats. Traditionally the actual bottom plate of the hull is not painted. The theory was it would soon get worn off the bottom as the hull scraped on the canal bed, especially when as the old boat men would say that "The bottom's too near the top", meaning they were either short of water, the canal needed dredging or they were well loaded.

Colin was very lucky with the weather over the 6 days Emma Maye was out of the water, which also enabled him to repaint the gunwale, put a new propeller shaft seal on, and even try a bit of sign writing with the name. Danny from the marina also welded some new anodes onto the hull. These are sacrificial alloy pieces of metal that protect the hull from electrical corrosion.

All in all, she was out of the water for 6 days, we spent £895 for marina fees, of pulling her out, power washing her off, bitumen, supplying and fitting the anodes, plus paint for the gunwale, the shaft seal and one burnt out angle grinder, oh and Colin being stiff and knackered as it's a while since he's done any real physical work ☺.



"Temperature Blanket progress". End of March 2017. Carole has now knitted the 3rd months rows on to her temperature blanket for 2017.

All this month's recordings where taken in West Lancashire near north west coast of England.

The highest temperature over the 31 days was 11 degrees C and the lowest 2 degrees. The average temperature for the month was 6 degrees C, so once again mainly blues shades of yarn have been used.

The pink row that has snuck in there is actually from a early April day

We will be open at Burscough Wharf over Easter, then start to look forwards to Yarn shop day on 6th and 7th of May, please keep an eye on the website or Facebook, or of course we can always be open for an appointment.

As Always our plans are subject to change, if you are making a special trip, please give us a ring.. Talking of Facebook in the last couple of weeks we have broken through the 1000 likes for The Wool Boat page, and we're now up to 1135! We're quite proud of, this number, while it's taken us a while we haven't actually asked anyone to like our page, so a big thank you

to everyone who has liked us without being prompted. ☺

www.thewoolboat.co.uk or ring us on 07931 356204 for anything you may need.
Colin and Carole, moored on the Leeds and Liverpool Canal back on our mooring Wednesday 12th April 2017.