

## Crafts2share Information Sheet

Crafts2share began as a Cromer Church 'Loose Ends' group in February 2015 with the following aim based on 1 Peter 4:10

'Each of you should use whatever gift you received to serve others,  
as faithful stewards of God' grace.'

Our intention was quite simply to start a craft group that would be open to anyone to come to and make anything they wanted to make. All completed donations would then be given away as gifts to anyone, anywhere for any reason. This is still what we are about and over the years we have given away loads of gifts to people, but we are much more than that now.



Being a 'loose ends' group meant we could be fluid, open ended, inclusive and evolve rather than be a group with set rules and set boundaries and so over the years we have certainly evolved into something much bigger, much more varied and 'all encompassing' than we ever imagined. We celebrate that we have each received so many gifts to serve others that go well beyond just crafting. We greatly value every gift that members bring to the group and we provide an environment for these gifts to be valued and to flourish. We remain a 'loose' group and see amazing and unexpected things happening.

### Who are we?

We have 70 members who each receive a monthly newsletter. This is an important way to share our news, to keep everyone 'in the loop' and nurture the pastoral aspect of the group.

- \* We look out for each other. We offer love, support and prayers and share expertise.
- \* We are rooted in the gospel and begin all meetings with a time of reflection.
- \* Some members come to our meetings, but not all members do.
- \* Our 'outworkers' prefer to craft at home and send things into us, which is great.
- \* Some people make handmade gifts and cards to donate to our 'kitty', others are not crafters.
- \* Some have crafted for years, others are new to it - the rest of us are in between the two.
- \* Some use their God given gifts to make tea, wash up and do all the practical things.
- \* Some commit to pray for our group.
- \* We are a good place for newcomers to Cromer to come and make friends.
- \* We celebrate birthdays and special times with cake and sending handmade cards to members.



## What do we do?

We make handmade cards and gifts to give away and we especially enjoy reusing and recycling things like oddments of wool, scraps of fabric and the like. We regularly donate to these places.

Individuals - blankets, cardigans, pictures, cushions, scarves, hats, gloves, bags, small toys & gifts

Nursing homes - lap blankets, shawls, cushions, small gifts

Shoebox Appeal - hats, gloves and scarves for children and adults

Hospitals - baby blankets, bonding squares, baby hats, cannula covers, syringe driver bags

Women's Refuge Norwich - knitted cardigans, jumpers and baby blankets for children & adults

Emergency services - trauma teddies, hats for premature babies

Special appeals - for example groups supporting parents through baby loss

Plus we do special projects eg, knitting Last Supper scenes and Noah's Ark, Tree Festival gifts, Harvest fruit and vegetables, leaving gifts, welcome gifts and lots more!

We also bless groups in the church with gifts, for example Meeting Point and Mustard Seed

Members help each other source patterns but most members rely on 'Googling' free patterns - there are so many good sites out there. We are so thankful for anything that anyone makes and donates and we can always find a good home to pass gifts on to people.



## How are we funded?

We have received so many blessings over the years and we never run out of anything! In fact our cup often runneth over! The church gives us a small budget each year to fund special resources and postage costs and we have a box/saucer out at all meetings with a suggested 50p donation.

We hope this information leaflet has given you a broad overview of Crafts2share. Do please contact us if there is anything else you would like to know.

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