



ISLINGTON ANGELS

Prepare to be bowled over by the beauty of the new Islington DK yarn by ethically minded indie brand Kettle Yarn Co. It's a luxurious blend of silk and superwash British Bluefaced Leicester wool, hand-dyed in a choice of eight rich, almost iridescent shades. The yarn is soft, with a glorious drape and sheen. You can pick up a skein for £19 at www.kettleyarnco.co.uk. For the knitters among you, there's also a new pattern collection for this yarn.

WEAVE IT

■ If you love fibre and have been within 20 yards of Pinterest lately, you'll know that weaving is a bit of a craft trend at the moment. Pick up a kit from weaving specialists Juko Designs (www.jukodesigns.co.uk) and see what all the fuss is about. Their Weaving with Sticks kit is £9.99 and includes yarn, three wooden sticks and a booklet that has step-by-step photo tutorials for how to stick weave and how to make a woven cuff bracelet. It's beginner-friendly.



WINK'S MANDALAS

Kathryn Vercillo of www.crochetconcupiscence.com has set up a collaborative art project to celebrate talented designer Wink who sadly passed this June. Marinke (known as Wink) designed vibrant mandalas and Kathryn is encouraging crocheters to contribute a mandala made with one of Wink's designs. The contributions will be featured on Kathryn's blog and presented in an art show. The project will be raising awareness of mental health issues.

ENDLESS SUMMER



We're holding onto the last vestiges of summer with both hands, adding bright notions to our craft stashes to see off those looming grey clouds.

1. Remember these? Preserve precious blossoms before they fade with a good old-fashioned flower press. This cute, compact version by Laura Ashley is just £9. Head to www.lauraashley.com
2. The happy buzzings of a bumblebee are a quintessential part of summer, so we're making a beeline (sorry) for this dinky reel of satin ribbon printed with flowers and insects. You can grab a 5m spool of this pretty Bee Ribbon for £2.99 at www.oakroomshop.co.uk
3. If you feel a compulsion to adorn your crochet makes with bright, botanical buttons, fear not – Stockwell Ceramics have a wide variety. They also do pretty jewellery. Prices from £1.60 at www.stockwellceramics.co.uk