



# Project - Christmas 2018

**Go date:** 03 September 2018

Starting 03 September 2018, through to 31st October 2018, Sewing for Charity Australia's main project will be sewing, knitting, crocheting and collecting Christmas gifts for men, women and children across Australia.

Our primary focus for this project is supporting our farming families who are going through terrible times with the drought. For those of us living in cities it is easy to forget the daily struggle they face trying to keep their crops and animals alive and thriving, and through this project we hope to bring love and compassion to as many people as possible.

Whilst we can't drastically change their plight, we CAN let our famers know we care!

## Who are we supporting this project?

The charity and community partners we're focusing on this project are:

### Felicity's Drought Run

Felicity is a 6yo girl who lives with her mum Tina and her three siblings in rural NSW. We first became aware of the wonderful things Felicity is doing through her collection of lamb jumpers. Together with her mum, Felicity has collected and distributed hundreds of much needed items to farming families in rural NSW and with our help will be continuing this project through for Christmas.

It costs several hundred dollars for Felicity and her mum to drive thousands of km's distributing these gifts directly to families, so we will also be asking for donations towards the cost of this to ease the burden on Tina. Any money collected by Sewing for Charity Australia for this purpose is tax deductible and we will be purchasing a fuel card with the full amount towards the end of the project.

### m.a.d.woman foundation

m.a.d.woman foundation engages and inspires people to make a difference to people in need. m.a.d.woman was set up to encourage, engage and inspire people to make a difference to their communities, environment and people in need.

General/ other

We will also be “adopting” aged care homes/ residents who need some handmade love as we have other years.

Organisation	Items Needed	Patterns/ Additional Info	Facebook	Website
Felicity's Drought Dash	Christmas Stockings	15"-20"/ 38cmx50xm finished size Lined Hanging loop	<a href="#">Facebook</a>	
	Drawstring Bags	Christmas Themed Finished Sizes (approx) 8"x12"/ 21cmx30cm 12"x16"/ 30cmx42cm 19"x29"/ 48cmx73cm Double Drawstring Unlined (if thin fabric eg poplin please line them)		
	Handmade Gifts	See suggested list below		
m.a.d.woman foundation	Drawstring Bags	Children Themed Finished Sizes (approx) 8"x12"/ 21cmx30cm 12"x16"/ 30cmx42cm 19"x29"/ 48cmx73cm	<a href="#">Facebook</a>	<a href="#">Website</a>
Other	Christmas Stockings	12"/ 30cm finished size Lined Hanging loop <a href="#">Suggested pattern</a>		
	Handmade Gifts	See suggested list below		

## Suggested Handmade List

These are suggestions only - we would love for you to also suggest your favourite handmade gift to add to our list!

Reading cushions

Fabric/ yarn gift baskets

Knitted mini christmas stockings

Hair tie rolls

Earbud wraps/ pouches

Scrunchies  
Headbands  
Heat packs  
Pencil rolls  
Library bags  
Bucket Hats  
Towel/ Washer sets (embroidered/ appliqued)  
Kitchen sets - placemats, tea towels, oven gloves  
Zippered toiletry bags/ Pouches (we will fill them with luxuries and hygiene needs)  
Quilts - cot/ single bed/ double bed size  
Knitted/ crochet blankets - cot/ single bed/ double bed size  
Soft toys

We encourage upcycling of used bedding/ clothing in great condition for all items listed here with the exception of filling for toys which must be new. Please check for fraying, wear, cleanliness before use.

## Suggested Purchase List

Beach towels  
Journals/ Notebooks  
Wallets  
Sporting stuff  
After shave  
Makeup  
Baseball caps  
Sunglasses  
Drink bottles  
Portable chargers  
Earbuds  
Books (new/ secondhand)  
Cute stationery  
Kids activity packs  
Candles  
Portable radios  
Batteries  
Mindfulness colouring books  
Hygiene items (Toothbrushes, toothpaste, hair brushes/ accessories, deodorant, soap, shampoo/ conditioner (full size), body wash (full size)  
Pantry items to make themed gift baskets (eg pasta meal basket may include pasta, pasta sauce, wooden spoon, handmade apron. Movie night may include microwave popcorn, lollies, chips)  
Pantry treats (ie biscuits, lollies, coffee etc)

## How many do we need?

As many as we possibly can <3

## How else can I help?

Unable to sew or knit for this project but still want to contribute? Here are a few other ways you can help:

### A. Are you local to The Lair?

- We need many hands to sort and pack the made items throughout the project. Come to a regular Friday Community Collaboration Day, or, let us know when you're free to help.

### B. Do you have a good eye for a bargain (or, just enjoy shopping!)?

- For this project we currently need
  - Items for gifts as above in document

## Important dates

Items need to be dropped off or posted to the lair no later than **1st November 2018**

## Where do I send things?

Send any finished items or donated materials to "The Sewing Lair":

Cass Gell

38 Bladensburg Dr

Waterford QLD 4133

## FAQs

### II. What items do we need the most?

- A. All of them! Pick an item you're comfortable with and get started. All items donated will find a grateful home.

### III. Do I need to pre-wash my fabric?

- A. Yes please - both for cleanliness and shrinkage

### IV. I need fabric for this project. Can this be sent to me?

- A. Yes! We can send you fabric from donations at the lair. If possible, please consider covering postage. Contact Admin to arrange.

## V. Where do I send completed items?

- A. Completed items should be sent to The Sewing Lair, 38 Bladensburg Dr Waterford QLD 4133

## VI. What courier service should I use to send in items?

- A. Use whichever courier or postal service you would like. As a guide, our volunteers have found the below services to be of good value:
- For a small number of items (up to 5kg) - Australia post satchel
  - For larger, heavier items (>5kg) - Sendle courier service

## VII. I made a mistake! Should I bother finishing / sending the item in?

- A. Yes! Even if the specific charities this month are unable to use it, be assured every item can find a grateful home.

## VIII. I need some hands on guidance - can someone show me how to make one?

- A. Probably! Some options are below. Have a chat and we may be able to find another sewing volunteer locally you can collaborate with outside of the regular community groups!
- Local sewing group - groups meet regularly in Waterford (Brisbane South), Lowood (Brisbane West), Toowoomba, Mackay, Ipswich, Adelaide North and South, Newcastle and Lismore.

## Still have questions?

Talk to us! We'd love to say hi :)

- Email: [volunteer@sewingforcharity.com](mailto:volunteer@sewingforcharity.com)
- Post on our Facebook page or send a private message (PM). Search "Sewing for Charity Australia"
- Message Admin through the website forum
- Call Cass on 0498 213 410