



# *Hug a Baby*

## **Newsletter August 2018**

Serving the less privileged is a fundamental quality of a purpose filled life; **Hug a Baby** is a clear example of that principle in action. All our helpers and donors are an intrinsic part of that expression.

As you all know and share in, **Hug a Baby** gives a bag full of mother and baby necessities to upwards of 3000 mothers a year. This is to the maternity wards of five State hospitals in our region.

Because of the generosity of our knitters, suppliers and supporters the net cost of the bag is 80% below the cost of it buying retail. Donors enable the huge saving that makes the project possible.

It is crucial that those of you who support **Hug a Baby** in some way be aware that every cent given, stitched or knitted, material or product goes directly to the mothers and their baby. Nothing is wasted, curtains, towels, material, wool we use it all.

We were recently given the contents of a closing haberdashery shop. We now have bags with zips, lace, tapes, buttons and bows on! The mothers love them. The rest is sold to pay for wool.

This month we have been given five knitting machines in very good condition. There are three single bed units with ribbing attachments; one machine for knitting chunky wool with a ribbing attachment and a computerised machine. We are exploring how to work them ourselves and what is the most beneficial use that can be made of them in the community.

Debbie, in Caledon, has been making the bags for the past few years, as a gift. For family reasons she has to reduce her involvement from next February. Thank you Debbie, you are wonderful.

We would like to say a specific 'thank you' to all the knitters in the UK, you are also wonderful. The quantity and quality that you send over is amazing and a very important part of what we do. 'Thank you' also to our knitters in Holland, Ireland and of course South Africa with particular mention of Pearly Beach, Montagu, Swellendam, Struis Bay, Agulhas and elsewhere in the country.

It is humbling to see and experience so many people willing to help the needy. Without you **Hug a Baby** would be greatly diminished.

Much love

Fran



*Hug a Baby*