



Knitted Easter Chicks for St Gemma's Hospice



Thank you for taking an interest in supporting St Gemma's Hospice with our new Easter Knitted Chicks Campaign! We really appreciate your support.

June, who is one of our generous volunteers, has been knitting one of these chicks every day for St Gemma's for several years and has kindly shared her instructions and pattern with us so that you can get involved too!

Each knitted chick you create will be sold in local shops and schools, with a chocolate egg inside of it. We will be approaching local businesses for donations of

chocolate eggs so please don't worry about buying them yourself. Once you've knitted your chicks, you can drop them off at the Hospice Reception which is open between 8am and 9pm Monday to Friday and from 10am to 8pm at weekends. The Hospice Reception is at: **329 Harrogate Road, Moortown, Leeds, LS17 6QD.**

Please donate chicks **before 1st April 2017**. We will then have a day of 'stuffing' when anybody who can volunteer their time will come to the Hospice to put the eggs inside the chicks and do a final stitch to hold them in place.

All of the money raised from the sale of these items will go towards patient care; ensuring local people with life limiting illnesses receive the best quality medical and emotional support. All of our services are free to access, but they are not free to provide. Every knitted chick we can sell really will add up to ensure we can continue caring for local people.

It costs just £2 to provide an information pack, full of practical advice for patients and carers, and £50 would pay for a group support session for a child experiencing a loved one's death.

To make this a success we're really relying on people helping to spread the word so please pass on these instructions to fellow knitters who might like to get involved. The more chicks we have the more money we can raise! Plus if you know anybody who'd like to sell them on our behalf, please contact me using the details below.

Best wishes

Emma Giagnacovo
Fundraiser (Community)
t: 0113 218 5565
e: emma@st-gemma.co.uk



Easter Chicks Knitting Pattern

Items required:

- No. 10 needles
- D K wool
- Red felt for beak
- Black wool for eyes
- Stuffing for head
- Ribbon/bow to decorate

Instructions:

Cast on 28 stitches, knit into back of 1st row of stitches, knit one row. Continue in stocking stitch increasing at each end of alternate rows until 42 stitches.

Next row: Cast off 14 stitches, knit to end.

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Now 14 stitches remain to form the head.

Knit 9 rows on these stitches in stocking stitch for the head then cut wool and thread through all stitches and gather together leaving enough wool to sew up down the back of the head, along its back and down to cast on edge. Stuff head cavity firmly. Use black wool for eyes, strips of red felt for beak and accentuate neck with ribbon trim etc.

Comb and tail trim: Make graduated loops (starting with small ones) in wool in colour and style of your choice.



