



St Martin's-in-the-Veld,
Rosebank, Johannesburg

Craft Circle, June 2023



We receive; we work together; we give



The Craft Circle

Ten years ago, Rev. Margaret Place started a group to make prayer shawls for parishioners who were ill. Other requests for help came in and gradually the group evolved into the Craft Circle, making blankets and quilts, jerseys and ponchos, baby and toddler clothes, beanies and scarves, and bed socks. These are distributed throughout the year but mainly at the onset of winter when the need is greatest.

The group meets every month, weekly in Lent, and over the years has become a body of strong women, committed to the work, eager to help each other and enjoying friendship and companionship.

The Providers

There is great need in our society. We require support to do this work and it is impossible to thank enough **the parishioners of St Martin's** who are unstintingly generous in their assistance on every occasion – we receive funds and gifts of wool, material, and haberdashery.

Our other big supporter is **Saprotex** – for many years they have supported us annually with a huge sack of wool, a kaleidoscope of colour and textures to spark the imagination. As costs rise inexorably, we are most appreciative of the value of their gift and how much it enables us to achieve.

And we never forget the women who work at home, quietly knitting or doing crochet – they send in lovely baby clothes and jerseys as gifts for the less fortunate.



The Receivers in 2023

Our gifts are spread over a wide sector of society – the old and the young, the sick and the struggling, the poor and the abandoned.

The Hospice in Alexandra houses 48 patients and has rehabilitation facilities for outpatients.

CHOC cares for children suffering from cancer and provides housing for parents from rural areas who bring their children for treatment.

Cotlands runs centres promoting early learning development and holds clinics and classes for mothers.



Boitumelo, a pre-school in Alexandra, received a jersey for each child.

The Love of Christ's Home in Walkerville is an orphanage caring for children throughout their childhood and teenage years.

The Soweto Old Age home received blankets and jerseys.

The Gerald Fitzpatrick House and Nursing Home in Bertrams cares for sixty women of all creeds.



Women of Vision in Westbury has safety houses for abused women and their children.

Door of Hope in Glenvista looks after abandoned babies and young children.

We send baby clothes to CAS, Community Assisting Schools, who make baby packs for the newborn infants at the Rahima Moosa hospital



Every year Tilly Pillay takes baby clothes and blankets to the maternity wings of local hospitals.

In addition, three Johannesburg parishes, where assistance would be welcome, were identified and gifts were sent.