Bibliography of the history of knitting before 1600

Compiled by Lesley O'Connell Edwards

The Bibliography of the history of knitting before 1600 was a project of the now-ceased Early Knitting History Group, founded by Montse Stanley. The original compiler was Richard Rutt, and then it was taken over by Lesley O’Connell Edwards. It was accepted for publication in Bulletin du CIETA n.77 (2000) in November 1999, and since then other references have been traced. This document is a merging of the title included in the Bulletin du CIETA article, and the titles found since then. It is based on the classification scheme in used for the original Bibliography.

It is an on-going listing and Lesley welcomes other references. If you know of items not included here, then please contact her – her email is GaladrielNORFatyahoo.com

Classification scheme

A  Theory and structure

B  Early single element structures
   General
   Coptic socks
   Trichinopoly work
   Chinese techniques

C  General history of knitting

D  Mediaeval and modern knitting
   General
   Caps
   Cushions
   Gloves
   Knitters
   Knitting madonnas
   Knitting needles
   Knitting schools
   Knitting sheaths
   Purses
   Sleeves
   Stockings
   Waistcoats (including jackets and petticoats)

E  William Lee
A Theory and Structure

BUEHLER-OPPENHEIM (Kristin and Alfred) - *Die Textiliensammulung Fritz Iklé-Huber um Museum für Völkesunde…* Zurich, Museum für Völkesunde, 1948.
The catalogue in which Buehler published the first taxonomy of textiles, classified according to techniques of construction.


Article claims the purl stitch was invented in the 16th century, and discusses a pattern which is noted in the covers of a (lost) book owned by Mary, Queen of Scots.

Handbook of historical nålebinding.


Classification of fabrics by mode of production.


Especially pp.32-33. Classification of fabrics by mode of production.


B  Early single element structures

General
Pp. 54-55: the fragments mentioned were wrongly identified as knitting, but are nålebinding. The account of how to reproduce them prescribes some impossible workings.

FLURY VON BÜLTZINGSLOEWEN (Regina), LEHMANN (Edgar) - ‘Nichtgewebte Textilien vor 1400’, in *Wirkerei-und-Strickerei-Technik*. Coburg, 1954-6, Sections I – X.  
An account of museum pieces in Europe and the USA, based on Buehler’s classification by technique. Includes knitted items, especially in V – IX.

VAN DER HURK (L. J. A. M.) - ‘The tumuli from the Roman period of Esch, Province of North Brabant’, in *Overdruk uit Berichten van de Rijksdienst voor het Oudheidkundig Bodemonderzoek* 23. Amersfoort, 1973. Detailed description of what appears to have been a tiny fragment of stockingnet attached to a leather backing – all now disintegrated.


Coptic Socks
SCHINNER (Luise) - *Antike Handarbeiten* 1905? First known correct identification of the nålebinding structure of the socks.

Pp.88, 90, 91; illustrations: plates XXX - XXXII.


Trichinopoly work
Describes a method of making trichinopoly chain, simple and compound, using silver wire on a simple nail.

Description of silver trichinopoly chain made on a bobbin.

Chinese techniques


The braids in this article have a “compound knitting” structure, but the technique is essentially embroidery.

C General history of knitting
Now very dated. Pp.10-13 covers the history of knitting before the invention of the knitting frame; Pp.38-52 covers William Lee and the invention of knitting frame, detailing the “facts” as Henson knew them.

Strassburg, 1879.
Covers textile guilds in Strassburg, including knitters.

Covers the history of knitting prior to 1600. In German.

Pp.1-10 quote the then-current myths on early knitting history, but some of their information is still in date, especially that referring to knitting in England.

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NORWICK (Braham) - ‘The history of knitting’, *Knitting Times*, 10 May 1971, pp.26-32 & 67. His conclusions are disputed by later writers.


EASTWOOD (Gillian) - ‘Textiles’ in WHITCOMB (Donald) and JOHNSON (J.) – *Quseir al-Qadim 1980 Preliminary report.* Malibu, Undena Publications, 1982, pp.285–326. ISBN 0890031134. P.290 has a very brief mention of a single scrap of knitting that was found.

LEVEY (Santina), HINCHCLIFFE (Frances) – ‘Glove, cap , and boothose’, *Crafts,* July/August 1982, pp.34-40. A survey of the history of knitting, with illustrations. Pp.34-6 covers the period prior to 1600.

TURNAU (Irena) - ‘The knitting crafts in Europe from the thirteenth to the eighteenth century’, *Bulletin of the Needle and Bobbin Club,* Vol.65, 1982, pp.20-42. This paper concentrates on the history of knitters’ guilds; pp.20-23 and 25 especially cover the period prior to 1600. P.32 has a picture of an itinerant Italian knitter of the 16th century.

McGREGOR (Sheila) - *Traditional knitting.* London, Batsford, 1983. ISBN 0713443367. An introduction (58 pp) to the history of knitting. P.7 lists some of the traditions about the history of knitting; pp.11-26 covers the period prior to the 17th century.


Catalogue to accompany an exhibition of knitted items from the V & A’s collection. Includes a brief discussion of the history of knitting, and illustrations of items in the exhibition, including a 12th century sock.


Pp.10-11 include the story of a Danish king bringing Dutch knitters to Denmark. Originally published as *Nederlandse visserstruien* (Uitgeverij Cantecleer, 1983).


Papers from a conference held in 1984, written in various Scandinavian languages. Several include references to knitting before 1600.


Paper actually covers knitted caps, and other head coverings, from the 15th century onwards, and argues they may have been produced as early as the 13th century.


Pp.1-87 is an excellent and comprehensive introduction to knitting before 1600, but in need of some revision in the light of recent studies.


Proceedings of a symposium on textile traditions in Scandinavian countries, including two major papers on knitting (see D - General KJELLBERG 1987 and D - General WARBURG 1987), but several other papers have brief mentions of knitting before 1600. In Scandinavian languages.


Pp.131-4 contain a brief discussion of knitting before 1700.


Pp.50-52. Brief introduction to British and European textile archaeology.

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MALLORY (J. P.) and Victor H. MAIR (Victor H.) - *The Tarim mummies*. London, Thames and Hudson, 2000, p.214. ISBN 0500051011. A reference to a paper in which Chinese researchers have analysed a beret buried with a 3,000 year old mummy as having been knitted.

O’CONNELL EDWARDS (Lesley A.) (compiler) – ‘Bibliography of the history of knitting before 1600’, *Bulletin du CIETA*, No.77, 2000, pp.141–155. The original bibliography, to which this list is a revision / update.

History of knitting in Italy. In Italian.


GILBERT (Ruth) - The King’s vest and the seaman’s gansey: continuity and diversity of construction in hand knitted body garments in north western Europe since 1550, with special reference to armhole shaping. Unpublished M.Phil thesis, University of Southampton, 2009.

Includes a review of general knitting history and a report on the Museum of London’s baby vest.


Pp.124-126 give a very brief overview of the history of knitting before 1600, based on Rutt and Turnau in the main. Touches on William Lee’s development of the knitting frame.

D Mediaeval and modern knitting

General


Includes discussion of knitted items that the Muscovy Company might be able to sell.


Discussion of the usefulness of exporting caps to new colonies as a means of employing the poor.

Orders appointed to be executed in the cittie of London, for setting roges and idle persons to work, and for the relief of the poore. London, printed by H. Singleton, 1587; reprinted 1793 (no publisher).

P.13 mentions knitting of hose as one of the trades to be set up in the Bridewell.


BOWEN (Thomas) – *Extracts from the records and court books of Bridewell hospital together with other historical information.* London, 1798, pp.22, 25. P.22 records 4 girls being apprentice to a knitter, p.25 persons being appointed to oversee the knitters.

CLARKSON (Christopher) - *The history of Richmond in the county of York.* Richmond, Thomas Bowman, 1821, pp.409-410. Civic authorities apprenticed poor children to learn knitting by the end of the 16th century.

NICHOLS (John) - *The progresses and public processions of Queen Elizabeth...* London, John Nichols, 1823 – 3 volume set; reprinted New York, Kraus, 1973. Includes details of knitted items given to Queen Elizabeth, and also the tableau of knitting on her visit to Norwich in 1578.

HARLAND (John) - ‘The house and farm accounts of the Shuttleworths of Gawthorpe Hall in the county of Lancaster at Smithills and Gawthorpe from September 1582 to October 1621. Part I’ *Chetham Society,* Vol.35, 1856. P.52 reference to knit cap, and p.109 payment for knitting three pairs of hose for three boys.


GOUGH (John) - ‘The Heyricke letters, illustrating the state of Leicester in the reigns of Elizabeth and James I’, *Transactions of the Leicestershire Architectural and Archaeological Society,* Vol.II, 1870, pp.11-20. Includes correspondence about knitted items, especially hose.
Includes correspondence about knitted items, especially hose.


Pp.43, 50 Mentions of knitting as a trade for the inmates.

KIRK (R E G and Ernest F) - *Returns of aliens dwelling in the city and suburbs of London from the reign of Henry VIII to that of James I*. Aberdeen, Huguenot Society, 1900-1908 4 vols.
Part1 pp.428, 429 references to knitters and knotted work, cawles and sleves, respectively – possibly network?
Part 2 p15; p.105 references to cap knitters
Part 3 pp.213, 424 references to a knitter of cawles, and a maker of knitt lace respectively.

Mostly mentions of setting the poor on work, through knitting. Pp.268, 320 references to knitting through evidence given to JPs, or “found” items.

VARTY-SMITH (J. C.) - ‘Some knitting implements of Cumberland and Westmorland’, *Connoisseur* Vol.25, 1909, pp.41–45.
P.42 is a very brief discussion of the history of knitting in Tudor England.

P. 424 (1973 reprint) Details of the House of Correction at Winchester where one of the skills women could be taught was knitting.

Most of the historical information scattered through the book is now out of date, but one illustration (fig. 82) showing an Egyptian fragment dated to AD 600 – 800 is the only remaining picture of this now lost fragment.

Pp. 42, 61, 153 Girls being apprenticed to be knitters 1534 – 1540/1.

CUNNINGTON (C. W.) and CUNNINGTON (P.) - Handbook of English costume in the 16th century London, Faber, 1954.
Descriptions of how garments were made, and references to knitted items.

Includes brief references to pre-17th century knitting from Guernsey, but no further details of the sources mentioned.

Pp.40–46 transcript of a letter from Robert Payne in which he mentions knitting as an occupation, and prices the earnings to be made out of turning a pound of wool, into two pairs of stockings.

Pp.70, 85, 88 have references to the hand knitting “industry” especially in Dent, Yorkshire.

Pp.3, 4, 33, 63, 74, 108 have references to knitted items, mostly silk stockings.


An inventory which includes knitted stockings.

HEATON (Herbert) – The Yorkshire woollen and worsted industries from the earliest times up to the industrial revolution. Second edition London, Clarendon Press, 1965 P. 49 mentions orphans being set to work at knitting in Beverley, p.65 very briefly mentions the York knitting school.


SAKATA (Nobumasa), HARVEY (Michael) - ‘400 Years of knitting in Japan’, in HARVEY (Michael) - The history of knitting, Patons Trade Services Publications, 1974?. Suggests that knitted garments had reached Japan by 1600.


GUDJONSSON (Elsa E.) – ‘Some early examples of Icelandic knitting’, Archaeological Textiles Newsletter, No.3, 1986, p.3. Brief note of 16th century finds of knitting, and also knitting needles from Iceland.


WARBURG (Lise) - ‘Strik i de Københavnshe jordfund’, in WITTGREN (Bengt) ed. - Textila tekniker i Nordiska tradition. Uppsala, Uppsala University?, 1987, pp.79–94. (Title translates as Knitted items in Copenhagen earthfinds.) Finds are divided into pre- and post- 1650. Illustrated. In Danish.

FLURY-LEMBERG (Mechthild) - *Textile conservation and research*. Bern, Abegg-Stiftung, 1988. ISBN 3905014025. Discussion of conservation of textile finds, including illustrations (some colour) and details of original construction. Details of four knitted finds are included:

- Pp. 222, 223, 231, 481 – 16th century cap from a mercenary’s uniform
- Pp. 244, 245, 488 – 15th century liturgical gloves from the grave of Bishop Nikolaus Schiner, Bishop of Sion
- Pp. 66, 246, 247, 468 – 13th century right hand liturgical glove from the burial vestments of Archbishop Roderigo Ximenez de Rada, Archbishop of Toledo
- Pp. 328, 329, 322, 471 – details of 8 men’s hats found in a wreck of the Venetian ship *Gagiana* which sank in 1583.


WARBURG (Lise) - *I silkestre fra top til tå (In knitted silk from top to toe)*. Copenhagen, National Museet/Paul Kristensens Forlag, 1989. Discusses the knitted silk garments found when the coffins of two royal children who died in 1627 and 1628 were opened, and also provides a survey of the history of knitting in Europe in general, and Denmark in particular, prior to that date. The main text is in Danish, but there are detailed English captions to the photographs, and a lengthy English summary, concentrating on the clothes the children were buried in, and similar garments from Denmark. Originally published in *Fra Kristens børn. To kongebørs begravelser i Roskilde Domkirke*.

BUCK (Anne) - ‘The clothes of Thomasine Petre 1555-1559’, *Costume* Vol.24, 1990, pp. 15–33. Survey of clothes purchased for Thomasine from when she was twelve, until her marriage at the age of 16. Pp.20–21 discusses knitted sleeves and hose.

RUTT (Richard) - ‘Alexander Neckham’, *Slipknot*, No.47, 1990, p.3. Brief article disproving the use of the word knitting in a translation of Neckham’s *De nominibus utensilium*.

Includes six items specifically described as either knitted or for knitting.


Pp23–24 covers the trade before 1600.


Discusses the three knitting finds, one of which is fragments of a stocking dated to the end of the period 1400-1600.


Pp.260–273 cover items 159-172 which are described as knitted, some in cotton, some in wool. Individual details for each piece are given, plus a reasonable black and white illustration. Items, which are often in a poor state, are dated to the nearest centuries, and transcriptions are given for the Arabic inscriptions.


A half page photograph of 11th – 12th century Arabic knitting, with a very brief discussion.


Plate 43e shows a knitted woollen tube; p.167 briefly mentions the three knitted fragments found.


Includes details and prices paid for various knitted items, mostly silk coloured silk hose, but also two knit silk petticoats.


Pp. 73, 89, 98, 172 contain references to knitted items, especially stockings.
P. 56 Black and white picture of stockings traditionally associated with Queen Elizabeth 1st, but most likely from a later period; p.69 describes the textile tableau that greeted the Queen on her entry into Norwich in 1578.

Details the four knitted fragments known in Swedish museums, including colour pictures of each.

Pp.244-249 discusses the knitted finds now held in the Museum of London, including a fragment of a garter knitted in garter stitch.

BORENTSEN (Gunnvor) – ‘Knitting as industry’ *Piecwork,* Jan-Feb 1998, p.43.
Reference to oldest mention of knitting in the Faroes dated 1584.

The inventory, taken after the King’s death in 1547, includes references to knit hose, partlets, gloves and purses.

Pp.78 and 85 contain a mention of (the same) knitted waistcoat.

Pp.76–79 cover 16th century knitted finds excavated in London, including illustrations of caps, and an infant’s “vest”, mitten and sock.

LEVEY (Santina) - ‘References to dress in the earliest account book of Bess of Hardwick’, *Costume,* v.34, 2000, pp.13–24.
Pp.16-18 discusses the knitted waistcoats and caps purchased for her babies in the late 1540s.

Summary of a talk given to a MEDATS conference on knitting before 1600 in March 2001, in which she linked embroidery and knitting pattern designs.
GREEN (Emma M.) - *Is Tudor London trendy? Tudor textiles from London: cloth, clothing and status* Dissertation in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the degree of Bachelor of Science in Archaeology, Bradford University, 2001. Includes a discussion on knitting in Tudor London, done as part of a student placement at the Museum of London.


LINSCHEID (Petra) - ‘Late antique to early islamic textiles from Egypt’, *Textile History* Vol.32, 2001, pp.75-80. Includes the mention of a piece of knitting found at Krokodilopolis.


LANING (Chris) - ‘A bag with medieval islamic motifs to knit’, *Piecework* Vol.10 no.5, Sept/Oct 2002, pp. 33-35. P.33 is a brief discussion of medieval islamic (mostly Egyptian) knitting, with three full colour illustrations of fragments.


ZIMMERMANN (Hanna) – ‘Children’s clothes from the sixteenth century’, *Archaeological Textiles Newsletter* 36, 2003, pp.2-8. Discussion of the construction and wear of a child’s knitted jacket and knitted stocking from Groningen in the Netherlands, including illustrations.

GARDINER (Julie) (editor), *Before the mast: life and death aboard the Mary Rose* Portsmouth, Mary Rose Trust, 2005. ISBN 0954402944
Pp. 28–35; 58–59 cover the fragments of knitted items found in the wreck, mostly caps, and also a sock, previously identified as a sleeve. Pp. 31-34 is a discussion of cap knitting in the period by Kirstie Buckland.

LANDINI (Roberta Orsi) and NICCOLI (Bruna) - *Moda a Firenze 1540–1580 Lo stile di Elenora di Toledo e la sua influenza* Florence, Editions Polistampa, 2005. ISBN 8883048679.
Covers the clothes of Elenora and compares them with others of the time. Well illustrated. P.126 shows a knitted camiciola (type of jacket), p.140 very briefly touches on hairnets of knit work, p.145-7 discusses knitted stockings, and p 200-235 details her wardrobe from the archives, including mentions of knitted stockings.

P.14 very briefly covers known knitted items in this period.

Includes discussion of fragments of knitting that were found, one of which was a nearly complete beret.

Pp. 246-249 discusses knitted berets and knitted stockings in Verona and Padua.

Summary of a talk given to a MEDATS conference on knitting before 1600 in March 2006.

Knitting is mentioned in the discussions about clothing, but there are no patterns for reconstructing knitted items. Useful bibliography.

Summary of a talk given to a MEDATS conference on knitting before 1600 in March 2006.

Summary of a talk given to a MEDATS conference on knitting before 1600 in March 2006.
HAYWARD (Maria) - *Dress at the court of King Henry VIII* Leeds, Maney, 2007
Includes mentions of knitted items, mostly from Henry’s court records, but also some other 16th century sources.

Summary of knitting in the period and the sources of evidence available, developed from paper presented at MEDATS in 2006.

Summarises information on accessories in the period. Pp.11-12 covers knitted caps; pp.16-17 knitted hose / stockings; and p.22 knitted gloves. Doesn’t quote sources for the information, other than research done on the Mary Rose.

Includes mention of knitted items, through the 16th century.

Discussion of fragments of knitting found in an excavation at Lindisfarne, probably a waistcoat of late 16th / early 17th century; compared with other known knitted items of the period.

O’CONNELL EDWARDS (Lesley) - ‘The body of the evidence’, *Slipknot* n.127, Spring 2010, p.11.
Discussion of stolen knitted items in Essex, including four pairs of Tudor stockings.

Pp.88–92 discusses Cosimo’s stockings; pp183–185 discusses knitters employed by him; the appendix at the end with a list of clothes includes some described as à ago (on the needles) – mostly stockings, but also a few camiscioula.

References to knitted items on pp.73, 75, 77 and 84 in Henry VII’s wardrobe.

Pp.xxxv - xxxvi, 61- 64 mentions of knitted hose, including prices paid.

Pp. 110-112 covers caps and cappers; pp. 302-308 is a general discussion on knitting and related non-woven structures.


Pp.3-5 cover 16th century knitting

HUGGETT (Jane) and MIKHAILA (Ninya) - The Tudor child: clothing and culture 1485 to 1625 Lightwater, Fat Goose Press, 2013. ISBN 9780956267429.

Includes discussions of knitted items made for children, and also patterns to reproduce some of these (mittens’ socks, vest, and baby’s waistcoat and petticoat).


Pp. 10-13 general overview of knitting in the period. Includes a list of knitters in the Ipswich 1597 Census of the Poor.


A survey of wool knitted garments in the second half of the 16th century, including construction, and the knitters.

NUTX (Beatrix) – ‘Mining for textiles – textiles for mining: preliminary report on textiles from gold mining sites in Austria, in GROMER (Karina) and PRITCHARD (Frances) (eds.) NESAT XII Budapest, Archaeolingua, 2015, pp.25-41.

Includes discussion of two knitted caps and three knitted fragments found.


Pp. 54, 59 & 65, 89, 90, 135, 199, 208, 245, 286 give items that are specifically described as knitted, mostly stockings but also sleeves, a waistcoat, and caps.

Pp. 369-370 1598 list of prices for different qualities of hose – mostly worsted, but also women’s and woolen.


**Caps**

*Records of the borough of Nottingham, being a series of extracts from the archives of the corporation of Nottingham Volume II King Henry IV to King Richard III 1399 – 1485* London, Quaritch, 1883. Pp. 298 -301 has two mentions of cap knitters paying fines in 1478-9 to trade in the city.

References to the cappers’ guild, including regulations.


BUCKLAND (Kirsty) - ‘The Monmouth cap’, *Costume* Vol.13, 1979, pp.23-37. Description and reconstruction of the Monmouth cap, and information about British cappers. Includes very brief references to cappers before 1500.


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Discussion of caps in Scotland, from the 15th to the 18th century. Pp.550-554 cover knitted caps prior to 1600.

Very brief mention knitting was found in the excavation of the town.

WALTON (Penelope) - ‘Canada – A 16th-century Basque seaman buried in ‘russets’’,
Archaeological Textiles Newsletter n.5, 1987, p. 3.
Brief mention of a knitted hat found in a grave.

BARCLAY (Alastair) - The bonnet town. A serious and a light-hearted look at Stewarton through the ages. Stewarton, Stewarton Bonnet Guild, 1989, pp.10-11. Discusses knitted caps in the 17th century made in Stewarton, and states that it was likely this trade was in existence well before then, but does not cite any specific references.

History of the bonnet (ie. cap) making trade in Dundee; also touches briefly on the trade elsewhere in Scotland. Includes details of the production of knitted caps, with illustrations of a sixteenth century cap (figs.5 and 11); and the articles of the Bonnetmakers Guild of Dundee, drawn up in 1496 (pp.45-7).

Brief discussion of the capping trade in Coventry, queries how many caps were knitted.

Discusses the construction of different types of headwear in the period, with especial reference to the upper classes. Only exceedingly brief mention knitting. P.1 quotes the Elizabeth ballad of the caps.


BUCKLAND (Kirstie) - ‘Woollen caps’ in GARDINER (Julie) - Before the mast: life and death aboard the Mary Rose Portsmouth, Mary Rose Trust, 2005, pp.31-34.
ISBN 0954402944.
A discussion of cap knitting in the period.
Brief introduction to the capping “industry” in these countries.

Summary of a talk given to a MEDATS conference on knitting before 1600 in March 2006.

BUCKLAND (Kirstie) - ‘ “A sign of some degree” – the mystery of capping’ *TEXT* Vol.36, 2008-9, pp. 40–45.
A study of the capping trade in England, concentrating on the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries.

MALCLOM-DAVIES (Jane) and DAVIDSON (Hilary) – ‘ “He is of no account …if he have not a velvet or taffeta hat”: a survey of sixteenth century knitted caps’, in GROMER (Karina) and PRITCHARD (Frances) (eds.) *NESAT XII* Budapest, Archaeolingua, 2015, pp.223-232.
Survey of the construction of over 100 16th century caps, mostly in the Museum of London. Identifies six broad categories of style, and includes details of the Museum of London’s project to provide information online concerning these caps.

Pp.20-21 Discusses the results show that the cap found in a Newcastle ditch was made from either local wool, or wool from an area with similar environmental conditions, and not from French or Spanish wool as previously thought. (See Walton, 1981, D - caps.)

Discussion of the capping industry and cap production. The majority of the paper concentrates analysing on 28 extant cap linings in the UK and one in Newfoundland, and attempts to replicate these knitting with modern untreated yarns and then fulling the knitting.

Cushions

GOMEZ-MORENO Y MARTINEZ (Manuel) - *El panteon real de las huelgas*
Madrid, Consejo Superior de Investigaciones Cientificas, Instituto Diego Velasquez, 1946.
Pp.21-23, 32-33, 36-37, 85-90 contain photographs and descriptions of the 13th century cushions from the royal tombs at Las Huelgas.

STANLEY (Montse) - ‘Jumpers that drive you quite insane’ in SCHOESER (Mary) and BOYDELL (Christine) - ‘Disentangling textiles: techniques for the study of designated objects’ London?, Middlesex U. P., 2002, pp.23–32, plates 1-3. ISBN 1898253404. Pp.26–27 are a discussion of the cushions from Las Huelgas, which are illustrated in colour in plates 1 and 2.

**Gloves**


RUDDOCK (Alwyn A) - *Italian merchants and shipping in Southampton 1270 –1600* Southampton, University College, 1951.
P. 77 includes a reference to knitted gloves being imported in 1459 – 60.

Pp. 65-70 and plate 74/75 contain an account and illustration of the Swedish 16th century Sture glove.

ROWE (Margaret T. J.) - ‘Fragments from the tomb of an unknown bishop of Saint Denis, Paris’, *Bulletin of the Needle and Bobbin Club*, Vol.52, 1969, pp.27-33. Includes details about the knitted gloves found on the body, believed to have been buried in the 13th century.


Pp.31-42 includes the glove of St. Fulcran from the cathedral of Saint-Fulcran at Lodève, and a general discussion of medieval liturgical gloves. Appendices include a bibliography and an analysis of dyes and metal threads.


PLAKANS (Barbara S.) - ‘Centuries-old mittens from Latvia’ *Knitting traditions* Spring 2013, pp80-81
Includes brief mention of two mittens and a glove, all knitted dated to 15th, or possibly 14th century, found during archaeological excavations in Riva.

Knitters
A detailed list of all the poor in Norwich, made in 1570, which includes, in most cases, ages and occupations. 59 women are listed as knitters, of whom 9 are listed as knitting hose, and 2 as knitting caps; one woman is listed as teaching children to knit. Around 90 children are listed as knitters, although this should perhaps be treated with caution in the case of the very young ones.

Summary of information about knitters in Norwich listed the 1570 census of the poor (see POUND, 1971, D – knitters - above).


An overview, including details of social status, wages and how they learned to knit.

A study of the role of child labour in the hosiery industry in the 16th and 17th centuries in Italy, especially Padua. Many examples from the 16th century. Includes details of how the children worked, and also of those in charge of the workshops.

Knitting madonnas
(Title translates as The knitting madonna in Southern and Northern Europe). Includes black and white illustrations. In Danish.

P.212 a note that as the cult of the Virgin developed in the 16th century. Paintings appeared in which St. Anne was winding wool whilst the Virgin knitted or sewed.

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Article excerpted from C RUTT 1987, on the medieval paintings of the Madonna knitting. Includes full page colour illustrations of the Buxtehude Madonna, the painting by Tommaso da Modena and that attributed to Ambrogio Lorenzetti.

**Knitting needles**
Summary of a talk given to a MEDATS conference on knitting before 1600 in March 2001.

Three knitting needles found in the course of the excavations are discussed, and illustrated, plus a brief discussion of knitting in York before 1600.

**Knitting schools**
Details of manuscript leaves held at Lincoln, which seem to concern York school.

History of the knitting school at Lincoln founded in 1590s.

Note suggesting that the 8 leaves referring to the Jersey school in the Corporation of Lincoln’s records dated 1591-2 actually refer to the one at York.

Covers the Lincoln knitting school.

Gives details of the York knitting school.

O’CONNELL EDWARDS (Lesley) - ‘York’s Elizabethan knitting school’ Slipknot n.120, June 2008, pp.27, 29.
Short article on the knitting school.

O’CONNELL EDWARDS (Lesley) - ‘Knitting schools in Elizabethan England’ Knitting traditions Spring 2013, pp.30-33.
General introduction to teaching people to knit in the late 16th century; concentrates on York Knitting School.
Knitting sheaths


Purses

GONZALEZ MENA (Angeles) – *Catalogo de Encajes*. Madrid, Instituto Valencia de Don Juan, 1976. Pp.445-446 describe and illustrate two sixteenth century knitted purses (nos.228 and 229) at the end of this catalogue of the lace collection.


LANING (Chris) - ‘Medieval masterpieces: the purses of Sion’ *Knitting traditions* Spring 2013, pp.74–78. Discussion of the Sion purses and the Chur one. Includes instructions to knit a small bag using a motif from one of the Sion bags.

Sleeves


Pp.65, 67 Knitted sleeves listed in the shop’s inventory in 1572, and brief discussion of these in the Elizabethan period.

Stockings
Pp.45, 47, 72 (3rd edition) contain detailed descriptions of knitted hose for men and women as worn in 16th century England. The anatomie of abuses was originally published in 4 different editions between 1583 and 1595, and has been reprinted several more times.

GURNEY (Daniel) - ‘Extracts from the household and privy purse accounts of the Lestranges of Hunstanton 1519-1578’, Archaeologia Vol.25, 1834, pp.411-569. P.508 has a reference to a purchase of two pairs of knit hose in 1530; and p.548 another purchase in 1533 of four pairs. P.566 has a reference to soling stockings (but no indication of construction given).


TINGEY, John C. – The records of the city of Norwich. Volume II containing documents relating to the social and economic progress of the city, with an introduction (Norwich: 1910). Pp. 77-78 Details of quantities of knitted hose that aulnage (duty) was paid on for four quarters 1584 – 1585.


BELLINGER (Louisa) - ‘Patterned stockings, possibly Indian, found in Egypt’, Textile Museum Workshop Notes, 10, 1954. Description of blue and white stockings.
Mentions white woollen stockings for the wealthy, and farmers wearing knitted woollen stockings.

Pp.6, 8 Reference to pairs of Guernsey hose.

Discusses fragment of knitting found in the archaeological excavations at Denny Abbey, which she considers are from late 16th or early 17th century stockings.

P.119 mentions lowly status of stocking knitters in Worcester.

Quotes from Thomas Caesar’s 1595 survey, about stocking knitting in Doncaster, and Richmond and its surrounds.

A detailed study of English stocking knitting especially in the sixteenth century, and the overseas demand for these stockings. Includes a small section on William Lee and his knitting frame.

16th century stockings, with a later foot shaping than D - Stockings EKSTRAND 1982.

P.67 reference to 16th century manuscript mentioning a “clock” on the side of hose.

P.37 discusses stockings, and they are listed in the inventory on pp.38-39.

Pp. 14, 19, 20, 21, 23 mention stockings, including prices for dyeing them.

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ARNOLD (Janet) - Patterns of fashion: the cut and construction of clothes for men and women 1560–1620. London, Macmillan, 1985. ISBN 03333828846. P.41 figs 242-204 are photographs of the stockings from the tomb of Eleanora of Toledo (died 1562) – including detail of the top and the foot; p.102 mentions very briefly what was found in the tomb.

PALMER (Anthony) - Tudor churchwarden’s accounts Braughing Friars, Hertfordshire Record Society, 1985. ISBN 0951072803. P.92 Reference to Goodwyfe Gryge being paid x d for yarn and knitting a poor boy a pair of hose.

PHILLIPS (C. B.) and SMITH (J. H.) - Stockport wills and inventories 1578 - 1619 Record Society of Lancashire and Cheshire, n.124, 1985, p.26. ISBN 0902593145. Reference in will to “straw colored” knit stockings

ROBERTS (Michael) - ‘Words they are women, and deeds they are men: images of work and gender in early modern England’ in CHARLES (Lindsey) and DUFFIN (Lorna) (eds.) - Women and work in pre-industrial England London, Croom Helm, 1985, p.127. ISBN 0709908148. Quotes two examples of knitters from Norwich in 1570.


Discussion of the veracity of anecdotes about the presentation of knitted silk stockings to Queen Elizabeth I.

Inventory of John Woodfall (1590/1) includes a pair of “knitt netherstocks”.


Includes a reference to Thomas Ceasar’s survey in 1595, which includes details of local stocking knitting.

Pp. 108-118, 143-155 pawn accounts include silk stockings offered as securities for loans, including colours. None are specifically mentioned as knitted.

P.127 inventory of Ambrose Milford, 1597, includes “two payre of knytt hose”.

O’CONNELL EDWARDS (Lesley) - ‘Knitted silk stockings in Tudor times’ Slipknot n.122, December 2008, p.48.
Short article on silk stockings in Tudor England.

Discussion and reproduction of warrant of 1503 providing knitted hose for Henry VII’s daughters Margaret and Mary.

Discussion of “common heel” she believes was used in early stockings, where the heel flap is folded in half and the stitches joined together.
McINTOSH (Marjorie Keniston) – *Poor relief and community in Hadleigh, Suffolk 1547 - 1600* Hatfeld: U. of Hertfordshire P., 2013. Pp. 84, 93, 95, 98, 100 References to knitting in the workhouse in Hadleigh in the 1590s.


RICHARDSON (Catherine) - ‘Honest clothing in the merry wives of Windsor’ in LENNOX (Patricia) and MIRABELLA (Bella) - *Shakespeare and costume* London, Bloomsbury, 2015, pp.63-84. ISBN 9781472525079. Pp.79-80 Discussion of symbolism of dirty stockings in laundry basket.


OSTRČILOVÁ (Sylvie) – ‘Solving the puzzles of early knitted stockings’, *Piecework* 26, Jan/Feb 2018, pp. 8-16. Discussion of the construction of 16th and 17th century stockings, and looks in detail in at some in the Czech Republic.

**Waistcoats**


FEYERLEIN (H) - ‘Eine strickweste des Pfalzgrafen Ottheinrich’, *Neuberger Kollektaneenblatt*, 129, 1976
About a jacket believed to date to the mid-16th century. Mentioned by Hoffman 1988.

Discussion of construction and possible dating to 16th century.

Brief discussion of 16th century waistcoats and cotton knitting in England.

Includes discussion of late 16th century “waistcoats” and archival references.

**E William Lee**

Life of William Lee, a blend of research and legend. Now superseded.

Bibliography of the history of framework knitting, from 1968; concentrates on England.

Concentrates on the technicalities of Lee’s invention.

The first fully documented account.

A brief note concerning a previously unknown document, in the archive at Rouen, which establishes he was still alive in 1614.

A fresh look at the evidence.

Pp.3-10 cover William Lee and his invention.


Synthesis of the work done on Lee to that date. (Also appeared in *Knitting International* Vol.96, 1989.


Covers Lee’s life and inventions. In German.

Covers Lee’s invention.

Summary of a talk given to a MEDATS conference on knitting before 1600 in March 2001.

Pp. 1-4 discusses Lee and his knitting frame.