

# Knitting takes the stage at Olympics and the library

If you've been watching coverage of the Olympics, you may have spotted competitor Tom Daley knitting away between events.

Daley is a British diver who took the gold medal this year in men's synchronized 10-meter platform diving, and photographers spotted him knitting while sitting in the stands and between dives. He has posted about the benefits of knitting on Instagram, saying that he learned to do it during the pandemic.

He's said it is part of his mindfulness routine and could be his "secret weapon." Projects he's been working on in Tokyo have included a dog sweater and a little pouch for his hard-won gold medal.

## BIBLIOFILES

Dana Hendrix

If that gives you any ideas or inspiration, you may want to come to the Georgetown Public Library and join our weekly Fiber and Friends group, which meets every Thursday from 11 a.m. to noon on the upstairs bridge. If you are a beginner and would like to learn how to knit, crochet, or stitch, be sure to come on the first Thursday of any month, when there will be an experienced staff member to help you get started, including providing supplies and tools. The Fiber and Friends group is for adults, but anyone ages



eight and up is welcome to accompany an adult and to learn and participate alongside them.

In addition to the Fiber and Friends group, the Library has other resources. A quick subject search of our catalog for "knitting"

turns up 156 items, including e-books and printed books, issues of Interweave Knits magazine. We have how-to and pattern books for adults and kids who want to get started or develop their skills.

And there's plenty of fic-

tion with a knitting theme, as well — novels like Purl up and Die and others in the Knitting Mystery series by Maggie Sefton.

But finally, let's circle back to the growing number of men like Olympic diver Tom Daley, who

knit, and take a look at T. S. Easton's YA novel *Boys Don't Knit: in Public*, which tells the story of 17-year-old Ben Fletcher, who takes up knitting and finds that it helps with his anxiety and worry... but he deals with the pressure of hiding it from his friends. Or for adults, try *Real Men Knit* by K. M. Jackson, about four brothers struggling to keep a Harlem knitting shop open.

If you are ready to join a group of other knitters who knit, and help one another knit — right out in public! — come on down to the Library for Fiber and Friends.

Dana Hendrix is the Technical Services Librarian at the Georgetown Public Library

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