

## **FOR SALE**

- **Ashford 4 shaft table loom on stand** and can be converted to use foot treadles. 32" weaving width, 10 dpi reed, all new Texlov heddles. \$500 ono Please call Laura Bailey 0415 975 146
- **Four shaft table floor loom**. Older style Ashford with top levers. 32 inch width, 14 dent reed, lease sticks and weaving swords. In good condition; solid workhorse. \$240. Contact Jenny on 9836 6060 or email at toolibut@westnet.com.au. Pictures available.
- **Table Loom** 28inch weaving width. Cotton heddles. Warping board. \$80. Phone Coral on 9453 9067 Mobile 0416 475 680.
- **Table loom VARPAPUU** 32 inch weaving width Texol heddles. Castle folds down for transport. Collapsible seat, metre warping board. \$300 Phone Coral on 9453 9067 Mobile 0416 475 680.
- **Spinning wheel** made by Ted Watts. Includes a couple of hand carders. Number of bobbins unknown. Suggested price - \$200. (Money to be donated to York Hospital). Please contact Nancye Boyle on 96412739 or 040896597
- **ASHFORD Traditional spinning Wheel** - well used by 1 owner. \$50 ono—call Sonia Sommer (evenings) on 9367 7050 or see Connie at the Guild
- **Spinning Wheel: Kareena** by Baines (NZ). Single band, small wheel, 7 bobbins & carry box. Also jumbo flyer with 3 large bobbins. Wheel has a light touch. \$150 ono. E mail Gail Campbell on unowvr@iinet.net.au or ph: 9437 3971

## **WANTED**

- **Portable/folding 8 shaft table or portable loom** at least 32" or 80cm or higher weaving width, capable of fitting in the back of a Hyundai hatch. Ph Leonie Wheeler on 9574 2701 or her husband's mobile 0427992600.

**Guild members** can advertise in the YarnSpinner (at no charge) any events or items for sale. Contact the editor at the Guild address or at lynato@iinet.net.au.

Non members may advertise but must pay \$5 per line, in advance.

## **HANDWEAVERS', SPINNERS' AND DYERS GUILD OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA INC**

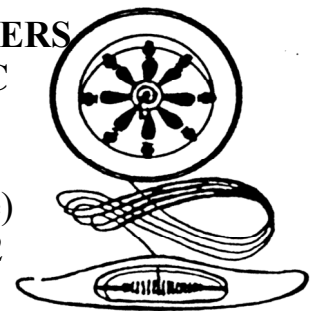
Alexander Park Craft House

Clyde Road, Menora

Phone: (08) 93705004 (with answer machine)

Mail: P.O. Box 446 INGLEWOOD WA 6932

Web: <http://spinweavewa.org/>



# *The YarnSpinner*

**Volume 44, No. 7**

**August 2014**

*Deadline for Contributions: Second Saturday of the month*

**Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> August 2014**

**11:00** - The August speaker will be **Wendy Garrity**. She will share her experience of learning to weave Bhutanese brocade while teaching music in Bhutan for a year. She will also touch on other textile encounters from her 2 1/2 years volunteering and travelling in Asia and South America.

followed by: **12:30** General Meeting

Tea and coffee are available **until 1:00 pm**

as well as **soup** at **\$2** per mug

The Library and the Yarn Area will be open from 10.00am

**Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> August, 2014**

## *Spinning Day*

Come and show us what you have been doing and reading.

Bring your current project, news and ideas. Beginners are always welcome.

We start at 10:00 am as usual, so come and spin in good company, choose some yummy new fibre to spin from the Yarn Area, or just enjoy a chat with friends.

Tea and coffee are provided, but bring your own lunch

## Office Bearers and Convenors for 2013

\* indicates committee member + indicates APCH Committee member

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AUDITOR	David Williams		

The Alexander Park Craft House Committee member representing the Guild for 2014 is:-

Janet Allsworth

## PROJECT OF THE YEAR - UNDER THE SEA

### Competition Categories

**SPINNING** Any article from handspun yarn:-

- 5 ply or under—equivalent to 14 + wraps per inch
- over 5 ply—equivalent to less than 14 wpi

**WEAVING**

- loom weaving
- off-loom weaving

**KNITTING/ CROCHET**

- handspun
- commercially spun animal or plant fibre yarn (**not man-made**)

**FELTING**

**DYEING**

Natural or chemical dyes permitted. The entry may be a skein of commercial or handspun wool and will be judged on the quality of dyeing only.

**GROUP ENTRY**

- Entry is open to Financial members of the Guild and members of financial affiliated groups.
- There is no limit to the number of entries
- Items may be entered in more than one category—e.g. Part of a group entry may also be an individual entry in one or both spinning or dyeing categories

**Trophies are awarded as follows:-**

<b>SPINNING</b>	Cecile Dorwood Trophy
<b>WEAVING</b>	Lyn Waring Trophy
<b>FELTING</b>	Barbara Frew Trophy
<b>GROUP ENTRY</b>	Turner Cottage Trophy (donated by Frank & Isobel McKay)
<b>PRESIDENT'S CHOICE</b>	Clock (donated by Joy Skinner)
<b>POPULAR VOTE</b>	Anne Rain Trophy

*If anyone is still in possession of a trophy from last year, would you please return it so that it can be awarded to the next recipient.*

## *YARN ROOM REPORT*

Just arrived— stunning dyed merino/silk tops from "Skein", an Australian fibre artisan.

There are also lovely drop spindles and also support spindles available

Assorted fibre hand dyed tops

Melanian wool tops in a selection of natural colours

Alpaca fleece and bumps

### **YARNS**

- Noro yarn,
- sock wool,
- cotton from NZ,
- Bendigo cotton



*Jo Rhodes and Sue Greig*

*(Continued from page 7)*



Children begin their school journey through play and start formal learning around the age of 6 to 7. The class stays together as a unit with the same teacher throughout primary school. This allows the teacher to form a deep understanding of each child, and conflicts are very rare. Children are made aware of the natural world in their surroundings and through seasonal festivals. Computers are not used by children in primary classes (they are for the office) and minimal TV watching is encouraged.

Underlying the craft curriculum is reverence for the hands. Class 1 children learn how our hands are as important as our head. (Rudolf Steiner commented that no man should call himself a philosopher if he couldn't sew on a button.) Quality natural materials are used throughout the lessons. The projects chosen develop skills and challenge the child. Through making things practical (eg. recorder bags) and age appropriate, children learn respect for tools and materials. Every project is finished and they learn perseverance.

Maggie brought a wealth of information in her well prepared talk. Her experience in the Silver Tree Steiner School has been a rich and rewarding one, and it was through talking to fellow weavers at Guild meetings that she was asked to share her experience with the other members. For those who would like to see more, the Silver Tree Steiner School has its Open Day on 21<sup>st</sup> September.

## ***Craft House Guild Groups***

### **KUMIHIMO GROUP**

Kumihimo Braiders meet on the first Thursday of each month from 10am to 1pm. Beginners are welcome. Contact Audrey Ford 93045231.

### **TAPESTRY GROUP**

Contact Stephanie Cantoni 93858774

### **SPINNING GROUP**

Spinners meet at Craft House on the fourth Saturday of each month from 10:00 am. Beginners are very welcome. Members share their knowledge with each other. Library and Yarn areas are open.

Bring your lunch and your spindle or spinning wheel. The Guild equipment, including carders, drum carder, various spinning wheels, electric wheels and dye equipment, is available for use by members.

### **In-house Weavers**

We meet on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays in the month, starting at 9:30am. The hall is booked until 4:00pm but everyone leaves at different times, depending on their needs and demands.

Wonderful to see so many new and enthusiastic weavers ----- the hall is almost bursting with beginners and newcomers.

Mingling with the experienced weavers doing their own thing is a great way to see what their weaving future holds in store.

Please remember that if you aren't able to bring your own loom, we still have some in the store room that can be used, either for your own project or threaded up in a weave structure of choice to sample on.

If demand is high, there will be a 3 month limit on using it.

The library corner is open to browse for new ideas, chat with friends or have a cuppa!

Thank you to everyone for sharing your time and expertise to those who need it, especially the beginners when I don't have time to get to everyone.

Happy weaving

Sue

### **WEAVING LESSONS**

These are now all day, with many helping hands. Please note that these are quite casual with everyone working at their own pace; not a structured class.

## Dates for your diary



25th July	<b>Deadline for Entry Forms for the Perth Royal Show</b>
Sunday 17th August	Indigo Dyeing Day in Walliston—details next issue
Wednesday 10th September	Denmark Spin-In (p.13)
13th September	PROJECT OF THE YEAR: "Under the Sea" (see p.15)
14th & 28th September	Beginners 4-shaft Weaving Workshop—FULLY BOOKED
Sunder 28th September	<b>NEW</b> Sunday Weaving Day in APCH Hall
27th September—4th October	Perth Royal Show
Saturday 11th October	Cushion Competition (p.11)
Sunday 26th October	<b>NEW</b> Sunday Weaving Day in the Studio
Friday 31 October – Sunday 2 November	<b>Silk Obsessions:</b> Margaret River Silk Fair and Expo (below)
2nd & 16th November	Beginners 4-shaft Weaving Workshop—details from Elaine Haddon-Casey (p.2)
Saturday 8th November	General Meeting & End of Year Luncheon
Saturday 22nd November	Stocktake and Clear-up Day
Sunday 23rd November	APCH Craft Workshop
Saturday 6th December	Extra Spinning Day

### **Silk Obsessions: Margaret River Silk Fair and Expo**

From **Friday 31 October to Sunday 2 November** Margaret River is hosting a celebration of all things silk, including an exhibition of silk painting, dyeing and other art pieces, silk farm tours, art and craft workshops, displays and demonstrations and an outdoor marketplace.

## **Denmark Spin-In. 2014**

**Date:** Wednesday 10 September  
**New venue** this year at Denmark Surf Club at Ocean Beach (Turn down Ocean Beach road at Visitors Centre and travel approx 12 kms to the Surf Club) Follow path from car park to club rooms. (Watch for markers)

**Entry** \$5.00  
 Morning and afternoon teas,  
 Soup and sandwiches served for lunch  
 :: continuous raffle.  
 :: door prize.  
 :: 'white elephant' stall

**RSVP** by 31 August 2014  
**Monica** 9848 1718 or **Bev.** bevntony@omninet.net.au

*(Continued from page 6)*

llamas and are endearing enough to want to take home. I found myself wanting to measure both the back of the car AND baby Dillon to see if .... but Jenny explained that alpacas are herd animals (I don't think the cat, dog and budgie qualify as a herd).

It is fairly safe to say, we all left Paca Molino (sadly NOT with Dillon in the back seat) with a greater understanding of how each part of a mini-mill works and how to best prepare alpaca fleece for our spinning, weaving and felting projects.

The Guild extends grateful thanks to Jenny Cornwall for so generously sharing her knowledge and opening her farm, her mill and her heart to Guild members on that chilly winter's day.

*Alaine Haddon-Casey*





Fremantle artist Debra Corbett with Dougall. Picture: Martin Kennealey

d421352

## Debra and Dougall's lives are in a spin

NESTLED in one of Fremantle's most historic buildings, Debra Corbett hand spins, knits and crochets a unique collection of clothes, homewares and accessories.

With her dog Dougall by her side, textile artist Corbett has recently opened the Debra Corbett Wool Studio in the grounds of the Lenaville building, which housed Fremantle Prison's chief warden.

Corbett said she taught herself to spin using Dougall's

### TEXTILE ARTIST OPENS STUDIO

hair before moving on to textiles such as fleece and felt.

"I was a teenager and I had adored the building and had often driven past on my way down south," she said.

"The fibres I use are beautiful such as mohair from the angora goat, which has the most beautiful lustre, not unlike a pearl.

"The alpaca is so very soft

and up to four times warmer than wool and the fine merino wool is absolutely top class.

"Everything is natural, even the dyes I use to colour my yarns and in this day and age of mass production from overseas, I am proud to offer a product that is a unique, stylish, original and affordable alternative, and made right here on the premises by me."

(Continued from page 9)



**Innaloo Spinners** have produced a healthy heap of knitted and felted Macropod pouches for Kanyana Wildlife Rescue – it would be lovely if members could add to the pile!

### PAGES FROM THE VICE PRESIDENT'S NOTEBOOK.

Maggie Web was our speaker for this month's General Meeting on the 12<sup>th</sup> of July and she gave a very informative talk to us about the Steiner Education system and that system's emphasis on and reverence for work done by hand (*full report p.7*). I personally have not had much exposure to Steiner education but had always had a curiosity about it and wanted to find out more. Maggie talked through her early career in the State system, her many travels and eventual decision to apply for a job at a Steiner school near her home.

The children are taught both to work with their minds and their hands and Maggie had brought along a lovely selection of items to demonstrate the progression of skills as the children went through the school. Maggie also spoke about the way in which the system functioned and how the school had many very different ways of working with and developing the children as individuals and as part of the community. It certainly provoked some reflection on my own schooling and how that might have been different.

This month's gift was a book about crafting and we hope to continue to give speakers gifts reflective of the Guild.

If anyone has an item they feel a speaker would enjoy Jenni is accepting contributions for future speakers.

I just want to say a thank you to everyone who helps in the organisation, set up and clean-up of the hall at our meetings. It is great to see how well people are cleaning and putting away the crockery. A little reminder that if you are leaving a meeting please remember to put away your chair as otherwise it leaves extra work for everyone else at the end. Thanks to all of those who have been kind enough to bring along soup for the general meetings – this is much appreciated and we really appreciate you volunteering your time in this way.

Looking forward to seeing you all soon.

Candace Gibson

#### Guild Membership Fees for 2014

Full —\$40.00	Pensioner—\$30.00	Associate—\$30.00
Student—\$30.00	Family—\$65.00	Group—\$45.00

If renewing by mail, please include your Renewal form, (or if you don't have that, then your name, postal address and phone number) along with a stamped self-addressed envelope for return of your receipt and year badge. Half Fees apply after 1st July, and late arrivals who join after 1st October have the option to pay in full which then includes their sub for the following year.

New members should contact the Membership Officer for further details on how to join.



## Guild Field Trip to Paca Molino

Jenny Cornwall's homemade rye bread, pumpkin and sweet potato soup gave a warm and delicious welcome to Guild members on a chilly Sunday morning field trip to the renowned Paca Molino mini-mill just outside of Toodyay. The huge American style barn is truly a fibre lover's nirvana with the mill machinery sharing space with bags of fleece ready for processing, drying racks of alpaca, llama and



merino and Jenny's fibre art creation space. The old wooden spinning wheel and loom existing side by side with the gleaming machinery of the mill had a common goal - to create the best possible fibre from the fleece of one of the most endearing of creatures - the alpaca.

Jenny led the Guild members through all stages of processing fibre from cleaning, picking, separating the guard hair and carding; explaining and demonstrating each part of the Canadian built mill machinery and encouraging us to feel the difference in the fleece at each step of the process. It became clear that while the mini-mill is efficient and produces impressive results, cleaning and maintaining the machinery is quite labour intensive. There is simply no escaping the clogging effects of greasy and loose fibres.



Then on to learning about the various types of alpaca, complete with the requisite tactile test so essential to those who cannot pass a bundle of fluff without wanting to plunge our hands into it. Of course we did.

The denser, crimpier Huacaya, so like sheep wool, and the silkier Suri with its long luscious locks. For those of us more accustomed to spinning sheep, the lack of lanolin was very noticeable and assures a more hypoallergenic wool.



Dillon

Once Jenny had filled our heads, hands and stomachs it was outside to meet her alpaca family - the inquisitive girls, cheeky baby Dillon and the skittish boys. Alpacas are smaller than

(Continued on page 13)

## Augusta—Make a Doll Competition



## HWSDG Cushion Competition

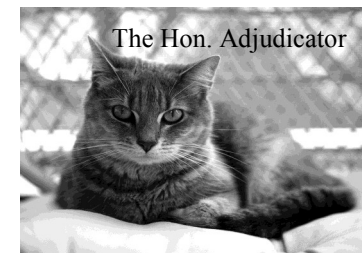
(This is a fun competition to replace some of the older cushions at APCH)

Cushion to measure finished size 40cm x40cm add on seam allowance for foam insert.

Side opening to allow for foam insert.

4 categories \$10.00 Yarn shop voucher

- Knitted
- Crochet
- Woven
- Felted.



The Hon. Adjudicator

Judging will be by popular vote on the day.

Foam inserts will be supplied by APCH.



## Photos from the Augusta Spin-In 21/6/14—Roy Skinner



Sharing Table

## Talk to members by Maggie Webb on her experience of teaching craft to primary students at the Silver Tree Steiner School, Parkerville.

Maggie laid out tables of colourful craft work as samples of what one class had achieved with 2 afternoons a week over 5 years. Pin up boards were covered with photographs of children at work and play, and of the wider school community involvement in the life of this particular school. We could look and touch and appreciate the progression from Class 1 knitting, simple animals and handmade



knitting needles, Class 2 knitted dolls, Class 3 crochet, Class 4 cross stitch bags, Class 5 back to knitting, this time with 4 dp needles and stripey socks and finishing in Class 6 with a sewn fabric doll. You

could see the way techniques and skills developed over a range of projects, each practical and appropriate to the age of the child. For browsers there were books



and information on the Waldorf/Steiner education .



Maggie led us through a little of her journey. She grew up and trained as a junior primary teacher in the UK before coming to live and work in WA in 1989. Her partner's work took them to Norway for 5 years and

Italy for 3 years, and this meant that she had lost her permanency with the WA Education Department. She did relief work at different schools, hated it, and looked for a challenge. It came when she saw a job advertised for a craft teacher at the Silver Tree Steiner School, and this led to 5 years of challenge, hard work and the joy of unfolding with the same group of children.

She then took on the mammoth task of attempting to summarise the work of the Austrian philosopher, educator, scientist, author and artist Rudolf Steiner (1865 to 1925). This pioneer of Anthroposophy, from which has grown education, agriculture (Biodynamics), medicine, drama, eurythmy, philosophy and much more, has a lot to offer that has relevance in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. His educational impulse came from his own experience of tutoring younger students, one of whom was seen as unable to be educated at all, but who later qualified as a doctor.

The Steiner /Waldorf school system began in Stuttgart, Germany, in the aftermath of WW1. Rudolf Steiner was invited to set up a school for the workers at the Waldorf Astoria cigarette factory. From this seed has grown over 1,200 schools in 65 countries, with 40 schools in Australia.





## Sharing Table —Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> June 2014



**Nicolea Paull** had a most beautiful stole knitted in horse shoe lace of white alpaca – supported long draw woolen spun. It started out as a scarf and she liked it so much that she expanded it to make a stole which she will wear at her wedding.

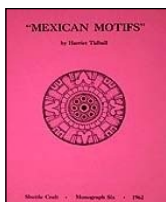
**Kat Sherwin** – a pretty, pretty pink lacy shawlette knitted from hand-carded, woolen-spun 2 ply merino/alpaca/silk – lucky scarf-exchange recipient!



Late in the day **Ruth Halbert** appeared with wonderful tales of her stay in Sweden where she had been artist-in-residence. While there she had acquired a C19th Praktisk Vavbook and had woven a 13-pattern sampler/scarf in 2 ply Bilby Yarn on a 4-shaft table loom. Lovely to see you back, Ruth!

*Margaret PC*

## FROM THE LIBRARY



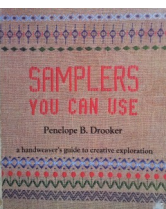
**Mexican Motifs** - Harriet Tidball

This little book covers some Mexican designs and weaving techniques and includes an interesting essay on weaving in Oaxaca, a city in the south of Mexico. In Oaxaca there is an unbroken weaving tradition from the days of the pre-Columbian Andean cultures.



**Across the Board** - Valerie Hobson

This book gives us stories which capture the essence of what shearing teams and shearers are all about. - the hardship, the camaraderie - theirs is true teamwork. Valerie was a guest speaker at the Guild this year.



**Samplers You Can Use. A handweaver's guide to creative exploration.** -Penelope B. Drooker

In this book Penelope Drooker shares her approach to planning and designing many types of samplers and includes a dozen actual sampler projects with complete instructions.

*Anne McAdam*

## Sharing Table—Saturday 12th July 2014

**Giuliana Bond** brought in a beautiful little merino skein – her first attempt at “proper” English Long Draw Spinning spun from carded rolags. She included a detailed account of how she fulls the yarn.

Also from Giuliana was an exquisite lace edge beanie made from Noro yarn left over from three different projects – pattern from “101 Designer Yarn Stash Wonders”.



There was lots of interesting weaving on the table this Saturday;



**Gail Campbell** had woven a “watery” cotton scarf using two blues in the warp and a light blue weft.

**Wendy Garrity** (who will be our speaker in August) displayed two stunning samplers; one was warp-faced with Bhutanese patterning using acrylics, the other was also warp -faced with Bhutanese Kushutara (I won't even pretend to understand any of this) using silk pattern yarns on a polyester ground.



Wendy had also woven a scarf in Kushutara and plain weave.

**Margaret PC** showed us a large wrap (or a fire-side rug for many knees) in plain weave using all the odd bits and balls left in the bottom of the sale table bucket that nobody else wanted!



**Connie Ward** made a dear little HANDY BAG – hand spun and knitted; she calls it a handy bag as she doesn't (wise woman) carry a hand bag! (My old father maintained that women would never be emancipated until they got rid of their handbags)