

## FOR SALE

- **Drum Carder - Inwood Smith NSW**, Fine teeth drum, in good condition \$200.00 **Drum Carder – Sleeping Beauty NZ**, Medium teeth drum, in good condition \$200.00 Ph: Sally Whitmore 0418893663
- **Four Shaft Floor Loom** (John Wallace - folding pine) 12 & 14 dent reeds - 83cm. Texlov heddles 2 boat shuttles & various stick shuttles. Warping board. \$250 ONO Ph: 9752 3992 PO Box 44 Busselton
- **4 Shaft 48 Foot Loom 1978, Serial No 0649.00**—including stool, boat shuttles, weaving sticks/rods, weights, warping board. Width of reed 1270 mm. \$300.00 Ph: Patsy Hills 9724 4922
- **8 shaft countermarche loom**, approx 1.84 x 1.6m. Good condition. Photos available by email: [irjmdingle@gmail.com](mailto:irjmdingle@gmail.com) Tel Judith 9446 4510
- **Ashford Elizabeth 2 Spinning Wheel** with 6 bobbins and a Lazy Kate \$195.00 ONO
- **Ashford Kiwi Spinning Wheel** with 3 Large bobbins \$100.00
- **Wind wheel** with 7 bobbins and a Lazy Kate \$350.00 ONO. Includes handmade felted carry bag.

For the last 3 items, contact Jo on 94473662 - (*please leave name and phone number if husband answers*) Or Mobile - 0414782277.

**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](mailto:lynato@iinet.net.au). Non members may advertise but must pay \$5 per line, in advance.

## SMALL TAPESTRIES EXHIBITION

There will be an Exhibition of small tapestries in Craft House from September 14th for about 3 weeks. The theme for these art works was "From the Mountains to the Sea". Some WA artists are among those who took part. The annual challenge is to encourage tapestry weaving and weavers from Australia and New Zealand are welcome to join in. We are fortunate to have an opportunity to see these art works each year - so ENJOY, and tell others or bring friends too.

Connie Ward

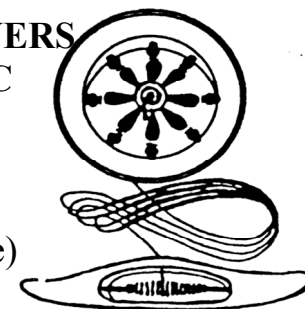
## HANDWEAVERS', SPINNERS' AND DYERS' GUILD OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA INC

Alexander Park Craft House

Clyde Road

Menora

Phone: (08) 93705004 (with answer machine)



# The YarnSpinner

Volume 43, No. 8

September 2013

*Deadline for Contributions: Second Saturday of the month*

**Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> September 2013**

**11:00 am - Project of the Year**

**"Oz Design & Colour"**

*Followed by a General Meeting*

Tea and coffee available, as well as **soup** at \$2 per mug.

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

**Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> September, 2013**

**Spinning Day**

Come and show us what you have been doing and reading.  
Bring your current project, news and ideas. Beginners always welcome.

Tea and coffee provided but bring your own lunch.

## Office Bearers and Convenors for 2013

\* indicates committee member + indicates APCH Committee member

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<b>AUDITOR</b>	David Williams		

The Alexander Park Craft House Committee member representing the Guild for 2013 is:-

**Margaret Groves**

Just a quick note to let you know about the South West Tapestry Weaving Group which Sue Jane (Arvidson) was involved with (article written by Connie Ward and printed in the August edition of the Yarnspinner.

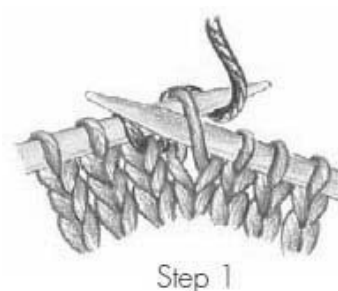
The weaving hangs at the BUNBURY CATHEDRAL GRAMMAR SCHOOL and not the BUNBURY CATHEDRAL. (The BUNBURY CATHEDRAL weaving was designed by Robert Juniper and woven in Nepal.)

Sue was also involved with a Tapestry which hangs at the Bunbury T.A.F.E

Regards,

**Helen Quantock on behalf of South West Tapestry Weavers**  
**Stirling Street, Bunbury**

### Knitting Backward



Step 1



Step 2

This useful technique allows you to work stockinette stitch with the right side of the work always facing you. It is especially handy when you're working on just a few stitches, as in making a bobble.

**Step 1.** Insert the left needle into the back of the first stitch on the right needle and wrap the working yarn counterclockwise around the left needle.

**Step 2.** Pull the new stitch on the left needle through to the front of the work and let the old stitch slip off the right needle.

Repeat steps 1-2. (From *The Knitter's Companion* by Vicki Square)

## **APCH News**

I hope everyone is enjoying not tripping up on the step in the ladies loo, I still go to step over the join and then wonder where it has gone!

We had an APCH meeting this Monday, Aug 12<sup>th</sup> and there are a few things to catch up with. The booking procedure will be changed a little just in order to equalise the times for morning or afternoon bookings, but this will not affect the Guild's bookings. Anyone wanting to book more than the usual three hours will be asked to pay \$5 per hour extra. Don't forget that we have the hall until 4.30 on Saturdays so if people want to stay longer and chat it would be a good idea to use the time, after all the hall has warmed up by then!

The windows in the hall are going to be changed to louvre (to combat the heat in summer) during the week of Aug 19<sup>th</sup>. It should take four days but all groups that may be affected have been warned. Following completion of the windows we can get a quote for blinds so that when we have power point displays like Saturday, we should be able to see more easily! The general rules for using the hall will be laminated and kept in the kitchen, together with a locked box which will hold all the keys. The box has a number key which will be on the "rules" page.

Plans for the move from the storeroom to the studio are going ahead and will be put to the committee next meeting but hopefully all to be completed before the beginning of next year. We can then get quotes for changing the shower area into a wet area for dyeing and we have already opened up the small outside area for drying – key to the back door is in the locked box.

We have wonderful plans for the OPEN DAY on Oct 20<sup>th</sup> with lots of advertising and decoration, beforehand, of one of the trees leading into the park area. The Guild will have a table for selling hand made goods (please label and price together with a list of what you have offered – instructions will be in the Yarn Spinner) and please help with selling and manning the demonstration table for spinning weaving and anything else you can think of to attract people. We are also going to put up our little marquee outside and have an area where we can show people how to spin and weave. Details of rosters and ways to help will be published later. Let's hope we can really get a good following this year and we can perhaps expand our membership further. Lots of love,

*Margaret Groves*

## ***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** (Tues group)

The format for this year will be the same as last year, once again starting at 9.30 for those who can make it at that time. Otherwise just come when it suits. Remember that we have the hall booked (and paid for) until 4.00 so come prepared to stay all day and utilise the time available if you can.

We already have several looms warped up and ready to sample on and hopefully by next meeting there will be quite a few more, so please come along prepared to weave and join in the fun, with maybe a bit of learning along the way!

If anyone else has come up with a brilliant idea they want to try out, please give me a call or email and we can sort something out, 9448 0840 or sue\_greig@hotmail.com

For anyone not wanting to work on samples, please bring along your own loom to weave in company---we can always peek over your shoulder to see what is going on!

Project of the Year: Remember the theme this year is "Colours Of Australia" and our group will be working on our own WA theme (don't think I can say what it is here and give it away!) so please continue to work on your entry so we can have a wonderful display. This is now approaching very fast and we have 2 more weaving days to show what we are doing.

It would be wonderful to have our entries together on Tues 10th Sept but if that isn't possible just bring them in on the morning of 14th in time to put our display together.

We had 2 complete beginners join us this week as well as 2 almost new ones and I

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

Hi Everyone, I'm doing the President's Report this month, as Janet is up north. We will miss her kind face at our next couple of meetings. Here's hoping she gets lots of spinning, fishing, and relaxation in while she's there, and we look forward to seeing her wonderful creations when she gets back.

The year is marching on, and I can't believe it's Project of the Year so soon, Saturday 14th September, 'Oz Designs and Colours'. It will be a treat to judge everyone's entries.

It's almost Royal Show time again; I do hope lots of us enter this year so that we can keep our craft categories viable; the eyes of tens of thousands of people are ours but once a year.

Don't forget to visit the Small Tapestries Exhibition, which will be at Craft House from the 14th September for about 3 weeks. The theme of these works is 'From the Mountains to the Sea'.

Thank you to everyone who helps to make the Guild run smoothly.

Kindest regards,

*Jayne Lane, Vice-President*

### Guild Membership Fees for 2013

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.

Prospective new members should contact the Membership Officer, Evelyn, on 9446 7026 or lynato@iinet.net.au for further details on how to join.

### Yarn Shop Report

Next time you visit the Yarn Room come and see the delightful Turkish drop spindles for lace weight spinning. Beautifully crafted and well worth adding to or starting your collection of spinning equipment.

- There is a selection of 4 & 8 ply cottons for weaving, crochet or knit.
- Bumps of alpaca in natural colours from West Australian breeders.
- Natural silk in rovings and hankies ready for dyeing.
- A selection of natural dyes is available.

If you are interested in placing an order for any items or have any enquiries, please contact Sue or Jo for your weaving, spinning or dyeing requirements.

*Jo Rhodes*



New Zealand's official gift to the royal couple is a hand-spun, hand-knitted fine lace shawl, similar to the one that New Zealand gave when Prince William was born.

The intricate shawl was designed by Margaret Stove, who was also responsible for Prince William's shawl. Cynthia Read spun the wool and knitted the shawl.

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Then came the Graduation Show at the end of the course. Ruth went to her country roots for ideas and took an astonishing photo of an old church where the mirror image of the window reflected on to the trees around the church. Not a Photoshop technique but real life! For her Graduation Show, Ruth chose a dark, narrow passage way in which to stage her works. Wanting to show case knitting and spinning, she spun a little each - sorry, most, days on a hand spindle and wound each day's effort on to a small reel. These were mounted as a type of spinning diary with blanks when she didn't manage to get any done. There were also fine knitted lace pieces. To display these in the passage, Ruth set up a complex web as a display area, putting the spun diary behind a small window in the wall. The result was stunning, prompting at least one person to deliberately walk through the space hitherto avoided..Ruth's spun and knitted threads had the power to alter the environment.

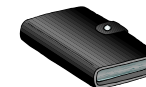
What next? A new studio for emerging artists became available in West Perth, so buoyed by their Heathcote experience, several took studios there. The rent was cheap, the company of others with similar interests was stimulating so Ruth set up loom, spinning wheel and an indigo dye pot. It was eventually unavailable and she is now in another place in West Perth.

A three month residency in Beverley was Ruth's last highlight to share with us. The locals had a gallery in the old Beverley railway station and here Ruth enjoyed working, discovering the town and inspiring others. She dyed with wandoo bark, photographed, not houses, but the space where one joined its neighbour, especially the fences and stitched a fabric map of the town to leave for the Gallery. The Avon river was a silk stream running between houses and businesses all indicated in dyed and stitched fabrics. We do thank Ruth for cheerfully taking us on her journey as she shared her artistic experiences.



Connie Ward

## Dates for your diary



<b>Saturday 14th September</b>	<b>Deadline for contributions to the October Yarn Spinner</b>
<b>September 14th— 3 weeks</b>	<b>Small Tapestries Exhibition (p.16)</b>
<b>28th September—5th October</b>	Perth Royal Show
<b>Saturday 12th October</b>	<b>Deadline for contributions to the November Yarn Spinner</b>
<b>Saturday 12th October</b>	Toodyay Show
<b>Sunday 20th October</b>	<b>APCH Open Day</b>
<b>Saturday 9th November</b>	<b>Guild Christmas Meeting and Luncheon</b>
<b>Saturday 23rd November</b>	<b>Stock-take and cleanup day</b>

## *Recycling Ideas*



## *Early Learning*





## Skein & Sample Competition

Saturday July 27th was the day for the spinners to contest this annual competition. It was introduced some years ago to stimulate interest and provide a challenge as it was felt the Project of the Year topics tended to favour weavers. So here are the results for this year.

There were thirteen entries in total over the five categories. Two of those categories had subsections, namely a) from fleece b) from tops.



The judge, Deb Wiseman, chose three winners, namely

- **Janet Allsworth** for her skein and sample of blue faced Leister fleece,
- **Margaret Groves** for her entry in the 5 ply and under wool tops section and
- **Sue Greig** for her entry of alpaca and silk.



These three entries were judged to be suitable for the designated purpose, soft to handle and with a good swatch/sample.

## An Exchange Amongst Friends

I think it was Jo Rhodes, having seen the towels that the Guild's Tuesday Weavers had woven and exchanged, suggested that we of the Innaloo Spinning Group might like to do something similar.

It was decided that we should have a sort of "scarf or whatever" Exchange, all items to be handed in and exchanged on the last Wednesday of May. This also happened to be the day we participated in the "Biggest Morning Tea" as a fundraiser for Cancer so we had a very successful double event.



Without exception all the felted, hand spun and knitted, crocheted, and woven articles arrived - many beautifully wrapped, and so did the cakes, dips and cheeses!!

We all donned our new winter wear and tucked into the edibles; a big tick for a similar event next year!!



Margaret PC

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expensive songket intricately patterned with gold or silver threads to give a touch of a natural, shiny motif. The metallic threads stand out against the background cloth to create a



shimmering effect. In the weaving process the metallic threads are inserted in between the silk or cotton weft threads. It takes about one week to warp the loom, and can take over a month to produce one piece 1.2 metres long and two metres wide.

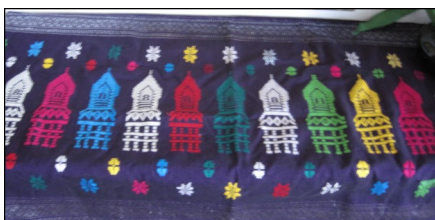
You can watch a video someone took of Sakarara at [www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZtUi4uBj1s4](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZtUi4uBj1s4) It shows what I saw when I visited the village. Evelyn

### Traditional Sasak housing.

The Sasak house is a traditional ancestral house of the ethnic group in Nusa Tenggara Barat, Indonesia. The roof of this house is made from straw and the wall is built from plaited bamboo. A



Sasak house has a unique floor created from clay that is mixed with dung (buffalo), latex, and straw ash. The function of that mixture is like cement.



Child's practice weaving sample that inspired this article

All materials to build a Sasak house are from the environment around them, even to the extent that they use bamboo nails to connect parts of the wood. The house's sole access is through a narrow door, there are no windows

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Some of the other entries were judged to be not showing the character of wool, a small or incorrect sample, not showing silk to advantage or poor handle.

Certificates were presented to winners - well only Margaret was actually present!! - and Deb was thanked for her time spent judging.

Connie Ward



### Sharing Table Report—Saturday 10th August

I think everyone has been too busy with their project of the year of late to produce something for the sharing table.

There was only one contribution this month - a perfect skein of English Leicester with a sample of the fibre by Giuliana Bond.



Margaret PC

(Continued from page 3)

am sure they all felt very welcome and are KEEN, which is what we want to see. Please make yourself known to them and give lots of encouragement. As this can make my time rather hectic I was very appreciative of help I was given, thank you very much.

### WEAVING LESSONS

For anyone needing lessons, I would rather have these after lunch, giving me weaving time in the morning. Beginners are most welcome in the morning to work on their own, try out samples or just look to get ideas and helpful advice from willing members.

Happy weaving

Sue

## RUTH HALBERT - VISUAL ARTIST

In short, this was a talk to friends by a spinner, knitter, "stitcher" and an inspired creative art/craft person. Many of the audience knew Ruth from her days as a Guild member and an Innaloo Spinner. But she has travelled a challenging road since those days.

But to begin at the beginning. As a child, Ruth lived on a farm which gave her an interest and basic understanding of wool. Her interest in knitting came from her mother's pattern books which in turn led to designing.

A do-it-yourself Ashford book on spinning led to the Guild and Innaloo Spinners where she found inspiration in the variety of textile crafts she saw being enjoyed there.

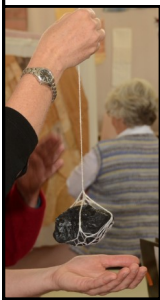
Inspired and feeling a need for in depth knowledge and direction, Ruth enrolled at Edith Cowan University in textile studies. There she was encouraged to take the skills she had and extend them. As Ruth neared the end of her course, she collaborated with several other students to test the world outside the tertiary institution. So came about an Exhibition at Heathcote Gallery in 2011.

One piece related to family history through an old blanket and stitched dyed sheet pieces. The sheet was even dyed on a rusty piece of corrugated iron - the building material for many an early home. Another was a triangular piece, knitted on one side and dyed fabric on the other, but the mobius design allowed us to see both sides - I hope the photo shows this better than any words. The knitted side is in hand spun singles and Ruth found she had to spin one ball with "S" twist and another with "Z" twist and knit them alternately to prevent the knitting biasing. It was then stitched in a diamond pattern to the "back".

Then there were baskets made from fine knitted wire - tough on the hands but so effective.



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## Sakarara (Lombok)

Lombok has a rich and enduring indigenous culture that has withstood the pressures of modernity remarkably well. The strong remnant culture and history of the Sasak people is one of the many unique attractions of the island. The island has a total population of 3,166,685 (as of 2010 Census), 85% are indigenous Sasak people whose origins are thought to have arisen from Java in the first millennium BC. Other residents include an estimated 10–15% Balinese, with the small remainder being Tionghoa -peranakan, Javanese, Sumbawanese and Arab Indonesians. The Sasak people are culturally and linguistically closely related to the Balinese, but unlike the Hindu Balinese, the majority practice local Muslim faith and traditions.

On Lombok, villages specialise in certain crafts. - Sakarara, 20 minutes south of Mararam, is known for traditional Songket hand weaving and is especially prized for the quality of its songket. Almost every house in the village with a population of 150 families has a loom. The women usually weave on the front porch during the day while waiting for their husbands to return from the fields.

In this village weaving is compulsory, and girls in Sukarara must learn to weave before they can get married. They start weaving at the age of 9 yrs. Those who cannot weave but are desperate to get married can do so but will be liable to a fine (the fine could be money, rice or rice yields).

This rule was created so that the women in the village are not dependent on men.

**Songket** is one of the most complicated forms of hand weaving. usually done by women, with patterns passing down from generation to generation. The fabric is hand-woven in silk or cotton, with some



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