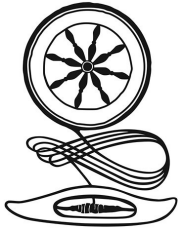


# The YarnSpinner



Newsletter of the Handweavers', Spinners'  
and Dyers' Guild of Western Australia  
Volume 48 No. 01  
February 2018



## Coming up....

**Saturday 10 February 2018:** General Meeting of the Handweavers', Spinners' and Dyers' Guild of WA

**10am** Library and Yarn Area open

**11am** Guest speaker: Olivia Doran (see page 3 for more info)

**12pm** HWSGDGWA General Meeting

Coffee and tea available, please bring a plate to share for lunch.

**Contribution deadline the March edition of the  
YarnSpinner: Saturday 10 February 2018**

DISCLAIMER: Opinions expressed in correspondence in this newsletter are not necessarily those of the Guild

## Alexander Park Craft House Guild Groups

### **SPINNING GROUP: 4<sup>th</sup> Saturday of each month from 10am**

Beginners welcome. Library and Yarn Area open. Bring your spindle or spinning wheel, your latest project, and lunch. Coffee and tea provided. Guild equipment including hand & drum carders, spinning wheels, electric wheels and dye equipment is available for use by members. Contact Information Officer (details page 15).

### **IN-HOUSE WEAVERS: 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of the month from 9:30am**

Anyone is welcome to join us! Contact Brenda Roy 9381 4870 or [brenda@cadplan.com.au](mailto:brenda@cadplan.com.au)

### **TAPESTRY GROUP:**

Contact Stephnie Cantoni [stephniecantoni@bigpond.com](mailto:stephniecantoni@bigpond.com) or Jan Hunter [wsf.jmhunter@bigpond.com](mailto:wsf.jmhunter@bigpond.com).

## **Guild Membership Fees for 2018**

Full \$50.00

Concession \$40.00

Associate \$40.00

Student \$40.00

Family \$75.00

If a person applies for Membership after 1<sup>st</sup> October, their fee will include membership for the remainder of the current as well as the following year.

**Renewing Members:** If renewing by mail, please include renewal form (or name, postal address and phone no.) and a stamped self-addressed envelope for return of your receipt and name badge.

**New members:** For info on joining contact Membership Officer (details page 15).

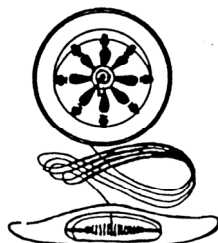
### **HANDWEAVERS', SPINNERS' AND DYERS' GUILD OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA INC**

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Email: Information & Publicity Officer  
[candacegibson@yahoo.com](mailto:candacegibson@yahoo.com)

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



## Dates for your diary

Saturday 10 February	HWSDGWA General Meeting, APCH, from 10am Please bring a plate to share. Guest speaker Olivia Doran (see below and p. 4 for more info) <b>NOTE: Nominations for committee and convenor positions for 2018 are due on 10 February</b>
Saturday 24 February	Spinning Day, APCH, from 10am Spinning Study Group (APCH Studio) from 10am
<b>Saturday 10 March</b>	<b>HWSDGWA Annual General Meeting, APCH, from 10am</b>
Saturday 24 March	Spinning Day, APCH, from 10am Spinning Study Group (APCH Studio) from 10am
Saturday 14 April	HWSDGWA General Meeting, APCH, from 10am
Saturday 28 April	Spinning Day, APCH, from 10am Spinning Study Group (APCH Studio) from 10am

## 10 February guest speaker: Olivia Doran

At 11am on Saturday 10 February (before the HWSPDWA General Meeting) Olivia Doran will be our guest speaker at APCH. Olivia is part of the Korowai Weavers (Maori Cloak making) who meet in Warnbro. She will be telling us all about this wonderful craft and bringing some examples of their work. For more information see page 4 or find the group on facebook: [www.facebook.com/pg/tekupengakorowai/about/](http://www.facebook.com/pg/tekupengakorowai/about/)

## Time to Renew!

A friendly reminder that Guild membership fees for 2018 are now due. Membership forms available at <https://spinweavewa.org/> or contact the Information Officer (details page 15).

Thankyou to those who have already renewed their Guild membership.

## From the President

I am delighted to welcome you all to 2018 at the HWSGDGWA Inc and, while we don't have the excitement of one of our Biennial Spin In this year, we will still be having a busy and active time. That said, I will personally be making an effort to travel a bit more throughout the state and attend a few more of our stage group events. I hope you will join me in supporting our members no matter where they are.

Our first formal meeting for the year will be Saturday 10 February which will be a welcome back general meeting with a special speaker and bring a plate lunch. Please note - to comply with the new constitution we have moved the AGM back to March when you will have the opportunity to vote or even stand for office if you choose to do so. Doors will open at 10am and we will be welcoming Olivia Doran, representing the Gnullar Mia Maori Woman's Welfare League Perth. She and another of their members showing us some examples of Maori Cloak Weaving and making a presentation on their craft.

The cloak pictured was done over a couple of years by one weaver and uses WA emu feathers. It has been taken back to NZ for her family. The second more modern piece was made by Olivia for a friend's special birthday and the colours represent WA with the sky, brown for the desert and pearls for Broome. At this



meeting we may also have some guests from the Textile Arts and Mixed Media Inc. "TAAMMI" group who meet in Melville on the 1st and 3rd Saturdays of the month. I know we will make them feel very welcome.

*Continued on the next page...*

I would like to extend my thanks to our committee for 2017, Gail Hamilton, Nicolea Savage, Janet Allsworth, Jenni Talbot, Rachel Meissner, Kat Sherwin, Charmaine Pedrick, Marina Watts, Helen Dunn and Avril Liljekvist and our Convenors, Sue Greig, Anne McAdam, Ann Bancroft, June Lynn, Joanne Peate, Alaine Haddon-Casey, Lorraine Stokoe, Helen Lovitt-Raison, Jo Rhodes, Cecilia Jordan and Margaret PC. A lot of hard work went into several events, such as our Spin In, which was a great success, and our 60th Anniversary Lunch, which was a lovely way to pass the day with our fellow Guild members and guests.

Of particular significance has also been the rewriting of our constitution to bring it into line with the latest legislation and this was achieved by a subcommittee consisting of, Charmaine Pedrick, Jenni Talbot, Rachel Meissner, Nicolea Savage and myself. I would like to single Nicolea out in particular for her consistency and hard work on this. It was not a small job and she undertook it to the highest standards at a time which I know was also personally very busy for her.

We are hoping that to have some new faces for committee positions or internships so do contact us or ask questions if you want to know more. We are always happy to support new committee members. The Guild is run by volunteers and without their hard work the Guild would not be able to function properly. I look forward to seeing everyone again soon. All the best,

*Candace Gibson*  
*President HWSGDGWA Inc.*

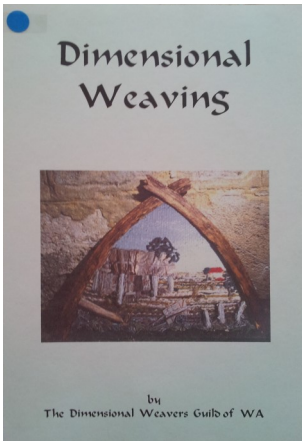


**“Free range knitters”**

**Source: “It itches.” by Franklin Habit**

## From the Library

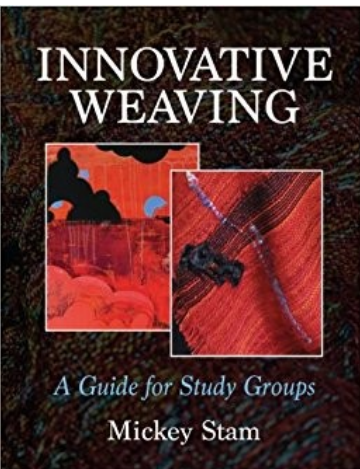
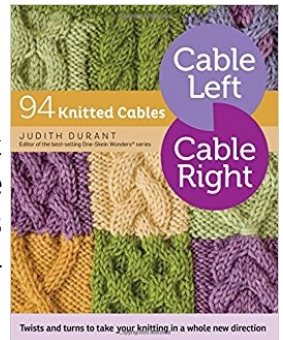
### ***Dimensional Weaving* The Dimensional Weavers Guild of WA**



The concept of dimensional weaving developed in WA in the 1970s. Some weavers had an urge to have more freedom of movement in the woven product than was possible when using a traditional loom. This book will give you a thorough grounding in the technique, equipment and finishing of dimensional weaving. There are projects offered, the use of colour and dyed fibres and suggested reading. You can also ask our members at the Guild, especially Connie Ward, one of the authors.

### ***Cable Left, Cable Right* Judith Durant**

From the author of *Cast On, Bind Off* comes a book on cables, all in the same easy to use format. She offers the key to unlocking these appealing twists and turns with step-by-step instructions for 94 specific patterns.



### ***Innovative Weaving A Guide For Study Groups* Mickey Stam**

This book provides a 12 month course of study directed at groups or a fibre artist working independently. There is exploration of 10 different art forms for inspiration, brainstorming exercises and practical advice to help you embrace risk, add artistic concepts, work in a series and write artistic statements.

*Anne McAdam*

## Guild 60th anniversary lunch Saturday 11 November

A good time was had by all at the Guild's 60th Anniversary lunch.

Good company, delicious food and live music (see front cover) made it a very enjoyable day, and a fitting end to our year of diamond anniversary celebrations and events.

Happy 60th to us!



Photos by Bev Wallis

### Wise Owls...

*New Year's Resolution: To tolerate fools more gladly, provided this does not encourage them to take up more of my time.*

**James Agate**

*And now we welcome the new year. Full of things that have never been.*

**Rainer Maria Rilke**

*Cheers to a new year and another chance for us to get it right.*

**Oprah Winfrey**



## From the archives:

First published in the Yarnspinner in April 1973

Traditionally cotton is handspun on a wheel designed for short fibred matter. These wheels have pointed spindles which enable a fine thread to be spun. The Indian Charkla is an example and a letter from Mrs. Lacey, a guild member who is now in Burma, describes a bamboo wheel with fine spindle point used for spinning cotton there.

However, cotton can be spun on the 'double-band' or the 'brake tension' wheels, which we use here, and some of you may like to experiment. Mrs. Beckett has contributed the following notes on cotton spinning and she has certainly produced some excellent thread.

### Notes by D. Beckett:

The spinning of cotton has proved to be quite different from wool spinning. The wool scales hold the fibres together whilst spinning. Cotton is quite dead and comes from the ginny looking like compressed cotton wool.

This compressed cotton must be loosened up and if possible made to look like a snowball. I tried Elsie Davenport's method of flicking with a twig but could not get life into the raw cotton, so I tried steaming. This is the method used by Mrs. Macrae of Sydney, but again I could not get the snowball, so back to the flicking method, this time using handcarders. It is difficult to describe, but essentially you just lightly lift the fibres apart, and gently roll into a rolag.

It was then just a matter of learning to spin the fibres. I found that you must work with your hands closer together and about 6 - 8 inches from the spindle, the drawing being only about one inch at a time. I found that it is easier to have the thread coming over the first finger of the left hand and to use the left thumb to control the amount of twist. You must slightly over-spin a cotton fibre to ensure the fibres twist.

I plan to ply my handspun thread with a commercial mercurised thread to ensure a strong yarn.

For those of you interested in having a go, the "Village Weaver" and Meg Sheen both supply raw cotton.

### Did you know?

A bale of cotton weighs about 227kg. This is enough cotton to make 215 pairs of jeans, or 1,256 pillow cases, or 21,960 handkerchiefs.

Source: [www.georgiacottoncommission.org](http://www.georgiacottoncommission.org)



## Knit your bit

*From the Victoria and Albert Museum, London:*

Hand-knitting was at a peak in Britain in the 1940s. During the Second World War, women on the home front were encouraged to contribute to the war effort by knitting for the troops, which was promoted as public duty. Advertising at the time stated: "England expects – knit your bit".

Many knitting patterns were given away free, while wool was also sent to schools so that children could knit gloves, scarves and balaclava helmets for the forces. Wool was also supplied to organisations such as the Women's Institutes of England and Wales, who made over 22 million knitted garments for the Red Cross (an average of 67 garments per member). Parcels of their knitwear were sent to prisoners of war, as well as to troops.

The warmth of woollen garments also made them popular for civilians who were faced with a shortage of heating fuel. In the face of wool rationing, knitters were encouraged to unravel old sweaters.

The six original 1940s patterns, available to download for free (link below), show the wide range of items knitted during the War: a fatigue cap that could double as a scarf, a balaclava helmet and waistcoat for men, knitted turbans, a When You're 'Off Duty' jumper (its title hinting at the change in women's roles at this time), and gloves for women.

They also show the many specialised patterns developed in response to the specific needs of the time. For example, the gloves have long wristbands for extra warmth, while the balaclava helmet has earflaps "to enable good hearing during telephone calls".

For more information and to download these patterns for free, go to:

<https://www.vam.ac.uk/articles/1940s-knitting-patterns>



## Overlay crochet

Excerpt from *LillaBjorn's Crochet World* by Tatsiana Krupchek :

*"Overlay crochet is a relatively new technique. It was developed by an artist and fantastic jewellery maker Melody MacDuffee in the United States and first introduced in 2003 ([www.melodymacduffee.com](http://www.melodymacduffee.com))."*

*Overlay crochet has its roots in Aran crochet. Though it may look a bit complicated and quite often is offered to advanced crocheters, in fact it uses ordinary crochet stitches, and only a few special ones. To master this technique it is necessary to already know how to make a slip stitch, a chain, single, double and treble crochet stitches, how to increase the number of stitches, how to make a long stitch.*

*What is interesting about this technique is that with changing colours on every round it is possible to achieve an effect as if the colours are actually changed after every few stitches."*



Have a look at some of Tatsiana's designs like the Circles of the Sun CAL (crochet-a-long) with video instructions by Esther from *It's all in a nutshell*, and the Peacock Bag CAL, pictured above.

The website *It's all in a nutshell* is currently featuring the In Bloom CAL (cushion—see next page) from Swedish designer Johanna Lindahl of Mijo Crochet, including video instructions to help you along.

*Continued on the next page...*

## Overlay crochet continued...

Among the crochet patterns & instruction videos on this site you will find the Nuts About Squares CAL (blanket) featuring the work of 12 different designers and the Sophie's Universe CAL (blanket) designed by Dedri from *Look at What I Made*, pictured previous page.

### Website details:

[www.lillabjorncrochet.com](http://www.lillabjorncrochet.com)

LillaBjorn's Crochet World—Tatsiana Krupchek

<https://itsallinanutshell.com>

It's all in a Nutshell—Esther Dijkstra

<https://mijocrochet.wordpress.com>

Mijo Crochet - Johanna Lindahl

[www.lookatwhatimade.net](http://www.lookatwhatimade.net)

Look at What I made - Dedri Uys

All of these designers share some of their patterns free on their websites and/or Ravelry.

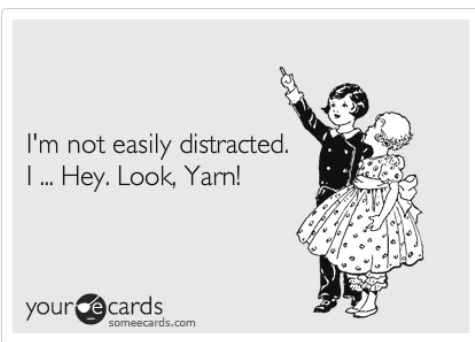
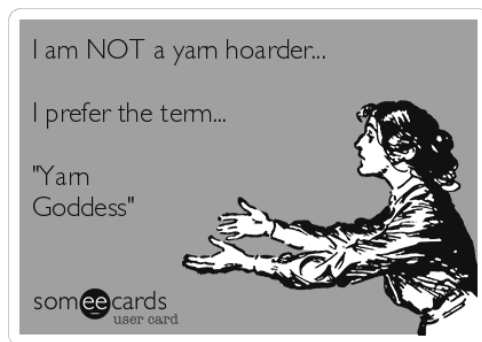
In addition to instruction videos for crochet-a-long patterns, It's all in a nutshell has released video tutorials on crochet techniques. These can also be found on her youtube channel just type *Its all in a nutshell* in the youtube search box at [www.youtube.com](http://www.youtube.com).



I think that Esther's videos are particularly good for beginners; the instructions are clear, well photographed and in particular, slow enough to follow easily.

The designers listed above use a range of crochet techniques in addition to overlay crochet stitches; I recommend a look at the work of these very talented women, I find them a great source of inspiration.

*Joanne Peate*



## Spinning Study Group 2018

The Spinning Study Group is a monthly gathering at APCH for those who want some company and feedback whilst doing the NSW Guild Certificate of Competence in Handspinning. The group meets every 4th Saturday of the month in the Studio at APCH (from 10am) - the first meeting for 2018 will be held on Saturday 24 February.

This group is open to Guild members and costs \$20 per year to cover the Studio hire. While the course PDF is free, participants are responsible for their own additional costs—this is likely to include fibre initially and then postage, NSW Guild Fees and Assessment fee should they wish to submit their work for assessment. For information about the Certificate and course work see [www.nsweave.org.au/learn/accreditation/](http://www.nsweave.org.au/learn/accreditation/).

Please contact Candace Gibson ([candacegibson@yahoo.com](mailto:candacegibson@yahoo.com) or 0424 984 883) if you are interested, or come and have a chat at one of the meetings.

## AuNZ Tapestry Challenge 2018

The theme for 2018 is **Growth**. Weavers from Australia and New Zealand are encouraged to enter a hand woven tapestry (maximum size 20x20cm) made during 2017/2018, of their own design in any style from abstract to realistic, to illustrate this theme. The challenge is open to weavers at all levels, from beginner to professional. Completed tapestries are due by **28 February 2018** and tapestries will be exhibited in Australia and New Zealand. For further information or entry forms, contact Yvonne Eade at [ylouisee@gmail.com](mailto:ylouisee@gmail.com) or 0407104385.



## Felt a rose for your sweetheart this Valentine's Day

### FINISHED MEASUREMENTS (AFTER FELTING)

Rose – Approximately 8cm across

Leaf – Approximately 6cm long

### MATERIALS

10-12ply feltable wool: red for roses, green for the leaves

Straight knitting needles, 5.5mm for knitting, 4.5-5.5mm to use as stems

### GAUGE

17 sts and 22 rows in 10cm in stocking stitch (st st)

### ROSE

With straight needles, cast on 15 sts.

**Row 1 and all WS rows:** Purl. **Row 2:** K13, turn. **Row 4:** K11, turn. **Row 6:** K9, turn. **Row 8:** K7, turn. **Row 10:** K5, turn. **Row 12:** K15.

Rep these 12 rows 10 times more, then rep Row 1 once more, end on WS.

**Next Row (RS):** Bind off while knitting 3 tog across. Break off yarn leaving a long end.

Thread end into tapestry needle and thread through end of piece. Roll into flower shape and secure. The cast-off edge can go either on the outside or the inside. The St st side will be on the inside. Weave in ends.

### LEAF

With straight needles, cast on 2 sts.

**Row 1:** K1, yo, k1 – 3 sts. **Row 2:** K1, in the next st (k1, yo) 3 times and in the same st, k1 (makes 7 sts from the one st), then k last stitch – 9 sts. Knit 7 rows.

**Dec Row (RS):** K1, k2 tog, k to last 3 sts, end SSK, k1 – 7 sts. Knit 1 row. Rep the last 2 rows once more – 5 sts.

**Next Row:** K1, k3 tog, k1 – 3 sts. Knit 1 row. K3 tog – 1 st. Fasten off. Weave in ends.

### FINISHING

Felt in washing machine using hot water and soap. Remove from washer and allow to air dry. While still wet, insert knitting needle through center of rose and bring rose to the top. Insert knitting needle into base of leaf and place where desired on stem. **SOURCE:** [www.berroco.com](http://www.berroco.com)

## From the Yarn Area

### NEW:

- ◇ Fine merino and blended rovings in exciting colour combinations
- ◇ New luxurious merino/cashgora/silk roving - undyed
- ◇ Wooden Yarn Bowls
- ◇ Undyed yarn - merino/alpaca/silk
- ◇ Assorted tools

PLUS we have lots more to check out:

- ◇ A lovely colour selection of Bendigo yarns are now available
- ◇ Ball winder
- ◇ Variegated yarns
- ◇ Landscape Dyes
- ◇ Luscious hand dyed tops and 3D Turkish Spindles by Jessica Berriman
- ◇ Interesting hand made drop spindles and Turkish spindles by local craftsman Collin Correia
- ◇ Large selection of threads, cotton yarns and sock yarns for knitters and weavers
- ◇ Support and Turkish spindles and support bowl from Frank Williams
- ◇ Hand dyed silk/merino tops (50/50) by "Dusty Roads"
- ◇ Threads for weavers
- ◇ Kumihimo discs
- ◇ Cones of Tencel, wool blend and cotton in a gorgeous selection of colours
- ◇ Knitting accessories
- ◇ Treetops - Perth, Heavenly Wools - NZ, First Edition - merino silk - Vic, Space Cadets arty batts - WA
- ◇ Hand dyed silk rovings, cocoons & rods
- ◇ Rovings and 4 ply cotton from Bendigo Woollen Mills - Victoria
- ◇ Alpaca rovings and small packs of fleece, all in natural colours - Perth
- ◇ Melanian wool rovings in natural colours - WA
- ◇ Hand turned drop spindles by Franks Williams - NSW
- ◇ Large selection of other fibres (undyed) to try

There are many treasures in the cupboards that can't fit on the tables—come behind and have a look!.

*Happy spinning, weaving and dyeing—Sue & Jo*

# Office Bearers and Convenors

## COMMITTEE

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<b>3</b>	Marina Watts	9389 1557	marina.watts13@gmail.com
<b>4</b>	Helen Dunn	0408 800 674	helen.dunn59@live.com.au
<b>5</b>	Jenni Talbot	0488 941 751	jennitalbot@outlook.com

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<b>SPEAKERS &amp; POP-UP WORKSHOPS</b>	Alaine Haddon-Casey	9383 7603	scasey@iinet.net.au
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	With Sandra Melville & Kat Sherwin		
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<b>REPRESENTATIVE</b>	(Intern required)		
<b>PATRON</b>	Mrs Ruth Reid		
<b>AUDITOR</b>	David Williams		

## FOR SALE

- **Alpaca Fleece**: Lovely soft luxurious natural colour alpaca fleece. Let me know the colour and quality you'd like so I can hand pick a fleece. Email Carolyn at emerys5@westnet.com.au or contact Jo Rhodes 0414 782 277
- **Ashford Traditional spinning wheels**: Two wheels available, plus some extra bits and pieces. \$175 each. Contact Walter Wallenborn 0419 937 499 (Mundaring)
- **Treadle sewing machine**: Singer brand, 104 years old, from Glasgow. \$600. Contact Jane McCrea 9446 1065 or platypus@iinet.net.au
- **Warping Board**: Handmade, probably 50 years old, sturdy and reasonable condition \$30 Contact Tracy Barker 0418 946 972 or tracy@barkerandhale.com.au
- **ZUCA frame**: slightly damaged ZUCA frame in purple. Flashing wheels and extendable handle, all good but for one bent front leg that could be straightened. This frame (in undamaged state) currently retails for US\$249 (on sale US\$189) see [www.zuca.com.au/shop/zuca-sport/sport-frame-only/zuca-sport-frame-only-purple-flashing-wheels/](http://www.zuca.com.au/shop/zuca-sport/sport-frame-only/zuca-sport-frame-only-purple-flashing-wheels/). Frame only, no bag included. All offers considered. Call Helen Lovitt Raison 0408 272 496
- **Ertoel Drum Carder**: in good condition and perfect working order with new drive band with original doffer and 2 clamps. Will be great for wool fleeces. \$100. Contact Jo 0414 782 277

## WANTED

- **Second hand 'portable' spinning wheel**: Ashford Traveller, Kiwi 2 or Joy, or something small that can be carried around. Contact Nerelie Humphreys 0413 911 339.

**Guild members** can advertise in the YarnSpinner events or items for sale at no charge.

**Non members** may advertise but must pay \$5 per line, in advance. Contact the editor at the Guild address or by email as on page 15.

**Advertising deadline for March YarnSpinner: 10 February 2018**

*Front cover: Musicians sing happy 60th birthday to the Guild at the Diamond Anniversary lunch, 11 November 2017 (Photo by Bev Wallis)*