

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. We have a selection of processed 100 gram bumps from \$15.00 - \$30.00, in a variety of natural colours. Postage can be arranged if required. Contact Jo Rhodes 0414 782 277 or jorhodes1955@gmail.com
- **Ashford Traditional spinning wheels:** Two wheels, plus some extras. \$175 each. Contact Walter Wallenborn 0419 937 499 (Mundaring)
- **Rigid heddle:** for an Ashford Knitters Loom, 30cm wide, 7.5 dpi (threads per inch). \$20. Contact Anne Marie 0423 114 256 or annemariekeights@gmail.com
- **Linen and cotton yarns:** Unbleached linen yarns and natural khadi cotton Yarn for sale. Please contact Ann 0402832198 if you're interested.
- **Various items from the Toodyay Spinners**—Phone 0407177817, pick up from Toodyay:
 - * Ashford Knitters loom plus carry bag 50cm, Ashford Knitters Loom Stand 50cm. Never been used. \$400 the lot (Neg)
 - * Ashford Traditional Spinning Wheel, hand carders, 3 x bobbins, lazy Kate and niddy noddy. \$200 the lot (Neg)
 - * Spinning Wheel, lazy Kate, 2 bobbins and niddy noddy. \$200 the lot (Neg)

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: 13 February 2021

Front cover: From the sharing table—'Slipstravaganza' shawl knitted by Helen Lovitt Raison

The YarnSpinner



Newsletter of the Handweavers', Spinners'
and Dyers' Guild of Western Australia
Volume 51 No. 01
February 2021



COMING UP:

NOTE: This event is subject to the lifting of lockdown rules—see page 3 for details

Saturday 13 February 2021: Handweavers', Spinners' and Dyers' Guild of WA General Meeting

Contribution deadline for the March 2021 edition of the YarnSpinner: Saturday 13 February 2021

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

Alexander Park Craft House Guild Groups

SPINNING GROUP: 4th 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 is available for hire by members including hand and drum carders, spinning wheels, and dye equipment. Contact Information Officer (details page 15).

IN-HOUSE WEAVERS: 2nd & 4th Tuesday of the month from 9:30am

Anyone is welcome to join us! Contact Brenda Roy 9381 4870 or brenda@cadplan.com.au.

TAPESTRY GROUP:

Stephnie Cantoni stephniecantoni@bigpond.com or Jan Hunter wsf.jmhunter@bigpond.com.

Guild Membership Fees for 2021

General \$80.00	Concession \$60.00	Associate/Junior \$60.00
Student \$60.00	Family \$97.50	Group \$120.00

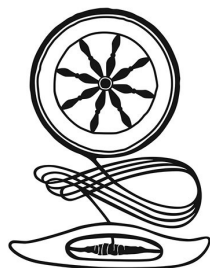
If a person applies for membership after 1 October, their fee will include membership for the current and following year.

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. Renewing members no longer receive a name badge—members get a perpetual badge at joining. To replace a lost badge, contact Membership Officer (details page 15). A \$13 fee applies.

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

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

Alexander Park Craft House
Clyde Road, Menora
Mail: P.O. Box 446 INGLEWOOD WA 6932
Email: Information & Publicity Officer
candacegibson@yahoo.com
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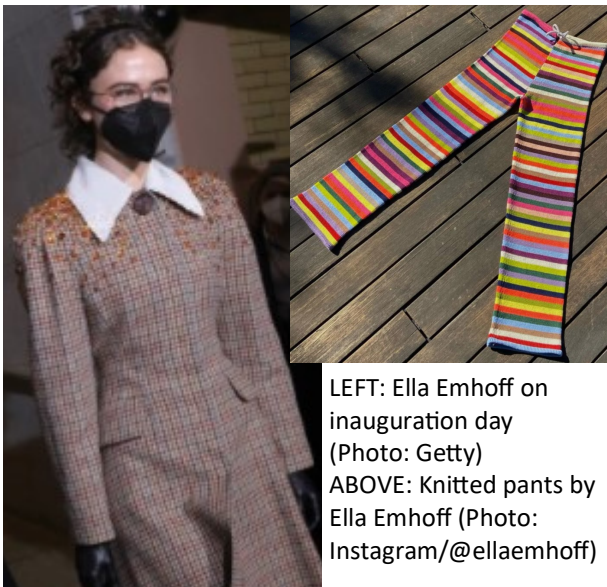
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AUDITOR	David Williams		
PATRON	VACANT		

Knitting on the international stage

Those following US politics will have seen images of the inauguration of President Joe Biden in January. There was lots of analysis of the event, including scrutiny of what everyone was wearing.

Much was made of the jewelled coat worn by the Vice President's step-daughter Ella Emhoff, which has brought yarny fashion into the international spotlight.



LEFT: Ella Emhoff on inauguration day (Photo: Getty)
ABOVE: Knitted pants by Ella Emhoff (Photo: Instagram/@ellaemhoff)

Ella is a student at the prestigious Parsons School of Design and shares her knitted and crocheted clothing on Instagram (@ellaemhoff). Look out for Ella and her yarn creations at future Vice Presidential events – she may start a new trend! (which Guild members are, of course, already well ahead of).



Bernie Sanders—real and crocheted (Photo: nbcnews.com, robbreport.com)

And speaking of knitted fashion at the inauguration, Senator Bernie Sanders made headlines with his knitted mittens. Tobey King (Tobey Time Crochet @tobeytimecrochet) captured his iconic image in crochet, with this cute Bernie doll. Tobey auctioned the doll on Ebay, and raised more than US\$20,000 for Meals on Wheels America.

Source:

Marg PC, Instagram, [graziamagazine.com/](https://www.graziamagazine.com/), [garage.vice.com/](https://www.garage.vice.com/), [robbreport.com/](https://www.robbreport.com/), [tobeytimecrochet.com/](https://www.tobeytimecrochet.com/)

From the President

Dear friends,

As the State Government has initiated a five day lockdown for the metropolitan area of Perth, Peel and the Southwest, we would like to remind you that the Guild's scheduled meetings will only take place if there is no lockdown in place.

The general meeting on 13 February will go ahead as planned however:

- Masks must be worn both inside and outside the venue
- Only 48 people will be able to be in the main hall

In light of these restrictions, the Annual Showcase will be rescheduled to April 10.

Unfortunately it is not always possible to include up-to-date information about changes to the meeting schedule in the Yarnspinner, but the Guild will always follow the Government's guidelines on gatherings. If you need information about the Guild's activities, you are always welcome to contact me on 0449 001 103, or by email at avril.liljekvist@gmail.com.

I hope that you remain well, and that we will have the pleasure of your company at the Guild at the earliest opportunity.

Warmest wishes,
Avril Liljekvist

Showcase go ahead as planned on 10 April, the running order for the day will be:

09:30am Doors open

10:00am Library & Yarn Area open

10:00-10:30am Entries for the Annual Showcase submitted (no entries will be received after 10:30am)

11:00-11:45am Spinning

12:00-12:30pm Lunch and voting

1:00pm Award announcements

Coffee and tea available. BYO mug and morning tea/lunch (no food to share please).

Keep your fingers crossed that we can meet again soon!



Coming up...

Saturday 13 February	NOTE: This event is subject to the lifting of lockdown rules—see page 3 for details General Meeting, APCH (doors open 9:30am)
Saturday 27 February	Spinning Day, APCH, doors open 9:30am
Saturday 13 March	HWSDGWA Annual General Meeting, APCH, 12pm (doors open 9:30am)
Saturday 27 March	Spinning Day, APCH, doors open 9:30am
Saturday 10 April	Guild Annual Showcase and Spinning Day, APCH (doors open 9:30am) (see pages 8-9 for Showcase information)
Saturday 24 April	Spinning Day, APCH, doors open 9:30am
Saturday 8 May	HWSDGWA General Meeting, APCH (doors open 9:30am)
Saturday 22 May	Spinning Day, APCH, doors open 9:30am
Saturday 12 June	Spinning Day, APCH, doors open 9:30am
Saturday 26 June	Spinning Day, APCH, doors open 9:30am

Time to put your hand up - we want you!

The Guild's next Annual General Meeting will be held on **13 March 2021**.

All Committee and Convenor positions (i.e. those listed on page 15) will be vacated at the AGM, and will need to be filled. Our Guild cannot function without the generosity of volunteers who give their time and expertise to Committee and Convenor roles. Please consider nominating yourself for one of these important positions!

Nominations forms were enclosed with the November 2020 Yarnspinner (or get a copy from the Information Officer, contact details page 15) and **must be submitted to the Secretaries ASAP**.

If you think you'd like to be involved but aren't sure what it would entail, contact the Information Officer (contact details page 15).

Armchair travel



The Textile Museum St Gallen, Switzerland, is an institution dedicated to *"imparting knowledge in different ways and passing on inspiration to current and future generations"*.

While we may not be able to visit it in person right now, the museum has a wonderful website which displays some of its treasures (and handily, Google will

translate the site from German to English!).

Explore www.textilmuseum.ch to see videos of how cotton and polyester fabrics are made, see a 360 degree view of their latest exhibition, get tips and templates for fashion design, and (the best bit) browse the online collection of almost 2000 textiles from several centuries and many parts of the world.



The online collection can be found at sammlung.textilmuseum.ch/eMuseumPlus and includes a wide range of fabrics, from a 16th century Spanish lace collar, to 19th century Turkish embroidery, to a ballgown worn by Eugénie de Montijo, wife of Napoléon III – and much more.

Great for a browse while escaping the heat on a hot summer day!

Do you know of any good websites related to textiles, yarn, spinning, dyeing, weaving, or anything else Guild members might be interested in? Share them with the YarnSpinner (Editor's details page 15).



"Yeah, it's unusual. But a mutual love of good yarn conquers all."

SOURCE: It Itches, Franklin Habit

WA Coronavirus Health Information Line: 13 COVID (13 26843)

WA Department of Health:

https://ww2.health.wa.gov.au/Articles/A_E/Coronavirus

Australian Government Department of Health:

<https://www.health.gov.au/news/health-alerts/novel-coronavirus-2019-ncov-health-alert>

World Health Organisation:

<https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019>

Lifeline Australia: 13 11 14



Guild General Meetings for 2021

Handweavers', Spinners' and Dyers' Guild WA General meetings will be held at APCH on the following Saturdays in 2021:

- 13 February—SUBJECT TO LOCKDOWN, SEE PAGE 3 FOR DETAILS
- **13 March—ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**
- 8 May
- 10 July
- 11 September
- 13 November

The second Saturday of the month in April, June, August and October will be 'Spinning Days'.

APCH will be open for members to gather, craft, and use the library and Yarn Area but no formal General Meeting will be held.

The fourth Saturday of the month (February-November) will be Spinning Days (see page 2 for details).



Traders Day Saturday 24 October 2020



Buying, selling and spinning at APCH!
Photos by Janis O'Loughlin



Sharing Table Saturday 14 November 2020



As we journeyed toward the end of 2020, members were busy creating beautiful, colourful things...

Gail Campbell used overshot weaving to create a colourful set of pearl cotton 'mug rugs'.



Sue Webb used chain plying to spin a super soft skein of ultrafine merino, cashmere and silk lace weight yarn (approximately 680m per 100g).



Marg PC displayed a pair of stripy knitted chevron socks.

Gail Campbell knitted a super soft shawl using Nunnaba 4ply yarn and the 'Sharon Show' pattern by Casapinka



Gail used Nunnaba 4ply again to knit 'The Secret Handshake' cowl, also a Casapinka design.



Margaret Stuart used pressed flowers from her garden to create a delightful picture.



True Colors Keith Recker

True Colors is about artists who create color from natural materials and about the historical importance and environmental sustainability of this practice. All new content in this revised edition features Heartwear, a collaborative of artists and fashion designers who have created and supported indigo-dyeing projects from Benin to Morocco to India and beyond.



The consciousness of cloth

Guild member Brenda Roy discovered a new online journal which may interest Guild members: TATTER.

The mission of TATTER is to *"promote the consciousness of cloth by considering, and celebrating cloths intrinsic and essential relationship in human life – through portals that include but are not limited to art, shelter, comfort, science, commerce, and culture"*.



Issue 1 is called 'Isolation', and includes essays, feature articles and beautiful photos from a range of different creative textile makers.

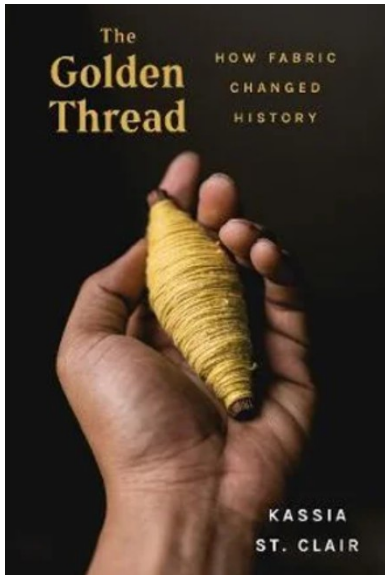
I loved the story by Prairie Stuart-Wolff about using old clothing to make nunozori, traditional Japanese woven sandals worn inside the house.

Check out TATTER at:

<https://issues.tatter.org/>

Nunozori made from recycled clothing
(photo: Prairie Stuart-Wolff
issues.tatter.org/articles/nunozori/)

From the Library



***The Golden Thread* Kassia St Clair**

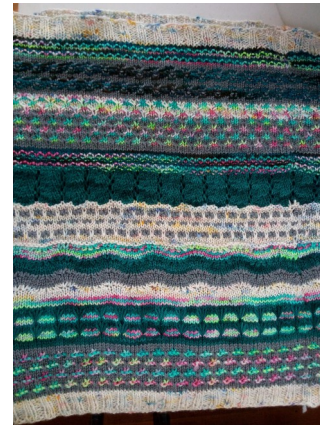
All textiles begin with a twist. From colourful 30,000-year old threads found on the floor of a Georgian cave to what the linen wrappings of Tutankhamun's mummy actually meant; from the Silk Roads to the woollen sails that helped the Vikings reach America 700 years before Columbus; from the lace ruffs that infuriated the puritans to the Indian calicoes and chintzes that powered the Industrial Revolution, our continuing reinvention of cloth tells fascinating stories of human ingenuity. With a cast that includes Chinese empresses, Richard the Lionheart and Bing Crosby, Kassia St Clair takes us on the run with escaped slaves, climbing the slopes of Everest and moonwalking with astronauts. Running like a bright line through history, this book offers an unforgettable adventure through our past, present and future.

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***Knitting Brioche Lace* Nancy Marchant**

Nancy Marchant takes this stitch to another level by introducing you to the excitement of creating two-color brioche lace through charts and clear explanations, a stitch dictionary of brioche lace stitches, and exquisite scarf and cowl projects.

This is the perfect book for the experienced brioche knitter who is looking for new techniques that yield spectacular lacy results! A general introduction to brioche knitting and an explanation of the symbols and abbreviations is included.



Helen Lovitt Raison knit her own version of 'The Secret Handshake', and set up an impressive display of the many prize-winning items she entered in the 2020 Canning Show (which have featured in previous editions of the Yarnspinner). Congratulations Helen!

Helen also had her spectacular 'Slipstravaganza' shawl, a Stephen West pattern knitted as a knit along project (see front cover for photo). The shawl was made from a combination of wool including handspun, Wangaratta Woolen Mills,

Fybrespates, Sweet Georgia and Bad Amy Knits.

It's time to renew your Guild membership for 2021

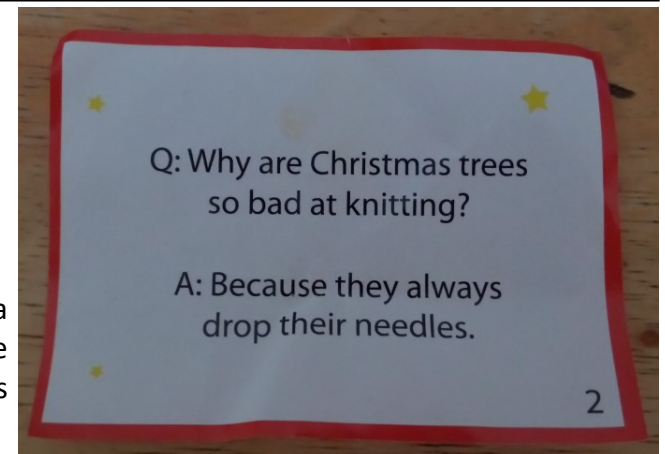
A membership renewal form was included with the November 2020 Yarnspinner. If you need another copy, contact the Membership Officer (details page 15). Membership fees for 2021 can be found on page 2 of the Yarnspinner.

Only those who have paid their membership fees for 2021 will be able to vote at the HWSGDWA Annual General Meeting, to be held on at **12pm on Saturday 13 March**.

2020 memberships officially lapse on 31 March, so those who have not renewed will not receive the April edition of the Yarnspinner.



Anne McAdam found a very Guild-appropriate joke in her Christmas cracker...



Guild Annual Showcase

Start knitting, spinning, dyeing, felting and creating for the Guild Annual Showcase on **Saturday 10 April 2021**. There will be no theme this year, so let your imagination run free!

CATEGORIES, PRIZES and TROPHIES

General Notes:

- Two items can be submitted per member per category.
- Items cannot be entered in multiple categories.
- The item must have been completed by the entrant within 12 months of the entry date.
- Entrants are encouraged to attach an artist's statement to their entries, using the year's theme as inspiration if possible.
- Entries can be marked as not for judging if desired.
- Items must be submitted and prepared for Judging between 10:00 and 10:30am on the competition day.
- Winners in all categories will be determined by members votes on the day.

WEAVING: THREE COMPETITION CATEGORIES

- Off loom weaving
- 2 Shaft, Rigid Heddle, or inkle loom weaving
- Multishaft manual loom weaving (excl computerised, mechanical, dobby-type looms)

Each of the above sections receives a certificate, and prize money or voucher. Judge to decide the best overall entry. The member submitting that entry then receives the **LYN WARING TROPHY**

SPINNING: TWO COMPETITION CATEGORIES

- 5 ply and under (14wpi or more)- minimum skein 25gr
- over 5 ply (less than 14wpi)- minimum skein 50gr

A skein made from handspun fibre, with attached sample and description of fibre and intended use. Each of the above sections is to receive a certificate, and prize money or voucher. Judge to decide the best overall entry. The member submitting that entry then receives the **CECILE DORWARD TROPHY**.

FELTING:

Judge to select the best entry, which receives a certificate, prize money or voucher, and the **BARBARA FREW TROPHY**.

DYEING:

Natural or chemical dyes permitted. The entry may be a skein or item of commercial or handspun fibre and will be judged on the quality of dyeing only. Judge to select the best entry, which receives a certificate and prize money or voucher and **ANNE BANCROFT TROPHY**.

KNITTING/CROCHET:

Any handstitched item made from Handspun yarn, spun by the entrant. Judges to select the best entry, which receives a certificate, and prize money or voucher.

MIXED MEDIA:

An item made using predominantly any, or a mixture, of the core crafts of weaving, spinning, dyeing or felting, which can include any material, including (but not restricted to) recycled or up-cycled materials. The item can be in any form from garment, decorative, domestic, to sculptural. To be judged by all Judges together. Best entry receives certificate, and prize money or voucher.

NOVICE/JUNIOR:

Any item as per above categories, made by a first-time entrant or member under 18 years of age. Judges are to select the best Novice entry together, which receives a certificate and prize money or voucher and **JOSEPH DENNIS TROPHY**.

GROUP or COLLABORATIVE ENTRY:

A group entry is to be a single item or cohesive set of items showcasing any mixture of the Guild's core crafts of weaving, spinning, dyeing or felting, where a group is defined as three or more individuals (who do not need to be an official Guild group). Items may also be partly crocheted or knitted. Note: items entered as a group entry CANNOT be also entered individually. To be judged by all Judges together. Best entry receives certificate, prize money or voucher and **TURNER COTTAGE TROPHY** (donated by Frank and Isobel McKay).

PRESIDENTS AWARD:

An entry chosen by the President of the day receives a certificate, prize money or voucher and **JOY SKINNER TROPHY**.

POPULAR VOTE:

Members are to cast a vote for their selection. Votes are to be counted and the winner announced. Winner receives certificate and prize money or voucher and **ANNE RAIN TROPHY**.