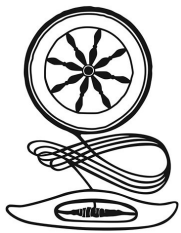


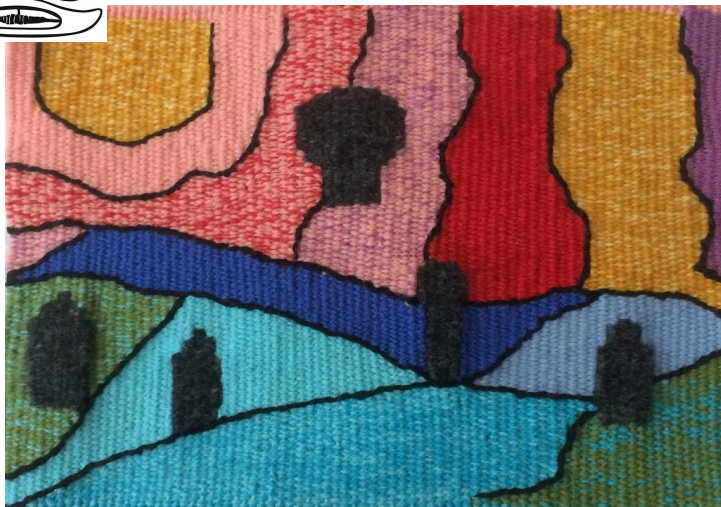
The YarnSpinner



Newsletter of the Handweavers', Spinners'
and Dyers' Guild of Western Australia

Volume 50 No. 10

November 2020



NEXT MEETING:

Saturday 14 November 2020: General Meeting of the Handweavers', Spinners' and Dyers' Guild of WA (followed by end of year lunch)

09:30am Doors open

10:00am Library & Yarn Area open

12:00pm HWSGDGWA General Meeting

Coffee and tea available. BYO mug, lunch, and an item for the raffle hamper (no food to share please).

Contribution deadline for the February 2021 edition of the YarnSpinner: Saturday 9 January 2021

NOTE: This is the last edition of the YarnSpinner for 2020.

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 2020

Full \$65.00	Concession \$52.00	Associate/Junior \$52.00
Student \$52.00	Family \$97.50	Group \$97.50

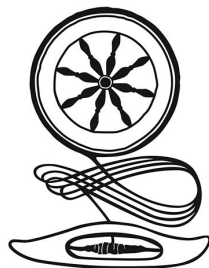
If a person applies for membership after 1 October, their fee will include membership for the current and following year.

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



Coming up...

Saturday 14 November	HWSDGWA General Meeting and end of year lunch APCH (BYO mug, lunch, and an item for the raffle hamper - no food to share please) <i>Please return all library books and equipment</i>
Saturday 28 November	Spinning Day and Stocktake, APCH, from 9:30am (see below)
Saturday 12 December	Spinning/crafting Day, APCH, from 9:30am
Saturday 16 January 2021	Spinning at Matilda Bay (see page 5)
Saturday 13 February 2021	Guild Annual Showcase (see pages 8-9)
Saturday 13 March 2021	HWSDGWA Annual General Meeting, APCH, 12pm (doors open from 9:30am)

Advertising in the Yarnspinner

There are a number of advertisements on the back page of the Yarnspinner that have been there unchanged for many months (some even years!). **If you would like your ad to remain PLEASE CONTACT ME ASAP and let me know. If I don't hear from you, your ad will not appear the February 2021 edition.**

Please contact me, Yarnspinner editor (details page 15).

Cecilia Jordan

Library and equipment stocktake

On **Saturday 28 November** the annual stocktake of library books and equipment will take place at APCH. If you have borrowed any equipment or books, please return them to the Guild by **14 November** so they can be counted.

Our librarians are looking for volunteers to help with the stocktake. If you'd like to help please contact the librarians so they can coordinate times and volunteers:

- Anne McAdam: 0415223922 anne.mcadam111@gmail.com
- Gwen McLeod: 0439916947 gwenmcleod@live.com

Sharing Table Saturday 10 October

It's not the quantity but the quality that counts! There was some very impressive pieces on the sharing table this month:

Avril L. wove a very lovely tencel scarf on a guild loom which she enjoyed making so much she is planning on making another one.



There were two more scarves woven by **Lilia Vaughan**, a green one made from hand-spun merino and silk noil, side warps in crochet cotton, and a pink one with pulled cocoon silk patterning to give an ikat effect.



MargPC had knitted a shawlette in XB hand-spun singles which she discovered in an unopened when she moved house and thought it was time she put it to some use. The box hadn't been opened for at least 16 years!! She also had spun up a 200 gm hank of tops from the Guild yarn supply, plied with navy merino.



Stars of the table were a magnificent lace shawl by **Sue Webb** which took out first prize at the Royal Show...and...

...a tapestry by **Anne Miller**, designed by her 10-year-old grand daughter. Grand-daughter's comment when allowed to cut it off the loom on her birthday was "*the tapestry is even better than the original*"! What a compliment! (photo on front cover).

MargPC

Spinning at Matilda Bay 2021

WHEN: Saturday 16 January 2021, from 7:30am to about 4pm, come and go as you please

WHERE: The gazebo, Hackett Drive, Matilda Bay Reserve, Crawley

BRING: Your spinning gear, fibre, food and drinks.

There is a café and public toilets are nearby.
Hope to see you there!



Photo: www.yelp.com.au/biz_photos/matilda-bay-crawley

Never not thinking about alpacas

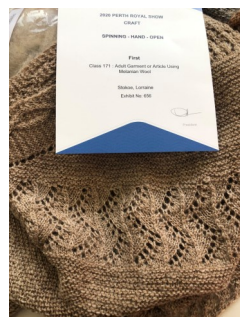
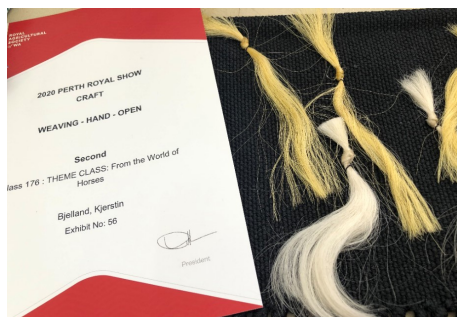
On Saturday 10 October the Guild was privileged to receive a visit from Sophie Stacey from Alpaca Express (find her at www.facebook.com/alpacaproducts/).

Sophie's parents began alpaca farming more than 20 years ago, and she has joined the family business, forging her own identity in the industry by breeding coloured alpacas (rather than the more common white).

Sophie's talk was very informative (did you know there were 28 different natural colours of alpaca fleece, including a 'true' black? I didn't!), and she answered many questions from interested Guild members. Sophie also brought along some of her lovely fleeces (very freshly shorn) and other alpaca products.

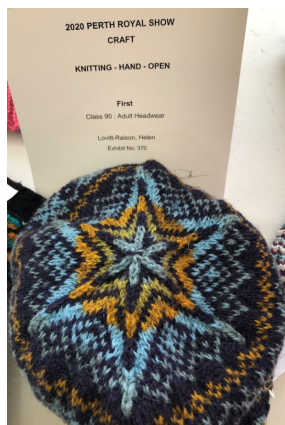
Thanks for your visit Sophie!





Congratulations to all Guild members who entered the Royal Show—there were so many prize winners!

Photos by Bev Wallis

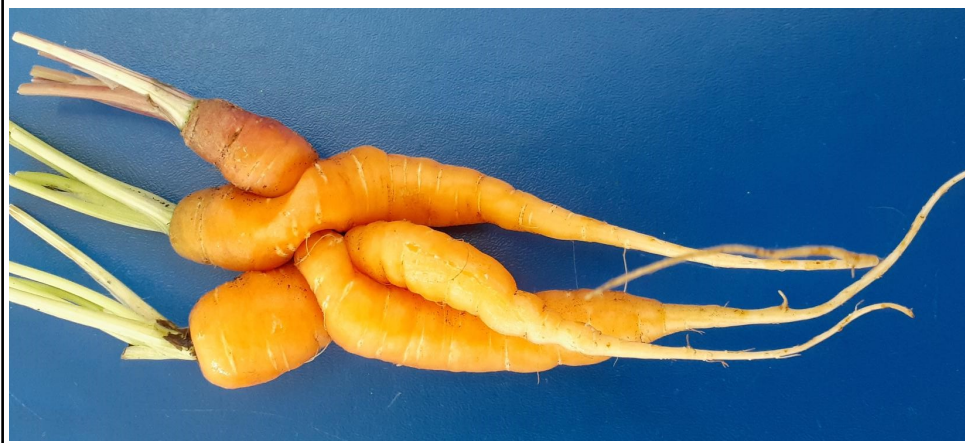




Weaving in the vege patch

Sue Greig was picking vegetables in her garden recently, and pulled up these interwoven carrots—a perfect lunch for a weaver!

Photo by Sue Greig



Guild Annual Showcase

Start knitting, spinning, dyeing, felting and creating for the Guild Annual Showcase on **Saturday 13 February 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.

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**

Brendan Girak visits APCH

Photos by Janis O'Loughlin



The secret knitter

Imagine discovering that Michelle Obama was in your online knitting group!

Like many people all over the world, the former First Lady has taken up knitting this year, to keep her busy and sane during times of social isolation. She has even joined an online knitting group (under a pseudonym).

And even highly accomplished Michelle makes mistakes. She says:

"Over the course of this quarantine, I have knitted a blanket, five scarves, three halter tops, a couple of hats for Barack. I just finished my first pair of mittens for Malia. One is twice as big as the other. I'm still working on my stitching gauge."

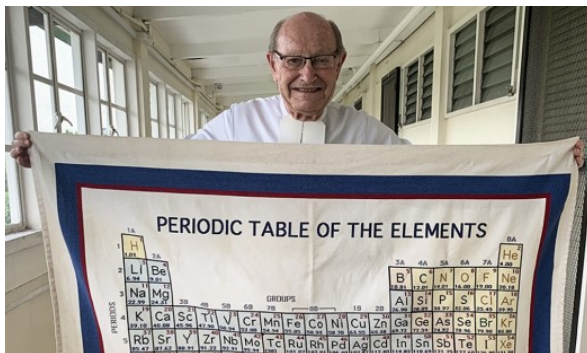
To see Michelle discussing her knitting on the Rachael Ray Show, go to:
<https://www.rachaelrayshow.com/articles/michelle-obama-has-taken-up-knitting-during-quarantine-secretly-joined-the-knitting>



Photo: The Rachael Ray Show

Twenty years and a million stitches later...

In August 2020 Brother Martin Sellner, Christian brother, retired chemistry teacher and cross stitcher extraordinaire, finished the final stitches of a unique needlework project: the periodic table.



*Br Sellner with his cross stitched periodic table
(photo: Facebook)*

Brother Sellner combined his love of cross stitch and chemistry to create the educational artwork, which took more than a million stitches and twenty years to complete. He posted a video of himself finishing the final five stitches online – and it has already received over one million views.

To find out more (and see the video) go to:

<https://aleteia.org/2020/08/02/meet-the-christian-brother-whos-cross-stitched-the-periodic-table-using-a-million-stitches/>

From the Editor



This is the last edition of the Yarnspinner for 2020. And what a memorable year it has been!

A big thank you to everyone who has contributed to the Yarnspinner in 2020, especially while APCH was closed. You are much appreciated.

I hope everyone has a happy, healthy, safe, fun and fibre-filled

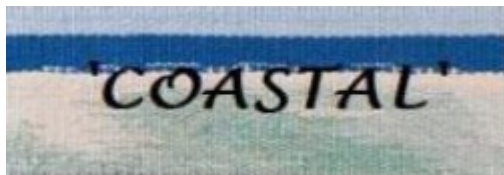
Christmas and New Year. I look forward to catching up with you all again in 2021.

Cecilia Jordan
Yarnspinner Editor

The 2021 International Scarf Exchange

The 29th International Scarf Exchange is being hosted by a 'consortium' of groups resident in the Shoalhaven area on the south coast of NSW. They are Berry Spinners & Weavers Inc, Nowra Spinners & Weavers Inc and Wool Road Spinners & Weavers Inc, with help from Murramarang Spinners & Weavers Inc.

The aims of the Scarf Exchange are to preserve the skills of spinning, weaving, knitting, crochet and felting, expand the wool craft network and to challenge each crafter to produce their best original work. The theme chosen for 2021, which you may interpret in any way you wish, is very apt for our location:



Participation involves you selecting, and sending to us, **150grams of washed and prepared fresh natural fibre which must be free from any contamination or strong odours. Please ensure that all fibre is very clean and already combed or carded. Also ensure it has not absorbed any odours including mothballs or similar as this may trigger asthma.** Please contact the co-ordinator if you are unfortunate enough to receive fibre that does not meet these standards. It will be returned to the sender.

Your fibre will be crafted into a scarf, wrap, gloves/mittens or socks, by another randomly selected participant in the exchange. You will also be sent another participant's fibre that you need to craft into a scarf, wrap, gloves/mittens or socks, using a method of your choice, adding extra fibre, or colour as you wish but please take into account any preferences expressed by the sender of the fibre.

Registration is from 1 August 2020 until 30 November 2020.

Continued on the next page...

How to participate:

1. An entry form needs to be printed and filled out. Please ensure you take a photo or photocopy for your records.
2. The entry fee is to be paid either by cheque in Australian Dollars (AUD) included with your entry form or by electronic funds transfer (eft) - instructions on the entry form (ENTRY FEE to help cover postage of both exchange fibre and finished item to you: Australia AUD\$20 New Zealand AUD\$30, USA AUD\$40, rest of world AUD\$50).
3. Send your fibre in a resealable bag with a fibre sample in a small separate bag, and a printed copy of your entry form to the address below **before Monday 30 November 2020**:
International Scarf Exchange
Wool Road Spinners & Weavers Inc
PO Box 141, Huskisson NSW 2540
Australia
4. You will receive an exchange package of fibre plus a crafter sheet by the end of January 2021 and will then have 4 months to spin, dye, knit, crochet, felt or weave it into a wonderful creation to showcase the best of your fibre art talents.
5. Deadline delivery date for return of your finished item, your crafter sheet and any excess fibre to the Wool Road Spinners & Weavers Inc is **Friday 29 May 2021**.
6. A virtual exhibition of all finished items is planned. Details to follow.
7. Finished items will be returned to participants by the end of July 2021.

For more information or an entry form:

- Contact Co-ordinator Denise Stevens at email: internationalscarfexchange2021@gmail.com
- Got to <https://www.nswweave.org.au/articles/2020/07/international-scarf-exchange-2021/>
- Contact the Guild information Officer (details page 15)

Waste not

Thrums are the scraps of warp threads left on the loom after the handwoven cloth has been cut off. Many weavers can't bear to waste these (especially if they are hand spun yarn!) but what are they good for?

Kim Canon at Handwoven magazine has a solution: Make dryer balls. According to Kim:



They're fun to make and useful. Two or three dryer balls in the dryer keep sheets from clumping up. Plus, it's a great activity to do with kids. They like to make them and play with them.

Materials:

- Wool thrums/leftovers, about 50g for each ball. Do not use non-shrinkable or superwash wool
- Old nylon stockings
- Optional: small amount of wool fleece
- Washer/dryer

Make the balls:

1. Squeeze together a handful of thrums and short bits of wool yarns
2. Tightly wind on lengths of thrums, tucking in the ends as you wind. If you use fleece, pat a little on every so often. Wind until the ball is tennis-ball size.

Shrink and felt the balls:

1. Slide each ball into a piece of nylon stocking, knot stocking tightly
2. Put the nylon-wrapped balls in a mesh lingerie bag and machine wash, very hot with detergent. The wash can include an old towel or two
3. Take the nylon-wrapped balls out of the lingerie bag and submerge in very cold water. When cool gently squeeze out extra water
4. Machine dry the nylon-wrapped balls at a very hot setting along with a couple of old towels (or dry them outside in the hot sun)
5. When the balls are thoroughly dry cut away the nylon coverings.

Source: <https://handwovenmagazine.com/>

Contributed by Gail Campbell

Office Bearers and Convenors

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6	Brenda Roy	0437904223	brenda@cadplan.com.au

CONVENORS

MEMBERSHIPS	Memberships will go to the Librarian to be incorporated with the Library database.		
YARNSPINNER DISTRIBUTION	TO BE CONFIRMED		
YARNSPINNER EDITOR	Cecilia Jordan	0406506941	ceciliajordan@rocketmail.com
LIBRARIAN	Anne McAdam, with Gwen McLeod	0415223922 0439916947	anne.mcadam111@gmail.com gwenmcLeod@live.com
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ARCHIVES	Janis O’Loughlin	0411212986	janis.47@bigpond.com
AUDITOR	David Williams		
PATRON	VACANT		

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, plus some extras. \$175 each. Contact Walter Wallenborn 0419 937 499 (Mundaring)
- **Warping board:** Handmade, approx 50 years old, sturdy and reasonable condition \$30 Contact Tracy Barker 0418 946 972 or tracy@barkerandhale.com.au
- **Mohair:** full fleeces, white or grey. \$20 per kg. Contact Barbara 0427 377 054, Bakers Hill, can deliver to Balcatta, Midland or APCH
- **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 silk yarns:** \$18.00/100gms linen 10/2 natural dyed yarn, \$15.00/100gms ecru/peace silk. Contact Ann Richardson aerichar@gmail.com or 0402 832 198
- **Weaving Loom:** \$450. 170cm, 4 Shaft, 6 pedal, floor loom with 2 spare reeds. Excellent condition, well crafted in jarrah by William Hall. Prev. owned by Peggy Whitewood. Contact Evana Beaton 0418 954 102

WANTED TO BUY

- **Speedweave loom:** or similar—contact Beth on 0412 288 366

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 February 2021 YarnSpinner: 9 January 2021

Front cover: From the sharing table—Tapestry by Anne Miller