

FOR SALE

- **Gimakra countermarch floor loom.** 10 shafts with damask draw box. Excellent condition \$600.00. o.n.o. In Albany, but can bring to Perth/Freo. Enquiries patriciam12@bigpond.com Ph 0898448599
- **Danish Weaving Loom, Anders Lervad.** Countermarch, 12 harness plus 5 extra with drawcords. fly shuttle beater, weaving width 200cm, ratchet tension. \$3500 ONO PLUS any delivery costs Phone 0409 858 423 Christine Wilkins 12 Chelmonton Loop, Carine W.A. 6020, cwilkins@acslink.net.au
- **Beautiful Alpaca Fleece**, this year's shearing, clean, white and colours available. For all enquiries contact Carolyn : 0417920044 (evenings) emerys5@westnet.com.au
- **Ashford 8 shaft folding table loom,** 80 cm weaving width, 10dpi reed, Texlov heddles, overhead beater. \$800.00 This loom is almost brand new, having had only one warp lovingly put on it, and being sold as a deceased estate. Please contact Sue Greig 9448 0840 or sue_greig@hotmail.com

FREE TO A GOOD HOME

- **FREE 4 ft. floor loom:** reasonable condition. For details contact Anne Roberts phone 93356063, email jonanne@iinet.net.au

WANTED

- **Rigid heddle looms,** all sizes, pre-loved. Contact Wendy Garrity 0431 275 821 or wgarrity321@gmail.com
- **Majacraft "Little Gem"** spinning wheel in good condition. Phone Bev 0403270656

Guild members can advertise in the YarnSpinner (at no charge) any events or items for sale. **Non members** may advertise but must pay \$5 per line, in advance. Contact the editors at the Guild address or by email as on page 2.

If your circle joins are untidy when circular knitting, use one of the following remedies:

- pull the yarn firmly at the join;
- cast on an extra stitch and decrease;
- cast on an extra stitch and decrease over the first and second cast-on stitches.

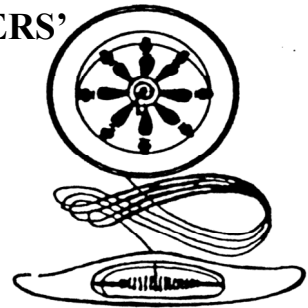
HANDWEAVERS', SPINNERS' AND DYERS' GUILD OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA INC

Alexander Park Craft House

Clyde Road, Menora

Mail: P.O. Box 446 INGLEWOOD WA 6932

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



The YarnSpinner

Volume 45, No. 10

November 2015

Deadline for Contributions: Second Saturday of the month

Saturday 14th November 2015

Christmas Meeting and Luncheon

This is the last General Meeting day for 2015 and will be followed by a special lunch together to celebrate the end of the Guild year.

Please bring along a plate of food to share, as well as an Xmas food donation for the Christmas Hamper raffle.

Tea and coffee provided.

The Library (**for returns**) and the Yarn Area will be open from 10.00am
Please return any equipment that you have borrowed/hired.

Saturday 28th November, 2015

Stock-take and Cleanup Day

Your help is needed to make sure that the stock in the Library, Yarn Area and equipment is accounted for and in good order for the Summer break. Come and help with the stock takes. Many hands make light work and it's a fun day with great company and time to spin at the end!

As a reward Library stock takers can borrow books over the Xmas break!

We start at 10:00 am as usual

Tea and coffee are provided, but bring your own lunch

Office Bearers and Convenors for 2015

* indicates committee member

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AUDITOR	David Williams		

The Alexander Park Craft House Committee member representing the Guild for 2015 is:

Janet Allsworth

(Continued from page 9)

Mediated Matter group director Neri Oxman believes that by studying natural processes such as the way silkworms build their cocoons, scientists can develop ways of "printing" architectural structures more efficiently than can be achieved by current 3D printing technologies.

"In traditional 3D printing the gantry-size poses an obvious limitation; it is defined by three axes and typically requires the use of support material, both of which are limiting for the designer who wishes to print in larger scales and achieve structural and material complexity," Oxman told us earlier this year. "Once we place a 3D printing head on a robotic arm, we free up these limitations almost instantly."

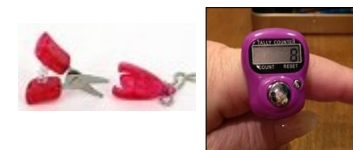
The team attached tiny magnets to the heads of silkworms so they could motion-track their movements. They used this data to programme the robotic arm to deposit silk on the metal frames. "We've managed to motion-track the silkworm's movement as it is building its cocoon, Our aim was to translate the motion-capture data into a 3D printer connected to a robotic arm in order to study the biological structure in larger scales."

Their research also showed that the worms were attracted to darker areas, so fibres were laid more sparsely on the sunnier south and east elevations of the dome.

FROM THE YARN AREA

We have the following in stock:

- * Some wonderful hand dyed tops in assorted fibres and combinations that are real "eye candy".
- * Sock Yarn and pre-yarn wool in beautiful colour gradations from Lithuania.
- * Bendigo Woollen Mills tops, great for those who are just starting out on their spinning journey. It also is good to use for felting.
- * Art Batts by Space Cadet - these are in 100gm packs
- * Digital Row Counters.
- * Puppy Snips
- * WPI and Knitting Needle Gauges
- * Drop Spindles and Turkish Spindles
- * Cones of Weaving Threads
- * New Bendigo Bloom in wonderful graduated colours.



Regards Sue and Jo

Scarves galore at the Grove

From "The Post," 19/9/15

Wool has been weaving its way around the world to land at the Grove library.

A total of 154 people from many countries, including the US and New Zealand, each sent in 150g of natural fibre, usually wool, to our Guild at the beginning of this year and in turn received fibre from someone else.

They had six months to knit, weave and crochet their new fibre into whatever they wanted and send it back to the Spinners and Dyers Guild of WA.

The results -- scarves, hats, jumpers, shawls - went on show last week in Peppermint Grove in the 2015 International Scarf Exchange.

The materials ranged from Australian silk to blue fox fur from Alaska and came in a huge range of colours and styles,

Nyelva Carnegie travelled from Wyalong in rural NSW with fellow weavers to see the exhibition and spend the weekend in Perth. She and nine other women started their own spinners' guild in NSW in 1976.

"We were promoting the use of natural fibres," Nyelva said. "We all lived on farms with our husbands."

Guild president Janet Allsworth said only three of the 154 bundles of fibre had not been returned during the six-month project.

"We have had a busy year," she said.

The WA Guild was founded in 1957 and, though it had mainly older members, Janet said she was delighted that many younger members, "even teenagers", were joining.

"All the best people are spinners," she joked.

Vice-president Candace Gibson said: "We are trying to grow the guild."

For more information about the guild, go to spinweavewa.org.

Alexander Park Craft House Guild Groups

KUMIHIMO GROUP

Kumihimo Braiders meet on the first Thursday of each month from 10am to 1pm. Beginners are welcome. Contact Rosemary Skinner 9341 3037.

TAPESTRY GROUP

Contact Stephanie Cantoni stephniecantoni@bigpond.com or Jan Hunter wsf.jmhunter@bigpond.com.

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 Area 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

Congratulations to our members who excelled at the Royal Show, it was a wonderful display and you all did the HWSD Guild proud---- thank you everyone who participated.

Our year is almost finished and we have seen quite a few new weavers join us (some only briefly) but many who love our craft and have thoroughly enjoyed coming along to our meetings and learning new and wonderful ways with weaving.

I love seeing the look of joy on the faces of new weavers when they see what can be produced without too much effort---- actually very little some times!

Don't forget our end-of-year lunch on Tues 24th Nov. Please bring a plate of finger food to share. I will buy a few dips, cheese etc with our Project of Year prize money, but \$25 doesn't go too far.

As this will be our last meeting day, can all books or equipment borrowed from me please be returned. Any guild equipment on hire can be paid for and extended over the summer if required.

Lastly but not least, I need suggestions for next year's format. Please think about what we need or want to do---- all ideas can be discussed on our last day.

Happy weaving

Sue Greig

Dates for your diary



Saturday 14th November	End of Year Lunch
Sunday 22nd November	General Weaving Day (p.13)
Thursday 26th November	Albany Spin-In (p.11)
Saturday 28th November	Stocktake and Cleanup
2016	
Saturday 9th January	Spinning at Matilda Bay (p.11)
Saturday 13th February	Guild AGM

When knitting a jumper, it doesn't always have to have a rib edge or welt. Experiment with some more unexpected stitches to create a border; a lacy edge to an aran jumper can look very pretty. Nicky Epstein's books have good ideas.

Guild Membership Fees for 2015

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) and 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: contact the Membership Officer, Evelyn, for details on how to join.

General weaving day - November 22nd.

There was a good turn out for the last general weaving day with its mini-workshop on double weave. I helped weavers with planning and problems but noticed that there was a lot of interaction between weavers with much learning from each other, which was wonderful.

The next one will be on Sunday November 22nd in the main hall alongside a weaving course. Since I will be involved with the new weavers much of the time, Judy Matisons has kindly offered to demonstrate inkle loom weaving and also how to warp up an inkle loom.

So bring your loom and work on your current project or have a go at setting up your inkle loom. Share your ideas with other weavers and bring finished projects for show and tell. Its always good to learn from each other.

Maggie Webb

(Continued from page 8)

Growing up in the UK, Mr. Pearson, 69, learnt to knit at primary school, but it wasn't a skill he called on until, in 1972, a fisherman friend asked him for help to repair a traditional fishing gansey - a family heirloom, he needed to pass on to his son.

At the time, Mr. Pearson, a former animator who worked on the Beatles 1968 Yellow Submarine feature film, was running a machine knitting company producing clothing for outdoor camping and climbing. But the encounter piqued his interest in traditional knitting. He and a pool of knitters were soon providing handmade ganseys to up- market stores such as Harrods, Macy's, Liberty and Scottish Merchant.

Today; Mr. Pearson says the traditional ganseys are highly sought-after and would cost more than £400 (\$800) to buy in Britain. But he prefers to share the knowledge.

By Wendy Caccetta – Perth Now 17/5/15

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Once the project got off the ground Helena was on a mission. Her aim was

- a) to set up a weaving and sewing studio,
- b) to bring back the use of natural dyes and ultimately to establish a dye garden similar to the one she and her mother have at Bedforddale.

The weaving and sewing was easier to set up than the natural dyeing. The women were unable to collect the dye material from the forest because of the danger of land mines so Helena first substituted the more ecologically friendly "Star" dyes from Germany and then gradually introduced the idea of a dye garden. They have now purchased land on which to grow dye plants, so even their dye garden is about to become a reality.

The crowning glory of the Cambodian Project was the invitation they received to exhibit some of their garments at the New York fashion shows and the fact



that the garments were modelled by their very own Cambodian girls, and as Helena pointed out, they are not starved size 6s and 8s but natural healthy young people.

Locally Helena and Trudi collaborated in supplying fashion designs made from the Cambodian fabrics for the recent "Come to Armadale" Festival and it is very encouraging to see

local young girls from the area modelling the garments. The rack of garments from the Armadale festival were available for us to see and touch. There were silks galore, some velvet devoré and some beautiful crochet tops in wonderful earthy colours - what a treat!

Helena, thank you for an inspiring talk and the many wonderful slides - and apologies from us at the Guild that because of our inability to cut out the light your lovely slides could not be shown to advantage



Giuliana Bond

Pages from the President's Notebook

Well done HWSD W.A. Our Scarf Exchange was a resounding success. Thank you, Charmaine, Candace, Rachel, Keilo, Jenni and Margaret PC. for your hard work and expertise. All the feed back from far and wide has been most complimentary. I hope you have checked out the pictorial presentation by Candace on Google. We even managed to pack away the articles in record time, thanks to the preplanning of Candace and help from Janer Read of Dianella Spinners.

Thank you all who entered the Royal Show, sadly entry numbers were down on last year. We continue to encourage you to prepare entries for next year!

Apologies that we did not have a General Meeting this last Saturday. Your Committee met at 8 30am to keep ourselves on track. Unfortunately our speaker was held up and arrived very late, numbers were down, only sixteen members attending. Also many had to leave after our speaker Helena had finished as time got away from us!

There is a weaving workshop on 21st and 23rd. of October with Ilka White. Ten participants have signed up. Thank you Sue for arranging this for us.

There is a APCH committee meeting this Thursday 15th so I will have the latest info for our next meeting. The lounge chairs purchased by APCH have received approval from members, so it is goodbye to the tired and ancient ones. Well done Candace for finding them. The fridge has also given up and has been replaced.

Please think seriously about next year as many places on our Committee will become vacant. We would very much appreciate some new Committee members!

We look forward to our end of year break up gathering, we have so many wonderful kitchen goddesses, who also contribute all year at our meetings, thank you one and all. Please remember to bring donations for our hamper.

Sadly just before the Royal Show, Jean Leary died. Many Guild members attended her funeral. Jean is sadly missed but her contribution to the Guild and the Royal Show will never be forgotten. I really appreciated hearing of her many achievements during her active years.

Rest in peace Jean, - such a talented and giving lady.

Janet

From Scotland

Great grandmother Grace Brett could perhaps be the oldest living street artist in the world. The 104-year-old grandmother is part of a group of "guerilla knitters" known as the Souter Stormers.

The group yarn-bombed the towns of Selkirk, Ettrickbridge, and Yarrow in Scotland, as part of the towns' festivals.



The "Stormers" covered fences, benches, and lamp poles all across the towns in intricate knitted art. They decorated a statue of Sir Walter Scott, as well as an iconic red phone box. There were also knitted animals, colorful houses and tiny yarn families.

Nearly a year went into planning the secretive project, with one textile shop owner reporting a number of the group saying:

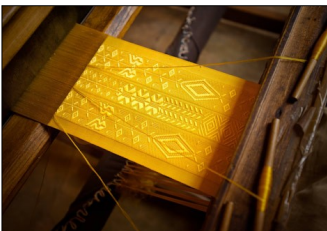
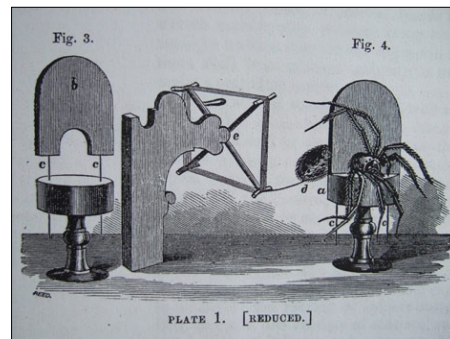
"the words 'I could tell you but I'd have to kill you' passed the lips of the knitters several times."

Brett has six grandchildren and 14 great-grandchildren whom she enjoys spending her time with when not out being a street artist.

From the Daily Record

Working in Madagascar, Simon Peers from the UK and Nicholas Godley from the USA created a hand-operated machine for harvesting silk from the spiders based on a design from over 100 years ago.

Golden orb spiders were collected from the wild, harnessed to the machine so the silk could be extracted and set free again at the end of each day.



It takes about one week for the spiders to regenerate their silk so the same spiders can be used again and again.

23,000 spiders are needed to create about 28g of silk, which is naturally golden in colour.

From De Zeen Magazine

The Albany Spin -In is on again this year.

When: Thursday 26th November 2015.

Where: Vancouver Arts Centre, Vancouver st, Albany.

Time: From 10.00 am to 3.00 pm.

Cost: \$10

Includes:

- a copy of our Spoke magazine
- raffle tickets
- morning and afternoon teas and
- lunch.

Contact:

Email ghbordessa@omninet.net.au , ph 98 44 4646
mobile. 0409088745

Spinning at Matilda Bay

When: 9th January 2016, 7:30 am—4:00 pm
Come and go when convenient!

Where: The Gazebo, Hackett Drive opposite the 'Hackett 3 Entrance' area

Bring: Spinning gear & fibre, food and drinks (Matilda Bay Tea Rooms are nearby)



October 10, 2015 Guest Speaker

Today's guest speaker was **Helena Pollard** of Silk Studio, Cambodia and Pollard Designs Studio, Bedfordale. Helena is obviously passionate about her subject and her talk sparkled with her enthusiasm.



She began by explaining that a lot of her work is done in collaboration with her mother Trudi Pollard who is a long time local artist and well known by most members of our Guild; and she said that the focus of today's talk would be their combined work in textiles.

Helena was living in Singapore when she was asked to travel to Cambodia to help a group come to grips with 20 donated sewing machines. However very soon after her arrival there she found herself involved with other aspects of a project aimed at empowering local women, and educating and training young adults and children from a local orphanage. Helena worked with other volunteer groups in the area. Her initial focus was to bring music, art and sport to these children and young people and to this end she not only ran art "workshops" with the youngsters, but also sourced appropriate teachers for music and sport.

After her initial experience in Cambodia, Helena combined with her mother Trudi to facilitate what has become known as the Cambodian Project. Their goal for all of their work is that it should be:-

- a. Ethical
- b. Sustainable
- c. Humanitarian



They soon discovered that they had a very experienced and skilled weaver in their midst and set her up in a very basic weaving studio to teach others to weave the prized Cambodian silk. We had the privilege of seeing some of these fabrics today - beautiful in their original colour and a dream after Trudi and Helena had dyed them with indigo and other natural dyes!

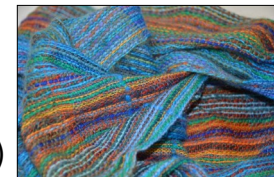
Sharing Table—Saturday 10th October 2015

Unfortunately we had rather a small turn-out of members on Saturday but nevertheless there was lots to see with a wonderful display of work from the Royal Show. Hopefully this will encourage even more of us to enter next year.

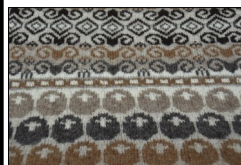
On the sharing table there was more inspiration from **Brenda Roy** who had



some little strips of linen used to experiment with walnut, mistletoe and indigo painted onto the cloth (at our Tuesday weaving group she showed us a little bag and a potential "creature" she had made up using these bits – nothing Brenda does goes to waste!) and a scarf – the last bit of left-over wool, linen, cotton and mohair warp on the loom and a fine linen and cotton weft.



Rachel Meissner has finished her "Rams and Ewes" knee rug using Shetland wool. In her words it was 2 years in the making but it had sat in the "naughty corner" for a year before she finally finished sewing the edge and knitted an i-cord border.



Rachel also showed us two skeins in complementary colours using red BFL and black and red merino, alpaca and glitz.



Margaret PC

Researchers at MIT Media Lab's Mediated Matter group have created a dome from silk fibres woven by a robotic arm, which was then finished by live silkworms.

The project is intended to explore how digital and biological fabrication techniques can be combined to produce architectural structures.

The team programmed the robotic arm to imitate the way a silkworm deposits silk to build its cocoon. The arm then deposited a kilometre-long



Sharing Table—Saturday 26th September 2015

Not many people at Spinning today since several were at either the Royal Show or Jean Leary's funeral.

Lisa Hinton, a new Member— and very new to spinning, showed us her scarf/shawl made for her first spun merino from Yarn Area. After spinning, she plied and then crocheted her yarn, finishing off with commercial yarn and other embellishments. Well done Lisa, we look forward to seeing your future creations!



Alaine Haddon-Casey had some dye samples using natural dyes from England, Wales and WA using various fleeces and the results of 6 weeks' study of natural dyes both in the UK, France and the USA .

Evelyn

REAL men do knit!

Just ask Fremantle man Michael Pearson, an internationally recognised knitting expert.

"Male knitters are growing in numbers," said Mr. Pearson, author of Michael Pearson's Traditional Knitting. "I see them in the pubs, buses and on the tube trains:"

But the modern man isn't discovering anything new. Mr. Pearson says in the Middle Ages men would strive to become master knitters in the same way they would master tailors, until knitting machines did them out of a job.

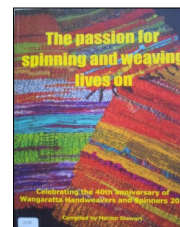
"Knitting was always done by men," Mr. Pearson said. "In fact there was a guild. The Guild of Knitters in the 16th century was very powerful, just like the goldsmiths and the silversmiths."



(Continued on page 13)

FROM THE LIBRARY

The Passion For Spinning and Weaving Lives On -- Marion Stewart



This book celebrates the 40th anniversary of the Wangaratta Handweavers and Spinners. The president of this group very kindly donated the book when she was recently in Perth for the Scarf Exchange.



Woven Scarves— Jane Patrick and Stephanie Flynn Sokolov

Here is a collection of 26 scarves and variations which range in complexity from refreshingly simple to challenging. They are worked on a rigid heddle loom and use widely available knitting yarns.

Library Stocktake

Could you please return all library items by Saturday, 14th November 2015 for the library stocktake. I would also welcome any volunteers for the stocktake.

The payment for your labour is being able to borrow over our summer break. Think of all the craft you could do, in between preparations for Christmas!

Anne McAdam

(Continued from page 7)

silk fibre across flat polygonal metal frames to create 26 panels. These panels were arranged to form a dome, which was suspended from the ceiling.

6500 live silkworms were then placed on the structure. As the caterpillars crawled over the dome, they deposited silk fibres and completed the structure.

The Silk Pavilion was designed and constructed at the MIT Media Lab as part of a research project to explore ways of overcoming the existing limitations of additive manufacturing at architectural scales.



(Continued on page 15)