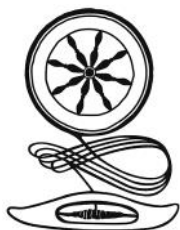


# The YarnSpinner



Newsletter of the Handweavers', Spinners'  
and Dyers' Guild of Western Australia  
Volume 49 No. 3



## Coming up....

**Saturday 13 April 2019:** General Meeting of the Handweavers', Spinners' and Dyers' Guild of WA.

**10am** Library & Yarn Area open

**12pm** HWSDGWA General Meeting

Coffee and tea available. BYO lunch.

**Contribution deadline the May 2019 edition of the  
YarnSpinner: Saturday 13 April 2019**

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 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: 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 2019**

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  
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Email: Information & Publicity Officer  
[candacegibson@yahoo.com](mailto:candacegibson@yahoo.com)  
Web: <http://spinweavewa.org/>



## Dates for your diary

Thursday 4 April	Porongorups Ruby Spin In (see below)
Friday 5—Sunday 7 April	Stirling Range Fibre Weekend (see below)
Tuesday 9 April	Patternmaking for Beginners: Custom Block Workshop, APCH (pg. 8)
Saturday 13 April	HWSDGWA General Meeting, APCH, from 10am
Saturday 27 April	Spinning Day, APCH, from 10am Spinning Study Group (APCH Studio) from 10:30am
Saturday 11 May	HWSDGWA General Meeting, APCH, from 10am
Wednesday 22—Sunday 26 May	Craft and Quilt and Fair, Perth Convention & Exhibition Centre <a href="http://www.craftfair.com.au/wp/Perth/">www.craftfair.com.au/wp/Perth/</a>
Thursday 23 May	Swan Valley Spin In (pg. 7)
Saturday 25 May	Spinning Day, APCH, from 10am Spinning Study Group (APCH Studio) from 10:30am
Sunday 2 June	Toodyay Fibre Festival (pg. 14)
Saturday 8 June	HWSDGWA General Meeting, APCH, from 10am
Saturday 22 June	Spinning Day, APCH, from 10am Spinning Study Group (APCH Studio) from 10:30am
Saturday 28 September— Saturday 5 October	Perth Royal Show

## Porongorups Ruby Spin In

It is 40 years since the Porongurup Craft Group was formed and its founding member Etta Glen still attends. To celebrate this milestone we are having a Ruby Spin In on **April 4 2019**. Come along for the day from **10am until 3pm** at the **Porongurup Hall**, for a day of eating, talking and maybe a bit of spinning.

Along with the usual sharing table we will have a special Ruby themed sharing table with a prize for the article voted most popular. **RSVP to [fionajglen@gmail.com](mailto:fionajglen@gmail.com) or 9853 1192**. You can also use these contacts if you need help with accommodation or any other information.

While you are in the area, why not stay for the Stirling Range Fibre Weekend. That is always a lot of fun with natural dyeing, textile recycling and lots of other craft work (for information phone 9853 1192).

## Be Guild Secretary????

Guild members may be aware that at the Annual General Meeting held in March, there were no nominees for the position of Secretary.

The Guild is required by state legislation to have a Secretary (or Secretaries—the job can be shared) so please consider volunteering!



Below are some wise words from former Guild Secretaries Jenni and Connie...

***Best way to meet members.***

***Best way to learn how the Guild functions.***

***Best way to come up to date with Business Meeting procedure.***

***New member? All the better! See above.***

***Friendly help always available if needed—with a smile!!***

***Been there, done that.***

If you have any questions about the role of Secretary, some of our previous Secretaries would be happy to talk—feel free to get in touch!

- Connie (9287 2208 or [conniemw@iinet.net.au](mailto:conniemw@iinet.net.au))
- Jenni (0488 941 751 or [jennitalbot@outlook.com](mailto:jennitalbot@outlook.com))
- Nicolea Savage (0409 105 705 [nicoleap@bigpond.com](mailto:nicoleap@bigpond.com))

## Spinning Study Group 2019

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—find out more at: [www.nsweave.org.au/](http://www.nsweave.org.au/)

The group meets every 4th Saturday of the month in the Studio at APCH (from 10:30am), every month until Dec. Contact Candace Cranston: 0424 984 883 or [candacegibson@yahoo.com](mailto:candacegibson@yahoo.com)

## Sharing Table—Saturday 23 February

A varied and colourful selection of knitting, spinning and weaving on show on spinning day.



**Helen Lovitt Raison** knitted a brioche cowl using the 'Bonfire' pattern from Nancy Marchant's book *Leafy Brioche*, using 4 ply yarn from Wangaratta Woolen Mill and Innaspin.

**Kjerstin B** had been busy weaving wraps and wraps.



**Anne-Marie** had also been weaving, and created a range of colourful cotton dish cloths in a tabby

weave, and a tencel and hand spun woolen shawl using a clasped weft, in shades of pink and purple.



**Rae Flanagan** spun a soft S-twist skein of wool, and knitted a woolen shawl in Manos de Uruguay 'Fino'.



And last but not least, a beautiful jumper with no name on it! This mystery knitter used the 'Humulus'

pattern by Isabell Kraemer and 4 ply Bendigo merino/silk/bamboo.



### Oops!

One of the links in Helen Lovitt Raison's article **Brioche Knitting 101**, in the March Yarnspinner, was published incorrectly. It should have said:

Ravelry search for brioche, no delimiters:

[https://www.ravelry.com/patterns/search#pa=brियोche-tuck&sort=recently-popular&view=captioned\\_thumbs](https://www.ravelry.com/patterns/search#pa=brियोche-tuck&sort=recently-popular&view=captioned_thumbs)



## Sharing Table—Saturday 9 March

It might not feel like the cooler months are approaching but the sharing table was a good indicator that autumn is here in spite of the heat.



A collection of tea towels woven by **Gail Campbell**.



**Lil Vaughan** spun up a stunning hank of merino/bamboo—chain plied—fibre acquired from our ‘de-stash’ day last year.



A very interesting hank of Rapunzel merino/silk/cashmere/ Stellina, S spin, Z ply and them chain plied by **Helen LR**.



**Jessica Berriman** made and dyed an 8ply merino shawl and the snuggliest hand-spun alpaca colour-work cardigan (see front cover for photo).

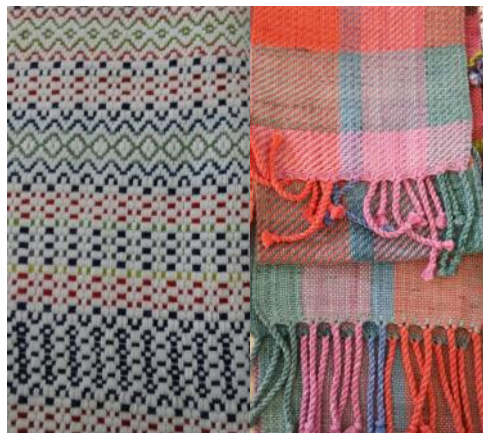


**Margaret Jordan** has been very busy, having produced three shawls:

1. ‘Mulberry Crush’ using 18 micron merino and dyed with food colouring, pattern ‘Shine’ by Woolberry
2. Another merino shawl, ‘Antarctic’ pattern also by Woolberry
3. A Himalayan folk shawl (merino/tencel), pattern from ‘Folk Shawls’ from the Guild library.



*Continued on the next page....*



**Kjerstin B** brought in two colourful cotton woven scarves, one plain weave and the other twill, and a woven twill blanket (which would keep anyone warm in an Arctic winter) with a wool/alpaca warp and a wool/angora weft.

A little hand-spun merino shawlette, pattern 'Scales', fibre from Hawthorn Cottage by **MargPC**.



A versatile array of beautiful things from **Nada Murphy**: an eco-dyed silk and calico scarf; a piece of muslin dyed using iron chips, alum in a marri dye pot; a coiled basket using rope and embroidery yarn; and a smaller coiled basket with a raffia base and emu feathers.

*Marg PC*



## Swan Valley Spin In

The Swan Valley Spinners are celebrating their pearl anniversary (30th!) with a spin in...

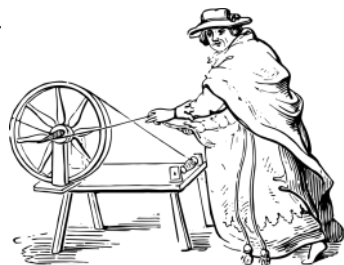
**WHEN:** Thursday 23 May, 10am to 3pm

**WHERE:** Baskerville Hall, Memorial Drive  
Baskerville (Swan Valley)

**COST:** \$10 includes morning tea, lunch and afternoon tea

**RSVP:** Jane Fraser at 0439 979 748 or [ninasprings@westnet.com.au](mailto:ninasprings@westnet.com.au)

Raffles, staff holders, sharing table and more. Hope to see you there!



# **Patternmaking for Beginners: Custom Block Workshop**

## **by Luke Pearson**

This free, all day workshop aims to provide a basis of knowledge and skill in how to make clothes for your own body. We will cover: measuring bodies, drafting a basic skirt block, how to finish a pattern, and simple manipulation techniques to change the design of the skirt.

Handouts will be provided covering topics to be discussed, as well as further projects and suggested readings. If successful, future workshops may be arranged to cover topics such as troubleshooting and other garment drafting/construction principles.

Below is a list of details, and equipment to bring on the day.

Please RSVP and direct queries to [ludotpea@gmail.com](mailto:ludotpea@gmail.com)

**Date:** Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> April

**Time:** 10am – 3pm approximately (lunch at 12pm)

**Where:** APCH

**Price:** FREE – RVSP via the email above!

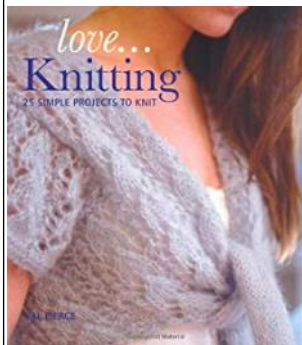
### **Equipment List:**

- 2x pencils (mechanical or HB)
- Eraser
- Sharpener
- French Curve in metric (essential!)
- Measuring tape (flexible, approx. 150cm long)
- Highlighter
- Scissors for paper
- Magic Tape
- Calculator or a phone with calculator app

PLEASE NOTE: Most of this workshop will be done while standing and leaning over a table – if you have any issues or worries about being able to deal with this posture for extended periods, please let me know ahead of time so I can attempt to accommodate your needs!



## From the library



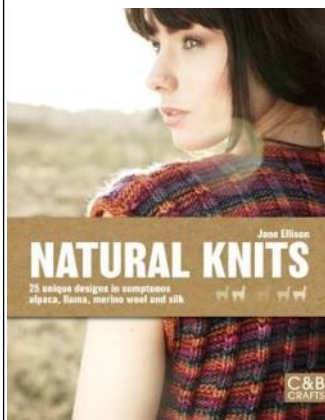
### **Love...Knitting** **Val Pierce**

Toasty slippers, a cuddly snood and a hearts and roses doorstep are just some of the projects in this book. With a range covering all skill levels, original one-off designs and an extensive techniques section this is a book for every knitter.

### **Knit Your Heart Out** **Bente Presterund Rovik**



Show how much you care by giving your loved ones their very own knitted heart from this selection of over 30 designs. There are a variety of projects ranging from cushions to potholders to decorations, toys and even jewellery.



### **Natural Knits** **Jane Ellison**

Jane Ellison has been involved with the Mirasol project since its inception. It was started with the aim of raising money from the sale of alpaca, wool and cotton to finance a boarding school for the children of the alpaca shepherds. For this book she has designed 25 projects all knitted in Mirasol yarns. Simple shapes with creative stitch patterns come together to produce knits which let the natural yarns shine through.

*Anne McAdam*

## Who do you follow?

**Do you have a favourite website, blog, Facebook page, Pinterest account or Instagram star that you follow, that you want to share with the Guild?**

Anything related to fibre, yarn, textiles, spinning, dyeing, weaving, designers, sheep breeders, artists, museums, galleries...whatever inspires you.

Please let me know. Send a link to Yarnspinner Editor Cecilia Jordan at [ceciliajordan@rocketmail.com](mailto:ceciliajordan@rocketmail.com).

## From the archives:

First published in the Yarnspinner in October 1971

### The Golden Section

The Golden Section was discovered by the Greeks about the middle of the 5th century B. C., and has been much used by artists and craftsmen ever since for determining aesthetically pleasing and harmonious proportions. Since the mathematics of the Golden Section are rather technical, however, we may substitute the Fibonacci series, discovered by a 12th-century mathematician, which closely approximates it. The numbers 1--2--3--5--8--13--21--34--55--89--144... form this series, in which each term is equal to the sum of the two preceding terms. As cold and technical as this series looks in numerical form, it has immensely important applications to the determination of proportions in weaving.

In the course of most weavers' work, they plan to have stripes, either in the warp or the weft. If you use stripes of equal size, equally spaced, the design is likely to be monotonous and fail to hold your interest. If, however, you have at intervals a larger or smaller space between the stripes or a different shape or texture, you have created a pattern. When two or more shapes are put together proportions are established, either good or bad. It is to establish these relationships that the weaver can turn to the golden section. Stripes of equal width may be monotonous, whereas stripes of all different widths may be inharmonious and confusing. One way to handle this is to have one stripe a constant size, i. e. 5 threads, alternating with stripes which vary in width -- i. e. 3 and 8 threads. It is more pleasing to use an odd number of stripes than an even number. For example, three stripes are usually more pleasing than two or four. Three stripes grouped with two spaces between are more pleasing than two stripes with two spaces or a grouping of two or four.

Another way in which the golden section can be used by weavers is in determining the over-all proportion of an article. This is basically the same problem as proportioning the stripes and may be similarly treated. If you are using a rug in a certain hall or a piece of tapestry to fit a certain wall space, then the width of the short side is your guide. The long side may be determined by use of the 5:8 ratio. For instance, suppose you decide that the width of your wall hanging is to be 15 inches. You will not find this number in the Fibonacci series, so you will have to work out the proportion for yourself. To do this the following form may be used:

The short side is to the long side as 5 is to 8.

$$\frac{15}{X} \text{ (short side)} = \frac{5}{8} \text{ (long side)}$$

To solve for X multiply as follows:

$$\frac{15 \times 8}{5} = X$$

In other words 5 times X = 8 times 15.

$$5X = 120$$

$$X = \frac{120}{5} \quad (120 \div 5)$$

X = 24, which is the length of the long side.

Examples for determining proportions using the Fibonacci series.

Bath mats: 21" x 34"

Single blankets: 55" x 89"

Runners: 8" x 55"

Guest towels: 15" x 24"\*

Baby blankets: 34" x 55"

Towels: 21" x 34"

Scarves: 13" x 55"

Table cloths: 63" x 100"\*

\* Determined by using the ratio 5:8.

(References: Handweaver and Craftsman, Winter 1960

Encyclopedia Britannica, The Oxford Companion to Art)

## Fashion and Textile Museums

Fashion and Textile Museums (link below) is a website created by Chloe Chapin, a fashion historian and assistant professor at the New York Fashion Institute of Technology.

It brings together information and images from textile museums all over the world. Museums can be browsed by location and by the types of collections they hold.

There is also a 'top ten museums' list, and info about upcoming exhibitions.

And for those of us not lucky enough to be able to visit these museums in person, Fashion and Textile Museums also has a digital collection page.

Links are provided to the Victoria and Albert Museum, Metropolitan Museum of Art, Kyoto Costume Institute, MFIT Museum and the Europeana Fashion Project, so you can browse from the collections online from the comfort of home. Lots to inspire us!

Source:

[www.fashionandtextilemuseums.com/](http://www.fashionandtextilemuseums.com/); [www.chloechapin.com/](http://www.chloechapin.com/)



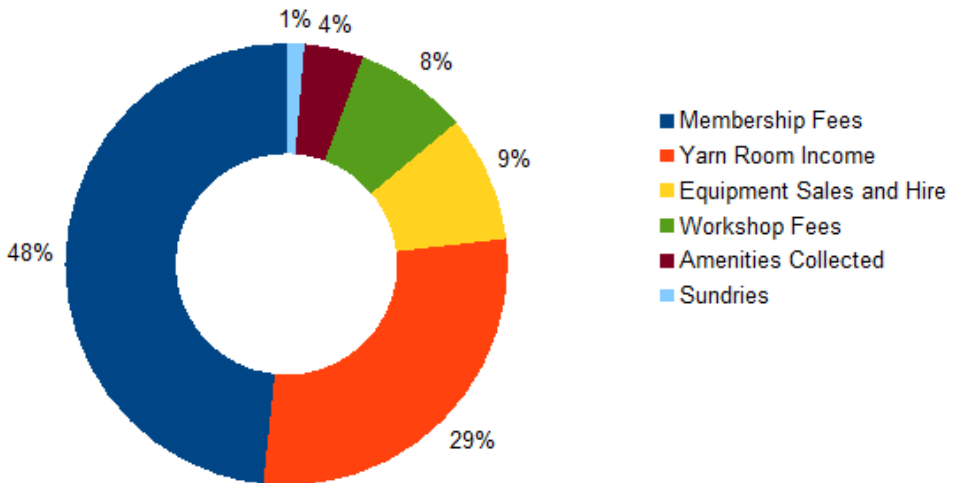
Woman weaving cotton (painting) 1790, Guangzhou, China

Source: V&A Museum  
[collections.vam.ac.uk/](http://collections.vam.ac.uk/)

## Treasurer's message

The Guild's income and expenditure for 2018 have been externally audited and accepted as a correct stewardship of the affairs of the Guild.

Annual Income 2018



The Guild's annual income was \$18,808.55 (see above) and this income came primarily from membership fees, which accounted for almost 50% of the total income, and the consolidation of the Yarn Room's bank account back into the main Guild account.

The Yarn Room provides a valuable service in providing materials for our craft at a very small mark-up, and that mark-up goes back to the Guild. The efforts of Jo Rhodes and Sue Greig in stocking, staffing and maintaining this wonderful resource are very much appreciated by the Committee.

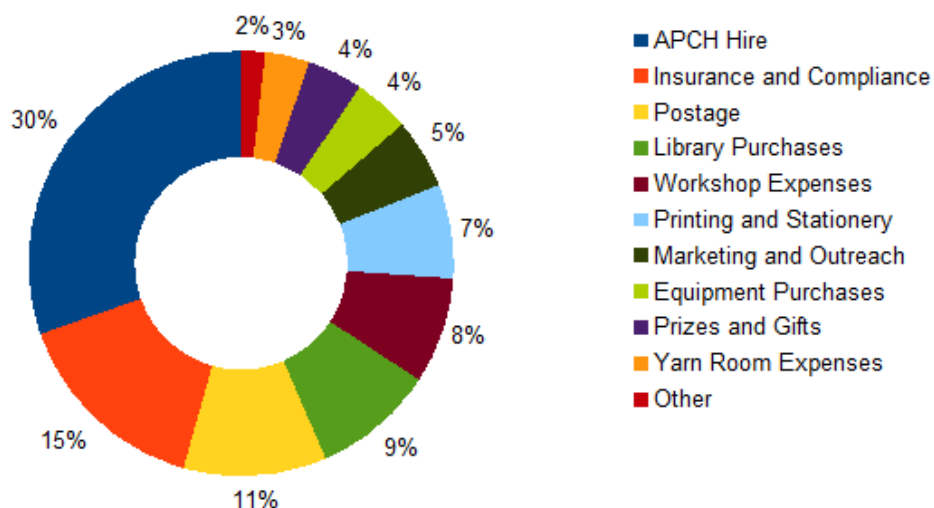
The Guild's expenditure was \$11,689.94 (see page 13) which was spent on a range of services, but the largest expenses are the hire of the Alexander Park Craft House, fees paid for insurance and compliance with our legal obligations, and postage of the Yarnspinner. Unfortunately the postage fees and insurance are both expected to rise this year.

Overall, the guild has ended the year with a comfortable balance which can be put towards this year's Spin In, and other projects as needed, and ensures that we are in a position to cope with unexpected challenges as they arise.

*Avril Liljekvist*

*(Expenditure graph on next page...)*

## Annual Expenditure 2018



## From the Yarn Area

We have new stock trickling in all the time, so pop over to our tables to refresh your memories and restock your depleted supplies (secret word for “STASH”)... new cotton from BWM (Bendigo Woollen Mills) has arrived and new scrumptious hand dyed tops of assorted smooshy blends from local indie dyers are on their way too. The digital row counters are back too (at a great price).

There are assorted knitting/haberdashery accessories available on the swinging stands, along with beautiful hand turned spindles by Eastern Stater Frank Williams, and hand turned lucets by local craftsman Collin PC.

Checkout the basket of hand dyed silk tops by Treetops, and a comprehensive selection of Landscape Dyes to delve into DIY dyeing.

If you are interested in different fibres, there is a basket with a large selection of “nude” rovings for you to tryout.

We don't put all of these baskets out on the tables for display but please do not hesitate to ask us about any of these products - if they are in the cupboards.... you can pop in behind us to have a look.

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



# Toodyay Fibre Festival 2019

Hello creative yarn and fabric folk!!

**The Toodyay Fibre Festival will be happening on Sunday 2 June, 9am-4pm, at the Toodyay Memorial Hall (Stirling Terrace, Toodyay)**

As part of the festival, the Fibre Fashion Parade is on again. The organising committee are looking for budding or established designers who would be willing to have their work choreographed down the runway!

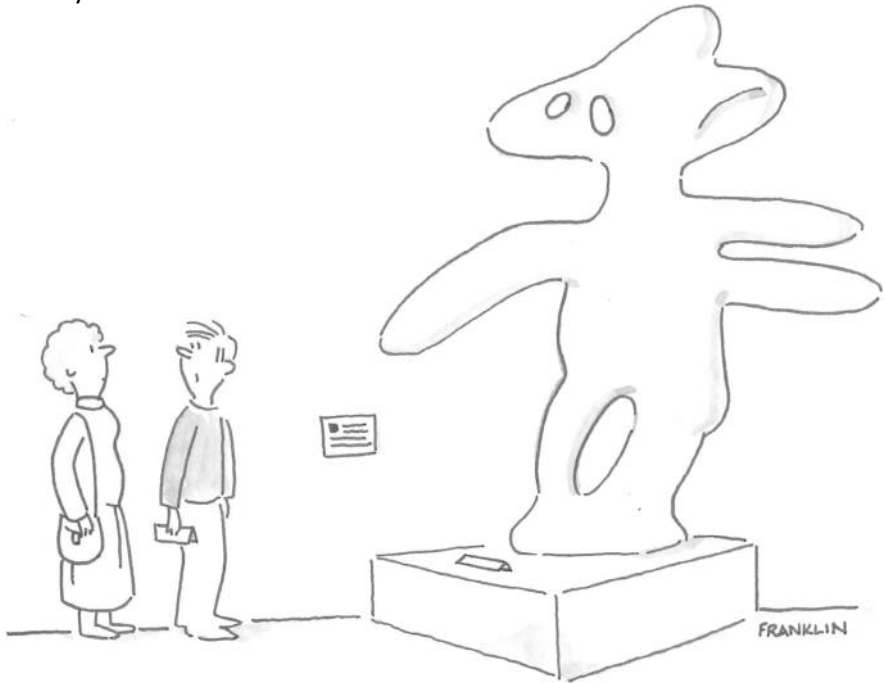
Do you crochet? Knit? Felt? Sew? Patchwork? Embroider? Upcycle? Recycle, ladies clothes?? It would be so delicious to have you on board!

Minimum three garments per entry with theme of "MAGIC".

Please contact Naomi Gonsall on 0459 207 972 for further details.

Be super creative! The sky is the limit!!!

Pieces do sell! So it's a great opportunity to be a part of something fun and a great way to meet like-minded folk.



*"I don't know art, but I know I wouldn't want to knit a sweater for it"*

Source: *It Itches*, Franklin Habit

# Office Bearers and Convenors

## COMMITTEE

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<b>7</b>	Jenni Talbot	0488941751	jennitalbot@outlook.com

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SPEAKERS & POP-UP WORKSHOPS	Kirrin Lill	0400229947	kirisamba@gmail.com
WORKSHOPS	<b>VACANT</b>		
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SHARING TABLE	Margaret Pinto-Correia	9403 0394	kynox@bigpond.net.au
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ARCHIVES	<b>VACANT</b>		
AUDITOR	David Williams		
PATRON	<b>VACANT</b>		

## 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](mailto: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)
- **Warping board:** Handmade, probably 50 years old, sturdy and reasonable condition \$30 Contact Tracy Barker 0418 946 972 or [tracy@barkerandhale.com.au](mailto:tracy@barkerandhale.com.au)
- **Mohair:** full fleeces, white or grey. \$20 per kg (weights vary). Contact Barbara 0427 377 054—located at Bakers Hill but can deliver to Balcatta, Midland or APCH
- **Floor loom:** 170cm 4 shaft 6 pedal floor loom. In excellent condition, well-crafted in jarrah. Previously owned by Peggy Whitewood. \$450. Contact Evana Beaton [eniva@iinet.net.au](mailto:eniva@iinet.net.au) or 0418 954 102

**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 May YarnSpinner: 13 April 2019**

*Front cover: From the sharing table—hand-spun alpaca colour-work cardigan by Jessica Berriman*