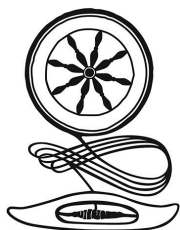


The YarnSpinner



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

Volume 50 No. 3

April 2020



**Due to the current circumstances surrounding
COVID-19, the Management Committee of APCH
has decided to close APCH completely on 23 March
2020.**

For more information see page 3

**Contribution deadline for the May 2020 edition of the
YarnSpinner: Saturday 11 April 2020**

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

Alexander Park Craft House Guild Groups

Due to the closure of APCH these groups will not be meeting as of 31 March 2020. For more information, contact:

SPINNING GROUP:

Information Officer (details page 15).

IN-HOUSE WEAVERS:

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

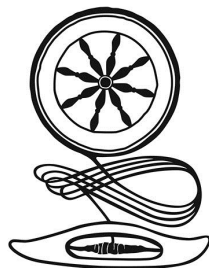
If a person applies for membership after 1 October, their fee will include membership for the current and following year.

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/>



Due to the current circumstances surrounding COVID-19, the Management Committee of APCH has decided to close APCH completely on 23 March 2020.

The details are as follows:

1. ALL facilities at APCH be closed from **23 March 2020** until further notice. Groups may continue to use the facility up to this time if they have a booking.
2. Any items/materials/equipment stored by an APCH user at APCH, which a user wants to continue to make use of elsewhere during APCH closure, must be removed from APCH prior to 31 March 2020. No individual access will be permitted after this date.
3. All fees due for hire up to the end of March will be payable - there will be NO refunds.
4. No fees will be payable from 1 April 2020 until the facility is re-opened. If monies have already been paid for the period after 31 March 2020, they will be held as credit for a Group's future use. Refunds as such will not be given.

AGM be deferred until further notice with current Committee members and Officers remaining in place.

Following closure, APCH will be cleaned thoroughly, checked and made totally secure. We may decide to turn off the water. You will be advised as soon as re-opening of the facility is contemplated with the necessary associated processes to be followed. Please note that, for security reasons, we do not propose to put a closed sign up at APCH - but it will be closed. Please do not enter for whatever reason.

It is disappointing that we are having to take this action since we appreciate that it provides a valuable meeting place where you can pursue your craft. Be assured we will re-open as soon as feasible. In the meantime, hopefully you can continue to maintain active links with your group members, get creative at home and stay safe.

If you have any queries, please feel free to contact me 0417 937 580 or Jenni 0488 941 751.

Regards,

APCH may be closed, but the Yarnspinner is open for business!

We may not be able to meet at APCH in the near future, but never fear, the Yarnspinner will continue to be sent out to Guild members each month, rain, hail, COVID-19 or shine!

I want to keep making the Yarnspinner, so that Guild members can feel connected in these strange times of worry and isolation. But I need your help.

Members, I am calling on your help to fill the pages of the Yarnspinner. Please send me...

- Photos of your latest finished project so we can create a virtual sharing table
- Fibre-related tales from your travels near and far (with photos if possible please)
- Links to websites Guild members may be interested in
- Descriptions/photos of the strategies you are using to continue crafting even when stuck at home
- Anything else vaguely fibre-related you think may interest Guild members

Contact me, the Yarnspinner editor, at ceciliajordan@rocketmail.com or 0406506941. I look forward to hearing from you!

Cecilia Jordan



Woolly adventures in England

Sheep grazing at Stonehenge



In August 2019 I was lucky enough to travel to England. My family and I spent 10 weeks travelling around the south west corner of England—Wiltshire, Dorset, Somerset, Devon, and Cornwall.

By AMAZING coincidence (well, maybe not so amazing, since I planned the itinerary) I happened to be staying in Marlborough, 30km from Newbury, where the annual Southern Wool Show was being held.

So on an overcast day I set my GPS for the Newbury Racecourse (the wool show venue) and set off. Getting to Newbury was easy, but getting to the racecourse was hard. There were lots of roadworks going on, which meant changes to the roads—the GPS couldn't help me! I found an entrance, but it was the wrong one. I was handed a map by the security guard. Flustered and trying to drive and read the map at the same time, I drove into the next entrance I found...and in a surreal and Mr Bean-like moment realised I was driving ON THE RACE TRACK. Yes, on the actual bit WHERE THE HORSES RUN (luckily it wasn't a race day). And I discovered that it's really hard to find a sensible place to turn around when you're driving on a race track.

Laughing somewhat hysterically I eventually exited the racetrack and found the Southern Wool Show.

The Kennet Valley Guild (the local Guild in Newbury) had on display an amazingly detailed map of the town knitted by Guild members (pictured on pg 4).



I spent several hours browsing and feeling the wool—I was hoping to buy some British wool, but soon realised that as an Australian I have been spoiled by our amazingly soft Merino. In comparison, the British breeds were rather scratchy!

I came home with cotton, linen, and the memories of my once in a lifetime experience—I now know first hand what it's like to be a race horse!

Cecilia Jordan

Sharing table—Saturday 14 March



Janis O'Loughlin brought a lovely 'freeform' vest knitted sideways from her handspun in shades of blue and purple.

Karita Greatwich had brought a shawl in natural shades of cotton linen, light and lacy from her random skip dent approach to weaving tabby.



Gail Hamilton as always has been busy knitting: a lovely green/turquoise shawl of wool from Dingo Dye works called Goldfish Memory by Casapinka; Wonderfully cheerful and quirky yellow and black 'fraternal' socks done in a qualifying pattern for sock madness; and a cowl 'Brunstone' by Ysolda Teague in Ashford Tekapo 8ply.



There were two skeins of handspun on display this time:

Rachel Meissner brought a chain plied soft skein of angora/merino/suri/stainless steel and cashmere.

Giuliana Bond had dyed her Dorset/Corriedale Cross in French Marigolds (*see front cover for photo*). The bright, soft yellow was her second bath and she carded the fleece after dyeing.





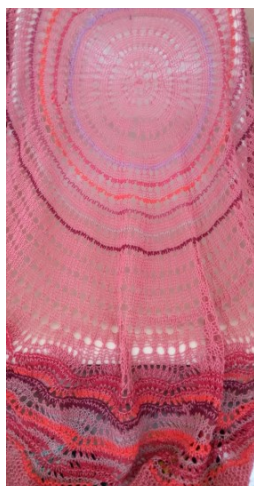
More knitting from **Cecilia Jordan** showed us a knitted shawl (her take on Elizabeth Zimmermann's pi shawl) and for her scarf exchange with this year's theme of Botannical, an intriguing cowl (I might have said neck piece) spun knitted and crocheted from dark green merino.



Sue Greig had woven a black and burgundy striped scarf in Merino and tencel across sock wool in plain weave on her rigid heddle loom (*sorry Sue, I didn't get a photo—Ed.*). When she was not doing that, she knitted a variegated green shawl in super wash merino and a pair of colourful wool/polyamide socks.



Helen L R brought a loooong woollen shawl knitted from a variation of a Martina Behm pattern, a different version of the 'Brunstone' cowl and a fair isle hat in Norwegian wool also from an Ysolda Teague pattern.



Much inspiration there for our next few weeks of more home time! Happy knitting, spinning, dyeing and weaving, everyone.

Brenda Roy



Coping with stress during the 2019-nCoV outbreak



It is normal to feel sad, stressed, confused, scared or angry during a crisis.

Talking to people you trust can help. Contact your friends and family.

If you must stay at home, maintain a healthy lifestyle - including proper diet, sleep, exercise and social contacts with loved ones at home and by email and phone with other family and friends.



Don't use smoking, alcohol or other drugs to deal with your emotions.

If you feel overwhelmed, talk to a health worker or counsellor. Have a plan, where to go to and how to seek help for physical and mental health needs if required.

Get the facts. Gather information that will help you accurately determine your risk so that you can take reasonable precautions. Find a credible source you can trust such as WHO website or, a local or state public health agency.



Limit worry and agitation by lessening the time you and your family spend watching or listening to media coverage that you perceive as upsetting.

Draw on skills you have used in the past that have helped you to manage previous life's adversities and use those skills to help you manage your emotions during the challenging time of this outbreak.



WA Coronavirus Health Information Line on 1800 020 080

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>



Wise Owls...

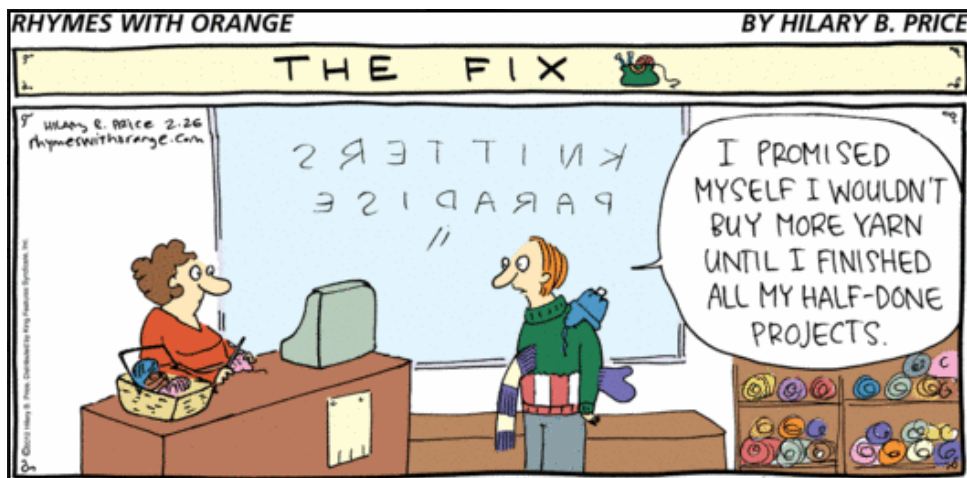


Knit on with confidence and hope through all crises.

Elizabeth Zimmermann

I am a firm believer in the people. If given the truth, they can be depended upon to meet any national crisis. The great point is to bring them the real facts.

Abraham Lincoln



Annual financial statement Jan-Dec 2019

Balance brought forward: **\$15,117.75**

Income:

Amenities Collected	\$523.10
Equipment Sales and Hire	\$530.00
Interest	\$1.23
Membership Fees	\$5,952.50
Sundries	\$1,745.65
Workshop Fees	\$150.00
Yarnspinner Advertising	\$0.00

Yarn Room Income **\$4,018.75**

\$12,921.23

Expenditure:

APCH Hire	\$2,903.00
Donations	\$842.50
Eftpos Fees	\$49.67
Equipment Purchases	\$495.00
Housekeeping	\$356.00
Insurance and Compliance	\$2,486.00
Library Purchases	\$3,278.08
Marketing and Outreach	\$2,080.14
Postage	\$1,382.70
Printing and Stationery	\$1,505.51
Prizes and Gifts	\$995.05
Workshop Expenses	\$100.00
Yarn Room Expenses	\$4,172.79

\$20,646.44

Bank Balance: **\$7,392.54**

Less Outstanding Liabilities:

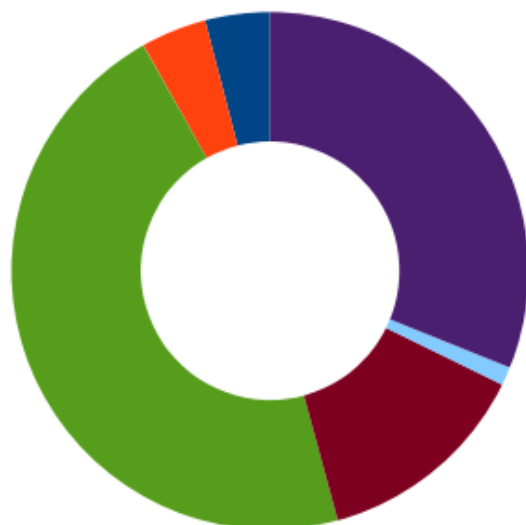
Money Held as Security for Equipment Hire **\$0.00**

Operating Balance **\$7,392.54**

OVERALL CASH POSITION:

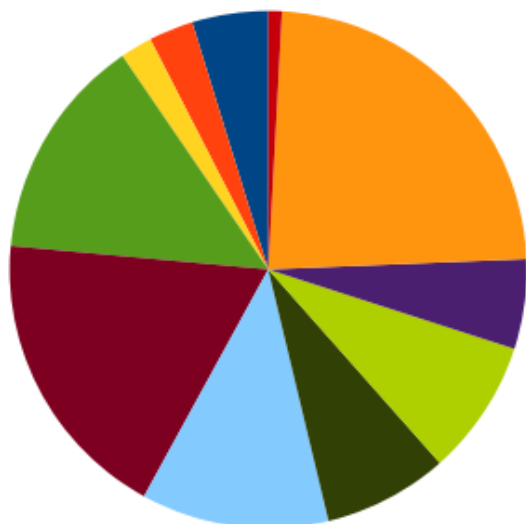
Term Deposit	\$16,726.01
Cash at Bank	\$7,392.54
Total:	\$24,118.55

Income 2019



- Amenities Collected
- Equipment Sales and Hire
- Interest
- Membership Fees
- Sundries
- Workshop Fees
- Yarnspinner Advertising
- Yarnspinner Advertising
- Yarn Room Income

Expenditure 2019

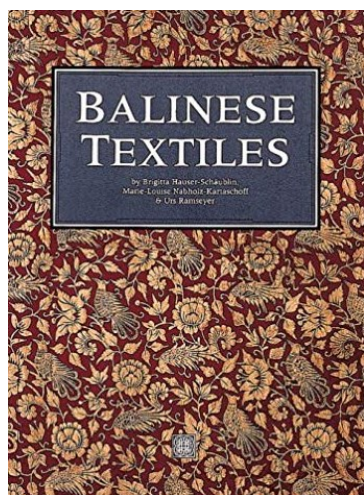
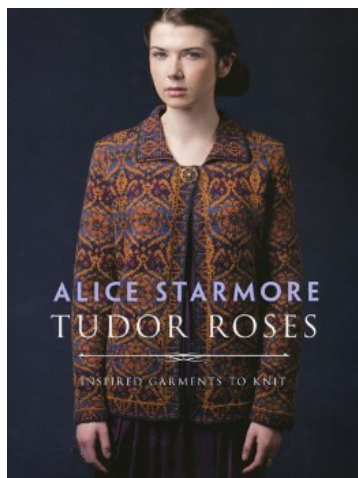


- Donations
- Equipment Purchases
- Housekeeping
- Insurance and Compliance
- Library Purchases
- Marketing and Outreach
- Postage
- Printing and Stationery
- Prizes and Gifts
- Yarn Room Expenses
- Other

From the library

Tudor Roses Alice Starmore

Through these garments Alice and her daughter Jade tell the stories of fourteen women connected with the Tudor dynasty. They weave a narrative around the known facts of their subjects' lives using photography, art and the only medium through which the Tudor women could leave a lasting physical record in their world - their needlework.



Balinese Textiles Brigitta Hauser-Schaublin

In Bali textiles are more than just cloths from which garments are made. Imbued by the Balinese with magical powers and deep social significance they play a vital role in all religious observances. This beautifully illustrated book examines the history, production and uses of textiles in Balinese society.

Making Kimono & Japanese Clothes Jenni Dobson

A practical and creative sourcebook for anyone inspired by the elegant design of Japanese clothes, this book will provide everything you need to start stitching. This is a comprehensive guide to patterns, practical diagrams and step-by-step assembly.



making kimono and japanese clothes



Anne McAdam

HWSDGWA General Meetings in 2020

APCH will be closed from 31 March until further notice (details page 3). This means there will be no Guild General Meetings until APCH resumes normal operations. Guild members will be kept updated on the status of APCH and future Guild meetings via the Yarnspinner and the website (<https://spinweavewa.org/>).

At the Guild Annual General Meeting held on Saturday 14 March (before the APCH shutdown was announced) it was resolved to reduce the number of Guild General Meetings from 10 to 6 each year. This means that in 2020 General Meetings would have been held on the second Saturday of the month in February, March (AGM), May, July, September and November.

On the second Saturday of the month in April, June, August and October APCH would have been open from 10am for members to craft and chat, with the library and yarn area open as usual. No General Meeting would be held.

The spinning days at APCH on the fourth Saturday of the month would continue unchanged.

For more information, contact the Information Officer (details page 15).



Trading table news update

The In House Weavers (details page 2) have kindly volunteered, as a group, to take over the running of the trading table. The trading table will operate at APCH (when it reopens) on the second Saturday of the month, and gives Guild members an opportunity to buy and sell second hand fibre related equipment, books, yarn etc. Contact the In House Weavers if you have any queries.

Dyeing with marigolds

The beautiful sunshine yellow of the wool dyed with marigolds by Giuliana Bond (pictured on the front cover) inspired many of the Guild members who saw it on the sharing table in March.

To create some sunshine of your own, here is Giuliana's method:

- Mordant the wool with alum
- Soak the marigold flower heads in methylated spirits
- Strain out the flowers, pour the methylated spirits into the crock pot, and add water (1 part water to 1 part methylated spirits).
- Simmer wool in the crock pot.



And here's an alternative method from the Maine Organic Farmers and Gardeners Association:

- To achieve a rich golden yellow, the plant material should equal 2-4 times the weight of the fibre. Use only the flower heads, fresh or dried.
- To dry flower heads, place them in the sun, turn them occasionally, and store them in a paper bag when they're brittle.
- To dye with fresh or dried marigold flowers place them in a pot and cover with warm water. Let them soak overnight but not more than two days. Mash the flowers to break their fibres. Bring the water to a boil and simmer for an hour. Strain off the flowers and your dye bath is ready.
- The fibre can be pre-mordanted by simmering it for an hour in a solution of 50g of alum for every 450g of fibre. You can also put the mordent in with the dye bath, although the colours may be less colorfast.
- If you are dyeing yarn, it can go directly into the dye bath. If you're using loose fiber, it should be wet and warm first to avoid felting. The dye pot, which should not be something you use for cooking, should stay just below the boiling point (about 93 degrees Celsius) for 1 hour. Longer times may intensify the colour but may also add brown tones. The fibre can cool in the pot before it is lightly washed and rinsed until no more colour comes out.

Source: <https://www.mofga.org/Publications/The-Maine-Organic-Farmer-Gardener/Fall-2004/Dyeing-Fiber>

Office Bearers and Convenors

COMMITTEE

PRESIDENT	Avril Liljekvist	0449001103	avril.liljekvist@gmail.com
VICE PRESIDENT 1	Candace Cranston	0424984883	candacegibson@yahoo.com
VICE PRESIDENT 2	Helen Lovitt-Raison	0408272496	furrywithruffles@gmail.com
SECRETARY—Committee	Gail Hamilton	0438382739	gburchell1@bigpond.com
SECRETARY—General	Jenni Talbot	0488941751	jennitalbot@outlook.com
TREASURER	Charmaine Pedrick	0401342278	pedrickc62@gmail.com
COMMITTEE 1	Kirrin Lill	0400229947	kirisamba@gmail.com
2	Janis O’Loughlin	0411212986	janis.47@bigpond.com
3	Rachel Meissner	0439595928	rmeissner07@gmail.com
4	Sue Webb	0419937019	suewebb23@gmail.com
5	Shona MacDonald	0419685506	shona.macdonald@gmail.com
6	Brenda Roy	0437904223	brenda@cadplan.com.au

CONVENORS

MEMBERSHIPS	Memberships will go to the Librarian to be incorporated with the Library database.		
YARNSPINNER	TO BE CONFIRMED		
DISTRIBUTION			
YARNSPINNER	Cecilia Jordan	0406506941	ceciliajordan@rocketmail.com
EDITOR			
LIBRARIAN	Anne McAdam, with Gwen McLeod	0415223922 0439916947	anne.mcadam111@gmail.com gwenmcleod@live.com
YARN AREA	Sue Greig Sue Todd	9448 0840 0411831814	sue_greig@hotmail.com suetodd@aapt.net.au
EQUIPMENT HIRE	Sue Greig	9448 0840 0411831814	sue_greig@hotmail.com
APCH	Rachel Meissner	0439595928	rmeissner07@gmail.com
REPRESENTATIVE			
RAS	Jenni Talbot with	0488941751	jennitalbot@outlook.com
REPRESENTATIVE	Helen Lovitt		
INFORMATION & PUBLICITY	Candace Cranston	0424984883	candacegibson@yahoo.com
COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT & EVENTS	Helen Lovitt-Raison, with Candace Cranston	0408272496	furrywithruffles@gmail.com
SPEAKERS	Kirrin Lill	0400229947	kirisamba@gmail.com
WORKSHOPS	Kirrin Lill	0400229947	kirisamba@gmail.com
HOUSEKEEPER	TO BE CONFIRMED		
SHARING TABLE	Brenda Roy	0437904223	brenda@cadplan.com.au
WEBSITE EDITOR	Candace Cranston	0424984883	candacegibson@yahoo.com
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 tracy@barkerandhale.com.au or 0418 946 972
- **Mohair:** full fleeces, white or grey. \$20 per kg. Contact Barbara 0427 377 054, Bakers Hill, can deliver to Balcatta, Midland or APCH
- **From the collection of Barbara Thomas** who taught weaving at the W.A. Women's Society of Fine Arts and Crafts, and sadly passed away in 2019.
 - * Weaving wools/threads, 1 old spinning wheel, 1x 4shaft loom, 2 loom stands, electric spinning wheel, and a few other odd bits
 - * Files of weaving mags/newsletters, weaving books and filesContact Suzanne Vickery (Barbara's daughter) 0498 538 581 (Safety Bay).
- **Rigid heddle:** for an Ashford Knitters Loom, 30cm wide, 7.5 dpi (threads per inch). \$20. Contact Anne Marie annemarieheights@gmail.com or 0423 114 256
- **Linen and silk yarns:** \$12.00 / 100gms linen, \$15.00/ 100gms ecru / peace silk. Contact Ann Richardson aerichar@gmail.com 0402 832 198
- **Ashford 8 shaft Folding table loom:** 40cm wide \$400.00 Contact Ann Richardson aerichar@gmail.com 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 May YarnSpinner: 11 April 2020

Front cover: From the sharing table—the joyful colour of marigolds. Wool dyed with French marigolds by Giuliana Bond.