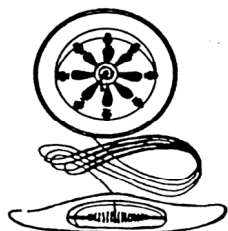


The YarnSpinner



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

Volume 46 No. 03

April 2016



Coming up....

Saturday 9th April 2016

General meeting of the Handweavers', Spinners' and Dyers'
Guild of Western Australia

10am Library and Yarn Area open

11am Speaker to be confirmed

12pm HWSDGWA General Meeting

Coffee and tea provided, BYO lunch.

**Contribution deadline the May edition of the YarnSpinner:
Saturday 9th April**

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 including hand & drum carders, spinning wheels, electric wheels and dye equipment is available for use by members. Contact Information Officer (details page 15).

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

This year I hope to spread the work load around our group, with each month someone different being the 'boss', giving a small demonstration or talk of their choice of weave structure—a favourite weave, or something you have wanted to try, so a good excuse to warp up a loom and 'have-a-go'. We will start at 10.00am, giving everyone a chance to settle in and get a cuppa.

- APRIL: Margaret PC will demonstrate her 'Lucky Dip' dying. Please note that this is a demonstration only, not a hands-on workshop. If there is enough interest we will try for a workshop on another day.
- MAY: Helen Dunn will show her weaving skills with the Theo Morman technique. If you saw her glorious wall hanging last year, you will have an idea of what will be demonstrated.

Please give some thought to the following months to be the 'boss', it would be wonderful to have a full calendar of keen helpers. I am looking forward to a busy schedule and hopefully lots of new faces, as well as all the 'old' ones. Happy weaving! Contact Sue Greig 9448 0840 or sue_greig@hotmail.com.

KUMIHIMO GROUP: 1st Thursday of each month 10am to 1pm

Beginners welcome. Contact Rosemary Skinner 9341 3037.

TAPESTRY GROUP

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

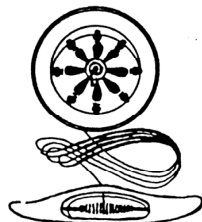
HANDWEAVERS', SPINNERS' AND DYERS' GUILD OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA INC

Alexander Park Craft House

Clyde Road, Menora

Mail: P.O. Box 446 INGLEWOOD WA 6932

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



Dates for your diary

Saturday 26 March	Joint weaving and spinning day APCH 10am-3:30pm. Tea and coffee provided, bring your own lunch
Thursday 7 April	APCH Annual General Meeting 6:30pm
Saturday 9 April	HWSDGWA General Meeting
Saturday 23 April	Spinning Group APCH 10am
Saturday 14 May	HWSDGWA General Meeting
Wednesday 18 - Sunday 22 May	Perth Quilt and Craft Fair, Perth Convention and Exhibition Centre, 9am- 4:30pm
Saturday 28 May	Spinning Group APCH 10am
Sunday 5 June	Toodyay Fibre Festival (see below)
Saturday 11 June	Augusta Spin In
17 June - 7 July	WAFTA twentyONE+ Exhibition (p. 13)
Friday 15 - Sunday 17 July	Bendigo Wool and Sheep Show
Thursday 4 August and Saturday 6 August	Gidgie Craft, Spinning and Social Group open days (p. 13)
Saturday 10 September	Project of the Year (p. 11)
Saturday 24 September - Sunday 1 October	Perth Royal Show

Toodyay Fibre Festival

When: Sunday 5 June 2016

Where: Toodyay Race Club, Stirling Tce,
Toodyay

More information: Contact Peter Wakefield
phone 9574 5050 or 0409 574 505, email
info@avalonhomestead.com.au or go to
www.facebook.com/ToodyayFibreFestival/



From the President...

It has been an energetic start to the year and I just wanted to say thank you to all those who have welcomed me in my new position of Guild President. Before anything else I just wanted to acknowledge the hard work of those who have either stepped down or changed position for 2016.

It has been a pleasure to have been Janet Allsworth's deputy for the last two years and to witness her commitment to the Guild and her hard work. I hope to keep to her high standards and it is a real bonus to have her remain on the committee as 2nd Vice President. Jenni Talbot has done a wonderful job for many years as the Guild Secretary and has always been wise, kind, discreet and supportive of both Janet and I and all the other volunteers on the committee. Jenni continues to be involved as she supports our two new Co-Secretaries, Gail Hamilton and Nicolea Savage, as they settle into their role.

Evelyn has long done a marvelous job as Yarnspinner editor and has rightly chivied us along when tardy with an article or report. A big job and an important one and I know that Cecilia Jordan will continue to do a great job in her stead. Evelyn retains the position of Memberships Convenor. Margaret PC has done a wonderful job of being our Speaker Coordinator for the past couple of years and we thank her for all the effort she has put into this and for all our interesting and eclectic speakers.

The Guild could not run without the commitment of both the members and the volunteers on the committee and I feel it is important to thank everyone involved. I would also like to emphasise that I think that all of our members have a lot to offer each other, be it enthusiasm, skill or experience. If you have something that you would like to see the Guild offer and are willing to help organise or run an event or course then please contact either myself or another committee member to see what we can do.

Another important role that Janet Allsworth is fulfilling is that of our APCH Representative and Janet is there to give voice to the Guild. Those of you at the last couple of meetings would be aware that moves were afoot to start charging the Guild for storage as well as our use of the equipment room and office. Please drop her an email or a quick short letter with your thoughts on this important issue by the next APCH meeting which will be the AGM - 7th of April at 6:30pm. For Janet to effectively communicate on our behalf she needs to hear from the members their thoughts on issues like this which will impact the Guild for many years to come.

Continued on the next page...

It has been wonderful to see how well frequented our meetings have been so far this year and we have also been welcoming new affiliate groups to the Guild like the Margaret River Handspinners, Knitters and Weavers. They are having their first Open Day/Spin in on the 9th of April and it would be great for some of us to make the trip and show them our support.



I hope we will continue to grow and develop the Guild and retain the character that has seen us work together to promote our crafts.

Wishing you all the best for the coming month.

Candace Gibson
President HWSWGWA Inc.

22nd International 'Back to Back' Wool Challenge: On or before Sunday 12th June 2016

It's International "Back to Back" Wool Challenge time again for the 22nd time....on or before Sunday 12th June 2016.

They can gather up spinners & knitters, contact a blade shearer, round up a few woolly sheep, find a great venue & think of some unique fund raising ideas for Cancer Research.

I hear the Groenewond team is in "training" to attempt the Guinness World Record again. Can they do it? Is there another fast team somewhere in the world to give them a challenge?

And The Wisconsin Sheep and Wool Festival of Wisconsin, USA are planning a Back to Back later in the year, their time to be included in the 2017 results.

Cheers

Wendy Dennis

Coordinator 22nd International
'Back to Back' Wool Challenge 2016

For more information or entry forms contact
Wendy Dennis: phone (03) 5233 6241, email
backtoback@tarndie.com,

web www.tarndie.com or www.facebook.com/woolbacktoback/



MARGARET RIVER HAND-SPINNERS, KNITTERS & WEAVERS OPEN DAY & SPIN-IN

Celebrating the Cottage Industries of old and official Guild group membership for the Margaret River Hand-spinners Knitters and Weavers Group.

WHEN: 9th April 2016 8:30AM – Mid afternoon

WHERE: Margaret River Organic Gardens on Bussel Hwy between MR High School grounds and Curtin Uni Campus

COST: \$10 covers morning and afternoon tea/coffee with fresh home baked cakes by Organic Gardens not for profit admin.

LUNCH MENU: 2 vegan curries (mild), brown/white rice, salad with home-made dressing, salsa (hot) and chapati, by renowned Margaret River Soup Kitchen cook Mr Dave Seagar (also a not for profit establishment)

All day tickets include instant inclusion in raffle of ultra-fine fleece donated by Comadyne (drawn at 3pm, winning ticket holder must be present).

This will be a day for young and old with demonstration of needle felting by 14 year old Maeko Moon, and background music by courtesy of local musicians. Guild members are welcome to sell / display natural fibre products they have made. Mostly outdoors with minimal shelter in the gardens, umbrella's or free standing covers, tents etc. are recommended. Set up from 7.00 am.

Please RSVP: contact Wendy Franklin or Joseph Cook by messenger on the group's Facebook page: www.facebook.com/groups/1657517507798439/?fref=nf. Or contact Wendy (0407 322 477 or wedeewu@hotmail.com) or Joe (0498 639 706 or josephcook07gmail.com).

For those seeking accommodation Felicity Haynes, a member of the MR Hand-Spinners, Knitters & Weavers, can accommodate for up to 25: <http://meetinghouse.tingrith.com.au/>

NOTICE: Increased Postage Costs

The cost of stamps has recently increased from \$0.70 to \$1.00, resulting in an increase in the postage costs for the Yarnspinner of around \$300 per year. The Committee has determined that the Yarnspinner could be posted using Print Post. This will enable the Guild to use discounted postage rates:

- ◆ Local sort \$0.76; Same state metro & country \$0.77; Other states \$1.00

This will result in an increase in postage costs of roughly \$70-\$80 per year, which can be absorbed by current membership fees, without a need to increase fees.

Candace Gibson



THROUGH THE SINGING OF MY HANDS

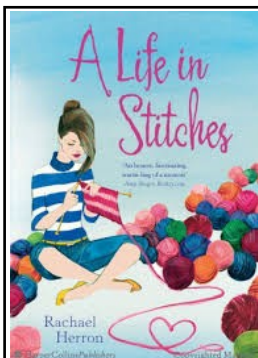
Textile works by ANNE WILLIAMS

The patient process of hand stitching is used to evoke images of the powerful forces behind what we see.

Where: Mundaring Arts Centre (Gallery 2), 7190 Great Eastern Highway, Mundaring WA 6073

When: Saturday 19 March - Sunday 17 April.
Open Tues to Fri 10am - 5pm, Sat and Sun 11am - 3pm,
closed Mondays & Public Holidays

More info: info@mundaringartscentre.com.au or 9295 3991



From the Library

Wool Gathering

This quarterly magazine from Elizabeth Zimmerman's publishing house, Schoolhouse Press is a new addition to our library. In this issue: book reviews, a knitting pattern with excellent photos and a discussion of some Swedish wool.



***A Life In Stitches* Rachael Herron**

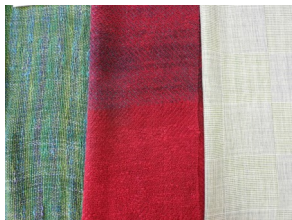
From creating her very first sweater; an electric blue disaster that led to an unlikely bonding between father and daughter, to the yellow afghan that caused a breakup (and, ultimately, a breakthrough), and discovering that her love of knitting pales next to actual, true love, the author's ability to spin wonderful yarns full of love, loss and laughter is addictive.

Anne McAdam

Sharing Table—Saturday 27th February 2016



Kjerstein Bjeland has been busy weaving, making seat pads from old t-shirts or fleece, and handspun, hand dyed silk scarves in plain, twill and logcabin weave.



Sandra Melville has been experimenting with dyeing and baking wet wool to make felt, with beautiful results.



Rae Flanagan displayed her progress on a green crocheted cotton scarf (ball of cotton still attached).



Sue Greig spun two skeins of Space Cadet batts combining merino, alpaca, glitz, silk, mohair, camel, Samoyed, plus 'mystery fibre' plied with tencel—possibly the record for greatest number of different fibres in a yarn ever?



Sue also displayed two scarves, and a knitted shawlette of alpaca and wool .

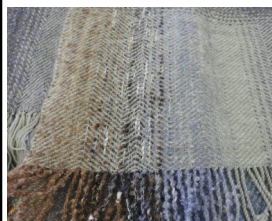


One of Sue Greig's weaving students has had to cage her loom, to keep it from attacking the baby (or is it the other way around...?).

Submitted by Sue Greig

Sharing Table—Saturday 12th March 2016

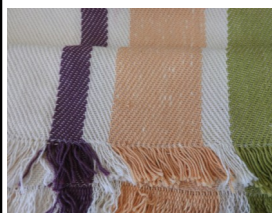
There was such a spectacular array of work on the sharing table we were hard-pressed to find another inch of space to display all the lovely work brought along!! Because of that, I shall be reasonably restrained in making lengthy comments. I did notice however that there was a lot of enquiries about how things were done, like “how did you join your squares?” and “where did you get that pattern?” Anne Williams also noted that the magical word “destash”



came up – often. Keep up the enthusiasm everyone – it all helps to keep our minds off this ghastly hot weather.

Sue Greig wove two twill knee rugs for cold nights at the outdoor theatre.

A set of tea towels in lace weave by **Gail Campbell**, and **Anne Miller** wove a twill length to be made into towels.



Giuliana Bond made a bag with a woven panel using strips of light weight furnishing fabric for the weft; a toiletries bag with a weft of strips of silk left over from a blouse she had made; a shoulder tote of woven strips machined together (not wanting to waste the warp left over from a pre-primary school project she wove it off with carpet yarn). Her favourite, a scarf with silk noils of pinks and blues with gold and darker blue flashes on a cotton warp.



Carolyn Clairs spun up a big bundle of white alpaca starting from raw fleece and progressing to washed yarn.



Gail Hamilton spun one hank of Corriedale dyed by Garnet Paradise fibre, and one of 60/40% merino/silk.



Kat Sherwin spun a skein of 40/60 BFL semi worsted singles from dyed top by Corgi Hill Farm.

Two fine hanks from **Keilo Wise**: a brown 50/50 silk/merino and blue BFL again dyed by Corgi Hill Farm.



Continued on the next page...

Sharing Table continued...

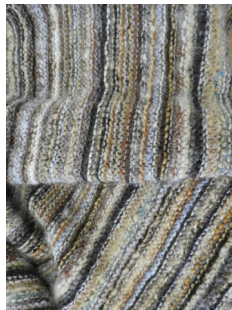


Helen crocheted a lovely continuous cowl from superfine merino. She is also in the process of knitting the finest pink shawl dyed by Charmaine.

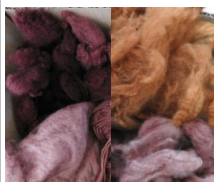


Lil Vaughan spun, dyed and knitted a shawl inspired by snow gums in merino and Corriedale .

This is where the de-stashing really got serious: **Ann Bancroft** knitted a cosy rug using one length of dyed handspun per row changing colour almost every row, coiling the fringe with a ringlet twister.



Anne Williams crocheted a blanket using what must have been a mountain of bits of 'finger-spun' wool tops in a multitude of brilliant colours. Squares were crocheted together in such a way as to avoid the "granny square" look. Very light and warm.



Margaret PC had a ball dyeing wool staples and silk cap in a slow cooker using aloe 'Tweedie', pomegranates and purple carrots as dyestuffs. Only a tiny pinch of alum for a mordant in each. Also blended and carded some batts for Kat S using multiple fibres.

Everyone wanted to know how **Joy Skinner** made her woven balls using knitted strips in bright colours. What a hit they were!

Margaret PC



NOTE: The pattern for Joy's knitted woven balls can be downloaded for free from the Ravelry website:

www.ravelry.com/patterns/library/gevlochten-bal---braided-ball

For those without access to the internet, a copy of the pattern will be available through the Guild library.

Project of the Year: THE GALAXY

Time to start knitting, weaving, knitting, crocheting, felting of dyeing your articles for the Project of the Year. The 2016 theme is THE GALAXY, and entries will be submitted, displayed, and judged at APCH on **Saturday 10 September**. Entries will be returned to participants after trophies are awarded. The competition categories (and sub-categories) are:

SPINNING: A skein or article made from handspun yarn which is...

1. 14+ wraps per inch (equivalent to 5 ply or under)
2. Less than 14 wraps per inch (equivalent to thicker than 5 ply)

WEAVING: Any article which is...

1. Loom weaving
2. Off loom weaving

KNITTING/CROCHET: An article knitted or crocheted, made using...

1. Handspun yarn
2. Commercially spun yarn made of natural fibres (plant or animal fibres only—no man made fibres)

FELTING: May be any article made from any fibre type.

DYEING: An article or skein of yarn (may be commercial or handspun yarns). Will be judged according to quality of dyeing.

GROUP ENTRY: Article(s) may incorporate spinning, weaving, knitting, crochet, felting, dyeing and use handspun and/or commercial yarns.

Plus new in 2016 a **BEGINNERS** category (more details to follow).

Articles may be entered into more than one category e.g. part of a group entry may also be an individual entry in the spinning and dyeing categories.

The Project of the Year is a wonderful opportunity to share the amazing skills of Guild members—everyone is encouraged to have a go!

From the Yarn Area

We have a large selection of fibres: Bamboo, Banana, Corn, Hemp, Hemp/Viscose, Mulberry Silk, Ramie, Soy, Tencel, Tibetan Yak Down, Cashmere, Dyed silk cocoons and rods.

Plus Hand dyed tops, Silk Hankies, "Space Cadet" batts, Digital row counters, WPI measures, Spindles (Turkish, Drop and Support), Sock wool, Noro, lace yarns and more. Ask to see the Sale Bag of yarns.

Regards Sue and Jo

From down south....

Recently I took my van down to Augusta where I managed to catch up with the ladies of Augusta Spinners. Thank you all for again making me feel so welcome and hi to those ladies I did not see.

I encourage all Guild members to put June 11th in their diary and get to Augusta for their Spin-In.

For those who have never attended the girls put on a great day. Augusta is a lovely town with plenty of attractions and there are plenty of places to stay.

I intend to be there just before I head north for three months of fishing and spinning.

Janet Allsworth

2016 International Scarf Exchange

The 23rd International Scarf Exchange will be hosted by the Bland Spinners and Weavers Group Inc. of Wyalong NSW. The Bland Spinners and Weavers are celebrating their 40th anniversary this year, so the theme of the scarf exchange is **Birthday Celebrations**. To participate...



- 150g of fibre, entry form and entry fee of \$20 must be sent to Bland Spinners and Weavers, PO Box 36, Wyalong NSW 2671 by **18 March**
- You will receive a different 150g and instructions by 22 April
- Spin, felt, weave, knit, dye and/or crochet an article according to the requests of the supplier of the fibre
- All articles must be returned to the Bland Spinners and Weavers by **23 September**

Completed articles will be exhibited at the West Wyalong 'In the West' festival in October and returned to the original fibre supplier of the fibre in November 2016.

For information or entry forms email mdbolte@exemail.com.au or phone 02 6972 1850 or 0427 820 115, or download form from:

<https://sites.google.com/site/handspinweavesa/invitations>

Weaving by the Sea

As part of the annual Sculptures by the Sea exhibition held at Cottesloe Beach, Perth artist (and Guild member) Olga Cironis has won the \$10,000 WA Sculptor Scholarship for her work-in-progress titled *Mountain of Words*, a 500m ribbon she is weaving using a woollen warp and human hair weft. Olga began weaving on site at Cottesloe during the exhibition, and predicts it will take 2 years to complete the 500m. Sculptures by the Sea closed on 20 March, but the Yarnspinner hopes to follow the progress of this work, as Olga weaves it at different locations around WA.

Contributed by Sue Greig

Gidgie Craft, Spinning and Social Group Welcomes You!

WHEN: Every Thursday and Saturday, 1pm to 4pm

WHERE: Gidgegannup Agricultural Society Office Building, Gidgegannup Showgrounds, Old Toodyay Road, Gidgegannup

Bring along any crafts you may be doing, or just come along to check us out and have a cuppa. We have members who are interested in knitting, crochet, spinning, weaving, gardening, scrapbooking, collecting (stamps, banknotes, coins), leatherwork, needlepoint, embroidery playing cards, games etc.—all ages welcome. Members can use the library, borrow a spinning wheel, and buy items from the sales tables.

To celebrate its second birthday, the Gidgie Craft, Spinning and Social Group is holding two open days....

WHEN: Thursday 4 August and Saturday 6 August 2016, 1pm to 4pm

WHERE: Gidgegannup Agricultural Society Office Building (see above)

COST: A gold coin donation on arrival

Our shop will be open with books, knitted garments and freshly milled wool and alpaca fleece for sale. A delicious afternoon tea will be available.

We look forward to seeing you there!

Twenty one today.....

In 2016 the Western Australian Fibre and Textile Association turns 21. To celebrate the twentyONE+ juried exhibition will be held, 17 June to 7 July at the Spectrum Project Space, Edith Cowan University, Mt Lawley. For more information contact Louise (louise@eftdownunder.com) or visit waftatwentyoneplus.com.au.

Weaving Workshops 2016

Weaving Workshops for 2016 are being held on **Sundays** at Alexander Park Craft House and the dates are as follows:

Course one: March 13th and 27th, April 10th (FULL)

Course two: May 1st, 8th and 22nd

Course three: July 3rd, 10th and 31st

Course four: August 28th, September 11th and 25th

This is a **beginners** course designed to ensure that by the end of the course you are able to weave independently. Classes have a full day programme (**9:30am to 3:30pm**) and the teacher will provide plan of what is going to be taught in advance of the class and any materials required (there may be some available some available on the day).

Day one you will go through the basics of designing your item and warp (thread your loom with your chosen pattern) your loom – *it is crucial you do not miss the first day.*

Day two you will begin weaving your item.

Day three should see you removing your item from your loom and be warping up and be ready to continue independently with your second item. The dates are spaced so that you have time to continue your work between sessions.

Classes will be filled in the order that you expressed interest and your loom type. The Guild does not have rigid heddle looms for hire to Guild members, only 4 or 8 shaft.

Fro more information or to register, go to the HWSWGWA website: <https://spinweavewa.org/198-2/coursesworkshops/weaving-courses/> or contact Candace Gibson on 0424984883 or candacegibson@yahoo.com

Office Bearers and Convenors for 2016

* indicates committee member

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ALEXANDER PARK CRAFT HOUSE REPRESENTATIVE AUDITOR	Janet Allsworth*	9407 9025	clem.allsworth@bigpond.com
	David Williams		

FOR SALE

- **Beautiful Alpaca Fleece**: This year's shearing, clean, white and colours available. For all enquiries contact Carolyn 0417 920 044 (evenings) or emerys5@westnet.com.au
- **George Wright spinning wheel No. 647**: very good condition. \$300 o.n.o. Contact Sally 0418 893 663
- **Baines upright spinning wheel**: \$100 o.n.o. Contact Sally 0418 893 663

FREE TO A GOOD HOME

- **FREE 4 ft. floor loom**: Reasonable condition. For details contact Anne Roberts phone 9335 6063, email jonanne@iinet.net.au

WANTED

- **Bobbin winder**: Contact Anne Miller 0412 700 508 or 9319 1984

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.

Guild Membership Fees for 2016

Full —\$40.00	Pensioner—\$30.00	Associate—\$30.00
Student—\$30.00	Family—\$65.00	Group—\$45.00

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 year badge. Half fees apply after 1st July, those joining after 1st October have the option to pay in full which then includes membership for 2017.

New members: Contact the Membership Officer for details on how to join.

***Front cover: Spinners hard at work at APCH under the Guild tapestry—
27 February 2016***