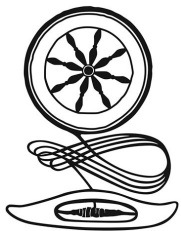


The YarnSpinner



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

Volume 51 No. 04

May 2021



COMING UP:

Saturday 8 May: Handweavers', Spinners' and Dyers' Guild of WA
General Meeting

09:30am Doors open

10:00am Library & Yarn Area open

12:00pm General Meeting

Coffee and tea available. BYO mug, morning tea/lunch (no food to share please).

**Contribution deadline for the June 2021 edition of the
YarnSpinner: Saturday 8 May 2021**

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

Alexander Park Craft House Guild Groups

SPINNING GROUP: 4th Saturday of each month from 10am

Beginners welcome. Library and Yarn Area open. Bring your spindle or spinning wheel, your latest project, and lunch. Coffee and tea provided. Guild equipment is available for hire by members including hand and drum carders, spinning wheels, and dye equipment . Contact Information Officer (details page 15).

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

Anyone is welcome to join us! Contact Brenda Roy 9381 4870 or brenda@cadplan.com.au.

TAPESTRY GROUP:

Stephnie Cantoni stephniecantoni@bigpond.com or Jan Hunter wsf.jmhunter@bigpond.com.

Guild Membership Fees for 2021

General \$80.00

Concession \$60.00

Associate/Junior \$60.00

Student \$60.00

Family \$97.50

Group \$120.00

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

Renewing Members: If renewing by mail, please include renewal form (or name, postal address and phone no.) and a stamped self-addressed envelope for return of your receipt and name badge. Renewing members no longer receive a name badge—members get a perpetual badge at joining. To replace a lost badge, contact Membership Officer (details page 15). A \$13 fee applies.

New members: For info on joining contact Membership Officer (details page 15).

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

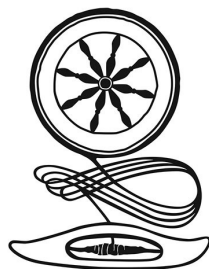
Alexander Park Craft House

Clyde Road, Menora

Mail: P.O. Box 446 INGLEWOOD WA 6932

Email: Information & Publicity Officer
candacegibson@yahoo.com

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



Coming up...

| | |
|-------------------------|--|
| Saturday 8 May | HWSDGWA General Meeting, APCH (doors open 9:30am) |
| Saturday 22 May | Spinning Day, APCH, doors open 9:30am |
| Saturday 12 June | HWSDGWA Spin In, APCH, doors open 9:30am (more information on page 4) |
| Saturday 26 June | Spinning Day, APCH, doors open 9:30am |
| Saturday 10 July | HWSDGWA General Meeting, APCH (doors open 9:30am) |
| Saturday 24 July | Spinning Day, APCH, doors open 9:30am |
| Saturday 14 August | Spin, weave or bring along your current project, APCH, doors open 9:30am |
| Saturday 28 August | Spinning Day, APCH, doors open 9:30am |
| Saturday 11 September | HWSDGWA General Meeting, APCH (doors open 9:30am) |
| Saturday 25 September | Spinning Day, APCH, doors open 9:30am |
| Saturday 9 October | Spin, weave or bring along your current project, APCH, doors open 9:30am |
| Saturday 23 October | Spinning Day, APCH, doors open 9:30am |

Guild General Meetings for 2021

Handweavers', Spinners' and Dyers' Guild WA General meetings will be held at APCH on the following Saturdays in 2021:

- 8 May
- 10 July
- 11 September
- 13 November

The second Saturday of the month in April, June, August and October will be 'general craft days' (bring along your latest project). APCH will be open for members to gather, craft, and use the library and Yarn Area but no formal General Meeting will be held.

Notes from the President

Hi Everyone,

I am pleased to welcome our new Committee who were voted in at the AGM on 13 March we have new Committee members and returning members and I believe we have a good team as we move into 2021. To our retiring Committee members Avril, Helen, Rachel we thank you for the work you put into the Guild.

It was wonderful to see so many of our members at the Annual Showcase, the quality of entries was excellent as always. Thank you so very much to all who made the effort to enter, a special thanks to our members who volunteer to help on the day with set up and tidying up. Running any event always takes a team and we are lucky to have you step up and help.

On 12 June we have our bi-annual Spin In. I know this is an event we all look forward to as we have an opportunity to support our local traders and catch up with many of our country members. This year due to Covid we will have to limit our attendees to 50 so RSVP is essential. See further details on the next page.

We now have dedicated email addresses for most of our Committee positions, this has been in the planning for quite a while and we hope this saves everyone trying to keep up with Committee changes as the email will go with the position, the new email addresses are on page 15. We will still respond if an email comes to our personal email but we encourage you to use the new addresses.

I am looking forward to working with our Committee and members to continue to grow and promote our skills to the wider community.

Please contact me if you have any thing you would like to discuss.

Stay safe and be happy.

Jenni Talbot

2021 HWSDBGWA SPIN IN

RSVP ESSENTIAL as numbers are limited

The Guild will be holding a Spin In this year!

WHEN: Saturday 12 June 2021, 10am
to 4pm

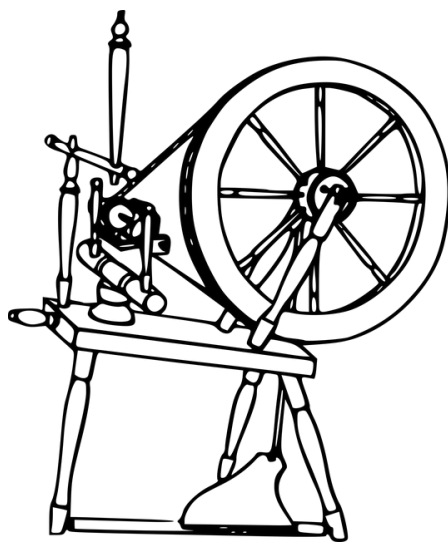
WHERE: Alexander Park Craft House,
Clyde Rd, Menora

ENTRY: \$10.00

RSVP: hwsdg.president@gmail.com
or 0488 941 751

We will have traders, raffles, games.
Morning tea, Lunch and Afternoon tea
provided.

RSVP is essential as we will have to
limit numbers in the hall. If you do not
RSVP we can not guarantee you will be
able to spend the day with us.



We have chosen **Perth Homeless Support Group** as our charity for this
year and we ask if you can please knit or crotchet a beanie or scarf or
gloves and bring your item along on the day we will collect and deliver to
them.

ABOUT PERTH HOMELESS SUPPORT GROUP

Over the years the Perth Homeless Support Group has created a new
'Community Model' for working with the displaced, homeless and those
in transitional housing, creating a safe community for those in need to
gather and share stories, and most importantly seek help.

Our mission is "See the need and make a difference, without prejudice".

Our primary goals are to relieve the stress on those experiencing
homelessness, or who are at risk of homelessness, by providing their
basic needs; and educate those experiencing homelessness of other
services that are available to help them.

If you'd like to know more go to: www.perthhomeless.org.au

Guild Annual Showcase

Photos by Bev Wallis



And the winners were...

Weaving: Gail Campbell

Spinning: Sue Greig

Knitting/Crochet: Keilo Wise

Dyeing: Brenda Roy

Novice/Junior: Pam Murray

Mixed Media: Brenda Roy

Group: Tapestry in Company

Popular Vote: In House Weavers

President's Award: In House Weavers

Congratulations to the winners, and a big thank you to everyone who contributed to the success of the day.





Already looking forward to seeing the wonderful creations members come up with next year!



"And then she bound off loosely on a wrong side row, keeping all stitches in pattern, and they lived happily ever after."

Source: *It Itches*, Franklin Habit

A Natural Dyes Interest Group?

Are there any members out there interested in forming a natural dyes interest group?

The suggestion is that we meet in the studio on 4th Saturday spinning days. The studio is available morning and afternoon on those days.

At some point we might want to use the dye facilities and dye together but to start with it would be a group sharing their work and their experiences rather than a hands on 'workshop' format.

If you think you might like to be involved in such a group, you could ring me or come to the next Spinning Day (Saturday 22 May) at 11am for an exploratory discussion.

Looking eagerly for any fellow natural dyers!

Brenda Roy
0437 904 223

Happy birthday to you!



The Guild extends warm birthday wishes to Mrs Reid, former Patron of the Guild, who turned 100 in April.

Congratulations on reaching this amazing milestone.

Wise Owls...



The most courageous act is still to think for yourself. Aloud.

Coco Chanel

The most effective way to do it is to do it.

Amelia Earhart

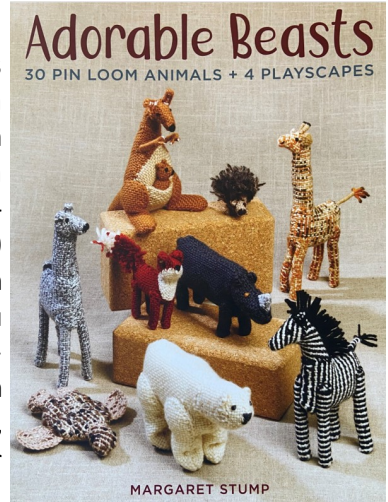
The most common way people give up their power is by thinking they don't have any.

Alice Walker

From the library

***Adorable Beasts* Margaret Stump**

Think outside the square! Although pin looms do make squares, there is much more you can do with the cloth that you weave on your pin loom, starting with the adorable creatures in this book. Margaret Stump has once again outdone herself with this creative collection of 30 ‘how did she do that?’ animals made from pin loom weaving. Would you ever guess that you could make a giraffe, hedgehog, elephant, hippo, sea turtle, and so many more animals from these little woven squares? And it’s so easy, too! Step-by-step, illustrated instructions for every piece in this book ensure your success.



Once you’ve made the animals, give them a place to play! Instructions for four playscapes are also included: an animal hospital with helicopter, emergency vehicle, and doctor; a baby and toddler play blanket with baby safe animals; a medieval fort with a lady, knight, and unicorn; and Noah’s ark, complete with ark carrier, play mat, Noah and his wife, and of course, two of each animal.

All you need to get started are a 2” x 2” loom, a 4” x 4” loom, and some yarn. Detailed instructions on all aspects of weaving and joining are included to help you get started, even if you have never woven on a pin loom before.

***Knitting Comfortably – The Ergonomics of Handknitting* Carson Demers**

By day, Carson is a physical therapist with a specialization in ergonomics. Every other moment, he’s knitting, spinning, designing, teaching, or otherwise up to some fiber fun with a watchful eye toward ergonomics. His passion and experience in fiber arts combine with his expertise in physical therapy and ergonomics to create a unique skill set that he eagerly shares with the fiber community to keep us all creating healthfully ever after.



Sue Todd

The business of craft

What does the world of big business and finance have to do with craft, textile artisans and hand making? I would have said nothing, but I recently discovered Business Insider on YouTube: https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCcyq283he07B7_KUX07mmtA

Yes, there are plenty of videos there about global industries, business trends and plenty of sensational news BUT there are also some intriguing stories about skilled crafts people making beautiful things.

A series called 'So Expensive' looks at the painstaking work involved in making items (thus making them expensive to buy). It looks at cashmere, Persian rugs, Icelandic eiderdown, and a huge range of other products. I found the story about lotus silk very interesting (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=S9F-u4T7leQ>). Produced using traditional techniques in Cambodia, Myanmar, and Vietnam, lotus silk is made from the dried sap of lotus plants and is one of the rarest fabrics in the world. Extracting and weaving the silk requires a lot of time and skill – a single scarf can take two months to produce.

Another series called 'Still Standing' which focuses on craftspeople who are keeping ancient techniques and practices alive. Dyers in Egypt, hat weavers in Panama, metalworkers in India – plenty of fascinating stories.



Preparing lotus silk for weaving (Source: Business Insider)



Traditional dyeing in Egypt (Source: Business Insider)

There's lots to learn about things you probably never knew existed!

Sharing Table Saturday 27 March 2021



Helen Lovitt-Raison has been busy again this month. She brought along her qualification socks for Sock Madness, Jean's Irish hat in Woolfolk Quarry, and a skein of Polwarth South Cross fibre in Gingerbread and Sugar Plum



Brenda Roy

From the Editor:

I have heard the phrase "Sock Madness" bandied about at the Guild, and seen some of the beautiful socks members create as part of it, but have never understood what it was all about. So I looked it up...

Sock Madness is an annual competition run by the Sock Madness Forever group on Ravelry: www.ravelry.com/groups/sock-madness-forever (you must be a member of the group to participate).

The competition runs from early March until about late May and consists of seven rounds. Everyone that finishes their pair of socks in the qualifying round moves on to the next round. For the remaining rounds only a certain number of competitors on each team is allowed through to the next round and each round that number gets smaller. In the final round the teams compete against one another. Teams are based on skill level so that those with similar experienced are grouped together .

The patterns are sent to participants by email at the beginning of each round. The competition rounds are two weeks initially, and the rounds get faster and faster as the number of competitors dwindles.

The Sock Madness Forever group have over 10,000 members – it is described as being "for knitters who love hand knitting socks of all kinds and the challenge of competitive knitting". If this is you, why not join?

Anonymous women



Kate Just knitting one of her 140 'Anonymous was a woman' panels (Photo: Kate Just/Simon Strong)

In 1928 Virginia Woolf's famous feminist work *A Room of One's Own* was published. It included the line "*I would venture to guess that Anon, who wrote so many poems without signing them, was often a woman.*"

Melbourne textile artist Kate Just used this quote as the inspiration for her latest work, highlighting the erasure of women from the art canon. Over two years she created knitted panels with 'Anonymous was a woman' on them – 140 panels in total, around 3,500 hours of knitting, and two million stitches.

This “*act of resistance against invisibility and anonymity*” is now part of The National, an exhibition of new Australian art in Sydney.

This is not the first time Kate has used knitting in her art. In 2003 she knitted a 5m tall sculpture of her father, and she is probably best known for her Feminist Fan series, made between 2015-2017. Kate made hand-knitted homages to self-portraits or artworks by feminist artists including Sarah Lucas, Pussy Riot, Guerrilla Girls, Cindy Sherman, Lynda Benglis, Juliana Huxtable, Mithu Sen, Tracey Moffatt, Yoko Ono, Hannah Wilke and more.



Feminist Fan #3 Pussy Riot protesting at a Moscow Cathedral (Photo: Kate Just)

For more information on Kate Just and her work go to:

www.katejust.com www.abc.net.au/news/
www.the-national.com.au/artists/kate-just/anonymous-was-a-woman/

Staying up to date

Unfortunately it is not always possible to include up-to-date information about changes to the meeting schedule in the Yarnspinner, but the Guild will always follow the Government's guidelines on gatherings.

If you need information about the Guild's activities, you are always welcome to contact Guild President Jenni Talbot or the Information Officer (details page 15).

The Guild is also on Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/spinweavewa/>

And online:

<https://spinweavewa.org/>



WA Coronavirus Health Information Line: 13 COVID (13 26843)

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>

Lifeline Australia: 13 11 14



Office Bearers and Convenors

COMMITTEE

| | | | |
|----------------------------|-------------------|------------|----------------------------|
| PRESIDENT | Jenni Talbot | 0488941751 | hwsdg.president@gmail.com |
| VICE PRESIDENT 1 | Brenda Roy | 0437904223 | brenda@cadplan.com.au |
| VICE PRESIDENT 2 | Candace Cranston | 0424984883 | candacegibson@yahoo.com |
| SECRETARY—Committee | Gail Hamilton | 0438382739 | hwsdg.secretary@gmail.com |
| SECRETARY—General | Shona MacDonald | 0419685506 | hwsdg.secretary@gmail.com |
| TREASURER | Charmaine Pedrick | 0401342278 | hwsdg.membership@gmail.com |
| COMMITTEE 1 | Shona MacDonald | 0419685506 | shona.macdonald@gmail.com |
| 2 | Janis O’Loughlin | 0411212986 | janis.47@bigpond.com |
| 3 | Sue Webb | 0419937019 | suewebb23@gmail.com |
| 4 | Kirrin Lill | 0400229947 | kirisamba@gmail.com |
| 5 | Murilla Measome | 0413577309 | murillameasome11@gmail.com |

CONVENORS

| | | | |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------------|--|
| MEMBERSHIPS | Charmaine Pedrick | 0401342278 | hwsdg.membership@gmail.com |
| YARNSPINNER | TO BE CONFIRMED | | hwsdg.yarnspinner@gmail.com |
| DISTRIBUTION | | | |
| YARNSPINNER | Cecilia Jordan | 0406506941 | ceciliajordan@rocketmail.com |
| EDITOR | | | |
| LIBRARIAN | Gwen McLeod, with Sue Todd | 0439916947 0400370556 | hwsdg.library@gmail.com |
| YARN AREA | Sue Greig Jo Rhodes | 9448 0840 0414782277 | sue_greig@hotmail.com jorhodes@iinet.net.au |
| EQUIPMENT HIRE | Sue Greig | 9448 0840 0411831814 | sue_greig@hotmail.com |
| APCH | Bronwyn Croghan | 0417720944 | bronwyncroghan1@hotmail.com |
| REPRESENTATIVE | | | |
| RAS | Jenni Talbot | 0488941751 | jennitalbot@outlook.com |
| REPRESENTATIVE | | | |
| INFORMATION & PUBLICITY | Candace Cranston | 0424984883 | hwsdg.info@gmail.com |
| COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT & EVENTS | Helen Lovitt-Raison | 0408272496 | hwsdg.info@gmail.com |
| SPEAKERS | Sue Webb | 0419937019 | suewebb23@gmail.com |
| WORKSHOPS | Brenda Roy | 0437904223 | brenda@cadplan.com.au |
| HOUSEKEEPER | Dianella Spinners | | |
| SHARING TABLE | Rae Flannagan | | |
| TRADING TABLE | Innaloo Spinners | | |
| 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. We have a selection of processed 100 gram bumps from \$15.00 - \$30.00, in a variety of natural colours. Postage can be arranged if required. Contact Jo Rhodes 0414 782 277 or jorhodes1955@gmail.com
- **Ashford Traditional spinning wheels:** Two wheels, plus some extras. \$175 each. Contact Walter Wallenborn 0419 937 499 (Mundaring)
- **Rigid heddle:** for an Ashford Knitters Loom, 30cm wide, 7.5 dpi (threads per inch). \$20. Contact Anne Marie 0423 114 256 or annemariekeights@gmail.com
- **Linen and cotton yarns:** Unbleached linen yarns and natural khadi cotton Yarn for sale. Please contact Ann 0402832198 if you're interested
- **Various items from the Toodyay Spinners**—Phone 0407177817, pick up from Toodyay:
 - * Ashford Knitters loom plus carry bag 50cm, Ashford Knitters Loom Stand 50cm. Never been used. \$400 the lot (Neg)
 - * Ashford Traditional Spinning Wheel, hand carders, 3 x bobbins, lazy Kate and niddy noddy. \$200 the lot (Neg)
 - * Spinning Wheel, lazy Kate, 2 bobbins and niddy noddy. \$200 the lot (Neg)
- **Spinning wheels:** Terry Cavill would like to reduce his large collection of spinning wheels, all in excellent condition. Contact Terry 9731 0947 (Donnybrook)

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 June YarnSpinner: 8 May 2021

Front cover: From the Guild Annual Showcase—Brenda Roy's award winning dyeing entry