



EDINBURGH GUILD OF WEAVERS, SPINNERS & DYERS

Newsletter December 2020

Season's Greetings. No Christmas lunch and festive exchange this year unfortunately but hopefully you will enjoy this December edition of our newsletter instead of our monthly meeting. Many thanks to all those who have sent in contributions. Next month's newsletter will be circulated about the date of our January meeting on the third Saturday of the month and please do think about including something for next month. Just email anything which you have of interest to pennyskett@gmail.com.

Outdoor Weavings

Jessie McCaffery's 'bird tree' which featured in last month's newsletter has already inspired other members. Trisha Gow ([Www.dyeingtoweave.co.uk](http://www.dyeingtoweave.co.uk)) has sent the picture below and has written to say -

"I decided I had to do something about my stash of samplers which have multiplied over the last 40 years (ouch it sounds such a long time). I have been interested in putting my work outside for some time and seeing Jessie's birds set me wondering what I could do. So this is a start. I have a hanging of larger weavings in my back garden. I am also going to hang a large weaving on my front fence. I am wondering what the elements will do to the weavings. So far even with all that rain they are amazingly dry!"



“This is “ebb and flow” outside through rain wind snow and thunder snow, all ok so far!”



After her ‘bird tree’ another of Jess’s creations is a nurse and covid virus which she has knitted for her great granddaughter.



Taos Diagonal Jacket

Sheena Guz has found a good pattern for using skeins of your handspun yarn - Sandi Rosner's Taos Diagonal Jacket. The instructions can be found [here](#) and also on Ravelry.

Here is Sheena modelling her finished jacket. It is knitted in garter stitch which Sheena found was very forgiving. It is knit on the diagonal and so you have to increase or decrease on every row. The diagonal pattern is really effective and the jacket looks very warm – just the thing for this time of year.



Sheena has also been busy knitting a delightful lamb for a friend from a magazine pattern which she had found.



Textile Pandemic Project

This is the picture which was produced by a member of Highland Guild for the proposed Textile Pandemic Project. Ann Johnson outlined her ideas at our zoom meeting with interested members of Haddington Spinners in November. After discussion and further consideration Ann has realised that she needed to have a clearer idea of exactly how individuals could participate in the project and how the final wall hanging would be put together before continuing with her idea. She has therefore decided to postpone any further work on the project until after New Year.



Brit Knit Challenge

Pat Laing has found a challenge which may be of interest to members. The challenge is to knit with twelve different named breeds of British grown and processed yarns from small producers.

Details of the challenge can be found [here](#) or by searching for Brit Knit Challenge/British Fibre Arts Magazine.

Online Workshop or Talk?

As we are unlikely to be able to meet again until well into next year would you be interested in an online talk or workshop?

Katie Weston of Hilltop Cloud is offering to run a talk, video demonstration or workshop for guild members. Some of the possibilities are:-

Half day talk and discussion - Fibre Dyeing ; Spinning with a Purpose (getting control and making the yarn you want to make); Spinning for Larger Projects.

Half day video demonstration - Core Spinning and Beyond; Getting More from your Drumcarder.
Full day workshop - Spinning Gradient Yarns; Wool Breed Explorer; Plant Fibres.

Please do let me know if any of these would be of interest. If there is sufficient interest we will organise an event for March 2021. Unfortunately Katie is already booked for 20th February.

Next Month

Next month's newsletter will be circulated at about the third Saturday of the month (16th January). Please send all contributions to me at pennyskett@gmail.com.

Hoping you have a good, if somewhat different, Christmas and all the very best wishes for the coming year.