



# EDINBURGH GUILD OF WEAVERS, SPINNERS & DYERS

## Newsletter June 2021

Welcome to the June edition of our monthly newsletter. Next month's newsletter will be circulated about the date of our July meeting (Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> July) so please do think about sending something for inclusion and many thanks to all those who have sent contributions for this edition. Just email anything to [pennyskett@gmail.com](mailto:pennyskett@gmail.com).

This month our AGM will be held on Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> June via zoom. You should have already received all the papers and if you cannot attend the zoom meeting please do return the postal vote form by email or post.

### Using Up 'Leftovers'

Pat Laing has been busy using up leftover wool to make a cat blanket and she suggests two Twitter hashtags for sharing unwanted materials and for recycling.



*"This picture shows a cat blanket I made using pieces of wool. I hate throwing out larger bits but over time they build up and are a nuisance.*

*Usually I will cut things like this up and put in my 'fillings' bag which will then be used for stuffing. But, in my experience, cats are not too fussy about the colours in their beds. They are about every other thing but, as they have not such good sense of colour, they don't care too much as long as it is comfortable. I crocheted the blanket using treble for speed. This could also be a good way to use up thrums, the bane of a weavers life.*

*Cat and dog charities are always looking for bedding if you have no pets to give them to and you can feel good about your green conscience as well as your charitable endeavour.*

*There is a Twitter hashtag for sharing unwanted materials which is #doesanyonewant. People post items they want to pass on and other people put up requests for anything they need.*

*There is also one for recycling which might be of interest. It is #reducereuserecycle."*

## **Alpaca Fibre**

Trisha Gow has sent this message from Almond Valley Heritage Centre

*“The Almond Valley Heritage Centre in Livingston, which is a member of the Rare Breeds Survival Trust, have just had their Alpacas professionally clipped.*

*There 8 bags of white, fawn, grey, brown and multi coloured fibre. Craig, from the Trust, is very keen that it is not sent to landfill and would like to speak to any spinners or felters who might be interested in putting the fibre to good use.*

*If the Guild as a group or individual members are interested in an ‘Alpaca’ project please contact Craig by email at [craigh@almondvalley.co.uk](mailto:craigh@almondvalley.co.uk)”*

## **Countermarch Loom For Sale**



Harris Maxwell Counter March Foot Loom 8 shaft

1 meter weaving width

Height 1.75 meters

Warping Mill Scandinavian - collapses together for storage

Accessories include reeds, weaving bench and shuttles

Fine weaving yarn, includes cashmere, silk and cotton

Open to offers contact Alison Crawford, Edinburgh

Viewing by appointment email:[weavermusic@gmail.com](mailto:weavermusic@gmail.com)

## **Royal Highland Show Handcrafts Competition**

This year the Royal Highland Show has organised an online event.

A five minute video showing the Handcrafts Competition can be found here under Scottish Championships Crafts <https://www.royalhighlandshowcase.org/the-show/the-scottish-championships/>

The camera pans across a table with items for the spinning and weaving classes – including a red woven bag which Penny Skett entered.

### **Fleeces Available**

#### **Torddu Badger Fleece**

Vivien Jamieson of West Lothian has 4 torddu badger face fleeces, 2 are washed and 2 are unwashed. If you are interested in a fleece please contact Vivien by email -

[vivien.e.jamieson@gmail.com](mailto:vivien.e.jamieson@gmail.com)

Pictures of three of the freshly sheared sheep and their fleece are below



#### **Dutch Spotted Fleece**

Gillian McLarty has 6 Dutch Spotted Sheep Fleeces that she is looking to sell. They are lovely colours, tones of white, black and browns (photo below)



If you are interested in a Dutch Spotted Fleece contact Gillian by email – [gillianmclarty@gmail.com](mailto:gillianmclarty@gmail.com)



## Scottish Art and Craft Exhibition



### Scottish art & craft exhibition

23–29 July 2021

Exhibition showcasing handwoven rugs and other works, modern handcrafted furniture, and exquisite silk scarves produced by artists and creators from Scotland.

See work by Edinburgh-based furniture makers Hidden Bothy Designs, printed silk scarves by Alice Fulton Pozzi, and hand-woven textiles by Kristina Taylor and Madeline Osborn.

Preview Friday 23 July, 4–7 pm

24–28 July 11–5 pm | 29 July (collection day), 11–2 pm

The Life Room, 23B Dundas Street, Edinburgh  
hiddenbothydesigns.co.uk | alicefultonpozzi.com

All welcome, free admission

Kristina Taylor is exhibiting some of her work in the Scottish Art and Craft Exhibition which is to run from 23 to 29 July in The Life Room, Dundas Street, Edinburgh. She suggests that if it is possible it would be better to visit the exhibition during the week when it will be quieter.

### World Textile Day

The annual World Textile Day events have been organised again for 2021 and a Scottish event at Bridge of Allan is currently scheduled for 11 September 2021.

Details can be found [here](#)

### Next Month

Next month's newsletter will be circulated at about the third Saturday of the month (17<sup>th</sup> July). We will have a zoom event on that day. It is hoped to discuss the format of the forthcoming monthly zoom events at the AGM. Details of the July zoom meeting will therefore be forwarded nearer the time.

Please send any photos of your craft projects and contributions for our July newsletter to [pennyskett@gmail.com](mailto:pennyskett@gmail.com).