

EDINBURGH GUILD OF WEAVERS, SPINNERS & DYERS

Newsletter July 2021

Welcome to the July edition of our monthly newsletter. Next month's newsletter will be circulated about the date of our August meeting (Saturday 21st August) so please do think about sending something for inclusion and many thanks to those who have sent contributions for this edition. Just email anything to pennyskett@gmail.com.

The Guild's first zoom AGM was held last month and worked well. One advantage of zoom was that even though Penny Skett was away for a few days with family on the island of Mull she was still able to join the meeting. There are certainly some advantages of zoom events.

The Guild meeting this month is on Saturday 17th July. Once again it will be a zoom meeting as we are not yet able to meet together as a group. The meeting will start at 11 and will probably finish about 12.30.

This month's topic is 'Dyeing'. It will be an opportunity for us to share our experiences of dyeing, particularly using natural dyes, talking about what has worked well for us and what has worked not so well. Please do bring examples of any samples you have dyed to show to others at the meeting. Just email me (pennyskett@gmail.com) for the zoom link. A reminder email will also be forwarded the day before the meeting with the zoom link.

Dyeing to Weave

Trisha Gow has recently updated her website and it can be found at <http://dyeingtoweave.co.uk>

Here's a picture of Trisha's solar dyeing jars.



World Crafts Council – Asia Pacific Region

The Encyclopedia of Crafts in WCC-Asia Pacific Region is a project of the World Crafts Council - Asia Pacific Region. One of the principal aims of the project is to help preserve languishing crafts. There are lots of informative articles on different craft materials in the various locations and you can search by craft, material, country and region.

An introduction to the Encyclopedia can be found at <https://encyclocraftsapr.com/crafts/> and links to the pages relating to weaving, embroidery and dyeing are below:

<https://encyclocraftsapr.com/category/textiles/weaving/>

<https://encyclocraftsapr.com/category/textiles/embroidery/>

<https://encyclocraftsapr.com/category/textiles/dyeing/>

Below is an extract from the article about dyeing in Cambodia



“Colours have some significance in Cambodia, as demonstrated by the Cambodian royal protocol, which specifies that each day of the week corresponds to a colour: During royal ceremonies, people from the Royal family and their guests are required to wear traditional outfits, such as ‘sampots’, that feature the ‘colour of the day’.

*Sunday – Red
Monday – Orange
Tuesday – Purple
Wednesday – Mustard Green
Thursday – Green
Friday – Blue
Saturday - Burgundy”*

Bernat Klein Exhibition

Bernat Klein, the textile designer who set up a textile design business in Galashiels in the 1950s, is the focus of an exhibition at the Borders Textile Towerhouse in Hawick from 28th June to 21st December 2021. Information can be found at

<https://www.liveborders.org.uk/culture/museums/bernat-klein-foundation-exhibition/>

Entry is free but visitors are advised to pre-book in advance.

Cockairney Shetland Fleece

Here is a link to a video about the Shetland sheep breed produced by Fiona and Archie Hislop of Wester Cockairney for last year’s Scottish Smallholder Festival - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1RxdHA5N-V0>

Fiona and Archie have concentrated on the quality of the fleece in the development of their flock and all their fleeces are handsheared and carefully skirted. Oliver Henry, Jamieson and Smith’s well known grader at Lerwick, was so impressed by the quality of their fleeces that he recently purchased one of their tups to take back to Shetland.

Penny Skett was tempted to buy one of their fleeces this year. It’s a beautiful fleece with good colouring and she’s looking forward to spinning it. If you are interested in one of the Cockairney Shetland fleeces you can contact Fiona by email at fionahipwell@hotmail.com or phone 07973 784746.

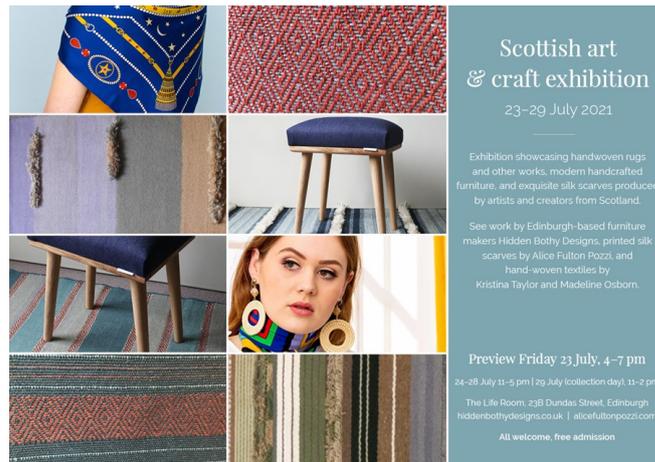
Fine Weaving Yarn

Nicola Stock went to see Alison Crawford who highlighted the sale of her countermarch loom and warping mill in last month's newsletter. Both loom and mill were too big for Nicola's small flat but she was tempted to buy some of the beautiful weaving yarns which Alison is also selling. The yarns include cashmere, linen, silks, lambswool and mohair.

If you wish to contact Alison her email is weavermusic@gmail.com.

Scottish Art and Craft Exhibition

A reminder that this Edinburgh exhibition runs from 23-29 July at the The Life Room in Dundee Street.



Next Month

Next month's newsletter will be circulated at about the third Saturday of the month (21st August). It will be a zoom event again next month but hopefully we will be able to arrange meetings in person soon.

Please send any photos of your craft projects and contributions for our August newsletter to pennyskett@gmail.com.

Don't forget this month's zoom meeting is on Saturday 17th July at 11am.