

EDINBURGH GUILD OF WEAVERS, SPINNERS & DYERS

Newsletter January 2022

Happy New Year and welcome to another edition of our monthly newsletter. Next month's newsletter will be circulated about the date of our February meeting (Saturday 19th February) which we hope will be another 'in person' meeting in the main hall of Craiglockhart Church. If you have any photos or links for inclusion in next month's newsletter just email them to pennyskett@gmail.com.

This month we are having a zoom meeting with another talk from Katie Weston of Hilltop Cloud. (<u>https://www.hilltopcloud.co.uk/about.html</u>) The topic will be 'Spinning with a Purpose'. The talk will begin at 10am and the meeting will be about two hours with time for questions and discussion. If you want to join the meeting and have not yet received the zoom link just email <u>pennyskett@gmail.com</u>. Although the talk will primarily be of interest to spinners Katie's discussion of yarns and their construction will be relevant to all textile crafts.

Equipment for Sale

The Guild is selling two items of equipment which it has received as donations. One is an Ashford Traditional Wheel and the other is a 15" Rigid Heddle Loom. Both are in good working order. The spinning wheel has three bobbins and the loom has stick shuttles and warping cross sticks with it. If anyone is interested in either or would like further information contact pennyskett@gmail.com. The price of the spinning wheel is £100 and the rigid heddle loom £50.







Trisha Gow has three tapestries included in a British Tapestry Group exhibition at the Waterston House in Aberlady. The exhibition also includes tapestries by Louise Oppenheimer from Kilmartin and Joan Baxter from Brora as well as other weavers. More information can be found at https://www.the-soc.org.uk/exhibitions/to-the-waters

Galloway Hoard Textile Talk

The Galloway Hoard is currently on display at Kirkudbright Museum and there are three forthcoming monthly zoom talks about the Hoard and its discovery, one of which relates to the textiles discovered. In addition to the many silver and gold artefacts which were found the hoard is unique due to the discovery of the preserved textiles in which many of the objects were wrapped. More information about the Hoard and ongoing research work can be found at https://www.nms.ac.uk/collections-research/our-research/featured-projects/unwrapping-the-galloway-hoard/

Dr Susanna Harris and Dr Alexandra Makin will be talking about their important textile discoveries on Wednesday 16th February at 6pm. The talk is free but you do have to register and there is a limit on the number of participants so if you are interested it would be advisable to register now.

More information and a link to register for the talk on textiles can be found at <u>https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/textiles-of-the-galloway-hoard-dr-susanna-harris-and-dr-alexandra-makin-tickets-229385406927?aff=ebdsoporgprofile</u>

Long Draw Spinning

London Guild made their recent zoom talk by Sue Mcniven

(<u>http://handspun-exotics.co.uk/about.html</u>) on long draw spinning available to others who were interested for a small fee. As I had enjoyed the workshop Sue gave us a couple of years ago on Silk Spinning I decided to join the talk.

It was an interesting talk and Sue has posted a number of spinning videos on YouTube as 'chicksinrubber' (a reference to her fly fishing I think) some of which can be found here:

Beginning Spinning Part 1 <u>https://www.you tube.com/watch?v=_clqBwf8gHs</u> Beginning Spinning Part 2 <u>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=A0VlqcL9Odw</u> Point of Draw Demonstration <u>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4-4R6AO5nUU</u>

Damask Weaving

An interesting short video of a damask weaver in Northern Ireland can be found at <u>https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/av/uk-northern-ireland-59847601</u>

We had planned to organise a visit to the Andrew Carnegie Birthplace Museum in Dunfermline when the Scottish damask weaver, Ian Dale of Angus Handloom Weavers, was working on their jacquard loom and hopefully this may still be possible once events begin to open up again. The magnificent Meldrum Loom which Ian reassembled and is in working order can be seen at Dunfermline Museum and Art Gallery. An article about the Meldrum Loom and a picture of Ian working at the loom with its 2000 warp threads can be seen at https://www.thecourier.co.uk/fp/news/fife/415322/dunfermlines-industrial-past-brought-back-to-life/

Making Traditional Pashminas in Kashmir

Another interesting video showing traditional spinning in Kashmir can be found at <u>https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/av/world-asia-59902318</u>

Next Month

Next month's newsletter will be circulated at about the date of our next meeting – the third Saturday of the month (19th February).

Don't forget this month's meeting is an online zoom talk with Katie Weston on Saturday 15th January at 10am. If you haven't already received the zoom link and you wish to join the meeting please email (pennyskett@gmail.com).

Do keep sending photos of your craft projects and links to items of interest to pennyskett@gmail.com.