



EDINBURGH GUILD OF WEAVERS, SPINNERS & DYERS

Newsletter March 2022

Welcome to another edition of our monthly newsletter. Next month's newsletter will be circulated about the date of our April meeting (Saturday 16th April) which will be 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's meeting is on Saturday 19th March and we are having our first workshop after two years! Marie Henderson's Braiding Workshop, which had to be cancelled in March 2020, has been rearranged for this month. It will be taking place in the Centenary Room for those members who have signed up for it. If you have any queries contact Frida Bleakley (fridableakley@hotmail.co.uk) or Sheena Guz (sheenaguz@live.co.uk). Other members will meet in the main hall as usual.

As agreed at last month's meeting we are returning to our usual meeting time, starting from 10.30 and finishing 3.00/3.30. We also agreed to continue observing measures to reduce risks for everyone attending. Here is a brief reminder of the measures we agreed to continue:

- leave contact details on the sign in sheet
- appropriate social distancing
- wear a mask unless seated
- bring your own refreshments as the kitchen is not available for use
- wear warm clothing
- don't attend if you have any symptoms or have been in contact with someone with symptoms.

Future Programme

At the February meeting we discussed the proposed programme for the forthcoming months and it is outlined below:

April 16 - Marilyn Caddell will give a talk about 'the colour blue'

May 21 - 'Corners' - some informal short skillsharing sessions will be arranged within the main hall

June 18 - Weaving Workshop with Jan Beadle (to be confirmed)

July 16 - AGM followed by talk from Lindsay Roberts (The Border Tart) about Indian Textiles

August 20 - no Broughton Gathering this year and all suggestions for the August meeting welcome

Blanket Coverage

A wonderful exhibition of woven blankets has been running at the Bonhoga Gallery in Weisdale, Shetland. Details of the exhibition with photographs of some of the beautiful pieces of weaving can be found at

https://www.shetland.org/blog/new-exhibition-features-beautiful-weaving?utm_source=Promote+Shetland&utm_campaign=d470d6c875-Visit+Shetland+newsletter+2022-02&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_37e0aa5f3c-d470d6c875-1343982724

Tapestry Weaving in New Zealand

The American Tapestry Alliance has published an interesting 'History of Tapestry Weaving in New Zealand' on its website and it is illustrated with some wonderfully vibrant tapestry pieces. The article can be found at

https://americantapestryalliance.org/exhibitions/tex_ata/the-history-of-tapestry-weaving-in-new-zealand/

Schact Matchless Spinning Wheel for Sale

Trisha Gow has a Schacht Matchless Spinning Wheel for sale for £500.

The wheel has a carry strap, three bobbins and an instruction book.

It is made of hard maple and black walnut and is finished with danish oil.

It can be set up for either scotch tension or double drive band.



There are three flyer whorls

- medium speed (9:1 & 11:1) for medium diameter wool, flax and some silks - good for plying
- fast speed (13:1 & 15.5:1) for fine short staple wools, angora, cotton, linen, silk etc.
- slow speed (6:1 & 7.5:1) for thicker yarns – good for complex yarns, liked by beginners

Contact Trisha Gow – Email: trisha@dyeingtoweave.co.uk

Tel: 0131 449 2149

Personal Craft Greeting Card

The latest Weavers Bazaar newsletter (<https://www.weaversbazaar.com/>) had a delightfully simple idea for a handmade greeting card.

All you need is a piece of card folded in three, You can then attach any crafted item, such as a small tapestry or a felted picture, to make a card for someone special and add an appropriate message. A very simple way to send a personal crafted greeting!



Galloway Hoard Textiles

If you missed the Kirkcudbright Gallery Talks about the Galloway Hoard and the textiles which were discovered recordings of the talks are now available on the Kirkcudbright Gallery website and can be found here

<https://www.kirkcudbrightgalleries.org.uk/event/unwrapping-the-galloway-hoard-a-series-of-online-talks/>

Weave A Real Peace

Weave a Real Peace is an organisation based in North America which is dedicated to supporting textile artisans worldwide. Their Spring Newsletter can be found at

https://weavearealpeace.wildapricot.org/resources/Spring_2022.pdf

There is a monthly presentation on zoom which is free for anyone interested. Last month's presentation 'A Sheep's Tale - Preserving the Churro' was about the work to preserve the Navajo-Churro sheep breed and is available at

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EM09mcAU3zk>

Llan-gors Textile

Another piece of interesting textile history was found at Llan-gors Lake in Wales in 1990. A charred lump, discovered during the excavation of a crannog, has been carefully cleaned and conserved to reveal remains of a magnificently decorated garment which is over one thousand years old. The picture below is a digital-simulation of colour on a photograph of a piece of the original textile.



More information about the Llan-gors textile is available at

<https://museum.wales/articles/1344/The-Llan-gors-textile-an-early-medieval-masterpiece/>

Next Month

Next month's newsletter will be circulated at about the date of our next meeting – the third Saturday of the month (16th April).

Do keep sending photos of your craft projects and links to items of interest to

pennyskett@gmail.com.