



# EDINBURGH GUILD OF WEAVERS, SPINNERS & DYERS

## Newsletter April 2022

Welcome to another edition of our monthly newsletter. Next month's newsletter will be circulated about the date of our May meeting (Saturday 21st May) 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](mailto:pennyskett@gmail.com).

This month's meeting is on Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> April in the large hall of Craiglockhart Church from 10.30am and Marilyn Caddell will be talking about 'The Colour Blue'. The talk will commence about 11.00 am with plenty of time for discussion afterwards.

We will continue to observe the measures we agreed for meetings:

- 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

### Braid Workshop

Last month we were finally able to enjoy a workshop again. Marie Henderson inspired everyone with her beautiful braids - only two years after the workshop had been originally planned! Under Marie's careful tutelage members worked their braids from a central pole and here are a few photos from the day.



### **Future Programme Update**

The Weaving Workshop with Jan Beadle, which was originally planned for the June meeting, has now been moved to the September meeting (Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> September).

The theme for the workshop has still to be finalised. Double weave was one suggestion. Jan has also suggested a workshop experimenting with unusual materials such as wire, fishing line and elastic.

The topic for the workshop will be discussed at the meeting on Saturday but if you have any views/suggestions please let Frida Bleakley know ([fridableakley@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:fridableakley@hotmail.co.uk)).

### **Equipment for Sale**

The Guild is selling its Ashford Traveller spinning wheel. It is a single treadle wheel and has three bobbins, a threading hook and an integral lazy kate. There are some water marks on the surface of the wood as shown in the picture below but the wheel is in good working order.



If anyone is interested or would like further information contact [pennyskett@gmail.com](mailto:pennyskett@gmail.com). The price of the wheel is £120.

### **Aizome Indigo Dyeing**

Carmen Wright has sent a link about a free online zoom workshop on Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> April organised by Japan House in London. In the one hour workshop participants will pay a virtual visit to the dyeing workshop of Higeta Aizome in Mashiko, Japan.

The Higeta Aizome Indigo Dyeing Studio is said to have originated around 1789-1801. Today the vat storage room of the workshop has 72 indigo fermentation vats filled with leaves of Japanese indigo. Higeta Tadashi, master craftsman of aizome and ninth generation head of the workshop, will introduce the history of indigo dyeing in Mashiko and give a workshop tour. There will also be a live demonstration of spinning and weaving.

More details are available at [https://www.japanhouselondon.uk/whats-on/2022/aizome-indigo-dyeing-workshop-visit-and-conversation-with-higeta-tadashi/?utm\\_campaign=1105373\\_JHL%20April%202022%20Newsletter&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_source=dotdigital&dm\\_i=4RMY,NOWT,566691,2VVNF,1](https://www.japanhouselondon.uk/whats-on/2022/aizome-indigo-dyeing-workshop-visit-and-conversation-with-higeta-tadashi/?utm_campaign=1105373_JHL%20April%202022%20Newsletter&utm_medium=email&utm_source=dotdigital&dm_i=4RMY,NOWT,566691,2VVNF,1) where you can also register for the free event.

### **Reed for Rigid Heddle Loom?**

The Dryad Rigid Heddle Loom which was donated to the Guild last year has now been sold to a lady in the south of England. She has sent a picture of her very first woven project.



She is interested in obtaining another reed for the loom. If anyone has a 15 inch 8 or 10 dent reed for a rigid heddle loom which they no longer want let me know and I will forward the lady's details.

### **Weaving in Western Ukraine**

Carole Gascoigne has sent a link to a wonderful video about a Ukrainian family who are endeavouring to keep a century old weaving tradition alive in the west of Ukraine. It was filmed only two days before the start of the Russian invasion of Ukraine and is well worth watching. Here is the link

<https://www.facebook.com/watch/?v=670018827603047>

### **Next Month**

Next month's newsletter will be circulated at about the date of our next meeting – the third Saturday of the month (21<sup>st</sup> May).

Do keep sending photos of your craft projects and links to items of interest to [pennyskett@gmail.com](mailto:pennyskett@gmail.com).