



# EDINBURGH GUILD OF WEAVERS, SPINNERS & DYERS

## Newsletter May 2022

Welcome to another edition of our monthly newsletter. Next month's newsletter will be circulated about the date of our June meeting (Saturday 18th June) 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 21st May in the large hall of Craiglockhart Church from 10.30am. Some skillsharing 'corners' are being organised and Marilyn Caddell will also be talking about 'The Colour Blue' as her talk did not take place in April as had been planned. A general programme for the day will be:

*10.40 am First 'corner' - Kitty Johnstone will be showing how a drop spindle can be made from simple and easily available items for any members interested.*

*11.40 am approx 'The Colour Blue' - a talk for all members. Marilyn Caddell will be talking about her experience dyeing the colour blue. Marilyn will be bringing examples along and there will be time for discussion and questions after the talk.*

*1.30 pm approx - Another 'corner' for any members interested - Long Draw Spinning with Penny Skett (Pat Laing's Peg Loom 'corner' will be postponed to another meeting)*

We have decided that wearing a mask will be voluntary at this month's meeting but please do be aware of the concerns of other members and consider maintaining appropriate social distancing. Please don't attend if you have any symptoms of covid or have been in close contact with someone with symptoms.

Members should bring their own refreshments but the kitchen at Craiglockhart can now be used and therefore hot water will be available. All members should still complete the sign-in sheet which will be on the table near the door.

### **Future Programme**

September - After discussion at last month's meeting it was agreed that the topic for Jan Beadle's Weaving Workshop should be Double Weave. Although the workshop is currently fully subscribed there will be a list of reserve names if anyone else is interested. Just email or speak to Frida Bleakley ([fridableakley@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:fridableakley@hotmail.co.uk))

October on - We are starting to consider a programme for the next guild year so please do think about workshops, talks, themes etc which you would like to be included.

### **Guild Committee**

How about joining the Guild Committee to help organise the guild programme? Please do think about it as we do need some new committee members this year.

## **Gorgie Farm Celebrates 40 Years**

Gorgie Farm is celebrating its fortieth birthday on Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> May and Guild members who are also part of the Gorgie Farm Spinners group will be helping to celebrate this event with a spinning demonstration in the afternoon. The event starts at midday and will continue until 5pm. The organisers would like to document as many people as possible who worked or volunteered at Gorgie Farm and they ask that any visitor who was involved over the years, either as a volunteer or as a member of the Friday Spinning group, to make themselves known to a staff member.

## **Equipment for Sale**

Jane Buxton has been clearing her studio and has the following items of equipment for sale:

*Horizontal Warping Mill - £150*

*Ashford 24" rigid heddle loom with stand & accessories - £330 (photo below)*

*Ashford 24" vari-dent heddle - £70*

*Schacht inkle loom and Leclerc belt shuttle - £75(photo below)*

*Peter Teal English wool combs - £220 (photo below)*

She will be bringing the equipment to the meeting on Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> May so that anyone who is interested can have a look at the items. Jane can be contacted on 07469 887 958 or by emailing [jdbuxton@hotmail.com](mailto:jdbuxton@hotmail.com)



## Contemporary Navajo Weaving

There is an interesting article about how two Navajo weavers Zefren-M and Morris Muskett find self-expression through contemporary weaving. What the outside world thinks of as traditional Navajo weaving is actually a 150-year snapshot in the long socioeconomic history of a people. These two artists living in New Mexico have broken away from that slice of weaving history to reach backward and forward in time, through pre-European-contact patterns and across centuries toward contemporary self-expression. The full article can be found at [https://hyperallergic.com/719599/two-navajo-artists-weave-new-histories/?utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_campaign=W040222&utm\\_content=W040222+CID\\_dfd3d31fcd5f1e05c9980c79ce7d7f0&utm\\_source=hn&utm\\_term=Two+Navajo+Artists+Weave+New+Histories](https://hyperallergic.com/719599/two-navajo-artists-weave-new-histories/?utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=W040222&utm_content=W040222+CID_dfd3d31fcd5f1e05c9980c79ce7d7f0&utm_source=hn&utm_term=Two+Navajo+Artists+Weave+New+Histories)

## The Heroines of Heroes

The amazing story of how four employees of The Metropolitan Museum of Art in America meticulously restored some of the oldest medieval tapestries surviving in the world and dating from the 1400s can be found at <https://www.metmuseum.org/perspectives/articles/2022/3/heroines-of-heroes>

## Woven Teatowels

Jane Glendinning has sent pictures of the beautiful teatowels she has just completed. They are woven on an 8 shaft table loom with 6/30 Ne 100% cotton.



## Knitting squares for Ukraine

You may be interested in a project to knit squares for blankets for the ten million Ukrainian refugees who have had to flee their homes. More information can be found at <https://hapticandhue.com/knitting-for-ukraine/>

## World Textile Day

Textile Traders are once again organising a World Textile Day at Bridge of Allan Parish Church FK9 4NW on Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> May 10am to 4pm. Unfortunately the date once again clashes with the Guild meeting but more information is available at <http://worldtextileday.co.uk/2022-dates/scotland-2022>

**FREE entry**  
Saturday  
21 May 2022  
10 am - 4 pm

**WORLD TEXTILE DAY Scotland**

Parish Church of Scotland, 12 Keir St.  
Bridge of Allan, FK9 4NW

Exhibition of woven, printed and embroidered textiles

**Fair Trade Market**  
From makers, workshops and villages around the world

11 am - main talk £5  
**Diane Gaffney**  
**Megie Relph**  
Textile collectors and traders  
From Java to West Africa:  
*Travelling Textiles*

2 pm - 2 short talks £3  
**Andrew Houghton**  
Carpet and kilim expert  
*The Nomad's Tent*  
**John Fisher**  
Expert collector of  
Egyptian tent hangings

Refreshments all day  
Free parking

Our 2022 theme:  
**Crossing Borders**

[www.worldtextileday.co.uk](http://www.worldtextileday.co.uk)

### **Looms and Yarns For Sale**

Members of Eden Valley Guild are helping to sell the contents of a retired weaver's studio, with the proceeds going to charity. The following items are for sale:

*Louet Hollandia 8-shaft loom, 130 cm weaving width, comes with bench and second back beam. Good condition as far as can be seen. £650 or near offer.*

*Large upright free-standing tapestry loom by Eager Looms, 250 cm overall width (approx.) and adjustable height. £650 or near offer.*

*Both looms are situated in a village near Maryport and viewing can be arranged.*

*There are also two folding Dryad looms, one table loom and one floor loom, condition yet to be assessed.*

*A mixed lot of yarns, approximately 45 kilos gross weight (including cardboard cores). £25 the lot.*

*A collection of 26 books and pamphlets on weaving, spinning and dying. £10 the lot.*

If you are interested please email Heather Seddon ([hfseddon@btinternet.com](mailto:hfseddon@btinternet.com)).

### **Fleece for sale**

Jonathan Marshall has contacted the Guild to say that he has 10 Dutch Spotted fleeces for sale. He will also have Cheviot (black or white), Scottish Blackface and Shetland fleeces available later in the year (generally July). He is asking £8 for the Dutch Spotted fleeces and £5 for anything else. He can arrange postage but usually organises collections from Kinross services. If you are interested he can be contacted on 0786 412 1420 or by email [jam2506@btinternet.com](mailto:jam2506@btinternet.com)

Below are some pictures of some of the fleeces, sheep and wool spun up last year.



### **Next Month**

Next month's newsletter will be circulated at about the date of our next meeting (which is also our AGM) – the third Saturday of the month (18<sup>th</sup> June).

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