

# EDINBURGH GUILD OF WEAVERS, SPINNERS & DYERS

## Newsletter August 2022

Welcome to another edition of our monthly newsletter. Next month's newsletter will be circulated about the date of our September meeting (Saturday 17th September) at Craiglockhart Church Halls. 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).

### August Meeting

This month's meeting is on Saturday 20th August in the large hall at Craiglockhart Church. There is no speaker or theme for this month's meeting but it will be an opportunity to talk about the Guild's new Instagram account and the establishment of spinning and weaving interest groups.

Jane Howorth has highlighted that

*"The guild now has an Instagram account. It's called [Edinburghguildweavespindye](#). The purpose of the account is to spread awareness of our activities and to encourage new members to join. If you engage with social media please consider following, liking and/or commenting on our posts, as this helps them to become more visible to others. The Instagram account is being run by Jane Howorth, who may take photos of work in progress, equipment or finished items during meetings, to use on the account. If there is anything of yours that you don't want photographing, just let her know."*

In addition

*"After members' support at the AGM for the establishment of interest groups based around weaving, spinning and dyeing, it is planned that these new groups will have their first meetings in the afternoon of our August meeting. These meetings will take place during the afternoon, with up to 45 minutes per meeting. This is so that members can take part in more than one group if they wish to. The meeting will be preceded in the late morning by a short information and discussion session from Jane Howorth, who will share ideas about how our new interest groups could function."*

Members could also consider what to do with the Guild's library of books. The list of books is on the Guild website and can be found at <https://www.ewsd.org.uk/resources.html>. No one has borrowed any of the books for a number of years and we need to decide what to do with them. It had been hoped to bring the books to the meeting – they are in three boxes – and if any one would be able to take them along to the meeting please contact Penny ([pennyskett@gmail.com](mailto:pennyskett@gmail.com)). She isn't able to get to the meeting as she has visitors that day but would be happy to drop them off for someone to take. It would also be an opportunity to talk about any books you have found particularly useful or interesting – do bring along a copy if you have one.

### Last Month's Meeting

Lindsay Roberts, the Border Tart, gave an interesting illustrated talk about Indian Textiles at the July meeting with lots of examples for everyone to handle and study which was enjoyed by all.

## **Membership Renewal**

Subscriptions for this year's membership are due this month. We are introducing a revised membership form so that members will not be asked to complete a form each year in future. The new form will be available shortly on the Guild website at <https://www.ewsd.org.uk> and will also be available at Guild meetings. The cost for the year is £25 and can be paid by bank transfer or by cheque or cash at a meeting. Jane Howorth is the new Guild Membership Secretary so please pass completed forms to her at a meeting.

## **Interested in Giving a Spinning Demonstration at BobCat Alpacas on 4<sup>th</sup> September?**

Fiona Busby of Marie Curie has sent the following letter to the Guild -

*"I am working with BobCat Alpacas in Bonaly - <http://www.bobcat-alpacas>. on his 3rd Gala Day for Marie Curie. We were wondering if you'd like to join us and do a demo of some spinning? We can supply all the wool you need.*

*It's such a fun day and each year we add a bit more. The last couple of years we've had around 400-500 visitors and it's a great way to meet the Alpacas and support Marie Curie.*

*More details of the event are at <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/alpaca-gala-day-at-bobcat-alpacas-4-september-tickets-401266658377>*

*Cover would be provided too."*

It is great to have invitations to demonstrate at events again. If you are interested in taking part on the day, even just for an hour or two, just email [pennyskett@gmail.com](mailto:pennyskett@gmail.com)

## **Wheel Ewe Spinning Retreat October 2022**

Ruth Robinson of The Wheel Ewe has emailed the Guild to say:

*"I am wondering if any of your members are interested in attending a 3 day spinning Retreat in Edinburgh in October this year. I have got some amazing international teachers coming along. As you are all local I can offer you a non-residential price of £380 for the 3 days. This will include the classes, fibres in the classes, lunch and dinner and tea & coffee in between. I have put a link below.*

<https://www.thewheelewe.co.uk/>"

## **International Scarf Exchange 2023**

The Guild has received the following invitation from the Handweavers Spinners and Dyers Guild of Western Australia.

*"The Handweavers Spinners and Dyers Guild of Western Australia extends an invitation to your members to participate in the International Scarf Exchange 2023. This is the 31st year that the project has been running, with each year one of the Australian state Guilds managing the event.*

### ***What is involved?***

*Each participant sends 150g of clean fibre ready to be spun or felted to the central hub. The participant may say if they want that fibre to be made into a scarf, a shawl, a hat, gloves/mittens, socks or bag or any of the above. The fibre may be coloured or not. This fibre will be created by another participant in exchange. In return you will be required to craft a scarf, shawl, bag or hat, gloves/mittens or socks using the fibre sent to you. The crafter has total creative control.*

**What does it cost?**

No fee to be paid, only the cost of the postage from the central hub to another participant and the cost of postage of returning the finished item to you. The postage charged is as follows: Australia, AUD\$25, New Zealand AUD\$35, USA AUD\$50, rest of the world AU\$60.

**When does Registration close?**

28 November 2022.

The finished items are to be returned to the central hub by 26 May 2023 and a photographic exhibition as well as a physical exhibition will be held in late June 2023 following which the completed item will be sent to you."

Pictures from the 2021 scarf exchange can be found at

<https://sites.google.com/view/internationalscarfexchange2021/home/international-scarf-exchange-2021-on-line-exhibition>

If you are interested in participating just email me at [pennyskett@gmail.com](mailto:pennyskett@gmail.com) for the registration information and an entry form.

**Shetland Wool Week**

Details of Shetland Wool Week events and classes have been announced.

The programme can be found at

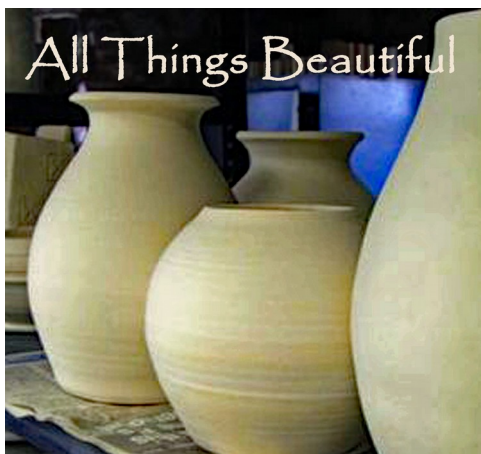
<https://shetland-wool-week.s3.eu-west-1.amazonaws.com/SWW22-Programme-LR.pdf>

**Guild Programme 2022-2023**

The dates and planned events for the coming year are listed below. Some of the events have still to be confirmed but a final programme will be available soon.

Saturday 17 September 2022	Weaving Workshop (Jan Beadle)	Craiglockhart
Saturday 15 October 2022	Fungi Talk (Trisha Gow and Marilyn Caddell)	Craiglockhart
Saturday 19 November 2022	Spinning Wheel Maintenance (Rod Grant)	Craiglockhart
Saturday 17 December 2022	Certificates of Achievement	Zoom
Saturday 21 January 2023	Talk (Speaker to be agreed)	Zoom
Saturday 18 February 2023	'Loom Dating' Event	Craiglockhart
Saturday 18 March 2023	Open Day?	Craiglockhart
Saturday 15 April 2023	Triangular Board Weaving Skillshare (Marilyn Caddell)	Craiglockhart
Saturday 20 May 2023	Women Textile Makers in Early Medieval Ireland and Britain (Cynthia Thickpenny)	Craiglockhart
Saturday 17 June 2023	AGM and Talk (Assam Textile Crafts – Erika Hollingdale)	Craiglockhart
Saturday 15 July 2023	Visit	Ashfield House
Saturday 19 August 2023	Broughton Gathering	Broughton

## Poldrate Tutors Exhibition – All Things Beautiful



3 July – 3 September

Poldrate Arts and Craft Centre tutors are exhibiting at the John Gray Centre Museum. Enjoy ceramics, textiles, basketry, upholstery, painting & sculpture.

Free guided tours Saturdays 2pm to 4pm.

**John Gray Centre, Lodge Street, Haddington, EH41 3DX**

www.johngraycentre.org     John Gray Centre     @JohnGrayCentre

**T: Museum** 01620 820690 **Library** 01620 820680 **Archive** 01620 820695

**E:** jgc@eastlothian.gov.uk



Poldrate Arts and Crafts Tutors are exhibiting at the John Gray Centre Museum in Haddington until 3<sup>rd</sup> September. Exhibits include textiles, ceramics, upholstery, painting and sculpture. There are free guided tours of the exhibition at 2pm on Saturday afternoons.

### **National Association Exhibition**

And don't forget the National Association Exhibition is running from 3<sup>rd</sup> to 18<sup>th</sup> September (10am to 4.00pm) in the Horrocks Gallery at Leigh Spinners Mill, Park Lane, Leigh, Lancashire WN7 2LB/WN7 2LA.

If anyone is able to go please do take some photos for inclusion in next month's newsletter.

### **Next Month**

Next month's newsletter will be circulated at about the date of our next meeting on the third Saturday of the month (17<sup>th</sup> September). Jan Beadle is the tutor for the Weaving Workshop which has been organised for September for those who have signed up for the event. If you have registered for the workshop don't forget that the workshop fee is due to be paid this month. The workshop will take place in the Centenary Room and others will meet in the large hall as usual.

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