



# THE ASSOCIATION OF GUILDS OF WEAVERS, SPINNERS AND DYERS

Reg. Charity No. 289590 Website: [www.wsd.org.uk](http://www.wsd.org.uk)  
President: Jenny Balfour Paul Life President: Paddy Bakker  
Vice Presidents: Peter Penneck, Jenifer Midgley

## Association Newsletter, October 2016

### Association News

#### Newsletter

After looking after the newsletter for some time, Emma Wright (Lincolnshire Guild) is now handing over the task to Charlotte Powell (Birmingham & District Guild). Charlotte is intending to circulate a newsletter at the end of each month. If you have any comments or submissions, please continue to send these to: [newsletter@wsd.org.uk](mailto:newsletter@wsd.org.uk)

#### 'Simply Special' Summer School, 13 - 29 August 2017

Booking is open for the 2017 'Simply Special' Summer School at Sparsholt College (Hampshire, SO21 2NF).

Deposits and booking forms should be with the convenor by **31 December 2016**; course allocation starts on the 1 January 2017, a 'names in the hat' system will operate for oversubscribed courses.

There is a wide range of courses, with experienced tutors, plus a trade fair, silent auction, fashion show, raffle, CoA exhibition, and a Gala Dinner.

The full brochure is available online (<http://www.wsd.org.uk/news.php?id=57>). Email Janet Crowther (Convenor) at [summerschool@wsd.org.uk](mailto:summerschool@wsd.org.uk) if you have any questions or would like further information.

#### New Speakers

Theo Wright who is Secretary of The Journal and offers a lecture on "A Weaver Inspired by Mathematics". Theo is based in Coventry. <http://www.theowright.co.uk/>

Ruth Winterbottom offers a lecture on Saori weaving with digital slides and the opportunity for individual hands-on on loom. Ruth is based near Burton on Trent, Derbyshire. <http://www.thejoyfulshuttle.co.uk/> thejoyfulshuttle@btinternet.com

#### GPC Needs Your Help!

If we are all going to continue enjoying National Exhibitions, National Conferences, Summer Schools, CofA, the new Spinning Foundation Course, the library and all the other things that the GPC oversee or organise, we NEED members to come forward and volunteer to join the GPC.

We know for many people they will think they are not capable but this is quite simply not the case. We are not asking people to jump head long into a complex job but to join the GPC and gradually get a feel for how it works and then, when you feel ready, you can offer to take the place of those who retire, if their job is what you would like to do.

We have a plan to set up regional reps, so that every Guild and every Guild member will have a name, face and contact but at the moment we don't even have ten members to set this up. This is not an onerous job, just needs someone prepared to be that face and willing to pass on information, encourage Guilds to attend the AGM and other Association events and answer their queries. This can all be done on email. We are not expecting reps to visit their Guilds, unless of course they would like to do so. It maybe, that the regions decide to organise their own regional event, which you could then attend. We want to make the 'reps' available at National events, like the AGM, so they can have face to face contact. We want all guild members to know about what The Association does for them and we know many have simply no idea and many don't even know they are members. No-one ever has to work alone, the GPC works as a team and helps each other. Please, please consider joining the GPC and help to keep 'the show on the road'

If you are able to get involved, please contact Sarah at [secretary@wsd.org.uk](mailto:secretary@wsd.org.uk)

## **Journal News**

### **Journal Diary**

If you would like your Guild event to be publicised in The Journal diary pages, please remember that we work several months in advance of publication date, and send us details as soon as possible to Colleen Pope at [diary@thejournalforwsd.org.uk](mailto:diary@thejournalforwsd.org.uk).

### **Journal Vacancy: Treasurer**

Next year our current Treasurer, Gretchen Roth, will be retiring from the Journal Editorial Committee, so we are looking to recruit a volunteer to shadow Gretchen for the next few months, with a view to taking over the role in April 2017. You will need to be organised & computer literate for this interesting and important role. Training will be given and all out of pocket expenses, including travel costs to the quarterly meetings held in Central London (Saturdays, 11am-4pm), will be reimbursed. If you would like to find out more please contact Christina Chisholm on [chair@thejournalforwsd.org.uk](mailto:chair@thejournalforwsd.org.uk) who will be delighted to hear from you!

### **Current Issue of the Journal**

The current issue of The Journal, issue 260, contains articles on the following:

- Stitched Doublecloth Growth Forms
- [Art Yarns are Fun to Spin!](#) (Free Download)
- A Dye Glossary
- The Russian Museum of Ethnography, St Petersburg
- Alice Kraus Stransky

## **Recent News from Guilds**

06-12 October was **UK Wool Week**. London Guild members supported *The Selvedge Wool Symposium* held at The Art Workers' Guild on 14th October, demonstrating and teaching spindle spinning to attendees.

London Guild members manned a stand at the **Knitting and Stitching Show** at Alexandra Palace between 11-15 October, showcasing the work of Guild members and demonstrating our crafts to attendees.

The Cotswold, Coventry, Birmingham, Worcester & Stratford Guilds held a **Guilds Together** event in Kings Sutton, Banbury on 01 October. Each Guild displayed their crafts on an exhibition table, manned a sales table, and contributed to organisation of the day. Attendees heard from Betsan Corkhill on the therapeutic benefits of knitting and craft, and Karen Fanzo on art books & exploring new crafts.

## **Current & Upcoming Events & Exhibitions**

**Bernat Klein - Colour, Fashion, Fashion**, until 05 November 2016 at Borders Textile Towerhouse, Harwick

An exhibition celebrating renowned designer Bernat Klein, 1922 – 2014.

[http://www.heartofhawick.co.uk/g\\_heart/events/event/21/bernat\\_klein\\_-\\_colour\\_fashion\\_fashion](http://www.heartofhawick.co.uk/g_heart/events/event/21/bernat_klein_-_colour_fashion_fashion)

**Yarnporium**, 05-06 November 2016 at King's College London, the Strand

Yarn and fibre marketplace of vendors from London and around the UK, plus a selection of workshops.

<http://www.yarninthecity.com/about-the-yarnporium/>

**Weavelength**, 08-13 November 2016 at Craft Central, Clerkenwell, London

First solo show of weaver Theo Wright.

<http://www.theowright.co.uk/when-waves-collide.html>

**The Knitting and Stitching Show**, 24-27 November 2017 in Harrogate

<http://www.theknittingandstitchingshow.com/harrogate/>

**Wovember**, Online throughout November

Celebration of wool and its unique qualities in stories and pictures throughout the month of November.

<http://www.wovember.com/>

**Made in the Middle**, touring exhibition launching at The Herbert Art Gallery and Museum in December 2016

Touring exhibition of contemporary craft from across the Midlands.

<http://craftspace.co.uk/made-in-the-middle-2016/>

**Knit 1 Bike 1 - Janet Renouf Miller**, until 23 December 2016 at Borders Textile Towerhouse, Harwick

A cycling adventure in knitting and crochet.

[http://www.heartofhawick.co.uk/g\\_heart/events/event/26/knit\\_1\\_bike\\_1\\_-\\_janet\\_renouf\\_miller](http://www.heartofhawick.co.uk/g_heart/events/event/26/knit_1_bike_1_-_janet_renouf_miller)

**Soft Engineering**, 11 November 2016 – 08 January 2017 at the National Centre for Craft and Design, Sleaford, Lincolnshire

Brings together the work of three well established textile artists for the first time; Deidre Wood, Alison Ellen and Ann Richards. Having pursued separate careers in knitting and weaving, the artists found many common threads that have inspired this joint exhibition.

<http://www.nationalcraftanddesign.org.uk/whatson/#soft-engineering>

**shift Works by seam collective**, 11 November 2016 – 08 January 2017 at the National Centre for Craft and Design, Sleaford, Lincolnshire

A celebration of the shift dress by 12 textile artists.

<http://www.nationalcraftanddesign.org.uk/whatson/#shiftworks-by-seam-collective>

**Here & Now**, until 15 Jan 2017 at the National Centre for Craft and Design, Sleaford, Lincolnshire

Curated exhibition of contemporary tapestry. Alongside British tapestry weavers, the exhibition features international artists from Australia, Norway, Latvia, Japan and the USA with over 20 artists represented overall.

<http://www.nationalcraftanddesign.org.uk/whatson/#here-and-now>

**1920s JAZZ AGE Fashion & Photographs**, until 15 January 2017 at Fashion and Textile Museum, London

A display of haute couture and ready-to-wear fashion from 1919 to 1929.

<http://www.ftmlondon.org/ftm-exhibitions/1920s-jazz-age-fashion-photographs/>

**Guild Meeting & Visit from John Arbon Textiles**, 21 January 2017 at York and District Guild of WSD

Alice layers up print and stitch to make contemplative artworks that embody particular locations.  
[www.yorks-guild-wsd.org.uk](http://www.yorks-guild-wsd.org.uk)

**Opus Anglicanum: Masterpieces of English Medieval Embroidery**, until 05 February 2017 at The V&A, London

Explore a selection of the most outstanding examples of English Medieval embroidery. Featuring surviving examples of exquisite craftsmanship, this exhibition reveals the artistic skill of the makers and the world in which they were created.

<https://www.vam.ac.uk/exhibitions/opus-anglicanum-masterpieces-of-english-medieval-embroidery>

**Dyeing Now: Contemporary Makers Celebrate Ethel Mairet's Legacy**, until 16 April 2017 at Ditchling Museum of Art + Craft, Ditchling, East Sussex

A project to catalogue every natural dye recipe from Ethel Mairet's influential publication with the help of artists, craftspeople and students from across the country and beyond.

<http://www.ditchlingmuseumartcraft.org.uk/event/dyeing-now/>

### Elsewhere on the Web

- Turkey Red Journal (thanks to London Guild), a free online journal all about natural dyes and dyeing. <http://www.turkeyredjournal.com/>
- The UK teams ranked 4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> in Spinzilla. <http://www.spinzilla.org/results/>
- Luxury brands feed demand for return of UK's cotton and knitwear mills. [https://www.theguardian.com/fashion/2016/oct/30/fashion-luxury-brands-return-of-uk-cotton-mills?CMP=share\\_btn\\_tw](https://www.theguardian.com/fashion/2016/oct/30/fashion-luxury-brands-return-of-uk-cotton-mills?CMP=share_btn_tw)
- The autumn challenge on The Weavingkind is to create a weaving featuring contrast. <http://www.theweavingkind.com/weaving-challenges>
- Natural dyeing themed postcards from PomPom Quarterly. <https://www.pompomag.com/product/botanical-illustration-postcard-set-katie-green-pom-pom/>
- An interesting new book, *Yarnitecture: A Knitter's Guide to Spinning: Building Exactly the Yarn You Want*. <https://www.amazon.com/Yarnitecture-Knitters-Spinning-Building-Exactly/dp/1612125212>
- Eva Rothschild named Winner, Tapestry Commission Open Call 2016. <https://www.westdean.org.uk/about/media/west-dean-tapestry-studio/press-release-leading-sculptor-eva-rothschild-named-winner-tapestry-commission-open-call-2016>

### Other Newsletters

- Crafts Council Latest Newsletter: <http://us7.campaign-archive2.com/?u=a47fc1f38d7b79f55813e2e48&id=f61803a18c>
- Voluntary Arts Scotland Latest Newsletter: <http://us2.campaign-archive1.com/?u=de9d9ee5724c687d10140b436&id=967244374f>
- Craft & Design Latest Newsletter: <http://www.craftanddesign.net/newsletter/craft-and-design-newsletter-sep16.pdf>
- Craft Industry Alliance Latest Newsletter: <http://craftindustryalliance.org/cia-journal-issue-28/>

### Contact & Social Media

If you have an item for inclusion in the next monthly newsletter, please sent to:  
[newsletter@wsd.org.uk](mailto:newsletter@wsd.org.uk)

If you have an event/exhibition for inclusion in the next issue of The Journal, please send to:  
[diary@thejournalforwsd.org.uk](mailto:diary@thejournalforwsd.org.uk)

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