



# 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, February 2017

### Association News

#### 2018 National Exhibition

The 2018 National Exhibition will be called 'Textile Creations' and will take place from 16th to 29th July at the Scottish Universities Insight Institute (ex Collins Gallery), University of Strathclyde, Richmond Street, Glasgow G1 1XQ. Entries for both the selected and the unselected sections should include at least one of the crafts of weaving, spinning or dyeing. Entries for the unselected, open section should be an item of textile jewellery, in the style of Charles Rennie Mackintosh, (it is the 150th anniversary of his birth), and be not more than 12cm across and mounted on black card 12cm square.

Further details and timing will be sent to Guilds in September 2017. Submission to the selected section will be by photograph, supported by a 'feelie piece' to assist selectors and to go with the final display. It is expected that the deadline for submission will be late April 2018.

#### Association Badges

Enamel Association badges are available again and will be on sale at the AGM, and at the Association stand at Wonderwool Wales (22/23 April 2017) and Woolfest (23/24 June 2017). Badges cost £5 each and can also be purchased by post. For mail orders, please send requests to Hilary Miller, Hafan, Llandegfan, Menai Bridge, Anglesey LL59 5PW. Postage & packing costs are: up to 10 badges £1.10; up to 20 badges £1.55. Cheques should be made payable to the Association of Guilds of Weavers, Spinners & Dyers. For larger orders or payment by BACS please contact [hilary\\_miller@btinternet.com](mailto:hilary_miller@btinternet.com).

### Journal News

#### Current Issue of the Journal

The current issue of The Journal, issue 260 Winter 2016, contains articles on the following:

- Experimenting with Alpaca, by Jane Lucas
- Weaving with Máximo Laura, by Ros Wilson
- Three interviews with award winners at New Designers 2016
- Readers' Showcase: Firth of Tay, by Cally Booker
- The Dye Plant Garden, by Susan Dye, & Ashley Walker

<http://www.thejournalforwsd.org.uk/>

#### Guild Highlights Submissions

Have you welcomed any interesting tutors or speakers to your Guild meetings recently? If so, and you feel other Guilds would appreciate fresh ideas, please consider writing a short piece for the *Guild Highlights* pages of the Journal. Contributions should be up to 300 words, accompanied by a

high-resolution digital image (1 MB or greater file size), and sent to our Guild Highlights and Readers Showcase Editor, Sally Firth, at [rigglands@gmail.com](mailto:rigglands@gmail.com).

### **Recent News from Guilds**

**Cheshire Guild** are holding a Friendship Day on Saturday 20 May 10:00 – 16:00, at Frodsham Community Centre, Fluin Lane, Frodsham, Cheshire, WA6 7QN. A selection of stalls including Yarns from the Plain, and Crafts from the Dungeon will be attending. RSVP to [cheshireguildwsd@gmail.com](mailto:cheshireguildwsd@gmail.com)

**Bowland Guild** are holding a Friendship Day on Saturday 03 June 10:30 – 15:00, at Gisburn Festival Hall, Bentlea Road, Gisburn, BB7 4LL. A selection of stalls covering a range of crafts will be there, including Scottish Fibres, Dales Crafts and Coastal Colours. Entrance is free of charge. RSVP to [Bowlandwsd@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:Bowlandwsd@yahoo.co.uk)

**East Sussex Guild** will hold their biennial Exhibition and Sale on 27 – 28 October 2017 at Town Hall, Lewes, East Sussex.

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

***The Fabric of Being***, until 17 March 2017 at Bethlem Gallery, Kent  
Textile works and processes of artists, patients and staff from the Occupational Therapy department at the Bethlem Royal Hospital, The Fabric of Being considers the social and therapeutic value of individual and collective textile making.

<http://bethlemgallery.com/event/the-fabric-of-being/>

***Material Legacies***, until 25 March 2017 at Stephen Lawrence Gallery, Greenwich  
Explores how making can create meaningful encounters with the dead. These bereaved makers, from The Hospice of St Francis, invite you to experience how they have crafted their loved ones' physical and digital heritage.

<http://www.greenwichunigalleries.co.uk/material-legacies/>

***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/>

***Manchester Antique Textile Fair***, 30 April 2017 (10:00-16:00) at Armitage Centre, Manchester,  
2017 marks the 25th Anniversary of the Manchester Antique Textile Fair, plus the 100th Anniversary of Lucienne Day, who was President of the Textile Society

<http://www.textilesociety.org.uk/events>

***Josef Frank Patterns–Furniture–Painting***, until 07 May 2017 at Fashion and Textile Museum, London

Explore the work of designer and artist Josef Frank (1885-1967) in the first-ever UK exhibition of his textiles.

<http://www.ftmlondon.org/ftm-exhibitions/josef-frank-patterns-furniture-painting/>

***Festival of Textiles 2017***, until 07 May 2017 at Fashion and Textile Museum, London

A series of displays, talks and workshops.

<http://www.ftmlondon.org/ftm-exhibitions/festival-of-textiles-2017/>

***Open Days and Exhibition, The Spinners and Weavers Workshop***, 13 - 14 May 2017, Taunton

Annual open days and exhibition, where you are able to view work carried out by members and students at the Workshop.

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

**Entangled: Threads & Making**, until 17 May 2017 at Turner Contemporary, Margate, Kent

Features over 40 international female artists who expand the possibilities of knitting and embroidery, weaving, sewing and wood carving, often incorporating unexpected materials such as plants, clothing, hair and bird quills.

<https://www.turnercontemporary.org/exhibitions/entangled-threads-making>

**Black Sheep The Darker Side of Felt**, 08 May – 02 July 2017 at Beacon Museum, Whitehaven Showcasing technically-brilliant and contemporary feltmakers.

<http://www.nationalcraftanddesign.org.uk/whatson/#black-sheep-the-darker-side-of-felt>

**The Weaver's Apprentice**, 10 March – 03 July at Dovecot Gallery, Edinburgh

This exhibition tells the story of the Dovecot weaving apprenticeship. A supporting programme of events will run alongside this exhibition, with an emphasis on the stories behind the tapestries, the apprentices and Dovecot's heritage.

<https://dovecotstudios.com/gallery/exhibitions/the-weaver-s-apprentice/>

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

<http://www.wsd.org.uk/news.php?id=57>

**Here & Now**, 01 Apr – 04 June 2017 at MAC Birmingham; 23 June – 01 October 2017 at the Holburne Museum

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>

**Campaign for Wool, Wool Week**, October 2017

<http://www.campaignforwool.org/>

**East Sussex Guild Biennial Exhibition and Sale**, 27 – 28 October 2017 at Town Hall, Lewes, East Sussex.

**Made in the Middle**, until 25 November 2017 at various venues

Touring exhibition which showcases and sells some of the best contemporary craft and applied art from across the Midlands.

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

**Indigo Sutra**, 09 - 11 November 2017 at Indian Council for Cultural Relations, Kolkata

The three day event will comprise of seminar, workshops on indigo dyeing, demonstrations, exhibitions, films and Grand bazaar. There will be optional textile tours.

<http://sutrarexilestudies.com/upcomingevent.html>

### **Elsewhere on the Web**

- The book [Deeper than Indigo](#) by Jenny Balfour-Paul, which traces the footsteps of Victorian traveller Thomas Machel, is out now in hardback and out in paperback from 31 May. There is also a series of [related events](#).
- Dr Jenny Balfour Paul is one of the speakers at [Indigo Sutra](#), a conference celebrating indigo, which will be held in Indian Council for Cultural Relations, Kolkata from 9th - 11th November, 2017

- [Are We Knitting Too Many Tiny Sweaters for Animals?](#)
- [Pros and Cons of Developing Your Own Yarn Line](#)
- Crowdfunding is underway for [WOODS: Making Stories](#) a new knitting book sharing passion for local, breed-specific European yarns. The book includes 11 minimalistic modern knitwear designs.
- [Assington Mill](#) in Sudbury, Suffolk offers a wide range of craft courses.

### **Other Newsletters**

- [Crafts Council Newsletter](#)
- [Voluntary Arts Newsletter](#)
- [Craft & Design Newsletter](#)
- [Craft Industry Alliance Newsletter](#)

### **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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