



THE ASSOCIATION OF GUILDS OF WEAVERS, SPINNERS AND DYERS

Reg. Charity No. 289590 Website: www.wsd.org.uk

President: Jenny Balfour Paul Life President: Paddy Bakker

Vice Presidents: Peter Penneck, Jenifer Midgley

Association Newsletter, July 2018

Association News

National Exhibition 2018 'Textile Creations'

The 2018 National Exhibition 'Textile Creations' is on now until 29 July at the University of Strathclyde, Scottish Universities Insight Institute. The exhibition includes 104 'selected' works by Guild members (those chosen by a panel), plus 114 'unselected' works by Guild members on the theme of Charles Rennie Mackintosh Jewellery.

Guild members are encouraged to visit this excellent exhibition before it closes on the 29 July. Images and video from the exhibition will also be shared on Association social media channels (links at the end of the newsletter) for those not able to attend in person, or who would like another look.

New Guilds (Lavant Spinners, High Peak & Penwith)

We are very happy to welcome three newly formed Guilds and their members: Lavant Spinners in West Sussex, High Peak in Derbyshire, and Penwith in Cornwall. Welcome to the Association!

Regional Reps

The Association has sufficient GPC members to launch long awaited Regional Reps, with each GPC member representing Guilds in one of the ten regions. GPC members will shortly be making contacts with Guild Secretaries in their region. This is intended to provide Guilds with a point of contact on the GPC, and a mechanism, if you don't already do so, to get to know Guilds in your region and possibly explore ways of working together

Knit for Peace Dressing Gowns

In 2015, the Association encouraged Guilds to knit dressing gowns for the charity Knit for Peace. 24 were knitted and handed over to Knit for Peace at the November Knitting and Stitching Show at Ally Pally. An article about the dressing gowns appeared in the May 2016 issue of Simply Knitting, which included a dressing gown knitted by Association Treasurer Liz Day. During June 2018, Liz was emailed by a woman in South Africa asking for more information, as she had seen the Simply Knitting article and was hoping to start a group at her church to make gowns and possibly try and encourage other church groups and knitting groups held at wool shops to start knitting these for next winter. The challenge set by the Association in 2015 has spread further across the world.

Web Information Point & Speakers List

The [Web Information Point \(WIP\)](#) has been extensively updated, including the Speakers' List, which has been brought up to date and made compliant with GDPR. All Guilds have been contacted to ask if they would like to recommend new Speakers, and these will be added once recommended speakers provide permission.

Foundation Certificate in Spinning

The Foundation Certificate in Spinning is continuing to be popular with members, with 74 active students, plus 10 awards made this year so far. The Certificate has six excellent mentors, but is looking for two more to represent South of Scotland and East Anglia. Please contact Janet Maher, Foundation Certificate Coordinator, if you are able to help: foundationspin@wsd.org.uk

Foundation Certificate in Dyeing

A Foundation Certificate in Dyeing is currently being designed, with the aim to pilot with a first cohort of students later this year. Janet Maher, Foundation Certificate Coordinator, is currently looking for eight Regional Mentors to support students, please get in touch if you can help or would like to know more: foundationdye@wsd.org.uk

New Association Website

As announced at the AGM, Association Secretary Soo Coates has been working extremely hard with web designers on a completely new website, which was launched the week after the AGM. All Guilds are requested to update their own pages, and Soo has been in touch with all Guilds inviting them to do so. Please take a look: <https://www.wsd.org.uk/>

Association Bookmarks

New Association bookmarks were launched at the AGM and were so successful that supplies ran out. The bookmarks contain images of all Association activities, website information for both the Association and the Journal, and a ruler in both imperial and metric. Guilds can obtain bookmarks for members and/or to hand out while demonstrating by contacting Association Secretary Soo Coates (secretary@wsd.org.uk).

Association Photo Archive

The historic photo archive of the Association has been digitised and stored on Flickr. To preserve the privacy of Guild members, the images are not publicly available, but are shared with 'Friends and Family', and each Guild Secretary is invited to become a 'Friend' to access the photos. More information and instructions are available on the [Web Information Point \(WIP\)](#) under the heading 'Digital Slide Collection'

Stuart Groom Memorial Library News

A public outing of a selection of books from the Library took place at the Conference, and it was encouraging to see how many people signed up to join this amazing and valuable resource for all members. Association Librarian Nik Knott has taken a selection of books from the Library to local Guilds and is also very willing, by prior arrangement, for Guild members to call at her house in Norfolk to browse at your leisure: librarian@wsd.org.uk

A list of all items in the library, as well as membership forms, are available to all Guild members on the [Web Information Point \(WIP\)](#).

Journal News

Coming in your next Journal.....our special Colour Issue!

- Norwich Red - A Lost Recipe for Scarlet On Silk, Wool And Cotton
- Dyeing Fibre for Fractal Spinning - An Exploration Of Colour

- For The Love of Indigo - My Journeys Through Indigo Past, Present and Future
- A Creative Approach to Colour In Woven Tapestry
- The Theory of Colour Perception
- Colours of The Sun
- Warp Faced Rep: Table Runner for 4 And 8 Shafts

And we've done our best to introduce as much colour as possible into our regulars: Notebook, Guild Highlights, Book Reviews and Exhibition Reviews.

The issue also includes reports on the Association AGM and Conference.

If you love colour, can you afford to miss this wonderful issue?!

Published in late August! If you don't want to miss an issue, subscribe at www.journalwsd.org.uk for delivery straight to your doormat, or through your Guild.

Journal Subscriptions

I'm delighted to report that we will not, despite ever-rising postage costs, be increasing subscription and cover prices next year. We are able to hold prices at their current level, thanks to a healthy increase in subscriptions, partially due to their availability online and the success of our new website, and containment of operating costs.

Christina Chisholm, JEC Chair

Journal Instagram

We now have a Journal presence on Instagram ([@journal_wsd](https://www.instagram.com/journal_wsd)) to join our Facebook and Twitter presence. Please join our growing band of followers!

Tips, Ideas and Inspirations for the Blog

Tips, Ideas and Inspirations will be the subject of the [Journal Blog](#), and contributions are welcomed from Guild members. Please submit to: blog@journalwsd.org.uk

Current Issue of the Journal

The current issue of The Journal, Summer 2018, published on 23rd February includes articles on the following:

- A Year's Weaving: Learning to Weave on Home-Made Looms, Coral Newton
- The Women of Yap's Outer Islands: Weaving their Cultural Identity, Joyce McClure
- A Dyer's Art: Kumejima tsumugi, Alison Mitchell
- Tips for Maintaining your Spinning Equipment, Christina Chisholm
- Armley Mills: A Colourful Past, Edna Barker and Barbara Harper
- Dog Combs: A Useful Fibre Preparation Tool, Ann Fisher

If you don't want to miss an issue, subscribe at www.journalwsd.org.uk, or through your Guild.

Recent News from Guilds

Guilds Together Inspires, Midlands Guilds will be holding a biennial event on Saturday 06 October in Coventry at Christ Church, Frankpledge Rd, Coventry, CV3 5GT. The event will include a talk by John Arbon on 'Great British Fibres' followed by sales, demonstrations, and exhibitions from each of the Guilds. Tea, coffee and cake will be available. £8 in advance or £10 on the door. Bookings or enquiries to covwsd@hotmail.com or 07840 520850.

Guild members are participating in **BritSpin**, an autumn team hand-spinning marathon linked to UK Wool Week, which will take place between 11 - 14 October 2018. The aims of BritSpin are:

- the promotion of handspinning (using a spindle or wheel);
- to support/help raise the profile of the Campaign for Wool and UK British Wool.

Further details about the event can be found on the BritSpin website <http://britspin.org.uk/about.html>

Elsewhere on the Web

- [Perth Festival of Yarn 2018](#), shortlisted in the British Knitting and Crochet Awards Best Knitting Show Event category, returns on 08 - 09 September 2018, at Dewars Centre, Perth, Scotland.
- [Weaving New Worlds](#) at William Morris Gallery (16 June - 23 September 2018). 16 international women artists combine traditional weaving techniques with contemporary imagery. Admission free.
- [Huguenot Festival](#) taking place October 2018 will feature over thirty events in and around the City of London, including a talk about the design process behind the sumptuous Spitalfields silks, and a skills day showcasing the crafts of the Huguenots.

Current & Upcoming Events & Exhibitions

AGWSD National Exhibition 2018, Textile Creations, 16 - 29 July 2018 at the University of Strathclyde

Submissions being accepted until the dates specified in the submission document:

http://www.wsd.org.uk/pdfs/National_Exhibition_SUBMISSION_DOC.pdf

Le Tour de Fleece, 07 - 29 July 2018

Chiharu Shiota: Beyond Time, 30 Mar – 02 Sep 2018 at Yorkshire Sculpture Park, Wakefield
Installation and performance artist Chiharu Shiota has created a site-specific installation of thread within the beautiful 18th-century Chapel.

<https://ysp.org.uk/exhibitions/chiharu-shiota>

Weaving New Worlds, 16 June - 23 September 2018 (Wednesday to Sunday) at William Morris Gallery

16 international women artists combine traditional weaving techniques with contemporary imagery. Admission free.

<http://www.wmgallery.org.uk/whats-on/exhibitions-43/weaving-new-worlds>

AGWSD Summer School 2019: A Textile Heritage, 04 – 11 August 2019 at Askham Bryan College, York

<https://wsdss19.wordpress.com/>

Other Newsletters

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

Contact & Social Media

Sign up to receive the newsletter direct: buff.ly/2qUtXUQ

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

If you have an event/exhibition for inclusion in the next issue of The Journal, please send (at least four months in advance) to: diary@thejournalforwsd.org.uk

Follow the Association on social media:

[Facebook](#)

[Instagram](#)

[Twitter](#)

Association Website: <https://www.wsd.org.uk/>

Web Information Point (WIP): <http://aswd.pbworks.com>

Guilds Together *Inspires*

6 October 2018

One day event

by Guilds of Weavers, Spinners & Dyers

Great British Fibres – a talk by John Arbon

Sale of fibres, yarns
and weaving supplies

Demonstrations of
Saori Weaving
Takadai Braiding

Exhibition of work by guilds

Book Stall
Raffle

Tea/coffee, cakes supplied
– bring your own lunch

Christ Church,
Frank Pledge Road
Coventry CV3 5GT

Doors open 10am

Tickets
purchased in advance £8
or £10 on the door

Bookings or enquiries
covwsd@hotmail.com
text or tel 07840 520850

