

1983

President: Enid Gaskell
Chairman: Donald and Pat Quick (joint)
V-Chairman: Alan Quincey
Secretary: Audrey Cousins
Treasurer: John Seddon
Committee: Eleanor Matthews, Gillian Spires, Brian Darbyshire,
Robin Jolley
Subscription: £3. (£1.50p for Associate Membership - Associates receive
the "Newsletter", pay a small fee to attend meetings, but
are not eligible to vote at the AGM or to submit entries
to exhibitions)
Membership: 214 plus 6 Honorary Members
Events: Owing to increasing membership the Guild moved its
meeting place to St. Loye's School of Occupational
Therapy in Topsham Road, Exeter.

Dartington course:

Ann Lander - Spinning

Roderick Owen - Braid Weaving

Diana Seward - Feltmaking

Exhibition at the Royal Albert Museum, Exeter,
September/October.

Meticulous and painstaking work in progress on the two
main sections of the Altar Throwover for Exeter
Cathedral:

1 A gold loom woven cloth By Mary Yallop

2 Six Tapestry Panels

This project involved many Guild members working
together. Full reports and photographs are held by the
Committee.

1984

President: Enid Gaskell
Chairman: Donald and Pat Quick (joint)
V-Chairman: Alan Quincey
Secretary: Alan Goode
Treasurer: Judith Morrison
Committee: Eleanor Matthews, Juli Somme, Geraldine Stone,
Brian Darbyshire, Robin Jolley,
Subscription: £3.
Membership: 265
Events: Owing to the increase of members attending meetings a temporary moratorium on admissions was imposed by the Committee. On payment of £1 prospective members could become 'contributors'. They would receive the "Newsletter", and could use the library facility.

Weekend course at Dartington:

Gillian Spires - Japanese paper making methods

Jill Watts - Tapestry

Outing to Coldharbour Mill, Uffculme, and Broadhembury House, the home of Inger Drewe

Six members had items selected for National Exhibition at Kendal.

Small exhibition at Tucker's Hall, Fore Street, Exeter - 28 September

On 8 December a short Service of Dedication in the Cathedral. The Dean, The Very Reverend Richard Ayre, accepted the Altar Throwover from the newly appointed Guild President Joyce Cooke

1985

President: Joyce Cooke
Chairman: Eileen Seddon
V-Chairman: Alan Quincey
Secretary: Alan Goode (retired March) - Daphne and Arthur Boustred
co-opted
Treasurer: Phyl Didsbury
Committee: Joan Boardman, Eleanor Matthews, Juli Somme,
Geraldine Stone, Jean Turner, Brian Darbyshire,
Robin Jolley
Subscription: £3.
Membership: 270
Events: Joyce Cooke became President after the retirement of Enid
Gaskell who had held the position for 12 years
Outing Day was a visit to Gill Dalby's studio at
Brushford, Dulverton, for a day of Natural Dyeing
August: The Association's 11th Summer School was hosted by Devon
Guild, and held at Rolle College, Exmouth. The convenor
was Pat Johns, ably assisted by Joyce Cooke.
There were ten courses: (figures in brackets indicate
maximum student numbers)
1 Flat Classical Tapestry Weaving: Jill Watts (12)
2 Textures in Off-Loom Structures: Myriam Gilby (14)
3 Peruvian and Japanese Kumi Himo Braiding: Roderick
Owen (15)
4 The Use of Looms with Two to Sixteen Shafts: Colin
Squire (10-12)
5 Rug Techniques: Margaret Seagroatt (10-12)
6 Linen - Spinning and Weaving: Penelope Porter (10)
7 Silk - Fibre to Fabric: Cherry Edwards (10-12)
8 Spinning Wool, from Start to Finish: Sylvia Hayes (12)
9 Dyes from Plants: Dr. David Hill and Astrid Furnival
(12)
10 Design for Weaving: Granville Marshall with Tim Searcy
(15)

1986

President: Joyce Cooke
Chairman: Eileen Seddon
V-Chairman: Joan Boardman
Secretary: Daphne and Arthur Boustred
Treasurer: Phyl Didsbury
Committee: Sheila Rowberry, Juli Somme, Geraldine Stone, Jean Turner, Brian Darbyshire, Mike Rowberry. Eleanor Matthews, (co-opted)
Subscription: £3.
Membership: 256
Events: Exhibition at Killerton House, Broadclyst, Exeter
Association of Guilds Exhibition at St. William's College, York
Outing to Glynn Vivian Art Gallery, Swansea to visit the Egyptian Landscapes Weavings from the Ramses Wissa Wassaf School
The Guild started knitting six-inch wool squares, to be sewn or crocheted together by a volunteer - Mollie Baker - and later by Enid Gaskell, and then given to Oxfam
Outing to Church Farm Weavers, Kingston St. Mary, Taunton and the English Basket Centre at the Willows, Curload, Stoke St. Gregory, Taunton
Three prominent Guild members died this year. Margaret Barron (an early member) who had served on the committee and had been chairman from 1975-77 died in a retirement home at Malvern, Worcs, in May. Many meetings were held at her home, Old Palmers, Dalwood, Nr. Axminster. She did a great deal of work on the St. Nicholas Tapestry, and the altar throwover for the Cathedral.
Later in the month Phyl Shillinglaw died, aged 86, also at Malvern. She and her friend Lucille Clarkson (who died in 1985) had been influential Guild members for many years. Phyl who taught at Rolle College, Exmouth was a member of the Kenn Group of Craftsmen and a founder member of the Devon Guild of Craftsmen.
In August, Ruth Ash died. Her parents, Leonard and Dorothy Elmhurst, acquired the Dartington Estate in the 1920's, developing it into a modern educational and recreation centre. Ruth became well known nationally for the highly successful craft courses she organised at Dartington, and was a well loved and respected member of Devon Guild for many years.
Four tapestry woven kneelers Blessed and Dedicated by the Dean of Exeter on St. Peter's Day, 29 June. They complement the Altar Throwover - used on High Days and Holy Days in the Church Calendar
Initiation of scholarship of £50 to help a member attend a course, with the proviso that the knowledge gained be shared at Guild meetings.

1987

President: Joyce Cooke
Chairman: Eileen Seddon
V-Chairman: Joan Boardman
Secretary: Daphne and Arthur Boustred
Treasurer: Phyl Didsbury
Committee: Janet Cunningham, Jill Dewer, Diane Richards, Roma Smith,
Juli Somme, Geraldine Stone, Jean Turner
Subscription: £4
Membership: 260
Events:

Dartington course in May:

Sue Harris - Silk Spinning
Pat Johns - Tapestry Weaving
Penny Porter - Linen Weaving

Fee £80 residential

Topsham Museum: A display of dyestuffs appropriate to
17/18 century arranged for the museum by Eleanor Matthews
and Rhona Quincey

A day with Mabel Ross. Mabel, a graduate of Edinburgh
University has taught mathematics and instrumental music,
and her books, 'The Essentials of Handspinning' and 'The
Essentials of Yarn Design', clearly explain every aspect
of spinning.

Association Summer School held at Galashiels, Scotland

1988

President: Joyce Cooke
Chairman: Eileen Seddon
V-Chairman: Joan Boardman
Secretary: Daphne and Arthur Boustred
Treasurer: Phyl Didsbury
Committee: Janet Cunningham, Jill Dewer, Isobel Hepworth,
Diane Richards, Juli Somme, Roma Smith, Tim Timmings
Subscription: £5
Membership: 210
Events: Devon hosted the South & West Area Guilds meeting in
March
Exhibition: "*Fleece Fabric & Fashion*" at the College of
Agriculture, Bickton, Devon in May
Association of Guilds Biennial Exhibition at Wells,
Somerset
Devon Guild Exhibition at the Museum of Costume,
Rougemont House, Exeter

1989

President: Eileen Seddon
Chairman: Tim Timmings
V-Chairman: Janet Cunningham
Secretary: Roma Smith
Treasurer: Doris Nethercott
Committee: Sally Cudmore, Jill Dewer, Sheila Entwistle,
Isobel Hepworth, Sylvia Hughes, Diane Richards, Mary Toft
Subscription: £5
Membership: 184 plus 8 Honorary Members
Events: Members participated in South West Group of Coloured
Sheep Breeders & Rare Breeds Survival Trust SHEEP SHOW at
Coldharbour Mill, Uffculme, Devon
Outing to Somerset Guild for talk by Robert Patterson
late of York Folk Museum
Association of Guilds Summer School at Loughborough,
Leics
Guild moved its meeting place to St. James' High School,
Beacon Lane, Exeter
Chairman and Secretary resigned due to ill health
Vice Chairman Janet Cunningham took the Chair until
November and Sheila Entwistle became Secretary

1990

President: Eileen Seddon
Chairman: Mary Toft
V-Chairman:
Secretary: Sheila Entwistle
Treasurer: Doris Nethercott
Committee: Sally Cudmore, Eileen Gladstone, Isobel Hepworth,
Ann Valance, Claire Winter, Jann Wirtz, Betty Witts
Subscription: £7.50p
Membership: 166
Events: Eight members took part in a "Sheep to Shoulder" event at
Dartington. Not a race, a jumper finished in four hours
Guild Exhibition "Spindle to Loom" at the Chapter House,
Exeter Cathedral
Outing to Sally Zealley's Farm, Luscombe, Bovey Tracey
National Association Exhibition at Liverpool - "Follow
the Thread"

Dartington course:

Pat Johns - Tapestry Weaving.

1991

President: Eileen Seddon
Chairman: Mary Toft
V-Chairman: Eileen Gladstone
Secretary: Sheila Entwistle
Treasurer: Doris Nethercott
Committee: Karin Barton, Isobel Hepworth, Jacqui Laverick,
Freda Smith, Claire Winter, Jann Wirtz, Betty Witts
Subscription: £7.50p
Membership: 157
Events: 40th Anniversary of the founding of the Devon Guild
Competition: "A Present for a 40th Anniversary"
Outing to Colehayes Park, Bovey Tracey, home of
Rosemary Longfield, for a day of Natural Dyeing with
Jill Dalby
Members participated in the "Third Uffculme Sheep Show"
at Coldharbour Mull, Uffculme
February meeting cancelled owing to severe ice and snow
The Guild had a stand at the Exhibition of Creative
Stitches at the Show Ground, West Point, Exeter.
Soft furnishings made by a small group of members, led by
the Chairman, were presented to Dartington to be used in
one of the bedrooms. The room is called the "Enid
Gaskell Room"

1992

President: Eileen Seddon
Chairman: Mary Toft
V-Chairman: Joan Boardman
Secretary: Sheila Entwistle retired. Jann Wirtz appointed
Treasurer: Doris Nethercott
Committee: Karin Barton, Astrid Grensted, Gloria Peek, Freda Smith,
Betty Witts (librarian)
Subscription: £7.50p
Membership: 150.
Events:
 May: The fourth Uffculme SHEEP SHOW at Coldharbour Mill,
 Uffculme. As well as a group entry in the Craft
 Competition gaining 3rd prize, the Guild mounted a 'SHEEP
 to SHAWL' event.
 July: Annual Outing to the Wool Board Depot at South Molton,
 followed by a visit to the home of the Secretary, Jann
 Wirtz, which included an indigo dyeing session, a light
 hearted competition, and a visit to a Trout Farm.
 A 'Childrens' Day' was held at Maggie Whiteman's farm
 near Cullompton.
 September: Several members attended to demonstrate and talk to the
 public at a '*Creative Stitches*' Exhibition at Westpoint,
 Near Exeter. 120 stitch-craft related stalls under one
 roof.
 October: Some members joined with Somerset in a visit to the
 National Association Exhibition at Ingatestone, where
 five Guild items were on display.
 The Guild was saddened at the death of two members, Joan
 Williams and Gertrude Wyvill. Joan, for many years had
 been 'one end of the Trading Stall', taught weaving at
 Dartington and, after the death of Ruth Ash, organised
 some of the Dartington courses.

1993

President: Eileen Seddon
Chairman: Joan Boardman
Secretary: Jann Wirtz
Treasurer: Marian Dawson

Committee: Karin Barton, Phyl Didsbury, Astrid Grensted, Eleanor Matthews, Muriel Osborne, Gloria Peek, Freda Smith, Edna Wheatley

Subscription: £10. Joint £15. Associated & Junior £5

Membership: 141

Events: Biennial Guild Exhibition was held at The School Rooms, Killerton

“Sheep to Jumper” - Otterton Mill

Pat Johns' tapestry “The River's Song” was unveiled at R D & E Hospital

The speaker in June was Bishop Richard Rutt - The History of Knitting

The Phyl Shillinglaw trophy was awarded to Peggy Hodges

Creative Stitches at Westpoint

1994

President: Eileen Seddon
Chairman: Joan Boardman
V. Chairman:
Secretary: Jann Wirtz
Treasurer: Marian Dawson

Committee: Christine Seaborne, Sybil Lines, Astrid Grensted, Eleanor Matthews,
Muriel Osborne, Monica Woodcock, Derek Wheatley, Edna Wheatley

Subscription: £10. Joint £15. Associated & Junior £5

Membership: 141

Events The Guild sadly noted the death of Dorothy Flowers – a very early
member. And
also that of Anna Bowers, founder of Fibrecrafts, and who had recently
been
Chairman of the Association of Weavers Spinners & Dyers.
Another sad death this year was that of Arthur Williams, for many years our
Receptionist.

The Guild bursary was awarded to Maggie Whiteman

disaster A visit to Shetland was organised by Joan (following the Braer oil tanker
in 1993). Diary in Newsletter Oct. 1994

The Guild exhibited and demonstrated at:
The Uffculme Sheep Show
Creative Stitches - at Westpoint
The Big Sheep - Bideford

Staged an exhibition at Fairlynch Museum, Budleigh Salterton

The Annual outing was to Shan Palms home and studio at Widdecombe

Members visited the Biennial Association Exhibition at the Glyn Vivian
Art Gallery, Swansea

We hosted the South West Area Meeting - speaker Jenny Balfour-Paul

,,,,,,and had a Christmas Party.....