



# 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 2018

### Association News

#### **BBC Get Creative**

The Association is taking part in the Get Creative Festival which will be taking place all over the UK between 17 - 25 March 2018. The festival is an annual celebration of creative participation of all kinds and is a great way for people to try something different with hundreds of hands-on events on offer.

Guilds organising hands-on events during 17 – 25 March (which are free, or only have small materials costs) can promote them as part of the festival, by uploading them to an interactive map ; <https://getcreativeuk.com/>

More information is available online using the hashtag #getcreative and on the event [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#) accounts.

#### **Insurance Documents & Membership Cards**

Guilds have been sent an up-to-date insurance document and membership cards. If any Guild hasn't received these they should get in touch with Liz Day at [treasurer@wsd.org.uk](mailto:treasurer@wsd.org.uk)

#### **AGWSD Conference 2018: “Then and Now” and AGM**

The conference is taking place from Friday 11 to Sunday 13 May 2018 at the Kents Hill Park Training and Conference Centre, Milton Keynes, and is on the theme of “Then and Now”. There are five expert speakers who will be looking at the origins of craft and artisan production in Britain, tracing forwards from the Bronze Age through revivals to the present day.

Kents Hill Park is an attractive, comfortable and easily accessible venue and bookings are coming in steadily. So if you want to attend, you should get your booking in as soon as possible! Booking closes on 03 March. The venue capacity is limited so a waiting list will operate if necessary. Booking forms and conference information have been sent to all Guild Secretaries and is also on the WIP area of the Association website, or via the following links:

- Information: <http://wsd.org.uk/pdfs/AGWSD%202018%20conference%20information%20%20for%20Guilds%20vf.pdf>
- Booking form: <http://www.wsd.org.uk/pdfs/2018conferencebooking.pdf>

The Association AGM will be held on the afternoon of Saturday 12 May, and in the evening there will be a conference dinner followed by a short film and talk from Alain Rouveure about his work in Nepal with the carpet weavers who produce his Tibetan rugs.

#### **National Exhibition 2018 Submissions**

Submission details for the 2018 National Exhibition ('Textile Creations' which will take place 16 - 29 July at the University of Strathclyde) have been sent to Guild Secretaries and are also available online: [http://www.wsd.org.uk/pdfs/National\\_Exhibition\\_SUBMISSION\\_DOC.pdf](http://www.wsd.org.uk/pdfs/National_Exhibition_SUBMISSION_DOC.pdf)

Submission deadlines for Guild Secretaries (who will submit all entries on behalf of their Guild) are as follows:

- Selected Work: 21 April 2018;
- Open Section, Non-juried Work "Charles Rennie Mackintosh Jewellery": 23 June 2018.

### **Stuart Groom Memorial Library News**

The list of all books available from the Library will be accessible to all Guild members via the Web Information Point (WIP), which can be accessed via the 'Members' section of the [Association Website](#).

Questions can be submitted to Nik Knott, AGWSD Librarian on [library@wsd.org.uk](mailto:library@wsd.org.uk)

### **Journal News**

#### **Journal Website**

The Journal's new website features a 'Diary' section which can be searched by event time, month and region. Do also visit our blog (<https://www.journalwsd.org.uk/blog>) for lively discussion, tips and tricks and ideas on all matters WSD! The comments facility makes it easy to start your own discussion threads, and our Blog Manager, Debby Channing, looks forward to hearing from you.

#### **Coming up in your Spring Journal, published on 23rd February**

- A Life in Looms - featuring Don Porritt
  - Weaving on the Rigid Heddle with varied yarn weights with Tamara Poff
  - Explore Tyrian Treasure in the archive with Isabella Whitworth
  - Take a lesson in tapestry design with Leslie Fox
  - Introduction to Foundation Certificates with Janet Maher
  - Orkney seascape inspires novelty yarn design with Christina Chisholm
- and
- Summer School 2017 and CoA 2017 full reports

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

The current issue of The Journal, Winter 2017, includes articles on the following:

- Colours of Scotland: Dyeing Traditions, Carole Keepax
- Exploring Warp Ikat, Martin Weatherhead
- The Crios: A Weaver's Quest, Susan J Foulkes
- Wool fleece. To Wash or Not to Wash? That is the Question, Ann Fisher
- Readers' Showcase: Mordant Pastes, Isabella Whitworth
- Foundation Certificate in Spinning – A Student's Perspective, Nik Knott

Subscribe at <https://www.journalwsd.org.uk/> or through your Guild.

### **Recent News from Guilds**

**Durham Guild** will be exhibiting at [Maker Fair UK](#) on 28-29 April 2018, which has an estimated total footfall of 10,000 over the two days.

**Wealden Guild** recommend speaker John Arbon's ([info@jarbon.com](mailto:info@jarbon.com)) lecture on his mill and the fibres he spins there.

"This was John's first lecture to a Guild and his powerpoint presentation was excellent. He started with a description of wool and its properties, followed by an explanation of woollen and worsted spinning. He showed charts comparing various wools and fleeces (e.g. alpaca) and other fibres from plants etc. and the processes involved in making them into yarn. John also described the production of various 'eco' fibres and the processes and chemicals involved. He had a slideshow of his mill, showing the different sections and processes his wool goes through from receipt from the Wool Board through to the final product sold in his shop.

The talk was very informative and it was very helpful for choosing which yarn to buy from his well-stocked mobile shop that he also brought along.

Guild members appreciated his clear, knowledgeable, well researched and easily understood lecture and it is highly recommended to other Guilds".

### **Elsewhere on the Web**

- [One year natural dyeing course with Jenny Dean](#) at Ditchling Museum beginning Sunday 18 March 2018 (subsidised price of £180 for 12 days inc. materials);
- [Peter Collingwood Woven:Unwoven](#) is on at Crafts Study Centre, University for the Creative Arts, Farnham, Surrey until 30 June 2018;
- Touring exhibition bringing together the work of three textile designer-makers: Alison Ellen, Ann Richards and Deirdre Wood, [Soft Engineering: Textiles Taking Shape](#), at Winchester Discovery Centre until 18 February.
- [Mass participation artwork celebrating 100 years of votes for women](#).

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

**Balenciaga: Shaping Fashion**, until 18 February 2018 at the Victoria and Albert Museum, London Examines the work and legacy of influential Spanish couturier Cristóbal Balenciaga, with over 100 pieces crafted by 'the master' of couture, his protégées and contemporary fashion designers working in the same innovative tradition.

<https://www.vam.ac.uk/exhibitions/balenciaga-shaping-fashion>

**Get Creative Festival**, 17 –25th March 2018

<https://getcreativeuk.com/>

**Sampled Lives: Samplers from the Fitzwilliam Museum**, 6 May 2017 – 08 April 2018 at the Fitzwilliam Museum, Cambridge

Over 100 samplers from the Museum's collection of beautifully embroidered and stitched samplers illuminating the lives of girls and women, from the mid-17th to early 20th century.

<http://www.fitzmuseum.cam.ac.uk/calendar/whatson/sampled-lives-samplers-fitzwilliam-museum>

**AGWSD Conference 2018: "Then and Now"**, 11 - 13 May 2018 at Kents Hill Park Training and Conference Centre, Milton Keynes

The Association's 2018 Conference, organised by the Guilds in Region G (London and Northern Home Counties), will be on the theme of "Then and Now". It will look at the origins of craft and artisan production in Britain, tracing forwards through revivals to the latest resurgence of interest, and how past practice affects the present.

- Information: <http://wsd.org.uk/pdfs/AGWSD%202018%20conference%20information%20%20for%20Guilds%20vf.pdf>
- Booking: <http://www.wsd.org.uk/pdfs/2018conferencebooking.pdf>

**Thomas Chippendale, 1718-1779: A Celebration of Craftsmanship and Design**, 09 Feb – 09 June 2018 at Leeds City Museum

The most comprehensive exhibition of Thomas Chippendale's work ever presented, it will include furniture, accessories, drawings, documents and other material from collections throughout the United Kingdom.

<http://chippendale300.co.uk/exhibition/>

**Peter Collingwood Woven:Unwoven**, 02 Jan – 30 June 2018 at Crafts Study Centre, University for the Creative Arts, Farnham, Surrey

The exhibition displays Collingwood's 'Ethnographic Collection' (historic and contemporary objects and samples, from Indonesia to South America, Arizona to Africa) alongside Collingwood's own work.

<http://www.csc.uca.ac.uk/new-events/2018/1/2/peter-collingwood-wovenunwoven>

**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](http://www.wsd.org.uk/pdfs/National_Exhibition_SUBMISSION_DOC.pdf)

### **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](http://buff.ly/2qUtXUQ)

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 (at least four months in advance) to: [diary@thejournalforwsd.org.uk](mailto:diary@thejournalforwsd.org.uk)

Follow the Association on social media:

[Facebook](#)

[Instagram](#)

[Twitter](#)

Association Website: <http://www.wsd.org.uk/index.php>

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

Submit or search Association and Guilds photos: <https://www.flickr.com/groups/agwsd/>