Greenham Common Trust

Kennet Valley Guild of Weavers, Spinners and Dyers

The Shuttle

June 2020

NOTE FROM THE EDITOR

This edition of the Shuttle is in a different format to usual. Our usual printer is not available due to the current situation. Rather than not have a shuttle, we decided to produce one to be made available online. This means that, I do not have the same design limitations as usual, and I am going to make use of this freedom. We will be home printing a limited number of copies for those members who do not have Internet, but we are hoping that everyone else will just read it online or print out their own copy from the online pdf.

We have also tried to encourage members to send information about what they have been doing in lockdown, not just spinning, weaving, or dyeing projects. With no meetings, this may help us to keep in touch with each other.

I don't know yet whether the September Shuttle will be back to normal, but I suspect it will be in the same format as this one, so I entreat you all to send me items about how you're keeping sane and busy during the next three months ready for the next edition. If, by some miracle, we are back to normal, it will still be interesting to have such information on record!

Lynne Harper, Shuttle Editor

FOR YOUR DIARY

7th June	**Workshop - Blending Fibres on a Carder and Board**
4th July	**Guild Meeting**
5th July	**Workshop – Willow Basket Weaving**
1st August	**Guild Meeting**
5th September	**Guild Meeting - Talk: Holiday Mementos by Guild Members**
3rd October	**Guild Meeting - Rush Growing and Harvesting with the Coracle**
4th October	**Workshop – Rush Basket Making**
9th – 11th Oct	**Guild Retreat**
7 November	**Guild Meeting - The Tudor Cloth Industry**

ALL CANCELLED

GUILD MEETINGS

Guild meetings 'in the flesh', at Greenham are cancelled until further notice. However, for those of you who are on line, and happy with Zoom, there will be some virtual meetings, More information later in the Shuttle.

GUILD DEMONSTRATIONS and GUILD COURSES

In view of the Covid-19 situation there will be no demonstrations, or workshops/courses this year, however we hope that this will be back to normal in 2021, so watch out in forth-coming shuttles for more information.

CHAIRMAN'S CHAT

Well, a lot has gone on since I last wrote my Chairman's chat. We knew things were happening, but the pace of change has been tremendous. I know most of you have been in complete lockdown for the past three months, but I also know you won't have been bored or idle. I have continued to work one day a week (I work for a firm that makes glue to stick medical equipment together) and for the rest of the time I've found plenty to do. My husband and I have taken full advantage of the glorious weather and have taken to exploring the beautiful countryside right on our doorstep. We average 35 miles a week. I've had to buy some more walking boots as the flint has played havoc with the soles. As far as textiles is concerned, I'll tell you all about that elsewhere in the Shuttle.

On the Guild front it is uncertain when we will be getting back together physically, so, taking Berkshire Guild's example, we are going to trial some Zoom sessions (see later article). Hopefully these will prove popular and will enable us to stay connected. I apologise now to the members who don't have internet or the means to join us - Lynne is very kindly printing this shuttle out so that they can see what is happening. If anybody is unsure or worried about accessing Zoom, our Website or Facebook page please don't hesitate to give me a shout either via email or ring me, or Nicky Duncan (kvgwebmaster@gmail.com).

As you know we cancelled the April meeting which should have been our AGM. The committee had a Zoom meeting and our decision was to postpone it until April 2021 (details are in a separate article). Another victim of the current situation is The Retreat, unfortunately, as some of you know, Lynne, Janet and I took the difficult decision to cancel. With the guild's exhibition next year 2021 we decided to hold the next Retreat in 2022. I would like to express my thanks to Lynne, Janet, Rosie and Pat for all their hard work in organising the current, sadly not to be, Retreat.

On a very cheerful note I know you will all join me in wishing Ruth a very Happy 104th Birthday. We will have a cake and lots of candles when we next meet!

Stay safe and hopefully I will see some of you via Zoom. I have been known to wear a hat to cover up lockdown hair.

Louisa Homden

2020 Need to Defer

As you know, the AGM in April was cancelled due to Covid-19. The constitution states that an AGM should occur within 15 months of the previous one. The Committee met over Zoom on the 29th May to discuss the various options.

We considered several different approaches, including an all-members Zoom AGM, but came to the conclusion that the best thing to do was to postpone it until next April. Obviously, a physical meeting any time soon was out of the question, and also a Zoom

AGM would be complex and probably exclude many members through no fault of theirs. Give that we will be voting on a number of issues that are critical to the survival and prosperity of the Guild, we wanted the widest participation possible.

As we voted to approve in the 2019 AGM, we are going to increase the subscription by 25p to cover the increased cost of Association fees.

We realise that this doesn't agree with the letter of the constitution but given the current exceptional circumstances hopefully you agree that our hands are tied. We are also aware of other clubs and organisations that have taken the same steps.

Best Wishes from the Guild Committee

SHOW-AND-TELL

March

Sal showed us a trio of knitted blankets. Two were knitted corner to corner using wool from the charity box. She called this her 'pub knitting'. The third blanket was formed of squares knitted by a friend and crocheted together by Sal's sister.

March Show and Tell

Monica used some wool from Peru which she bought at the Southern Wool Show to weave a colourful scarf.

Stefanie has dyed some of her hand-spun Falklands wool using acid dyes to create a space-dyed yarn in rainbow colours. She also showed us Seamus the alpaca crocheted from her hand-spun alpaca yarn. The pattern came from a book from Toft called Edward's Menagerie.

Marianna has been busy recycling by making jewellery from plastic packaging. The plastic was cut into strips, spun and then knitted into circular shapes of different sizes. These became earrings and necklaces.

Rosie showed us two scarves woven using drafts from the Jeremiah Fielding collection. She has also started on her Christmas sock knitting already with two pairs knitted from WYS sock yarn.

April & May

Obviously no show and tell, as no meetings!

Lynne Bond

GUILD TROPHIES

Trophies awarded since the last shuttle:

April 2020: **June Young Trophy:** This is normally presented at the guild AGM, in memory of Roy's wife, June, to someone for service to guild. The committee decide on the

winner of the June Young Trophy for service to Guild based on nominations, and so this award was able to be announced, in spite of the Lockdown. This year the very worthy recipient was Nicky Duncan. Many congratulations to her. Thank you also to all the members who took the time to nominate people for the award.

Sadly, we have been unable to hold our guild meetings so there have been no trophy competitions.

In May we should have had the **Spinner's trophy**, the **Beginner Spinner's trophy** and the **Beginner Weaver's** trophy. These will be delayed until Guild meetings start again. In the meantime, keep spinning and weaving. In case you want a reminder. The Spinner's trophy this time is for a skein of blended fibres. You can have blended them yourself or have bought the fibre ready blended. Any mix, any fibres. Beginners just have to submit a skein of any spinning they have done and similarly with the beginner Weavers, a piece of weaving woven by someone new to the craft. As always, I am looking forward to seeing lots of entries.

Upcoming Trophies:

The next trophy this year will be the **Hawkridge trophy**. This trophy alternates with the Diddy trophy and is usually presented in October. It is for any item made using Jacob fleece. Here's hoping we will all be able to meet again by then!

Jennifer Thompson

The Kennet Valley Guild Embraces Zoom

March seems such a long time ago, but sadly that's when we all last met up, and right now we don't know when we will be able to get together again. So, taking small steps we are going to see if we can get together using Zoom. Nicky Duncan, our Webmaster, has very kindly agreed to be the organiser (thanks Nicky!). Initially we have scheduled three different meetings, and to fit in with Nicky's work pattern they will be on Friday mornings. They will start at 10:30am and last for an hour.

Friday 19th June - Weavers Chat

Friday 3rd July - Guild Meeting

Including a Show & Tell. Just like our normal Show & Tell but online.

Friday 10th July - Spinners Get Together

If you'd like to be a part of these sessions (and I hope you will!) you will need to do two things:

Firstly, you will need to download Zoom onto your device. It is free and very easy to do. It will work on any computer or tablet. Just go into any search provider and look for Zoom.

Secondly, you will need to email Nicky at kvgwebmaster@gmail.com to tell her which of the meetings you would like to opt into. It can be Weavers, Guild, Spinners or all three.

If your email address isn't the same as your name, for example, bubblesbonbon@... - can you make it clear who you are when you email Nicky. Once all of the names and preferences have been collated, Nicky will send you a scheduled invitation. It will have a link to the meeting, a meeting ID and a password.

10 minutes before the meeting you will receive a reminder that the meeting is starting, at which point you can activate your link. Once you've joined the meeting you will find yourself in a waiting room, then Nicky will admit you to the meeting.

We do expect some teething problems so all I would ask is that you are patient. Hopefully we will then get everyone connected and begin. If you can't attend on the day it's not a problem.

If there are a lot of people talking at once it can become very difficult to hear or participate, so we will take it in turns.

I'm really looking forward to the Show & Tell as I'm sure everyone has been very busy these last 10 weeks - I know I have!

Looking forward to seeing all of you in the first session. **Louisa Homden**

THE 2020 GUILD RETREAT

As you will all know by now, and as Louisa mentioned in her Chairman's Chat, we made the decision to cancel the October retreat this year. We did not make this decision lightly; having initially discussed the matter in mid-April, we left it until Mid-May to decide, hoping that the news would be more definite, and positive. Unfortunately, when this came, we still felt that the only sensible thing to do was to cancel. We do not see that lockdown restrictions will have been released enough to make the retreat workable as normal, and many of you, our members, are in vulnerable groups who are likely to be concerned about the situation even if the lockdown has officially been removed.

Even if it had looked as if the official rules would have allowed the retreat by October and we had decided to risk going ahead, we felt that many of you would feel you could no longer participate, thus giving us problems with financing of the event.

Our tutors, Barbara, Melanie and Sue, all understood the issues, and agreed that the decision was sensible.

The intention is to miss out 2020 completely, and not try to fit it into the Guild programme for next year. We usually have a retreat in the even numbered years, and an exhibition in the odd numbered years, and we intend to stick with that. Next year will be our exhibition, and we plan to organise a retreat for 2022. You have a while before the organisation for

this needs to begin. We have not reserved the services of Sue, Barbara or Melanie for any future retreat, so but do start thinking about who you would like as tutors, and what subjects you would like included in 2022. That way, when the planning begins, you will be ready with suggestions.

One last comment on this year. Sue Macniven was hoping to have a book and video released this year on the Roll Back technique for spinning that she teaches. The book publication has been delayed by the current situation, but she tells me that the video is available for purchase on her website. If you are interested. The website can be found at: http://www.handspun-exotics.co.uk/forsale.html

Lynne Harper

ARTICLES

Member's Memories – Debbie Richardson

I joined Kennet Valley in 1991 when I moved to Sulhamstead from Leamington Spa. I knew how to spin but I was not a very good spinner because I didn't practice enough, generally I would spin once a month. However, I did get involved in the remaking of the Newbury Coat. For that version, we had teams of spinners who practised beforehand to improve our spinning. I was in Linda Moss's team although I can't remember who else was in the team, but we held some training sessions at my house so that I didn't need to find a baby-sitter. I remember the excitement in the marquee when the event started and trying to spin an even yarn although I'm not sure that any of my yarn was ever used! At that time, I was a spinner and a knitter and had not really thought about weaving but seeing the weaving that had been done, I started to get more interested.

Kennet Valley are also responsible for lighting the passion that I have for Japanese braiding. In 1994, Jacqui Carey came to the guild and gave a talk followed by a workshop at Peggy Lott's house where she taught us the basics of using the marudai. She had just published a book on braiding on the marudai and it was not long before I had bought a marudai and bobbins made by the Crisps. Jacqui's book, 'Creative Kumihimo' is still the book I go to when trying to decide on a braid to make.

In 1996, Jan Blight ran a weaving course where I learnt the basics about weaving and produce my first sample. I didn't do any more because shortly afterwards, I moved with my family to San Francisco where we lived for two years returning in September 1998. I continued to be a member of the Guild and kept in touch with members of the Guild so when I came back, I slotted straight back into the Guild. It must have been in 1999 or 2000 that Rosie ran her first weaving course and I attended that, weaving on a Guild loom. In 2000 I went to Convergence in Vancouver and came back with an Ashford 8 shaft table loom that I still use. Convergence is the US Handweavers Guild of

America biennial conference which was an amazing event. I did some wonderful workshops and came back inspired to weave. I then bought an 8 shaft Schacht Might Wolf floor loom which is my main weaving loom.

Kennet Valley have always held some wonderful workshops to learn new things and these have included basket making, weaving and more Kumihimo classes. I remember a class with Shirley Berlin on making braids and trying to kneel at the marudai. It didn't last long! Now I stand to braid or occasionally I will sit. I prefer standing to the marudai because it helps with my posture. We had a wonderful talk by Jennie Parry on the takadai in the days when we met in Newbury and I was taken by the equipment. In 2004 when I went to Convergence in Denver, I met Janis and David Saunders of Braidershand and planned to order a takadai. Rod Owen was there demonstrating on a takadai so I was able to buy that on site and bring it back with me. Jennie came to the Guild and gave a takadai class in 2005 which was held in my house. By this time, I had actually moved to Skipton and the house had been sold but we had a great class and got a few more people hooked on the takadai.

For a few years I was the speaker secretary for the Guild so I would spend a few days poring over the Speakers list and phoning potential speakers to put together a programme for 18 months' time. It was a challenge to try to keep the programme varied and also to get the balance of speakers and non-speaker days for the Guild. We would also try to combine a talk on the Saturday with a workshop on the Sunday if someone was travelling a long way. Somewhere along the way, I got involved in organising retreats at Ufton Court. The facilities were basic, and we had to sleep in dormitories, but the food was great, and we could take our own wine. The workshops were always fun and when we had use of the barn, we were able to do dyeing and spread out. I remember doing a great workshop with Rita Sikkonen Davis on rag rugs and afterwards I wove a couple of rag rugs that I use at home. At that retreat, Priscilla Lowry was teaching dyeing and knitting with silk. Eventually, we decided that we were too old to sleep in dormitories and share only a couple of bathrooms, so we have moved the retreats to hotels that are better suited to our needs.

In the years that I lived in Sulhamstead, I also helped with demonstrations at different shows. The first time I demonstrated I was very nervous because I was supposed to be demonstrating spinning and I have never considered myself to be a competent spinner. I was persuaded that I was still better than someone who had never seen a spinning wheel! I also helped with the weaving course that Rosie has now run for many years. In 2005, I made the decision to take a job in Skipton and move away. Rosie always tells people this was because I was getting away from becoming Chairman of the Guild and I guess that there may have been some truth in that! Since I have moved, I have remained a member of the Guild and I try to get to at least one meeting a year as well as the retreats to catch up with old friends and meet new ones.

I was involved in the second attempt to weave the Newbury Coat held in Newbury. I was one of the weavers and I had a 4-shaft loom on the main floor. We had some problems with warping the loom and then an endless time weaving. We just missed the record, but I put that down to the coat having to be so much bigger this time! It was a wonderful event and I was very happy to be involved again. I love being a member of the Guild even though I am no longer local. Long may it last.

Debbie Richardson

Two weavers go to Whitstable and get blown away

It was wet, really wet, like totally soaking, non-stop wet. So, we didn't get our half day touring Whitstable, checking out the shops and finding the oyster farms. Though that didn't stop Marion adding some fabric to her stash and Sue buying a pretty project bag. We spent an evening trying to dry out in a very nice tapas bar. The following morning the sun was shining but it was very windy. We set out on our planned visit to Margate via a very circuitous route including some dramatically flooded roads. Thanet used to be an island until the Wantsum Channel silted up and it might become one again. We spent the morning viewing 'We will walk... Art and Resistance in the American South' at the Turner Contemporary, including a number of Gee's Bend Quilts. Less shops in Margate so just some yarn and a sewing pattern added to our stashes. We managed our tour of Whitstable harbour and saw the oyster beds on a lovely bright late afternoon. It was clear enough to see the wind farms and the coastline of Sheppey, with Essex on the far horizon.

Loom and Weaving from Margo's workshop

The next day, it was up early, with notebooks, cameras, sketching packs and our weaving heads on, to walk across town to Margo Selby's studio which is based in an old fishing store just behind the harbour wall in Whitstable. Margo Selby is a celebrated contemporary weaver producing luxury silk textiles and richly patterned towels, rugs, furnishing fabrics. She has designed for Tate Galleries, the British Museum, Fine Cell Work, Royal Opera House, London Transport Museum, Habitat, John Lewis, West Elm, Alternative

Flooring, Decca Furniture and Casa Bothelo as well as producing two collections for Osborne and Little. She also makes art weavings such as Vexillum, a triptych of large

hand woven wall panels, shown in Somerset House, London for which she won the Collect Open Award 2020. Margo is a prodigious and highly successful designer, and a wonderful, committed teacher who hosts weekend workshops at her studio.

We were let loose straight away on a lot of table looms all set up with different warps to explore a range of weave structures. Some of the other students were very experienced weavers, everyone else was a beginner. Sue played on the countermarche loom and wove gagnefkrus, Marion tackled supplementary warp. We also investigated deflected double weave, double ombré wound on two beams so some nice pleats were possible, and Lampas. There were plenty of other rich and beautiful warps to play with and an enormous range of exciting weft yarns to choose. It was intense, hard and very rewarding work. All the weaving took place in Margo's studio with a new art weaving in progress on her large Arm loom, samples and designs hanging on the walls and all the paraphernalia of a successful weaving business. We left with our samples, a book of weaving drafts and notes, some free cone ends and our purchases from the Margo Selby shop. Our heads were filled with beautiful colours and patterns, new weaving ideas and a great deal of encouragement and very positive feedback. We kept our energies up by scoffing more biscuits than either of us has had since Christmas.

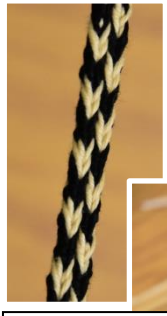
Sue Malvern

Table Weaving Workshop with Shirly Berlin

I have just returned from a day Tablet Weaving with Shirley Berlin - the expression "you learn something new every day" certainly applied in my case. We started with 2 tablets threaded individually and woven with 2 shuttles, to produce a pretty picot edge cord.

Some of Shirley's samples

Then 4 tablets using the continuous warping technique which intrigued me! 2 colours are threaded through all 4 tablets at once and then wound around the warping posts and one dropped mid point on each turn – no neat piles, carefully aligned – just dropped!! Then the jumble is sorted according to instructions in the handout and produces bars and blocks.

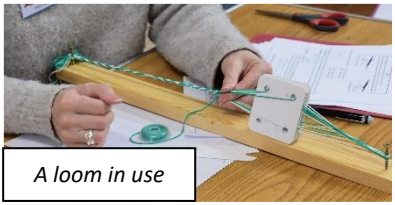


Some of our attempts

We later used the same technique using 16 tablets to produce chevrons and diamonds. Some people moved on to double weave which is the basis for pick up

letters and pictures - not me - I was still figuring out why my chevrons looked better on the underside of my braid!

I can't use this warping technique for my usual little sheep or trees – these tablets must be threaded individually from a draft and turned to form the pattern . . . . . but I am tempted to try 'Egyptian Diagonals' - and beyond - now that I can warp the 24 + tablets required - in 10 minutes!



A loom in use

Shirley was a patient and cheerful instructor and supplied everything we needed for a very good day.

Also a Big Thank You to Lesley who managed to book our workshop before Shirley and her husband move permanently to Canada at the end of this month.

Marie Fitzsimons

(Editor's Note: We were very lucky to get this in just before COVID really took hold and lockdowns started.)

Mexican Magic – The talk at the March Guild Meeting

Embroidered belt

What a fascinating talk. Janice Lawrence wove facts about the history, landscape and culture of Mexico gleaned from frequent visits to the country into a riveting talk.

Janice had an impressive display of joyfully coloured items ranging from embroidered blankets, through headbands to trinkets sold to the tourists. These were made using mainly cotton threads and some beads. She also had a Jaspe warp (similar to Ikat), fine cotton threads which was very sensory.

Some intriguing facts:

- Patterning on buildings can be made using cochineal made from crushed beetles – female is best. (It is International Women's Day tomorrow!) The design is then polished using Opuntia (the cactus with large prickly pads) juice.
- The Agave cactus has fibres in it that can be used to spin fibre.
- Although the Spanish introduced the spinning wheel and treddle loom to the country, people still use the spindle and backstrap loom.

Sue in Huiple, corte and sash

At the end of the talk Sue put on the traditional huiple, corte and sash, she found it to be very comfortable to wear.

Jenny Gribble

GUILD EXHIBITION 2021 - 'I must go down to the seas again'

We may have had to cancel the Retreat this year, but there should still be an exhibition next year. The plan is for it to be in the same place, and around the same time as last year, late August – early September. More detailed information should be in the next Shuttle.

Lockdown is the perfect time to start projects for this exhibition. The title theme for the show is shown above, and it covers any aspect of 'Sea'. So you can think of

- seasides – piers, icecreams, punch and judy, rock pools, sand castles…..
- marine life – real or fantasy
- weather – story seas, sunny seas..
- industry – dockyards, oil wells, ships….
- coast – cliff views, beaches, coves, marshes…

Your inputs can be simply inspired by the theme (using colours, shapes, texture…) or could be more direct, for example a tapestry of a scene). However, all items should, ideally, be either spun, dyed, woven, or any combination of the three. Note, we take the concept of weaving broadly, so it could be lace, braids etc.

As usual, there will also be a place for items that do not directly relate to the theme, but it would be great to get a lot that do.

We had a wonderful response for the 2019 exhibition, let's see if we can outdo it for next year. Try and do just one small thing for the 2021 exhibition.

Lynne Harper

MEMBER'S LOCKDOWN NEWS/TALES

Your Hamish Gets Locked Down.

Well Hamish found his travel plans severely curtailed this spring and summer including Shetland Wool Week being cancelled and having his cruise to the Canary Islands cut short as there was Norovirus on the ship. As the captain and crew were so concerned with this bug it came as quite a shock to Hamish - and probably all the other passengers - to be told about Coronavirus just one day before he arrived back in England. It was even more of a shock to find there was no toilet paper or soap in the shops and limits on food although, luckily, K had arranged that he had a good supply of loo roll realising that he wouldn't know but would still need.

Hamish resolved to make a dent in his ridiculously large stash of fibre and yarn and made a start straight away.

Socks are an integral part of Hamish's knitting and the first pair used dip stitch and tuck stitch, both new to him, decorative and fun but the latter took ages. The next pair were colour-work and resulted in diamonds of different sizes running down the sock. He also

had a lovely package from Dragon Hill Studios, the first in their new sock yarn club. It is self-striping, and Hamish decided this would be his relaxing knitting with a vanilla sock pattern. As it was Easter, the colourway was designed to match Cadbury's creme eggs and the box of yarn came with a matching box of creme eggs - P has eaten them in case you were wondering!

Hamish's Bonhoga Fair Isle cardigan also included techniques new to him. It started at the arms which had a gansey inspired pattern using knit and purl in the main colour. The Fair Isle body was knitted in the round up until the armsyths at which point the front and back were knitted flat using the brak and eke technique. Hamish has used this technique in samples but not in a full garment. A three-needle cast off gave a firm shoulder and picking up stitches around the armsyth led to grafting on the sleeves. Having now sewn in all the ends Hamish was distraught at finding the buttons he bought especially for it at Unravel are too big and he can't get out to find smaller suitable ones. At this point an appeal from a hospital doctor also led to Hamish taking time out to knit 22 hearts done in 11 matching pairs so that one stays with the isolated patient in hospital and the matching one goes home with their relative so they feel connected. He is now 3/4 way through a Vitamin D cardigan.

Some of Hamish's lockdown work

As the weather was so good Hamish spent time outside enjoying his spinning. First fluff to hit the wheel was a sample set of merino, linen and bamboo "Silk Road" inspired colours from Hilltop Cloud in beautiful rich tones. Hamish had been given some Cat and Sparrow fluff in lovely greens, purples and white inspired by the suffragette colours and this spun up beautifully as did a bag full of Beaumont fleece. He is now working through some llama/yak/silk fluff that keeps blowing across the garden in the breeze.

Hamish had never used an electric spinner and so took the opportunity to spin up some John Arbon Falkland/Zwartbles on a fabulous Hansen spinner leant by the lovely Hilary. This he found a challenge in that he did not feel he had the same control as when using an ordinary wheel. This was particularly the case when plying and he found himself counting the time spinning rather than the number of pedals. He was pleased with his results though.

Another project Hamish had started was balanced singles. He had got to the stage where they were extremely energised so he used his swift and niddy noddy to felt the strands

slightly and he is pleased with his result although the unknown mix obviously had silk or mohair in it as he ended up with two nasty cuts where the yarn had fought back.

400g of John Arbon fibre followed Hamish home from Unravel earlier in the year and has finally been spun up as have some Shepherd's Hut rolags in lovely blues and greens.

Whilst clearing out the garage P found a box containing some very old, possibly 5 years, acid dye solutions. Hamish Googled how long they would last and discovered it is 6 months. Not to be deterred he got a clear plastic storage box and popped in a merino/silk roving, poured the ancient blue and turquoise solutions over it and left it in the sun in the garden for 2 days. It worked a treat, so dye stuffs last a lot longer than our experts suggest. After an email last week asking how far he had got on with it Hamish is feeling a bit guilty that he has not done any more than set up his tapestry weaving loom but at least it is ready to go when he gets back to it.....

As are we all Hamish is missing the company of his spinning and knitting friends and he is looking forward to seeing you all again.

Craftroom Chaos – Lynne Bond

We have a small third reception room in our house which has had many incarnations over the years. It was sold to us 40+ years ago as a breakfast room (it's never been that!), has twice acted as a temporary kitchen while the actual kitchen was being renovated, has been a playroom, homework/study room and was even turned into a bedroom by our eldest son - a transformation that occurred while we were away one weekend and was presented to us on our return as a fait accompli. During all this time it was also the room to dump all those things that never quite fitted anywhere else. Eventually the youngsters grew up and moved out and I was finally able to claim the room as a craft/laundry room. Along with various bits of equipment there is a large cupboard stuffed full of all sorts of fluffy stuff (there always seems to be room for just one more bag).

Time has moved on and my husband has become less mobile. We've never had a downstairs cloakroom here so, to make life easier, I've reluctantly agreed to give up part of my craft room to make way for a small downstairs loo. Plans have been drawn up, we've engaged the services of a plumber, carpenter etc, all the materials have been ordered and since Christmas I've been slowly emptying out the room, doing a preliminary cull and planning how best to make use of the space I will be left with. Work was due to start on 23rd March and we all know what happened then. Now I have all this time on my hands, but my craft life is scattered all round the house packed in boxes stacked high. Every time I want to lay my hands on something I have to try to remember which box in which room it might be (inevitably it's the box at the bottom of a precarious pile). Luckily my spinning wheel is still accessible along with some fibre which was meant to tide me over for the couple of weeks that the room would be out of action. I'm not sure how long it will be before we feel able to have this work done but I can't wait. Until then there has been an unexpected consolation. My Pilates class has gone online and every Thursday morning

when my fellow classmates are pushing furniture out of the way to make room to do their exercises, I nonchalantly spread my mat in my empty room which has now become a temporary Pilates studio – I certainly didn't see that coming!

Lorna's Lock-down Interludes – Lorna Goldsmith

Gotland wool

⇦ *Spun*

Fleece ⇩

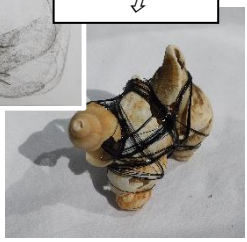
Knitting a Waistcoat

Working full time when being at home is quite a feat – no commute to music, not even a canteen to go to, no offices or meeting rooms to visit, no walk around the synchrotron - just coffee from the kitchen and a full day in front of the laptop, sitting on a hard, albeit slightly cushioned, wooden chair. When work then ends at the end of the day there is cooking and spinning to do. I have been spinning a lot of wool or wool-silk mixtures recently and it has been quite fun imagining what that 2 kg fleece will become. Also knitting a waistcoat to a modified Alison Ellen pattern, all the while watching the TV or, more importantly, binge-watching Sherlock on iPlayer! When husband is watching the TV headphones are of course essential when watching stuff on the web, whether zoom mindfulness sessions, YouTube music or art , and they also keep the hands free for doing stuff.

When the weather is good wool washing can take place and it can hang to dry for days on end. I love Gotland wool and here's the latest cleanish batch – it is being spun quite fine and one ply will have some silk mixed into it, so that the yarn will have a little colour and shine along the way.

⇦ *Drawing*

Small shells sculpture ⇩



And oh, and not to forget the on-line art courses I am also doing building mini sculptures and drawing. This is enjoyable, but also challenging as it has been a while since I worked in this media, when normally everything is about textiles. So, although we can't go anywhere, there is wildlife to spot on a daily walk, wool to prepare and enjoyment to gain from all manner of arts and crafts.

What I'm doing in Lockdown – Janet Dunbar

My garden (like many others in the country) is looking better than it has done for a long time. I decided that some of my lockdown time should be devoted to getting some of my

vegetable beds, which I had allowed to get a bit overgrown, firmly under control. Nature is fighting back but I think I am beginning to get the upper hand.

I decided that the lockdown was also a good time to review my craft stashes and equipment. A quick look under the spare room bed revealed a bag of assorted 4ply knitting yarn which I had bought with the vague notion of weaving scarves. As the weather at the end of March was a bit chilly, and I had cold feet, it occurred to me that perhaps the best use of the yarn was to use it for the purpose for which it was intended and knit socks. I set myself the target of eight pairs of socks by 1st November. I know that for some people (Hi, Rosie!) eight pairs of socks is nothing out of the ordinary but for me, it's a major challenge. As part of that challenge, I decided that I had to learn a different technique from the one I would normally use so I found a pattern for toe-up socks using the 'magic loop' technique on a circular needle. The first sock I completed was perfectly wearable but definitely displays evidence of my steep learning curve. Its (almost identical) partner was a vast improvement and I fairly galloped through the second pair. The third pair flew off the needles (or rather 'needle') and Sock 1 of the fourth pair is now on the final straight after turning the heel. I really like this technique. No more 'Second Sock Syndrome'! No more fiddly bits with three needles around the heel! All that and a pattern that can be customised so that the sock fits exactly how you want it. However, a further challenge is looming. I only have enough yarn of the same type for one more pair. After that, I'm going to have to knit from oddments so watch this space, or perhaps the Guild website …

Janet's first two pairs of knitted socks

Like most people, my other half and I have developed rather unkempt hair styles. My partner developed a head of rather fetching curls which made him grumpy every time he looked in the mirror. I looked for a men's hair clipper on Amazon and discovered that they were in as short supply as toilet rolls and flour but with some persistence managed to get hold of one. I think it's fair to say were both a bit nervous as I fired it up for the first time but using one of the longer comb attachments I managed to produce a rather good result. He was very pleased and wondered why he pays to go to the barber. Is this a new career for me in retirement …..?

What I've been up to – Louisa Homden

Well these last 10 weeks or so have been a wonderful opportunity to spend some time crafting rather than rushing hither and thither. I started off with a great fun small tapestry kit I bought at Unravel. Some of you may have seen photos on our Facebook page. It was such great fun that my husband made me a larger frame so I could have a go at designing my own. Then for my birthday my husband bought me a gorgeous dressing gown. Unfortunately, it didn't have a belt, just ties. Well I was just waiting for something to make

using my stash and try out my new craft, Tablet weaving. This was thanks to an excellent guild workshop just before lockdown. I had great fun the belt has lots of different animals on it. I then decided my sun hat needed a hat band. Another tablet weaving project using my stash. this time I used some lovely Japanese crochet silk, all the way from Japan.

I then moved on to doing some sewing, for myself and for the NHS. All of the scraps of quilting fabric I hoarded made lovely button headbands for my sister in law and her work colleagues. I made a skirt out of some curtain material that I bought because it was in the sale and I fell in love with it. It's pink with huge dragon flies on.

I've also been knitting and can't wait for the cold weather (only joking)! I do miss my spinning buddies and although I have lots of fibre, I can't seem to get down to it. I think I need to chat and spin so hopefully the Zoom spinning session will do the trick!

Louisa in hat and dressing gown, with closeups of the tablet

Looking forward to seeing and hearing what you've all been up to on The Guild Zoom meeting Friday 3rd July at 10:30

Spinning Dyed Silk Rovings – Lesley Dunn

I have a few bags of dyed silk from the Katie Weston Dyeing Day that I did with Kennet Valley Guild. After two years, I decided I had better get a move on to start spinning the bags of rovings stashed in my craft room, so not to feel guilty that I was neglecting it all. Make room, said my conscience. (Ha ha!)

Cut and carded silk waiting to be spun

I had begun to make a start during one of the earlier Berks Guild spinning group meetings but was getting in a bit of a tangle spinning straight from the roving. Not a good idea. I had halved the whole length, which was good, as I can spin two bobbins with each the same amount. Taking my wheel out on the patio to begin to spin, I had one of those eureka moments when I realised I could try cutting short lengths and carding those. It worked! I continued cutting and carding and got a basketful of respectful silk 'chunks' to spin. (See picture).

One thing, I put pieces of kitchen roll in between to separate the colours. Not too good an idea, as the silk attached itself to the paper. But - carefully peeling back the paper towel it worked. The silk did sort of squish together, but as I lifted the top piece, it gently came away. I tried gathering the piece to hold. Bit of a mess doing it that way. But putting the length on my knee and lifting one end to join, actually fared better than gathered. The spinning then became a lot easier, like making a mini roving as I spun. So that's what I do now. Note! Do not card outside when there is a breeze!

PPS. Deary me, it goes on for ever. No way does silk want to be a thick yarn.

Every Cloud…. – Nicky Duncan

After my initial feelings of anxiety, bordering on panic had passed and being so thankful that I wasn't one of the brave souls on the NHS front line, I began to actually like the idea of being locked down for a while. With online food shopping routines established for us and our old folk, it was a case of staying safe, positive and making the most of the free time.

Lockdown has given me the opportunity to indulge in my love of gardening and I have thoroughly enjoyed watching my small garden burst into life. All pots, troughs and planters are being used for flowers, herbs and veg with an abundant crop of climbing and runner beans in prospect.

I'm trying a squash called Twinkle this year so I'm excited to find out what it tastes like. The blurb says that it has fine flesh and a good flavour, especially when picked young and tender, yum! The borders are packed with bee favourites like salvia, veronica, allium, achillea, nepeta, roses and many more. It's a joy to be able to hear the bees at their work; the distant drone of the A34 traffic just isn't there right now.

Views of Nicky's garden

Remember "The Good Life"? That's my dream, with my looms in an outbuilding retreat; and although I've never worn them to Guild, I'm never happier than when I'm in my wellies with my trusty wheelbarrow and watering can at my side!

Not being able to see everyone at Guild and Weavers Chats has been hard but I'm very much looking forward to seeing you in the newly planned Zoom group meetings and hearing all about what you've been doing in lockdown.

Until then, best wishes to you all.

Jennifer's Jottings – Jennifer Thompson

Wingham weekend seems a lifetime ago now. I do remember wondering whether I should go since I fall into two of the categories that were being mentioned at the time as being vulnerable but decided it was worth it - and it definitely was, a wonderful weekend.

However, the fall in the number of attendees on the Sunday was possibly an indication of how serious things were becoming. Would we have our monthly sewing group, our fortnightly spinning group, our weekly walking group? Would the next Guild meeting go ahead?

Then I received THE TEXT. You MUST stay at home. Shock, horror, I really was classed as elderly and vulnerable. 😩😩😩. I was reminded of two incidents from the past. My nan, in her late 80s fetching a Guinness for the 'OLD' lady next door. (She was in her early 70s) and my mom's horror when a local newspaper article, about the very large tree that had fallen down in their garden in a storm, referred to her as ELDERLY. She was only 80! We always say in our family that being old is a state of mind so in reality I am only 30. An old lady is someone with white hair who sits in the sun knitting for hours. OH NO! Lockdown has turned me into a stereotype!😬😬😬

At the beginning of the lockdown I laughingly made myself a timetable. I was going to do a different craft every day to prevent boredom setting in. My stash and UFO pile were going to vanish. Well! That soon flew out if the window. The glorious spell of weather put paid to a lot of my plans because our rather large garden needed a lot of attention and we have certainly given it that. Even my husband, who hates gardening with a passion, has been out there every day with me. We are now on job 121 on our list, which grows daily, but unfortunately some of the earlier jobs now need doing again. The brambles and nettles will just not stop growing. However, on a positive note, we should have our best crop of veggies for years.

Finger support, and some results

Because of the glorious weather, time for craft has been limited but I was absolutely determined to reduce my stash of yarn and fabric and even some of the crates of fibre. Before the lockdown I had been totally inspired by Janet's corner to corner crochet and Stefanie's beautiful crocheted blanket. Only one problem - snapped tendons in my forefinger meant I couldn't tension the yarn properly. I had made various attempts over the years to relearn with a different holding technique but couldn't do it. My lovely husband came to the rescue and decided that he could 3D print a finger splint that would work and, after deciding on the angle that my finger needed to be, he did just that. I needed to pad the end where it sits against the cushion of my thumb, but a couple of plasters and a bit of surgical tape solved that problem. Then how to attach it to my finger? I tried a rubber band, but it cut off the circulation. Then I remembered that Lynne had given me a piece of Velcro when we had made a previous unsuccessful attempt. Of course, I couldn't find it but went into town and bought a pack of Velcro used for holding electrical wires and away I went.

So far I have made two 5' blankets from my stash and another one with yarn I HAD to buy for one of my granddaughter's 'ombré' bedroom. (I had to look that up too!). I have a basket of crocheted 6" squares and am well on the way to recreating a beautiful crocheted Christmas decoration I bought many years ago on a holiday in Iceland.

Yarn Bomb strip on loom

Huck Lace Scarf

My stash of acrylic yarn was huge. Leftovers from making toys, jumpers and cardigans for 9 grandchildren and various other children in the family over the last 18 years. Luckily Rosie had asked for 36" x 12" lengths for yarnbombing the Southern Wool Show so I warped up my old Dryad loom and wove away in tabby to my heart's content. Unfortunately, on one panel I wasn't paying attention, probably singing along to an old 60s song, and it is 2 ½" shorter than it should be. I missed out a whole colour block! I have actually also finished a bamboo Huck lace scarf for me. Such fabulously soft fibre.

Knitting UFO

I had a number of knitting UFOs, left over from when the children grew too quickly. So they are now finished ready to go off to Rosie's refugees. I did have a request from my youngest granddaughter for a rainbow cardigan so I HAD to order more yarn. I took the opportunity to order some for a cardigan for me. I am spinning the special 2020 mix from Wingham to knit the same cardigan but had an urge to start it NOW. It is a lovely pattern so having two won't be a problem. The colours are very different.

My acrylic stash has almost gone. My fabric stash is much depleted after a request from a nursing friend for scrubs wash bags and buttoned headbands so the only two crates really untouched are the one full of sewing kits I have bought from various shows over the years and my fibre stash. However, it looks as if I shall still have a few more weeks of shielding, so you never know. Even those might be depleted too. The only question then will be "what do I put in them?" We all know that nature abhors a vacuum!😂😂

11 Strange Weeks – Jenny Gribble

What a strange 11 weeks we have just lived through. I imagined that I would be able to complete all sorts of projects that I had scattered round the house. In reality it did not turn out that way.

Woven Sampler

I did manage to complete a sample blanket that I started at the last Weavers Chat then other things took over. We have done lots of gardening on the allotment and in the garden, I started cooking for our son and daughter-in-law to help them out as they had to add home schooling to their busy life

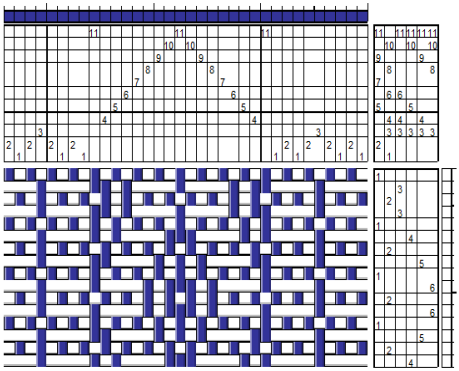
Scrubs and bookmarks

running their own business. Zoom sessions with grandchildren have been interesting. Then a friend said the surgery where she works needed scrubs so I sourced a pattern and material and made 16 sets for them. I have nearly finished 120 bookmarks to be used as prizes for our produce show, which was to be in the autumn, hopefully it will be able to go ahead next year.

As we seem to be going to be home based for a while yet I hope to do more spinning and weaving while enjoying the colourful plants and wealth of vegetables that our gardening endeavours should produce. Bored? No way!

A Weaving Project – Pat Foster

I was very taken with some of the drafts in the Jeremiah Fielding book and decided to weave a length of fabric (sort of scarf) based on No 58, Wild Worm and Cord. The first change is that I used two colours a light and a dark blue for the warp and the same for the weft (see photo). But I altered the draft by adding a mirror image of the original draft and treating the pair as the new draft (see Draft below)



Draft and resulting scarf

Some News from Jan Partridge

I made a footstool from my weaving. I was uncertain what to do with it when I realized Gordon needed a comfortable footrest.

After painting the woodwork on the garage door, I am planning to use some recycled sari silk purchased from Traidcraft with my supply of coffee.

I hope you are all keeping well.

Some of Rosie's Projects

⇧ *Fibre, and spun yarn* ⇨

I really enjoyed having the time to just sit and spin! Added bonus, we had run out of vitamin D so was forced to sit in the garden and soak up the sun🤧😐. Hope everyone is ok and enjoying downsizing their stash.

Just washed this lot plus 3 more skeins so might have the jacket knitted for the next shuttle!

For the weaving, I used bourette silk noil three plain weave and one twill. Really pleased with them but didn't use up all the yarn! No empty cones☹

Silk Scarves

I must mention the Ashford blog, It's really good, I've signed up. I'm knitting ting the boomerang scarf out of odd balls of handspun, which is very satisfying.

I've found some small balls of Regents street yarn and think I might knit them and, fingers crossed sell them at the Christmas fair at Whitchurch.

Boomarang Scarf

Time for a late coffee in the garden, it's what happens when family FaceTimed from Madrid.

Pam's Story – Pam Caine

So, like most of you I'm sure, we started by compiling the 'Big List', home and garden jobs on one side and crafty projects on the other. We ticked off quite a few things in the early weeks, such as giving the lawns some TLC, jet washing the patio. and clearing out the garage. It was just so good to be out in the garden etc after such a soggy, windy winter. Plenty of time later to get the wheel out and maybe that braiding disc with thread and books carefully squirrelled away, or even the Dorset Button jewellery kit……

Quilts and Penguins

Firstly - clear the desk by finishing off two Linus quilts then two 15inch xmas penguins - a printed kit bought in 1990 when the boys were small, now even the grandchildren have grown past them!

Wash bags

Then came the 'making wash bags' for scrubs appeal. This involved pulling out long buried poly/cotton

sheets and remnants from the cupboard depths and mess all over the place. Still, plenty of time to get down to the spinning and fibre later……

Next came the request from daughter in law for fabric masks, so with the help of U-tube and a cooperative hubby (currently sorting through 25 years of radio magazines) I tried out 3 different patterns and decided to send them around the immediate family. Naturally, this involved getting out lots more fabric and looking for a dense enough weave before washing and processing and trying to decide who would like which fabric. So even more mess and threads everywhere in spite of a good hoovering! ……The wheel is really beginning to nag at me now but I'm sure there is loads of time yet……

Masks

……Oh,….. We don't seem to have looked at the Big List for a while, in fact it must be buried under all this fabric. Oh well, time for our daily exercise!

Hope everyone is safe and well, I hope you all have lots of interesting projects on the go

A Second Back Beam – Marion Proctor

We are well but rather tired of our own company as we are not going anywhere except walking around the local area. Consequently, I have done quite a bit of weaving.

Since going to Whitstable to Margo Selby's workshop at the beginning of March I have been sampling Lampas on my 16 shaft AVL Dobby Loom. To do this I needed a second back beam and Margo gave me the blog address of a lady in America who made her own. http://sandrarude.blogspot.com/2011/03/makeshift-auxiliary-warp-beams.html?m=1

Modified loom

I had first put on a 4 metre warp of 2/16 wool and then made a second warp of thin mercerised cotton the same length. So, I looked in my garage and found a strong tube 11 cm diameter by 94 cm long. My husband then produced a piece of wood the width of my loom and made two end supports to hold it above the back rail.

I then hung the tube from this new rail with nylon cord and filled it with tin cans of beans and tomatoes (I have plenty until I need to eat them!) to act as weights. A meter ruler became the stick to hold the second warp of mercerised cotton, this was attached with parcel tape to the tube. Another length of thin wood was attached with rubber bands around the tube to stop the warp unravelling.

Lampas Samples

This second warp is wound on to the tube with paper between the layers and then goes up to the new rail above the first warp and then through the heddles and then the reed to the front beam where it is tied on. Please look at the photo as I am sure you will not follow this description without it.

It is surprising what you can find stashed away in case it will be useful. This has worked very well until I got to the end of the warp and then the tension went a bit wobbly. I think I needed another weight on each end of the tube as the weight of the warp got lighter as I used it.

Having woven my samples, I am now planning to make some fabric for a bag. It is quite firm fabric so could be furnishing fabric.

Daphne's Doings – Daphne Burgess

At the beginning of Lockdown, I decided to use up a very curly Shetland fleece to make a couple of peg loom mats. I also used some fibres that needed using up too. With the Shetland fleece I just pulled off strips as it came and then slightly twisted the rovings, before weaving on to the peg loom. It's made very nice soft seating mats.

Mats and hat

I also had on the go, some Wingham Wool fibre, and spun and knitted up a Beanie hat for my Brother, who has now received it and with some of the chilly days recently has made good use of it. Besides these items I managed to finish off some needlework repairs, and am currently crocheting an unfinished waistcoat from about three or four years ago. Just plodding on with it as it has a few different colours in it, and I needed to dye a little bit more wool to help finish the waistcoat.

I also have my eye on a lot of new Ivy that is growing more and more, beside my garage, and it makes a lovely green colour when boiled up and a little bit of copper is added to the dye bath, I think that Ivy boiled up is a very good way of getting rid of it, and you can get something good from it. Well I hope to meet up with everyone again when it's possible, and hope everyone stays safe and well.

Lockdown with a Kitchen – Marion Moulder

My experience of lockdown is not fantastic.

We had a new kitchen scheduled to start at beginning of February. Then Pete was diagnosed with bowel cancer. Kitchen put on hold. 5 weeks of Radiotherapy and Chemo. Arranged for kitchen to start 3 days prior to end of treatment. Ok so far. Then lockdown. Left with no kitchen. As we were considered vulnerable, the kitchen people crept back and fixed the new oven and hob-no sink or water!

However, they had, fortunately, completed the utility room, so had access to water, although a bit of a hike. 7 weeks like this and now, last week, they came and finished the job-eureka a spanking new kitchen.

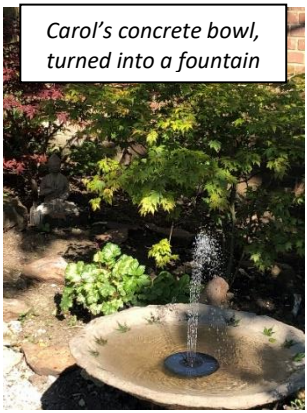
Now we have to wait and see if the treatment has worked, otherwise an op is in the offing.

On a lighter note, I have knitted a stripy jumper for each of my Grandsons. Am looking forward to giving them and to actually see them properly, and not through glass!!

Other Snippets gathered by the Editor

Lots of people I have heard from have been spending a lot of time in their gardens or walking thorough parks/countryside, but the following are some bits of news apart from that.

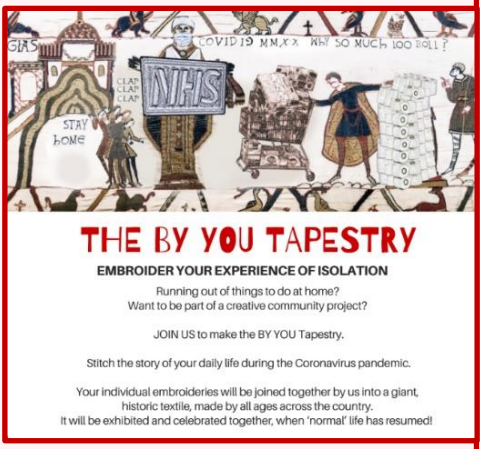
- Val Bedford tells me that she and Peter are well. Trudie has been taking their food down every Wednesday, leaving it outside, and then waiting in the car while they unpack and put the boxes back outside.
- Jan Shailes is OK but feeling a bit bored. She hasn't had a wheel, as she was waiting for a new Louet Victoria to arrive. She did find some of her crochet hooks and was managing to do a bit of crochet with all the yarn she has.
- Freya suffered at the start of the Lockdown having damaged the tendons in one hand and managed to dislocate a thumb. However, she is gradually getting back to being able to do some craft. She's also been able to enjoy walks in her local park given the fantastic weather.
- Our sympathies to Roy, who is suffering with Vertigo, not a pleasant problem at any time. I hope, by the time he reads this, that he is feeling better. As he hasn't been able to proof-read this edition of the Shuttle, I hope he won't find too many mistakes!!
- Sally Shepherd has been busy making a lot of headbands and masks for use by various people. She's also been finding various UFOs to complete.
- Carol Hubbard has been working on her weave sampler, but also showing another side, by making from scratch a concrete bowl for a water fountain.
- Anne Reddan has been very busy with experimenting with dyeing from many dye plants she's grown herself, in addition she has started working through the Theo Moorman exercises from the book.
- Sue Owens has been doing some spinning and trying out a lovely tablet weaving loom made for her by her husband after the Shirley Berlin Course.
- Renée, she of the Swiss sheep, contacted Lesley and said she has 3 alpaca fleece if anyone is interested. Renée keeps them, as guard dogs to keep the foxes at bay. Contact Lesley Dunn if you are interested in the fleece.



Carol's concrete bowl, turned into a fountain

- Lynne Harper has been busy with lots of things. Many of them related to next year's exhibition in some way, but not entirely. One project to weave some tweed (herringbone pattern) is on its way. The intention is to have enough to make a Jacket for her husband – here's hoping, as the length was limited by the amount of yarn.

If you haven't sent any information about how you are getting on, remember that there is another Shuttle in September, and I'd love to hear from you, even if it's only a couple of lines, or a phone call. Any photos will be wonderful as well, but it helps to have a few words to go with them.



BY-YOU Tapestry

The charity 'Stitches in Time' is calling for contributions to their project to make a major tapestry about everyone's experience of lockdown. It's called the BY-YOU Tapestry and is inspired by the Bayeux Tapestry. You're asked to make your own interpretation measure 20cm x 20cm on a piece of cloth at least 22cm x 22 cm (so they can sew them together). You can sew, dye, weave and even spin your own threads. They'll accept contributions until September 2020. Details on their website including all the information you need, the link attached to the screenshot. (https://stitchesintime.org.uk/)

BIRTHDAYS

We normally acknowledge birthdays that are happening in the following month during our Guild Business meeting each month, Unfortunately we have missed the last 3 months, and will miss the next 3 months, So, on behalf of KVGWSD, I would like to wish all our members felicitations for their birthdays.

However, I want to especially send all of our very best wishes to

Ruth Saunders who celebrates her 104th birthday this month.

Ruth, we hope you have a lovely birthday, and many more of them. I'm sorry the cake isn't a real life one of Val's lovely creations!

A few, fun, thoughts:

Seen on a staff notice board: After break could all staff please wash their mugs and stand upside down on the draining board.

Went to a railway fancy dress party. Everyone was wearing platforms.

Question: Which composer is suffering from coronavirus?
Answer: Drycovsky!!

A policeman spots a woman driving and knitting at the same time. Driving up beside her, he shouts out the window:

"Pull over!"

"No," she shouts back, "Socks"

My neighbour knocked on my door at 2:30am this morning, can you believe that, 2:30 am?!

Luckily for him I was still up playing my bagpipes.

CRAFT SOCIALS

All below are currently cancelled, but we hope that sometime in the future they will be able to start again

Aldbourne Braid Days

Aldbourne Braid days are cancelled until further notice at the moment.

The cost is £5.00 per head per day. Biscuits, cake and hot drinks are provided free of charge. Please contact Sal Shepherd for details.

Weavers' Chat

The Guild weavers normally meet at Speen Parish Hall, Newbury, RG14 1RJ on the last Saturday of the month. **These** meetings from 9.30 a.m. until 1.30 p.m. with the final meeting of the year being in November from 9.30 a.m. to 4.30 p.m. with a shared lunch. £3.00 to cover the cost of the hall. Currently this is not possible, but there will be online Weavers' chats using Zoom, see earlier in the Shuttle for details.

It is called "Weavers' Chat", but braiders can come with inkles, marudai etc and lace makers with pillows as it is all weaving. In fact all Guild members are very welcome to come along to see what we are doing and find out what weaving is all about, either virtually, or in reality once the situation changes.

Moulsford Spinning & Craft Group

In normal times we meet on the **3rd Thursday of every month** at Moulsford Pavilion, The Street, Moulsford, Oxon, OX10 9JD from 6.30pm – 10pm and cost is £3 which includes tea, coffee and biscuits. There are usually spinners, weavers, felters, a basketmaker and knitters there so do come and join us.

For more information contact **Linda Scurr** or **Rosie Price**

Social Spinning

This is a regular gathering in a member's home where you are welcome to turn up with your spinning wheel, spindle or whatever! It is always advisable to check with the host to ensure that there is no change before setting off.

For more information contact Chris Fletcher
Second and Fourth Tuesday evenings each month.

Newbury Crafters

Newbury Crafters normally meet on the **3rd Saturday of every month** at Speen Parish Hall, Newbury, RG14 1RJ from 2 – 5 pm. Come along to this social afternoon with your own craft project and meet people with other craft interests for an exchange of ideas.

For more details contact **Sue Davies**

The copy deadline for the September 2020 issue of the Shuttle is 9th August 2020. The email address is kvshuttleeditor@gmail.com

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