



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, June 2018

Association News

Conference & AGM

The Association's 14th Biennial Conference took place in Milton Keynes between Friday 11 to Sunday 13 May, with a series of fascinating talks, and the Association AGM.

The GPC would like to thank all the delegates and observers who attended the AGM. It was just so lovely having the opportunity to meet you and thank you so much for all your support and kind words, particularly those who came and spoke to me after the AGM.

We would also like to thank Christine Eborall and those who worked with her for organising what was a tremendous conference by all accounts. None of these events, such as the conference, the summer school or the national exhibition would happen without the hard work of very willing volunteers, who give up countless hours of their own time for the enjoyment of others.

We have events being planned up to 2020 with research currently being done for 2021. These events are intended for all guild members everywhere. The next one being the National Exhibition at University of Strathclyde, Glasgow from 16th-29th July. This also coincides with a year-long celebration of the 150th anniversary of the birth of Charles Rennie Mackintosh, with events taking place all over the city (<https://www.glasgowmackintosh.com/events>).

Angela Colbridge,
Chair

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 will be much more user friendly for Guilds to access. The new website was launched the week after the AGM, and Soo has been in touch with all Guilds inviting them to populate their own pages. The new site has already received a very positive response and the Association is very appreciative to Soo for taking up the challenge and for the time she has committed.

If you have not yet done so, please take a look: <https://www.wsd.org.uk/>

Regional Reps

The Association has sufficient GPC members to launch long awaited regional reps, with each GPC member representing one of the ten regions. GPC members will be allocated to regions at the next GPC meeting in July, after which they will hopefully make contact with all guilds 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 ways of working together.

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'

Data Protection Legislation (GDPR)

The general data protection regulation (GDPR) is a new law which came into effect on 25 May 2018 to replace the Data Protection Act. The Association have produced a set of guidelines for Guilds, along with data collection information and a sample privacy policy. This has been shared with Guild secretaries and is available on the WIP under the heading 'DATA PROTECTION GDPR 2018'.

The Worshipful Company of Dyers Donation

The Association was delighted to recently receive a donation for £2,500 from The Worshipful Company of Dyers, who have previously kindly donated to the Association. The donation will bolster the Association bursary account.

Membership Update

There are currently 111 guilds, and approximately 5,100 members (this number double counts people who are members of more than one guild). We currently have six non-UK Guilds: Irish (Dublin); Cork; South West France; Bretagne; Association for Handspinning and Yarn Design, Switzerland; Novi Sad (Serbia).

Certificate of Achievement and Foundation Certificate

Updated Certificate of Achievement and Foundation Certificate information and documentation has been added to the [Web Information Point \(WIP\)](#).

Volunteers at Woolfest

The Association will be exhibiting at Woolfest (Cockermouth, 22 & 23 June 2018).

Are any Guild members attending and willing to volunteer to help on the Association stand? If you could give an hour of your time and help to provide information about the Association and Guilds to visitors, please contact Hilary Miller at hilary_miller@btinternet.com. Full training provided!

Shows GPC Member

The Association is looking for a member to organise the Association stand at shows (such as Knitting & Stitching Show or Woolfest), to take over from current GPC member Hilary Miller. For more information please contact Hilary at hilary_miller@btinternet.com.

National Exhibition 2018 Submissions

Submissions 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

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

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

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 is an amazing and valuable resource, for all members. Association Librarian Nik Knott is also receiving donations of books from people trying to de-stash, and has receiving some amazingly generous donations from individual members to allow specialist books to be purchased. Nik 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.

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

The Journal seeks a Weaving Features Editor

A vacancy will arise next year, on the retirement of our current Weave Features Editor, at the next AGM. We are advertising early to allow plenty of time for the incoming person to 'shadow' our current Weave Features Editor, Jill Riley, for an efficient handover. If you are a keen textile enthusiast, organised, computer literate (mainly Word), possess good editing skills and, most important of all, keen to expand your textile horizons, make new friends and develop contacts, then please consider volunteering for this role. Training will be given and all out of pocket expenses, including travel costs to the quarterly meetings held in Central London (Saturdays, 11am-4pm) in January, April, July and September, will be reimbursed. If you would like to find out more please contact Christina Chisholm on chair@thejournalforwsd.org.uk who will be delighted to hear from you!

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

Members of Devon, Somerset and Gwent Guilds demonstrated at John Arbon Mill Open Weekend in May.

Somerset Guild Annual Fleece Fair Saturday will take place 16 June between 09:30-14:00 at Hatch Beauchamp Village Hall TA3 6SG. The event will include demonstrations of different kinds of spinning, weaving, knitting and crochet yarns, and the opportunity to buy fleece (14 types, with rare breeds available) and prepared fibre for knitters, felters, spinners and weavers. Entry £1.50.

Guilds Together (Six Guilds), six 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 followed by sales, demonstrations, and exhibitions from each of the Guilds. £8 in advance or £10 on the door.

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

- The Western Isles, famous for Harris Tweed, became only the second European place to be awarded [World Craft City status](#);
- [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.
- [WOW Weft over Warp](#) at the Hepsibah Gallery, London (21-27 June 2018). There will be about a dozen British Tapestry Group artists showing some 25 to 30 works, using a variety of materials from fine wool to fabric to recycled plastic.

Current & Upcoming Events & Exhibitions

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>

WOW Weft over Warp, 21 – 27 June 2018 at Hepsibah Gallery, Hammersmith, London
Stunning, hand-woven tapestries ranging from small intricate pieces to the large and dramatic
www.thebritishtapestrygroup.co.uk

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:

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

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