



THE ASSOCIATION OF GUILDS OF WEAVERS, SPINNERS AND DYERS

Reg. Charity No. 289590 Website: www.wsd.org.uk
President: Jennie Parry Life President: Paddy Bakker
Vice President: Steve Kennett

Association Newsletter, February 2020

Association News

Association AGM 2020

The GPC are looking forward to meeting delegates and observers from as many guilds as possible at the AGWSD AGM on the **18 April 2020**. The AGM starts at 11:00 am to conclude at 4:00 pm. Please note, beverages will only be available before the meeting. There are a number of eateries in the area of Conway Hall, for purchasing lunch, you may bring your own lunch which you will be able to eat in the hall. The AGM papers have been sent to all guild secretaries.

The AGM is an opportunity to meet members from other guilds across the country. Should time allow, an informal meeting of guilds within each of the regions will be organised.

Janet Crowther
AGWSD Acting Chair

Formal papers for the AGM have been circulated to all Guild Secretaries, with returns due by 28th March 2020.

Free publicity for your Guild event

The AGWSD Newsletter is a wonderful vehicle for disseminating information about guild events. Have you an Open Day, an Exhibition, an event that you would like included in the AGWSD Newsletter? Please email the information to Janet Crowther, AGWSD acting chair, chair@wsd.org.uk, who will collate the information and send it to Charlotte Powell for inclusion in the following AGWSD Newsletter.

The Newsletter goes to all Guild Secretaries for circulation to their Guild members, it is also available online from the website www.wsd.org.uk

Obituary for Joyce Gough

The Birmingham Guild of WSD has lost an indefatigable craft worker in Joyce Gough, more usually known as Joy, who died late in the evening of 31st January 2020 at the age of 97.

It was said of her that she could take fleece off a sheep, process the fleece through its many stages including washing, carding, spinning, weaving, braiding, knitting, tapestry, and inkle loom, with dyeing as an extra. For upward of 50 years Joy was a stalwart member, including years on the Committee, serving at times as Secretary, demonstrator at Fairs and County Shows, and in Schools. She furthered her knowledge in company with others from the Guild at the Ruskin College, Bournville College. Always keen to teach and share her know-how, whether in these crafts or in jam-making, cake-baking, seamstressing, horticultural matters, literary concerns, the list goes on.

One of the pleasant additional groups to which she was an integral part for decades, was that of Magpies, an offshoot of the main Guild, where members such as Mary Jeffreys of Stratford, Olive

May, Olive Allen, Kate Adams, and others who pre-date my knowledge of the past thirty years. Each was a skilled and committed craftswoman.

It was always a pleasure to be encompassed by Joy's warmth, good humour, hospitality, friendship, affection and sense of fun. In so many ways an asset: as daughter, wife, mother, friend, as much as to her profession as Librarian [at Smethwick Library], and when cataloguing a private genealogical & history library, craft demonstrator & skills teacher to many in the world of working yarn. Areas of expertise included taking the fleece from the sheep, processing it through to various skills from spinning to weaving to dyeing etc.

Joyce leaves a son and daughter, 4 grandchildren and, presently 3 great grandchildren.

She will be very much missed.

J. Joseph, 01 Feb 2020

Wonderwool Wales, 25 – 26 April 2020

As in previous years, the Association will have a stand at Wonderwool Wales on the 25 – 26 April 2020.

If you are visiting the show do make sure to pop by the stand and say hello!

Journal News

Journal 273: Spring 2020

The spring issue of the Journal, published 28 February 2020, will include:

- A Churchill Fellowship in Tapestry, Chrissie Freeth
- Natural Dyes from Woody Plants, Pat Denne
- Readers Showcase: Through the window - weaving with monofilament, Jill Riley
- The Original Mr Hedgehog, Tim Willcocks
- Weaving to Wear: Part Two, Lesley Willcock
- Woad from Seed to Dye, Carolyn Griffiths
- Archie Brennan 1931 – 2019, Joan Baxter
- Summer School 2019: Course Reports
- Summer School 2019: Graduate Showcase
- Certificate of Achievement Report 2019

Plus the regular Journal items such as Notebook, Book Reviews, Exhibitions Reviews, Diary and more.

Erratum Journal 272: *What a Challenge!* By Gillian Eldrige and Jane Mason, Peter Tavy Guild, was unfortunately printed with a couple of lines missing. The digital issue has now been corrected. If you subscribe to the digital issue to get the corrected version you will need to download the issue again using the link originally sent to you by the publisher, Henry Ling.

You can also read the article on the Journal website at: <https://journalwdsd.org.uk/article/what-a-challenge>

Vacancies

The JEC is seeking to recruit an **Advertising Manager** and a **Treasurer**. If you would like to find out more about these roles. Please contact:

Advertising Manager: ads@journalwsd.org.uk

Treasurer: chair@journalwsd.org.uk

Journal website diary: remember to check the website for updates and items that are received or found after the next issue of the Journal has been finalised.

Elsewhere on the Web

- Knitwear designer Kate Davies has been learning to weave on an inkle loom, and has been blogging about it: post [1](#) / [2](#) / [3](#).
- Darlington Market are holding a first Wool Fair on 29th Feb 2020 with a variety of local and regional wool artists and traders showcasing their products at this free event. The event will include drop-in activities, including felting, spinning, weaving and many other wool crafts.
- The [Selvedge World Fair](#), taking place in London 03-05 September 2020, will be a celebration of Cloth, Culture and Creativity. Selvedge are offering members of the Association of Guilds of Weavers, spinners & dyers a 25% discount on tickets with offer code SWD3592020.
- The Goodlife Centre in London will host a [weekend of workshops](#) in April 2020 that includes a unique opportunity to learn from a range of experts who practice some of the endangered crafts that feature on the HCA Red List.
- [‘Woven Waves: The Jutland Tapestries’](#) takes place at Scottish Maritime Museum: Irvine until 29 March 2020.
- [Fabric of the North](#), a free-to-visit tapestry exhibition with lectures and workshops by members of the British Tapestry Group at Cromford Mill, takes place 07 – 23 May.

Current & Upcoming Events & Exhibitions

Visit [The Journal's Diary](#) pages for detailed event listings.

Contact & Social Media

Sign up to receive the newsletter direct: <http://eepurl.com/dhDYkX>

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

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

Follow the Association on social media:

[Facebook](#) / [Instagram](#) / [Twitter](#)

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

Web Information Point (WIP): <https://wipagwsd.wordpress.com/>