



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

AGWSD News, September 2020

Association News

Summer School 2021 – Booking is now Open

The AGWSD Summer School will be held at Writtle University College, near Chelmsford, Essex, from Sunday 15th August - Sunday 22nd August 2021.

Booking is now open until 31st December 2020; all details can be found at the dedicated page on the AGWSD website:

www.wsd.org.uk/summer-school-2021

which includes the downloadable brochure and application forms for Summer School and for the Association Bursary Scheme. Application forms are available in both pdf and Word format, so a printer is not required to apply by e-mail.

Before booking, please also check the FAQ on the website for any queries that you may have.

Printed copies of the brochure are being sent to Guild secretaries. Please publicise the event as well as you can in the current circumstances; by Zoom meetings or your own newsletters, even if you are unable to meet in person. For applicants who are unable to access the brochure online, there is a limited number of extra copies available which will be sent direct to Guild members on request; please contact me (details below).

The range of tutors and courses offered has been carefully planned to offer options for novice, intermediate and advanced students, covering as wide a range of subjects and textile interests as possible. All tutors are of proven expertise and ability; some will be familiar favourites from previous Summer Schools, others offer a fresh approach and new techniques.

Full details of the courses, including the scope of the tuition, tutor background, equipment to be provided by the tutors and the students, and the appropriate level of student expertise required are in the brochure. Please read these details carefully when you make your choices.

Allocation of courses will begin in early January 2021, with a 'names out of the hat' system. Please put down three course choices if possible when you apply, ranked in order of preference, to increase your chances of gaining a place at Summer School. As you are drawn 'out of the hat', you will be allocated to an available place following your preferences, but if you have only listed one or two options and neither are available, your application will be put to one side until all names are drawn. At that stage any remaining places will be offered to unplaced applicants.

Please feel free to contact me with any queries on SS2021@wsd.org.uk.

Christina Chisholm, SS2021 Convenor

AGWSD Bursaries for Summer School 2021

As part of their charitable status, the AGWSD invites applications for bursary awards for participants at their Summer Schools. Bursaries may be awarded to those guild members who show they would have difficulty in financial terms in attending the Summer School, and who will use the learning to further their own practice with the intention of disseminating their new skills to others.

The bursaries are awarded at the discretion of the AGWSD General Purposes Committee based on the evidence submitted by the applicant and the two letters of reference supporting the application.

A proportion of the course fee will be considered.

Applicants must be a member of an AGWSD member guild. The information submitted by the applicant and referees will be treated in confidence.

Regrettably bursaries are not available to those who have previously received an AGWSD bursary for a summer school.

Applications are made by completing the bursary application form, on page 24 of this brochure, submitting a written summary of approximately 500 words in support of the application in line with the given guidelines, and also to include two written references in support of the application.

The application form is also available from Guild Secretaries, or can be downloaded from the Association website at www.wsd.org.uk/summer-school-2021, and found in the AGWSD monthly Newsletter.

**Completed applications are to be received by the AGWSD Secretary,
Mary England, Montrose, Tower Road, Ashley Heath, Market Drayton, Shropshire TF9 4PU,
by 15th November 2020
Email: secretary@wsd.org.uk**

The applicants will receive the decision on their applications by 15th December 2020 which is before the closing date for Summer School applications.

Successful applicants will be issued with a code to insert into the application form which will be used to adjust their payment.

Please note that an offer of a bursary does not guarantee a place on your preferred or any other course.

Feedback on the Association Brochures

Julie McGlashan has given permission for us to share her email to Association President Jennie Parry, on receipt of the new Association brochures:

“Dear Jennie

Rather belated thanks for sending the supply of Association brochures for use by our guild. Just before lockdown, we had decided on a new design for our own insert in the form of a card ruler, and it should fit very well into your new brochure.

Like many, we have no idea when we will be able to start meetings again, and, in this rural area, internet speeds have limited the usefulness of Zoom. We hope that we will survive in some form and

have continued sending monthly newsletters as well as having a presence on Facebook and a website. We also have a challenge running where members were invited to submit 100g of 'something' - could be yarn, fleece or tops - which are randomly allocated to other members to make something of, with results displayed online. However, membership renewals are well down so we will need to be ready with a publicity campaign and recruitment drive as soon as we find a way to restart. We will of course make good use of that Association brochure as part of that.

In the meantime, we appreciate the support provided by the Association.

Best wishes to you and your colleagues,

Julie

Secretary, Wigtownshire Guild”

Speakers List Update

Four new speakers have been added to list:

Dr Rachel Dickinson has been recommended by Hallam Guild and by Lancs & Lakes Guild, of which she is a member. Hallam Guild described her talk on “The influence of Ruskin on Textiles” as an excellent presentation, full of interest and knowledge. Her slides were good and appropriate, and she was able to discuss all aspects and tailor the talk to what a guild asks for. Rachel was easily understood and not at all academic or “above your head”.

Veronika Kapsali is an academic and industrial research specialist, bestselling author, broadcaster and communicator of biomimetic-led approaches to Innovation in materials, textiles and products. She has been recommended by Cambridge Guild so is in the ‘probationary’ category. They describe her as an excellent presenter, not too technical yet providing plenty of content on a fascinating subject matter which takes our crafts into a totally new era, giving us a different perspective entirely. Veronica is also happy to deliver through virtual tools. If any Guild books Veronika please send me feedback after the event so that we can upgrade Veronika’s status.

Cara Bookless has been recommended by Cambridge Guild, who describe her talk on “Gotland Sheep” as ‘highly engaging from the word go. Passionate about her woolly subjects; expert dyer as well. Very recommendable’. As a spinner, Cara keeps a flock of Gotland sheep and will talk about the history, breeding, spinning and dyeing qualities of these woolly invaders, which need twice-yearly shearing. She is also willing to deliver her talk through Zoom for those Guilds now treading the exciting path onto the internet.

Finally, the Association of Guilds of Weavers, Spinners & Dyers have now been added to the Speakers list. Members of the GPC have always been available to talk to the Guilds, but I am hoping that by formally adding them to the list there might be more interest. Janet Maher will deliver talks on the Foundation Certificate, Janet Crowther will cover Certificates of Achievements, and the Certificate in Advanced Textiles. Other members of the GPC will visit Guilds to talk about the work of the Association. There are no speaker fees and travel costs are borne by the Association – plus delivery is also available through virtual tools such as Zoom or Skype.

It is really interesting to read about Guild speakers in the Guild Highlights in The Journal – especially when the speakers are not on our list. If your Guild has a good speaker or tutor that you want to share with others through The Journal do please also consider sending me their details so that they can go on the list as well. See the updated list at <https://wipagwsd.wordpress.com/contents/speakers-list/>

Matty Smith speakerslist@wsd.org.uk

Journal News

Journal 275: Autumn 2020

This issue, which would have been published just before the National Exhibition opened in Leigh, Lancashire, includes a fascinating account by Dot Seddon (past Vice President of the Association) of her father's life in a cotton spinning mill in Leigh. Sarah Cooke shows how she turns waste into weave - it is inspiring! Appropriate to the season, Carolyn Griffiths writes about an afternoon dyeing in an autumnal New Hampshire yard using plants which are less familiar to many of us. The tricky issue of yarn counts is very competently explained by Wendy Morris which should help weavers and Cath Snape addresses the washing fleeces by comparing different methods. Rachael Prest looks at how heat and pH affect the take up of acid dyes - it helps to explain why synthetic dyes aren't always as predictable as expected. We also have a short piece on how Karen Garwood Young and her husband unexpectedly came to take on the manufacture of Hawkhurst Looms. The next in the Technical Notes series examines Woollen vs. Worsted. Finally, Pat Denne shows how to usefully use dye samples to good effect.

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Readers Showcase: What To Do With Your Dye Samples?	Pat Denne	31

Journal Blog

During the last few months the blog on the Journal website has highlighted how Guilds have been organising events and activities during the period that they could not meet. Do look at it for ideas and we are happy to have further contributions. Are there ways that your Guild is coping with running 'safe' meetings? Your ideas can help other Guilds.

Please send suggestions to: web@journalwsd.org.uk

Renewal of Subscriptions

We hope that the Journal has been a good companion over the last few months and would like to remind members that many subscriptions ordered by post are due to be renewed by the end of the year. Subscriptions ordered via the Journal website renew automatically on the anniversary of the initial order unless cancelled (you will receive an email informing you of the autorenewal and giving you the opportunity to cancel).

Publication dates are the third week in February, May, August and November. Orders received after the mailing list has been submitted to the printers will commence with the following issue. If there are spare copies of the current issue they will be listed in the online shop, via the Journal website, a few days after publication, alongside all the back copies for which we hold stock. When a print run is sold out the digital version will remain available to purchase.

Individual subscriptions for Guild members are £18 per year for either print or digital, or £22 for both print and digital. There is no additional cost for postage to UK addresses. This gives you four issues

delivered direct to your door (or computer). For non-members the annual costs are £20 and £24. Gift subscriptions are also available - just provide the recipient's details for sender and your own for billing.

Alternatively, for a minimum of three copies sent to the same address, Guilds can take out a bulk subscription at £16 per person per year (£20 for the print & digital option). These are renewed each January. Additional subscriptions can be ordered through the year on a pro rata basis or back copies can be sent to complete the subscription, with postage for these charged at cost.

To subscribe online, go to <https://journalwsd.org.uk/subscribe>, click on the option (digital, print or print & digital) and then click the appropriate button below - Guild members and students will be shown the final discounted price when you click on 'add to cart'.

It is also possible to order by post or by email by writing to: Sarah Pape, Subscriptions Secretary, Journal for Weavers Spinners and Dyers, The Buttery, Manor House Farm, Durham Road, Lanchester, Co Durham or subs@journalwsd.org.uk. You can pay by cheque, BACS or Paypal but we are unable to take card payments except via the online ordering process.

If you can order online, please do so because it saves a lot of work for the Subscriptions Secretary.

Guild Highlights

Many Guilds have been meeting virtually or organising events online in the last few months. We would love to feature these in Guild Highlights in the winter edition. Please send any newsletters or short news items about events you have held. Ideally, also send images (minimum size 2MB) - with a caption and identifying who took the photo. It would be great to share news of what Guilds have been able to achieve under difficult circumstances.

Do remember to put Guild Highlights on the mailing list for your newsletters - we will always check with you before we use any material - but it is a useful way to identify potential items for Guild Highlights.

Please send items / newsletters to Rosemary Mitchell-Schuitevoerder highlights@journalwsd.org.uk

Elsewhere on the Web

- BBC series [Handmade in Africa](#) explores traditional craftsmanship in three African cultures;
- [100 banners](#) celebrating a century since women won the right to vote;
- Anni Albers' influence on [seven contemporary textile makers](#).

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/>