



News from The Chair

AGWSD AGM

Please note the date, 28th May 2022, Conway Hall, London

The Guilds are encouraged to send a delegate, whose travel is paid by the AGWSD and an observer, many guilds cover the costs for sending an observer. This does not exclude any other members of a guild that may wish to attend. Though the delegates are the ones who are able to speak, and vote. If you haven't already decided who your guild wishes to send as delegate and observer, you still have time to decide as the information has to be with Mary England, AGWSD Secretary, secretary@wsd.org.uk by 7th May 2022. There will be the choice of attending in person or by zoom.

Focus on...

What a start to this feature with the East and South East Area in the last AGWSD News, such interesting items from so many guilds in the Area, thank you.

The March AGWSDS News Focus on... will be the guilds in the Wales and Central Area. Cath Snape, their Area Link has been in contact with those guilds asking for their contributions.

I hear the **Guild Gathering** in June is fully booked. But that does not stop you visiting to see the Certificate of Achievement assessment exhibition and the Graduate Showcase. Both exhibitions will be open Saturday 18th June from 4:00pm until about 6:30pm and Sunday morning, 19th June, from 9:00 am until 1:00pm.

The CoA exhibition is always such a good event, showing the achievements of those that have worked so hard over a number of years.

We are also aiming to have four Graduates showcasing their work, which I hear from Jennie Parry, is exceptional.

The information for the **National Exhibition**, 'Coal, Cotton, Canals' 3rd - 18th September at Leigh Spinners Mill, has been sent to all guilds. You still have plenty of time to start and finish a piece to enter.

The 6-inch diameter rings, 'Still Waters' is non selected and is open to any member of an AGWSD guild.

Lastly, the nomination date for the GPC has passed for this year, but the GPC have the ability to co-opt members. We are in need of a couple of volunteers rather urgently. One is to take on the roll of what was known as a webmaster, but probably has a more up to date name these days. The website is just beginning the process of being updated, which would be a very good time to become involved. Mary England, secretary@wsd.org.uk is the one to contact for information.

The GPC would also really like to have someone volunteer who is into statistics and collating information to put together information about the events, summer school, conference and exhibition so that we have a data base that will form the basis for future events.

Please contact me, Janet Crowther, chair@wsd.org.uk, if you would like more information about any of the above.

Meet the GPC

Roberto Campana

In my full time job I work as an analytical chemist, testing food and other products. My chemistry background led me to study for a PhD at Birkbeck College, London University, pursuing an interest in the conservation of fine artworks. I was involved in several EU backed projects studying the degradation of cultural artefacts, including paintings and textiles, due to damage caused by light, heat and pollution. This included work on the tapestries at Hampton Court.

As part of this particular project I analysed wool and silk samples to understand the chemical and physical properties that occur as they age and degrade. I found all this very interesting and wanted to learn more about weaving and dyeing. I joined the London Guild of Weavers, Spinners and Dyers in 2003.

I have been active on the Committee for most of my time in the Guild. I edited the magazine 'Warp and Weft' for three years, I have arranged speakers, and have given dyeing demonstrations. Recently I have been charged with managing the Guild's IT system to ensure that it works effectively for visiting speakers.



I joined the Association Committee (GPC) four years ago, I am joint Area Link for the East and South East and I managed the IT system at the last Association Conference in Milton Keynes. I still enjoy weaving and dyeing, and am very happy to share my knowledge.

Roberto Campana

The AGWSD National Exhibition - 'Coal, Cotton and Canals'

Leigh Spinners Mill

3 September - 18 September

Information about the exhibition can be found on the guild website under News and Events.

<https://wipagwsd.wordpress.com/national-exhibition-3-18-september-2022/>

This year's themes are 'Coal, Cotton and Canals' for the selected items and 'Still Waters' for the open, non-juried items submitted in a 6 inch/15 cm ring.

The exhibition committee are looking forward to seeing what you are producing for the exhibition. The first key date is the 3 June 2022 for the entries for selection (feelie pieces and A4 photos). Then the selected items are to arrive between 15 and 19 August 2022. The open section rings are also to arrive between 15 and 19 August 2022.

We have a good nucleus of volunteers for the exhibition, but could do with some more, every little helps. Please contact Jane White exhibition@wsd.org.uk even if it is just to help steward.

Journal News

The Spring 2022 issue marks 70 years of the Journal - read about how the Journal has developed over time and a reprint of an article by long-time JEC member and well-known weaver, Peter Collingwood. An interview with Paddy Bakker, Life President of the Association, reveals her range of craft skills. Plus articles on weaving overshot, madder dyeing and combating the physical strains craft can put on our bodies.

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Plus: Guild Highlights, Notebook, Association News, Exhibition Reviews, Book Reviews and Diary.

We will look back over the lifetime of the Journal in articles in later issues this year.

Contributions

The Journal team welcomes contributions from Guild members for Readers' Showcase, Guild Highlights, Exhibition Reviews and the Diary. We are also happy to discuss ideas for feature articles. Submission Guidelines are available on the Journal website (www.journalwsd.org.uk click on the button at the top right hand corner of the screen) but help is available with writing for the Journal - just get in touch with the relevant editor.

Contacts:

Guild Highlights highlights@journalwsd.org.uk

Diary diary@journalwsd.org.uk

Spin spin@journalwsd.org.uk

Dye dye@journal.org.uk

Weave weave@journalwsd.org.uk

All other enquires:

Hilary Miller

Chair, Journal Editorial Committee chair@journalwsd.org.uk

The Journal for Weavers, Spinners & Dyers

Exhibitions/ Events

There is an exhibition of Deirdre Wood's weaving on at the moment. Called 'Turn and Return', it's showing at the Arc, Winchester: www.arcwinchester.org.uk
Deirdre's wall pieces are strip-woven using ikat-dyed yarns, and in case you haven't seen it before, she often makes curved stripes to create arcs and circles. More to see on www.deidrewood.com

Alison Ellen

Online Guild

Selvedge Textile Literary Festival

Saturday 2 April 2022, Hosted on Zoom.

This special event will comprise of three chapters examining the varied literature forms that reveal and document the history and culture of cloth: fiction that features textiles through narratives, non-fiction that researches historical and contemporary cultures and stories of textiles, and a panel discussion bringing together publishers makers and librarians who specialise in textiles.

<https://www.selvedge.org>

Speakers List Update

As COVID restrictions become less draconian and there is more opportunity to both travel and gather, hopefully you are looking at your programmes with the aim of putting in place some memorable events that will really inspire your members after two years of being in isolation. There is so much to offer on the Speakers List – and perhaps consider combining with other Guilds in your area to fund a 'big hitter' for a combination of talk and workshop. The latest Speakers List can be found online at

<https://www.wsd.org.uk/speakers-list> or if you prefer the print-based version of the list it can still be found on the WIP at <https://wipagwsd.wordpress.com/contents/speakers-list>.

Matty Smith

speakerslist@wsd.org.uk

Fibre Quest - a new yarn show with a twist, will take place on 19th & 20th March 2022 at Fernhill Farm, Somerset. Fibre Quest is a collaboration between Somerset eco farm, Fernhill Farm and the south west's largest yarn show organiser, Stitch Fest South West.

Fernhill Farm is a regenerative farm on the Mendips in Somerset, which is leading the way with ethical, regenerative wool production.

Stitch Fest is the largest yarn show in the south west and is now in it's 6th year. The 2-day show brings together yarn dyers, spinners, feltmakers and weavers along with yarn and fibre related workshops and has around 1000 visitors a year, a substantial social media following and a mailing list of 2500

Fibre Quest is inviting businesses who work ethically to produce yarns, fibres, fleeces and products that are sustainable and as natural as possible. These products and businesses need to show their commitment to the ethos of ethical practice in the whole of their production and service and will need to fulfil specific criteria to demonstrate this. For more information visit www.stitchfest.co.uk/fibre-quest

Contact & Social Media

If you have an item for inclusion in the next monthly newsletter, please sent to: newsletter@wsd.org.uk. All news received by 20th of each month will be considered for that month's edition.

Follow the Association on social media: [Facebook](#) / [Instagram](#) / [Twitter](#)

Association Website: <https://www.wsd.org.uk/> Web Information Point (WIP): <https://wipagwsd.wordpress.com/>

If you have an event/exhibition for inclusion in the next issue of The Journal, check page 3 of the Journal for print deadlines and send to: diary@thejournalforwsd.org.uk If you miss the deadline your copy could still be included in the Diary on the Journal website.