



NEWS June 2026

From The Chair

Dear Guilds

I'm looking forward to seeing as many representatives as possible either in person or on zoom at our AGM on the 11 July in Loughborough. This is our annual chance for all guilds in the Association to get together, so that you can say hello to me, and I can put a face to the names with which I have become familiar from individual guilds during the course of the year.

Our AGM fits within the National Conference, Threads Through Time, which for attendees will be a fascinating deep dive into both the history and the future of our crafts. We're very grateful to our Convenor, Kay, and her team for bringing together such a great programme of speakers. Having the AGM as part of the conference was one of the clear requests from guilds last year, and so it's a fantastic opportunity for us to return to a timetable that was used successfully in the past.

We're also getting very excited about the prospect of beginning to see entries coming through for the National Exhibition. We're also entering the final months for guilds to create their bunting strings to come through to the organising committee for the open category ahead of our exhibition opening at the Rose Paterson Gallery in October. It's going to be a busy few months!

With best wishes - Andrea

Andrea Easey
Acting Chair AGWSD

AGM Delegate Expense Claims

Those Delegates who are not also attending Conference will be eligible for travel expenses to the AGM. The form for claiming expenses was included in the AGM pack sent to Guild Secretaries, it is on the letter immediately below the Delegate attendance/registration form.

Could Delegates please bring their form to the AGM, filled in with BACS details as this is our preferred means of payment, and give it to the Association Treasurer before or after the AGM.

Many thanks

Claire Roberts
Hon. Treasurer

National Exhibition News

With the changing weather we are seeing lots of flora and fauna. We are looking forward to seeing what this inspiration brings for your individual festival bunting flags.

These unique pieces of art are individual to your journey of spinning, weaving and/or dying. Once these individual flags are put together in bunting (by you as a guild, or by us) the public will wander through a collaborated showcase of the quality of skills we hold together, in this fun festival installation of 'Flora and Fauna'.

If your guild has four or less individual entries, send them in and we will put them together with others.

National Exhibition Team

Please feel free to contact me about any of the above, Andrea Easey, chair@wsd.org.uk

Journal News

Don't forget that you can take out a personal annual subscription to The Journal for Weavers, Spinners and Dyers at any time in the year. Members of the Online Guild receive their own quarterly copy of the Journal as part of their membership, but if you are not an Online Guild member, why not go now to <https://www.wsd.org.uk/the-journal/> to sign up for the only UK-produced publication covering our crafts?

If you're coming to the AGWSD Conference next month, we'll be there with some back copies for you to look at and to answer your questions in person.

Lesley Fidler

Chair

[The Journal for Weavers, Spinners, and Dyers](https://www.wsd.org.uk/the-journal/)

Enamel Association badges will be for sale at the Conference, £5 each. If your guild would like to order badges to collect at the Conference please email jecspin@wsd.org.uk with the number required and pay on collection.



The Stuart Groom Memorial Library

Did you know that the AGWSD holds an amazing collection of books that are available for members of our affiliated guilds to borrow or study? The library is held for us at the Trowbridge Museum, The Shires, Trowbridge BA14 8AT, which in itself is a great place to visit. Books can be posted out to you once you become a member, or you can arrange a visit to study those titles which are too precious now to be loaned out.

Volunteers from the GPC and Trowbridge Museum maintain the database of books held by the library and the library currently has approximately 750 books with new books being added regularly. Many arrive after being reviewed by the Journal and some are gifted by members where there is a gap in library coverage.

Applications to join the library are invited from guild members. Membership cards will be issued to anyone who has a current guild subscription. Please read the [user guide for borrowing books](#) and then, contact the Association Library representative on library@wsd.org.uk. An application form will be emailed to you. More information is available at [wsd.org.uk](https://www.wsd.org.uk)

Over the coming months we will feature reviews of some of the books available to those holding a library card.

Lorna Shannon

Newsletter Editor

Speakers List Update

The June Speakers List item seems to have developed a focus on dyeing: both a new addition to the list and a reminder of an existing speaker, explore the use of natural dyes.



This month sees the addition of **Jane Goodall** to the list.

Jane Goodall is a botanical printer whose work explores the creative potential of plants to transfer colour, texture and pattern onto textiles and paper. Working under the name 'The Beautiful Leaf', Jane creates contemporary botanical prints on silk, wool, linen and paper using leaves, flowers and natural dyes.

Originally trained as a scientist, she brings an experimental, process-led approach to botanical printing, investigating the interaction between plant materials, fibres, mordants and natural dyes.

Her practice combines technical understanding, while embracing the organic variation and beauty of plants and flowers. Jane delivers hands-on workshops, talks and demonstrations nationally and internationally, for beginners through to experienced textile practitioners. Her workshops provide clear step-by-step guidance in the foundational methods of botanical printing, with practical insight into materials, preparation and process. Based in the East & South East Area, Jane is happy to travel.

Highlight of the Month: Chris Carr

Chris is a social historian with an interest in traditional dyeing methods. She is a re-enactor taking part regularly in events from village fetes to the major medieval battle re-enactments at Bosworth and Tewkesbury at which she sometimes gives demonstrations.

Chris offers workshops at your location (village hall, heritage centre, private garden etc). Dyeing workshops are outdoor events. All materials are provided and a period choice is offered. Groups are limited to 10 and last about 4 hours, plus lunchtime. Chris is based in Lincolnshire.

Details of both speakers can be found in the online or PDF versions of the Speakers List. The online Speaker's List is at <https://www.wsd.org.uk/speakers-list>, using your Guild's login. Or if you prefer the print-based/fully searchable PDF version it can still be found, without any password, on the GIH at <https://wipagwsd.wordpress.com/contents/speakers-list> (note this document is now 42 pages long). If you have any problems, then please don't hesitate to get in touch with me.

Matty Smith

speakerslist@wsd.org.uk

Contact

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

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: jecdiary@wsd.org.uk If you miss the deadline your copy could still be included in the Diary on the Journal website.

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

Stuart Groom Memorial Library: library@wsd.org.uk