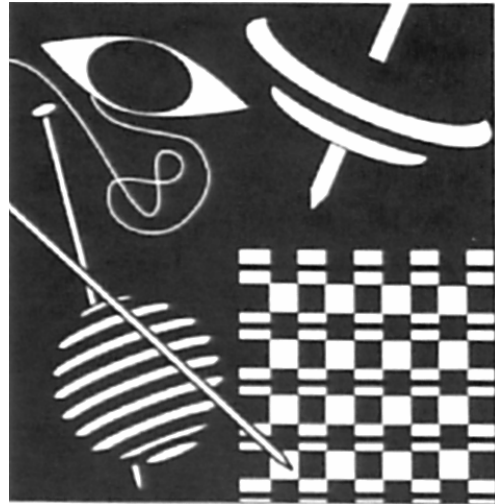


**EAST SURREY GUILD
CREATIVE FIBRES**

NEWSLETTER

Spring 2009



Chairman Janice Russell
Secretary Betty Newman
Treasurer Janet Freeman

If you have any comments, tips or interesting items for future newsletters please send them to me

Janice

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The AGM was held on Saturday 21st March. The new committee for 2009 is:

Chairman	Janice Russell	Committee Members	Jennifer Hughes
Secretary	Betty Newman		Ray Hughes
Treasurer	Janet Freeman		Jean Price
Events Organiser	Kate Cochrane		
Minutes secretary	Gill Blackmore		

We would like to thank Sandy, our outgoing chairman, for everything she has done for the guild. She has been treasurer and chairman on the committee for a number of years and has taken some very good workshops.

Following the AGM there was a talk by Janice Lawrence, who very kindly stepped in at short notice. The talk was entitled A Picture of Peru. She gave a slide show and also had a large display of weaving and tapestry.

STITCH & CREATIVE CRAFTS FAIR, SANDOWN PARK - January 2009



Thanks to the many members who contributed to our stand at Sandown Park in January. First, thank you to those who lent work to make a really stunning display. Second, to those of you who turned out to demonstrate and talk to the public. We are a small Guild, so it was a terrific effort to provide four people a day for four days, filling a very large stand.

I hope those of you there will agree that it was a very enjoyable and worthwhile exercise. See you again next year?

Best Wishes *Sandy*

RECENT MEETINGS

NUNO FELT WORKSHOP - Saturday 21st February 2009



On our arrival we were greeted to the sight of readily prepared tables covered with bamboo blinds, bubble wrap - bubble side up - and a fantastic display of nuno felted scarves and waistcoats. Amidst the air of excitement and anticipation Janice demonstrated the first stage. Begin with an open weave fabric in cotton or silk. Today we used a 20" square piece of cotton

muslin (which will finish approx 10" square). Wet the fabric and lay flat on the bubble wrap and layer with white merino tops pulled out thinly. Layer over the entire piece working in the same direction just overlapping. Then repeat with another layer at 90 degrees to the first layer. Cover with a net curtain and spray with a soap solution. Wipe and flatten until the fabric and fibres begin to bind (until the fibres do not lift when trying to remove the curtain). Remove the curtain and turn the fabric over. Lay coloured merino onto the fabric into any pattern you wish. Cover with the net curtain, spray with soap solution and then flatten out. On removal of net curtain cover fabric with another piece of bubble wrap. Roll up blind, fabric and bubble wrap around a wooden pole. With the large blinds provided we were able to roll and knead 4 pieces together. We then rolled for 50 times, turning 90 degrees rolling and counting, repeating so that rolling occurred in all 4 directions. This sequence was repeated twice more.

(We paused here to have lunch and plan our second piece which we then prepared. Lots of wonderful colours and designs around the room.)

At this stage one should see visible signs of shrinkage as the fibres work their way through the muslin to the other side. Now you can proceed using more rough treatment. Rub with olive soap, rub, beat, throw, expose to hot and cold water and break all the "woolly rules" and continue until the desired degree of felting or size is reached.

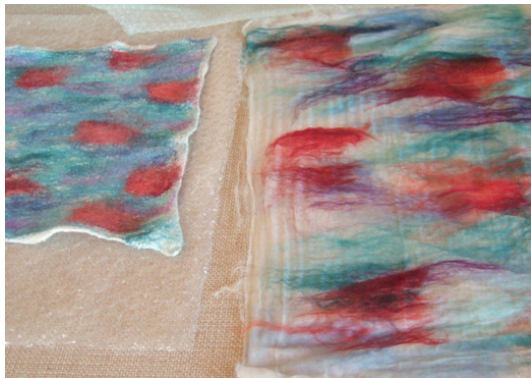
With the remaining time we began the rough treatment, squeezing and beating and foaming at the fingers with soap, and were able to go home with 2 pieces of nearly completed felt to make a small bag.

The product was lighter in weight than traditional felt and the whole process seemed less arduous due to the teamwork and shared laughter.

I thoroughly enjoyed the day and have great plans to continue - a gusset for my bag and bright coloured muslin for a scarf and look forward to seeing the finished products.

Thank you Janice for a fun day!

Pam



ASSOCIATION SUMMER SCHOOL, LINCOLN

Amanda, Jennifer, Kate and Sandy will all be attending courses at this year's summer school.

LIBRARY

Our library consisting of books and equipment is held by Sharron Chapman.

FUTURE MEETINGS

Saturday 16th May 2009 - Beading a Flower Pot Necklace with Jennifer Hughes

This is a tutored workshop. There are still a few spaces left.

Saturday 20th June 2009 - General Meeting with a Sales Table

Saturday 18th July 2009 - A Braid with a Purpose with Shirley Berlin

(Please note this workshop was originally on 21st November)

This is a tutored workshop. This workshop is full but if you want to be on the reserve list please call Janet Freeman - phone number above.

Saturday 15th August 2009 - General Meeting with a Sales Table

HANDWEAVERS' STUDIO

The London Guild of Weavers regularly sends us a copy of their Newsletter. It is available at meetings for you to read, and well worth the effort.

From the latest issue we learn that plans are being made to move the Handweavers' Studio to new premises.

Nancy would like to retire, and a London Guild member, Wendy Morris, together with her husband, has made the effort to find new premises, and hopes to put the shop (it is of course more than a shop, it is an institution) on a firm footing for the future.

So, they have bought freehold premises - 140 Seven Sisters Road, quite close to Finsbury Park station, (described by Wendy as "a somewhat unprepossessing erstwhile seafood supplier (complete with some erstwhile seafood still lying around inside!).")

As you will gather from that, it needs massive renovation to render it fit for its new purpose.

For the time being, the old shop continues to run as usual, but it might be a good idea to telephone (020 8521 2281) before making the journey.

If you would like to be put on the e-mailing list and receive updates of the move, email Wendy, wendy@handweavers.co.uk

BRENDA WATERS

We are sorry to report the death of Brenda Waters on 1st April. Our thoughts are with Brenda's husband and family.

FOR YOUR DIARIES

14th March - 1st November - American Beauty. Art in craft in 19th Century America. American Museum in Britain, Claverton Manor, Bath BA2 7BD
for more information phone 01225 460503 or online at www.americanmuseum.org

6th April - 30th October - The Quaker Tapestry. Friends Meeting House, Stramongate, Kendal LA9 4BH
for more information phone 01539 722975 or online at www.quaker-tapestry.co.uk

10th May - Country Show (formerly Cowpie Rally) - **Betchworth**

31st May - Bead Fair, Dorking Halls, Dorking
for more information phone Paul on 01737 841080

16th - 19th July - Art in Action, Waterperry, Nr Wheatley, Oxford OX33 1JZ
for more information phone 020 7381 3192 or online at www.artinaction.org.uk

Sunday 26th July - Bead Fair, Ardingly

8th - 11th October - The Knitting and Stitching Show, Alexandra Palace, London
for more information phone 020 8692 2299 (for group tickets) or 01473 320407 (for groups of less than 10) or online at www.twistedthread.com