



CLWYD WEB

April 2004



http://www.spindizzy.net/clwyd_web

Registered Charity no. 518270

Next Meetings

Apr 17	Hat Museum visit (contact Joyce)
<p>May 15 http://www.rasdavies.co.uk/</p>	<p>Start at 10am!!! Riita Sinkkonen Davies Flax spinning workshop Riita has visited us before and provides pictures and fascinating demos on the preparation of linen from flax as well as showing us how to spin the pernicky stuff. If you want to join the spinning workshop, please bring the bits we need to make a flax distaff - a stick e.g. broom handle and string to tie it to a table, a towel, bowl and a small sponge to fit it. We also need sheets of A3 card to make a cone. I'll get a pack from the local Partners to bring along.</p>
Jun 19.	Textiles of the Golden Triangle. J & D Gaffney
<p>Mar meeting – I hope no-one scorched their credit card too badly. We had a good turnout, 30 out of current membership plus at least 4 guests one of whom was impressed enough to join.</p> <p>EXTRA ! EXTRA Llysfasi Open day is Friday 16th April and all hands on deck please. (that's why I've put this newsletter out early). Could anyone who can attend (for any length of time) please contact Joyce ASAP. We'd like to encourage beginners as expert demos are not required, enthusiasm for the craft is all that is needed.</p> <p>Too late now, but in case you want to visit, The Royal Welsh Smallholder Garden Festival 16.05.04 The Angora Goat Craft Exhibition has a competition - various sections for hand spun/hand crafted items. Entries were to be in by 09.04.04 Jane J. has details.</p> <p>On May 22 The Cheshire Guild are hosting a talk by John Allen at Croft in Warrington. I believe it is about staging exhibitions. Jane J. has details.</p> <p>New members: Sally Haddock, Ellesmere Port Kate Allen, (rejoined) and Barbara Thomas, Llanferres Correction, Joyce's email is printed wrongly on the membership list.</p>	<p>NEW! Joyce writes: I thought that you would like to hear that we were very busy on Saturday.....lots of interest from both young and old alike. The morning shift set up with a huge amount of stuff from Theresa and Helen and when I arrived, our room looked very welcoming. Jo and Anne, Helen and Theresa were there all day, Lynn came for the morning and I was there from 12. Many thanks to everyone who helped out.</p> <p>Advance notices – more later. We are invited to a spinning day at Whitemere in June. Date not yet finalised British Coloured Sheep Breeders Assoc. knitting challenge June 6th. – spinning and knitting 6 inch squares at Frankley Rare Breeds Farm nr. Birmingham. Sounds an interesting day out – lots of nice fleece provided. We need a team of 6. Please Contact Chris J National exhibition. August no details yet! Flint show Oct 9-20th bodies required for w/e. Cheshire Guild Friendship day Oct 30th Frodsham</p>

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A star in born !
Congratulations to Jessica Oram
whose skein was published in last
quarters SpinOff Magazine.



Jessica Oram Age 14
Cheshire, United Kingdom
Merino, 8 w.p.i.

And finally....

Llama nanny to watch over park's lambs

David Ward Wednesday March 17, 2004 [The Guardian](#)

Britain's first municipal llama (or lllama because he is Welsh) yesterday began his first full day as long-necked nanny to new-born lambs in a country park near Wrexham. Ms Carding decided to recruit Laurence (or Llaurence) after reading about the excellent reputation llamas have for protecting livestock.

"During the foot and mouth outbreak we were closed for five months as a precaution and the park became inundated with wildlife, including a lot of foxes," she said.

"We are involved with conservation here and we had to find an environmentally friendly way of dealing with the foxes."

Llamas, which have a strong herd instinct, have an established reputation for seeing off predators. A US study found that they helped sheep farmers reduce losses from coyotes, wild dogs and even bears.

Many British farmers have since brought in llamas to watch over sheep. But Laurence is believed to be the first to have been paid for with council tax money. Experts recommend that llamas on sheep duty should be male and have been castrated when aged between 18 months and two years. They should also have spent their first 18 months with other llamas.

"We spent some time trying to find the right animal," added Ms Carding. "We visited lots of places and talked to many owners. Llamas have to have the right temperament."

Laurence spent time bonding with Ty Mawr's sheep on the banks of the river Dee before lambing began. "He eats grass and also keeps our hedges trimmed. He behaves like a sheep and is no trouble at all."

A llama may warn off a predator by making a noise, putting his neck down and, if the intruder does not take the hint, lashing out with a mighty kick from his hooves. But his most effective deterrent is more subtle. "Laurence smells," added Ms Carding. "It's an unusual smell in this country and foxes are not used to it."

Llamas found fame on Radio 4's *The Archers* when Lynda

Snell bought two (Wolfgang and Constanza) for her husband's 60th birthday.

Pedro the Glaswegian llama found ignominy when he was removed from a local zoo after police complained that his noisy love making was distracting passing motorists." We put him in with the lambs this morning and we hope he will do a good job," said Liz Carding, head ranger at the Ty Mawr park run by Wrexham county borough council. "He has already seen off a couple of pheasants"

Please Contact Chris J if you have anything of interest for the newsletter.