



CLWYD WEB

April 2008

http://www.spindizzy.net/clwyd_web

Registered Charity no. 518270

Programme for 2008

Apr 19 Guild meeting at Llysfasi	Split Ply Braids – Julie Hedges. Please bring: Notebook and pen, Scissors, various tapestry needles PVA glue (Don't bother buying some in especially, since I can bring some and I'm sure a few other people will – Ed.)
Apr 19 – May 10	Textile Exhibition: CONTOURS AND BORDERS – Textiles on the Edge by Marietta Alker - felter, Yvonne Baker - tapestry weaver and Fiona Nisbet – weaver. Tower House Gallery, 29 High Street, Knighton, Powys LD7 1AT 01547 529530
April 26/27 (Sat/Sun)	Wonderwool Wales Royal Welsh Show Ground · Llanelwedd · Builth Wells · Powys Event Opening Times: 10.00am - 5.30pm Saturday and Sunday Over 140 fibre exhibitors plus food stalls, workshops (mostly fully booked now) and The Sheep Walk. <i>“The Sheepwalk at Wonderwool Wales is intended as a fun and woolly take on the fashion catwalk and aims to offer exhibitors at the event the opportunity to highlight the quality of their products and materials and skills entailed in making them”.</i> In 2008 Antony Worrall Thompson will take part in the Sheepwalk modelling a range of local products!!! Sheepwalk will take place at 2pm each day.
May 9 (Friday)	Llysfasi Open Day 9.30 - 3.30. Please contact Teresa if you can help with this, all day, half day, every little helps.
May 17 Guild meeting at Llysfasi	Synthetic Dyeing – to be held in the canteen (the big brick centre block)
June 26 (Thu)	N. Shropshire Friendship Day at Whitemere
Jun 27/28 (Fri/Sat)	Woolfest, Cumbria

From Teresa:

Our March Meeting saw a two way split with 4 members representing the guild at NEWI's Scientriffic event, and for the rest of the guild at Llysfasi, it was either a spinning day or the Tapestry workshop with Virginia Green.

We warped our frames up in a figure of 8 warp, and placed leashes on the warp to forma shed. We then had to design our tapestry. We were all given an enlarged photograph and 2 black L-shapes to form a frame to find our inspiration. Help was at hand. Finally we were ready to start. Victoria had brought some wools, jute, sisal hemp etc. to encourage us to use different textures and fibres. She gave us some very good handouts and we can hope to see good results. Everyone seemed to enjoy themselves.

Meanwhile at Wrexham, Betty (with her great wheel), Denise (Ashford Trad and spindles), Sandra (peg looms) and Chris (felting) did decidedly non-scientific things (I'm not sure why we get invited to go there but it may have picked up a new member or two)! We were all kept furiously busy especially by the younger kids who were eager to collect their 10 activity stamps for the peg loom, spindling or felting. (After a while I started to think that we should stab a few of them with Betty's Great wheel and see if they'd fall asleep). I did felting – we started with balls but by the end of the day had progressed to hot pink felt bracelets, a great success with both sexes, some even came back for a second go. I should have kept a check of the numbers but it felt like several hundred kids got their stamp from us, and after the felting there must have a large number of Wrexham sprogs with the cleanest hands in the county by the end of the day. We got video-ed at some point but the web site is still showing stuff from the 2007 fair.

Cheshire Guild Friendship day will be on Oct 18th this year. Unfortunately this clashes with our own October meeting, but maybe some of us will want be able to go. The event is at the Frodsham Community Centre as usual. The visiting supplier will be P&M Woolcraft, and Earth Collection will be coming too. There is a £2.00 admission charge and a request that visitors bring a plate of food to share at lunch. Tea/ coffee will be

available throughout the day. The day will start at 10.30am and visitors are invited to bring wheels or other apparatus if they wish, or just to occupy themselves browsing the suppliers and enjoying friendships.

WOOLFEST (end of June) is asking people to KNIT A SHEEP! and have sent a pattern, but they seem open minded about size, wool etc. The sheep will be sold at a charity Sheep Auction to raise money for Farm Africa. This should be a doddle to experienced Clwyd sheep knitters..... More info and application forms at the May meeting.

The Back Page

From BBC Merseyside:

Knitted breasts help new mothers

<http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/england/merseyside/6338819.stm>

A hospital needing a cheaper alternative to fake breasts has begun knitting its own.

The woolly breasts are being used at Liverpool Women's Hospital to show new mothers how to breastfeed and how to express milk if necessary. Kate McFadden, the hospital's infant feeding co-ordinator, has already knitted several and has called in the services of her mother, a keen knitter. The breasts are produced in a variety of skin shades. They are used by community midwife teams to demonstrate how milk should be expressed, particularly for premature babies being kept in hospital. Ms McFadden told BBC News: "We have a regional neo-natal unit and we encourage new mothers to express milk to help the small and sick babies. Ms McFadden sourced the breast pattern from the Lactation Consultants' Association. She said: "You can buy model breasts, but they cost around £35 each, which is quite prohibitive, as we need about 50."



Although community groups, including the official friends of the hospital association, have pitched in, more knitters are needed. Ed's note: I think they have enough now – after the BBC featured this and the press did too, the trust was practical buried in knitted breasts (I keep thinking of the Start Trek Tribbles episode!)

Weavezine <http://www.weavezine.com/spring2008>



A new online magazine for weavers was launched last month, and featured one rather novel idea, a network cable scarf. This was a 2m or so woven fringed scarf, where two sets of fine wires were added as warp threads. When scarf was finished, a fringe was twisted from the extra woolen warp ends. The ends were twisted, and a network plug wired to the ends, giving a scarf that you could use to connect a computer to a network (eg your modem router).

The article by Selah Barling has full details of the wiring, and weaving.

Now obviously the next step is to add all the other cables you need to carry around with a laptop. USB cables for

downloading pictures from you camera, maybe a cable and a pocket for a mouse, LED (lights) for fun... Wheeee.....