



CLWYD WEB

January 2007

http://www.spindizzy.net/clwyd_web

Registered Charity no. 518270

Programme for 2007

Jan 20	Canvas Day - make your own bag/rug/spec or phone case
Feb 17	Willow weaving for the gardens. Plant wigwams or lanterns. (Booking required)
Mar 17	Workshop - Weaving a bag on a box. (Booking required)
Apr 28 – May 2	Threads - our biennial exhibition at Erddig.
May 1 – 7	National Week of Weaving Spinning and Dyeing
May 19	Domino knitting workshop with Diane Pugh (assos. Colinette Yarns) (Booking required)
Jun 16	Dyeing day at Myra's
Jul 21	Spinning skill sharing day, including fleece sorting
Aug	Summer Shows At Home with Teresa at Bwlchgwyn.
Sep 15	Knitting skill sharing day
Oct 20	Differential shrinkage - Weaving for texture with Kathleen Allen. General talk, followed by workshop on 4 shaft looms. (Booking required)
Nov 17	AGM and Christmas Meal (Bring a Plate) followed by talk on Japanese kimonos by Susan Briscoe (TBA).

2007 Workshop Booking Form

Please put your order of preference in the 3rd box and return to Myra

Name:		
Feb	Willow Weaving	
March	Weaving on a box	
May	Domino Knitting	
Oct	Weaving for texture	

Canvas Day - Jan 20 - Make your own bag/rug/spec or phone case

Our first meeting of the year will be a skill sharing day covering canvas work of all sorts. Bring wools and whatever materials you have. Bring items you've made already for a show and tell. We also hope to have canvas and tools available to try ideas out.

(As an added interest, we should have a visit after lunch by someone setting up a flock of Gotland sheep, with some fleece to sell.)

Willow Weaving - Feb 17

Chris Jordan will take a workshop in willow weaving for the garden. Booking required so that willow can be provided. You can make a wigwam for training sweet peas etc. or a more complicated holder for a garden lantern. If you want to make a wigwam bring a solid cardboard carton at least 2ft across, for a lantern, bring a small candle in a glass (nightlight size) and if you can find one, a pole of hazel or willow, 1" across and around 6ft long. Sharp secateurs will be useful.

Guild Challenge 2007

This year's challenge is a flock (knitted) of named breed sheep. We hope to have a goodly number of these ready for the exhibition at Erddig in April, so it will be good to start early. We'll be following a pattern available at meetings (and in the next newsletter). It would also be good to have information about the sheep breed and perhaps a lock of fleece and a twist of yarn to go along with the sheep.

Left Blank for tearoff slip on reverse!

Miscellaneous!

The Batik Guild's travelling exhibition `Batik Transitions From Classic to Contemporary` is on from 27th January 2007 - 11th Mar 2007 at the Williamson Art Gallery & Museum Birkenhead. Diane (Gaffney) will be doing a talk/lecture there for it on Sun March 3rd at 3.00, Myra will be going if anyone would like a lift. There are other will be lectures & workshops too.

Best wishes to Janet's husband Michael, who is scheduled for surgery next week, and to May D'Arcy who had a stroke after New Year. Joyce says that she is home now and is hoping to make a full recovery. She won't be at this meeting but hopes to start getting out within the village this week.

Myra is doing up her dining room which means knocking down walls stripping beams and ceilings (personally??) !! She needs to empty out room and only place for it all to go is her workshop. She urgently needs someone to find room for a guild wheel, a large table loom and the guild banner. Also if anyone is interested she has a four shaft loom to sell, and will be putting it on Ebay otherwise. Contact Myra directly for details.

Wendy from Ysbyty Ifan, Betws-y-coed is selling a floor/table loom, 4shaft, approx 34". This is a hand made from a table base using commercial/ metal heddles. Weaves well only £50.

Recipes - Favourites from the Bring a plate days – contributions welcome

Chocolate Refrigerator cake (Myra brought one along to the AGM – this is my family's version which is pretty much the same). I've translated the units rather approximately – it's not a very exact recipe.

8oz (250 gm) dark chocolate	Melt in bowl over pan of boiling water
8oz (250gm) butter	Melt in another pan
2 eggs 2 level dessertspoons sugar (optional)	Beat together. Pour butter into eggs, stirring. Add melted chocolate and beat in.
8oz (250gm) digestive biscuits	Break into pieces
1 oz (25gms) or so each of: Walnuts, Glace Cherries, Raisins etc 1 desertspn brandy or rum (optional)	Fold fruit, biscuits, and flavouring (alcohol) into chocolate mixture, press into cake tin and refrigerate overnight.

The Back Page

Jane Jenkins sent me this link to share: <http://www.creativepaperwales.co.uk>. To quote their front page: "Welcome to Creative Paper Wales the only craft paper mill in Wales. We are makers of beautiful handcrafted papers and paper products including the unique and wonderful Sheep Poo Paper™"

How it's made:

- *As every craftsperson will tell you, it all begins by using only the very finest materials. We take great care to collect super-fresh sheep poo from the beautiful (and rainy) mountains of rural Wales and take it back to the mill, situated in southern Snowdonia. We don't just make Sheep Poo Paper™ and for our other papers we use waste paper, rag and textile off-cuts and just about anything else we can think of that has good length cellulose fibres in it. Of course, we don't use tree - we like trees.*
- *The sheep poo we have collected is completely sterilized by boiling it in a specially designed pressure cooker at over 120 degrees centigrade (using only the purest Welsh mountain water, of course) and then washed repeatedly over a period of days until it has lost approximately half its original weight (Sheep Fact: a sheep only digests 50% of the cellulose fibres it eats).*
- *The washing process produces a big pile of usable fibres and, as a by-product it also produces a clean, sterile, rich, liquid fertilizer which we store in a tank at the mill and pass on to local growers. (Do you want some fertilizer? Why not contact us to ask?)*
- *It takes many hours to beat the cellulose fibre and blend it with other recycled pulps until it reduces to a pulp suitable for making paper. This is a difficult process to get right and the exact method is a closely guarded secret.*
- *Using only traditional papermaking techniques we then form the pulp into sheets using special sieves (called a "mould and deckle") and lay them out in stacks using felt in between each sheet to keep them from sticking together.*
- *The stacked and felted sheets are then pressed under huge pressure to remove most of the remaining water and encourage the cellulose fibres to bond at a molecular scale - this is what gives the paper its strength. Hanging the paper up in the roof rafters of the mill to season them finishes off the drying process*
- *We also make some of our paper using a very old working example of a 'Fourdrinier' continuous papermaking machine which we periodically hire from a UK papermaking museum - this machine sprays the liquid pulp onto a continuous moving mesh and the water is squeezed out between heated rollers - this gives a stunningly smooth finish, although you can still see the flecks in the paper that come from the sheep poo.*

... and interestingly

"Do you own your own flock of sheep? A rare breed? Yes? We know you want your own flock's Sheep Poo Paper™. No, we really do KNOW it! We're where it happens, just get in touch. Perhaps you don't own your own source of herbivore dung (what? no pet rabbit even?), but either way if you want us to make paper for you out of anything at all (except lovely living trees) just get in touch and let us know what's on your mind.

We absolutely love new ideas and can accommodate almost any request, however odd . . .

. . . do you want paper made only from sheep called Daisy?

. . . paper made from Japanese knotweed?

. . . do you want to send us old clothes you don't want any more and have us make you some paper?"

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