



CLWYD WEB JULY/AUGUST 2005



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<p>August – At homes Mon. 8th Aug. Lynne Mon. 22nd Aug. May</p> <p>Basketry Chris</p>	<p>Details of locations – please phone your hosts or read newsletter</p> <p>Chris will try and fit in a basketry day for those you missed the cut earlier in the year – it'll have to be sometime in the second half of August. contact if still interested.</p>
<p>Sat. Sept. 17th</p>	<p>Visit from the Wool Board (TBA) Failing that – fine and fancy spinning with Joyce and Myra, soft spinning and spinning with beads with Jane – so bring a wheel or spindle – whichever happens (and perhaps, remedial spindling for beginners with Chris)</p>
<p>Shows Sat. Aug. 6th WSD Summer School trade fair . Chester College</p> <p>Sat. 13th Aug. Llanarmon Sat. 20th Aug. Ruthin Mon. 29th Aug. Cilcain</p> <p>Oct 1st All Wales Llanidloes</p>	<p>Chester is linked directly to the national motorway system via the M53, and London and all the major regions of the UK are easily accessible from the city. The Campus is situated at the junction of Cheyney Road and Parkgate Road (A540), which is a continuation of Northgate Street leading out from the city centre. Access to the main car park is by the Exton Park entrance. Offers or requests for carshare to or Myra</p> <p>Joyce is collecting names for shows. Please help if you can.</p> <p>We need to produce 10" squares (knit, crochet, woven, felted) in the yellow->red end of the spectrum. Again, offers or requests for carshare to Joyce or Myra car share. Price £3 ticket plus £3 if lunch required. Bring along contributions to the September meeting if possible.</p>

Show and Tell July

Thanks to everyone who brought stuff along to the show-and-tell. Some impressive work and lots of inspiration – unfortunately I've lost my notes, so I'll save it for the next newsletter.

Dyeing: Colour Gold (& variations) – Myra's June 05

Introduction:

- Weld is **the** natural material to give a clear yellow.
- Fustic gives an orangey shade
- Buckthorn gives an brownish-yellow

After dyeing the following can be used as modifiers with any of the above dyes:

- Iron (eg. ferrous sulphate or 'iron' tablets)
- Washing soda
- Citric acid

Essentials & Tips:

- All wool should be washed to get out some of the grease
- The mass of dry wool is needed
- Tie skeins in about 3 places – synthetic yarn helps as it won't take up the colour and/or use Plastic labels eg from cut up plastic milk bottles
- Soak yarn to fully wet it, in cold water with a drop of washing up liquid
- Do not move the wool between extremes of temperature – this is what causes the felting

Mordant

Use 8g alum / 7g cream of tartar to every 100g of dry wool. Mix this up to a paste and then dissolve in water in a pan, so that the wool will be well covered. Bring to boil over 30 minutes. Simmer for another 30 mins

Dyeing

Stage 1: Preparing the dyebaths

Remove wool from mordant and allow it to cool naturally – the trick is to add it to a dyebath of the same temperature of the wool.

Weld: The whole plant can be used. Chop it up and put in a muslin bag if you want to remove all the plant material easily – otherwise decant the dye liquor when ready. Place weld in pan, add cold water then boil for up to 3 hours. Remove plant material before adding wool. Use 100% weld to 100% dry wool.

Fustic : Put wood chips in pan with enough water to cover & boil for 45minutes. Allow dye bath to cool and add the woodchips. Use 50% Fustic to 100% dry wool
Buckthorn: Add chopped back to pan, cover with water and boil in water for 3 hours. Allow dye bath to cool and add the woodchips. Use as 100% (Ed: question – is this alder buckthorn – they have that at the reserve where I do basketry – and it's a home and food for the Brimstone butterfly – YELLOW)

Stage 2 : Dyeing

Add the wool to the dyebath (keeping the temperature of the two as near as possible. Bring the dyebath to the boil over 30 to 45 mins. Turn down and keep just simmering for 30 – 45 minutes, topping up with hot water if necessary. (If doing a selection of dyeing add 4 skeins to each of the dyebaths)

Preparing the 'modifiers'

Once the dyeing is over remove the wool and divide the dyebath into 3. Add a pinch of each of the following to one of the 'sub' dyebaths – hence you will have 12 dyebaths at this stage. You will need to work the logistics of this out in advance and you may want to do this in stages!

Beware- only add a little additive initially,

Split the 4 skeins, keeping one of each – these have been dyed with weld, fustic & buckthorn, the remaining 3 of each dye can be used to be 'modified'.

Return the wool to the dyebath and simmer again until you are happy with the colour. If you want to add more additive then do remove the wool first so the additive can be truly mixed first. When the dyeing is complete, leave yarn in dyebath until cool enough to handle, remove the yarn. Using the same temperature water, rinse &/or wash in a little sopy water then rinse and hang up to dry. (NB. Rolling in an old towel can speed up the drying process considerably)

Hint: Do check the labels throughout – it is easy to get mixed up!

Janet Major



The Back Page

Congratulations to Paul

and Audrey on their recent Golden wedding Anniversary.

If anyone is interested in LARGE amounts of Bluefaced Leicester tops, I have the following note from Prestige Fibres Processing. "We specialise in producing sliver tops. yarns and garments made from 100% UK grown Bluefaced Leicester Wool. Woolfest brought to our attention the fact that hand spinners enjoy using this wool for its long staple and fineness. Consequently we have decided to add sliver tops to the range of products we offer. This is available to order by cheque by post or by credit card on line at www.bluefaced.com. We purchase the wool at Auction from the British Wool Marketing board and can therefore guarantee the quality, The tops are available in 1 kilo units @ £ 26.44. per kilo including postage + VAT. Prestige Fibres Processing Ltd, 9 Hamilton Square, Birkenhead, Merseyside, CH41 6NR. Tel 0151 647 9666." (Maybe a place for a day trip!)



Mathematicians have made a crochet model of chaos - and are challenging anyone else to repeat the effort. *Dr Hinke Osinga and Professor Bernd Krauskopf, of Bristol University's engineering mathematics department, used 25,511 crochet stitches to represent the Lorenz equations. The equations describe the nature of chaotic systems - such as the weather or a turbulent river. The academics are offering a bottle of champagne to anyone who cares to follow the pattern published in the journal Mathematics Intelligencer.*

<http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/education/4099615.stm>

Notices

For Sale:

Myra (contact) – Various 4 shaft table looms for sale. Widths 26", 28" and 30"

Inkle loom. Drop spindle, lots of wool, crochet and knitting needles, embroidery books and dowel sticks.

Sandra (01490 450 233) 2 shearling fleeces (mostly suffolk plus a bit of Gritstone) (free)

South Down Sheep Fleece Pauline Jones 01824 703542

North Shropshire Guild are hoping to organise a coach trip to WoolFest 2006 (Cockermouth, June 31st). Numbers by May But could we elt them know if there is any interest.