



## CLWYD WEB

June 2009

[http://www.spindizzy.net/clwyd\\_web](http://www.spindizzy.net/clwyd_web)

Registered Charity no. 518270

### NEXT MEETINGS and EVENTS

June 20 <sup>th</sup> Meeting	<p><b>Fancy Spinning</b>          This month we're having a in house spinning workshop to demonstrate useful and interesting spinning techniques. Hopefully we can cover wrapped yarns, crepe ply, bouclee and textured yarns. We'll also revisit Andean and Navaho plying and there'll be a "wheel clinic" to try and get the best out of your wheel.          For newcomers, I'm sure we can also have a corner for beginning spinning and perhaps spindle spinning.          Bring a spinning wheel and any fibres you have handy. Some fine sewing thread (silk or cotton) will also be useful. Remember to bring along a lazy kate and extra bobbins too as many of these techniques require some nifty plying.  <b>This is also your last chance to bring bags of fibre (100g/40z) for the guild challenge exchange.</b></p>
July 18 <sup>th</sup> Meeting	<p><b>Board Weaving – Hats and scarves without looms.</b>  <b>Distributing the challenge bags!</b></p>
July 23 <sup>rd</sup>	<p><b>Ty Mawr Spinning Day 1.30 - 3.30 pm. Contact Teresa for details</b></p>
August at Homes	<p>TBA</p>

#### Llysfasi Open Day and Ty Mawr Sheep Shearing Days from Teresa

The Guild has attended two sheep shearing days in the last month. The first was at Llysfasi in the sheep shearing sheds on a very cold day. Ten very hardy members turned up, set up their wheels and waited for the first groups of children. We tried the doors closed but the wind found the open vents under the roof to whistle through. We were dressed in jumpers, coats, fleeces (synthetic not wool), blankets and hats. This year Brian, who talked about the different fleeces to the children, was unable to come because his wife was ill, so it was just us and the shearers with the sheep. With one less area for the children to visit it did reduce the noise and crowding in the shed. As always there were lots of interested children, with their questions and "can we have a sample?" This year our hot lunch was more than welcome as was the chance to thaw out.



By contrast the sheep shearing day at Ty Mawr was warm and sunny. We were with a lady teaching knitting, Wardens teaching God's Eye weaving round hedgerow sticks and a lady weaving on her home made peg loom with fleece. The Head Warden had a wheel for the children to try treadling. The four of us and the Warden were spinning and answering questions. Just outside the shed were the shearers and the sheep. They had several Jacob's with their horns among those being shorn. We had a lovely afternoon and only Rosemary was strong enough not to take a fleece home.

#### Alsager Guild Friendship Day

Some of the guild (4 I think) managed to make it along to Alsager's friendship day and very enjoyable it was too. They had, like us a variety of small stalls from guild members and local produces (dyed bats, alpaca, pottery, dolls houses) and also a larger stall from the Threshing Barn, who had an excellent display of books as well as some very tempting yarns, various kits, and small fibre packs. (I succumbed to a new set of circular knitting needles where you get some different length cords and can add different size needle points them).

They had competitions (I won a tin of chocs if Liz hasn't eaten them all!) and a raffle. They also had excellent home made cakes and biscuits to go with coffee. I recommend a trip next time they hold this. Chris

**A what's on reminder from the Association:**

Summer School 2009 2-9 August 2009 at Bishop Grosseteste College, Lincoln.

Convenor: Judith Penneck, Fougou Silver Street, Wragby Market Rasen, Lincs LN8 5PJ. Further details are available on the Association website: <http://www.wsd.org.uk/ss.htm>.

**Shows**

Woolfest, Cockermouth, Cumbria: 26-27 June 2009

Fibrefest, Cold Harbour Mill, Devon: 22-23 August 2009

**Knitting & Stitching shows:**

10-13 September 2009, Alexandra Palace, London;

29 October – 1 November 2009, RDS, Dublin;

19-22 November 2009, Harrogate International Centre, Yorkshire

The Great Northern Contemporary Craft Fair, 22-25 Oct 2009, Manchester Grammar School.

Further information available from <http://www.greatnorthernevents.co.uk>.

## **THE BACKPAGE**

*And finally, here are some snippets from a really interesting article from the online magazine - Weavezine produced by Syne Mitchell. (You can find this at <http://weavezine.com> and I'll try and bring a copy of the full article to the next meeting.) This could give you inspiration for the All Wales "second time around" challenge.*

***Outstanding Moral Fiber: Weaving with Un-Knitted Cashmere***  
*by Bonnie Tarses, 14 May, 2009 - 22:22*

*The concept of recycling anything and everything has become popular recently, but the tradition of un-weaving cloth to reuse the yarn dates back to the beginning of textiles.*

*In the past, weavers in Ghana un-wove the silk from Indian saris to create special Kente cloth. In Guatemala, I have seen old huipils that contain bits of reclaimed silk yarn woven into the cloth, and in Afghanistan, exquisite embroideries are stitched from re-used yarn. And the finest, most valuable, old Navaho blankets (bayeta) were made by unraveling a red Turkish woolen cloth called [bayeta](#).*

*Today, [yarn made from recycled sari silk](#) is readily available. There is even a Yahoo group devoted to unraveling sweaters. Recycling textiles is an wonderful and thrifty idea that never goes out of style.*

*One morning in 1985, I said to myself: "Wouldn't it be wonderful to weave a blanket using wefts of un-knitted cashmere sweaters?"*

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*The article follows what turns into almost a cottage industry of collecting cashmere sweaters from charity shops and dyeing/space dyeing the yarns and weaving them. So - We should all be heading for the Charity Shops - I recommend you all to read this. I've even seen recently people selling unravelled sweater yarn on ebay - there's enterprise for you. I'm also going to look into weaving rag rugs with strips of charity shop denim jeans.*

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