



CLWYD WEB

March 2005



http://www.spindizzy.net/clwyd_web

Registered Charity no. 518270

Please try your best to get to workshops and be ready to start by 10am
Coffee will be served from 9.30am.

Events

<p>Sat Apr 16th</p>	<p>Working with silk with Priscilla Lowry. Llysfasi Places are all taken on this on this workshop, so please contact Myra if you have to cancel, as we have a few members who just missed the cutoff!</p> <p>Priscilla will be concentrating on spinning and knitting with silk so I suggest you bring wheels, spindles, hand cards, niddy-noddys etc. and any knitting kit you think would be useful. You can also bring along any problem silks (fibre or yarn for advice on the best way to handle it).</p> <p>This is also your best chance to bring along stuff for the guild exhibition.</p>
<p>Apr 30 – May 4</p>	<p>Guild exhibition at Erddig Hall Again... contact any of the committee to volunteer, we have 20 signed up so far so there are still plenty of opportunities. Think of it as a chance to get free visit to this lovely National Trust house and gardens (the herbs planted round the walled gardens as you walk in on a sunny holiday smell gorgeous!)</p> <p>If you miss the April meeting, try and get anything for the exhibition to a committee member in the week before the end of April.</p> <p>(Erddig is 2 mile south of Wrexham signposted off the A483 & A525)</p>
<p>Jun 18.</p>	<p>Dyeing day at Myra's This is becoming an annual event. We've dyed greens and purples, so what next!</p>

February Workshop. Willow Basketry with Mandy Coates (by Chris)

This looked a great deal of fun, and I was really impressed by the work every one managed in one short workshop. It can take a lot of time and effort to get a basket finished up in a day – and they really do need to be finished before the willow dries out!

Mandy taught two baskets. The first was a conical basket for hanging with flowers, perhaps as a planter, you can see some wild and wondrous examples in the picture. The second was a shallow platter with an openwork centre, which I know as an Irish skib or ciseog (pronounced kishog). Those of you who made a skib may be interested to learn that its main purpose was for draining and serving potatoes. Some of the large ones had a little central basket woven in which might hold a jug of buttermilk. The family could all sit round these and help themselves. All these baskets will look really good filled with wool at the Guild Exhibition, so please bring them along to our April meeting.



For those who missed out on this workshop, I'm trying to organise another one, perhaps as an August at home. Numbers will be even more limited, depending on venue and I know for certain that I can't manage as many as 10!

Recommended reading if you want to do some more basketry, would be Handmade Baskets (from nature's colourful materials) by Susie Vaughan.. It's an A4 softback full of colour photos and clear diagrams, and is an excellent starter book which isn't too expensive (Around £8 new and often available discounted or secondhand).

The Back Page

If anyone is interested, Myra has been sent details of this year's International Back to Back Wool Challenge which will take place on or before_Sunday 12 June 2005. It must be admitted that committee ran away and hid at the thought of doing this again – but we thought we'd better let you know!



Finally, a nifty item that no spinner should be without (Another gem from e-bay's online auctions.)

Lampshade spinning wheel This is a fabulous rare French made Spinning Jenny and Standard Lamp combined. Approximate height 54", width 14". Excellent patina to the wood (Most likely oak) as can be seen in the photographs and in fabulous condition.

Whether the idea of having the spinning wheel and standard lamp combined into one was so that the user had maximum light on his/her work I have no idea but a very interesting concept even so.

Never having used one of these myself I don't know if it is still a working spinner but everything seems to be in place. We have taken a variety of photo's so please take a look and judge for yourselves.

As far as the lamp is concerned It comes ready wired but originating from France may need a rewire and the fitting to the top of the lamp replacing to modify for use over here although this could be accomplished in a matter of minutes and at very little cost, well worth the effort for this very unusual, stunning piece.

Ps it sold for £20