



CLWYD WEB March 2012

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Meetings and Events

<p>March 17th</p>	<p>Crochet edges and Finishes with Isabel & Yvonne (in house) This month's workshop is about crochet edgings and will be led by Isobel and Yvonne. Any queries that are crochet related are welcomed as maybe people want something more than just edgings. Someone did ask about crochet buttons. Hooks and yarn will be available to use. Any input is welcomed. We will also catch up on weaving on hoops with Rosemary.</p>
<p>Apr 21st</p>	<p>Spinning Workshop – April meeting Art Yarns – or "it's all in the preparation!" with Jane Jenkins</p> <p>It will be good to have prepared material for April's workshop, so here's a list to give everyone who wants to join in, a chance to prepare so Jane has asked that you bring:</p> <p>Hardware: Spinning Wheel with normal flyer and a Jumbo flyer if you have one and want to go wild with your yarns! As many spare bobbins as possible, Niddy noddy, Hand carders Drum carder (for clean fibre) if you have one and can bring it (<i>Ed: I'll bring one</i>) small kitchen scales – Jane will bring one Scissors, Darning needle, Pencil & notebook and/or tags to label samples</p> <p>Fibres: 1 or 2 bobbins of pre-spun fairly high twist singles (Z twist i.e. clockwise) wool or wool blends. Wool fibre at least 100g – all loose wool fibre should be washed and carded – roving is o.k. Small amounts of other fibres can be added. A variety of colours makes it interesting but not essential. Kid mohair scraps (at least 20g) or other curly wool locks – I will have some for sale if you haven't got any. Reel of sewing thread or fine crochet cotton</p> <p>Miscellaneous: any or all of these that you might have lying around in unidentified carrier bags! Felt balls or home made paper beads Small pompoms Felted rovings that you think are not suitable for spinning (the ones the cat plodded on!) (<i>Ed: Hmm... I have a basketful that the cat has been sleeping on for the last few months – completely felted!</i>) Threads ends from sewing or knitting – the ones you normally cut off and throw away. Commercial knitting ribbon. Cut fabric strips at least $\frac{3}{4}$ inch wide and 6 inches long. Fine enough to tie in a knot. A few cotton wool balls. (<i>Ed: I have a big bag of these</i>) Sparkly threads, tinsel, crochet cotton or fine strips of sparkly fabric. Jane will bring what she can of the above at least to demonstrate with – I am sure you will all have bits & pieces you are willing to share amongst you.</p>
<p>Apr 28-29th</p>	<p>Royal Welsh Showground in Builth Wells for the seventh Annual Wonderwool Wales Festival.</p>



Following from February's workshop, I hope you all got a chance to throw the knitted flowers into the wash and see how they felted. All mine felted after a couple of runs through the wash, but the final sizes differed so that it would have given strange results if I'd knitted a single item with different fleeces. The Swartbles felted better than I expected, and so did the Wingham Shetland roving, and the real surprise was the flower that I knitted from a handful of the alpaca that Janet brought along. This felted very well, but was horribly hairy!

Gill went home inspired by Janet's "knit the row below" striping method (like fisherman's rib in 2 colours) and knitted and felted a stripy bag.

Jane Jenkins has passed on this message: "I have a fleece (straight from the sheep) and wondered if you would be able to make use of it. It is a chocolaty brown, a rare breed sheep but I don't know what breed. I was given it for felt making but it is far too much work to clean etc. If no use to you, do you know of anyone else who might be interested? Thanks a lot.

Last month we learnt about 6" rings as part of the unselected work for the Association of Guilds of Weavers, Spinners and Dyers National Exhibition, and this month Rosemary will be showing us methods of working on a hoop. There is also, of course the selection of items for display. The National Exhibition will be held from 16 - 27 July 2012 at the [Weald and Downland Museum](#), West Sussex and the closing date for Guild's to submit members' work to be considered for selection by photograph will be 2 June 2012.

Chris is interested in entering something for this and so will be happy to coordinate any entries that people wish to submit. Here's a brief summary of the rules (more detail available in the literature that Anneli brings to meetings and on the Association's Website):

"There will be no set theme this year. While entries will again be by photograph(not more than two sheets, maximum size A4), we will be asking for a small sample piece of the work, or materials, to be attached to the photograph. This way, we feel it will help the selection process for everyone but also means we shall have a 'feeling piece' to go alongside the work for visitors to handle. The work submitted may be traditional or innovative and should embody one or more of the crafts of weaving, spinning, and dyeing. Other crafts may be used to augment the work. There is a single, non returnable, payment from each Guild to cover submissions (£7.50 per entry) Please note. Selected entries for sale will not be covered by the Museum's policy (those not for sale will be covered), such exhibitors are advised to consider whether they should insure their exhibit(s) separately."



**With the above in mind
Book Review:**

Crafter's Guide to Taking Great Photos: Fool-Proof Techniques to Make Your Handmade Creations Shine Online by Heidi Adnum. ISBN 1844487512

This is quite a substantial paperback full of excellent photos (that make all my efforts look dull!). At the Amazon price of £8.44 with free p&p this is very good value, there are full colour prints and illustrations on nearly all of the 192 pages. It sometimes seems to be a bit of a coffee table book for crafts, but there are some good ideas and tips even for those like me who are only using a compact camera. (It assume's that you're working with a digital camera, though all the advice on staging is universal.)

I think all I need now, to create shots to tempt people to buy from me, is a magazine quality home to arrange things in ☺
I'll bring this along to the meeting in case anyone wants a look.

Chris

Please contact Chris if you have anything of interest for the newsletter