



CLWYD WEB

May 2011

http://www.spindizzy.net/clwyd_web

Registered Charity no. 518270

Meetings and Events

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| May 21st | Offloom Weaving with Colin Squire. Please contact Teresa to book. See below for details |
| June 18th | Indigo Shibori with Fiona Nisbet (booking required) |
| July 16th | Ragwort Dyeing day – in preparation for All Wales meeting |

Offloom Weaving with Colin Squire. The workshop on 'off-loom weaving' will involve techniques including several finger woven braids, weaving on card and a variety of frames to produce both weft-faced and balanced cloths, including a technique which can be used to produce a four selvedge cloth. I will start with a demonstration of a number of techniques from which those attending can choose which techniques they wish to try. I will bring soft boards which may be used for a number of techniques. If anyone can bring macrame 'T' pins, or long glass headed pins, in addition to the things I have previously mentioned, that could be useful, but I will bring as many I have available.

I had an art school training which introduced me to weaving, mainly of cloth, but also rug weaving, and my own work has been mainly of rugs, furnishings and decorative hangings. I have been involved in teaching in further education for over thirty years, and have collected a variety of off-loom techniques over the years, which come in useful for those without a loom who are interested in producing a woven textile, also for those who do not have the patience to set up a loom. I hope that the various techniques which I bring will be of interest and perhaps inspire some of your members to develop after the workshop.

Please bring any of the following which you have available:
some equipment /materials will be available so it does not matter if you cannot provide things yourself – some techniques will only require materials manipulated by hand.

any small rectangular (or circular) wooden or metal frame
stiff card (which does not easily bend if threads are wrapped around it) A5 size or larger (can be cut to size required)
scissors, tape measure/ruler, pencil, paper for notes
long weaving needles (metal or plastic) these usually have an angled end which helps with interlacing threads. (Some will be available for purchase)
G-clamp to fix to table to tension threads during weaving in some techniques
Yarns: 2 ply carpet yarn (wool) or heavier berber-type yarns, medium to thick cottons/knitting yarns fancy yarns (e.g.brushed mohair type) but not fine

Sylvia writes: I have been given details of some **rare breed fleece - Llanwenog** (S. Wales type) x 5 - supposedly the best and sought after by spinners, being fine and soft. The asking price is £5 each but she is open to offers.

Solar Dyeing: Lorna writes: Having taken notice at a guild meeting last year when comments were made about dyeing wool in a greenhouse, I found a source of plastic sweet jars and used one for fuchsia flowers, starting it off with lukewarm water, vinegar and soap, and it was interesting to see the result - the colour is very similar to some straw mats that we have. The only downside is removing the squishy plant material at the end of the process, but I will repeat the experiment

this summer. I remembered to stir the mixture every now and again. (You can see some samples on Saturday).

(ps I tried solar chemical dyeing one hot summer – putting a black pot of wool and dye in a foil lined and polystyrene tile insulated “hot box” with a glass top and reflectors. It worked nicely when I preheated the pot - the box kept it hot for a few hours and the wool wasn’t felted (Editor)).

The Back Page



Jane has a large Ashford tapestry loom for sale (see the large size one pictured). £100 o.n.o

Now, as threatened - you get the cat fur ball article.

Well – I can’t see that detailed instructions are really necessary – though the tip that it’s easier to wash the pet hair while you’re felting it, rather than washing the pet, makes sense!

Collect all the fluff that your pet leaves around the house, from the floor, sofa or grooming brush. Wet with some soapy water, roll between your hands to make balls. You can use Koolaid to dye if you want colours!



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