



CLWYD WEB

October 2006

http://www.spindizzy.net/clwyd_web

Registered Charity no. 518270

Next Meetings

<p>Oct 21</p>	<p>Inkle and other flat braid weaving. Please bring along an inkle loom if you have one, with any yarns that you want to use or share. Crochet cottons and other strong smooth yarns are the most suitable, but wools can also be used. If you have a loom that you can lend to someone, please bring that too. If you have a loom that needs warping or you'd like to explore different inkle patterns, help will be on hand from Rosemary. Barbara will demonstrate tablet weaving and will have some tablet sets available to buy. Again, smooth cotton, linen or silk yarns are the easiest to weave with and a G-clamp is useful to hold the end of the warp. The guild also has some box looms available that can be used to weave flat braids. May has an Inkle Loom for sale. Please contact for details.</p>
<p>Oct 28 10am – 4pm</p>	<p>Cheshire Guild of Weavers, Spinners and Dyers Friendship Day at Frodsham Community Centre. There will be a small charge for visitors, and could you also bring a plate of something as a contribution to the buffet lunch. This year the visiting supplier is Wingham Wools. Earth Collection will also be there. In case you don't know them, they are a clothes company. They use mainly cotton and silk, garments are produced in China but to strict ethical standards. Their Chester shop was swamped by people from summer school last year and as a result the manager has become a fan of spinners and weavers. I'm not sure what they'll be bringing; but expect some of their current season's colours and also some white/natural garments for potential home dyeing. They will be in a separate room and will bring their own portable changing cubicle. Prices are very reasonable - provided your members have any money left over from Wingham! There are display tables for visiting guilds, so bring a few items to show off.</p>
<p>Nov 18</p>	<p>AGM and Christmas Meal (Bring a Plate). Please bring along your 21st anniversary challenge pieces for display (perhaps some of them will be finished now!). The committee are starting to put together next year's programme so if you have any ideas, please let us know, and if you would like to join the committee to help put these ideas into action, that would be even better.</p>

Summer Shows

We managed to put on demonstrations at a good number of local shows this summer, and were well received at all of them. The displays of spinning and weaving also attracted some new members to the Guild.

Joyce would like to thank everyone who helped at Ruthin (in spite of the terrible weather), Cilcain (it rained there as well, but only briefly), Llanarmon (windy enough to try and blow away the gazebo), Caerwys and Celyn Farmers market.

August At Homes were poorly attended this year. I enjoyed visiting Janet, where with Helen's help we sorted through a mountain of different fleeces. We may review whether to continue organising these days next year.

Teresa has now moved into her new house, and acquired a different phone number to the one I gave out earlier

I passed around a last minute advertisement for a workshop in **Renaissance Dyeing** at the Victoria and Albert Museum earlier this month. "Learn the secrets of colours used by 15th century Renaissance dyers. Using natural dyes and a variety of fabrics, you will create a sumptuous range of samples, from scarlet silk to saffron velvet." Myra was hoping to go to this, so perhaps she can report back, it sounded very interesting.

Quite a few of us paid a visit to the **Alsager Guild's Annual Exhibition** at Little Moreton Hall (near Congleton). The venue was marvellous and the display of items was very impressive. There were some beautiful weavings from several members, spun and dyed yarns, knitted items, and felted boots and bags. Spinners were working along one side of the Long Gallery, and a table of children's activities was doing great business in a side room (where the floor was so sloping, that you came away leaning at a strange angle). I was impressed by the effort that must have been required to set up everything. The labelling was thorough, artistic and informative and the layout very well done especially since every single thing in the room had been manoeuvred up several flights of narrow twisting stairs.

Finally, The **Batik Guild's travelling exhibition** "Batik Transitions From Classic to Contemporary" celebrating 10 years of Batik Art, will be at the Knit & Stitch shows until the end of November and then from 27th January 2007 - 11th Mar 2007 at the Williamson Art Gallery & Museum Birkenhead. I'm told that this will be the best as they have the most space, and there will be lectures and workshops too.

Last month Dot Seddon gave a workshop on synthetic dyeing. Janet has written a summary of what was a FANTASTIC workshop, with a great tutor.

Synthetic Dyeing: Dot Seddon Clwyd Guild 15th Sept 06

Synthetic dyeing – the Dot Seddon way – involves following very precise instructions; that way the results obtained can be repeated. Dot uses Kemtex dyes and introduced us to her methods which will allow us to dye any colour starting with just the three primary colours of red, blue and yellow. Having black will also help. (Dot's methods use the % system and she regards 20g of fibre as the minimum usable amount.)

Her 3 key messages from the workshop were:

- Be accurate – work in ml (cm³) and drops.
- Be consistent.
- Keep detailed records AS YOU ARE WORKING.

During the day we:

- dyed (acid dyed) by
 - Level dyeing
 - Microwave dyeing
 - Rainbow dyeing
- covered recommended ways to dye:
 - yarn & tops
 - wool and silk
- learnt how to:
 - mix our own secondary & tertiary colours (& variations!)
 - keep a permanent reference record
 - use ratios to achieve planned-for colours
 - calculate the volume of dye needed to ensure it was 'all taken up' by the yarn
 - work very safely

Dot produced her own (copyright) detailed notes for the participants. Her care in doing this is evident as each stage of the dyeing process is so well described.

This was (to me) a fantastic workshop. Dot packed so much in and yet still managed to give us precise details and check that we had done sufficient samples during the day to understand the processes involved. It has introduced me to a whole new way of working which will not replace my love of natural dyeing but rather complement it. I could have spent a week on this workshop!

Janet Major

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

Clwyd Guild of Weavers, Spinners and Dyers. AGM Nov. 2006

I wish to proposefor the committee

Seconded by.....

Please return to Teresa on or before the 2006 AGM. Thank you

I would like to suggest the following ideas for speakers or workshops

Please return to Myra on or before the 2006 AGM. Thank you