



CLWYD WEB

October 2007

http://www.spindizzy.net/clwyd_web

Registered Charity no. 518270

Meetings

Please arrive promptly for workshops ie 9:30am for 10 am start
 And note that someone has to clear up at the end before we can go home,
 And REMEMBER there's more than just the listed workshop at Llysfasi. An informal get together for spinning, knitting, wheel fettling, help to new members and a multitude of other activities, carries on every month (except August and maybe December).

NOVEMBER MEETING Saturday 17 th Llysfasi	AGM and Christmas Meal (Bring a Plate) followed by talk on Japanese kimonos by Susan Briscoe
DECEMBER Saturday 15 th Llysfasi	Possible Extra Meeting (TBA) General get together – socialise – eat more festive goodies.

We have just heard that a long-standing guild member Audrey Greenwood has died. Audrey was known to very many of us, helping to show us felting, spinning, dyeing, knitting (and probably most other textile skills!) Audrey moved away last year to be nearer her family, and although we missed her, they will have gained. She was a lovely lady.

All Wales 2007

I have 2 reports for the All Wales ... I'll interleave them, and see if they match!

Myra: Four of us set off for Llanidloes Friday afternoon (Myra, Rosemary, Helen and Jane), armed with the Guild Challenge board and a bagful or 2, of exhibits for the big display. Despite a frustrating drive with loads of traffic.

(Jane asked me to leave out her comments about the journey, but I think I could paraphrase them as "frustrating")

Myra: We arrived around 6.30 and set to work.....and JUST finished before we would have been thrown out at 8! After a convivial meal and a night in a b & b at Langurrig we were back next morning to view the exhibition.

Jane: .. and I left my soap bag at home & had to borrow Helen's deodorant and Myra's posh perfume. Our B&B was cosy and provided everything we needed including a barn full of fleeces - we spent some time picking over them & came away clutching treasures apparently included in the tariff!

Myra: I have to say a big thank you to all those who contributed as, in my slightly biased opinion!, our work was well up with the best on show. Every time I went by there were people admiring different items on our board and discussing colours/techniques and construction. It was lovely to meet up with Teresa, Anneli and June (who had quite a little adventure getting there including scenic tour across the mountains!)

Jane: Other than all that we had a lovely time - our challenge and display boards stood up well to the competition & Joyce's wrapped mohair cardigan spent a lot of time being closely scrutinised & admired.

Myra: We were all very restrained (really!) browsing the suppliers stalls though I was tempted (a little) at Uppingham Yarns & the Threshing barn. Unfortunately our luck from the Whitemere day didn't hold and nothing at all was won in the raffle.

Jane: I thought the retail therapy section was a little disappointing, but I had already spent up at Masham the previous weekend so it would have needed to be something pretty special to entice me to let the moths out of my purse, though I can recommend the cheese stall in the market! (THERE WAS ONLY ONE LOO IN THE ARTS CENTRE!!! and none of us won anything in the raffle).

Myra: Replete from a `healthy` lunch at the wholefood cafe we found a seat ready for Jenny Balfour Paul`s talk. As it was on one of `my` subjects - Indigo - I may be totally biased but I found it totally fascinating and thought her knowledge, passion and interest came through. She didn't set out to study indigo but learnt dyeing from Susan Bosence & had links with the middle east back in the 70`s and with Susan`s encouragement & help got a grant to go back & record the fast disappearing traditional indigo dyeing.....the rest is history.....her study of indigo has taken her around the world.....and

she took us around the world too. There isn't much that makes me envious of anyone else but.....

Jane: The talk on Indigo by Jenny Balfour-Paul (which I didn't think would be the least bit interesting to me) was absolutely inspiring <http://www.brighton.virtualmuseum.info/exhibitions/indigo.asp> I would recommend all of you to check this out & go if you can, I intend to. I am only sorry I did not go when it was in Manchester.

Myra: And just to finish I think we may have set a Guild record!! Teresa told me she gave out 15 bags of fibre and I got 14 items back. (Isabelle did confess to me that she thought she'd better produce something as she'd signed for it!!) Sorry not all items made it to the board as they didn't arrive until the day we were leaving - but they did go on the main board in their own little section. Thanks again everybody.

Alsager Guild exhibition - Little Moreton Hall

Last month, Myra, Helen and I (Chris) met up at Little Moreton Hall to see the Alsager Guild's Exhibition. This is a stunning Venue, in a National Trust House, but we all agreed that the hard sell at the door (to join the NT) was too fierce. The only (and it's a major) drawback is that access to the exhibition is restricted to the very able bodied, since the climb to the Long Gallery is tricky. The Exhibition this year was themed around Tudor Colours and there were some excellent layouts showing natural dyed fibres, and pieces of work inspired by the colours and costumes (an amazing knitted ruff and a felted coat!) There was also a very good section for children to try weaving on cards and a small rigid heddle loom. There were some interesting examples of hemp yarns and many lovely knitted, felted and woven items (which we all examined in detail!) It was also good to see Janet Major again, since she has not been feeling well enough to come to recent meetings. However she hoped to be back with us soon.

The Back Page

An early announcement from the Cheshire Guild (Frodsham) - We would also like to invite you to our workshop with Michael Crompton on Saturday 19th of April 2008. The topic of the workshop is Design for the Textile Artist. It also requires some preliminary work to be done beforehand the cost will be £20 per person.

On behalf of the Royal Welsh Agricultural Society and in particular the Angora Goat Craft Section at the May Smallholder and Garden Festival, we were wondering whether you find someone from your guild in Clwyd to judge the Angora Craft Section at the Festival: contact Bethan

For the podcasters (ask your nearest teenager). I've found some interesting podcasts on weaving to listen while doing tedious things like warping looms. Weavecast is a monthly production about an hour long and you get it at www.weavecast.com There are also several knitting podcasts around which I'll be looking into later (I'm still listening to the back issues of weavecast.

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