



HSWGSA Guild News

ISSUE JUNE-JULY 2025



The May birthday lunch was an absolute delight. The highlight was the birthday cake made by Felicity (and cut by Rowena above). It was delicious while still being gluten, egg and dairy free!



Right are spinners at Adelaide Arcade for History Month, we set up in the middle of the arcade, and showed of spinning, weaving and handmade items.



PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Welcome members old and new to the middle of the year and almost the Winter Solstice.

We have installed heating and cooling into the back room. Many of you may have benefited from it as this cold weather has appeared. We hope that this will improve some of our space on cold and hot days. This is the beginning of a program to make our space more comfortable, we have quotes for the Library and the Gallery but need to raise the funds to be able to afford this. It is unfortunate that we are unable to put any heating/cooling in the main hall as there are no external walls suitable. The main hall will benefit slightly from the back room. If you are one of the Groups who use the heating, please appoint a person to ensure it is turned off when your meeting has finished.

Some of you may have noticed that the toilet doors in the Ladies toilets have been changed to open outwards and rails have been installed on both sides of the cubicles. Locks have been fitted that can be opened from the outside. Should anyone be unfortunate to collapse in a cubicle we will be able to get you out. A similar modification to the Gentlemen's toilet has also been added.

Our internet provider Internode has increased our data to unlimited. The Committee thought it appropriate to allow access to our internet for all members using the building. This will enable the use of WiFi for learning opportunities and other appropriate use of the internet.

Name: WiFi- 6875-5G

Password: 6543926

Rowena Wiggins, President



REMINDER OF SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING

A reminder that we will be having a Special General Meeting prior to our June Guild Meeting for members to discuss and vote on an increase in Membership fees.

This is now required due to increasing costs to the Guild for building maintenance and ongoing utility costs. As you will all be aware the cost of living has increased significantly in recent times and as a Guild, we are not immune. Our Rates and Insurance have been the most significant increases. I have negotiated improved rates for our electricity and along with our solar panels we have halted the increase in our electricity costs.

So, the proposed motion for discussion is Membership Fees and Affiliate Fees are to be altered by, doing away with Early Bird and charging the current cost of \$70 to all members, Affiliates will have an increase to be determined that will reflect the Insurance increase. Renewals will commence in September and all members need to have renewed by 1st November each year. New members will pay a pro rata fee dependent on when they join.

This will bring in some much-needed capital to cover ongoing costs and make some improvements such as heating and cooling.

Since the significant increase in property prices the rateable value is now over \$1,000,000 and Insurance costs have rocketed by 22.7% in the last 6 years.

While this may appear to be a significant increase to Membership Fees it is only what we should have been paying if not using Early bird. Because we have all taken advantage of the Early Bird discount the Guild is no longer able to make savings for repairs that inevitably come along in maintaining an older building.

I hope you will all consider this to be a suitable outcome for members, so we are able to continue to maintain the building and improve some services for members.

Rowena Wiggins,

President The Hand Spinners and Weavers Guild of South Australia



JUNE MEETING

The next Guild Meeting will be this coming Saturday, June 7th. Doors will open at 9.30 for the kitchen, fibre sales, trading table, equipment room, library and fleece sales. The Little Glory Gallery will open at 11. The meeting will start at 11 and the speaker at 11.30.

Wear your **membership card** while at the guild to help everyone learn names, Guild Lanyards are available for sale or, even better show off your beaded, braided and woven creations.

It will also be a requirement to show your current membership card when making a purchase with a guild discount, a photo on your phone is fine, this rule is now in effect.

If you're like me and can never find any change for weekly groups or one of Nancy's yummy cakes, you can now buy a **Guild Cash card**.

They're \$30.50 and can be used to pay for group subs or refreshments (no change given).

Each card has 10 boxes and every time you spend \$3, the group facilitator or kitchen staff member will cross a box. FAQ: the extra 50c is to cover printing; cards cannot be used in the

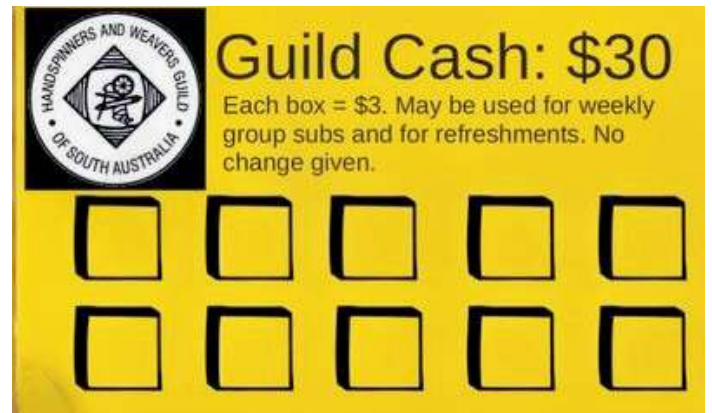
Gallery; you can buy them from the Memberships table on meeting days; spending \$3.50? Just add a 50c coin.

Guild Aprons

Guild Aprons are now available, hand made with an embroidered guild patch on the front and a pocket big enough for all your accoutrements. Only a few left, see Barbara \$40.

Guild Lanyards

You may have seen some members walking around with their natty black and white guild lanyards which show off membership badges nicely. If you want one see Andy at the membership table \$5



Month	Fleece Seller	Speaker
June	Bennett and Gregor	Bennett and Gregor
July	Lucinvale Coated Spinning Fleeces	Suzie Horne -Finn Sheep

Bennett and Gregor are both fleece sellers and speakers this month. If you haven't seen them before they have raw fleeces, roving and felting batts in a variety of shades

They have a range of seven natural colours of silky soft, combed wool tops. Their tops and carded batts are all made from their own fleeces, and all processing is done in Australia, so we can control the quality of the product and know that it is our wool.

They sell at various craft events, markets, HSWG group meetings, by mail order and from their wool room by appointment.

For any enquiries email [<bennettandgregor@gmail.com>](mailto:bennettandgregor@gmail.com)



From the Membership Table

Firstly, a big welcome to all new members! Figures currently stand at 206, and I'm sure they'll continue to grow. For established members, if you see anyone looking a bit lost, please ask if they need a hand finding anything or anyone. When you describe Monty, if you add that he doesn't wear glasses, that might help people differentiate between his fair self and yours truly.

The recent growth in memberships has largely been due to the two open days where members of the public could visit the Guild, watch demonstrations and try out spinning, weaving, felting and spindling for themselves. There was a healthy mixture of age-groups in attendance, and it was great to see more men coming along. I don't think I've ever experienced gender discrimination at the Guild, except when an announcement is preceded by, "Excuse me, ladies!" A loud cough and a hard stare corrects this nicely. And canines... dogs are welcome, too. I'm not sure how we'd fare with cats chasing any moving bit of yarn, but if they're on a lead and don't bark too loudly, I'm sure we can accommodate.

Thanks also to Jamo and Mark at Skein Machine in Eden Hills, who display our blue address cards on their counter. It's great to have some mutual networking - they have already secured a supply of dog hair for the latest project which is being spun on one of their 3D-printed drop spindles.

Children - we need more children. If you have an idea about how we can encourage more wee bairns to join up, give us a holla.

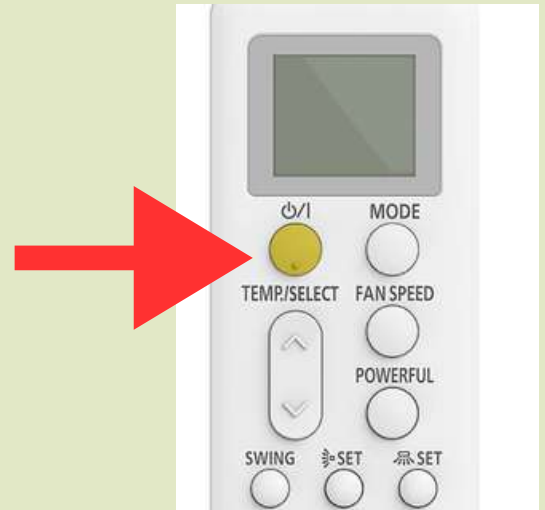
Lastly, I need a buddy - someone who can take over from me if I can't attend a meeting day etc. What skills would you need? Taking money (using the eftpos is easy and there's always someone around to help), adding details to a spreadsheet (no formulae required, only typing) and emailing Committee members a tailored list. If you think you can help, let me know? We can then run it by the Committee for approval.

Andy

New heaters!

You may have noticed the new heaters in the back room, hopefully you've had a chance to try them out.

When turning them off please double check that the system has registered the 'off' command- there should be a green light BEFORE leaving. We don't want to accidentally leave anything running overnight.



Social Media Update:

Our Facebook group has hit the ground running, thank you to everyone who has been involved in setting it up (team effort!) and to everyone who has offered or agreed to be part of its future. We've got spinning and felting, next we need someone to post for the weavers (if you're willing, it would only involve one post a fortnight please speak to Felicity)

We also have a **new Instagram** account for the whole guild- same name as Facebook: SpinWeaveSA. The Little Glory Gallery Instagram is also still going strong, the new account will focus the guild and members as a whole and reflect the Facebook page. I'm told that one of our reels last week had 200 views, in our first week!



GUILD BIRTHDAY HONOURS

Service Award: Nancy M

Nancy has been a member since 1975. Bev B was her weaving teacher for the first 14 years at Bev's home in Henley Beach on Saturday mornings. Nancy got to know Jo and Helen at weaving, and hence started helping out at the Guild.

Nancy helped Beatrix on the trading table for several years and then moved into the kitchen, with Claire helping. For the last three years, Nancy has provided delicious morning teas and real coffee at her own expense, with all the proceeds going to the Guild. Thank you Nancy!



Craftsmanship: Mary S

Mary was an Art teacher and tutored Art from her own studio for 30 years

She has given workshops in various aspects of felting and eco printing and has been a Guild member for 10 years.

Mary sells felted and knitted items in the Gallery. And just happened to be wearing one of her eco printed tops on guild day!

Two of her most stunning works were an eco-printed top which actually looked like a florists' arrangement and a felted brim hat in Outback colours.

Congratulations and thank you Mary.

Teaching: Bella H

Many of us would have first met Bella when she had her shop, one of the last spinning and weaving suppliers in Adelaide. You'd go in to buy an Ashford bobbin or a fleece, and come out 45 minutes later with your head full of inspiration and ideas. Bella is extremely approachable and is always ready and willing to offer advice about fibre, wheels, looms, spinning and weaving – patiently, and often with a sense of humour.

A couple of years ago she was one of 3 tutors (including Bev Bills and Kate Holmes – who have also won awards) who gave a double weave course, but refused any payment. It was all about sharing knowledge and skills.

Bella is a professional weaver. Her multi-shaft, fine silk works are colourful and individual. She even kindly donated one as a raffle prize.

Thank you Bella



I don't have a picture of Bella, so here is Rowena holding Bella's badge!



MEMBER UPDATE

Vale notice

It is with sadness that we acknowledge the passing of three members :

Tricia Goodrich, past Treasurer (2000- 2002 +) and long term member of Night Owls. Tricia received the Service Award in 2016.

Betty Stacey Founding Member (#115) from 1963 and Secretary in 1966-1968, Vice President 1984-1987 and President 1988-1990. Betty was a HSWGSA Life Member for her contributions.

and **Josephine Lowe** a Tuesday Spinners member.

Donations Thank you

The Guild has had very generous donations from Susanne Braker of spinning wheels and accessories for the equipment cupboard, yarn for Gallery sales and books for the library. Susanne has been an active member of the Guild since the 80's, being a member of the Adelaide Yarners in the Back to Back 2002. She also helped to set up the Gallery Shop at the Royal Show. Susanne sold many machine-knitted homespun items in the Little Glory Gallery. Her photo album of vests and project book have been scanned and will be stored in Archives.

Lilli Haas Wednesday felter has donated commercial yarns, cottons, silks and kimono fabrics for the trading table, felting slivers for the yarn table and leather for the Gallery.

Please consider donating your project books to the Guild. Your processes are absolutely precious and are to be appreciated.

The Spinner

THE SPINNER twisted her slender
thread
As she sat and spun:
"The earth and the heavens are mine,"
she said,
"And the moon and sun;
Into my web the sunlight goes,
And the breath of May,
And the crimson life of the new-blown
rose
That was born to-day."

The spinner sang in the hush of noon
And her song was low:
"Ah, morning, you pass away too soon,
You are swift to go.
My heart o'erflows like a brimming cup
With its hopes and fears.
Love, come and drink the sweetness up
Ere it turn to tears."

The spinner looked at the falling sun:
"Is it time to rest?
My hands are weary,—my work is done,
I have wrought my best;
I have spun and woven with patient
eyes
And with fingers fleet.
Lo! where the toil of a lifetime lies
In a winding-sheet!"

-Mary Ainge de Vere



APRIL/MAY MEETING RECAP

Spotted at the Guild

Left: Shirley's felted hat with embroidered Australian native flowers. Made in 1985, an absolute classic.

Right: Liz S' handspun vest. made from scraps of Bendigo mill pre-dyed it 'must be at least 20 years old', the basket weave knit has kept its shape beautifully.



At the April meeting Ali D-G gave a presentation, a glimpse into her PhD work. She is looking at the influence on some European missionary women on traditional crafts in greater Australia between 1920 and 1960. She specifically mentioned Mary Montgomerie Bennett, Elizabeth Copert, Margaret 'Gretta' Matthews, Nell Harris and Winifred Hillard.



It's always good to listen to people who are interested in their topic, and Ali was so good at sharing her passion and respect for these women. Thank you Ali for sharing with us.



Show and Tell
top: Ali D-G's super luxe tartan scarf woven with Alice Starmore's scottish yarn. Above: Shirley (wearing her beret) showed of her in-process woven gardening hat. Right: Robyn D modelling her first handspun colourwork jumper.





NEW LIFE MEMBER

Pat Michell OAM, Life Member

Pat Michell, along with Sue Dougherty & Thyra Chester, were teaching Spinning & Weaving, & Printmaking at “Woolgatherers” in Adam Street, Hindmarsh in 1975. Weaving teachers also included Yvonne Hill, a Guild member. We learned how to spin, dye, and then to weave. Pat also held exhibitions in the space, all to encourage visitors to learn more of these crafts. A space filled with looms, spinning wheels, an amazing working studio area.

The 1970's was a time when Spinning, Weaving and associated crafts were prominent, taking us back to the grass roots of crafts, and the guild was boasting of about 800 members. Pat later moved “Woolgatherers” to Edmund Ave, Unley, with weavers meeting regularly. The Embroiderers' Guild were next door. It was in 1982 when the Law Court Tapestries were instigated, and a couple were woven there, as well as two by Pat.

Pat joined the Handspinners & Weavers Guild in 1985, welcoming others to join her there, and days of weaving commenced on Wednesday and Thursdays. Looms were needed, and more weavers came along. Pat has been instrumental to these ongoing groups, with heaps of encouragement.

Over this time there have been group tapestries woven, and many more members taking on our crafts, and still attending. Also many workshops, and exhibitions have been held in the hall. The Guild would stage an Adelaide Fringe Exhibitions for many years, themed, and the hall was turned into a gallery, with amazing works hanging on the walls, and across the hall, plinths, tables, raffles. All of these events have been heavily supported by Pat, she was the mainstay of being there, demonstrating, talking to visitors.

In 2023, Pat greatly supported the Kumihimo Braiding Group, to hold an exhibition at Gallery M, as a Guild Exhibition, being most successful, and we now have the Noren, 98 2 metre lengths of kumihimo braiding hanging in the hall, to represent the hard work so many undertook to achieve.

Pat Michell has given so much to our members, to the guild, (Including Library books) and is a well deserving recipient of Life Membership of our Guild. Pat is also the Patron of the Lace Guild, and an Embroiderers Guild Member, which has also enabled all our guilds to be involved from time to time in exhibitions and workshops. Pat was awarded an Australian Award, Order of Merit for her Service to Textiles.

Thank you Pat for all your support and mentoring.

Bev Bills OAM, Life Member.





NATURAL DYEING

Jill joined the Guild in 1976 and has been experimenting with natural dyes ever since. She has been generous enough to share her knowledge with us in this regular column.

Time for a re-cap - This test system uses 10 gram skeins of protein fibre to test the dye potential of various plant materials. Since 10 gram skeins require very small weights of the mordant chemicals, I make up 1 litre containers containing the 10 grams of alum and 5 grams of cream of tartar which would be enough to mordant 100 grams of fibre. Then 100 mls of this solution is needed to mordant the 10 gram skein. I use 10 grams of dried plant material or 20 grams if it's fresh. Then skein, dye subject, mordant solution and rain water to cover, go into the biggest jar I can find – usually one that holds about a litre, maybe slightly less. 3 or 4 subjects are then processed at one time in a water bath, placed into my largest dye pan, with water added to a depth of about halfway up the jars. Process time varies a bit, but on the portable electric hot plate set on “low” it takes about 2 hours, then it gets left to cool down over night. Washed, rinsed and dried then labelled so I don't forget what was used. (Learned that by not labelling . . .) Here's this month's selection:-



Skeins L – R

Eucalyptus camaldulensis, sawdust

Cochineal (E120 food colouring)

Wild Olive

Eucalyptus Cinerea

Chenopodium album

Below, a silk cap added to the E. cinerea jar after removing the skein, a few more leaves added.

I've more or less run out of plants growing on our block, so I thought I'd give E120 food colour a try. This, according to my “Additive Code Breaker – Maurice Hanssen” guide, is an extract of the Cochineal scale insect *Dactylopius coccus*. The bottle had 28 mls left in it, and the solution is very dilute (0.6%) so I used the lot and since just that small amount produced an acceptable pink, I'm looking forward to using some of the actual bugs.

No progress to report on the search for an alternative Indigo vat – ferrous sulphate as the reducing agent - Indigo and the Antiquity of Dyeing – F.H. Gerber – to be found in the Guild Library. Didn't work for me, it's very alkaline so not suitable for protein fibres, and the cotton skein came out a pale brown. Curses . . .

Now there's a selection of stronger colours to choose from, sometime in the future I shall try some of those on cotton. (All the blah-beiges get sidelined for this endeavour). If anyone would like to try in the meantime, I had a good result using onion skins on cotton fabric mordanted with alum and alum/tannin. Short cut that one by doing the alum first than dipping into the tannin solution. A two for one since the alum half was lighter and the tannin part was darker.



FESTIVAL OF FIBRES NEW ZEALAND

Two of our guild members, Glenda and Sharn have recently returned from a trip to New Zealand where they attended the 'Festival of Fibres: Threads for Change in Christchurch, 10-13 April 2025'

The New Zealand Spinning, Weaving and Woolcrafts Society Inc, founded in 1969, brings together a range of people interested in fibre crafts and textile arts. Every other year the group hosts a national festival in different parts of NZ that include a national exhibition, fashion show, workshops, lectures, trades and other displays. Members combine a range of techniques to produce hand knits, machine knits, woven items, paper art, basketry, spinning, felting, leather art, dyeing techniques, embroidery, tatting and crocheted items. This year the festival took place in Christchurch with a strong educational theme backed up by a series of zoom presentations, interactive workshops and presentations. The base for activities (Rangi Ruru Girls School) provided an ideal central location for the national exhibition, fashion show and trades hall.



The Stephen West Plenary session (Woolly World of Westknits) via Zoom, got the conference off to a great start. The theme of the discussion was an extension of his promotion for a world-wide “Stashbust Along”, encouraging us all to look at our stash and try to take at least 50% of the yarn required in our next project from our stash. Those of you familiar with his patterns know he is a loves mixing colour and texture, particularly with his shawls, so many of the following tips he suggested will not come as a surprise;-

- Tie multiple contrast colours together through the use of a dark or neutral main colour. White as the main contrast will calm brighter colours.
- Alternatively space out bright pops of colour with several neutrals in between.
- Don't be afraid to mix colours/fibres/thicknesses of yarn. It doesn't matter if the yarn is a little thicker or finer. You can knit two thinner yarns together to create a thicker yarn.
- Create a fading marle effect by mixing skeins of fine yarn. Start by selecting skeins in different tones (including speckles) of one colour/hue. Arrange these from light to dark shades and then add in a pop of colour – would not be Stephen West without a pop, Knit holding 2 yarns together, starting with the 2 lightest yarns (A&B), then change by dropping the lightest colour and adding the next darkest (drop A, knit B&C) then C&D etc. Add a pop of colour where you wish. These colours can then be reversed at any point going back from the darkest to the lightest shade.

- If knitting a jumper with multi colours divide the remaining yarn from the body into half for each sleeve if you wish them to match, but if you run out of yarn don't try to match up the yarn – just change it
- Take away message from Stephen “Just say YES, don't stress”.

He also spoke briefly about his design process, which is very fluid. He starts knitting without knowing where the process will eventually take him, what starts as a cowl can end up as a dress! He regards a shawl as a swatch for other garments, as size and gauge do not matter and he can change stitch and texture, or the shape, one section at a time as he tries out different ideas, The one important hint he gave is to write the pattern down as you knit, as you will NOT remember.



We both attended a range of different workshops: Spinning was not a focus due to the difficulty of transporting a wheel across the ocean. I made a 4-cornered kono (basket) at the Raranga Weaving workshop on Friday afternoon, using harakeke (flax). The session included a talk on cultural protocols and safe harvesting of the leaves. As my untreated flax basket could not come back with me to Adelaide – I gifted my NZ school friend with a useful peg basket.

Saturday morning provided an opportunity to visit Wild Earth Yarns (leading producer of knitting yarn in the South Island) and the Tannery – a retail outlet venue that includes Christchurch Guild of Weavers and Spinners and their wool, yarn and fibre shop.





The Colour in Both Hands workshop with Mandy Dickie on Saturday afternoon demonstrated the efficiency of holding yarn in both hands while knitting and introduced a range of techniques and patterns. Using one light, one medium, and one dark skein of Polwarth yarn, we explored a range of contrasts.

Sharn's focus was on knitting knowledge and she attended 2 live zoom sessions with Patty Lyons, an American knitwear designer and knitting technique guru. The first topic was "Yarn Substitution" and the second "Make your Gauge Work"- very relevant to knitting with handspun yarn. Both sessions focussed on the importance of the SWATCH :- knitting it, blocking it and measuring it correctly. Main tips were

- The needle material matters- wooden needles may give a different gauge to steel needles.
- Cast on at least 4 inches for gauge, plus 4 stitches each side, using an elastic cast on style, she favours a turkish cast on. Do not add a border around the swatch. Knit at least 5 inches in your normal way. Take the swatch off the needles, you can run a thread through the stitches or do an elastic cast off.
- Wash the swatch as you will wash the garment, then lay flat to dry. If the fabric is drapey hang it up to see how much it will stretch.
- Use a ruler to measure gauge, on a flat surface(not your lap). Do not stretch or scrunch up the swatch. Measure in 3 different spots to get an average. Do not round up or round down the number of stitches or rows. She recommends you measure the distance where you can count a whole number of stitches or rows and use that to calculate gauge.

Patty's sessions were full of information, some quite complex, but she was able to present it in a way that made it easy to understand. Both sessions are available to purchase online at her site Pattylions.com



The workshop on the last morning was pure felting fun, making a NZ wood pigeon hand puppet. In between workshops we were able to catch a few of the many talks- one by Margaret Stove about her career with in handspinning and knitting fine Merino. She is the designer, spinner and knitter of the fine lace Marino shawl presented to Prince William as a baby from the NZ people and author of the definitive book about spinning Merino (available in the Guild library). At another a local Polworth producer threw a couple of fleeces out onto a table and told us how to assess them and remove the parts unsuitable for spinning, the final one give tips on how to service a spinning wheel.

The festival provided a great opportunity for two members of the guild to visit Christchurch and meet crafts people from across the country. Sadly, there were not many Australians in the assembled crowd. We'd like to encourage others to take a trip across the ditch in the future – the next festival will take place in Auckland (Pukekohe) in two years time and it will be made easier by direct flights from Adelaide to Auckland commencing in October 2025.



top right Margaret Stove show off her fine lacework, and above, a closer look. far right part of the exhibition and near right Sharn's felted wood pigeon.



TOUR DE FLEECE

What is the Tour de Fleece?

It started in 2006 as a spinalong with some friends who spun in time with the Tour de France cycling race. The Tour de France, the most famous cycling race in the world, is a 21-day race across France, covering around 2,200 miles/3,500km. Recently (in 2022) a women's race has been introduced, the Tour de France Femmes which adds a week.

The idea of Tour de fleece is that we spin along with the race- spin on days the cyclists race, spin something more difficult on Mountain climb days and have a day off from spinning when the cyclists have a rest day.

The Tour de Fleece has grown into a global spinning community event. The main community hubs are the [Ravelry](#) and [Facebook](#) groups, but you'll also see folks just sharing their progress on social media. I thought that this year it would be fun to participate in the tour together. This isn't a competition but a challenge.

Tour de Fleece is traditionally spinning, but we have added weaving and other fiber arts to include all guild members who want to participate.

What are the rules?

-Spin every day that the Tour de France/Tour de France Femmes ride, if possible (TdF Saturday, July 05 through Sunday, July 27. TdFF Saturday, July 26 through Sunday, August 3)

-Rest on the days the cyclists rest (July 15 and July 21)

-You can also challenge yourself on their toughest days (like mountain stages, TdF: The first one is Stage 10, on Monday, July 14. The second is Stage 15, on Sunday, July 20. TdFF: Saturday, August 2)

As mentioned this is not a competition about who can spin or use the most fibre but is more about meeting a personal challenge. The point of our Tour de Fleece is to take on a personal goal that challenges you in your craft and work towards that goal every day except designated rest days. Make it realistic to fit your available time, but push yourself some.

Goal examples:

Spinning an amount of fiber

- Weaving or creating something specific – an object/garment in a fiber related craft
- Working on your goals for a specified time daily
- Learning a new technique to becoming more proficient on a wheel/ loom/etc.



I want to be involved, what do I need to do?

- Decide on what your goal will be for the race
- Get everything ready
- Write your name and goal on your 'rider' and we will race!
- Bring your progress to your guild group every week so that we can track your progress.
- The Tour de France has different prizes for speed, climbers, days, newbies and overall. We will also have different winners

Start date: July meeting

End date: August meeting



Rumpelstiltskin

Tour de Fleece 2025 Goals
-Spin gold into yarn for 8 hours every night for the duration of the Tour

Sleeping Beauty

Tour de Fleece 2025 Goals
-Learn Longdraw spinning
-Spin 100g longdraw
-Spin 500g green roving for a jumper



Phoebe

Tour de Fleece 2025 Goals
-Spin for 20 minutes every day from the beautiful grey fleece that's been sitting in the shed for 2 years. 8ply

Cadel Evans

Tour de Fleece 2025 Goals
-Drum card red fleece, roving and silk
-Spin that into 1200m of Sport weight yarn
-Join the Cycling Sprint day 14/7 and spin all day with the race.
-Win



ROYAL ADELAIDE SHOW

Entries are open for the handicrafts competition for the Royal Adelaide Show. There are:

- 5 categories of hand felting (Categories 245-249)
- 4 for textile jewellery (categories 241-244)
- 7 other items including macrame, kumihimo and braiding (Categories 234-240)
- 3 for garments (classes 231-233)
- 3 for weaving (classes 228-230)
- 5 for spinning.(classes 233-237)

Details are on pages 24-27 of the Handicrafts Competition Schedule. If you need assistance entering online Ali B in the library has offered her assistance.



The QR code will take you to the entry page.

Class 222 THE HANDSPINNERS AND WEAVERS GUILD OF SA PRIZE **Handspinning and Weaving Guild 2025 Challenge Entries for the Handspinners and Weavers Guild of SA Challenge for 2025 will reflect the theme 'Reclaim, Reuse, Recycle'**. This can be any article that incorporates reclaimed, reused or recycled 'fibres' (eg. reclaimed yarn from discarded garments, recycled materials or fibres headed for landfill) into a new item using any technique or combination of techniques. The finished article must include the use of at least one of the following fibre crafts: weaving, spinning, felting, braiding (inc. Kumihimo) and may also include but is not limited to: knitting, crochet, dyeing, macrame etc



right: the challenge this year is inspired by textile waste. These bales of textiles are being collected to recycle into new jumpers.

below: some ideas for how to interpret the challenge. The jumper on the left has been frogged and then woven into something new. The yarn on the right came from an op shop and was plied together (on a drop spindle!) with a frogged project to make something new.



Show entires close 20 June so enter now if you are considering it!

Class 228 **Weaving - wrap or scarf, woven from any yarn, any fibre content** is the hotly contested class. Last year saw an amazing show of talent that was difficult to judge. Does anyone dare to join the competition?

There are two new handspinning classes
-226 Spindle Spun and
-227 Grown in South Australia.

These are the new categories in the Spinning competition this year, I have seen some amazing and prolific spindle spinners at the guild, let's go!

Class 231 **Garment - knitted or crocheted, using natural hand spun fibre/s.** The Cambridge dictionary defines garment as 'a piece of clothing', ANY piece of clothing!

Class 249 **Sculptural (3D) Form, wet or dry** felted, Completely personal preference, this is my favourite felted class for window shopping. Please, everyone, enter so that I can look more!

The Challenge is on! Sheep to Shawl 2025

Want to take part in the Sheep to Shawl Challenge 2025?

Last year's Royal Show saw us hold our first annual Sheep to Shawl Challenge, and we're very pleased to announce that this year we'll be holding the famed spinning and weaving challenge on Saturday, September 6, in the Sheep Pavilion at the Royal Adelaide Show. Three spinners, one weaver and a freshly shorn sheep's fleece – and just three hours to spin and weave a completed shawl. Fancy having a go?

Last year our team had a lot of fun showcasing our skills to an interested crowd of onlookers and this year we'd love to turn it into a friendly competition by having some more teams take part. If you're a spinner or a weaver and you'd like to learn more about participating in this wonderful demonstration of the 'magic' transformation of raw fleece into a beautiful woven shawl, please email hswgnewssa@gmail.com, with Sheep to Shawl 2025 in the subject line.

A triumphant Sheep to Shawl team at Royal Adelaide Show 2024





PERSONAL PROPERTY AT THE GUILD

A reminder, In the December-January Guild News, sent out 3/12/24 the committee asked all members who have private property at the Guild to inform the committee by filling in the form below, it is policy that this form be filled out when any personal property is left at the Guild, for any period of time. After six months of no contact with the Guild (represented by the committee) then ownership of any property is considered gifted to the guild. Six months is now.

A list of all Guild property is needed for insurance purposes. Please be aware that if items (all items, such as accessories, wall hangings, electronics, furniture and equipment) do not have a Personal Property form filled in then it will be assumed to be owned by the Guild.

Give your completed form to a committee member, leave it in the Secretary's pigeonhole or email the completed form to info@spinweavesa.org If you have done this since the 3/12/24 then thank you, if you have done it prior to this date please do it again, as these records need to be updated.

You can find the form and Private Property Procedure online at <https://spinweavesa.org/private-property/>

Agreement: Private Property at the Guild

I agree to the following conditions for leaving my private property at the Handspinners and Weavers Guild of South Australia:

- a. I understand that the Guild's insurance policy does not cover my property.
- b. I agree that other Guild members may apply to the Guild Committee to use this property in an appropriate fashion if I am not using it.
- c. I agree to remove the property if I cease to be a member of the Guild.
- d. If I fail to remove this item within three months of being asked to remove it, then I agree to the item being gifted to the Guild, at the discretion of the Guild Committee.
- e. I agree to gift the item to the Guild if I fail to maintain contact with the Guild over a six-month period, at the discretion of the Guild Committee.
- f. I agree to inform the Guild Committee within a month of any change to contact details.

Name:

Date:

Description of item left at Guild (Please include brand, markings, size, and any other identifying details):



EQUIPMENT LIBRARY

It is with great delight that I announce our Equipment Library is ready and open for business (yay!). This has been a year in the planning for the Wednesday group. We wanted to become familiar with equipment before buying it, to try different techniques and to have equipment ready to hand at the guild depending on what we were crafting. We decided to do something about it and the Equipment Library was born.

Fundraising efforts have been led by Barbara, who has organised raffles and sales in the gallery. Members have donated time, materials, equipment and others have put equipment on loan for everyone to use. If you would like to contribute or be part of us please let us know on the email below.

Keeping in mind that we are so very lucky to have this resource the Guidelines of use are:

- The cupboard can ONLY be opened by an Equipment Monitor, the monitor can show you how to use equipment effectively and safely.
- You must return the equipment in the at least the same condition that you borrowed it. This is a shared resource, please be respectful.
- Equipment does not leave the guild, it is for use ONLY while at the guild.
- You must sign equipment out when using it and back in when you are finished. This is for several reasons- we can track what is being used, but it also means that you are responsible for the item.
- Feel free to try everything, it is there to be used.



Equipment, so far (we're not finished!) includes

- Hand carders
- Drum carders
- Swift and ball winder
- Lazy kate
- Blending board
- Picker

Equipment Monitors are

Tuesday group: Mandy, Chris, Renee and Marg.

Wednesday group: Kathy, Brooke and Lynn

If you are willing to become an Equipment monitor so that your Guild Group can access the cupboard please contact hswgnews@gmail.com or speak to Phoebe.



GUILD GROUPS

left: Stanley shows off his new coat.



below: Kveta's wool/silk spinning,



Below right: Marina's loom bag project.



top middle: vest by Tania.

Top left: Brooke's first handspun jumper, top right Marina's knitting and crocheting, Left: Mandy's Clarendon Mohair shawl.

Felt Collective

Meet on the first Wednesday of the month from 10.30. Bring materials, equipment, lunch. Contact Kirsten kohlhabersurikow@gmail.com

First Saturday Social

After the Guild meeting on the first Saturday for a chat and craft. All welcome; spinning, weaving, knitting, crocheting, felting, braiding or dyeing.

Spin to Make

Meet on the second Saturday of the month. 12-3.

Spinning Get Together

Group meets every Tuesday 9-1. Spinning skills are taught, beginners please arrive at 9.30.

Sun Felters

Meet on the third Sunday of the month from 9.30am. Basic skills required, bring your own materials and equipment. Contact Helen for more information 0428 459 672.

Weavers Anonymous

A problem solving group who meet at alternate Guild meetings or via Facebook.

Weaver Birds

Group meets every Wednesday 10.30-2.30. Bring your portable loom or other equipment or book a Guild floor loom.

Weavers Study Group

A working group at the Guild meeting in Feb and Aug to exchange samples.

Why Wednesday!

Meets every Wednesday 5.30-8. We come directly after work so bring dinner and have a chat before we get started. All crafts welcome, and we're happy to get people started spinning.



PROPOSED WORKSHOPS 2025

The guild has a smorgasboard of workshops coming up, there should be something to interest everyone on this list.

Email: hswgworkshopsa@gmail.com or speak to Sharn in person at the Workshops desk at the monthly guild meeting.

JUNE

***Saturday 14th** Learn to Use an Inkle Loom with Phoenix Blackdove.

***Saturday 21st** Basics of Spinning in One Day with Bella Head EOI

Saturday 28th Natural Dyeing with Andy Barrett. MEMBERS ONLY

JULY

Sunday 13th Needle Felt a Sheep with Louise Davies (suitable for beginners)

***Saturday 26th** Wet Felt for Beginners - Introduction with Lindy May EOI

AUGUST

Saturday 16th Learn to Spin Silk with Andy Barrett

SEPTEMBER

Saturday 27th Learn to Drop Spindle with Andy Barrett (suitable for beginners).

*EOI -taking Expressions of Interest. Register your interest to be emailed once details are confirmed

.Learn to Use a Mini Loom with Enken Hagge. and Beginners felt a Phone/flashes case with Helen Vonow have both been delayed but if you are interested please let Sharn know



Learn to Spin Course Update

Wednesday nights have been host to a beginners class for the past 6 week, with two weeks to go I thought I'd give an update on how we're going.

The course is being taught by 10 members with different teachers every week. We are covering a wide range of topics and have taken full advantage of the time we have.

It has been a lot of work but it's a privilege to see new spinners 'get' it and start on their fibre journey



I want to take this chance to thank everyone who has been involved in the planning and teaching of this course

-Glenda. -Felicity
-Mandy. -Barbara
-Sharn. -Alison
and Enken and Lindy whose classes are coming up!





DATES TO REMEMBER

June	<p>7 June Guild Meeting 7 Drop off any entries fro the Onkaparinga Beanie festival at the guild with entry forms. 14 Learn to Use an Inkle Loom Workshop 15 Gumeracha Group Open Day 20 Royal Show Handicrafts entries close 20 Onkaparinga Beanies to Berets Exhibition opens 21 Basics of Spinning Workshop 28 Natural Dyeing Workshop</p>
July	<p>5 July Guild Meeting 5 Tour de Fleece Starts 13 Needle Felting Workshop 26 Wet Felt for Beginners Workshop</p>
August	<p>2 August Guild Meeting 3 Tour de Fleece ends 2-3 Aldinga and Sellicks Spinners Group Open Weekend 16 Learn to Spin Silk Workshop 30 Adelaide Royal Show starts</p>
September	<p>6 September Guild Meeting 6 Sheep to Shawl Competition 7 Adelaide Royal Show finishes 20 Worldwide Spin in Public Day 27 Learn to Drop Spindle Workshop</p>
October	<p>4 October Guild Meeting</p>
November	<p>1 November Guild Meeting</p>
December	<p>6 December Guild Meeting</p>





NOTICEBOARD

Weaving Classes with Bev Bills

Beginners to advanced 2, 4, 8, 16 shafts, inkle, rug and tapestry weaving.
Various yarns available, wool cotton, some linen and seine twine for tapestry weaving.
Classes at Studio B, 5 Whaddon Rd, Brooklyn Park, Mon 9.30-2.30, Sat 1-4.
Contact Bev on bbills@bigpond.net.au, 0415 616 900 or 8443 6102

Gumeracha Spinners and Weavers
Invite You To Their

Sunday 15th June 2025, 10am-3pm
Gumeracha Town Hall, 45 Albert St, Gumeracha
FREE ADMISSION

Vendors selling hand-crafted products, yarns, fibres, fleece, equipment. Spinning and weaving demonstrations throughout the day.
Eat Local: The Good Pantry will be open all day (opposite the pub)

CITY OF ONKAPARINGA
City of Onkaparinga
Beansies to Berets Exhibition 2025
Friday 20 June – Monday 4 August

Calling all textile artists - it's time to start preparing for the Beansies to Berets Exhibition!

Oil your spinning wheels, get your yarn out, and let the creative fibres flow! Whether you're crocheting, knitting, felting, weaving, sewing, and anything in-between, it's time to seamlessly blend your talent into something truly spectacular.

So, grab your tools of choice, get those ideas woven together, and let's make this exhibition something sew-perb!

New artists welcome.

Two competitive categories return:

- Quirkiest Beret/Beret/Hat (because weird is wonderful)
- Most Flamboyant Tea Cozy (for those who love a bit of drama with their tea)

How to register as an artist
Fill in our online form here: [Beansies to Berets exhibition submission 2025](#)
Download and fill in the following forms: List of works, Creditor form (so we can pay you for sales) and, if you don't have an ABN, the Statement by a Supplier form.

Before you deliver your submissions make sure you: create a tag for each piece with the corresponding number from your List of works. Then add further information for our visitors like medium and price.

There is a 25% commission on all sales, please factor this into your pricing. Prices on the List of works are final.

How to apply for a Textile Market stall
Fill in this form: [Beansies to Berets Textile Market Application Form 2025](#)

Key dates:
Applications – open now
Exhibition dates - Friday 20 June – Monday 4 August
Group delivery from Spinners and Weavers, South Road Hindmarsh – Saturday 7 June
Hand delivery to Arts Centre Port Noarlunga from Tuesday 10-Saturday 14 June during opening hours
Postal deliveries must be received by Friday 13 June
Return of unsold works to Spinners and Weavers, South Road Hindmarsh – Saturday 6 September
Textile Market – Saturday 21 June, 10am - 4pm

Your tag should look like this:

Your Name
Item number
Medium/ description/ materials
Price: \$

CALLING OUT: Do you have little bits of fibre or left over handspun?



This year's Handspinners and Weavers Guild challenge theme is "Reclaim, reuse and recycle". I, Brooke, have a great idea for this theme but need your help. Over the next few months I will be collecting fibre that may be left over from a project in the form of hand spun, drum carded leftovers, roving or locks. More colourful / crazy the better. I will only be accepting wool, alpaca, mohair or silk. Please see the photo for some items I have already collected.
Happy fibre crafting all ;)



Government of South Australia

This Guild News was kindly printed by the Hon. Tom Koutsantonis MP, Member for West Torrens