



Birmingham & District Guild of Weavers Spinners & Dyers

Birmingham Guild of WSD Annual Open Day

Despite the remaining challenges of Covid, we were able to hold this event after all this year, after full risk assessments and careful guidance. It was a great opportunity for members to show their work and talents developed over the lockdown period. I loved how many members had through lockdown developed related skills such as sewing and quilting.

We had 14 Guild members attend and 63 visitors which included Cathie from the Oldberrow flock and the students and tutors from BCU. A really good day was had by all, it was really buzzing, we had a number of people who expressed a desire to join our Guild in the New Year, lets hope this turns into some new members.

Thank you to everyone who bought or sent cake, the refreshments made over £70 for the Guild funds and the cakes were really enjoyed by all who sampled them.



Two visiting groups were really popular. Birmingham City University Textile department brought a range of samples of their work in textiles, including experimental textiles, using natural dye pastes and alternatives to leather produce as microbiological techniques. We look forward to maintaining links with BCU textile tutors and students.



Oldberrow flock are a local sheep breeder that were selling the most gorgeous locks, and for me they will be used in feltmaking.

Thanks to the arrangement committee, Mandy, Tina and Judy and every volunteer who came along.

Judy Preston



Winning Entries for The Great Escape competition

The first prize went to Rachael for her amigurumi version of Rocky from *Chicken Run*. Wendy and Carolyn were the runners up.



Chair's Letter

Dear friends,

We had a great time at the Christmas Party on the 11th December, small in numbers due I expect to the new Covid variant, but it did mean we could socially distance easily. We never got round to the quiz as we were busy talking, crafting and eating, but we can keep it in hand for another time, so you haven't missed out. Thank you to all the people who brought or sent food, it was a lovely lunch.

We also had 3 visitors who came along and hopefully will be coming back to our textile taster day in February with a view to joining us. We have a varied programme for next year which you can see on our website, plus the chance to demonstrate at some events which I hope won't be cancelled.

I hope to see you all at the AGM on January 8th. Which unless I let you know different, is going to be at The friends meeting house, please let either Carolyn or myself know if you would like to be our chair, we are both resigning as we only took the role on as a stop gap for 12 months, anyone who wants a go will have all the help they need to take on the role.

On behalf of Carolyn and myself we would like to wish you all a happy Christmas and a healthy, fibre filled New Year

Mandy Davis

Christmas Party

We had our annual Christmas Party on December 11th. There were 12 of us there as some members were unwell or understandably nervous about mixing in groups. There was plenty of food to share, Christmas music and lots of chat! We would like to wish all members and friends a Happy and healthy Christmas and we hope to see lots of you back next year. It is the AGM on 8th January so Covid permitting we will meet then. *From our Blog on weebly*

Annual General Meeting
Saturday 8th January 2021— 2.00pm
We urgently need new committee members.
Nominations to Amanda Davis or Carolyn Arber please.

Dates for Your 2022 Diary

Our Guild Dates

11 January AGM at 2.00pm

12 February Textile Tasters

14 May Open Day & Exhibition

9 June "How I wove my Wedding Dress"

Talk by Louise Cottey

8 October "Sustainability in Textiles"

Talk by Tereshina Roberts

Other dates of woolly interest

23-24 April Wonder Wool

9-10 July Yarningham

17 Sept World Wide Spin in Public Day

17-18 Sept Llandovery sheep Festival

24-25 Sept Yarndale

Catching Up with members old and new

Elisabeth Kings has sent in that for those who knew him, sadly John Keown died in Cyprus on the 13th December following an accident in November when he was hit by a car. He and Kate have really enjoyed their past few years in Cyprus so Kate will have many happy memories. I am still in Hall Green as first bungalow had to be withdrawn from. Am now in midst of buying a bungalow near Holmfirth and possibly moving in February.

Reg Horton has sent Christmas Greetings and news that he is now able to get around with crutches. He is grateful for all the cards and messages over the year.

Bex Lockyer and her family have bought their Highland home in Newtonmore. She has joined the Highland Guild but the Highlands are BIG and the lack of public transport means she can't get to many meetings so she is looking for local spinners and weavers.

2021 Committee Members

Chair: Carolyn Arber & Amanda Davis

Secretary: Amanda Davis

Treasurer: Cyndi Husband

Programme Secretary: Charlotte Powell

Librarian: Judith Evans

Demonstrations Co-ordinator: Wendy Simpson

Newsletter Editor: Tina Helfrich

Public Social Media Editor: vacancy

Other members: Sarah Cage, Judy Preston, Janice Price

Textile Tasters - 12 February

Can you offer a workshop for half a day to share your skills with other members?

What would you like to have a go at in the textile skills?

Invite a friends along to introduce them to the guild and our meetings.

This is a great chance to learn something new or to get experience in helping others.

Staying in Touch



BirminghamWSD@hotmail.co.uk



www.wsdbrum.weebly.com



@BirminghamWSD (Twitter)



Birmingham & District Guild of Weavers, Spinners, and Dyers
(private group)



Birmingham and District Guild of Weavers, Spinners and Dyers
(public group)



wsd_brum (Instagram)