



NEWS August 2025

News from The Chair

Since our last newsletter, the AGWSD Summer School 2025 has been a great success, all thanks to the exemplary planning of our co-convenors Sue Collins and Janet Crowther, the expertise of our brilliant tutors and the welcoming team at Queen Margaret's University, Musselburgh who all worked so hard to make it a week to remember.

As participants from across the country and across the world return home to continue to practice and share the new weaving, spinning and dyeing, and in my case knitting, skills they learned, the Association's thoughts turn to next year's events of the Conference and National Exhibition.

These regular events are core to the Association's activities and are the opportunities to share our interests in person and celebrate everyone's creativity. Do consider whether your new skills could be seen more widely by exhibiting work in the exhibition next year.

Andrea Easey
Acting Chair, AGWSD

AGWSD Certificate of Achievement

Congratulations to the five students who put their work forward for assessment at Summer School. There was a pass and a merit achieved for Spinning, with two distinctions for Weaving and one distinction for Natural Dyeing. It is appreciated how much work each student put into their submission, and into creating an exhibition of their work.

If you are at all interested in undertaking the Certificate of Achievement, which is self-directed learning, with support from the coordinator when required, please email. To see what is involved the syllabi and CoA Handbook 2025 are in the Guild Information Hub (GIH) on the [wsd.org.uk](https://www.wsd.org.uk) website including information about all the other certificates offered by the AGWSD.

Janet Crowther
Certificate of Achievement Co-ordinator
certificate@wsd.org.uk

AGWSD Summer School 2025

Summer School is now over for another two years. I hope all who attended as students had an enjoyable and educational time.

Thank you to our 18 wonderful tutors who enabled all the learning to take place and to Queen Margaret University whose staff were unfailingly helpful and cheerful, whatever was asked of them.

It was interesting to note that more people travelling by public transport was possibly the cause of fewer items for sale at the Silent Auction, disappointing in one way, but probably better for the environment overall. We can always recycle our no-longer-used equipment in other ways.

The search for the 2027 venue has started and will continue shortly – so start saving now for a place on Summer School, somewhere in the southwest of England!

Sue Collins
Joint Summer School Coordinator

Please feel free to contact me about any of the above, Andrea Easey, chair@wsd.org.uk

AGWSD Summer School 2025 at Queen Margaret University, Musselburgh

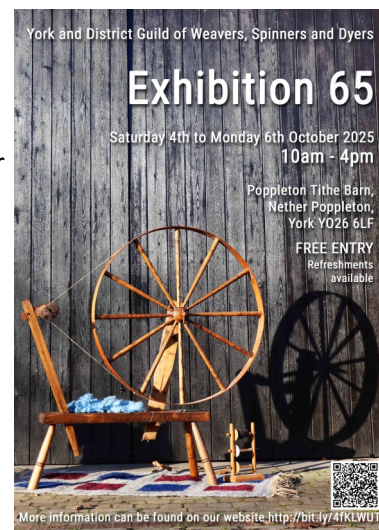
A selection of pictures showing some of the range of activities that were on offer at this year's Summer School

Pictures courtesy of Anna Morgan, JEC Copy Editor



'Exhibition 65' – An exhibition to celebrate 65 years of The York & District Guild of Weavers, Spinners & Dyers

To celebrate this momentous milestone, the Guild are exhibiting some of the amazing & creative work they produce, at Poppleton Tithe Barn, Nether Poppleton, York on Saturday 4th to Monday 6th October 2025, 10am – 4pm. The items on show are made by members of the Guild, using their core skills of weaving, spinning or dyeing; the results will enthrall, captivate and inspire! Everything from woven rugs to delicate hand spun silk shawls to beautiful, dyed fibre will be on display. Members of the Guild will be demonstrating their crafts during the exhibition and will be more than happy to chat about their skills and the Guild.



Weaving a landscape: The textile works of Heather Seddon

An exhibition of Heather's weaving, tapestry weaving and braiding will be held in
The Old Courthouse, Main Street, Shap,
Cumbria CA10 3NL
from August 9th to September 7th 2025.
See www.theoldcourthouse.org for opening hours.
Plenty of free parking!

Heather was formerly on the Association's GPC and a member of Eden Valley and Online Guilds; her obituary appeared in the Journal for Spring 2025.

Highland Guild of Weavers Spinners & Dyers Are hosting a beginners level Split-Ply Braiding Workshop With Kay Hawkins of The Braid Society

On Saturday 11th October 2025 from 10am to 4pm
With a cost of £36 for members
or £51 for non-members

At Strathpeffer Community Centre, School Road, Strathpeffer IV14 9AG

Book via Highland Guild website <http://hgwsd.co.uk/forms/> before 13th September 2025

Cheshire Guild of Weavers Spinners & Dyers Invite you to their Friendship Day Saturday 18 October 2025 10am-3.30pm Frodsham Community Centre, Fluin Lane, Frodsham, WA6 7QN

Suppliers attending – Joanna Wood (The Yarn Artist - hand dyed yarn) Jenny Pritchard (Jenny's Crafts) Lucy Fogg (woolwellness) Nic Rudd (hand dyed tops) Cathy Pinnock (felted and embroidered items) Jackie Stephens (Studio Cynefin Weaving Tuition)

Open to all members of AGWSD Guilds.

Free entry – bring a dish for the shared meal.

For more information contact –
cheshireguildwsd@gmail.com

IRISH GUILD OF WEAVERS
SPINNERS AND DYERS

50th Anniversary
Exhibition

50 Years On!
Exhibition of
work by weavers,
spinners and
dyers

LAUNCH: 6PM THURSDAY 4/9/2025
WITH GERALDINE MITCHELL, AUTHOR,
LIGHT REFRESHMENTS SERVED.
ALL WELCOME.

WORKSHOPS:
6/9/25: LEARN TO SPIN ON A SPINDLE, 11AM - 2PM
13/9/25: RIGID HEDDLE LOOM WEAVING 11AM - 3PM
COST: € 40 FOR SPINNING /€50 FOR WEAVING

Exhibition open from
4th - 19th Sept 2025

9.30AM - 8PM, MON - THURS
9.30AM - 5PM, FRI, SAT,
12 - 4PM SUNDAY.
LEXICON LIBRARY, DUN LAOGHAIRE

VISIT US FOR MORE INFORMATION: hello@weavespindye.ie

Meet the
Makers!

QR code

heritage open days

**Bucks Guild of Weavers,
Spinners & Dyers**

OPEN DAY

Sunday 21st Sept 11am - 3pm

- Free Entry • Exhibition • Textile Competition • Demos
- Have-a-go activities • Refreshments • Sales table

**Haddenham Village Hall
HP17 8EE**

Visit buckswsd.org.uk for more info

FREE TO EXPLORE

QR code

#HODs

The West Surrey Guild
will be holding an exhibition and sale of members' work from October 25th to November 2nd in the upper gallery of the Farnham Pottery, Pottery Lane, Wrecclesham, Farnham GU10 4SL. Open hours 10 am to 4pm daily.

Speakers List Update

The Summer has continued with relentless heat which makes doing anything, other than sitting in a chair with a cool drink, almost impossible! So, a perfect opportunity to relax over a leisurely browse of the Speaker's List building your 'Fantasy Events Calendar' - and then perhaps converting it into your Guild's next programme!

If you have booked a speaker or workshop tutor from the Speaker's List, do share your feedback which can be added to the speaker's entry, to help other Guilds make their choices.

Highlight of the month: Patricia Greaves



Patricia works with a variety of materials and techniques; she is keen to share her insights and practice with people who also revel in the beauty and versatility of textiles and print. Workshops will be focused both on developing skills/ new ways of doing things and sharing of ideas; with the added advantage that participants of differing experiences can also learn from one another.

Hand felting is her technique of choice, and she loves that it lends itself to large and small projects, some useful and others highly decorative and imaginative. The workshops cover some of the variety of work that is possible when using wool and additional fibres and fabrics.

You can read more about Patricia and access her contact details via the Speaker's List

The online Speaker's List at <https://www.wsd.org.uk/speakers-list>, using your Guild's login. Or if you prefer the print-based/fully searchable PDF version it can still be found, without any password, on the GIH at <https://wipagwsd.wordpress.com/contents/speakers-list>. If you have any problems, then please don't hesitate to get in touch with me.

Matty Smith

speakerslist@wsd.org.uk

Worldwide Spin in Public Day

20th September 2025 is Worldwide Spin in Public Day. I'm not always a fan of these 'World Days of..' as some seem a little contrived, but this one we can all get behind.

Please send me pictures of you spinning in public. The most interesting will be featured in next month's AGWSD News.

Lorna Shannon

newsletter@wsd.org.uk

Contact

If you have an item for inclusion in the next monthly newsletter, please send to: newsletter@wsd.org.uk
All news received by 20th of each month will be considered for that month's edition.

If you have an event/exhibition for inclusion in the next issue of The Journal, check page 3 of the Journal for print deadlines and send to: jecdiary@wsd.org.uk If you miss the deadline your copy could still be included in the Diary on the Journal website.

Association Website: <https://www.wsd.org.uk/>

Stuart Groom Memorial Library: library@wsd.org.uk