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CLWYD WEB

SEPT 2002

http://www.spindizzy.net/clwyd_web



October Meeting - Longest thread challenge. The Editor (that's me!) is organising this and I'd like it to be fun, friendly and non-threatening, so if you're a born rug wool spinner – see if you can spin a finer bit of rug wool.

In the morning we'll have everyone pool their experience and share hints, tips, wheel fettling advice, fleece preparation and shawl patterns, favourite fibres. This is your moment to practice on something new. I'll bring along oil for your wheel and supplies of ultra-fine merino, shetland if I can find it, and some cashmere. Please bring along anything you have stashed away – it'll only take a smidgen!

In the afternoon (or whenever you're ready) there'll be minute packets each with a weighed portion of the fleece used by the world competition winner. See how long a piece of two ply you can spin, but be warned, if it breaks when our impartial (*ho-ho*) judges are measuring we will join the ends with an enormous bow to penalise you.

August at Homes. We hope that everyone enjoyed the August "At Homes" hosted by Joyce Bagnall, Teresa Smith and Barbara Clayton. Thanks to the hosts. In fact, there is one more visit arranged to the Gwynedd Guild's exhibition on Anglesey with Rosemary Williams before the 27th of Sept.

Country Shows. We also seem to have been very busy (and successful) at the local shows. Thanks to everyone who turned out at Ty Mawr, Greenfield Valley Country Park (which resulted in a donation to the guild), the Flint and Denbigh show, and the Nercwys and Ruthin Horticultural Shows (a letter of thanks and request for attendance next year). These shows generated much interest and we hope they may bring in some more members

July meeting: I found June's talk and slides of her work for the North Wales Cancer Treatment centre both impressive and moving. If you missed the meeting, try to get a copy of her article in the June Journal.

I'm sure everyone will be saddened to hear of the sudden death of Harold Hughes at the beginning of the month. Both Harold and his wife Joyce had been active members for many years, and Harold himself had done many turns on the committee including some years in the tough post of treasurer.

Wingham Wools are visiting the Montgomery Guild on Saturday 12th Oct. starting at 10.30 am in the Youth Centre, guild members are welcome.

Meeting dates. After our first year on 3rd Saturday of the month, the committee recognise that the change of date has been inconvenient for some members. We have asked the college about moving back to the old date, and been told that it can't be done.

November Meeting. An early reminder that November brings the AGM (*Whoopie!*). We really want to know what you'd like this guild to be about so there's a questionnaire enclosed. The more feedback we get, the more chance we have of getting it right. Do please fill in and return (anonymously if you like!)

Unfortunately, Myra Ryan is poorly and has had to miss her trip to India, so the afternoon will be a Christmas Crafts Show and Tell. **Bring a Plate.**

Texere Competition

To celebrate their 27th birthday, Texere Yarns will be awarding 27 prizes of £100 of Texere

products to the 27 best entries to their variety bag competition. To enter the competition, send an A5 SAE with a 27p stamp to claim your free variety bag. Don't forget to tell us which colour variety bag you require. Variety bags contain 3m each of 15 assorted yarns of a single colourway in a variety of textures, including chenille, mohair, glitter, ribbon, gimp and much more. There are 19 colourways to choose from - red, orange, yellow, green, turquoise, blue, purple, pink, warm pastels, cool pastels, white, grey, black, dark natural (browns), light natural (beiges), spring, summer, autumn and winter. Entries must be received by 30 June 2003 at the latest. If you have any further questions, don't hesitate to call Robin, Christine or Joanne on 0871 7171 129 or email competition@texereyarns.co.uk.

Library Notes. *From the pen of June January*
As from October, the fee for borrowing books of £5 will be reinstated, but will be kept in my personal possession this time. I am not convinced of the safety of the books in the library cupboard, as 5 books are missing and some have been returned unbeknown to me.

When I checked the books in the cupboard on the 30th August, the following were not there:

- 5W Hand Weaving. E. Cherry.
- 10W The 4-shaft Table Loom. Anne Field. (signed out to Elaine Gilbert, an ex-member. If anyone can help to contact her, please let me know.)
- 12W Woven Rug. R. Grierson
- 1C The Appeal of Crochet. Basford & Turner
- 2K Creating Designs and Patterns for Hand Knitted Garments. J. Dean
- 5M Feltcraft. S. Freeman

This means that 5 books are missing without record. If someone has any of these books and perhaps the record book was not available to be signed, please return it or them as soon as possible and no more will be said i.e. complete amnesty on all books.

It is not possible for the books to be kept at Llysfasi so that the library can be open at monthly meetings, as it used to be. This means that the system of asking me to bring books on Saturdays if you cannot attend Bryn Mair on Mondays will have to continue. We do have

some varied and interesting books, and it seems a pity that they are not used more. A revised list will be issued for October when it is clear exactly what stock remains. **June January**

Women wearing Wool

Following in the footsteps of the Yorkshire WI, a group of spinners in Maine has produced a calendar featuring a group of "mature" spinners wearing little more than socks or a judiciously arranged spinning wheel. (A charity is to receive 10% of sales). Here's March



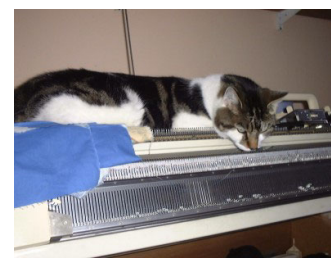
Eds notes:

Alternative felting - an article by Buster Jordan. I recently discovered this neat effortless felting technique and thought I ought to pass it on.

First, very carefully wash and comb some beautiful fine coloured fleece. Spend several days making a pencil thin even roving. Put aside in a pillowcase while you oil up the wheel and research the perfect shawl pattern. (In fact this part of the preparation is better delegated e.g. to the Ed.)

Get up, have breakfast, meander round the shrubbery for a while accumulating a little mud on the feet and dew on the fur. Then, return to curl up and sleep (at least until the next meal) on your nice cosy pillowcase of wool.

If you really work hard at the sleeping (I give workshops) after a few weeks the wool will have felted into a soft cushion, with the advantage that another batch will need to be prepared for that shawl, leaving you in permanent possession.



(The Ed. says that another good method is to hang washed skeins up on the line, and forget them for a few days of really wet windy weather!)