



AGM President's Report, 10th April 2019

Albury Wodonga Handweavers & Spinners Guild Inc.

Our guild has enjoyed a busy year with 30 financial members and 2 Life members. Sadly though Faye Hoffman passed away after a short illness, Kathy Wheeler paid a lovely tribute to Faye in the November newsletter last year.

We meet every Wednesday, with the business meeting on the second Wednesday of the month and the fourth Wednesday reserved for workshops. Our workshops varied from pin loom weaving, felting, and continental knitting and dyeing. All good fun and always something new to learn.

We have been out and about with members attending both the Wodonga and Albury Shows to sit and spin with the Alpacas. We also had members at the recent Holbrook Show, demonstrating their skills and successfully winning prizes in the competition section of the show. The Bendigo Sheep and Wool Show saw many of our members attend; browsing, volunteering, selling or competing. Kathy Wheeler was once again successful with her felting at Bendigo and from there to the Royal Melbourne Show. Congratulations to all of you, for excelling in your field, but also for entering your work and making these events worthwhile to run and to view.

We have also attended a wide variety of events to demonstrate our skills, from visiting Borella House, Holbrook Quilt and Art Show, Jindera's 150 Year celebrations, the Albury Twilight Markets and the Mirambeena Craft Fair to mention a few.

The annual weekend in September at Yerong Creek with our friends from Tumut was an enjoyable event, with lovely weather to be able to enjoy being outdoors. Likewise, those who attended enjoyed the Harrierville weekend.

With Vivien Naimo's perseverance we have submitted an application to Albury Council, for a grant that, if successful, will allow us to renovate and update our rooms, we will keep our fingers crossed for a positive outcome.

I would like to thank all of you for putting your hand up to either attend the events we get invited to or for running a workshop, or helping out with the "housework" around our rooms and just attending workdays and informally sharing your skills and knowledge with others. I would also like to thank all the office bearers for all their work during the year.

Heather Mulqueeny
President

Committee 2019 - 2020

President:

Jane Manning
0413 211 952

Vice President:

Heather Mulqueeny
02 6024 6579

Minute Officer:

Ella Foley-Teuben
0438 869 716

Secretary/Public Officer:

Julie Hofer
02 6026 3835

Assistant Secretary:

Rhonda Delahoy
0407 409 329

Treasurer:

Ann Leonard
02 6026 2703

Newsletter Editor:

Kathy Wheeler
kathyw@albury.net.au
0439 696878

Library & Equipment Officer:

Robyn Cooper
0427 252 983

Social Media Officer:

Vivien Naimo
0409 454 119

MAIL

PO Box 629
Albury NSW 2640

EMAIL

awspinners@gmail.com

FACEBOOK

[www.facebook.com/
AWHSG](http://www.facebook.com/AWHSG)

OK, yes ... we're late ...

This year is going past at such a rate! Between the build-up for Bendigo's Australian Sheep and Wool Show, various workshops, exhibitions, and more than a few members either taking winter sabbaticals out-of-area or down-with-lurgies, getting timely contributions has been challenging to say the least.

But to summarise the year to date, it's been exciting.

We have won our grant to have the Guild rooms brought up to date with more efficient heating and cooling, repairs to water leaks, new floor coverings and various modifications to meet current regulatory expectations. Hopefully Viv will give us a report on progress!

Various Workshops have been well supported with more planned for the rest of the year.

The scarf exchange has returned some delightful and inspiring results, we have had member successes at various shows and continue to have good attendances at our regular Wednesday sessions.

We continue to attract new interest from prospective members, and our Woolgathers Handspun Pattern Book has attracted a great deal of interest in Australian Spinners and Weavers Chat & Buy Sell Swap FaceBook Group!

With the increase in members attending on Wednesdays we're needing more space, and will be looking at selling one of the larger, less used floor looms.

Speaking of looms ...

Weaving Workshop

Julie has arranged a weaving workshop to be conducted by Liz Calnan on the Wednesday/Thursday 13 & 14 October.

Sometime in September (possibly Wednesday 4th) Julie/Jane/Kylie we will organise a work-session to help warp all the required looms.

Yerong Creek Weekend

We have been contacted by Bonnie Carrol and this year's Yerong Creek weekend has been booked for 6th - 8th September.

The price has stayed the same and is \$150.00 per person.

More details to come.

Name Badges

Members requiring a name badge were asked to put their name on list located in the middle of the table, Pin \$6 or Magnet \$8.

Yarn Barn Visit

After our June meeting we were treated to a visit from Aaron from the Yarn Barn. Many wonderful cones and balls of yarn on display and for sale in "The Jockeys' Room".

<https://www.facebook.com/Yarn-Barn-172207562877319/>

<https://www.yarnbarn.com.au/>



HOUSE Keeping Our work rooms clean.

There is a list on the notice board of tasks that can be done weekly, monthly and annually that will keep our kitchen, bathrooms and work areas clean. When you see a job that needs doing, please attend to it and sign off on the list, alternatively you might like to "claim" a job for a month or two or the year. If so please indicate that you have it covered on the list. Thanks.

OH&S - Keep the floors clear.

A gentle reminder to all, please tuck your handbag, workbag, spare equipment etc. away, under the table, or in a safe place to reduce the chance of trips and falls. Thank you.

Show & Tell - April 2019

Rhonda D: 2 woven scarves, 1 brown from spun alpaca fleece, one blue from Peruvian alpaca yarn.

Lorraine: Woven multi-coloured cushion from wool dyed by her Mum.

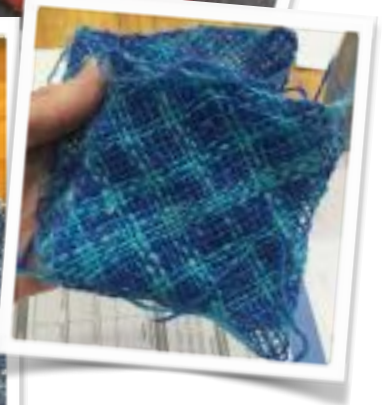
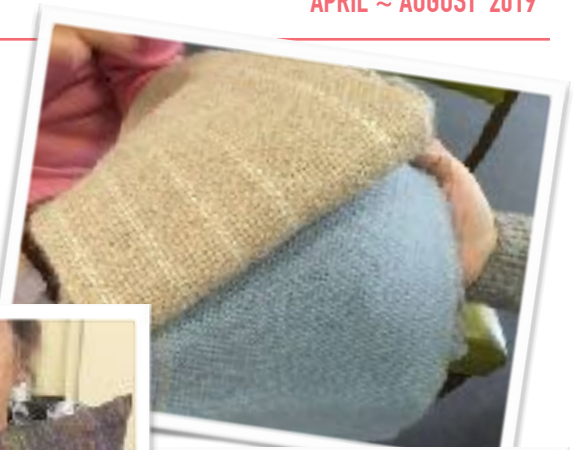
Kathy: Felted wattle picture

Viv: Various colourful dyed wool

Jane: Handspun warp and weft alpaca knee rug in brown and cream. Various berets using the Harrietville pattern

Ann: Diagonal pin loom weaving

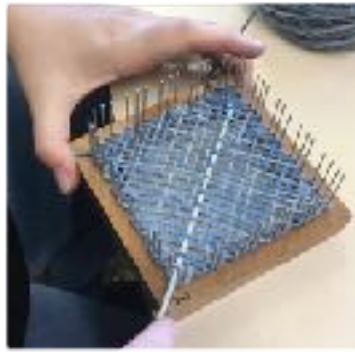
Heather: Scarf in wool and silk. Hand spun and knitted.



Our models for the day - **Anne** tries on one of the berets while **Jane** rocks the woven scarves!

Workshops and Exhibitions

On the 24th of April, Ann & Julie ran a popular Diagonal Weaving on a Pin Loom Workshop at the Guild Rooms ...



From April 30th to May 25th Viv, Anne and Kathy joined with three other talented local fibre artists for the *Four Legs - Working with Wool* Exhibition and Workshops at Creators Artspace, Gateway Village, on the Lincoln Causeway.



Viv, Anne and Kathy all ran Workshops during the Exhibition and all artists involved in the show achieved successful sales of their respective works.

Show & Tell - May 2019

Kylie: Fair Isle Beret

Robyn C.: knitted a Baby jacket and knitted colourful socks

Kathy W: Exhibited and ribboned(!) sheep at the 32nd Annual Strong Wool Sheep and Wool Fair at Benalla recently.

Rhonda Doig: Scarf in Alpaca

Lorraine: Made a chair cushion incorporating a woven panel with the fabric.

Vivien: made Poppies, 2 felted pods and a "Felt-UP" sign

Bev: made a bobbin lace Butterfly and handknitted socks from her own handspun yarn

Rhonda Delahoy: felt poppies

Deb: knitted a Yellow baby Jacket and bonnet, Cabled men's Jumper.

Robyn W: Swatches and a knitted lace semicircle shawl with beads

Pam: Granny Square blanket, knitted a Cardigan with BWM yarn (colour:wine) and a crocheted Koala (for a Danish exchange student)

Ann: made more Nuno Felted scarves and sold some at the Causeway Makers Exhibition

Jane: knitted a camel-down and merino shawl and Celtic cable socks



Magic Beret Workshop

On the 22nd of May, Jane and Kylie bravely tried to teach us the tricks to the magic beret pattern they learnt at Harrierville.



... And one of the completed Workshop berets from June Show and Tell:



Show & Tell June 2019

Robyn Cooper: Multicoloured Vest

Jill Warren: Several balls of plied yarns in both Merino and Silk.

Pinky: Wedding sets Crocheted Wrap and Woven scarf in Hand dyed yarns.

(Blackberry, passionfruit, black carrots on and alum mordant)

Woven scarf from yarns dyed with Nectarine Leaves, Beetroot, Strawberry,

Kath Wheeler: Felted Sculptures of Pink sheep, Felted Baby in Nappy on Coloured Longstaple Sheeps skin.

Janice: Beret from May workshop

Bev: Plied yarn from the "Mystery Bale"

Rhonda: 3 hand spun and dyed skeins

Gail: Cabled long cardigan in commercial yarn (Cleckheaton Superfine 8ply)

Lorraine: Autumn? Winter knitted Jumper

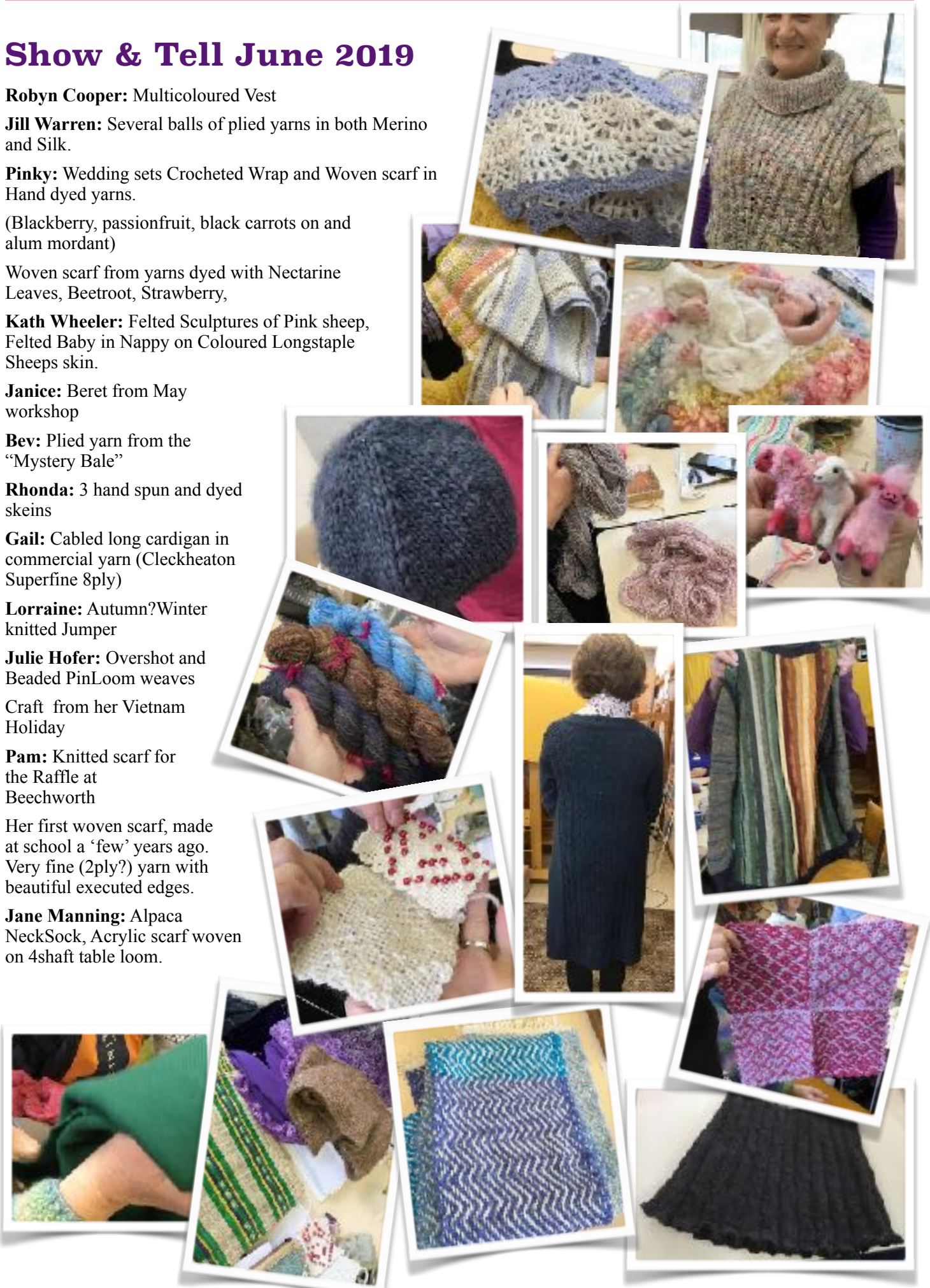
Julie Hofer: Overshot and Beaded PinLoom weaves

Craft from her Vietnam Holiday

Pam: Knitted scarf for the Raffle at Beechworth

Her first woven scarf, made at school a 'few' years ago. Very fine (2ply?) yarn with beautiful executed edges.

Jane Manning: Alpaca NeckSock, Acrylic scarf woven on 4shaft table loom.



Workshop - “Are you ready to ROL-AG?! Haha!”

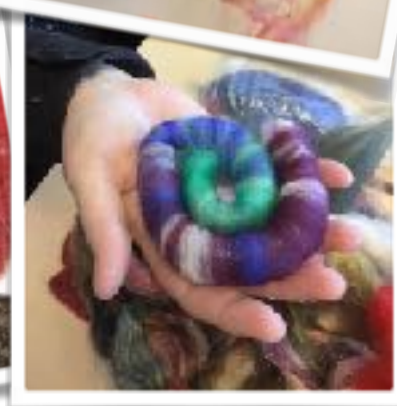
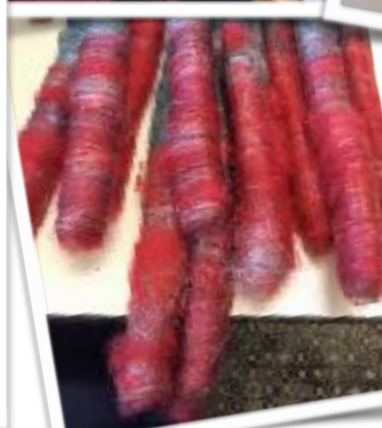
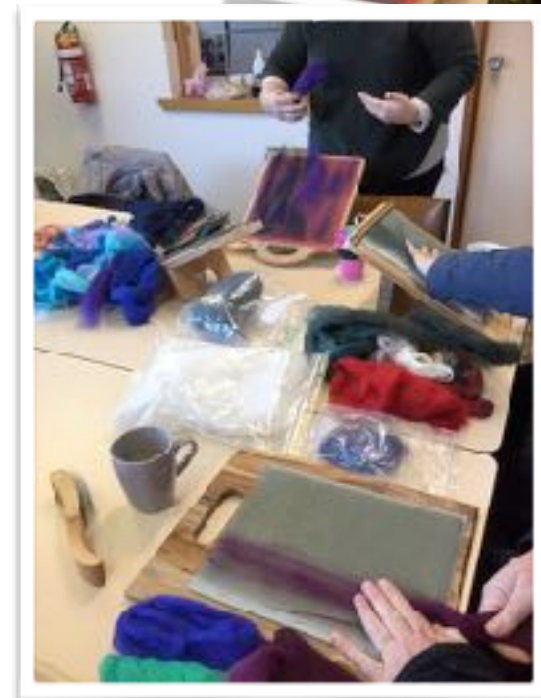
With *Pinky Wittingslow*

Our June Workshop was with Pinky and blending boards as we blended beautiful, spin able rolls ... as Pinky said: “Bring in your scraps of fibre and we will turn them into gorgeous multicolored rolags the way Ashford showed me last year when I went over to visit them.”

“I’ve also got a few different colours of angelina fibre to share to glitz up your rolags just in time for the Tour De Fleece!”

A video from the Workshop is available on our FaceBook page:

<https://>



Show & Tell July 2019

Janice: First Spun Skein, Tan coloured Alpaca

Bev: Fibre from the June Rolags Workshop, Spun and Plied

Vivian: Knitted Gloves and matching hat, Shibori dyed scarves (with Landscape Dyes), Shawl (made by her sister)

Robyn Walker: Knitted bag with treble clef motif, for husband's plectrums, Tartan style woven Scarf

Rhonda: Alpaca dyed woven scarf

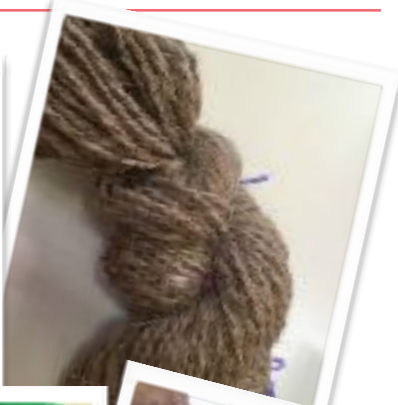
Katherine Wheeler: Info sheet to "Baby" for entry into Shows

Lorraine: "Pattern" to her Autumn-Winter jumper, a drawing from an elderly (deceased) friend and 5+ pages of instructions created while knitting to personal fit.

Jill: Crocheted "Bale" knee rug and Purple Beret is finished

Pam: Plans for Entrelac scarf,

Jane: Ball of Spun yarn from Rolags workshop (Green/White), Scarf knitted from spun Rolags fibre (Red/Green), Handspun Camel/merino gloves with lace panel on 2 needles, Handspun alpaca beret knitted with left-over yarn from dye experiments, Handspun Alpaca Knitted Scarf of interlocking bands with matching beret.



Bendigo's Australian Sheep & Wool Show 2109

21st July 2019 - Katherine Wheeler.



Bendigo (or \$pendigo as it is oft referred to) would have to be one of the biggest and most popular wool shows in the country. Hundreds of stalls, with everything from fleece to yarn to looms to wheels, pickers, spindles - you name it! All manner of sheep breeds are represented with tops, roving, plaits and yarn, dyed and undyed. It would have to be a fiberista's heaven! It's easy to pick those who've been to Bendigo on the journey home - look for the cars full of fibre and associated hardware and tools at any of the fuel/food stops along the highway.

We made our annual pilgrimage on the Sunday to check out the show and pick up our WoolCraft entry at show's end. It was lovely to catch up with a number of stall holders we know, and meet new ones. Being a livestock owner myself I also enjoyed looking at the livestock handling equipment demonstrations, and some of the livestock themselves. I was a bit disappointed that we didn't get to the Angora goats in time, as they are the cutest things ...

Once the Show closes - and something many visitors don't get to see - the buzz to pack up stalls, dismantle displays and shove everything into cars, trucks, vans and trailers is pretty frantic! Many stall holders stay in Bendigo overnight and relaxing with a drink of some sort is often foremost on their minds at this point.

Livestock exhibitors on the other hand are often trying to get animals home in daylight and there's a constant procession of livestock crates, trailers and trucks streaming out the gates.

The dismantling of the WoolfCraft Exhibition is a slightly more calm affair. There is a lot of camaraderie between the volunteers and waiting exhibitors. We spent a delightful time chatting and joking over flashing LED rings in the fading light, despite the creeping cold (Bendigo always seems cold ...).

While my prize winning exhibit - the Rainbow Baby - and prizes were being packed, we chatted with the stewards as I wanted to check up on Dot Vallence - a dear lady who had been such an encouragement with my earlier show entries, and a dear friend of the late Ethel Stephenson, whose stud my own English Leicester foundation ewes came from. Dot had been a stalwart of the Sheep Show for decades, and remembered fondly by some of our other Guild members as well. She retired from the Sheep Show last year, and is reportedly not in good health at the moment. We wish her a speedy recovery.



One of the comments that came up in chatting with the stewards is the need for more exhibitors. Especially younger people! Without exhibitors, shows like the WoolfCraft Exhibition will eventually die out. Don't be intimidated by reports of harsh or picky judges - without us, the exhibitors, they are nothing. Have a go! As a meme that passed me last week said - "strive for excellence, rather than perfection". Challenge yourself and above all have fun doing it!

Wedding Ring Shawl and “Maa” the Sheep ...

Jill Warren writes:

Gordon and I started fishing at Isisford 25 years ago. We got to know some of the local people around Isisford, Illfracombe and Longreach. Fiona from Longreach would pick up me, two other women (plus their sewing machines) at 8 am in Illfracombe and go to craft (Patchwork Attics) at Isisford. 200 kms round trip for Fiona every Monday. That is how I met Helen Meppem:



“Not very often I post a selfie but this is a lovely story. This beautiful scarf has been sent to me by a dear friend, Jill Warren, who has been following my posts of our pet sheep, Maa, and she asked if I would like to send some of Maa’s wool at shearing time and she would spin it for me. Not only that but a friend of hers at the spinning group made this beautiful scarf for me. Such beautiful work, what a wonderful thing to do, and not only that but Jill Warren has spun enough of Maa’s wool for me to do a scarf myself. It is so fine and soft and now I will always have Maa with me, a real treasure!

“Brings tears to my eyes, such kindness,

“Thank you Jill Warren and her friend Laurel Stanley who Jill tells me knitted it.

Helen Meppem.”

Left: Maa the merino sheep the wool came off.

Right: The Wedding Ring shawl knitted from pattern out of the Albury spinners knitting book.

Below: Jill at the Guild Rooms with the shawl.



Next Issue:

Viv will hopefully get the time to write a report on progress with our reno, and lots more to see with Show and Tell ...



Albury Wodonga Handweavers & Spinners Guild Program - 2019

August 14 th	Business Meeting & Guild's Birthday
August 21 st	Casual Workday
August 25 th	Silk Spinning - Heather
September	Yerong Creek Weekend
September 4 th	Casual Workday
September 11 th	Business Meeting
September 18 th	Casual Workday
September 25 th	
October 2 nd	Casual Workday
October 9 th	Business Meeting
October 16 th	Casual Workday
October 23 rd	
October 30th	Rooms closed (Albury Show)
November 6th	Rooms closed (Albury Show)
November 13 th	Business Meeting
November ?	Mirambeena Arts and Craft Fair 10am - 2pm
November 20 th	Casual Workday
November 27 th	
December 4 th	Casual Workday
December 11 th	Business Meeting, Christmas Lunch

Business Meeting - Morning Tea Roster

Date		
14 th August	Heather	
11 th September	Rhonda Da	Ella
9 th October	Kathy P	Lorraine
13 th November	Robyn W	
11 th December		

