


Albury/Wodonga Handweavers and Spinners Guild Inc.



NEWSLETTER August 2014

Albury/Wodonga Handweavers and Spinners Guild Inc. PO Box 629, Albury NSW 2640

President's Report	Committee
<p>July 2014</p> <p>A big thank you to all guild members who have contributed to our entry into the group competition at the Bendigo Wool and Sheep Show, it certainly looks fantastic. Thank you also to members who contributed to the display of our work at the Victorian Guild in Melbourne. Special thanks to Kathy and Ruth who have put in a lot of extra hours in both projects and also to Pam and Audrey for taking on the task of delivering our project to Bendigo.</p> <p>We have the opportunity to demonstrate our talents at both the Wodonga and Albury libraries in July and August and also at the Albury Show in November so keep those wheels spinning and needles clicking so we have plenty to display.</p> <p>Please be mindful of OH&S when in our guild rooms, try to keep bags tucked under tables, chairs tidy and tripping hazards dealt with as they appear.</p> <p>Enjoy the winter weather. Heather.</p> 	<p>President: Heather Mulqueeny 0260 246579</p> <p>Secretary: Ruth Mitchell 0402 019869</p> <p>Treasurer: Debbie Carpenter 0400 612237</p> <p>Newsletter: Kathy Wheeler 0439 696878</p> <p>Public Officer: Helen Spears</p> <p>Publicity Officer: Ruth Mitchell 0402 019869</p> <p>Library & Equipment Officer: Vicki Law</p>
	<p>Hostess Duties:</p>
	<p>August Liz</p>
	<p>September Christine</p>
<p>Bendigo Wool and Sheep Show 2014 Report</p>	<p>Call for Volunteers:</p>
<p>The Bendigo Wool and Sheep show was on again last weekend and it was a fantastic event to see.</p> <p>There were hundreds of stalls to visit, selling anything from outdoor furniture and kitchen supplies to everything fibre related. Weaving, spinning and knitting were everywhere with plenty of fleeces, yarns and alternative fibres, dyes and tools of the trade available in each pavilion. One of my favourites was the Ashford stand where new looms and spinning wheels were set out to be played with. The compact folding spinning wheels were very tempting (not to mention the 8 shaft table loom). There were also a stalls selling handmade clothing and accessories which were beautiful and inspiring.</p> <p>The competition in the craft hall was of a very high standard with exquisite weaving, knitting and crochet. It was great to see our diorama on display, although we were unsuccessful on our first year of entering a great effort was made by all. I see we have some rather stiff competition in this category as every entry was beautifully put together.</p> <p>Kylie Quinlivan (More photos and story P2 & P3)</p>	<p>The Guild will be running demonstrations at the Albury library on Thursday 14th August from 10am to 12 noon</p> <p>It will be a casual session with members showing some spinning or weaving. Volunteers needed!</p> <p>RESCHEDULED!!! The demonstration in the Wodonga Library has been re-scheduled to Wednesday 20th August from 10am - 12noon. Volunteers welcome!!!</p> <p>We have been asked if we would consider doing a demonstration and/or display at the Albury Show in early November. This would cover the Saturday and Sunday. Volunteers welcome!</p>

Bendigo Wool and Sheep Show 2014 cont.



1st and 2nd place getters, plus our entry on display. Photos courtesy Ruth Mitchell.

Show and Tell

June 2014

Pam made some felted eggs and knitted two cute little birds for our diorama nest.

Kathy received some beautiful hand dyed silk fibre from a lady in America and is looking forward to spinning it.

Liz showed a very smart hand dyed, hand knitted blue shrug which was a wool alpaca mix.

Helen has a new granddaughter and is knitting a pale green, cotton pram rug in a pattern of squares of garter and stocking stitch. Very sweet.

Kylie showed some hand dyed, knitted leaves (for our diorama) in a delicate pale green and a lacy pattern.

Debbie showed a warm looking beanie made from hand spun yarn which she bought from the sharing day at Cobram.

Heather showed a spindle spun, hand knitted beanie as well as finishing a handsome vest for her husband. She also allowed us to see her progress on the scarf which is for the scarf exchange. It is a garden theme this year and Heather has cleverly knitted, woven and crocheted rows of 'vegetables and flowers' along the scarf. A highlight was seeing the photos of the recent wedding of her son. It was a beautiful setting and everyone looked gorgeous!

For Sale

Three basic Ashford Spinning wheels are available. All in good condition with accessories. Priced at \$125.00 each.

Two are being sold by Mal Goldie 60232593 malcolmgoldie@tpg.com.au

One is being sold by Elizabeth Crapp 0400264440.

From the Editor

We'd love to hear your spinning and weaving stories, or challenges! Send us your tale, and photos to share through our newsletter! Contributions can be emailed to awspinners@gmail.com or the editor at kathyw@albury.net.au

Bendigo Wool and Sheep Show Entry

Here is a short story that tells how our “en-tree” came to be ...

Initially our entry started as a birds nest. The cosy nest was made from hand dyed and hand spun yarn and woven pieces was to hold eggs and birds.

Over time, our nest grew a tree, needle-felted merino wool over a metal and mesh armature, with gnarled and ribbed bark, and hollow branches.

Then birds came to sit on the tree - two beautiful Gouldian Finches - gems of the Outback and the most popular finch in aviculture world-wide. Our scaled up beauties are built on a wire armature, with neutral merino wrapping, and covered with needle-felted dyed merino roving.

We decorated our tree with knitted sleeves in colours of Australian parrots - Galahs and Swift Parrots - using hand spun yarn.

A colourful crocheted spider-web in the reds and blues of our glorious Crimson Rosellas complete with blue cheek patches, also from hand spun yarn, hangs between two branches.

Two colourful vines were coaxed from wet felted merino, both inspired by Australian native plants, and in the colours of our most colourful parrots.

One, the Eastern Rosella Happy Wanderer (Hardenbergia) Vine, bears the colours of Australia's possibly most recognisable Rosella, the Eastern Rosella. The colours in the flowers reflect the red head and chest, white cheek patches, strong grey beak, and bright yellow breast merging to lime green of the under-feathers. The leaves of our Eastern Rosella Happy Wanderer depict the striking black and yellow-green markings of the closed wings, and the bright blue shoulder patches.

The second vine, the Rainbow Lorikeet Wonga Wonga Vine, takes on the colours of our garrulous Rainbow Lorikeets, again in wet felted tubular flowers and stems. The blue, red-yellow-orange and blue sequence in the tubular flowers mirrors the Rainbow Lorikeet's head and chest colours. The greens of the crocheted leaves, based on Japanese Ondori Motif designs and crocheted from hand spun yarn, are inspired by the intense greens of the Rainbow Lorikeets back.

Knitted and crocheted gum leaves hang from the branches of our tree, and litter the ground roots, as gum leaves ever do.

The five pieces for judging are:

- 1- Dry felted Gouldian finch. This was dry needle felted using merino roving from Highland Felting which was hand dyed to obtain the colours of the finch.
- 2- Wet felted Hardenbergia vine. This vine with flowers was made in the colours of the Eastern Rosella using merino roving from Highland Felting.
- 3-Woven scarf. The scarf was woven using commercial wool from the Wangaratta Woollen mill. 4- Inkle band. The band was woven on the inkle loom using 2 extra string heddles to create bird designs taken from South American traditional patterns. The yarn is a pure wool from The Australian Tapestry Workshop.
- 5-Knitted leaves. The leaves were knitted using a commercial yarn (wool mix) from the Bendigo Woollen Mill that was hand dyed.

Although we did not win any prizes this year, the Show proved to be a great learning experience on what the judges are looking for, and how they interpret the rules. A challenge for next year!



In a Good Cause

Would you like to join in and knit beanies for for Father Chris Riley’s ‘off the streets program’? Or closer to home, the Care Van in Albury would appreciate any scarves, hats or blankets.

Our own **Charity Rug / Wrap** could do with some more 10” squares too! So in response to Member interest, here’s a copy of the instructions for making 10” squares for the rug. Make as many as you like and bring them along to the rooms so we can help someone less fortunate keep warmer this cold winter!

Instructions for making squares

SQUARES FOR WRAPS are to measure 10 inches x 10 inches (25cm x 25cm).

KNITTED SQUARES

To knit a 10 inch x 10 inch square use size 8 (4mm) needles, 8 ply yarn (either wool or acrylic) Cast on 50-55 stitches and knit each row plain (ie garter stitch).

NOTE Test your tension to measure 10 inches.

DO NOT KNIT one row plain, one row purl (ie stocking stitch) as your squares will curl up.

NO KNOTS

Start each ball of yarn at the beginning of a row and sew in ends. Do not cut ends off short as your square will unravel. When starting or finishing a square, sew in all ends.

IDEAS

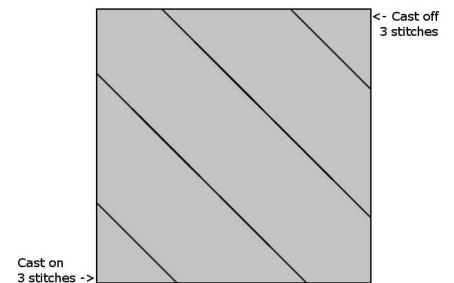
INSTRUCTIONS FOR DIAGONAL SQUARES

Cast on 3 stitches.

Row 1: K1, increase 1 in next stitch, knit to end of row.

Repeat Row 1 until side edge measures 10 inches (25cm).

Next row: K1, K2 together, knit to end of row. Repeat this row until 3 stitches remain, cast off.



A FUN AND EASY PATTERN - TRY IT. It’s easier than it looks!
It cuts down on “sewing-up” time as 4 or seven squares can be knitted in one strip.

Cast on 100 stitches:

Row 1: K48, K2 together twice, K48

Row 2: knit

Row 3: K47, K2 together twice, K47

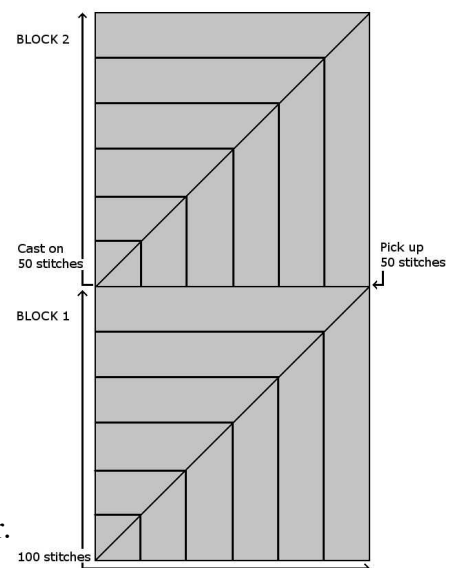
Row 4: knit

Row 5: K46, K2 together twice, K46

Continue decreasing 2 stitches in the centre of each alternate row until 2 stitches remain, K2 together.

Pick up 50 stitches along one edge of row ends and cast on 50 stitches (100 altogether)

Repeat the block as above. Make 4 or 7 blocks in one strip and sew together.



For the Diary:

Wednesday 4th June, 2014-Saturday 2nd August, 2014.	<i>Affiliated Groups Exhibition</i> (Victorian Guild). Victorian Guild, Nicholson Street, Carlton North.
Friday August 15th, Saturday 16th and Sunday 17th, August 2014.	<i>Affiliated Groups Conference</i> . Hosted by Waverley Spinners and Weavers at Mt. Eliza. Further details later.

Workshops, Work Days and Meeting Days:

Wednesday 6th August, 2014:	<i>Casual Workday</i>	
Wednesday 13th August, 2014:	<i>Meeting</i>	Guild’s Birthday!!
Wednesday 27th August, 2014:	<i>Workshop</i>	Warping a 4 shaft loom