
Albury Wodonga HandWeavers & Spinners Guild Inc.



NEWSLETTER November-December 2015

PO Box 629, Albury NSW 2640 | eMail: awspinners@gmail.com

PRESIDENT'S REPORT - November 2015

We have had plenty of variety to spice up our spinning lives recently. A gathering at Debbie's home as an alternative to meeting at our rooms was enjoyable and relaxing, thanks to Debbie for inviting us.

A weekend at the Albury Show happily spinning with some lovely alpacas for company, although very wet was a lovely way to spend a few hours. Our thanks to Rhonda and Rod for allowing us to share their space with them.

An extra dyeing day we managed to squeeze in between meeting day and workday allowed a lot of dyeing to be done with both natural plant dye and chemical dye and left us all inspired with ideas and plans for future dyeing days.

Thanks to all who have joined in so willingly and cheerfully to some or all of our recent activities.

My best wishes to all for a Merry Christmas and for a Wonderful New Year.

Heather.

Christmas Break

December 9th will be our last meeting for the year, to be followed by Christmas lunch at the guild rooms. Please bring a plate of goodies to share and help celebrate 2015.

February 3rd 2016 workday - first day back!

"Peace is not something you wish for; It's something you make, Something you do, Something you are, And something you give away"

John Lennon

Give a little Peace this Christmas.



Committee 2015-2016

President:

Heather Mulqueeny
0260 246579

Secretary:

Position vacant.
Volunteer nominations welcome.

Vice Secretary:

Ruth Mitchell
0402 019869

Treasurer:

Debbie Carpenter
0400 612237

Newsletter:

Kathy Wheeler
0439 696878

Public Officer:

Helen Spears

Publicity Officer:

Ruth Mitchell
0402 019869

Library & Equipment Officer:

Position now vacant

Hostess Duties

December 9th Heather Mulqueeny



Show and Tell – November 2015

Rachael discussed a tender fleece she had recently purchased. There was breaking of the staple due to some type of stressor on the sheep as the fleece grew. She showed an old bakelite wool winder which was missing some parts but was fascinating to imagine in a working state.

She has been busy spinning and noted that the Alpaca doesn't take up dye as easily as wool.

Pam showed her very smart entrelac hat and scarf. She also showed a large ANZAC themed rug which had the colours of the forces and a poppy in one corner. She has also been winning prizes at the Holbrook show. Well done Pam!

Ann has very cleverly made a tension board for plying from bobbins. She adapted the layout of an Ashford one and added her own touches. Very effective.

Daphne has been spinning and knitting.

Ros is crocheting an elegant wrap from a possum/merino mix. She had also completed an embroidery covered white rabbit. Very time consuming but a lovely result.

Kathy showed the results of several different ways of washing a raw fleece. She is doing it in a very scientific way so we enjoyed seeing the samples washed in different ways particularly the suint method.

Faye has been doing some Christmas beading projects which look very sweet to pop on the tree.

Ruth knitted some simple mitts in a 2/2 rib with her hand spun. She also couldn't walk past a beautiful kid mohair silk yarn when at the Morris shop in Melbourne and knitted it into a simple shrug.

Debbie completed a child's dress which had a black background and brightly coloured granny squares. So cute!

Heather has been busy with the arrival of her new grand daughter. We were treated to photos of the gorgeous baby girl.



Batts, Tops, Rovings – what is the difference?

It can be confusing understanding the terminology associated with spinning. I found this explanation in the Spin-off Magazine, Winter 2011, it had come from *The Encyclopedia of Handspinning* by Mabel Ross (interweave, 1988)

Batt A sheet of carded wool taken from a hand or drum carder.

Roving A long, even strand of carded or combed fibers which have been drawn out, then slightly twisted.

Top A commercial preparation of fibers which has been carded and subsequently combed to remove the short fibers and align the long in parallel form ... a rope like strand without twist.

More: <http://abbysyarns.com/2007/08/whats-are-batts-top-roving-and-so-forth/>
<http://spinanon.ladefoged.org/woolprep.htm>



Albury Show and October 28th Workshop

Despite the bad weather during the Albury Show our members who helped out at the Alpaca display reported a good day with a number of interested visitors.

Spinning, sorting and carding fleece was the order of the morning workshop held at Debbie's place (photos left) while our Guild Rooms were closed for the Albury Show clean-up.



Fleece Washing Workshop

Rachael, Kathy and Kylie had a working day at Rachael's place trying different types of ways to wash a raw Romney x Corridale fleece.

As well as the conventional scour wash, they also tried a suint bath, where the fleece is added to a tub of rainwater and left for 7 days to "ferment". It is a self-cleaning process but it produces quite an odour, as Rachael writes in her *Ode to Suinty* below:

*Suinty, suinty we love you so,
Suinty, suinty you have to go,
Suinty you have made a stench,
U even made my friend Mark retch!
U have done a great job on the fleece,
But your time on this planet really must cease.*



Dyeing Day November 18th

As usual a lot of fun was had by all. As well as our usual dye-hards we had a number of members new to dyeing who became quite enthusiastic and eager to try themselves.

We had pots simmering skeins with Landscape Dyes, while the microwave was working over-time with rainbow hues of acid dyes and food colouring. There was a wok simmering English Leicester and alpaca fleece in Logwood natural dye, and jars solar dyeing fleece in liquid derived from avocado seeds and skins.

We will probably run more Dyeing Days in 2016 to cater for the interest, and to teach the basics to newcomers.



Above: Workshop at Debbie's; Below: Dyeing Day results.



Suppliers List

Karoa Fibres Corowa

Email: karoa@ipstarmail.com.au

Phone: 02 6035 1727 Mob: 0427 302 209 / 0427 334 611

Fairfield Finns

1275 Bacchus Marsh Road, Bullengarook, Vic, 3437

Ph: 0345 289 428 Mob: 0407 884 446

Bendigo Woollen Mills

4 Lansell St. Bendigo 3550

Ph: 03 54424600

Tarndwarncourt Polwarth Wool (Wendy and David Dennis)

41 Roseneath Rd. Warncoort, Vic, 3243

Ph: 03 5233 6241

First Edition Fibres and Yarns

16-18 Charles St. Euroa. / PO Box 201 Euroa Vic. 3666

Ph: 03 57 95 3578

10-4 Gallery Glenrowan.

<https://www.facebook.com/tentofourgallery>

Kajiko Fibre Works (carding etc)

www.kajiko.com.au

Locally made



Wooden spindles

\$15.00 each,
contact Heather

02 60 246579

For Sale

Electric Spinning Wheel for jumbo spinning. \$150. Contact Faye Hoffmann on 0409 521161

WTB

Eight shaft counter-march floor loom, min. weaving width 1.2m. Contact kathyw@albury.net.au

For the Diary:

November 5 th 2015 to February 24 th 2016	Christmas at the Johnston Collection, Melbourne. https://www.johnstoncollection.org/house_museum_tours
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Workshops, Work Days and Meeting Days:

December 2 nd	Casual Workday
December 9 th	Last Meeting for the Year, followed by a shared Christmas Lunch
February 3 rd 2016	Return, Casual Workday



We Wish You a Happy and Safe Christmas

See you in 2016!!!!