



A message from our President

I can't believe how quickly this past year has gone. We've had a few new members, changes in the committee and some of our longest members leave us. We started weekly meetings and have permission to use the jockey rooms as we need, which has come in handy considering how many people are turning up most weeks!

There have been new crafts and skills learnt, from crochet and knitting to carding and pin looms, we've had some really interesting visitors to inspire us with their collections, works and ideas and Dianne came and helped us sort out the floor looms which haven't been used in years.

Our yearly weekend in Yerong Creek was another success (thank you Christine!) - although we couldn't make the flood stay long enough to ensure we had to extend our stay.

We had the students from Wodonga Tafe come and do three weeks with us, spinning, dying and weaving and we displayed at Wodonga Show, Lambfest, Albury Show and Mirambeena. It's all about getting our faces out there and letting people know we exist!

“Next year starts with a bang ...”

Next year starts with a bang (for Pinky and I anyway) with CEC classes in spinning and weaving starting with the school term and our once monthly Thursday sessions at the Albury Library. Sue and I will be getting together over the break to organize some new tutors for us over the coming year so if

you have any requests or ideas, please let us know.

I look forward to seeing you all after the Christmas break and hope you have a wonderful Christmas and a safe and happy New Year.

Committee 2016 - 2017

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Show & Tell - November

Heather – bought in some llama she has spindle spun. She is not particularly happy with it as it has no spring or bounce.

Faye – has finished a crochet rug and is now making a matching cushion. Faye also bought in a delightful “cat” hat for her great granddaughter together with a pattern to crochet Christmas baubles.

Pam – has finished her beanie from roving. She also bought in a raffle book from the Quilters to sell tickets.

Jill – showed a large knitted “corner-to-corner” rug in beautiful grey/mauve wool.

Kathy – has been busy dying. Displayed in a long cylinder was her “journey to pastel” English Leicester tops dyed with liquid acid dye. She also showed other wool dyed with powder dye together with the finished knitted cable hat.

Robyn – is knitting a bolero for her granddaughter

Kylie – has received her scarf from the Knitting Exchange for this year and has also been experimenting with her knitting machines and showed a wide variety of knitted lace samples.



Show & Tell - December

Heather – bought in three pairs (or strictly speaking 2 1/2 pairs) of knitted socks.

Kathy – showed a sample of corner-to-corner crochet she has made from her spun Suri which was Navajo plied and dyed with 3 primary colours.

Jane – produced an Estonian lace pattern shawl made from merino and silk, which she spun herself. Also a tricolour knitted scarf and a sample of Brioche knitting – which is a double rib.

Robyn – has knitted a child's jacket in aqua wool and a baby's “balaclava” with ears – very cute.



Bogway Spinner

Kylie Quinlivan

A little while ago I saw a video on Youtube showing a small hand spinner called a “Bogway” spinner. It’s a simple device: an upright dowel with a pin to which another dowel is held horizontally so that it can spin around. To make yarn, you hold the upright dowel and flick your wrist to make the horizontal dowel to make it spin and twist the fleece. It looked so easy and compact I had to make my own.



I had a couple of pieces of dowel that felt about right and cut them to size. For the pin, I used a coach bolt. I drilled a hole in the top of one piece and a larger hole through the other pin so that the bolt moved freely. To make mine spin a bit easier, I filed either side

of the drilled hole on the horizontal to make it flat top and bottom. Then it was a simple matter of threading the bolt through the horizontal and fitting the bolt into the top of the other dowel.

There are other spinners similar to this in many cultures. Mayan, Tibetan, Rakestraw are just a few. You can make them as simple or as ornate as you like!



Editors Note: Sorry for the delay getting this issue out. Lots of contributing factors not the least being changing over to a new computer with different software.

From Pam's Archives ...

FROM "SHUTTLE, SPINDLE & DYEPOT", Handweavers Guild of America Inc. Spring 1974 - Issue 18.

Article by Martha Hoering

DOUBLE BELT AND SCOTCH TENSION

Two spinning techniques used with the flyer wheel are the Double Belt and the Scotch tension methods. The more commonly used is the double-belt, in which a single belt is doubled back upon itself and passed both around the wheel and the flyer assembly. One section of the belt runs through a groove in the whorl, which is firmly and rigidly attached to the spindle shaft. This revolves the flyer which, in turn, inserts the twist.

The other section of the belt runs through a groove in the bobbin end, causing it to revolve. The difference in size between the diameter of the whorl and the bobbin end causes the bobbin and flyer to revolve at different speeds, pulling the spun yarn through the orifice and winding it onto the bobbin for storage. If the spinner holds back the yarn as it is being spun, the bobbin will slip on the belt because the held-back yarn pulls the bobbin at the same speed as the flyer, causing twisting only. As soon as the yarn is released from the fingers, it will move through the orifice and wind around the bobbin. Because suck pull, or tension, is directly related to the tightness of the belt, as the diameter of the spun yarn increases, the belt must be tightened.

In the Scotch tension method, a single belt passes around the wheel and the whorl, turning the flyer and putting in the twist. This band, which applies tension to the yarn and causes it to wind onto the bobbin after spinning, is fastened in such a way that it can be brought over the bobbin groove and tightened to act as a slip brake. It must go over the bobbin groove in a direct line, not at an angle; and must provide a means for controlling tension. Such a control is usually accomplished by fastening one end of the band to a peg which can be tightened or loosened as desired.

The primary function of such a tension band is to retard the bobbin. The way it works can be observed if you spin slowly, at first with no yarn on the bobbin and with the peg tightened just a bit. The bobbin will not move at all. Then, with yarn brought through the orifice, turn the wheel slowly and adjust the tension peg until a gentle, but definite pull is felt. As long as the yarn is held steady and firm, the bobbin will revolve at the same rate as the flyer, slipping against the tension band as in the double—belt method.

Continue to turn the wheel slowly and release the hand-held tension; the bobbin will stop moving entirely, the yarn being brought through the orifice and wrapped around the bobbin by the moving flyer. when spinning at a normal rate, the bobbin actually does not stop entirely, but the tension band slows it down greatly. In the double-belt method the spun yarn winds onto the bobbin at a fixed rate because it can only move in as fast as the difference between the speed of the bobbin and that of the flyer.

In the Scotch tension method, when the tension created by holding back the yarn is released, the bobbin immediately revolves slower than the flyer, pulling the yarn through the orifice: The tension must be tight enough, in the Scotch tension method, to hold the spinning yarn steady as the drafting progresses; it must not, however, be so tight as to pull it from one's hand before the twist enters the fibres, nor so loose that the spun yarn unrolls from the bobbin and returns through the orifice. If the tension is too tight, neither flyer nor bobbin will move at all.

Herein lies the essential difference between the two systems. The double-belt method pulls the yarn onto the bobbin at a fixed rate which represents the speed with which the bobbin moves as related to the speed of the flyer. The Scotch tension method winds the spun yarn onto the bobbin at a speed controlled by the spinner. I personally feel that I am in greater control of the yarn, and am much more comfortable using Scotch tension. As Elsie Davenport comments in "Your Handspinning", "Spinners who become accustomed to this (Scotch tension) method of control prefer it to any other."

As yarn builds up on the bobbin, the tension slackens and it is time to move the yarn from one hook to the next. There is a direct relationship between the degree of tension and the distance of the yarn from bobbin to hook; moving the yarn to the next hook increases this distance so the slackened tension is restored immediately.

DOUBLE BELT AND SCOTCH TENSION Continued.

When the last hook on the flyer has been reached and there is an equal amount of yarn all across the bobbin, the tension peg should be tightened slightly. This peg must hold steady in its socket. If it begins to slip, resin (which can be obtained at a music store) may be applied to the base of the peg. The belt needs to be tightened only if it is too loose to revolve the flyer, which usually occurs only when the belt stretches. All wheels have some method for handling this.

There is an excellent spinning wheel using Scotch tension that has become quite popular and can be obtained in kit form. It has two improvements which I consider especially valuable. One is that, by pivoting the rear maiden instead of the front maiden, the bobbin can be removed and replaced from the back without disturbing the flyer assembly. The other unique feature is that of attaching one end of the monofilament tension band to the adjusting peg and the other end to a strong elastic band. The elastic band is also placed over a hook which allows easy release for removal of the bobbin. Its use allows more flexibility in the adjustment and makes it easier to avoid too strong a tension. Elsie Davenport advises that the tension must be adjusted to a "nicety" and she means just that. The merest suggestion of a turn is all that is needed for proper control which the addition of the rubber band gives to the tension band on my own wheel and I am quite pleased with the result. Although tension bands fray and wear out because of friction from the fast moving bobbin, they are so easily replaced that I do not consider this a disadvantage.

Knitting with Beads

We have seen a number of beautiful samples of lace knitting with beads at Show & Tell lately - a simple touch that adds a lot of interest and elegance to a knitted project. And it is not as difficult as it appears. There are a number of techniques that can be followed, from tiny crochet hooks to threaded bead strings.

The two sites below include step by step instructions and techniques, and off course YouTube has plenty of video tutorials. Why not try it yourself ...

<https://spinspinspin.wordpress.com/2011/08/18/knitting-with-beads/>

<http://www.twistcollective.com/collection/107-articles/2091-the-bead-goes-on>

**For Sale**

We have had a gentleman contact us regarding selling his Mother's Spinning wheel. The wheel is an Ashford Traveller, in excellent condition, no rust, dust etc. It is a single treadle, double drive, comes with 4 bobbins, a nobby nobby, flicker and a wool winder (Janome). The wheel appeared to turn freely and balanced, and is in Wodonga. Asking \$275.00 for the lot, negotiable. Phone Richard Young 0409464830

2017 Calendar

Post New Year

The rooms may be open some Wednesdays before our official return date. Contact Sue for more information.

February 1st 2017

Return, Casual Workday

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