



CLIPPINGS

SUTHERLAND SHIRE SPINNERS & WEAVERS NEWSLETTER

VOL. 3- No. 1 September 2016

It's been a while fellow spinners and weavers, and I apologise for taking so long with another newsletter. Obviously I was not able to be secretary and newsletter editor at the same time! Remember, anything you think would be interesting for our members send to me at zanzibar2508@gmail.com. Hope you enjoy! Lyn Johnson

RECENT NEWS

MY FIRST TRIP TO 'SPENDIGO'

This year we had almost 20 members of our group who attended the Bendigo Wool & Sheep Show. Debbie Keegan, one of our newer members, was one of them, and below is her account of her trip.

After a sleepless night we woke at 4.30am. It was a sleepless night because of the sheer excitement of attending my first Sheep and Wool Show at Bendigo.

After crossing the border our first stop was First Edition Fibres in Euroa. We picked up some goodies and armed with local directions, we all hit the road to our final destination, Bendigo! With some daylight left in the day, we made a quick stop at the Bendigo Woollen Mill, before heading off to our accommodation for a well earned rest

Friday morning we arrived at the Prince Of Wales Showground in North Bendigo, at 8.00 AM. With our bunny's ears at the ready, we waited for the Woolcraft Pavilion to open so we could claim our special gift from Ixchel Angora Bunny & Funky Fibre Art. It was good to meet a lot of the people from the Australian Handspinners and Knitters facebook group.

There was something for everyone at Spendigo - from various varieties of sheep, fibre, spinning wheels, weaving looms, coloured beads and other accessories, and finished products.

I was fascinated by seeing the different rare breeds of sheep at the show, including Lincoln, Dohne, Poll Merino, Dorset



Kay Jackson with her woolly friend

Horn, Drysdale, down breeds, Corriedale, Stropshire, Ryeland, Romney, Dorper, Border Leicester, Poll Dorset, Australian Finn, Cheviot. I only wish we had gone back to the show for a second day to study the gorgeous animals in more detail.

In addition to sheep, Angora goats, Cashmere and Mohair also featured at the show, along with sheep shearing and sheep dog displays. This was the first year that cattle were also featured at the show. Saturday morning we took a look at the craft display in the North Bendigo Bowling Club, just down the road from the showground, then headed off to the Bendigo Pottery to pick up a beautifully thrown yarn bowl followed by a morning tea with scones and jam.

No visit to Bendigo would be complete without a ride on a vintage talking tram, es-

pecially number 302 which was especially yarn bombed for the Spendigo weekend. All went well until we had just departed the Deborah Mine and a passenger leaned too hard to one side and broke a glass window. Tram 302 was taken out of service.

We then boarded the next tram back to the depot for a guided tour of the tramways workshop, currently restoring trams for Melbourne trams city circle fleet. After meeting Birney the tramways cat, and another quick visit to the woollen mills, we headed to the city centre to visit the imposing Sacred Heart Cathedral which dominates the Bendigo skyline.

Both my husband and I had a really great



weekend visiting Bendigo and the Wool and Sheep Show in particular. We will certainly be back next year, to spend more time at the sheep displays.

Debbie Keegan

2016 ANUAL GENERAL MEETING

On 26 July our group held its 45th AGM and a new committee was elected. Our president Iris Horoch stepped down and Jane Sherborne Higgins has agreed to take on the role for the next year at least. The new committee members are as follows:

Vice President: Karen Severn (also Publicity Officer)

Secretary: Helen Rosner

Treasurer Alyson Keeys

Ordinary members

Eleanor Igoe (also Membership Secretary)

Helen Thomas (also Exhibition Officer)

Lyn Johnson (also Newsletter Editor)

Public Officer - Cathy Fisher

Equipment Officer - Bruce Hudson

Equipment Officer Asst- Will Ashkenazi

Facebook Administrator: Jenni Gormley

Moderators: Iris Horoch, Eleanor Igoe, Diane Stevenson

Host/Hostess Dympna Vella

Assist Hostess - Rhonda Baldwin

Librarian - Kay Jackson

Librarian Assist - Will Ashkenazi

Ravelry presence - Diane Stevenson

Webmaster - Jenni Gormley

Workshop Coord. -Diane Stevenson

Assist Workshop Coordinators - Jan

Harrison and Maggie Showell

Our speakers this year were Gwen and Roger Roberts. Roger and Gwen have been on many overseas trips over the years and as Roger explained they always seemed to end up in a mill somewhere looking at looms and spinning machines. They presented a number of short videos

from the Whitchurch Silk Mill, Derwent Valley Arkwright's Mill (both in England), an Irish mill south of Dublin, and in Berlin a museum which contained looms working with punchcards dating back to the 1920's. The final video was from Waverley Mill in Tasmania where they process the wool from scouring the fleece right through to weaving the blankets.

Thank your Gwen and Roger for a very interesting talk..

This year the committee awarded a life membership to Lynne Peebles. Eleanor Igoe described how much Lynne has contributed to our group.

Life Membership for Lynne Peebles.

Lynne joined the Group 20 years ago and from then on has been more than happy to share her love and expertise of the craft ,

with the rest of the group. Over the years she has given us workshops on – Weaving a blouse, books made for our Xmas cards, Xmas decorations and Tapestry.

When President, she instituted our “Presidents Challenge”, which still continues today.

Her latest effort – the beautiful Weave-It Square rug for our Wool Fair raffle, was a HUGE effort (teaching some of us to weave the squares, dyeing them all and then having some of us to her house to arrange them all).

This Group Project took around about four months all up.

This project alone was definitely “above and beyond”, so Lynne – we have much

pleasure in making you a LIFE MEMBER.

Frances Gammie



Our new president presenting Lynne with her Life Membership badge.

**KURRAJONG HEIGHTS SPINNERS & WEAVERS INVITATION DAY
1 1 August 2016**

Several members attended the Kurrajong Heights ‘Invitation Day’ at the North Richmond Community Centre on Thursday, 11 August. Proceeds from the event went to support of ‘Beyond Blue’.

Everyone was warmly welcomed and treated to a magnificent morning tea and a delicious lunch later in the day.

We were encouraged to set up our wheels for a bit of a spin-in and catch up with members from other visiting groups. There was a variety of stalls, which were eagerly perused and I’m sure many purchases were made. **Di Stevenson**

PRESIDENT’S CHALLENGE

Our Challenge for the WWF 2017 is Children (of all ages). This topic gives great opportunity to demonstrate the skills of our group. I see a lively exhibition full of colour and a great diversity of objects whether they be delicate babies items, colourful items for young children, something to capture the imagination of older children, whacky whatever for the rest of us. We can make clothes, toys, room decorations, rugs and blankets and whatever your creative minds can come up with.

In keeping with the theme, the exhibition can possibly be displayed on the stage next year in the form of a child’s bedroom with an area to display clothing, another with a cot or bed showing blankets etc, and a play area with toys and activities we have made. The back boards can display pictures or room decorations etc. Thank you to everyone who has come up with suggestions, it is very exciting to have so many great ideas.

Again in keeping with the theme, the raffle prize, instead of being a huge spectacular like last year, will be two or three smaller items - One being a pop rug made up of many knitted squares. More information on that soon, the second a Baby Box consisting of perhaps, booties, hat, little knitted or felted toys, and possibly a few sewn items to give a wide selection of useful baby items and possibly a toy as third prize. **Jane Sherborne Higgins**

FELTING CLASSES

Due to demand from our newer members, our resident felting experts Jane and Maggie have run three group classes. The first was a basic introduction to felting a



Practising felting a continuous 3d bracelet

flat piece such as a scarf, the second was learning to nuno felt, and the latest one



Jeanette’s slippers ready for wetting down

involved learning to felt with resists to create three dimensional objects



Helen Rosner’s finished felted bag

SSS&W HINTS (from a very old SSS&W booklet from Christa Clemensen)

To restore shrunken woollens, dissolve 85 grams epsom salts in boiling water. Let cool, soak garment for 30 minutes, remove, squeeze out excess water and stretch into correct shape. Press under dry cloth when almost dry. (*interesting!!*)

To keep moths away from home spun garments put garment in a plastic bag with a cake of toilet soap.

WHAT’S ON (FOR YOUR DIARY)

September 2017

13 Sep - Spinning Study Group - looking at plying

17 Sep - Spinning in Public Day

20 Sep - Workshop on Solomon’s knot crochet with Rhonda Baldwin

20 Sep - 9 Oct - Craft Excellence display at Craft NSW, 104 George St, The Rocks

27 Sep - Joining weave it squares with Lynne Peebles

October & November 2017

1 - 3 Oct - Context Art Homespun - weekend of fibre related workshops - More Information

4 - 6 Nov - Event Getaway with Canberra Spinners and Weavers More information