



CLIPPINGS

SUTHERLAND SHIRE SPINNERS & WEAVERS NEWSLETTER

VOL. 3- No. 4 August 2017

This year has been busier than I can remember. We have recently had our AGM, our members were winners at the 70th birthday exhibition of the NSW Guild, our Winter Wool Fair was very successful and we have been conducting lots of workshops in felted capes and hats (thank you Kris Supierz) and woven tapestry (thank you Lynne Peebles). Remember to send me anything you think might be of interest to our members. zanzi-bar2508@gmail.com. Hope you enjoy! Lyn Johnson

RECENT NEWS

2017 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

On 1st August our group held its 46th AGM and a new committee was elected. The new committee members are as follows:

President: Jane Sherborne Higgins; **Vice**

President: Karen Severn

Secretary: Helen Rosner;

Treasurer: Alyson Keays

Ordinary members: Eleanor Igoe (also **Membership Secretary**)

Helen Thomas (also **Exhibition Officer**)

Lyn Johnson (also **Newsletter Editor**)

Public Officer - Cathy Fisher

Publicity Officer: Iris Horoch;

Equipment Officer - Bruce Hudson

Equipment Officer Asst- Will Ashkenazi;

Facebook Administrator: Jenni Gormley,

Moderators: Iris Horoch, Eleanor Igoe, Diane Stevenson

Host/Hostess Julie Stephens;

Assist Hostess – Rhonda Baldwin

Librarian - Kay Jackson

Librarian Assist ant:- Will Ashkenazi

Ravelry presence - Diane Stevenson;

Webmistress:- Jenni Gormley

Workshop Coordinator: -Diane Stevenson

Guest Speaker: Our speaker this year was Karen Severn who gave a presentation about her visit to Creative Fibre in New Zealand in April this year. She has many good images of the fashion parade which had a medieval theme.

PRESIDENT'S CHALLENGE AN INFLUENCE ON MY LIFE

Everyone's life story is an interesting journey, but we mostly are not aware of what has shaped the person we now know. This Challenge may help us to learn a little more about our fellow members.

The influence can be a person, a place, an institution, a time, an event or many other things, it can be as a result of a good occurrence or a bad. Many people have had to deal with difficult things which can often have more of an influence than the pleasant or happy things. The choice is up to you. Once you have decided on the influence, the task is then to interpret that into a physical object made of wool. Please include a line or two of explanation to accompany your item. Good luck! Jane SH

NSW GUILD 70TH BIRTHDAY

In June the Handspinners and Weavers' Guild of NSW celebrated its 70th birthday over the weekend of 24th and 25th June. There was an exhibition in the Fitzroy Hall around the corner from the Burwood RSL



Alyson's shawl showing the beaded work

where there was a traders' expo. Two of our members won prizes in various categories. Alyson Keays won the Excellence in Knitting award sponsored by Glenora



Karen Severn's prize winning jacket

Weaving, with her amazing fine and beaded shawl. Karen Severn took out the Best Use of natural coloured wool sponsored by the Coloured Sheep Breeders Association, with her stylish jacket.



Jenni Gormley entered the tea towel exchange. Her towels are third from the right (hanging) and the same colourways on the table, and folded over the stand

2017 WINTER WOOL FAIR

This year's Wool Fair has turned out to be one of our most successful yet. In terms of raffle money, the group raised \$1477.85 for the Amelie House Women's Refuge in the Sutherland Shire. The kitchen generated an enormous profit of \$1045.00 Karen Severn, counted the number of visitors and reported there were about 350 people who came through the doors. Thanks should go to: Irish Horoch who did a tremendous job generating publicity for this event.; all the lovely ladies who helped in the kitchen, and all the volunteers who helped set up and pull down the props.



Our beautiful pop blanket and cushion on the raffle table (above) and (right) Gwen Hanna the weaver, actually spinning!!





Lyn Johnson with her coloured braids and yarn. The Children of all Ages Display (right). Thank you Helen Thomas, Gwen Hanna and Jane Sherborne Higgins



WORKSHOPS

Our Group has been busy with regular workshops - thank you Diane Stevenson! Lynne Peebles has been running continuing sessions in tapestry weaving and Kris Supierz has run two workshops in felted vests and hats. Thank you ladies. I admire the patience of tapestry weavers.



Kay Jackson, Helen Rosner and Jenni Gormley with their creations



Jenni Gormley's woven tapestry

AN UNUSUAL VISITOR

Our group is often visited by member's grandchildren and members' dogs, but a few weeks ago we had an unusual and very special visitor. He was a three day old sheep Dympha Vella rescued from his mother who did not want to feed him. Debbie Keegan christened him Prince Harry and he certainly was popular with the ladies! Note his fetching bubble wrap coat. He is thriving I am pleased to hear..



MEMBER'S COMMENTS

One of our life members, Marie Gabriel, commented to me a few weeks ago how much our group has changed over the last 48 years. Here are some of her observations:

When I joined there was a waiting list at the time and two groups were formed. We met in rooms at Sutherland Hospital, and my first lesson was Inkle Weaving. After I bought a spinning wheel and copious amounts of fleece my love affair with

wool began. I learned how to wash, comb and spin greasy fleece and what it meant to spin 'S' or 'Z'. We had fun dyeing the wool with leaves, lichen, bark, parsley and even jelly. There were no alpaca fleeces available, and we learned that if we agitated our fleece when washing, it would felt, but we didn't make felt. To exhibit and sell our work, we were restricted to having 90% wool with only 10% commercial yarn for decoration. Our group has become more sophisticated

- we are striving for perfection by going to various spinning and weaving classes, using more advanced equipment, beautiful commercial dyes - entering competitions and winning prizes. Most of us now prefer to use carded, cleaned and dyed tops. We now have a champion weaver and some brilliant spinners in our group. Our finished garments are world class, but I would love to, one day, see someone come in with a garment which looks "handspun". Marie Gabriel

WHAT'S ON (FOR YOUR DIARY)

- Screen Printing Workshop with Rhonda Baldwin - date to be confirmed
- 26 - 27 August - Open Day Berry Spinners and Weavers. Berry Showground More Information
- 4 - 29 October - Meet the Makers Exhibition and Programme of demonstrations, talks and displays Craft NSW - More Information
- 1 - 7 October - Geelong Fibre Forum More Information
- 10-13 November - Canberra Spinners and Weavers Greenhills Retreat More Information
- 17 - 22 March 2018 Grampian Textures Workshop Programme More Information
- 14 - 19 April 2018 - Context Art 2018 More Information