

GUILD NEWS



HAND WEAVERS AND SPINNERS GUILD OF NSW INC.

December 2025 · Number 702

WISHING ALL GUILD MEMBERS AND YOUR FAMILIES THE BEST OF THE SEASON AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR

As part of sharing the Christmas spirit with the local Ryde community the Guild has made and donated 20 Spindle kits to the local children of Ryde.



Prue has also shared her famous Christmas Punch which we enjoyed at the Christmas Party and the Guild has enjoyed at previous Christmas Parties over decades.

The original recipe from Prue's Mother in Brisbane, QLD.

Make a concentrate of:

- 1 large can of pineapple and orange juice (2L)
- 1 bottle of Schweppes lemon cordial (750ml)
- ½ bottle of Schweppes lime cordial (375ml)

- 3 large bottles of lemonade (1.1L bottle)
- 3 large bottles of ginger ale. (1.1 L bottle)

Ice, passionfruit (about 3), cucumber peel (1 English cucumber if you want to be authentic, or others will do).

To Serve:

Mix equal proportions of concentrate, lemonade, ginger ale and ice. Float cucumber peel and passionfruit in the punch bowl. If it is too sweet use soda water instead of lemonade.

We hope to see everyone back in the coming month for a great 2026!



Last Minute Gifts

If you need a last minute gift for a fibre lover why not get a Gift Voucher. They can be purchased on line at our website or in the shop tomorrow.



Other options are to purchase a class or workshop. This can be done on our website.

Christmas and New Year closure
The Guild will close on Saturday 20 December at 4 pm and reopen on Thursday 8 January 2026 at 10.30 am.

GUILD HAPPENINGS

COMMITTEE REPORT

Looking back on 2025, it has been a busy, complex, and challenging year, with many changes to members' lives and external forces reshaping how we do and think about things.

We thank everyone who participated in Guild activities in 2025, from volunteers in many ways to suppliers, accessors, tutors, supporters, and visitors.

Members Survey

To stay in touch with what members expect from their Guild now and into the future, we will be conducting a Survey in the new year. It will help shape strategy and provide guidance on members' needs.

We value all members' opinions, so please share your feedback when the survey is presented.

Learn more about how the Guild Committee works

To encourage members to consider serving on the Guild Committee, we are holding an in-person and Zoom Committee meeting on Tuesday, 13 January, and invite all who are considering joining the Committee to attend. A working lunch meeting will commence at 12 pm and conclude at 3 pm.

Before the meeting at 11 am meeting, we will hold a separate session to explain the legal aspects of serving on the Committee and to discuss the Rules, Bylaws, and position descriptions for the roles.

If you want to strengthen and grow the Guild, a team player, subscribe to consensus decision-making, and can spare at least 2 hours a month to attend committee meetings, joining the committee may be a good fit for you.

Nomination forms for the Committee will be sent in the new year.

Guild Meetings 2026

Good news: all of our bookings have been accepted so that Forster Hall will be open from 10.30 am – 4 pm on all Guild Meeting days. This will enable us to plan the meeting and mini workshops with confidence.

We are a volunteer-run Guild, and we need you to step up

We are really grateful for the tremendous work that members have volunteered over many years. The Guild can't function without this. In many cases, individuals have continuously provided their service for many years, and naturally, they need a break. We need more people to refresh our pool. The more people to share with, the more joyful it is.

GUILD CHRISTMAS PARTY

On the 29th of November, our Guild had its annual Christmas Party lunch and meeting. From the sweets and snacks brought in by our members to the show-and-tell and drawing of the raffle from the Spring Artisans Market.

We had a grand celebration to mark the end of a long yet exciting year. It was lovely to catch up with so many members. We wish everyone a merry Christmas and a happy New Year.

We hope to see everyone back in the coming month for a great 2026!



OCTOBER MEETING - INTRODUCTION TO BOBBIN LACE WITH ANNA BINNIE



Lyndall Dungarell and Hanan Hassan are making bobbin lace fish under the tutelage of Anna Binnie.

We now have a lace pillow, bobbins, and a collection of resources donated by Warrill Evans and Prue Hill, all available in the weaving room. Anna will also be creating a Lace Study group in 2026.

GUILD HAPPENINGS

COMMITTEE REPORT CONT.

We have the following positions filled as a priority. It would be great if we could get a team of at least two people to manage these roles, as it provides encouragement and breathing space for holidays and other commitments.

Guild News Editor – Thank you to Jen Roseman for her seamless dedication and brilliant style that she has provided to us as the editor of the Guild News for many years. It's now time for a new team. Jen has provided clear guidelines, and we have Canva, which is simple to use.

Convenors – Piece Weavers & WIG

Both Helen Halpin & Anne Lewis have provided guidance and encouragement so that our members' weaving journeys are enriched. Effective immediately, we need people to step up and convene these groups. It is the group's members' responsibility to ensure the group continues. Please reach out to the relevant convenor or Committee member if you think you can help.

Work Experience – Sarina

In early December, we hosted Sarina for a week of work experience facilitated and coordinated by Gina Sirabella. It was an enriching experience for all of us to have someone with a different outlook, experiences, and ways of doing things. Her contributions included helping with social media and the website, wrapping spindle gifts for the City of Ryde to drive sales, and styling the members' shop display. Sarina gained experience with us in a volunteer not-for-profit organisation and new crochet skills from Gina. It was a joy to have her at the Guild, and it is a good opportunity for us to do this in the future.

Membership

A gentle reminder that 2026 membership fees are due now. They are for the 2026 calendar year. A membership form is at the end of the Guild news.

We wish you all a festive and relaxing Christmas and New Year's Celebration.

– Your Committee

Catherine O'Keefe (President), Cheryl Fletcher (Treasurer), Suzanne Hayes (Secretary), Frances Campese, Jen Roseman, Gina Sirabella, Denise Stevens.

SPRING ARTISAN MARKET RAFFLE WINNERS

We are pleased to announce the winners of the 2025 Spring Artisans Market raffle.

\$200 voucher, Hand Weavers & Spinners Guild Shop – *Amanda Pearson*

100gm Alpaca rovings, Adagio Mills – *Lesley Hunt*

Handmade Journal, ATASDA – *Lesley Hunt*

\$20 Voucher, Button Rescue – *Kylie Bilney*

Rocky Road, Artisanal Chocolate – *Carl Murphy*

100 g of 20/2 hand dyed silk yarn, Elizabeth Calnan, Textiles, Looms & Spin Wheels – *Julie Cavenett*

3 x 100-gram skeins of hand-dyed yarn, Glenheaven Knits – *Sophie W-W*

2 x Handmade buttons, Lyrebird Yarns – *Carol Hearne*

100gm roving, Fibre Arts Shed – *Ann Conlon*

Skein of yak yarn, Sylvia Riley Designs – *Kim Bryant*

One skein of 100% alpaca yarn, Marlyn Alpacas – *Sandra*

\$20 voucher, The Shepherd's Choice *Kim*

Hand-dyed yarn, The Yarn Hub – *Jean Piddington*

1 printed pattern, Vera Loves Knitting – *Greg Hawthorn*

Felting Kit, Virginia Farm Wool Works *Rosalie Andrew*

Alicia Hidalgo, Hand-knit Elephant soft toy – *Irene Kwong*

Thank you to our wonderful vendors for supplying great prizes and to everyone who purchased tickets. All prize winners have been contacted and are in the process of picking up their winnings.



THANKYOU, FROM ALL OF US!

As 2025 comes to a close, we want to take a moment to thank and acknowledge the contributions of our members who selflessly volunteer, making the Guild a stronger, more fun, and more sustainable organisation for all members today and into the future.

Convenors of our active groups:

Braids Plus Group – Jo Lo
Fibre Lovers Craft Group – Jay Farrugia
Piece Weavers – Helen Halpin
Saturday Spinners – Ann Alexandra, Jay Farrugia
Tapestry Interest Group – Marie Clews
Temari – Rod Byatt
Tuesday Evening Spinners – Sylvia French & Marie Clews
Weavers' Interest Group – Anne Lewis
Twisted Book Club – Gina Sirabella

Library — Julie Jennings, Vicki Lowery, Kris Mobberly

Yarn Shop & Members Gallery — Joy Dodd, Barb Kerle, Carol Hearne, Catherine O'Keefe, Jessica Armstrong, Prue Hill, Robyn Hughes, Tya Cinantya.

Historical Officer of Brush Farm House — Tina Bean

Exhibition Coordinator — Gina Sirabella

Spring Artisans Market, Demonstrator & workshop volunteers — Ann Alexandra, Carol Hearne, Catherine O'Keefe, Frances Campese, Jay Farrugia, Gina Sirabella, Jess Armstrong, Joy Dodd, Linda Coffill, Margery Swift, Maria Chiodo, Caitlin Williams, Pamela Hood, Marilyn Peters, Melissa White, Robyn Hughes, Ariningsun Cinantya, Jo Lo, Kate Swan, Amanda Pearson, Julie Cavanett, Anastasia Charles, Fancie Gaudie, Vicki Lowery, and our friends from the network groups.

Marketing — Catherine O'Keefe, Grace Waldemar, Sophia Warnecke

Tour de fleece & Guild members Facebook Page, International Scarf Exchange — Frances Campese

Membership Secretary — Barb Kerle

Returning Officer — Kris Mobberly

Certificate of Hand Spinning — Suzanne Hayes

Certificate of Spinning Mentors & Accessors — Cheryl Fletcher, Diana Kearney, Pamela Murray, Liz Calnan, Wendy Campbell.

Certificate of Hand Weaving — Liz Calnan, Marie Clews, David le Cheminant, Anne Lewis, Denise Warren

Equipment Officer — Prue Hill

President — Catherine O'Keefe

Secretary — Prue Hill, Suzanne Hayes, Tina Bean

Treasurer — Cheryl Fletcher

Committee members — Denise Stevens, Frances Campese, Gina Sirabella, Jay Farrugia, Jen Roseman, Melissa White,

Guild News Editor — Jen Roseman.

Brush Farm House Volunteer — Peter Davis

Public Officer — Prue Hill

Website — Catherine O'Keefe, Alex Warnecke

We apologise to anyone we may have missed, but we are grateful.

The Guild values your contribution, and we hope you have a very Merry Christmas, a Happy New Year, and a great 2026.

GUILD HAPPENINGS

GUILD WORKSHOPS AND CLASSES

The Guild offers weaving, hand-spinning, braiding and other craft workshops throughout the year. Keep informed by visiting our [website](#). Book early to secure your place, as spots fill quickly.

As we enter 2026, sign up for our classes for fun or as a New Year's resolution to learn something new.

Starting 1 Feb – **Beginner Spinning** with Wendy Campbell, weekly for 4 weeks, choose from a Morning class 9.30 am–12.30 pm or Afternoon class 6.30 pm–9.30 pm

Starting 4 Feb – **4 Shaft weaving for beginners** with Liz Calnan, weekly for 6 weeks. choose from Morning class 9.30 am–12.30 pm or An evening class 6.30 pm–9.30 pm

Starting 7 Feb – **Learn Macrame** with Sarah Ho, weekly for 4 weeks. Morning class 10.30 am–12.30 pm

Starting 4 March – **Beginner Tapestry Weaving** with Marie Clews, weekly for 4 weeks. Morning class 10.30 am–12.30 pm

There are also many rigid heddle classes, nearly one a month with Maria Chiodo teaching. She is looking to expand the offering so stay tuned for details.

Please suggest things and tutors you would like to learn from and we will contact them. learn@spinweavensw.org.



Jared and Daniel with their nearly completed scarves. As they didn't finish on the day of the class they came back and completed their weaving over a couple of Saturdays in the weaving room. Now they are members we look forward to seeing them in the Guild.

IN THE GUILD SHOP

The Guild shop is brimming with good things for Christmas & the New Year!

- Lots of lovely new **4ply Bendigo Luxury** in delicious colours; ready for use in weaving courses.
- New yummy **sari silk fibre** in multi colour & some in red & some in gorgeous blue/turquoise
- Plus **merino/silk blend fibre** & a little pure merino, all from Fibre Arts Shed.
- Still some expertly handspun yarn in the shop & in the exhibition space; so tempting!
- Unbelievably reduced priced **KPC cotton**, mostly Chunky & a few colours remaining in 4ply and also a few merino/cotton blend balls, really nice to weave & to knit!
- And the best Australian wool yarn – from **White Gum Wool**, discounted for members: 25% off all balls, including 4ply, 5ply, and 8ply.
- 100gm Hanks of 2/20's silk yarn at \$24.
- More *Inspired to Spin* books in stock - \$95.
- Spindles - top whorl, light weight \$15.00
- Some second-hand weaving equipment – warping boards, 4 shaft loom, Ashford Traditional Spinning wheels and coming soon, some electric spinning wheels.

We've had a great year enjoying stocking the shop and tempting you to keep your stash growing, and we hope you have had a wonderful time spinning with your fibre & weaving with your yarns & lots of other crafty activities.

Thank you to Catherine O'Keefe, Robyn Hughes, Prue Hill, Barb Kerle, Sophie & Alex – who have all helped with the shop in various ways during the year.

Joy Dodd

Shop Induction

If you would like to learn how the shop works, we have an induction on Saturday 10 Jan at 12 for 30 mins. All welcome, no booking required.

VALE HELEN FROSTELL – 12 DECEMBER 2025, 92 YEARS

REMEMBERING HELEN FROSTELL – A WONDERFUL WEAVER

Helen Frostell was renowned for her exceptional weaving skills. Every item she created was not only beautifully finished but also demonstrated meticulous attention to detail and outstanding craftsmanship. Her pieces stood out for their quality and the care she invested in each stage of the weaving process.

I have cherished memories of engaging in conversations about weaving with Helen during Guild meetings. Our discussions were always insightful and inspiring. Additionally, I was fortunate to have Helen as a fellow student in multiple weaving workshops held at the Textile Fibre Forum in Mittagong. These experiences deepened my appreciation for both her skill and her willingness to share knowledge.

One particular workshop, tutored by Margaret Mecchia, remains vivid in my memory. During this session, Margaret provided each participant with a colourful warp and encouraged us to select our own threading and weft yarns to create a scarf. Helen received a warp in vibrant reds.

She thoughtfully explored different options for the weft, ultimately choosing a brown yarn. This decision transformed the boldness of the red warp, resulting in a beautifully balanced scarf. Helen was delighted with the outcome, and the experience left a lasting impression on me. I have never forgotten how effectively the colour brown can complement and mellow the intensity of red.

Helen Halpin

Helen Frostell was an accomplished weaver and member of the Guild, the Journeyman group that met at Many Vale, and the Society of Arts and Crafts NSW, and will be missed.

A service for Helen will be held in the Magnolia Chapel, Macquarie Park Crematorium, on Monday, 22nd December at 1 pm.

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Helen Frostell in her cape using false double weave, 1999.



Ends 'n Picks Competition

Congratulations to Joy Dodd who won the prize for the Best Wrap in the Hand Weavers & Spinners Guild of Victoria Ends 'n Picks competition.

The wrap is available for sale in the Guild Shop if you would like it.



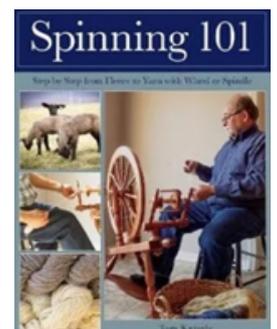
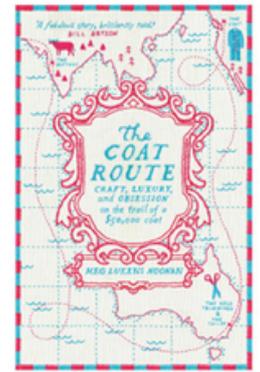
YOUR GUILD LIBRARY

What's new in the Guild Library?

Members are welcome to visit the library whenever the Guild is open. Even if no library volunteer is on duty, members can still borrow following the instructions on the desk next to the computer. Browsing of the collection is possible anywhere through a web browser. Any questions, please email us at library@spinweavensw.org.

Recently, the Guild's **Twisted Book Club** chose *The Coat Route*, by Meg Lukens Noonan. The book pieces together the creation of the coat in question, tracing its elements to their far-flung sources, from the remote mountains of Peru, where villagers shear vicunas—whose soft fleece is more coveted and rare than the finest cashmere—to the fabulous Florentine headquarters of Stefano Ricci, the world's greatest silk designer; from the family-owned French fabric house Dormeuil, founded in 1842, to the 150-year-old English button-making firm that creates the ne plus ultra of fasteners out of Indian water-buffalo horn and the workshop of the master hand engraver who makes the eighteen-karat gold plaque that hangs inside the coat's collar. We meet the dapper son-in-law of an Australian wine baron who commissions the coat's creation, and we come to know John Cutler, one of the two bespoke tailors in the world, who works his magic with scissors and thread out of his Sydney shop.

The book is now available in the library for members to enjoy following the route of this wonderful coat.



Recent Purchases

Spinning 101 by Tom Knisely

Tom has been teaching introductory spinning for over 30 years. This book introduces the reader to fleeces, washing and preparing the fleece, parts of the wheel, spinning and plying. Lots of colour photos make Tom's instructions easy to follow.



Yarn spinning with a modern twist: how to create your own gorgeous yarns using a drop spindle by Vanessa Kroening

The book covers cleaning and preparing fleece, carding, blending colours, making rolags and batts and spinning the yarn.

Amazing circular weaving; little loom techniques, patterns and projects for complete beginners by Emily Nicolaides

Step-by-step tutorials for more than 30 projects. The book covers tools and materials, warping a hoop, projects for the home, such as rugs and coasters and projects for wall hangings.



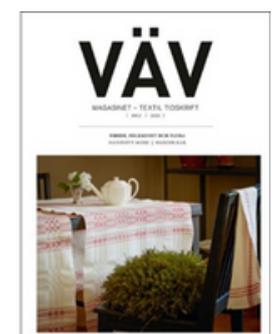
Magazines

Väv no, 2 2025

Articles in this issue include:

Tapestry Blooming by Bauch, Lisa – uses images from Norwegian traditional weaving and nature.

Anna Karin Arnberg explains how, in Floda, a kind of blanket called an Aklade was traditionally woven in different techniques. The blanket is woven in two long pieces that are sewn together in the middle.



Little Looms - In response to the interest in rigid heddle weaving, we will now have a subscription to Little Looms. This will commence with the issue in January 2026.

Handwoven – Summer 2025

Going on Vacation:

11 warm-weather projects

A drapery hemp tunic to weave and sew

An ancient Cat Hair rug

A pattern for a Shoreline Shawl (pictured on cover)

Plus:

Instructions for weaving colourful towels using handweaving.net's Draft Editor to virtually thread the loom with alternating colours: one brightly coloured and one navy, changing the brightly coloured one for each square.



PLY Issue 50, Autumn 2025 'Plants'.

This issue delves into spinning with different plant fibres, such as:

This article contains information on Cotton vs other plant types, Twist for cotton, Twist for bast fibres, Ramie, Flax & Hemp and observations and conclusions.

An article by Jacey Boggs Faulkner called 'Spin It!: When a Blend isn't Quite a Blend' makes for an interesting read. Blending different fibres, such as merino + Tussah silk + flax.



Spin Off – Fall 2025

Articles in this issue include:

- Spinner's Toolbox - Useful Tools, Plain & Fancy
- Start Here: Fibre-Prep Tool Guide
- Colorwork: Spin to Knit a Colourful Yoke
- 4 Preps from One Drumcarder

We have many more magazine subscriptions, including WEFT, Piecework, Spindle & Dyepot (USA Guild), The Journal from the Association of Guilds of Weavers, Spinners and Dyers UK.



We encourage members to come and borrow some books and magazines for their summer reading.

Happy reading,

Julie, Kris & Vicki

GUILD INTEREST GROUPS

TAPESTRY INTEREST GROUP

We meet monthly via zoom on the 3rd Tuesday afternoon when we have a PowerPoint presentation and question time.

We are in the process of planning an exhibition for 2027.

In person meetings are held monthly on the 2nd Wednesday from 10.30am. Anyone is welcome to join us.

If anyone would like to join us on zoom please contact Marie at mariepclews@gmail.com for the link.

Next zoom meeting is Tuesday 17 February 2026

Next in person meeting at Brush Farm House is Wednesday 11 February 2026

FIBRE CREATIVES - SOCIAL GROUP

We welcome all textile crafters, including stitchers, spinners, weavers, knitters, crocheters and everything else textile-related. Come and join us.

Dates for 2026: same as last year. 2nd Thursday and 4th Thursday of the month, 12-3 pm

GUILD INTEREST GROUPS

TWISTED BOOKCLUB 2026: WHERE LITERATURE & TEXTILES INTERTWINE

The Twisted Bookclub invites you to embark on a creative journey in 2026, meeting every second month on the 3rd Sunday—starting **January 18th**, then March 15th, May 17th, and so on. Whether you're a weaver, spinner, knitter or simply a lover of stories and stitches, this is the club for you!

What Makes Twisted Bookclub Unique

The Twisted Bookclub is more than just a reading group. Each book we select is linked to the world of textiles, but our exploration goes far beyond the page. We dive into the themes and techniques described in our chosen books, and members are encouraged to interpret these ideas through their own textile creations.

Sunday January 18th 2025

We're thrilled with our first book for the new year: **The Dress Diary: Secrets from a Victorian Woman's Wardrobe** by Kate Strasdin. This fascinating read offers a glimpse into the life and creativity of a Victorian woman through her dress diary, providing plenty of inspiration for discussion and textile interpretation.

Why Join?

- **Enrich Your Reading Experience:** Delve deeper into each book by exploring its connections to textile arts.
- **Creative Inspiration:** Let the stories and techniques spark new ideas for your own projects.
- **Community Engagement:** Connect with fellow guild members who share your love of literature and textiles.
- **Skill Development:** Learn new textile techniques and approaches from the insights and projects shared by other members.
- **Support and Encouragement:** Enjoy a supportive environment where you can share your work and be inspired by others.

How to Join

RSVP by emailing us at hello@spinweavensw.org and we'll add you to our distribution list. Meetings will be held both in-person and via Zoom. We will be meeting on January 18th, where we'll dive into *The Dress Diary* and begin our journey of literary and textile exploration. We can't wait to see the creative projects and lively discussions that will emerge from our shared love of books and textiles. Join us and help weave a new narrative—one as colourful and intricate as the textiles we create together!

SATURDAY SPINNERS

Saturday Spinning group is a social group which meets every Saturday afternoon from 12-3:45pm with the exception of the last Saturday of the month when we are attending the Guild meeting and spinning. In 2026 we will plan a specified group activity (such as dyeing, blending fibres, spinning techniques, etc) for those who wish to participate. We welcome all participants and encourage all fibre related activity and chatter.

WEAVERS INTEREST GROUP (WIG)

The Weavers' Interest Group (WIG) continued to meet this year – mainly over Zoom but also face-to-face at Brush Farm in combined meetings with Piece Weavers in May and September.

In May we had our usual meeting on the Saturday and then those that were interested met again on the Sunday when Maria Chiodo and Marilyn Peters provided guidance and tips on sewing garments with handwoven cloth.

The WIG continues to be popular with Guild weavers with more than a dozen people attending most meetings. While many of these are established members of the group, we have also had some newcomers this year, including new weavers, which is great. Those that live more remotely and who struggle to get to Sydney for meetings are particularly grateful for the opportunity that the on-line WIG meetings provide for information exchange.

After many years convening the group, I have decided to step down from the role as of November this year. Hopefully, someone will be keen to take on the role and keep this group going.

Anne Lewis

GUILD INTEREST GROUPS

'UNRAVELING': A NEW CREATIVE GROUP AT THE GUILD

Want to break free from tradition, explore new ideas, and let your curiosity lead the way? The Handweavers and Spinners Guild of NSW is excited to announce the formation of a new group: Unraveling.



playtime@the house, no rules, fostering curiosity and experimentation!

Unraveling is all about play, exploration, and pushing boundaries in fibre arts. No matter what rabbit hole you have jumped down, weaver, spinner, dyer, embroiderer, knitter, or whatever, then join us - there are no rules—just a welcoming space to experiment, share, and grow together.

What to Expect

- **Monthly Meetups:** Our first meeting will be Sunday 11th January, at Brush Farm House, where we can agree best meeting time to suit us as a group moving forward.
- **Open-Ended Creativity:** Bring your wildest ideas, working projects, or materials you've always wanted to try. There's no set agenda for our initial kick off session—just a spirit of play and discovery, so we can shape how this group moves forward together.
- **Collaborative Learning:** Share techniques, swap stories, and inspire each other. Whether you're a beginner or a seasoned maker, everyone's contribution is valued.
- **Supportive Community:** Unraveling is a safe space to take creative risks, ask questions, bounce ideas and celebrate both successes and happy accidents.

Get Involved

If the idea of "playtime@the house" excites you, and you're keen to contribute and grow with a group of like-minded makers, we'd love to hear from you! Please email us your expression of interest at hello@spinweavensw.org. —tell us a bit about your creative passions, and what you hope to explore with Unraveling.

Let's unravel the possibilities together!

EXTREME SPINNING: A RADICAL INVITATION

Are you ready to take your spinning wheel or spindle out of the studio and into the wild?

Join us for Extreme Spinning — a bold, creative movement where we gather monthly at unexpected, inspiring locations to spin in the spirit of adventure. Whether it's a windswept cliff, a bustling city square, a quiet forest glade, or a rooftop with a view — if you can carry your wheel or spindle there, it's fair game.

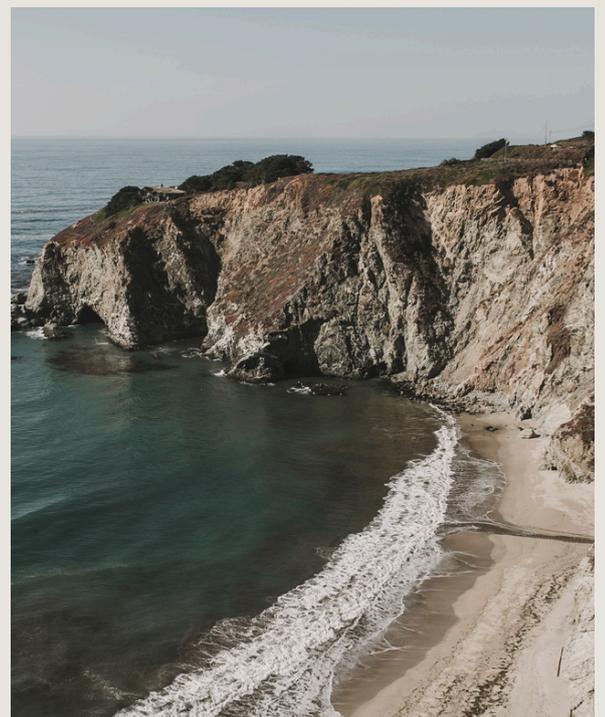
- **Meetups:** 4th Sunday of each month, starting on the 25th January 2025
- **Time:** 10:00 AM
- **Location:** Revealed via SMS to registered spinners

How to join?

Register your interest at hello@spinweavensw.org and you'll be added to our SMS distribution list. Each month, you'll receive the secret location where we'll gather to spin, connect, and capture the spirit of making in motion.

Let's spin stories, yarns, and memories — in places that challenge and inspire us.

Bring your wheel. Bring your courage. Spin boldly.



GUILD INTEREST GROUPS

PIECE WEAVERS

Join the weavers who sew their cloth into garments and accessories

A small group of weavers joined the last Zoom meeting on 9 November 2025.

Looking back over 2025, I was delighted at the number of garments that have been made. I apologise if I have left anyone out of this list.

Marie made two jackets from fabric woven off on a warp that was on a newly-acquired loom; Maria, a Jacket In 100% Cotton which won a prize in the Any Garment Made From Handwoven Cloth category at Royal Easter Show; Joy, a simple jacket for the North Shore Craft Group show in July and Marilyn's finished her Lambswool Hoodie in a check fabric in tan and rust colours. There was also a skirt by Joy, a vest by Anne, a vest by Tracey and a ruana by Rory. Several of the garments were in the Crossing Boundaries exhibition at the Guild in Aug/Sept. I have included a photo of Maria's cotton jacket.

I have decided to step down as coordinator of this Group. I have enjoyed the role however I have been doing it for several years now. I hope that somebody else is inspired to take on the role and keep Piece Weavers going. If you are interested and have any questions, please get in touch with me.

Happy weaving to everyone
Helen Halpin email: hhalpin64@gmail.com



TEMARI

The Temari Group meets usually on the third Sunday of each month, but is subject to participant availability. We next meet definitively on Sunday 21 December 2025 and Sunday 18 January 2026, and prospectively on Sunday 15 Feb, 15 March and 19 April 2026.

Dates are yet to be confirmed among the participants and will be made available after our next meeting.

Caring responsibilities, age-related issues and medical procedures have negatively impacted on attendance this year so we are five regular participants currently.

The competency level of participants has moved this year from Intermediate to Advanced, with our most recent participant improving rapidly.

Rod Byatt



BRAIDS +

We are looking to make changes to the group in 2026 and encourage you to let us know what you would like to do.

We are considering moving to Saturday so we can make better use of the facilities.

CAMPS, MUSTERS & RETREATS 2026

We now have a section in the Guild News where we feature the retreats and camps that are available to attend.

The 31st Berry Yandiah - Friday, 6th March to Monday, 9th March, 2026

Waterslea, Koloona Drive, North Nowra

Rosalie and Cheryl are looking forward to seeing all our fellow campers and welcome our new campers for the 31st Annual Yandiah at Waterslea for our peaceful weekend of R&R.

Bring your spinning - weaving - knitting and UFO's or any other fibre craft you choose. Also, items of work, finished or not, for the display tables. Sparkies don't forget your power board and lead. Can you demonstrate? if so please let us know on your application form, half an hour of your time is the usual.

Saturday evening, we are going **MAD HATTERS**

- The price for the weekend is \$300.00 all meals included.
- You will need to bring sheets, pillowslips, and/or sleeping bags, and name badges. Blankets are provided and accommodation is shared.
- Arrival time from 5 pm. Friday (no earlier), Departure time 9am Monday with rooms cleared by 8am.
- Day Ladies (Saturday only) includes Morning Tea, Lunch, Afternoon Tea and Dinner \$65.00
- Dye Pots available all weekend - bring fibre, due to popularity of the dyeing, a roster system will be in place to enable everyone to play with the dyes
- Trevor Passmore for equipment servicing work and Wendy from Virginia Farm Woolworks will be with us, those campers who have items for sale are welcome.
- Registrations by 31st January, 2026 please.
- Payment should accompany all applications Direct Deposit preferred to: BSB: 802 124, Account #100113861, Account Name: Yandiah & please email a copy of the remittance advice to cheryl@fractured.com.au
- Please make cheques payable to: Berry Yandiah, C/- Mrs. C. Fletcher, P.O. Box 2181, TOMERONG NSW2540

For further information, please contact : Rosalie Andrew on 0418 407 959 or Cheryl Fletcher on 0408 161 177 or email cheryl@fractured.com.au. Email for an application form.

40th BURRENDONG Spinning Muster - Friday 12 – 15 June 2026

In 2026 we will celebrate the 40th anniversary of the Burrendong Spinning Muster and the theme is Ruby.

Venue: Burrendong Sport and Recreation Facility. Arrive on Friday after 3 pm and depart after breakfast on Monday.

It's is an enjoyable weekend where you can relax, talk, spin or knit or do nothing if you feel like it. The area is beautiful area, and you can enjoy lovely walks around the lake or visit the Arboretum. Inside it is cosy and warm with a new heating system and an open fire is kept stoked all weekend and all food is included for the weekend.

We will have a handmade gift exchange to celebrate and suggest you make small items to exchange like socks, mittens or beanie. Also, it would be great if you could were an item in the colour of Ruby over the weekend.

We will have a Show and Tell so bring what you have made over the last 12 months.

The approximate cost will be about \$380 but we will confirm this closer to the date. There will also be rates for day and 1 or 2 nights as well.

More information will be forthcoming and if you would like to secure your spot email Rory Meyer at rmeyer174@bigpond.com

Tamworth Spinners & Weavers Guild – Crafty Camp - Lake Keepit 11 – 13 September 2026

It is held at **Lake Keepit Sport and Recreation Centre.**

We have demonstrations, how to sessions, dyeing vats, trader tables and on Saturday evening a Show and Tell.

Apart from spending time and sharing skills with other campers and best of all is the setting at Lake Keepit. It is nothing short of spectacular with views out over the lake, pelicans flying over and native gardens. The accommodation at camp has shared or private rooms, with full catering that will cater to any dietary need.

The cost for 2025 was \$250, price for 2026 will be confirmed closer to the date
Stay tuned for more details.

If you have other camps and retreats you would like to promote please send the details to guildnews@spinweavensw.org.



"Gathering 2026"

Central Coast Hand Weavers, Spinners and Textile Arts Guild inc
would like to invite you to the 2026 gathering.

Date: June 18 2026

Venue: Wyong Golf Club
319 Pacific Hwy
Wyong

Time: 10am

We will contact you regarding the competitions that will be on offer in the near future. The Gatherings are a great opportunity for like-minded crafters to get together and showcase the many talents we share.

We hope to see you there.

34TH SCARF EXCHANGE



Frances double and triple checking the dispatch details.

We have 40 parcels of fibre winging their way all over Australia and to Wales and Scotland as well.

You can expect them in the next 10 days.

There were many and varied types of fibre presented, so your creativity will be released.

If you have any issues or questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at the Guild.

Frances Campese

SOUTH COAST FIBRE MUSTER 2026

Wool Road Spinners & Weavers, with help from Nowra Spinners & Weavers, will host the biennial South Coast Fibre Muster on Saturday 1 and Sunday 2 August 2026 at Berry School of Arts, 19 Alexander St, Berry NSW.

Further information and registration details will be available in January 2026

Contact: fibremuster26@gmail.com

DIARY DATES 2025 & 2026

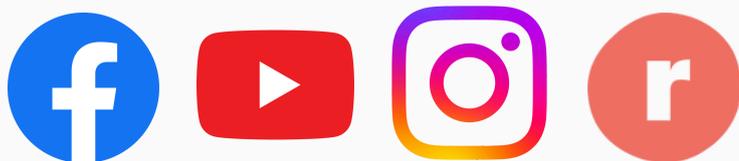
DECEMBER 2025

20 Last day before Christmas closure

JANUARY 2026

- 08 Guild reopens
- 08 Fibre Creatives - Social group
- 10 Saturday Spinners
- 11 Piece Weavers Group (TBC)
- 11 Unravelling - New interest group
- 13 Tuesday Evening Spin & Chat (TBC)
- 17 Saturday Spinners
- 18 Temari Group
- 18 Twisted Book Club
- 20 Tapestry Interest Group (TIG)
- 22 Fibre Creatives - Social group
- 24 Saturday Spinners
- 25 Temari Group
- 25 Extreme Spinning
- 31 Guild Meeting

SOCIAL MEDIA



We also have a new members Facebook page. Visit us and see what's happening!

facebook.com/groups/847195610683747

NEW PO BOX FOR THE GUILD

Our Mailing address has changed! It is:

PO Box 3829,
Marsfield NSW 2122.

Don't worry, if you have sent any mail to our previous address, we have a 12-month redirection to our new address. We changed as the Burwood Post Office closed, as it was being redeveloped.

GUILD CONTACT DETAILS

Brush Farm House
19 Lawson St, Eastwood
PO Box 3829, Marsfield NSW 2122
P: 0427 198 628
E: hello@spinweavensw.org
Car: Enter via the Corrective Services driveway.
Visitor Parking at the rear.
Bus: Eastwood Station Stand A Bus 545 or 521
Parramatta Station Bus 521
Open Wednesday, Thursday & Saturday 10.30 am - 4 pm
www.spinweavensw.org

GUILD COMMITTEE

Office Bearers

President: Catherine O'Keefe
president@spinweavensw.org
Treasurer: Cheryl Fletcher
treasurer@spinweavensw.org
Secretary: Suzanne Hayes
secretary@spinweavensw.org

Committee Members:

Tina Bean, Frances Campese, Prue Hill,
Jen Roseman, Gina Sirabella, Denise
Stevens
committee@spinweavensw.org

Guild Officers

Equipment Officer: Prue Hill
equipment@spinweavensw.org
9973 3022

CEHS Registrar: Suzanne Hayes
learn@spinweavensw.org

CCHW Registrar: Anne Lewis
learn@spinweavensw.org

Guild Shop: Joy Dodd
shop@spinweavensw.org 0437 404 254

Exhibitions: Gina Sirabella
hello@spinweavensw.org

Workshops: learn@spinweavensw.org

Library: Julie Jennings, Vicki Lowery &
Kris Mobberley
library@spinweavensw.org

Publicity, Marketing & Events:
Catherine O'Keefe, Frances Campese
hello@spinweavensw.org

Membership Secretary: Barbara Kerle
membership@spinweavensw.org
9816 5321

Mini-workshops: Committee
Public Officer: Prue Hill

Returning Officer: Kris Mobberley

Archivist: Pat Feehelly

Historical Officer: Tina Bean

Judges Convenor: Cheryl Fletcher &
Denise Stevens

GUILD NEWS

Editor: Committee

The *Guild News* is bi-monthly, with a *Mini Guild News* sent via email every other month.

Next deadline: 5 February 2026

Email: guildnews@spinweavensw.org

Opinions expressed in correspondence in this newsletter are not those of the editor or the Management Committee.

Print Post Approved

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Royal Agricultural Society of NSW

2026 Sydney Royal Easter Show – Entries are open

Entries are open, and over the holiday season, why not plan yours? The classes are below, and schedules are available in the link.

FELTING

Maximum of one entry per Class.

THE FOLLOWING INSTRUCTIONS APPLY TO ALL FELTING CLASSES;

- Size Limit: Rugs must be no larger than 180cm x 180cm.
- Classes 155-157 may include wet felting, nuno felting and/or needle felting.

(S675) - Cash Prize for the best use of innovative felting techniques in Classes 155 to 158, supported by Hand Weavers and Spinners Guild of NSW Inc. Prize \$50

(S680) - Cash Prize for the Exhibit that best expresses a sense of place in Felting Classes 155 to 158, supported by Hand Weavers and Spinners Guild of NSW Inc. Prize \$50

CLASS 155 - Wearable hand felted garment, such as a coat or vest, using any fibre. Prize 1st \$50

CLASS 156 - Hand felted. Bag, hat, footwear or handwear. Prize 1st \$50

CLASS 157 - Any hand-felted item not listed above. Prize 1st \$50

CLASS 158 - Any item made using commercially prepared felt. Prize 1st \$50

HAND WEAVING

Maximum of one entry per Class.

THE FOLLOWING INSTRUCTIONS APPLY TO ALL HAND WEAVING CLASSES;

- All garments in Hand Weaving and Spinning Classes must be made up by the Exhibitor.
- Any article entered for Exhibition in this section must not have been worn or used.

(S690) - The Isabel Watt Memorial Perpetual Trophy, donated by Virginia Watt, in memory of her mother, for the most outstanding Exhibit in design and execution in Hand Weaving Classes.

Previous Winners:

2023 - Ms Joy Dodd

2024 - Ms Pamela Hood

2025 - Mrs Jessica Norris

(S695) - Cash Prize for the fabric with the best hand in Hand Weaving Classes 162 and 163, supported by Hand Weavers and Spinners Guild of NSW Inc. Prize \$50

(S700) - Cash Prize for the most innovative use of fibre in Hand Weaving Classes 162 to 167, supported by Hand Weavers and Spinners Guild of NSW Inc. Prize \$50

CLASS 162 - Any handwoven accessory (shawl, stole, scarf). Not including a wearable garment/piece of clothing. Prize 1st \$50

CLASS 163 - Any garment made from handwoven cloth. This Class is judged on weaving technique, suitability of cloth for garment, styling and finishing techniques. Prize 1st \$50 Cash prize supported by Hand Weavers and Spinners Guild of NSW Inc. Prize 1st \$50

CLASS 164 - Woven tapestry or any soft furnishing/manchester (cushion, rug, placemat, table runner, wall hanging). Prize 1st \$50

CLASS 165 - Any handwoven article/garment or any weaving 'expression' using a rigid heddle loom or Saori loom. The article or weaving 'expression' will be judged on choice of yarn, overall design, and use of colour Prize 1st \$50 Cash prize supported by Hand Weavers and Spinners Guild of NSW Inc. Prize 1st \$50

CLASS 166 - Any band weaving, narrow warp-faced, braid, card or inkle weaving. Prize 1st \$50 Cash prize supported by Hand Weavers and Spinners Guild of NSW Inc. Prize 1st \$50

CLASS 167 - Any constructed/assembled accessory from handwoven fabric (handbag, eyeglasses case, etc.). Not including a wearable garment/piece of clothing. Prize 1st \$50 Cash prize supported by Hand Weavers and Spinners Guild of NSW Inc. Prize 1st \$50

SPINNING

Maximum of one entry per Class.

THE FOLLOWING INSTRUCTIONS APPLY TO ALL SPINNING CLASSES:

- Definition: WPI is defined as wraps per inch (2.5cm).
- Presentation: All yarns and skeins must be washed free of grease and dirt.

(S715) - Cash Prize for the most innovative use of fibre in Spinning Classes 172 to 176, supported by Hand Weavers and Spinners Guild of NSW Inc. Prize \$50

(S720) - Cash Prize for the most textured yarn in Spinning Classes 172 to 176, supported by Hand Weavers and Spinners Guild of NSW Inc. Prize \$50

CLASS 172 - Skein of your hand-spun, plied yarn, 18+ WPI. Not less than 50 grams, washed free of grease. Exhibitor to state intended use. Prize 1st \$50 Cash Prize supported by Spinners Haven. Prize 1st \$50

CLASS 173 - Skein of your hand-spun, plied yarn, 17 or fewer WPI. Not less than 50 grams, no knots. Exhibitor to state intended use. Prize 1st \$50 Cash Prize supported by Spinners Haven. Prize 1st \$50

CLASS 174 - Skein of yarn spun and plied entirely using a drop or support spindle, 17 or fewer WPI.

Not less than 50 grams, but may include up to 3 knots. Exhibitor to state intended use. Prize 1st \$50

CLASS 175 - Skein of your hand-spun art yarn. Not less than 50 grams, washed. Yarn must be spun using an artisan spinning technique, including but not limited to beehives, coils, tailspinning, cospinning, cocoons, bouclé, spiral, snarl, knot or tufted. Prize 1st \$50

CLASS 176 - One article made entirely from your hand-spun plied yarn, either knitted or crocheted, using any fibre or combination of fibres. Exhibitors to state what fibre they have used and include a sample of the fibre/s stated. A 25cm sample length used in the article must be attached to the Exhibit. Presentation, judging, and display may be on a simple lightweight frame or support to ensure the integrity of the yarn. Prize 1st \$50 Cash Prize supported by Spinners Haven. Prize 1st \$50

If you are looking for more information how you should present your skeins Shannon Williams a very talented and experienced spinner has created an excellent resource.

Shannon Williams - Colour City Textiles - Preparing Skeins for Competitions - You Tube

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0hWQrTkPb9E>

Important Information: Before you Enter

Thoroughly review the Class descriptions and regulations to ensure your stunning creations align with the competition criteria.

Be aware of any updates for 2026; reading all materials carefully is crucial.

The Schedule provides essential details, including entry conditions, fees, and instructions for the delivery and collection of your exhibits.

Download the 2026 Schedule: [Arts and Crafts](#)

KEY DATES - 2025 & 2026

Month	Day	Activity	Location
December	20	Christmas Close	Eastwood
January	8	Guild Opens	Eastwood
	31 (Hall 10:30 am - 4 pm)	Guild Meeting	Eastwood
February	28 (Hall 10:30 am - 4 pm)	Guild Meeting	Eastwood
March	28 (Hall 10:30 am - 4 pm)	Guild Meeting & New members welcome	Eastwood
April	2-13	Sydney Royal Easter Show	Homebush
	18	AGM - Zoom	Eastwood
May	7-9	Craft Alive	Newcastle
	28-30	Craft Alive	Hawkesbury
	30 (Hall 10:30 am - 4 pm)	Stash Buster Day	Eastwood
	30	International Scarf Exchange received	Eastwood
June	6-27	International Scarf Exchange Exhibition	Eastwood
	27 (Hall 10:30 am - 4 pm)	Guild Meeting	Eastwood
July	15-18	Craft & Quilt Show	ICC, Sydney
	17-19	Australian Sheep & Wool Show	Bendigo, VIC
	25 (Hall 10:30 am - 4 pm)	Guild Meeting	Eastwood
August	29	Spring Artisans Market	Eastwood
September	19	International Spin in Public Day	Top Ryde S/C & around the state
	26 (Hall 10:30 am - 4 pm)	Guild Meeting & New Members Welcome	Eastwood
October	31 (Hall 10:30 am - 4 pm)	Guild Meeting	Eastwood
November	5-7	Craft Alive	Orange
	28 (Hall 10:30 am - 4 pm)	Guild Christmas Party	Eastwood
December	19	Christmas Close	Eastwood



www.spinweavensw.org
membership@spinweavensw.org
PO Box 3829, Marsfield NSW 2122

2026 Individual Membership Application

EMAIL OR POST THIS APPLICATION FORM TO THE GUILD WITH YOUR PAYMENT OF \$63.75
Membership 1 January 2026 – 31 December 2026. New memberships after 1 October 2025 are Valid for all of 2026.

NEW **RENEWAL**

Name

Address:

Street address		Apt/Unit #

Suburb	State	Postcode

Phone:

Email:

Annually, we publish a member directory. To be in this directory, you need to opt in for each detail you agree to have published.

Name	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
Address	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
Telephone number	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
Email	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>

Record Our Outreach: Have you demonstrated in the community last year? Give details:

Do you belong to other Spinning, Weaving, Felting, Dyeing or Textile Groups? Please list below.

What skills do you have that you would be prepared to volunteer Please list below.

By applying for membership, you agree to abide by the Rules of the Guild (April 2024) and Bylaws 2024

Date:

- Payment by direct deposit is preferred.** Direct deposit Account Name: Hand Weavers and Spinners Guild of NSW Inc, BSB: 112879 Account number: 043707452. Include your name, and membership type.
- Cheque** – made out to *Hand Weavers and Spinners Guild of NSW*
- Credit card, credit card charges will be on charged** Membership \$63.75 + \$1.50 fee = \$65.25 - Membership & Posted Guild News = \$80 + \$1.75 fee = \$80.75. Card Type: Visa or MasterCard

Card number

Expiry date

CSV

For Office use only: Date received Receipt #..... Sent to database:..... MailChimp..... Library.....

Amount paid \$ Payment Type(circle) Bank Deposit CC Cheque # Cash Money order # Gift Voucher#

Link to Rules and ByLaws 2024 <https://www.dropbox.com/scl/fi/kilboa8n7q7xt1mq3ndbi/HWSG-NSWInc.-Rules-Bylaws.pdf?rlkey=bxxk3h2m1pb47cqfrovqewbu&st=k9st5nrm&dl=0>