

April 2025

There were really positive vibes at both the April Saturday Meeting and the Sunday Workshop.

On Saturday morning Nicky Footer ran another in-house workshop on Solar Dyeing. Ten members each filled three Kilner jars of either fleece or yarn with their choice of dyes. To view the progress of the dyeing they have been encouraged to bring their jars back over the next few months.

Thank you so much, Nicky, for the effort and time you put in both prior to the workshop and on the day, giving those members who attended such an enjoyable experience.



The wide choice of dyes available

Nicky's solar dyed yarn in the process of being crocheted.



Solar Dyeing Workshop in progress.



The Guild Competition in April was the Harold Woodrow trophy for any member who has not previously won a Guild competition.

The winner was Patti Craighead for her handspun, handknitted waistcoat and the runner up Jane Powell for her felted rug.



Nicky (our Chairperson) presenting the trophies to Patti (on the left) wearing her waistcoat and Jane (on the right). Her patterned rug can be seen on the table behind.



In the afternoon on Saturday, our speaker, **Alison Ellen**, gave us a very enlightening talk about **'Stitch-led design in Knitting'**. We were shown how the power of knitted stitches can create an amazing variety of textured surfaces and patterns.

The illustrated talk led us through shaping with stitches, construction, and finally modular knitting and entrelac. Modular knitting involves knitting individual small pieces (modules) which are then joined together to create a larger finished item, often without the need for sewing. Entrelac knitting is a technique that creates a fabric with a textured diamond or basket-weave appearance, resembling interwoven strips of fabric.

Alison brought along a selection of her knitted creations - the designs were breathtaking as the photos below show.

In addition members were keen to buy a copy of her recent publication **'Shaping Knitting'**. A copy has been purchased for the Guild Library.



Clare Hadley wearing a jacket, the design of which she adapted from one of Alison's patterns.

On Sunday Alison ran a very popular workshop where members learned the techniques of modular knitting. Through Alison's teaching and patience those that attended felt that they had understood and made progress with the skills involved in modular knitting.



The photo on the left shows Alison's samples of modular knitting using different stitches but all based on the basic shape of a square.

Modular knitting will work with any basic shape that tessellates (fits together without leaving any gaps).



A hive of Industry!



At the end of the day all those attending displayed their results.