

Dorset Guild of Weavers, Spinners and Dyers

Established 1947

Registered Charity Number 1200685



2026 Programme



Visit our website:
dorsetguildwsd.org.uk





Dorset Guild of Weavers, Spinners and Dyers 2026 Programme

31st January : SKILLS DAY Come & try out one of our Core Skills using various spinning, weaving, dyeing & felting techniques.

28th February : SPINNING WHEEL CLINIC with David Herring (am)

“WOMAN GROWS JEANS” film about the creation of the UK’s first pair of homegrown Jeans (pm). [Woman Grows Jeans the documentary film](#)

28th March: KUMIHIMO BRAIDING with Margaret Eaglestone, mini workshop (am) & “PLY-SPLIT BRAIDING” talk, by Julie Hedges **GS** (pm).

Competitions: **Norah Whittaker Hall Memorial Trophy** for any loom woven article & **The Anita Furzey Prize** for any tapestry woven article.

29th March: PLY-SPLIT BRAIDING WORKSHOP with Julie Hedges.

10.00am—4.00pm £20.00 p/p 12 spaces. juliehedges.co.uk

18th April : FANCY YARN SPINNING with Pene Blogg & **MICROWAVE DYEING** with Nicky Footer, mini workshops (am) & “**WEAVING WITH RUSH**” talk by Anna Lewington about her work reviving rush cutting on the River Stour **GS** (pm). **Competition:** **Harold Woodrow Trophy** for any item involving our crafts - open to any member who has not previously won a Guild competition.

19th April : RUSH WEAVING WORKSHOP with Anna Lewington 10.00am—4.00pm £20.00 p/p 12 spaces. [Anna Lewington Writer and Researcher](#)

30th May: BROOMSTICK CROCHET with Frances Fletcher, mini workshop (am) & “**HISTORICAL KNITWEAR**” talk by Joyce Meader **GS** (pm). [The Historic Knit | Military and historic knitting](#) **Competition:** **The Brenda Deakin Memorial Trophy** for an item made from hand-spun yarn and presented accordingly.

7th June: DYEING WITH INDIGO workshop with Nicky Footer 10.00am—4.00pm £20.00 p/p 10 spaces.

27th June* : FLEECE FAIR—Annual fleece sale (am) & “FLEECE TO FELT—A LIFETIME WITH WOOL” talk Sarah Waters, textile artist **GS (pm).**
Competition: Felting Trophy for any hand-felted item (wet or dry felted).

28th June : FELTING WORKSHOP: Experimenting with Surface Texture Techniques, with Sarah Waters 10.00am—4.00pm £20.00 p/p 12 spaces.
[Sarah Waters Artist | Textile Art](#)

25th July: “A TRUE BLUE: WOAD & INDIGO” talk by Teresinha Roberts **GS** (pm). Talk starts at 1:30pm. [teresinharoberts.co.uk](#)
Competition: Gail Coldham Prize for any hand-dyed item.

26th July: WORKSHOP: CREATE A SHIBORI WALL-HANGING with Annabel Wilson 10.00am—4.00pm £20.00 p/p 12 spaces. [www.townhillstudio.co.uk](#)

29th August : CRAFTING TOGETHER Informal meeting including coffee, cake & fundraising for charity.

26th September : OPEN DAY—a day to show off our Core Skills : weaving, spinning, dyeing and felting and invite friends and interested parties.

31st October : SAORI WEAVING with Frances Fletcher and **SILK SCARF DYEING** with Nicky Footer, mini workshops (am). **“FLAX”** a talk about the history & revival of Flax by Simon and Ann Cooper **GS** (pm).

Competition: Fortescue

- (a) 25g skein of wool prepared and spun by hand from the fleece **&/or**
- (b) 25g skein of yarn spun from any commercially prepared fibre.

1st November: FLAX PREPARATION & SPINNING WORKSHOP with Ann and Simon Cooper. [www.flaxland.co.uk](#)

28th November*: AGM at 11.00 & PRE-CHRISTMAS MEET-UP Bring & Share Lunch, Bursary Reports. **Competition: Rendell Trophy** for any garment or item involving one or more of the Core Skills made by a Guild member, modelled / displayed as part of a light-hearted fashion show.

Our **SALES TABLE** is available at all our main meetings (not workshop days) apart from those marked*. **GS** denotes **Guest Speaker(s)**

All Workshops on Saturdays and Sundays must be pre-booked.



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Outside Events 2026 We plan to attend several local shows and events throughout the year, please let the Events Coordinator know if you would like to demonstrate or present items showing off our crafts for our stand, either to sell or just for display.

Beginner Spinning If you are new to spinning, we will be running a support group for up to 6 people in the first 4 meetings of the year; please sign up via our newsletter.

Weaving Workshops with David Herring.

Saturday 6th June: "Off the starting Blocks" Log Cabin and Houndstooth for Rigid Heddle Weaving — suitable for beginners.

Saturday 3rd October: Planning, Winding and Warping on 4 Shaft Looms

Guild Outing We are planning to visit John Boyd Textiles, weavers using Horse Hair. We will be booking with them for later in the year. [John Boyd Textiles Limited](#) | [Weavers of Horsehair Fabrics since 1837](#) Watch this space!

Equipment & Library Loans: All the details of how to borrow Guild equipment or books are on our Website.

Bursaries: Details of how to apply for a bursary are on our Website.

Meetings: Unless stated, all meetings will be held at Holy Trinity Parish Hall, Sunninghill Preparatory School, Culliford Road North, Dorchester, DT1 1QG from 10.30am - 4.00pm. Parking is available.

Contact: dorsetguildwsd@gmail.com or visit our website: [Dorset Guild of Weavers, Spinners & Dyers](#) - Dorset Guild of Weavers, Spinners & Dyers



Affiliated to The Association of Guilds of
Weavers, Spinners and Dyers
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