

## February 2026 Meeting



**David Herring hard at work.**

As a result of the persistent flooding at the beginning of the year, our first meeting of 2026 wasn't held until 28<sup>th</sup> February – but then we had bright sunshine all day!

Our good friends, David Herring and Josh, set up early to provide free wheel servicing for all members – and to also tempt us with their pop-up shop.

There was a continual queue all morning from members keen to take advantage of this very special perk of membership – our heartfelt thanks go out to David and Josh for their kindness and expertise.



**Josh working his magic**

Frances and Pene soon had a group of beginner spinners set up on the stage, keen to get to grips with treading & drawing – their education will continue at the next three meetings. These classes were set up at the request of members, and their popularity reflects the ever-increasing membership list. We might be living in a world supposedly dominated by social media and doom scrolling, but there are still plenty of people wanting to learn handcrafting skills.



**Frances giving tuition on the intricacies of treading and drawing**



Once again the hall was full of creative crafters – spinning, weaving, crocheting, knitting; we even had a leather worker making a gorgeous water bottle – just walking around the room inspired and motivated us all.

Sarah, Tim and Ann were kept busy all morning on the sales tables – so many lovely things and all at bargain prices, once again we couldn't resist.....

**Glorious Fairisle style weaving**



## Woman Grows Jeans'



For the afternoon session the committee had organised a screening of 'Woman Grows Jeans' – a film by Justine Aldersey-Williams (Northern Fibreshed) about her project to produce an entirely homegrown pair of denim jeans.

From preparing the ground to grow flax, processing it into linen, learning to spin the fibre into thread, attempting to weave the cloth – and having to get help with that particular task – making up her own indigo bath, and finally getting the end result cut and stitched into a fabulous pair of jeans.

This was very much a community project, even the gorgeous Patrick Grant (Great British Sewing Bee & Community Clothing) took a turn at tilling the soil. The entire project took several years to complete, with old processes to be explored & new skills to be mastered, and the end result is unlikely make a dent in the 70 million pairs of jeans purchased in Britain every year – yet... But Justine is now working with a band of volunteers and craftspeople to upscale the project, who knows what sort of revolution she has started?

A lovely, inspiring film from a very driven lady.