

June's Meeting

Fleece Fair

Our June meeting opened with the annual fleece fair. With fifteen types of fleeces from which to choose, members were spoilt for choice. It was a delight to see a high proportion of rare and native breed fleeces on display. Once again, stall holders were generous in their sharing of knowledge of the different characteristics of the fleeces which is so useful in making the right choice for a project.

Fleece Fair in action!



Demonstration and Tutorial: Combing Fleece

Alongside the fleece stalls Viviane Bernhard was on hand to demonstrate preparing fleece for spinning using combs.



Competition - The Felting Trophy

This new Guild competition reflects the growing interest of our members in the art of felt making especially as felting in all its forms has been added to our Guild constitution and is now one of our basic skills. The varied and colourful entries were a great inspiration to us all.

Entries for the Felting Competition



Congratulations to:

Fi Whyte – First Prize – Needle felted Gold Finch mounted on a teasel.

Ali Pearce – Runner-Up - Felted cushion with felted decorative accents.



Winning entries - Gold Finch and Cushion

Afternoon Talk – A Lifetime with Wool with Sarah Waters

Sarah described her journey from a childhood love of sheep to the internationally known textile artist she has become today. It was a fascinating talk by someone who showed real passion for her art form, and she was generous in the amount of projects she displayed for us to examine. Sarah described her early interest in rare breed sheep (from the age of 13!), learning to spin, then felt and to the large scale three-dimensional *felt* art forms she produces and exhibits in international and UK exhibitions. Incredibly, she manages to find time to be involved in her local community projects near Burley in the New Forest.



Photos of Sarah's felting wearables and felt art on display on Saturday



On Sunday Sarah led a Felting Workshop entitled Experimenting with Surface Texture Techniques.

Members who booked on Sarah's felting workshop were in for a real treat – in the photo opposite are the members with Sarah (far left of the group) displaying their work at the end of the Workshop.

