



Ebor Ruggers

www.eborruggers.com

December 2012

MEETING NEWS

December 1st: Christmas Celebrations.

Normal meeting time, ie 12.30 start. Please bring a plate of food, either sweet or savoury, to share. This year instead of a "Secret Santa" everyone will receive a small gift. If you are unable to attend this month never fear, we will bring your present along to the next few meetings so that you can collect it next time you attend. Hope you can come along and share in the festive fun!



Variations and Open Studios Update

Last month Angela brought us some great news. Although we won't officially be part of Open Studios next year, we are still going to be able to exhibit in the Cemetery Chapel as before on the first weekend of this event. We will also be able to place an advert in the Open Studios booklet which will encourage lots of visitors and of course we can also publicise our event ourselves.

The title of our exhibition will be: "Variations, an exhibition of reworked textiles" and it will take place on 12th, 13th and 14th April 2013 in York Cemetery Chapel.

Just to remind you of the criteria for the exhibition:

- 1 We will accept anything in reworked textiles. As well as the variation pieces, you could submit, for example, a knitted piece, as long as the textiles you use are reworked.
- 2 Your work should be created after April 2011 and not previously exhibited.
- 3 Everything included in the exhibition must be for sale.

Collection and labelling of textiles will take place on 6th April 2013 - more details of pricing and how to label your work to follow. It would be very helpful for us to know in advance how many "Variations" pieces members have made or will be making and wish to be included in the exhibition. Please let Angela know by mid January 2013. Thank you.

And thank you to Angela for rescuing us from a problematic situation.

WOOLFEST 2013

We are pleased to announce that next year we will be running a coach trip to this event in conjunction with York Feltmakers.

The total cost of the coach plus day ticket to Woolfest will be £24.50.

Anne Bush will be giving more details in the January newsletter and supplying a booking form for those interested.

So make a date in your diary now for **Saturday 29th June.**

Fancy doing another one?

If you would like to make another Variations project for our exhibition, here is a reminder of the sizes they should be:

For the hessian - circle 60cm, rectangle 40x70cm, or square 53x53cm.

For the shapes - circles 22cm & 11cm, lines 23cm & 35cm.

You must use at least one circle and one line in your design.

Equipment news

We have recently acquired some great new pieces of kit for members to use at meetings. Some of us who attended Anne Lancaster's landscape workshop at the Ryedale Folk Museum were very impressed by the light box she brought along, and decided that Ebor Ruggers should have one of their own. It enables the user to transfer designs from paper, books etc onto hessian – just ask for a demonstration if you're not sure how it works.

We have also purchased an extra-large cutting mat and a rotary cutter – perfect for speedy preparation of material.

Don't forget too that we still have our trusty tabletop rotary cutter which is ideal for cutting long strips of various widths.

We also have a number of rug frames of various sizes that can be loaned. Contact Frances on 01904 768366 for more information.



3D Christmas tree by Anne Lancaster

We now have a new treasurer, Lindsay Bascombe. Welcome, Lindsay, and many thanks to Kathy for all her hard work during her time as treasurer.

Would you consider coming on the committee? At our AGM next year we will be looking for new committee members to help shape both the way that the club is run and how we go forward into the future. It isn't as daunting as it sounds! If you would like to find out more about what being on the committee involves, why not sit in on one of our meetings? We hold them in Dunnington just before our monthly meeting. Ask any committee member for details.

From Spider Woman's Gift (ed Shelby Tisdale) - bought by Jenny in USA

In 1973 the Navajo Community College at Many Farms, Arizona, undertook a study to determine how long it took an experienced weaver to make an above-average quality rug measuring about 3ft by 5ft. The results were as follows:

Catching and shearing the sheep 1 hour
Cleaning and washing the wool 2 hours
Drying the washed wool 8 hours
Carding the wool 16 hours
Spinning the wool 24 hours
Preparing vegetal dye and dyeing 60 hours
Making and warping the loom 16 hours
Weaving the rug 215 hours
Brushing, cleaning and finishing the rug 2 hours
Selling the rug 1 hour
TOTAL 345 hours

So, next time someone asks you how long it takes!

As well as her website at www.ragrugsuk.co.uk, Cilla Cameron writes a fascinating and informative blog at www.makingrugs.blogspot.com. There are lots of wonderful examples of her work, hints and tips, as well as many other examples of work sent in by readers of the blog.

We note with interest that she also likes to crochet and is a big fan of Lucy's blog at attic24.typepad.com, a real favourite of ours. Even if you don't crochet, it is well worth having a browse through this just to admire her wonderful use of colour and textiles.

From a letter written by a farmer's wife in America in the early 1900s:

"I enjoy making my own designs. I never knew how to sing or paint or draw; no way to express myself. Only by hoeing, washing, ironing, patching, etc; and while I never hope to accomplish anything extraordinary, I do love to plan out and execute these rugs that are a bit of myself, a blind groping after something beautiful"

And finally - a very Happy Christmas to all Ebor Ruggers and rag-ruggers everywhere.

Newsletter editors: Anne Bush and Margaret Hockey