



# Ebor Ruggers

[www.eborruggers.com](http://www.eborruggers.com)

July 2012

## MEETING DATES

7<sup>th</sup> July Working Meeting

4<sup>th</sup> August All day summer event 10am-4pm. Bring a plate of food to share. You are invited to bring along your completed Variations projects for display and there will also be one of our ever-popular swapshops.

Details of all future meetings can be found on our website and in the diary



A sideways look at the June meeting...

## June Meeting

### Lewis and Louisa Creed Workshop

A record 42 people signed in for what proved to be a very busy and successful meeting. An amazing £166 was taken on the sales table as some of our more recent members stocked up on tools, hessian, cards and blankets. Many thanks to all who contributed to the delicious lunch.

Especial thanks as always to Lewis and Louisa for giving so generously of their time and skill and inspiring us all with their creativity and expert tuition.

If you haven't come across it before, Lewis and Louisa have a fascinating website with extensive profiles of them both and a gallery of their work.

<http://www.louisa-creed-ragrugs.co.uk>

**Workshop 8th September:** "Long Landscapes" with Jane Jackson and Margaret Kenny, two very different but equally talented tutors of rag rugging from Alnwick in Northumberland. They call themselves "Rebel Rag Ruggers" because they don't follow any rules!

Places for the workshop will be limited so early booking is advised. You can see some examples of Jane's work at <http://brightseedtextiles.com> but seeing them at close hand you can really appreciate the wonderful textures.

The cost will be £35 for the day including lunch. Further details about the day from Angela Gray.

Make a date in your diaries for the **British Wool Weekend** which takes place on 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> September at the Great Yorkshire Showground in Harrogate. For a list of exhibitors, talks and workshops, also for advance online ticket sales, see <http://www.britishwool.net/BWW/Home.html>

**The World's Biggest Coffee Morning in aid of Macmillan Cancer Support:**  
Susan Jordan and Anne Bush are taking part in this again this year on Friday 28<sup>th</sup> September. All Ebor Ruggers very welcome. More details to follow soon....

## Some fascinating websites to explore...

The history of rag rugs, mats and carpets at <http://www.oldandinteresting.com/history-rag-rugs.aspx>  
<http://www.fishingarts.co.uk/ragrugs.html> and <http://woolshed1.blogspot.co.uk/2009/11/making-mats-old-northumbrian-art-and.html>

## Woolfest 2012

Faced with the dismal prospect of missing Woolfest this year I managed to persuade my husband that he would really enjoy a weekend in Cockermouth. So off we duly set up the A1 on Friday in lashing rain and wind while listening on the radio to dire reports of floods and general mayhem. We normally love the approach to the Lake District but this time the fells were invisible behind horizontal rain and murky clouds.

On arrival in Cockermouth we thought a gentle stroll around the town might be pleasant but were very soon driven back to our hotel after both our umbrellas had been blown irretrievably inside out and we were soaked through. We were both struck by the way the town had recovered from the devastating floods of 2009. There were several plaques on buildings in the town showing the flood water levels - it was hard to imagine the main street as a raging torrent. The hotel where we stayed had been 5ft deep in water on the ground floor. Our room overlooked the river Derwent which was rising rapidly, but fortunately the rain eased up overnight and all was well.

Saturday morning saw me off to catch the free shuttle bus to Woolfest. This year it was bigger than ever with a whole new area to explore. There was more of a rag-rugging presence too with Cilla Cameron and Jenni Stuart-Anderson both there. Jenni spent some time with me demonstrating her preferred methods of working – a bodger for proddy rugs and a speed shuttle for hooking on a very large frame propped up against a wall. Look out for Jenni's latest book "More Rag Rugs and Recycled Textile Projects" in the Ebor Ruggers library! The rare sheep breeds were a big draw as always, along with my particular favourites, alpacas. The wool crèche came in very handy, and I enjoyed lunch while watching the clog dancing to the accompaniment of some great folk tunes on the Northumbrian pipes and hurdy-gurdy.

I enjoy knitting as well as rugging, and this year there were lots of small independent dyers at Woolfest. All very tempting, and I did succumb to a couple of beautiful skeins of sock yarn. Trends in the knitting world appeared to be shawls/shawlettes, lace yarn, and glitter yarns which were rather more subtle than they sound. By the end of the day I was staggering slightly under the accumulated weight of my purchases – hmmm, I really must weed out my stash before too long...

Join me next year? Maybe the sun will shine!

Anne Bush



The quirky "Flock" installation at Woolfest 2012. To find out more about this project, or to take part and help celebrate the sheep farming and the wool industry, take a look at <http://www.jointheflock.co.uk>

### Always in demand...

Wool blankets for the sales table.

If you come across any in reasonable condition while you are out and about this summer rummaging at a car boot or in a charity shop, please consider purchasing them for the club - you will be reimbursed. Rough price guideline - up to about £3. Top tip from Angela - ask for dog blankets!

Choose2Reuse is coming to the Designer Outlet on 25<sup>th</sup> August and Ebor Ruggers are setting out their stall to spread the rugging work abroad. PLEASE can you help for a 2 hour session at some point during the day? Volunteers are welcome to bring their work along with them to sell. Your club needs YOU!

And finally... we were delighted to hear the following lines during the recent production of "Close the Coalhouse Door" at York Theatre Royal (it's probably an oldie but it made us giggle!):

Him: Fancy half an hour on the rug, pet?

Her: Gerraway...

Him: (sighs) We'll never get it finished at this rate.....

If you have any items for inclusion in the newsletter please contact Anne Bush at [purplelupin@ymail.com](mailto:purplelupin@ymail.com) or Margaret Hockey at [mhockey53@hotmail.com](mailto:mhockey53@hotmail.com)