



# Ebor Ruggers

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

March 2013

## MEETING NEWS - please read!

**2<sup>nd</sup> March - AGM and swap-shop. Usual meeting time 12.30.**

We will keep the AGM business as brief as possible but this is your chance to hear a round-up of events and finances from the past year and have a say where Ebor Ruggers goes in the future. As we have two committee members standing down this time we will be asking for willing (or perhaps even slightly reluctant!) volunteers to join us.

Without a committee we can't run the club so we need **your** input to help keep the club on course and evolving for the next year. The committee meetings only last for an hour or so and take place before our Saturday gathering as we know what busy lives everyone leads.

So please come armed with ideas for the future of your club and we'll look forward to seeing you on the 2nd.



Variations project by Angela Gray

## SUBSCRIPTIONS

Annual subscriptions are now due please - £12 for your one year membership.

## Origins of Ebor Ruggers

At our February meeting Heather Lamborn took us back to the very early days of our club when she, Chris Noble and Sally Coomer were the founder members. There were few rugging books or groups of rugmakers in 1993 and knowledge of the craft was in decline. An exhibition at the Treasurer's House in 1995 attracted a lot of interest and as a result Heather, Sally and Chris set up the York and District Rag Rug Group. 50 people signed up at the first meeting held at Murton in February 1995.

In 1997 the name was changed to Ebor Ruggers and the current logo was adopted. The club continued meeting at Murton, moving on to Huntington before settling where we are now in Dunnington.

In 1996 Heather won a commission to make a large rug for a new library on the Isle of Sheppey on the theme of "the seaside". She showed us slides of this wonderful piece which was worked in four sections and completed in an amazing 67 days. It took pride of place in the library as a tale-telling rug to inspire children's imagination and was short-listed for an Art in a Public Place award. It also raised £1500 for group funds, the basis of our healthy club finances today.

Heather showed us how the story of our group is also the story of modern rugging. The craft which we enjoy has progressed from a utilitarian necessity to an art form, as Heather put it "from the floor to the wall".

Thanks to Heather for a most interesting and informative talk.

At the next meeting we will need lots of help cutting clippies and filling the bags for our mini-mat kits - a great money earner for the club. This is your chance to try out some of our lovely new equipment ie the rotary cutter and cutting mat!

## Variations - a reminder:

Please let Angela know, if you haven't done so already, how many Variations projects you have made and what shape they are. This is so we can plan the hanging of the displays. Many thanks to those who have already volunteered to help out at the exhibition. We still need more helpers on Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> and Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> April though, so please get in touch if you can spare a couple of hours.

## WOOLFEST BOOKING

If you would like to come on the trip to Woolfest this year on 29<sup>th</sup> June please return your form as soon as possible to help us plan for the right size coach. Many thanks.

It was lovely to hear from Jenny Barnes recently:

### Greetings from Worthing

Well, here I am back living in Sussex. I cannot believe I have been here almost four months. Life has been extremely busy ever since I arrived, what with refurbishments to the house and catching up with family and friends. But I have not been neglecting the crafting side of my life.

For a start, I had three rugs to make before Christmas. I had planned them many months before but moving house kind of got in the way of rugging, and anyway I work better under pressure. Two were birthday presents for my niece's daughters and one a commission for a friend (which involved dyeing a load of blanket pieces). When I get time (and can find the dratted cable to download from my camera) I will get them posted on the website).

Then there were the three pairs of socks, a hat and four pairs of mittens to knit for Christmas presents. You will understand why the decorating is well behind schedule!

I have joined the 'Knit & Natter' group at the library - a great group of women with a wealth of craft experience between them. It's a very jolly 90 minutes each week and a good way to make new friends. We got to talking about all the crafts we have tried and I spoke about rugging - long story short, everyone was very interested and I am booked to do a skill-sharing session there in April. I also have two good friends here who are keen to get started on rugging and we have put a couple of dates on the calendar to get together and get them going on their first rugs.

At the end of October I went to a very good Craft Fair at Lancing College, and have applied to have a stall there next October. That should give me time to build up some stock to sell! The organisers asked me if I will demonstrate rugging, as they will give me free space to do so - and then asked if I will help them out by running a 'have a go' session at their April fair at the same location. I have agreed to both, so here's hoping that good things come out of this. I know there are at least a couple of rug makers working in Sussex but I'm sure there is room for one more, even if only operating in a small way.

Aside from this, the garden also needs completely renovating, friends who fancy a break by the sea are booking in, there are walks to be taken along the prom and up on the hills and a very good off-licence just round the corner.

So, back up the ladder. Hope to see you all in April at the exhibition.

**Jenny**

### JUMBLE FEVER...

If you enjoy a good rummage in pursuit of that elusive bit of mauve tweed to finish your latest creation then it's worth knowing that Dunnington Cancer Support Group holds a jumble sale on the second Wednesday of each month in the Reading Rooms between 10 and 12. The next one will be on 13<sup>th</sup> March.

Another regular jumble sale is held at St Luke's Church in Burton Stone Lane on behalf of the Deanne Gee Memorial Fund which helps children with disabilities. The next one here will be also be on Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> March at 6pm. You could have a very jolly (if perhaps rather exhausting) day's jumbling!

Then a bit further afield there will be a jumble sale at Thornton-le-Clay Village Hall on Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> March starting at 2pm in aid of Foston Primary School.

### Equipment news

We are now the proud possessors of a brand new sewing machine for club use. This should be available at every meeting for anyone who wants to use it for hemming their hessian or any other machine sewing needs.

Sue Beadle has been familiarising herself with the workings of our recently acquired light box and will be happy to show members how it can help in transferring designs onto hessian.

### DATE FOR YOUR DIARIES

Lewis and Louisa Creed will be exhibiting some of their rugs in Farnley Hall, near Otley, the house where Turner stayed when painting in Yorkshire. This is a fine John Carr building, normally only open to parties by appointment.

It will be open for one evening only, between 4.00 and 9.00 pm, on **Saturday April 20<sup>th</sup>**.

Apparently the family portraits are going to be removed so that rag rugs can be hung in their place - it is amusing to think of the great and good having to make way for what was once considered a lowly craft!

Newsletter editors: Anne Bush and Margaret Hockey