



Ebor Ruggers

www.eborruggers.com

October 2012

MEETING NEWS

October 6th All-day event "Christmas Rags to Riches" from 10.30-3.30. We will be welcoming visitors as part of this year's York 50+ Festival and encouraging them (and us!) to try their hand at various festive makes including rag wreaths, tree decorations and mats.

We will also be exhibiting some of our work, so bring along any rugs etc made from recycled materials only. Not Variations projects though, please, as our exhibits for Open Studios should be new for that event ie not previously shown.

Any help setting up the hall bright and early will be much appreciated!



A section from one of Jane Jackson's landscapes showing her use of Harris Tweed.

Lorra, Lorra Landscapes!

You wait for a workshop on landscapes and then two come along at once - just like buses!

The first one, at Dunnington, was called Long Landscapes and was led by Margaret Kenny and Jane Jackson, two lovely ladies from Northumberland, known as the Rebel Rag Ruggers. Their work had solicited many comments (not all favourable!) from traditional rag ruggers. Jane uses only Harris Tweed and works in a long rectangle (hence the title of the workshop) in a 4:1 ratio. Her pieces were beautifully detailed, using some techniques I hadn't seen before. We wrapped rope in fabric and yarn, rolled strips of material, and stitched long lengths of fabric to the backing creating a rippled effect. Margaret's hangings were very different - she uses old sacking and all recycled materials that she gathers from the flotsam and jetsam of the Northumberland shoreline. Rope, shells, driftwood and anything else you care to mention were woven into Margaret's works of art. So a happy day was spent wrapping, stitching and experimenting with textures. A big thank you to Susan and her helpers for a delicious lunch.

Workshop number two was Annie Lancaster's Hooked and Prodded Landscapes at the Ryedale Folk Museum. On arrival it looked like an Ebor Ruggers' jolly as 7 of the 10 on the course were our own dear members! Annie and her husband provided all the materials from her considerable stash for us to plunder. We tried hooking using a frame, I was all fingers and thumbs at first but can see the benefit (I think!) and will persevere. As always Annie and Ian are so patient and a lovely relaxing day was had by all, it sped by in a flash.

The downside of course is that I now have 2 unfinished landscapes glowering at me from a corner, so in a flash of inspiration (not too common around these parts) I've decided to combine the things I've learned from both workshops in one landscape. So now I only have one unfinished frame peeping out from the curtains.....

Margaret Hockey

A Message from Jenny Barnes

A huge "thank you" to all Ebor Ruggers, for their friendship and companionship. For outings taken, experience and tips generously given, exhibitions and demonstrations shared, picnics and parties, workshops and weekends away, shopping trips and the show-and-tell afterwards.

For the chatter, the gossip and the laughter - the community of craftwork. And most of all for all the wonderful, stunning, fantastic rugs. I shall miss seeing everyone each month, and seeing all those rugs too.

I will keep up my membership, follow progress via the newsletter and website, and hope to return for the occasional meeting. My plan is to keep on rugging down in Sussex and maybe start a small group down there. Hope to see you all for Open Studios then!

Once again, many thanks to you, Jenny, for all your hard work during your time with Ebor Ruggers. We look forward to seeing you again before very long.

Members' Profiles No 3: Pam Alford (pictured right)

How long have you been rugging? I have been rugging now for coming up to two years.

What got you hooked? I went to an 'At Home' exhibition at my mosaic teacher's house and Jenny Barnes was exhibiting her work. I was absolutely bowled over by her wall hangings and she demonstrated how to rag rug and inspired me to have a go. I visited Ebor Ruggers at their last time at Huntington and was then immediately hooked!

What do you like about this particular craft? I like the fact that it is recycling old items and very inexpensive. I enjoy collecting items from charity shops as much as the actual rugging. I love the end result too.

Do you enjoy any other crafts? I gave up doing mosaics and did rugging instead! I do the odd bit of knitting, many relatives and friends received hand knitted socks last Christmas.

When do you like to do your rugging? On a cold winter's evening sat in front of the stove and telly.

Where do you find your inspiration? From other ruggers, books and the landscape.

Any plans for the future? I have recently acquired several wool blankets which I hope to dye and use for rugging projects when I get around to it.

Tell us something surprising about yourself. I am a keen swimmer and I really want to do some wild swimming but I can't find anyone else who wants to do this with me. Any offers?

Thank you Pam, and we hope you find someone to swim with...



Jenny wanted to share a poem with us before she left – she has adapted it slightly to make it more appropriate for Ebor Ruggers.

DUST

Dust if you must, but it would be better
To rug, or knit, or write a letter,
To bake a cake or plant a seed,
Or ponder the difference of want
from need.

Dust if you must, but there's so little time,
With the sea to swim in and hills to climb,
Music to hear and books to read,
Friends to cherish and life to lead.

Dust if you must, but the world's out there,
The sun in your eyes, the wind in your hair,
A flutter of snow, a shower of rain.
This day will not come round again.

Dust if you must, but bear in mind,
Old age will come and it's not kind.
And when you go - and go you must -
You yourself will make more dust.

Food for thought.....thank you Jenny.

Mainly Rag Rugs - Cemetery Chapel, York

Friday 12 October to Sunday 14 October 2012

10am - 4pm daily. Free entrance.

'10 York Crafters' will display and sell their work in this magnificent space. The exhibition will include, besides rag rugs: wall-hangings, baskets, prints, pyrography and knitting.

The Cemetery Chapel, Cemetery Road, York YO10 5AJ

Telephone: 01904 610578

Suggestions please....

Is there an aspect of rugging you would like to be shown at one of our meetings? Would you like a workshop on a particular subject, or perhaps there's a speaker you'd love to hear? Drop your suggestion in the box on the sales table at any meeting - and have **your** say on how our club is run!



If you have any items for inclusion in the newsletter please contact Anne Bush at purplelupin@gmail.com or Margaret Hockey at mhockey53@hotmail.com