



# Ebor Ruggers

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

October 2014

## MEETING NEWS

### 4<sup>th</sup> October: Working Meeting

We will be throwing wide our doors and welcoming visitors as part of the York 50+ Festival, showing them the basics of our craft and letting them have a go for themselves. Please bring along some examples of your work so that they can admire the variety of wonderful items that we make!

**8<sup>th</sup> November: All Day Peg Loom Workshop with Caroline Neuff.** Working meeting for those not participating in the workshop.

**\*\*\*PLEASE NOTE this is to be held on the second Saturday in November rather than the usual first. \*\*\***

See below for full details, materials required etc for the workshop.



The lovely Heather Ritchie with one of her wonderful rugs. That's Heather as a girl in the bottom left hand corner! See overleaf for a report of the September meeting when Heather was our guest speaker.

## PEG LOOM WORKSHOP

**Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> November 10.30 – 4pm**

This all-day course will offer two different projects: EITHER a small rug made of washed fleece on a 2ft peg loom OR a table mat made from knitting yarn on a smaller 6" peg loom. The table mat can also be made on a larger size loom by using fewer pegs.

Caroline has very generously offered to supply unwashed fleece for the rug project and will bring it to the October meeting for you to wash at home. For the table mat you will have to supply knitting yarn from your own stash – chunky, Aran or double knitting are all ideal.

If you are in need of a loom then Ken Hockey (Margaret's handy husband!) will make one for you for the cost of the wood. This works out at £10 for the large loom and £5 for the small loom.

At the time of writing we have just 4 spare places left on the course, so if you would like to take part then please let us know as soon as possible. We will need to know if you need a loom making and if so what size, and also if you would like some fleece.

***The cost of the workshop will be £10 per person, plus the cost of making the looms if applicable.***

Thanks to Susan Jordan for sending me a link about ArtisOn, a studio just outside Masham offering a huge range of art and craft workshops and courses, and a new venue to me.

From blacksmithing to stained glass, crochet to stone carving and ceramics to jewellery making, it's all here, with the added attraction of home-made lunches. It sounds like a wonderful excuse, as if you needed one, to spend a few days in the beautiful Dales countryside....

Take a peep at their tempting website: [www.artison.co.uk](http://www.artison.co.uk)

## SEPTEMBER MEETING REPORT

The hall was bedecked in suitably celebratory style for our visit from Heather Ritchie in September - well, it was really for a wedding party taking place later on, but it did look great! Pity we couldn't try a piece of the beautiful cake....

Heather started by talking to us about growing up in Sunderland and spending her summer holidays on a farm in the Yorkshire Dales, where she moved to after she married some 40 years ago. She showed us the rugs she has made to represent her memories and the scenery all round where she lives.

Heather also told us about her charity Rug Aid, which she set up in The Gambia 10 years ago when she was 60. She explained that her father had gone blind when she was a little girl and she became his eyes helping to count steps to places in the town. When she saw the plight of blind and partially sighted people in The Gambia she decided to teach them how to make rag rugs to provide a means of supporting themselves.

Her talk was informal, interesting and totally inspiring. She then answered our questions and afterwards sat with people to show them some of the techniques she uses on her rugs.

We gave Heather a £100 donation for Rug Aid made up from proceeds from the raffle and sales from the delicious cakes made by Shirley Armstrong. Thanks to all who contributed.

*Many thanks to Lindsay for this report.*

*We hope to have Heather as our guest again in the future, hopefully for a workshop combined with more fundraising for Rug Aid.*

## EBOR RUGGERS 20<sup>th</sup> BIRTHDAY EXHIBITION AT CITY SCREEN, YORK

Pam Alford has been negotiating with City Screen in recent months, and we are very pleased to announce that we have got the go-ahead to have an exhibition of our work there from 10<sup>th</sup> – 24<sup>th</sup> February 2015. If you are familiar with the layout of the cinema, our hanging space will be upstairs in the corridor overlooking the river.

This is a wonderful opportunity to display and/or sell our work at a central venue in York visited weekly by hundreds of people. It will also raise the profile of the club. An added advantage is that the exhibition will take place during half term week, so there may well be even more cinema goers than usual – particularly if the weather is inclement.

Another bonus is that City Screen will not be taking any commission, so all takings will be clear profit. You will need to price your own work, and please be aware that all work will be hung at your own risk as there will be no insurance in place for theft or loss.

Due to hanging restrictions there will be a size limit, so please submit work that is doormat size or smaller. In addition your work must be hangable (ie no cushions, bags etc), finished with dowelling through the top edge and a hook attached, as we did for our doormats exhibition at Grey's Court a few years ago. If you are unsure about how to do this, we will have a "display" workshop session at either the January or February meeting.

Many thanks go to Pam for organising this event which promises to be an excellent start to our birthday celebrations in the month that Ebor Ruggers first saw the light of day!

## SAVE THE DATE - WEDNESDAY 17<sup>th</sup> JUNE 2015!

No, not a wedding this time, but just as exciting.... As part of our birthday celebrations next year Angela has been hard at work planning an outing to Beamish for us all. We will have the opportunity to see behind the scenes at some of the historic rag rugs not normally on display. We are hoping to hire a coach so that we can all travel together, and to make it even more enticing Ebor Ruggers will subsidise the cost of the coach travel. All in all it promises to be a great day out, so put it in next year's diary now!

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