



Ebor Ruggers

www.eborruggers.com

September 2012

MEETING NEWS

6th September "Long Landscapes - Design, Colour and Texture" with Margaret Kenny and Jane Jackson. All day workshop plus open meeting.

Thank you to all who contributed food for the August meeting and helped make it such a success. What a fantastic spread!



Some of the completed Variations projects on display at our August meeting.

Fancy a trip to beautiful Upper Weardale in County Durham? This is the home of the North of England Lead Mining Museum at Killhope, and throughout the months of August, September and October it is putting on "Rags to Riches", an exhibition of both traditional and contemporary rugs and mats.

Demonstrations will be held on 23 September and 28 October, and there's a mat on the go in a frame for everyone to try their hand. Not only that, but there will be a taste of the Beamish North Country Rag Rug Collection with examples spanning the last century. Maureen Morano, one of our members, will have several pieces exhibited.

The museum and exhibition is open every day - more details at www.killhope.org.uk

Or phone 01388 537505

British Wool Weekend Sat 1st & Sun 2nd September

This event aims to raise the profile of British wool and the many related products made from British wool.

Angela, Gill and Jenny visited this last year, the first time it had been held, and reported that it was excellent. This year there will be more than twice as many exhibitors, and the website promises "stands full of treasures for the textile craft worker".

This year sees the return of the entertaining "Sheep Show Man" from Australia. Last year he seems to have made a big impact on Angela, Gill and Jenny, we are not entirely sure why....perhaps we should go and see for ourselves!

You can see a list of exhibitors and read more details at

www.britishwool.net

Drifffield Show - celebrating success!

Anne Bush

I visited Drifffield Show this year for the first time and had a wonderful day out - highly recommended if you've never been before. In the handicrafts tent I was delighted to see a selection of rag rugs, including one that I recognised - it was "The Four Seasons" by our own Kay Tester. But Kay's skills don't just stop there - she scooped up a handful of prizes with her baking, taking first prizes for her cheese scones, butterfly buns and parkin, a second for her chutney, a third for her flapjack and a highly commended for her ginger biscuits. Three golds, one silver and one bronze - not even Mo Farah can top that! Many congratulations Kay and we'll all be round for tea shortly....



Kay's Variations project - The Four Seasons

Members' Profiles No 2: Jenny Barnes (pictured right)

How long have you been rugging? Fourteen years. That's nearly a fifth of my life, how did that happen?

What got you hooked? Dorothy Humpleby. I met her when I started working at Ryedale Folk Museum, where she demonstrated rugging for visitors. A life-long crafter, I was fascinated by the history and lured by the textiles. I got involved with the demonstrations, getting great enjoyment from visitors sharing their own memories of rug making. Then Dorothy introduced me to Ebor Ruggers. We staged a rag rug exhibition at the museum and Dorothy and I ran some workshops together. Then I joined Ebor Ruggers and have never looked back!

How has Ebor Ruggers changed over the years? This is mainly a matter of scale! When I first joined it was a much smaller group, mainly of the founder members. We met at the Farming Museum at Murton and many happy Saturday afternoons were spent sitting in the library there, chatting and rugging. Changing circumstances at Murton meant we had to find a new meeting place, and since then swelling numbers have brought us to Dunnington. Through all this the buzz of chatter and the sharing of ideas has remained a constant. I really enjoy the community of craft work and am delighted to see so many new members. We still have the opportunities for great workshops, outings and events and it is really lovely to see people new to rugging having so much fun and pleasure with Ebor Ruggers. I look forward to seeing that continue and people gaining confidence to contribute to exhibitions and helping spread the word by taking part in our rugging demonstrations.

Gold medal rugging moment? My daughter's pleasure in the 'memory rug' I made for her from her grandmother's clothes.

Tell us something surprising about yourself. I can say the alphabet backwards.

Any plans for the future? I am shortly moving house back down to Sussex to be nearer my family. I know of at least two rug makers in the area, both of whom run workshops. But I'm sure there is room for another, once I get myself organised. I am also growing my own rugging group, having sent two of my Sussex friends to a workshop ready for my arrival. It is my intention to remain a member of Ebor Ruggers and to get to the odd meeting, as well as take part in Open Studios next year. For one thing I am really keen to see Variations up on show. Wouldn't miss it for the world!

Many thanks to Jenny for all her hard work as a member of Ebor Ruggers and especially during her time as Chair. Au revoir Jenny, we will miss you, but look forward to seeing you again before too long.



The lovely ladies at Dunnington Library have kindly said that we are very welcome to borrow books from there when we are around on Saturday mornings - their opening time is from 10-12.30. They will extend the stamp on our books so that they are due back when we next have a Saturday morning meeting. With the charity shop upstairs also open on Saturday mornings it looks as if it might be worth turning up for meetings a wee bit early...

Another event to look out for if you're heading in north-east is "Open Art Studios", part of the North Northumberland Art Weekend.

This is coming up soon from 31st August to 2nd September, and will feature work by Jane Jackson and Margaret Kenny, the Rebel Rag Ruggers who are running a workshop at the September meeting.

Jane's work will be on show at the Open Studio Gallery, High Street, Wooler, and Margaret's at 2 Cheviot View, Lowick, Berwick upon Tweed.

The 8th annual York 50+ Festival will be taking place this year from 29th September to 7th October. As part of our meeting on October 6th Ebor Ruggers will be running an all-day event, "Christmas Rags to Riches", and welcoming visitors. This year's festival is bigger and better than ever with over 100 events. The full programme booklet will be available in early September, or visit yorkassembly.org.uk/festival.htm

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