

Who we are....

The Mid Essex Guild is one of over 100 Guilds throughout the UK, which form The Association of Guilds of Weavers, Spinners and Dyers. There are also associated Guilds in Eire, France and Switzerland

The Aims of the Association are:

- ◆ To encourage and maintain integrity and excellence of craftsmanship.
- ◆ To encourage a sense of beauty of material, texture, colour and design.
- ◆ To promote opportunities for exchange of information through lectures, library facilities, conferences and exhibitions, both locally and nationally.
- ◆ To further co-operation between member Guilds and liaise with other Guilds and Societies with like aims.

The Guild meets once a month in White Notley Village Hall unless otherwise stated. The talks and workshops include a variety of allied crafts as well which can inspire and take us down other avenues. We also display and demonstrate at various craft events and fairs.

Where we meet...

The Guild usually meets on the 3rd Saturday of each month except Dec. –please check the dates on back of this leaflet or our website www.midessexguildwsd.org.uk. The meetings are held from 10.30 am – 4pm.at the Village Hall in White Notley, as shown on the map below. It is situated SE of Braintree. The post code is CM8 1RH



The Mid Essex Guild welcomes new members and visitors any time, whether beginners or with many years experience. BUT you do not have to be a spinner or weaver to join our guild! You may become one eventually but just an interest in textile crafts is enough.

The annual membership fee is £30.00 (£25 if newsletter is PDF) or £42 for joint membership, which includes a copy of our quarterly newsletter (or £37 if newsletter is PDF).

£2 admission charge at our meetings. You may come as a visitor though and the fee is £5 for the day.

How to contact us...

If you would like to find out more about us, visit us, or join our guild please contact:

Guild Secretary; midessexwsd@gmail.com

Or Chairman: 07974 778965

Or visit our website at www.midessexguildwsd.org.uk

If you live in the SE of the County, you may like to contact the Southend Guild: roz.izzard@btinternet.com

If you are over on the west, bordering Hertfordshire – try the **Lea Valley Guild** – secretary@leavalleyguildwsd.uk

If you are not local to Essex, you can find your nearest Guild by visiting the **Association website at: www.wsd.org.uk**

And now there is an **online guild** for anyone anywhere in the world! www.onlineguildwsd.org.uk

This can be done at your local library if you do not have internet access at home.

More about us...

A list of our meetings and speakers is overleaf.

We have a 'shared lunch' at certain meetings; Members bring a plate of something delicious and it is amazingly varied. See programme for details.

As well as the library, we have a sales table at most meetings.

Tea and coffee are provided free.

We now have a list of mentors who are prepared to help beginners in our basic crafts, at our meetings or at classes, which could be arranged privately.

We also have a good range of equipment which members can borrow.

Some of our members are prepared to give talks and demonstrations to schools, colleges and groups. For more details please contact our secretary as described overleaf.

These basic crafts can be a source of lifelong enjoyment and the therapeutic value of using hands and minds is immeasurable.

It is surprising the wealth of work and creativity that can emerge from the minimum of equipment –a drop spindle, a piece of card or some weaving sticks and some left over yarns.

Programme for 2024

- Jan. 20th AGM. 11 am. Show & Tell pm.
With cream scone from the committee.
- Feb.17th 11 am. Dartmoor dye day given by Lesley from our guild.
- Mar.16th 11 am. Elizabeth Williamson; Talk on Lace knitting.1.30.pm
Shetland Lace Workshop.
- April 20th Members Day. Enid Tivey Award.
Bursary Draw and shared lunch.
- May 18th 1.30pm, Sue Jackson, Talk;
Spitalfields Silks and the Age of Elegance
- June.15th 11 am. Workshop; Nuno felting with Asela Ali.
- July 20th 11 am. Talk by Sheila Gunson; The bag lady.
- Aug.17th 11am Susan and Elizabeth Cranmer:Spindle talk.
1.30 pm Workshop.
Members day, Weaving Award.
Shared lunch
- Sept.21st 11.am. Ragged Life - Twined rugs making. American - style rag rugs from scratch on a loom.
- Oct.19th 11 am. Team challenge- Scrap yarn blankets. Team event.
- Nov.16th 11 am. Talk Longdraw James - aspects of fleece preparation and dyeing.
- Dec.14th Christmas party, shared lunch, quizzes, festive workshops .

Meetings are 10.30 am.- 4 pm. usually on the 3rd Saturday of the month (except December) and held at White Notley Village Hall unless otherwise stated.

Visitors are always welcome at every meeting

The Mid Essex Guild Of Weavers, Spinners & Dyes



www.midessexguildwdsd.org.uk