



Felt#WEST

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Editor's Letter

With craft fairs in every direction and Christmas approaching there is no excuse not to feel inspired and motivated this season. Just in case you are not and the already hot weather is keeping you indoors there is a new section of interesting websites I thought you should all take the time to check out. No more random searches this is a big list of arty design well worth the sit down.

I am looking forward to 2011 as much as I have enjoyed 2010. The doll exchange this year has been really clever and creative with a great outcome. Thank you to all those who made it so special. This issue is chockablock with leftovers from the AGM, reviews, toss & tell reportings as well as a lovely insight into Northampton feltmakers, an easy xmas project from Judith Shaw, websites, billboard and loads of pictures! How did we fit it all in? Thank you to all our fantastic reporters and reviewers, Virginia Campbell, Emma Murdoch, Mary Ann Dawson, Antionette Boyd, Katrina Virgona, Terina Adams as well as Tanya Peters and Judith Shaw.

Heather Davis

Welcome to our new members

Front Cover photo

Back Cover photo

Following the AGM and General Meeting, new FeltWest President, **Sue Eslick**, presided over our August Toss n Tell. Newly elected FeltWest Treasurer, **Sue Harrington**, commenced by showing us some interesting sample pieces she had made at Heather's and Lindy's natural dyeing workshop and Lindy's Advanced Nuno workshop, as well as an attractive green felt bowl.



Toss & Tell

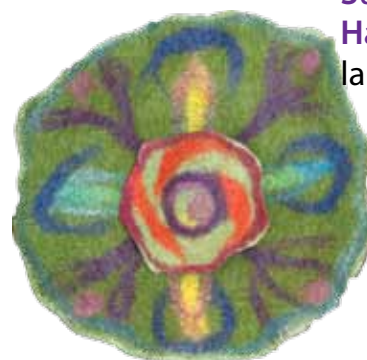
21st August 2010



Judy Calderwood showed us her lovely nuno felted scarf featuring pale pink flowers which she made at Lindy Frayne's advanced nuno workshop.



New member, **Carmen Tyrer** modeled for us her very attractive lilac felted vest and invited suggestions as to how to arrange the neckline lapels.



Sue Harrington
large flower

Karen Wood informed us that Fiona Wright - as well as running her marvelous textile tours to exotic places (Creative Arts Safaris) - was now busy with a project in Pushkar, Rajasthan where local rural women make stitched recycle sari silk components and home wares to order. She brought along a sample pack which Fiona had sent her. For much more information and many images see www.our-pukka-place.com

Judy Hebiton had made a fetching colourful stitched felted colourful stitched felted collar to wear to golf while, **Judith Shaw** showed us a beautifully textured silk and wool tube she had made using cardboard as a resist and incorporating half a ball of yarn stitched. She thought it looked good as a hat and promised to teach a workshop on the method in due course.



Jennifer Blair had made a nicely shaped felted hat which was originally destined for her grandson, but when she pinned fur trim to it she decided it would be much more suitable for her to wear after all!

Katrina Virgona showed us her latest intricate black red and white felted object d'art – a novel felted decorative wristband perhaps?



Nancy Ballesteros brought along the very fabulous scarf she created by making silk and wool paper using starch, greaseproof paper and a hot iron, cutting the "paper" into different shapes and felting those shapes onto silk chiffon fabric. At the Retreat Nancy kindly gave a demonstration of this method which enables the creation of more precise design shapes in wool and silk.



Lucy Bourne showed us her bag of beautiful baby booty full of very cute felted hats and boots she had recently made. **Marie Marshall** brought along a nuno felted silk chiffon scarf which imaginatively used scraps of left over fabric to glamorous effect. She described it as an exercise in using very muted and subtle colours and not her usual "brights", although the photo somewhat suggests otherwise.

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Toss & Tell

18th September 2010

All was fairly quiet on the felting front today. A noticeably smaller group this month, though one still buzzing with activity.

As the newly elected President, **Sue Eslick** chaired her inaugural Toss n Tell meeting. And what a sterling job she did.

For those who know individuals wishing to learn the basic steps to felting, please let Sue or Heather Davis know and a beginners workshop can be organised.

For those seeking to save money on the purchase of books, 'Book Depository', (<http://www.bookdepository.co.uk>); 'Fishpond', (<http://www.fishpond.com.au>) and 'Booktopia' (<http://www.booktopia.com.au>), are all online bookstores. The Book Depository is free shipping to anywhere in the world, whereas Fishpond and Booktopia both having additional shipping fees.

Anyone disappointed in missing out on the chance to purchase Richard Woldendorp's book 'Abstract Earth' for only \$30 at this year's Retreat, will be pleased to know he is generously extending the offer to anyone interested in buying them who did not go to the camp. Please let Sue know.

A reminder: for insurance purposes, would all members coming to Toss n Tell remember to sign the book.

Shirley Maher brought with her a lovely pinky brown wrap, with circular flower-shaped patterning, and tributaries of wool in its main body; this silk scarf was really very delicate. The two ends of the scarf had a greater amount of wool used on them, framing the scarf beautifully.



Heather Davis

commenced Toss n Tell with the display of her fabulous sea-green organza silk wrap, with gold bead detailing. She bought the silk from Lindy Frayne and used a light layer of wool on one side, giving the wrap the right weight to sit perfectly.



Soosie Jobson, again showing her talent for stitching glorious items, produced two smallish pictures of beach shacks in the Cervantes region of Western Australia.

Soosie explained the process of printing the photo-shopped photograph onto mulberry paper, and then free machine stitching over the printed picture. A masterful result.

Some beautiful scarves shown by Sherron Wake:

the very palest of green wool, with cream crocheted flowers, delicate embellishments and overlaid with muslin. Sherron decided to create a neck hole – careful not to make the hole too big - in the scarf so it can be worn exactly in the position she desires. This scarf was also made at the Catherine O'Leary workshop.



Judy Calderwood has framed two panels of dark brown felt featuring a series of antique lace pieces. The lacework was exceptionally delicate and very pretty.

Kerry Wakefield has been studying an online course to learn the art of using natural plant matter to dye fabric. Her experiments have resulted in some incredible effects. Grass trees wrapped in muslin and boiled in water, gave the immersed fabric the most striking burnt orange and yellow colour. To me, it was reminiscent of fire and rust as the colours were so bold and intense. As well as grass tree resin, Kerry also used eucalyptus, resulting in a much subtler pale brown.

Having dyed the fabric, Kerry rinsed the items in soda ash and then felted old doilies and lace to add texture and dimension. The three pieces she brought with her were great demonstrations of the effects of extracting colour from natural matter.





Beautiful scarves were a-plenty this Toss n Tell. **Alison Gomes** has real skill in producing divine scarves, and this month was no exception. Her olive silk scarf, featuring a deep purple petal pattern fanning like multiple setting suns over the scarf, was just beautiful. The other scarf Alison made was also olive in colour but had bands of purple, deep pink and blue silk, with purple velvet bands at each end. This scarf received a lot of adoration from members; particularly Lindy Frayne who I think was threatening to pocket it!



Alison also explained how she continues to use the technique of not using bubble wrap that she learnt at the Catherine O'Leary's workshop this year. Rather, Alison rolls her pieces directly on to the pipe and then finally, just rolling it onto itself. This method gives a flatter, smoother finish.



Ai-Lin Chen Van Leeuwen told the group how she'd been on an obi roll, revealing three she'd recently made. One made from cream angora wool drizzled with cream and brown mohair; a second cream obi with a long black strip woven through central square cut-outs and white straight stitching; and finally a chocolate brown one with scatterings of dark red rings. Each of the obis were different from each other, but equally effective.

Pat Kendall has been working wonders on her knitting machine, producing a lovely cream poncho with tassels. Added to this, was a series of perfect replicas of wildflowers, including Kangaroo Paws and Banksia. Pat had meticulously created these from prefelts and needle felted them to the poncho. Her purple and black silk scarf had purple circles subtly incorporated onto it, giving the piece a lovely light appeal.



Carmen Tyrer's brown felt sports hat was cunningly created from a resist, as was **Sue Harrington's** whale. Both were very unique and cleverly crafted.



Linda Riccio brought with her her fantastic black yurt wall covering, with red, orange, blue and green embroidery, from Kyrgyzstan. For those not knowing where Kyrgyzstan is situated, it is a landlocked republic in the eastern part of Central Asia and is bordered at the north by Kazakhstan, the east by China, in the south by China and Tajikistan, and in the west by Uzbekistan. It is a former part of U.S.S.R and became an independent nation in 1992. Linda is going to hang the yurt on a wall in her house, which will display the incredible piece spectacularly.

The other piece **Sherron Wake** presented was her five-year work-in-progress waistcoat. Ochre in colour, a series of organic curves and an open flap at the back, the wrap was made from silk lap scraps, purchased from Nancy Ballesteros. It was made from three individually created pieces of fabric that were linked together to make the waistcoat.



Toss & Tell

15th October 2010

October's Toss n Tell was a busy day with lots of chatting about all the different projects being worked on.

This was the last Toss'n'Tell before the Christmas Party and the last opportunity to contribute to the wondrous collection of dolls as they will go up for auction at the Christmas party.

Sue Harrington showed us her lovely wall hanging, made as a wedding gift.



Kathy wanted to create scarves that looked like paintings and showed us two of her interpretations. One was of black silk with grey alpaca and another using a multi coloured grid pattern on a grey background.



Lucy Bourne had made a cute little green bag. **Katrina Vergonas** was in the process of completing a black, red and white bag that still had quite a bit of felting left to do but it was easy to see the dramatic bag it will become.

Nancy Ballesteros showed her newest creations. They are a cross between a necklace and a collar. Quite unique and beautiful using antique kimono and silk fabric scraps.



Alison Gomes had a lovely piece of work to show us all, it was a deep blue and white scarf in which she used a white bat to cut the geometric shapes and get the beautifully crisp edges.

Carmen Tyrer showed us her wrap which used an Op-Shop fabric with a weft and weave of ribbon and metal thread. Antoinette had a beautiful grey and black shoulder bag with a hide strap. **Pat** showed us her light grey wool and mohair bag with an embedded yarn for decoration. **Shirley** had made a sarong for her Bali trip, out of silk fabric with wool at the edges but thought it was going to be too big. This was quickly proven to be incorrect as both **Heather and Lindy** modelled examples of how it was just perfect as a sarong. I hope your trip to Bali was a good one, Shirley.



Jill Jodrell had made a couple of beautifully executed hats based on the teachings of Alexander Pilin. One was inspired by yellow Sunflowers and a Corriedale fitted cloche style hat with flaps using wool, Alpaca and hemp stitching on the leaf motive.



Sue Swain is working with the Girl Guides and is teaching them felting. She was trying out a lizard to see if it would be a suitable subject. It was made with a rope down the centre and two more pieces tied on across to make the legs. All covered in acrylic stuffing and then in wool and felted, attaching on top a cut orange shape from a bat. It was very effective but she's not sure it's easy enough for the Girl Guides!



Ailin showed us her latest "blunder", but as we all know the latest blunder can become the newest triumph and so it is with Ailin's blue wrap. The yarn would not embed into the wool so she decided take it off. Luckily, some had taken and now decorates the wrap just perfectly. She also showed us her scarf using Nancy's 'citron' colourway and another large scarf/wrap which sandwiches two layers of muslin with various bits of fabrics between as well as having decorative stitching on top. She also showed us a tiny pictorial square she created with the idea of using scraps that would normally be thrown away.

FW 8



Terri Brandstater had made 2 scarves and a wrap that she had created from an old skirt that she thought was too interesting to throw away and after cutting off the waistband and felting along one side, it became a wrap. **Virginia Campbell** also made a beautiful wrap in shades of black grey and blue.



NORTHAMPTON FELTERS



Northampton is a little town, population 800, located 50 kilometres north of Geraldton. Each year the local tourist bureau holds a one day festival, the Airing of the Quilts. We have a number of art and textile focused groups and, as in all small towns, everyone belongs to a number of organisations, and if we don't already know each other then we very soon will. So it wasn't so difficult when my own interest in felt kindled a desire among my textile colleagues and I found myself, a relatively new felter, running a basic workshop for them. I had been experimenting with felt, reading books, and then attended a course with Lorraine MacArthur at the Albany Summer School. Since then we have been fortunate to have Lorraine's expertise twice in the past two years as she and John come through Northampton on their annual jaunt north.

A year ago our umbrella craft association ran a series of craft days in an endeavour to attract more women and my contribution was three very simple felt workshops. Early this year I decided there was sufficient interest for a felt group and we now get together once a month. We have about 20 members and generally get 7 or 8 people to a session, some from Geraldton and one from Kalbarri which is 100 kilometres north.

We meet at the RSL Hall, a light and airy venue. The downside of it is the waxed floor. I spent the first couple of sessions quite paranoid, running around with towels to mop up any spills and drips. Fortunately we all seem to have the excess water situation under control now. We learn together, from each other and from books. And, hooked on felt as I am, in between times I experiment -currently with the shibori techniques of Annette Quentin-Stoll. We have had sessions on spikes and handles, felt flowers, bowls and Lorraine ran a nuno felting workshop for us. During the school holidays children are welcome to come with their Mums and we are hoping to have a more child oriented day towards the end of the summer holidays.

I see the range of workshops offered by Felt West and one day hope I will be able to be there. A serendipity moment for me was meeting Jo Saunt at our last Agricultural show. I think she has convinced me that I should come to the next retreat.



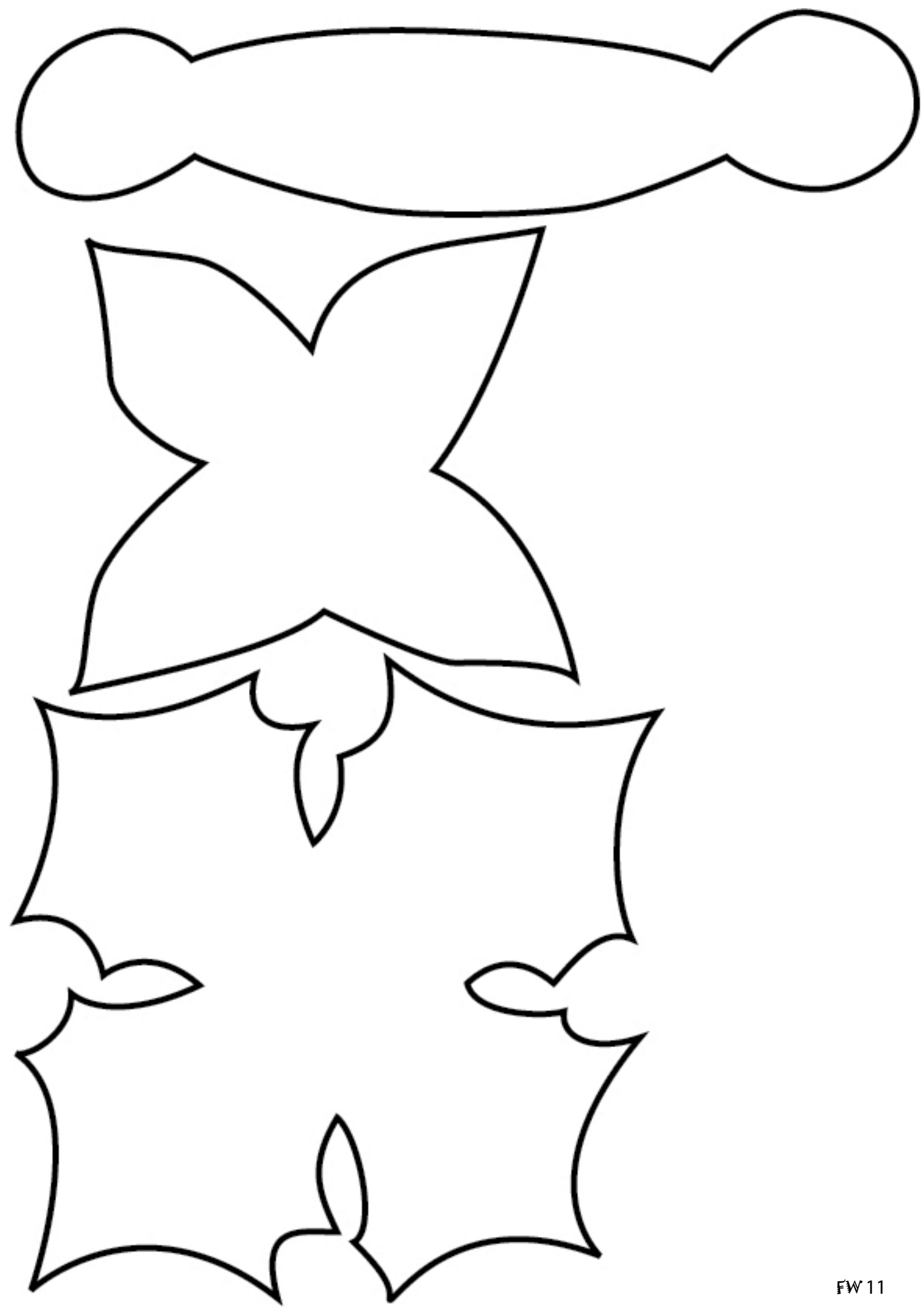
CHRISTMAS PROJECT

Christmas felt Poinsettia napkin holder



An easy project to make and a great way to use those felt scraps or mistakes

1. Cut one leaf shape in green felt, make small cut in centre.
2. Cut two flower shapes in red felt, make small cut in centre of both.
3. Cut one ring shape in red felt.
4. Place two red flower shapes on top of green leaf shape
5. Push both round ends of ring shape through the cut holes of all three pieces.
6. Add decorative stitching or glitz as desired.



WORKSHOPS

NUNO with Judy Shaw
September 2010



Eleven eager felters attended the workshop to learn about the wonders of nuno.

Judith gave us some background into the history of nuno and showed us a number of things she had made and the different types of fabrics we could use which was inspiration enough for us to eagerly embark on our own projects.

Judith is a wonderful recycler and made it clear that we don't always have to spend a fortune on expensive silks – we can make beautiful nuno using many cheaper fabrics. Just be careful to do a sample piece first if unsure, particularly if doing a larger piece of work. The textures achieved using different fabrics was interesting and at times unpredictable which added to the fun of doing nuno. Many had ideas to embellish their projects afterwards which would add even greater beauty to the art of nuno.

It was interesting to see the wide variety of work produced - collages, flowers, circles, scarves, shawls and a wall hanging.

Thanks to Judith's patience and wealth of knowledge which she shared generously I think we all came away a little wiser. Another day would have been great to finish off some of the larger projects ... but then another day is always great when felting!

As usual, when felters get together, it was a productive, fun day. Reviewed by Antoinette Boyd.

FELT BAG WORKSHOP with Lucy Bourne

October 2010



Luckily none of us were avid footy fans as we were all booked in for the Bags Workshop on what turned out to be the second Grand Final Day. The only forlorn face we saw all day belonged to the unknown lady from Pinjarra who walked into Craft House at 9.30am with her sewing machine in hand. As soon as she saw Lucy holding up a series of felt bags she realised she'd come to the wrong class on the wrong day. She thought it was Sunday. She stayed for a cup of tea and then turned around and went home!

Anyway moving on back to our group...the bagladies! We were busy learning how much forethought needs to go into a bag. What did we want to carry in it? Let's measure those items and take them into account for the overall size of the bag. We started with at least double our desired size for the finished product. Then we had to think about the features we wanted? Pouch pockets? Patch pockets? Strap length? Adjustable straps? Straps felted on? Straps stitched on later? Straps attached with D-rings? Drawstring ties for enclosures? Flaps? Magnetic clasps on the flaps? Zips? Buttons?

So many planning and design decisions had to be made prior to laying out the felt. There was much muttering to ourselves as we tried to think ahead constantly. Did we want the pockets on the outside or the inside? Would they be attached to the felt lining or would they swing free? When did Lucy say to put the fabric lining layer down? You get the picture I'm sure! The following quotes are from the various participants

when asked to write a few words regarding the highlight of their day:

Helen Climas "Think think think laterally and there'll always be a solution"

Antoinette Boyd "Learning how to make pockets and using resists"

Terri Brandstater "Types of straps and how to attach them"

Alison Gomes "I like Lucy's tip about using a pair of pliers to pull out the uneven bits around the edge of a piece of felt. Simply tug on a bit, hold in place with pliers while you steam iron the edge to even it out. I enjoyed the day thoroughly and I thought Lucy was very organized and thorough with teaching us all of the steps."

Lynn Lukich "Fantastic day – enjoyed Lucy's fabulous teaching"

Pat Kendall "A great day of learning and friendship"

Carmen "Very instructive for a beginner. Loved it"

Most of us managed to finish the laying out of the wool for the body of the bag and some of us were wetting down and gently rolling but there is a whole lot of homework for everyone in the class! It'll be terrific to see the finished pieces at the next Toss n Tell. Thanks Lucy, great workshop!!

Reviewed by Katrina Virgona

WORKSHOPS

RUG WORKSHOP with Liz Odd

November 2010

With eager anticipation, and just a little trepidation, I arrived at Liz's rug workshop. Anticipation because I had been looking forward to it all year, trepidation as I have never felted anything so large before. Everyone was there setting up two tables to work on, this was going to take a lot of arm action.

We spent a short time in a huddle at the front, as "we had a lot of work ahead of us", while Liz discussed design. Sheets of notes outlining three different methods; soft edge design, hard edge design, and hard edge design in reverse were handed out, "It's always good to have something to refer to afterwards," Liz explained. I definitely agree. It also meant we could focus on what Liz was saying and not get lost in our notes.

Liz tends to use either two generous layers of felt (or anything in the even numbers for even shrinkage) or batts as a base and then from there the limit is your imagination. We were shown examples of rugs Liz had done using prefelt for decorative effect, fabric, mostly cotton (Liz's preference was cotton viole), scrap wool tops, previous disasters (I have a lot of those lying around), even paper was used to great effect. To finish of the look stitching can be used to embellish beautifully.

Liz gave us many very useful pointers such as making a thicker rug if it was going on to a hard floor as opposed to carpet, and to also check that you put an antiskid mat down underneath your rug on hard floors. One great pointer to stop any fluting that occurs is to do a running stitch around the outside of the rug once dry and then pulling it in to reduce the fluting. Also to get a hard finish you can place your rug in a pot (big if rug is big) of hot vinegar and simmer for 10 – 20 mins. It should feel hard or sturdy to the touch. You can also insert fabric into the centre of your batts to make it more stable, or you could use the fabric on the surface as part of your design.

Then it was on to creating our works of art. First we laid out our batts and all colours and materials that we had chosen. Liz then came around to each individual table and discussed with the person

their design and choice of colour and materials. Offering advice and helpful tips so that we all could get the best out of our workshop and all leave with masterpieces. Liz suggested felting mini samples first to make sure that your colours worked well (taking into consideration that the base colour will come through to the top colours).

We were asked to tack our batts together to prevent them from separating at any time. Time was spent feeling the batts for evenness and stripping back any thick bits and making up areas where it felt thinner. Edges were trimmed to make sure that it was equal width all the way along and not too wispy. A lot of consideration was placed on laying out the design, with many requests for Liz's assistance and expertise here. One hint was never to put your design right up to the edge in case you need to cut the edges afterwards. Once we were satisfied with the design then we dry rolled it (about 200 rolls) to capture the design before turning the whole thing over to the wrong side to felt. The reason for this being that it reduces the amount of creases on the right side (or the design). In fact Liz explained that she mostly starts out by drawing her design first on plastic with laundry marker then laying out the design finally finishing with the batt. This eliminates the need to flip your work before felting.

We then began the physical process of felting all the while checking the edges and design. After a good many rolls and a check to make sure everything was felted well we then washed in hot water and fulled for a good many more throws. Due to the size of our work and careful consideration of design many people did not finish their work but Liz very generously handed out her card so that any one might contact her if they felt they needed help finishing their work. We all stood back to have a look at each others work and all agreed that our first attempts had been a success.

Thanks heaps to Liz for her time and patience and very valued expertise.

Reviewed by Terina Adams

NOTICE BOARD



Once Upon a Teapot: The 13 th Annual Teapot and Teacosy Exhibition

Date: 31 Oct to 28 Nov 2010

Venue: Old Bakery on 8 th Gallery, 42/8th Ave,
Maylands

Felt Convergence 2011

Date: 2nd to 7th Oct 2011

Venue: Bunbury Cathedral Grammar School.
More Info: www.feltconvergencebunburywa.blogspot.com



Fibres West 2011

Date: 9th to 15th October 2011

Venue: Bunbury Cathedral Grammar School
More Info: for a brochure send your postal address
to PO Box 1405, Booragoon WA 6954 or e-mail your
postal address to info@fibreswest.com.au

TAFTA Annual Orange Forum

Date: 10th to 16th April 2011

Venue: Kinross– Wolaroi School, Orange, NSW
More Info: A forum program can be found at
<http://www.tafta.org.au/>



Melville Sculpture Walk 2011

Entries open to all WA artists

The City of Melville is now inviting applications
from Western Australian artists to exhibit as part
of the eighth Sculpture Walk. This year's event will
take place at the new Kadidjiny Park, located on the
corner of Kitchener and Curtis Roads in Melville. The
event will open on Friday 11 March 2011.

Applications will be accepted until 4.00pm, Friday
17 December 2010.

The application form and info pack can be
downloaded from: [http://www.melvillecity.com.au/
community/art/sculpture-walk](http://www.melvillecity.com.au/community/art/sculpture-walk)



Peggy Guggenheim Collection

Date: Until 31st January 2011

Venue: WA Art gallery, Northbridge
FW 15

2010 **G**EELONG FIBRE FORUM

The Geelong Fibre Forum was recently held at the Geelong Grammar School in Geelong. A week of fabulous fibre, sumptuous sculpture and tempting textiles was on offer. We saw everything from felt, fibre sculptures, book making, the most incredible shoes, clothing reconstruction, machine embroidery and hand stitching. If you wanted it, it was there.

I attended a workshop with Polly Jacobs Giacchina, from the United States. Polly works in fibre, predominantly date palm fronds with which she creates sculptures and wall art. She taught us basic twining techniques, which then led us to create sculptures of our own design.

Catherine O'Leary was tutoring felted vessels and again had some amazing jackets for sale. Her students worked hard creating many different styles of vessels and sculptures. They felted around balloons and other various found objects.

It is always interesting to see other felters from around Australia, their products, techniques and ideas. I still believe that we are exceptional here in the West, producing creative work of a very high standard of felt.

We had a fabulous week of friendship, creativity and joy. With participants from across Australia and New Zealand, there were plenty of amazing people to meet and share thoughts. I personally find that I get more than just being creative and exploring new techniques. The women I meet have amazing life experiences that they happily share and I see my life in a new light. The people you meet are life changing and I love seeing people who I met at previous forums. If you have never attended a forum, I would strongly recommend it and as luck would have it, Fibres West 2011 is next year in Bunbury. Check out the website www.fibreswest.org for details.



WEB LINKS

With summer temperatures causing us to wilt and hide in the cool air con, a few suggestions and some online inspiration might refresh you.

Various artist & designer online shopping sites

www.incube8r.com.au online gallery,
click through the artists

www.thirddrawerdown.com great teatowels

www.todryfor.com even more great teatowels

www.tworuffians.com quirky hand printed stuff

www.selvege-bookshop.org
so many great art and textile books

Various Felt Artists

www.studiodgm.com amazing outrageous accessories

www.TheCraftyRetailer.blogspot.com includes a how to
for beaded felt jewellery

www.horstcouture.com wearable art

www.bloomfelt.com felts for Cirque Du Soleil

www.sangitfeltart.com.au Feltwest ex treasurer

www.etsy.com Ebay for artists, a must see!

www.madeit.com.au Australian made!

www.dawanda.com another ebay for artists but more
European

Amazing tea cosies to check out

[http://sites.google.com/site/regionalartsgroup/home/
world-tea-cosy-competition](http://sites.google.com/site/regionalartsgroup/home/world-tea-cosy-competition)



2010 AGM

Saturday August 21 2010

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting
Craft House, Alexander Park, Menora

Members Attending: Karen Wood (Chair), Nancy Ballesteros, Jennifer Blair, Sarah Blackburn, Lyn Blasgund, Lucy Bourne, Karla Branch, Judy Calderwood, Gail Campbell, Virginia Campbell, Kathy Collett, Heather Davis, Sue Eslick, Kerry Gelmi, Susan Harrington, Judy Hebiton, Jill Jodrell, Patricia Kendall, Connie La Macchia, Lyn Lukich, Shirley Maher, Marie Marshall, Louise Nidorf, Teresa O'Malley, Elizabeth Odd, Gail Putz, Linda Riccio, Jo-Anne Saunt, Judith Shaw, Jan Stroud, Susan Swain, Carmen Tyrer, Noreen Willocks, Katrina Virgona.

Apologies: Vianne Sleyphen, Kate Ryder, Judi Barkla, Dawn Nicholson, Barbara Adrian.

Meeting opened at 12.05pm

Minutes of the previous AGM: Heather Davis read the minutes of the AGM of August 15 2009. There were no matters arising.

Motion: Karen Wood moved that the minutes be accepted. Voted Sue Swain, seconded Virginia Campbell.

President's Report: This last year has been a successful one for FeltWest. Monthly toss n tell meetings are consistently larger than previous years and our workshops are always full. Lots of new members have joined us and by the end of the financial year our membership had reached 200.

Catherine O Leary was a highlight for many, and those who could not attend the workshop, were inspired by her slideshow. The retreat this year was superb. Richard Waldondorp gave a lengthy and enthralling talk with slides of his work. Many of us were excited by the possibilities of translating his work into felt pieces.

The 2009 Freo Arts Bazaar was an opportunity for members to have their work appreciated by the public and \$10,000 worth of felt sold over a very hot weekend can't be wrong.

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I would like to say I have enjoyed my three years as president, many times there was a learning curve but with such a great committee it never seemed too hard. A special thank you goes to Nancy Ballesteros who has supported and guided me the whole time. Best wishes to Sue Eslick who I am sure will be a great and joyful new president. Thank you to all the members who make FeltWest the special and welcoming group that it is.

Heather Davis: The Chair advised that Heather Davis' term as President had come to an end and thanked her for all her hard work and dedication to the organisation over the past three years. Heather had nominated to remain on the Committee and take on the role of Newsletter Editor.

The Chair advised that Nancy Ballesteros, Judith Shaw, Jennifer Blair and Lyn Lukich would be stepping down from the Committee (though Lyn has kindly agreed to continue running the library). All four were thanked for their generous commitment to FeltWest.

Presentations were made to Heather, Nancy, Judith, Jennifer and Lyn.

Treasurer's Report: The Committee developed a budget for the 2009/10 year to keep our finances on track, and this was presented to the AGM.

Feltwest commenced the 2009/10 financial year with \$21,760 in the bank. Approximately \$7,400 of this was workshop fees for 2009/10 workshops that had been paid in advance, including \$6,400 for international workshops. Adjusting for just the international workshop fees, we were left with \$15,360 in cash.

At the end of the 2009/10 financial year, Feltwest had \$19,349.78 in the bank.

Income: Our income (\$28,628.80) was higher than anticipated due to strong enrolments in our workshops and the retreat, and a pleasing increase in numbers of people attending Toss and Tell. On the other hand, bank interest was substantially less than we anticipated at the beginning of the year. This is partly because our term deposit didn't mature until after the end of the financial year (21st July).

Expenditure: We introduced a small commission on work sold at the Fremantle Bazaar (2.5%) which contributed to the cost of running the stall. Sales were substantially lower than in previous years. The net cost to Feltwest was approximately \$140. We spend \$1,300 on honorariums at \$100 per committee member per annum. The newsletter costs have been maintained at around \$4,000, with a further \$500 for the website. This is great value for these high quality products.

The balance of income over expenditure was \$(2,444.87).

Membership: At the end of June 2010, Feltwest had 200 members (including two Life Members), up from 175 in the previous year.

2010/11 Budget: The budget for 2010/11 financial year has been developed on the basis of current information, and indicates a balance of income and expenditure. This will be revised later in the year, following the planning for the Feltwest 2011 program of events. The anticipated income is conservative. Fremantle bazaar income is not shown as this is paid immediately back to those participants whose work was sold.

Sue Eslick: Feltwest Treasurer August 2010.

Motion: That the Treasurer's report be accepted.

Voted: Louise Nidorf, seconded Liz Odd. Accepted.

Election of Office Bearers: All committee positions were declared vacant.

The following nominations have been received:

President: Sue Eslick

Vice President: Virginia Campbell

Secretary: Alison Gomes.

Treasurer: Sue Harrington

Members: Heather Davis (Newsletter editor)

Lindy Frayne (Workshop coordinator)

Lucy Bourne (Newsletter publisher)

Tanya Peters

Louise Nidorf

Jo Ann Saunt

In the absence of any other nominations the Chair moved that these members be elected to the committee and to the various roles, as described. Accepted unanimously.

Other Business: Jan Stroud encouraged members to join her in thanking the committee for their hard work.

A member asked how many members were required for a quorum for the AGM. The answer was 10.

Nancy Ballesteros asked members to consider how they would like FeltWest's funds to be spent and to give these ideas to the Committee.

The Chair advised that further discussion on this issue was welcome but was outside the parameters of the meeting and declared the meeting closed.

Meeting closed 12.45pm

