



weaversbazaar

WEAVERSBAZAAR NEWSLETTER MAY 2026

Welcome to the latest **weaversbazaar newsletter**!

In this issue: some product news alongside the usual information about a range of exhibitions, courses and events. We've made a change to our format following feedback. Let us know what you think!

There's an article from **Michael Williams**, introducing himself. He is our new supplier of bobbins, but makes much more as well. There are also the **results of the poll** asking what you use our yarns for, and an introduction to a new one – which colours of warp would you like us to stock? And, **you can now order 'click and collect'** – read on for details...

The next newsletter will come out at the end of May, so let us know if you have any news, events or exhibitions coming up later in the year. Please send the information through to newsletter@weaversbazaar.com by May 20th. We can't promise to include everything, but we will try to help spread the word about who is doing what and what's going on.

WEAVERSBAZAAR NEWS AND UPDATES

Results from the poll:

We asked you what you use our yarn for, and the answer is - primarily tapestry weaving, but with a number of you weaving with it and using it for stitch and embroidery, as well as other activities. No lace makers, however. After 99 votes, the results are:

Tapestry weaving	51.5%
Other weaving (eg cloth, rigid heddle, inkle loom)	19.2%
Embroidery / stitch	11.1%
Braid making	4%
Felt making	5.1%
Crochet	3%
Knitting	4%
Lace making	0%
Macrame	1%
Other	1%

Our next poll asks **what colour of warp yarns** you would like us to hold in stock. You can find the new poll on the home page of our website, and see below for some more information about it.

We also like to share what you have been using our yarns for. Send us images and tell us a bit about it, or include @weaversbazaar100 in your social media posts so we can see what you're up to. We'll do periodic features in our newsletters, and may be in touch to find out more...!

Product News:

Coloured Warp: We now have some 100g balls of Liina 18 in **dark grey** (#67) in stock. As we have to order the 100g balls in batches of 12 of the same colour and yarn weight, we thought we'd run a **poll** to find out which colours you'd most like us to stock. We can then order some of the most popular colour.



If you use coloured warp or would like to try some, please fill in the poll – you can find it on the home page of our [website](#), along with a link to the Suomen Lanka website, our supplier. We'll only regularly stock Liina 15 or 18, but if you would like a different weight or colour please get in touch, as we can place a specific order if needed. We can order 500g cones of coloured warp individually.

Old batches of yarn: During our stock check, we discovered a few tubes of **older batches of our medium and fine wool yarn**. The list of colours and their batch numbers is available from the home page of our [website](#) – just click on the link you'll find there. Most of them are 25g, available for £4, with the odd 50g (£8) among them. If you'd like to purchase any, please contact [Alison](#) directly. She'll be able to confirm what's still available and sort out your order.

It's always worth remembering to check batch numbers if you're using a particular colour for a project, especially if maintaining the specific colour throughout your tapestry is important. We know it can make a significant impact – colours can vary between batches. Blending from the old into the new can help with a transition mid-project – or simply ordering enough from the same batch for the project before you start if you want to be sure. **Rebecca Mezoff** has a [blog](#) on the matter, should you wish to delve further.



We're **still low on some colours**, so do check availability before you order those – you'll see our traffic light system against each colour and weight of yarn in our online store. Replacements are on order, it just takes a while...

You can order our yarns in a range of quantities, from 25g and 50g tubes to 100g or larger cones, hanks and balls. [Contact us](#) if you have any queries. You can also order our sample cards to see the full range of colours and weights, including warp yarn (natural colours only).

Bobbins: We are now stocking bobbins made by [Michael Williams](#), as our previous supplier has decided to retire. Michael hand-makes a range of wooden equipment for weavers, spinners, braidmakers and more – see the end of this newsletter for an article. Let us know if you'd be interested in weaversbazaar stocking some more of his items.



Room and resources available:

We have a small room with lovely light here at our base in Carnforth, which is available for groups to hire (max 6 – 8 people, depending on activity, but with some overspill into the adjacent area possible).

We also have a library, resources such as samples woven by Janet Phillips and her students using our yarns, and more. If a group of you would like to visit, please get in touch. We can also organise a short talk, potentially even a workshop. Just [contact us](#) to ask for details.

The **sett tape video** mentioned in our last newsletter will be on our website shortly. Look for it in our Knowledge Zone.

Our regular important information:



You can now order **‘click and collect’**, handy if you live nearby or will be passing on your travels. Simply select ‘click and collect’ as your delivery address at checkout, then liaise with Alison to collect between 10am and 12 noon once your order is ready. For items in stock your order should be ready the next working day, or from Tuesday if you order on a Friday or over the weekend, but Alison will confirm this with you.

We can take **payments by card over the phone!** Phone Alison on +44 7594 234499 to place your order, and make sure you have your card handy as well as your order list. Please only ring between 9:30am and 12:30pm, UK time, Monday to Friday – we don’t work 24/7, despite doing our best to be helpful...!

If you’re visiting Farfield Mill in Sedbergh for exhibitions or workshops, it’s worth noting that Carnforth, where weaversbazaar is based, is only a 30-minute drive away, just off the M6! By prior arrangement you can come and pick up your order, have a browse, and say hello. Do get in touch if you’re going to be in the area – simply email [Alison](mailto:Alison@weaversbazaar.co.uk) to make arrangements.

Our address is Unit 12, Lyne Riggs Estate, Lancaster Road, Carnforth, Lancashire, LA5 9EA. Our phone number is +44 7594 234499. If you’re thinking of visiting, we’re generally only there in the mornings, so do email or phone ahead to book your appointment.

A reminder that there’s now a **5-year time limit on gift vouchers**. Any new vouchers will be issued with an expiry date. If you already have a voucher, check when it was issued, or contact us to check (we’ll need the code as reference), as it will now expire 5 years from date of issue.

Shipping to USA – many of you will be aware of the removal of the de minimis tariff on goods shipped into the USA. All parcels are now subject to a 10% import duty, given that most of our products are made in the UK.



So that parcels don't get held up in customs, we are now collecting the taxes on all USA orders when you place your order, and paying them on your behalf, which means you should know exactly what you are paying and there shouldn't be any nasty surprises when you receive your parcels (we hope...!). We are sending them via Royal Mail, as we are aware of problems with other shippers.

Feedback so far indicates that the process is working well and parcels are arriving promptly. Please do let us know if you have any problems, however, so that we can try to help find solutions.

Please note the restrictions placed by the **EU General Product Safety Regulations (GPSR)**, which came into effect on December 13th 2024. **We can now ship yarn products into the EU and Northern Ireland**, as these appear to be exempt from the regulations. Any other items in our catalogue cannot be shipped into the EU or Northern Ireland until further notice, however. We're hoping that we can find solutions, but please do bear these restrictions in mind until that happens.

If you are affected by this and are coming over to the UK for any reason, including courses at West Dean, exhibitions, or whatever, do get in touch as we may be able to make alternative arrangements with you. Email Alison on enquiries@weaversbazaar.com to discuss options.

Finally - **if you are a member of the British Tapestry Group or the American Tapestry Alliance**, remember that you can get a **discount** for online orders for many of our products. The codes can be found in the member's area of their websites. Remember to enter the code then update your cart to get the benefit of the discount. And note that codes change at the start of April, certainly for BTG!



EXHIBITIONS, COURSES AND EVENTS!

Last Chance to See...

[Joanne Soroka](#) and [Gyllian Thomson](#), tapestry weavers based in Scotland, have work in the **Visual Arts Scotland** exhibition, *Common Ground, the Living Landscape*, at [Kirkcudbright Galleries](#), Dumfries & Galloway. This multi-media exhibition runs **until Sunday 10th May**.



The British Tapestry Group (BTG)'s fabulous 20th anniversary exhibition ***Picking up the Thread: The Past, Present and Future of Tapestry*** is now between venues, having been packed up and transferred into temporary storage.

The exhibition's final venue is the [Morley Gallery, London](#) (**22nd – 25th July**), with a closing celebration on Saturday 25th July.

Please note the change of dates – sadly it will now only be open here for a few days, due to circumstances outside BTG and the Morley Gallery's control.



Sara Trist – Timescape (detail)

Full details of the exhibition are on the [BTG website](#). The exhibition catalogue is available to purchase from the BTG [website shop](#), priced £20 plus postage and packing. Recordings of the Symposium held in Dumfries in August are also available to purchase from the website shop, along with back copies of Tapestry Weaver magazine and catalogues from previous exhibitions, including some from Regional Group exhibitions.



Tapestry of the North at Kirkleatham Museum.

BTG's **Northern Regional Group** exhibition, ***Tapestry of the North: Our Textile Heritage***, is at [Kirkleatham Museum](#) near Redcar until 16th June 2026. The **winner of the People's Choice Award** will be **announced on Sunday June 14th**. Remember to vote if you're visiting!

The tapestries then go to the [Bankfield Museum in Halifax](#) from September for its final venue. See the [Tapestry of the North](#) website for details, including images of the work included in the exhibition.

[American Tapestry Alliance \(ATA\)](#)'s next exhibition, **Thinking Through Tapestry**, will be at the **Evanston Arts Centre, IL 60201, USA, May 30th to June 28th**.

farfieldmill

[Farfield Mill](#) in Sedbergh, towards the western edge of the Yorkshire Dales, is a former woollen mill with a strong textile heritage of its own. Its current use as a venue for exhibitions and the home of a number of studio artists means there's always a lot going on.

Currently on the top floor (Loft Gallery), running until **31st May 2026** is the **2026 Farfield Mill Textile Competition**, showcasing shortlisted entries with a theme of **Metamorphosis**, exploring transformation, growth and change through texture, colour and form.

The new [exhibitions](#) on Level 2 include a range of ceramics and paintings, plus an exhibition of woven art by Vicky Ellis. These exhibitions run until Sunday 12th July.

Alongside the exhibitions, Farfield Mill also run a wide range of regular **workshops**, including tapestry, cloth weaving, and a range of arts. See their [website](#) for details and to book.

Tapestry workshops coming up, run by Anna, include a series of one day sessions looking at the use of colour in tapestry – see below under Nearly Wild Weaving.

Farfield Mill is open Wednesday to Sunday, 10:30am – 4pm, plus Bank Holiday Mondays. It has an excellent tea room as well. And remember, if you're visiting Farfield Mill, weaversbazaar isn't far away...

Anna also has a new studio at Farfield Mill on Level 3 – do come and say hello if you're visiting! There are a number of other weavers and textile artists with studios at the Mill, as well as the Weaving Friends with projects on the go on the top floor. If you're interested in textiles, or indeed the arts in general, the Mill is well worth a visit!



Damascus Fiber Arts School- Tapestry Talks

Join the Damascus Fiber Arts School for their monthly **Tapestry Talks**. One Saturday a month, an invited artist gives a presentation about their tapestry journey.

Their upcoming talks feature:

Deborah Corsini – Interconnections: My Creative Journey. 9th May.

Jennifer Edwards – The Golden Thread. 13th June.

The recordings of **Micala Sidore** – *The Unexpected Artist* and **Rama Ganesan** – *Properties of Tapestry Cloth* are still available to purchase.

All talks are at 10am Pacific time. Tickets only cost \$10 - [sign up on their website](#).

Homage to Audrey Moore (1926-2020) - A catalog of select tapestries by Audrey Moore and the 27 tapestries woven to honor and celebrate her 53-year journey in fiber arts as a weaver and much beloved mentor and teacher. Audrey is best known for her colorful tapestries "The Ladies" and was the founder of Damascus Fiber Arts School. To get your copy of the catalog visit the [Damascus Fiber Arts School](#) website.

If you're in the USA and can make it to Damascus, it's worth looking at what face to face workshops they have on. Or - **Create Your own Workshop!** Can't find the exact dates or topics for your tapestry needs? Looking for a Beginning Tapestry Workshop or something else? Find a few friends, then contact them with a proposal and possible times/dates. They can organize a workshop just for you and your friends. Simply [email](#) them.



The **Murmuration tapestries** have completed their flight around the UK, but migrate to the Netherlands in late July. They will be at the [Stroomhuis Neerijnen](#) **30th July to 23rd August**, along with some of the Waterline tapestries.

Plans are steadily coming together to show this project in the States, Canada and Mexico in 2027 / 28. If you have any suggestions for venues, and especially if you can help, please do get in touch with the Murmuration team!



Murmuration at the Norfolk Wildlife Trust Visitor Centre, Cley Next the Sea, Norfolk, January / February 2026.

Murmuration Collaboration is a set of 12 shaped tapestries that have been woven by most of the weavers who took part in [Waterline](#), designed to capture the sense of movement in a murmuration of birds. The group have collaborated closely so that the tapestries flow together in shape, colour and, of course, the murmuration itself. Last seen in Cley Next the Sea, North Norfolk, UK, it's an amazing set of tapestries!

Alongside the exhibitions, there's a number of fascinating articles on [Substack](#). There are also regular updates on Facebook and Instagram – links from Substack and the [Nearly Wild Weaving website](#). The group gave an **online talk** about the project in October. It has been recorded and the link to watch it is on the Nearly Wild Weaving [website](#).



The Murmuration tapestries at The Usual Place, Dumfries, August 2025.

The **catalogue for the Murmuration project** is also available, price £15 plus p&p, and can be ordered online at <https://square.link/u/yG6qYaGG>.

We take a keen interest in this project at weaversbazaar, not only because Anna was one of the weavers, but also because the tapestries have predominantly been woven with weaversbazaar yarns!



Nearly Wild Weaving are keeping themselves busy behind the scenes...

As well as her twice monthly classes in Carnforth, Anna has a series of **workshops** coming up at **Farfield Mill**, which look at using colour in tapestry. The next dates are:

Saturday 13th June – *Pick & Pick and Stripes*.

Sunday 20th September – *Hatching and Blending* (Postponed from April 18th)

All are suitable for beginners and can be attended either on their own or as a package. Book via the [Farfield Mill website](#).

She also now has a studio at Farfield Mill in Sedbergh (see above), where she has some of her tapestries on display and will be weaving her next projects. She can also hold small group or individual tuition there, so [get in touch](#) if you'd be interested.

Irene is working on a new studio tapestry, inspired by her trip to the Faeroes last September, featuring a fulmar.

Recordings of previous sessions of *Tapestry Together* and *Tapestry: In Conversation* are still available. If you want to do any catching up, have a look at their [website](#) for details. [Contact](#) them if you wish to be added to their mailing list.



ArtyBird Carnforth

ArtyBird's **Design for Textiles** suite of online courses is still available to purchase. Covering Colour, Shape and Line, each module costs £250 and is available via the ArtyBird Carnforth [website](#).

But if you are interested in learning the design principles as part of a supportive online group, you can join **DesignPlus** and find your fellow birds! Contact [ArtyBird](#) for further details, and see the blogs on their website for further DesignPlus inspiration.

ArtyBird held a series of **online talks** earlier in the year, where Kate interviewed final year Fellowship students. They answered questions about inspiration, their approaches to design, the importance of their work for them, the benefits of collaborative creativity and how the Fellowship programme has changed them personally.

You can catch the series with tapestry weaver Sue Turnbull and feltmakers Rachel Battersby, Hilary Porter, Pat Abbott and Jen Taylor on YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/@artybirdcarnforth>. There are also videos of their graduation exhibition 'Intertwined' and Kate's 'One Shell', also available via that YouTube link. Well worth a watch!

Tapestry and Weaving courses more generally...



Éva Farkas is running two tapestry workshops in **Budapest, Hungary, in July.**

Masterclass for experienced tapestry weavers: Classical French tapestry and hachure techniques

July 6th – 10th 2026. 875 EUR

Old Gobelin & Persian Carpet Weaving (Gordes Knot)

July 13th – 17th 2026. 775 EUR

Teaching traditional tapestry techniques and also Persian carpet weaving, the first course for more experienced weavers and the other teaches foundational techniques. Full details are on this [website](#).

If you're interested in face to face courses here in the UK or online, then, as well as our own ArtyBird and nearby Farfield Mill, [West Dean College](#) have a wide range of short courses available, as well as their two-year part-time Foundation Diploma in Tapestry Weaving.

Other venues where you can learn a wide range of skills, including weaving, include [Higham Hall](#) in the Lake District, [Gartmore House](#) near Stirling in Scotland, and [Morley College](#) in London.



[Fiona Hutchison](#) regularly teaches tapestry weaving at Gartmore as well as in her own studio in Edinburgh, while [Caron Penney](#) offers both face to face and online courses from South East England, including her excellent Artist Development course. [Bridget Lane](#) runs a series of classes in the London area but also periodically at the [Loom Shed](#) in Devon, SW England.

[Jane Brunning](#) has regular groups at her studio in Angmering, SE England, and periodically runs workshops in the UK and overseas with Louise Martin.

[Liz Whiteside](#) runs face to face tapestry weaving courses in Newcastle Upon Tyne, NE England, and has recently launched an online course. **Louise Martin** teaches at [West Dean College](#), and [Higham Hall](#), the latter usually twice a year (Spring and Autumn). She also teaches a couple of times a year, with Ros Bryant, from their home base in Westray, Orkney. See [Louise's website](#) for details.

Rebecca Mezzoff has a range of online courses available, from beginners through to more advanced and design. More information can be found on Rebecca's [website](#). [Kennita Tully](#) also runs [online classes](#) from the USA, with a live element enabling discussion for at least some of them. If you're interested in soumak or colour blending techniques, or developing your art and design skills for tapestry weaving, have a look at what she offers.

If you are interested in having your textile classes mentioned here, please [get in touch](#), bearing in mind that, while most of our customers are tapestry weavers, others use our yarns for other activities!





Our new bobbin supplier is Michael Williams.

We asked him to tell us a bit more about himself and his woodworking business – he makes a wide range of wooden items for spinners, weavers and more, including making to order for specific projects or items. Anna regularly uses his tapestry frames, frame supports, small shed sticks and other of items for tapestry weavers when she's teaching, as well as for her own work.

Michael says: In a few weeks' time it will be our 50th wedding anniversary, which tells me that I have been woodworking for 50 years. The first thing that my wife asked me to make was an adjustable frame for batik. That was when I bought my first set of tools: a mallet, a chisel, a plane and a saw. I discovered the joy of using my brain and my hands and never looked back. I learned woodwork from library books and constant D.I.Y every week-end. After 30 years, I resigned from being a Maths teacher, and became a self-employed wood turner.

The first time I saw a drop spindle (above) was at our local guild of Weavers and Spinners. I realised that I could combine my maths knowledge with my woodwork skills to make a spindle. There is a branch of maths that deals with Rotational Motion and knowing the theory meant I could put it into practice.

Most spindles are made without reference to maths. Most makers keep to the same set of dimensions for every batch they make. With me, every batch I make will be different to those that went before because I use mathematical formulae which start with the density of the wood and no two planks are ever the same. For any weight and diameter, I know my spindles will have the correct weight distribution and will spin for as long as is possible.

My preferred timber for items used in the textile crafts is Canadian Maple. It is hard, heavy, straight grained, finishes well and is resistant to splintering. I keep a range of timbers to be used when I have a repairing job, to match the existing wood. My timber will not be found in B&Q (a hardware store found across the UK - ed). I use specialist timber yards. I buy rough sawn planks and plane them with my own planing machines.



For tapestry weavers I strongly recommend my tapestry frame supports (left). They are one of my best sellers.

(Anna – I love these as they mean that tapestry frames can be held at a comfortable height and angle for working, and also left in place to encourage regular weaving - or to simply to stand back and look at our work! They can also be easily transported, along with my frame and other weaving equipment, meaning I can weave wherever I go.)

I also make shed sticks and Aubusson bobbins, along with my standard bobbins, and tapestry frames in different sizes.

I enjoy working to commission. Recently, I have been involved with reproducing heddles that have been found in archaeological sites. I was sent a sketch with dimensions of two heddles; one found in a Roman site in Spain and the other in Croatia. This a tool that has remained the same for thousands of years. It was an utter joy for me to make them and to liaise with Susan Foulkes over their production. You can purchase them from my web site.



I live in Sheffield. I usually sell items by mail order but always have many items in stock for customers who wish to visit me. I ship goods around the world and for some of the larger items I can deliver in person. I have delivered a Great Wheel to a customer in Holland.

My web site has everything I make with photos. www.michael-williams-wood.co.uk.

For orders and queries my email address is wood@sewilliams.me.uk

We hope you enjoy using Michael's bobbins and investigating his website!





We hope you have enjoyed this issue of the weaversbazaar newsletter. We'll be back next month with more!

Comments and feedback are always welcome, simply email newsletter@weaversbazaar.com. If you send out your own newsletter, add us to your mailing list so we can help to spread the word about what's going on. Information regarding events and activities that you'd like to be included in the next issue should be sent by 20th May.

We also welcome suggestions for things to listen to while weaving, or internet rabbit holes to dive down!

Contact us: enquiries@weaversbazaar.com