WEAVERSBAZAAR NEWSLETTER
OCTOBER 2026

Welcome to the latest **weaversbazaar newsletter**! It's Autumn, we're enjoying colour, and it's time to launch our Twelve Days of Christmas!

Kate is busy dyeing the yarns, ready for them to be packaged up and sent out. What will they be this year?? Read on for more information… We also have the **results of the poll** asking about the ways you learn, and we're very glad that no-one thought they already knew enough and didn't have anything more to learn! There's also the **usual information about a range of exhibitions, courses and events.** And, following the polls on colour, Anna has written an **article that explores clashing colours** – see the end of the newsletter for that.

The next newsletter will come out at the end of October, 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 October 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

It's that time of year! Time to announce that we're doing the *12 Days of Christmas* package again!! Kate is busy dyeing the yarns as I write this…

She says: "This year I have been inspired by a painting; one of my own. Anyone who sees it in person talks about the colour and the depth of it - it goes on and on and on… This is because of the layering of washes.



I want to recreate this in tapestry and am playing with bundling - more about this another time. For the 12 Days of Christmas I am dyeing in layers, three layers per skein, slowly built up to give depth. They go on and on and on…

I am using our three popular yarns, fine, medium and heavy, and dyeing 25g in each colour, so your set will include some of each weight of yarn. There's a total of 300g of yarn in each 12 Days set. They will be ready to send out mid to end November, with dispatch priority to our wonderful overseas customers so they are with you to start opening on Christmas Day."



Hazel Adamson and **Diane Daune** shared with us what they created with last year's threads: beautiful, innovative work. If you have pieces that used the threads from 12 Days of Christmas 2025 please share images of them with us, it makes it worth all Kate's dyeing time! And if you share them on social media, tag us so we can share your work there as well. If you scroll back through Liz Whiteside's social media accounts you'll see what she did with hers, and discover that not everyone waited until Christmas to open theirs!!









We're aiming to have this year's set available to ship from mid-November, but orders are open now…! The price is the same as last year, £75, plus postage & packing (but no discounts, sorry). We look forward to seeing what you do with them this time!

Results from the poll:

We asked: **As it's the start of the new academic year, we're curious about whether and how you are currently learning about your textile art / craft?**
Out of 135 responses (hurrah!) the results are, in order of preference:

I learn through my practice – I never stop learning from making	23.7%
I learn from books &/or videos	23.0%
I am taking a course online (self-directed or taught)	15.6%
I periodically attend short courses, focusing on specific skills I want to learn or taking the opportunity to work with a visiting tutor (one or two a year)	13.3%
I regularly meet up with fellow textile enthusiasts to work and learn from each other informally	10.4%
I attend periodic creative retreats, taking the opportunity to spend time on my textile art / craft in a different environment	8.1%
I regularly attend short courses to help develop my skills (several times a year)	3.0%
I am taking a formal programme of study at West Dean / ArtyBird / elsewhere lasting several months / years	2.2%
I attend a regular class (eg weekly / fortnightly)	0.7%
I know enough, I don't need to learn any more	0.0%

Fascinating! When I drafted the poll, I thought that short courses would feature more prominently, and that there may be more people on longer term courses. But those are few and far between these days, and bookings for short courses do seem to be down. But it's also lovely to hear that meeting up with fellow textile folk is popular – community can be so important, as well as being a good way to bounce ideas around and share learning.

The top three places show that self-motivated learning is important to many of us, whether through learning as we make, experimenting with new ideas and techniques, perhaps, or picking up those books or looking online for ways to learn or for things to try out - and finding solutions to technical problems as well, no doubt.

Continuing the learning theme, **how can we help at weaversbazaar**? There are materials and links on our website in the Knowledge Zone section, and we advertise courses and exhibitions in the newsletter, but what would or do you find useful? You can find the poll on the home page of our website, and we look forward to discovering your responses.

Our regular important / useful information:

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 (J35). By prior arrangement you can come and pick up your order (see 'click & collect' below), or have a browse if you want to check colours or warp size before you buy. Do get in touch if you're going to be in the area – simply email Alison to make arrangements. We love meeting our customers!

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.



If you'd like to order **'click and collect'** simply select 'click and collect' as your delivery address at checkout, then liaise with Alison to collect between 10am and 12 noon on an agreed date once your order is ready. Handy if you live nearby or will be passing us on your travels.

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.

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). Anna uses it for teaching a couple of times a month, but it's often available outside of that.



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.

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…!

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 expire 5 years from date of issue.

We can no longer ship items to the EU, due to the EU Packaging and Packaging Waste Regulations (EU PPWR). 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.

We are still shipping to the USA, via Royal Mail. Customs fees are calculated alongside the postage and are included in that fee. That means we don't need to work out what's happening with tariffs ourselves…! The system seems to be working, but do let us know if you encounter any problems.

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!

October continues with a good range of exhibitions and activities available, but with several exhibitions closing soon. If you are aware of any textile exhibitions or other events coming up, please do let us know – we're not just interested in tapestry, honest!!

Knit & Stitch Show: 8th – 11th October, London; 12th – 15th November, Northern Ireland; 19th – 22nd November, Harrogate. We know a number of you love this show!

Kelmscott Manor & Chrissie Freeth, **until 31st October 2026**! ***Good Women***: Tapestries in Dialogue with Kelmscott Manor, new work by Chrissie Freeth. Open Thursday – Saturday, 10:15 to 4:30pm. Near Lechlade, Gloucestershire, UK. The exhibition is well worth a visit (and I'll be visiting again before it closes) – Kelmscott Manor is fascinating, alongside the treat of seeing Chrissie's new tapestries!

AGWSD National Exhibition: ***A Festival of Flora and Fauna*. 1st – 29th October 2026**, Rose Patterson Gallery, Weston Park, Shropshire. All things textile, from members of the Guild of Weavers, Spinners and Dyers across the UK (and beyond)!!

Society of Designer Craftsman, OXO Gallery, London. ***Uncommon Ground***, **4th – 15th November 2026**. Exhibition of members' work, including tapestry weavers Bridget Lane and Fiona Wyse.

South Downs Open Landscape Exhibition, Petersfield Museum, UK. 10th October 2026 -13th March 2027. Includes tapestries from Bridget Lane and Sarah Morrish.

Forgotten Fleece Tales: Currently at Gracefield Arts Centre, Dumfries (**until 24th October**), this exhibition moves to Gairloch Museum at the end of the month, with a launch event **Friday 30th October 6 – 8pm.** It's in Gairloch until late December – do check the museum's website for opening times as they reduce hours from November.

Nearly Wild Weaving are looking forward to returning to their *Tapestry: In Conversation* sessions later this month, exploring how some key UK tapestry weavers design their tapestries.

They will be talking to **Jane Riley** (**22nd October**) and **Gardner Muirhead** (**19th November**) initially, with more to come in the New Year. Further details and tickets (£12 including fees) are available via Eventbrite.

As well as her twice monthly classes in Carnforth, Anna runs **workshops** at **Farfield Mill**, currently looking at using colour in tapestry. The next date is **Wednesday 28th October** – *Colour Blending and Weft Bundling* (1 place remaining!). Suitable for beginners or

improvers, it can be booked via the Farfield Mill website. More workshops coming in the New Year!

Later in the year she is running two one day **'Weave the View'** workshops at the Norfolk Wildlife Trust's visitor centre at **Cley and Salthouse Nature Reserve, 27th and 28th November**. Further details and booking via the Norfolk Wildlife Trust website.

In a new venture, Nearly Wild Weaving are partnering with Ben Wilde of the Archipelago Folk School on the Isle of Mull for **Woodwork and Weave**, **Sunday 23rd to Friday 28th May 2027**. Come and make your own tapestry frame then weave on it, with optional trips to Iona and to Ardalanish Weavers. Further details and costs are on their website. Bookings will open shortly.



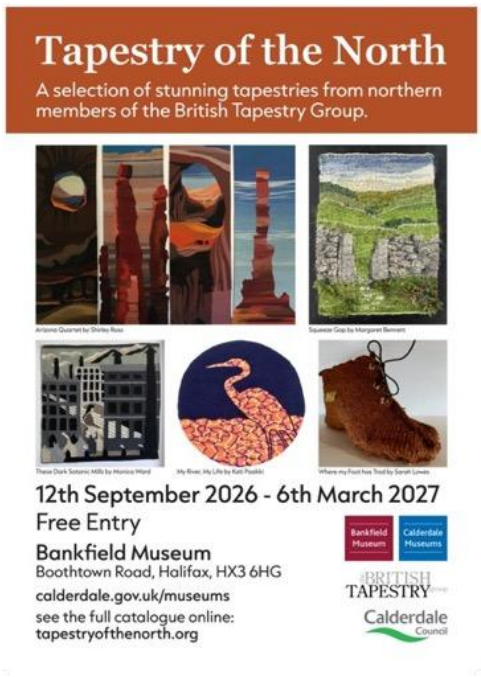
For those of you interested in travelling further afield, Nearly Wild Weaving will be collaborating with Nomadic Skies again to offer a second Sacred Fibres: Textiles of the High Himalaya trip to **Nepal** next year, **18th September to 3rd October 2027**. Taking a journey from the bustling streets of Kathmandu into the tranquillity of little visited villages of the Humla area of the high Himalaya, exploring the practical, cultural and sacred significance of weaving and other textiles. Spend time with skilled local artisans, learn from them, gain insights through textiles into local culture and livelihoods. There will be an online information session soon - to express interest and to find out more, please contact Irene irene@nearlywild.org .

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.

While we're on the theme of learning and sharing information, if you're a tapestry weaver, or are interested in tapestry weaving, the British Tapestry Group is a fabulous organisation to be part of. There are several active regional groups in the UK, with opportunities to meet up in person or virtually, there's a monthly eNews for members with information on courses and exhibitions, and the magazine, Tapestry Weaver, is produced twice yearly. A good point of contact with fellow tapestry weavers. For those in the USA, the American Tapestry Alliance serves a similar purpose – and, indeed,

both organisations have an international membership. A number of us are members of both…!

BTG's **Northern Regional Group** exhibition, ***Tapestry of the North: Our Textile Heritage***, opened at the Bankfield Museum in Halifax on 12th September 2026, and continues until 6th March 2027. Check the venue website for opening times and events. There are two half day workshops with Jane Riley on **3rd November**, Exploring Fibre, Colour and Texture. Links are on the Tapestry of the North website.



This is its final venue. See the Tapestry of the North website for further details, including images of the work included in the exhibition and details of events coming up.

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 are:
Jean Pierre Larochette – In Solidarity with the Craft: Views on Being a Tapestry Weaver. **17th October.**
"Can we feel solidarity**,** "*a sense of unity, agreement, or close connection*" with an object, namely tapestry? I think yes, but if you don't agree, replace the word solidarity with the word love. Many people tell me they love tapestry. Solidarity entails appreciation and a feeling of kinship and enduring loyalty as well.

In this our upside-down world, in its many reincarnations, tapestry is still here. It is, in itself, a document of transcendental creativity expressed in the most transparent way, with the simplest materials. The rich, *textured* image of the tapestry weave has no parallel. Its visual impact has the power to transmit the profound emotion of a poem. Imagine, in our robotically-charged age, an object entirely constructed by hand! And often just dictated by the heart.

I have been at it for over seventy years and I am still mesmerized by the magic of a process that gifted me self-employment, cherished relations and fundamental teachings."

Then: **Erin M Riley** – Life Looks Like a House for a Few Hours. **14th November.**

The recordings of **Minna Rothman** – The Hidden Gifts of Change and **Nikyle Begay** – Navajo Sheep, Weaving and Shepherding are still available to purchase.

All talks are at 10am Pacific time. Tickets only cost $10 - sign up on their website.

The **Murmuration tapestries** have completed their flight around the UK, but have now migrated to the Netherlands.

They can next be seen at the Weverijmuseum, Geldrop, **5th November 2026 to 11th January 2027**.

This project then moves to the States, Canada and Mexico in 2027 / 28. They will be showing in Oregon, Washington, Victoria (BC, Canada), Boston, Oaxaca (Mexico), and New Mexico!! Dates and venues can be seen on the Murmuration page on the Nearly Wild Weaving website, and no doubt there will be further articles in Substack as well!

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. 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 **catalogue for the Murmuration project is still available** - just (copies are running out!) - 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.

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. It's celebrating 25 years as a venue for the arts!

With regular exhibitions and a wide range of studio artists, there's always a lot going on.

There are a number of textile and other artists with studios at the Mill (including Anna), as well as the Weaving Friends with projects on the go on the top floor – a superb venue for textile inspiration! It now opens on Mondays as well, until Christmas.

On the top floor (Level 4) is an exhibition celebrating 25 years of the Wool Clip. This group ran WoolFest in Cockermouth for many years (now replaced by Cumbrian Wool Gathering at J36) and have a wide range of interests and expertise in all things woolly. It's a fascinating exhibition, and runs **until Sunday 1st November**. Do look at their website to see what else is happening for their celebrations.

The new set of exhibitions, open until just before Christmas, include Textile Fusion by Dianne Standen; Pathways by Contemporary Textiles; and Tumbling Stones, Wiggly Tin, paintings and drawings by Hilary Grisewood. Check the Farfield Mill website for details.

Applications for the Mill's next Textile Competition are now open, closing date 7th January 2027. The theme is **Lasting Threads**. The exhibition of selected work will be held in Spring 2027. See their website for details.

Alongside exhibitions, Farfield Mill also run a wide range of regular **workshops and other events**, relating to tapestry, cloth weaving, felting and fibre crafts as well as a range of other arts. See their website for details and to book. If you're interested in textiles, or indeed the arts in general, the Mill is well worth a visit!

The community tapestry underway on Level 4 is steadily growing! You can help to weave the **Sedbergh Tapestry** on days when one of the team is there. It's based on a map of the Sedbergh area, highlighting key landscape features including the Mills and the rivers that powered them.





Farfield Mill is open Wednesday to Monday, 10:30am – 4pm, including Bank Holiday Mondays. It has an excellent tea room as well.

And remember, if you're visiting Farfield Mill, weaversbazaar isn't far away.

ArtyBird Carnforth



If you didn't make it to the recent exhibition at Farfield Mill by the **ArtyBird Fellowship** alumni **(*Glimpses of our Bay*),** there is a video on the ArtyBird YouTube channel where you can see the exhibition but also hear the artists discussing their work. It will appear on

In preparation for the exhibition they also recorded a series of Arty Talks, with each artist talking about their inspiration for the pieces in the exhibition. They are also all available now on YouTube. They're well worth a watch, whether you can make the exhibition itself or not! There are a number of other videos on YouTube from ArtyBird too – visit their channel for some textile inspiration.

Did you have a go at the weaversbazaar Solar Pot Challenge? ArtyBird Carnforth are offering a course this year on expanding your knowledge of **Natural Dyeing** using extracts. The course is £574 and you would join from the comfort of your own studio, for one Friday a month, via Zoom. If you are interested please contact Alison.



ArtyBird also have a self-directed 'Dye a Colour Library' course available, where you can learn all about dyeing with acid dyes and fibre reactive dyes. ArtyBird's **Design for Textiles** suite of online courses is also 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 express interest in **DesignPlus** and find your fellow birds! Contact ArtyBird for further details, and see the blogs on their website for further DesignPlus inspiration.

Tapestry, Weaving and Textile courses more generally…

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 New Brewery Arts in Cirencester and 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 is expanding her online courses. **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. Louise is also heading over to the States in October, running workshops with the American Tapestry Alliance and elsewhere.

Hilary Charlesworth runs a range of textile courses in Hampshire (UK) and elsewhere, including on Sark from the look of her calendar! Remember the article on the Sark tapestries a few issues back? Hilary also runs The Loom Exchange, an online website featuring a range of looms for sale – well worth a visit if you're looking for a new loom or wishing to sell one!

Rebecca Mezoff has a range of online courses available, from beginners through to more advanced techniques and design. More information can be found on Rebecca's website. She is also now re-releasing her Tapestry Discovery Boxes in stages. These were originally run in conjunction with Gist yarns, but she is now making them available again as stand-alone courses. More details available on her 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 such as cloth weaving and stitch!



Thinking about ‘clashing’ colours…

Anna Wetherell

A recent weaversbazaar poll, which asked about the gaps in our yarn stashes and the reasons for that, picked up that a number of you (us!) are not comfortable or confident using ‘clashing’ colours. That made me think about how we might define ‘clashing’ colours, and how we might be able to approach them. Here’s some starting thoughts – I would love to hear your thoughts & responses!

Looking at the colour wheel, ‘clashing’ colours are often the complementary colours, found on opposite sides of the wheel: red & green; blue and orange; yellow and purple, for example. A year or two back I decided to weave a sample using weaversbazaar green and red yarns. The greens were mainly Apple, but also incorporated other greens in the range, alongside a variety of reds as part of the weft bundles in a central section. I was curious about how mixing in the complementary colour would look.

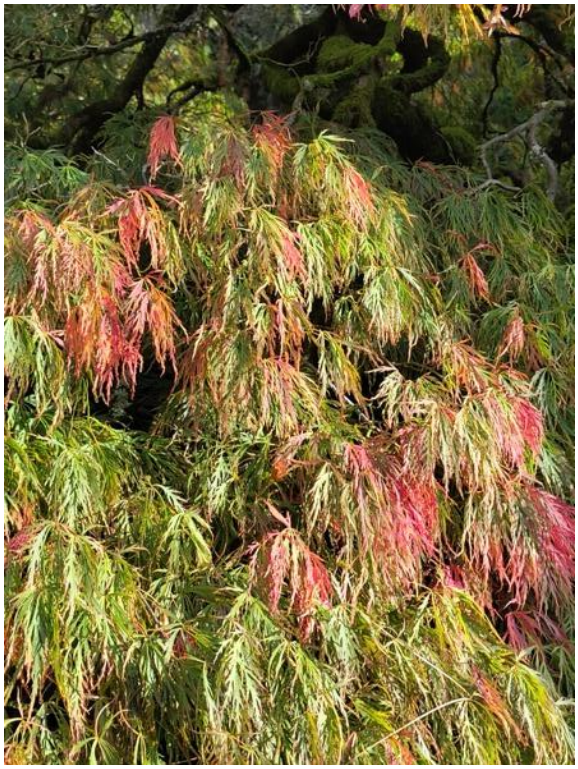


I tried different reds as well as different mixes of green. I find it interesting how some of the red sections stand out (clash?) while other areas are more subtle. The subtler areas are where the mixes are closer to the ‘split complementary’ – not directly opposite each other on the colour wheel, but offset to either side.

Choosing which reds and which greens to use will have an effect on how clashing the colours are. If we’re trying to use up our stashes, perhaps mixing the reds we have would have a similar effect against the greens, softening the ‘clash’?

This week I’ve visited Sizergh Castle, a National Trust property just south of Kendal, here in Cumbria. As I was thinking about what I would write here while walking, the reds and greens of some of the vegetation caught my eye. Perhaps we’re just emulating nature?!





In 2019 I attended a workshop by Dot Seddon, at the Association of Guilds Summer School, called ‘Tapestry to Dye For’ (love that title!!). We dyed our own yarns (weaversbazaar fine in my case), and I experimented with the colour range between purple and yellow – going across the colour wheel. Yellow and purple are complementary colours, but mixing the colours between them creates a colour palette that works well together, as both the yellow and the purple are included in the dye mix.



There's a lot I can talk about here (and do in some of my classes!), but as well as the colours working well together as they have components in common (a recognised approach in the world of paint and colour mixing to achieve a harmonious colour palette), there are also the two concepts of value and saturation.

Value relates to how light or dark a colour is – the yellow is a light colour, while the purple is relatively dark. That means the left-hand example shows the weaving technique (hatching / hachure) clearly, as does the next with 'pick and pick'. The colours 'clash' partly because they are on opposite sides of the colour wheel, but also because one is dark and one light.

They are also both saturated colours – rich in their own colour (purple or yellow). The colours in the gradation between are less saturated, as they include elements of both yellow and purple, in different proportions. They seem less 'loud' as a consequence, softer to look at.

Perhaps when trying to use the yarns / fibres we already have we can look at the colours available in relation to their value but also their saturation, and can soften the 'clashing' effect by choosing to include elements that are less saturated? That's perhaps easy for those of who are tapestry weavers, as weft bundling and colour blending are key techniques in our tool kit! But does it help others of you? Let me know!

I'm planning to continue my explorations in colour over the winter – I'll let you know how I get on! But please do share any thoughts and projects of your own that you have found interesting.

And if you want to explore colour further, there are a number of classes available, including ArtyBird's Colour section of their Design for Textile Makers series, Rebecca Mezoff's online classes (including her Discovery Box series), and Kennita Tully's online Color Blending class. I'm also looking at colour blending and weft bundling in my next one-day workshop at Farfield Mill (28th October). You may also wish to look at Margo Selby's book 'Contemporary Weaving Patterns: Weaving with Colour and Texture' – Margo is definitely someone who knows how to work with bright and often clashing colours! Her website is full of inspiration. Other artists you find inspiring in the way they use colour? Do let us know!



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

Comments and feedback, as well as examples of your work created using weaversbazaar yarns, 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 October.

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

Contact us: enquiries@weaversbazaar.com