



weaversbazaar

January 2016 Newsletter

Happy New Year

New Year: New Products: New Experiences

New artisan bobbins!



Short Artisan Bobbins



Long Artisan Bobbins

We have been working with the artist and musical instrument maker Andrew Dickinson, to develop a new range of artisan bobbins; we currently have in stock the long and short version with a medium length version coming soon. These are exquisitely handcrafted from a range of different woods including English woods - Yew, Oak, Sycamore & Ash. Each bobbin has been precision designed with

- a well-proportioned shoulder for securing the yarn on the shank
- an extremely smooth finish to prevent snagging
- a very sharp all wood tip

The long version at 19.5cm (£13.50) is ideal for beating down and carrying yarn whilst the short version at 12cm (£10.75) is ideal for carrying yarn including very fine or difficult to handle yarns.

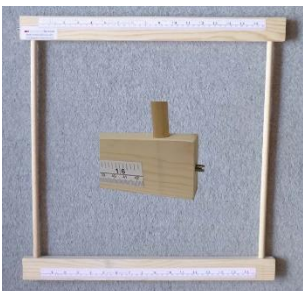
Whilst we will continue to supply the standard bobbin, these additions to the range will provide a complimentary, very higher quality bobbin.

All our bobbins can be found at <http://www.weaversbazaar.com/product-list/equipment>

Re-Designed Frames and Kits

We take all feedback seriously and continually strive to make our products even better. Recently we have been looking at how we can improve the products we have that introduce tapestry weaving or help to build skills and techniques. As a result, we are re-launching some key items in new re-designed formats. We hope you like the improvements and look forward to your further feedback.

Flat Pack Tapestry Frame



We have replaced the threaded metal uprights with wooden dowel. Our innovative design continues to have the same features of subtle warp tension adjustment and top and bottom bar tape measures but with the additional benefits of: ***Lighter weight for easy carriage** ***Simpler construction / deconstruction** ***Easier to tie headers to** ***Can be flat-packed with weaving in process as well as unwarped**

Starter Tapestry Weaving Kit



We have designed a smaller version of our new-style flat pack tapestry frame to complete the Starter Kit. Along with those benefits detailed above, this smaller version also provides:

- * Flat pack versatility in the Starter Kit weaving frame
- * A frame size that is ideal for sampling on
- * A lightweight frame small enough to be packed in a suitcase either made-up or folded down form

New style Blending Weaving Kit



Colour blending is such an important skill in tapestry weaving. We are now making the Blending Kits available WITHOUT the tapestry frames. This means that for those who already have a tapestry frame, the kit will provide the full instructions, yarns, bobbin and marker pen so that you can just get started with learning to blend. However, if a frame is required then a Flat Pack Tapestry Frame will be sold for a discount when also purchasing a Blending Kit. The Kit on the right is our Blue Blending Kit. Also available are Blending Kits in Red, Yellow, Green and Neutral colourways and can be found here

<http://www.weaversbazaar.com/product-list/technique-kits>

Improvements to our web site

Finally, we have been looking very closely at ways to improve the presentation of our dyed worsted wool range on the web site. We want to make it easier for you to find the colours you are looking for. On our website you will now see you can: * **view our ENTIRE dyed worsted colour range, which at a glance shows stock and archived colours** * **view our stock colours grouped into 12 colour wheel segments showing pure colours, tints (pure colour plus white), tones (pure colours plus black) or shades (pure, tints or tones plus grey) making it easier to find colours that will work well together.**

We hope this makes the selection of a colour an easier task but also better positions the colours. As ever though we do welcome your feedback. We would also like to thank everyone who helped us with insightful comments and suggestions during the testing phase.

Weaversbazaar Poll

Our first poll for 2016 is about productivity! How many pieces of textile work do you think you might complete in a year? Do visit www.weaversbazaar.com to register your views – it is all anonymous so we won't hold you to it!

Coffee Break Moment

A Waulking Song (4mins 24 secs)



Filmed in South Uist, on the Outer Hebrides, in 1970, this film shows a group of ladies singing a 'waulking' song. Sung in Gaelic, these songs accompanied the process of 'waulking' or finishing off newly woven tweed fabric. <https://vimeo.com/20467842>

More information on waulking songs can be found at https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Waulking_song and on the waulking process at <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fulling>.

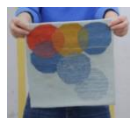
Artist Profile: Gerda van Hamond



Gerda was born in the Netherlands but, with her family, emigrated to Australia when she was a small girl. She says *"I love the tactile aspect of woven tapestry, its wonderful response to colour. I enjoy the process of weaving and spend many hours a day sitting at the loom. My starting point is nature. I love walking as it is a pace at which we can see and observe what is around us. I also read a lot and the combination of the two combine to feed inspiration for my work. There has to be input before there can be output"* Gerda's work is characterised by both her bold use of colour and the mastery of techniques that enable her to create subtle shapes and shading. <http://gerdavanhamond.blogspot.com.au/>

Courses

ATA Unlimited Blog Tour - Online until end of January 2016



Hosted by Vancouver Yarn and launched on 23rd December, this is an initiative of the American Tapestry Alliance. Each week different tapestry artists explore technical aspects of tapestry weaving, using videos and images to explain the processes involved. Go to

<http://tinyurl.com/jz27xtq> for all the details.

Downloadable book of tapestry weaving projects



This free eBook from the Weaving Today website gives you instructions on how to weave a variety of beautiful tapestry projects. It is in a PDF format and accessible as a digital resource from <http://www.weavingtoday.com/media/p/8042.aspx>

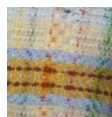
Rebecca Mezoff's Online Tapestry Weaving Workshops



Rebecca Online Tapestry Weaving course are becoming more and more popular. Her style of teaching, the quality of her online videos and hand outs and her support through interactive forums provide an intensive and constructive learning experience. Go to

<http://www.rebeccamezoff.com/online-learning/> for full details.

Louise Cottey's Textile Workshops, Devon, UK



**10 Weeks of Weaving. Starts Jan 28th/29th Coldharbour Mill, Devon

**An introduction to Weaving. February 20th. Upottery, Devon

**Weavers Coffee Morning: April 2nd Broadwindsor Craft centre, Devon

Visit Louise's website for full details: <https://louisecottey.wordpress.com>. She will also be an exhibitor at this year's Contemporary Craft Festival in Bovey Tracy, Devon (see Events below)

Beginners Weaving Workshop: painting with Wool. 30th January 2016. Surrey, UK



Working with tutor Hilary Charlesworth, and using a simple frame loom (provided) you will create a lovely wall-hanging using a variety of yarns threads and wool tops (all provided). Full details at

<http://tinyurl.com/hr8ceov>

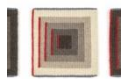
Fusion and Transformation: Experimental textiles. March 2016. West Dean, West Sussex



Led by innovative artist Michael Brennan-Wood and master weaver Philip Sanderson this workshop will integrate aspects of both tutors' work - with technical and conceptual considerations. Taking 'warp' threads or elements under tension as a starting point, you will create structures on which to build. Techniques including weaving, knotting, wrapping, collage and supplementary warps to define space, can be used within your primary structure. Emphasis is on development of personal imagery and group discussions play an important part.

<http://tinyurl.com/pxyyk2k>

Summer School Tapestry Weaving Course - August 2016. West Dean, West Sussex



Significant advance notice but this is a very popular course that quickly fills up. Led by master weaver Caron Penney, the course is aimed at beginners and intermediate level weavers looking to immerse themselves in a structured week of technical and artistic development.

<http://tinyurl.com/njqyo26>

Events (imminent)

Waltham Abbey Wool Show. 17th January. Waltham Abbey, UK



A wonderful day with yarns and all things textile related. Lots of exhibitors; workshops to join and people to meet. All the details are at <http://www.walthamabbeywoolshow.co.uk/>. What's not to like!

"Past Narratives": work by tapestry artist Kathe Todd-Hooker. Albany, USA. 4th – 28th January 2016.

Kathe Todd Hooker weaves highly detailed, small format tapestry art. This exhibition of her work is at the Linn Benton Community College in Albany, Oregon. More information can be found at

<https://www.linnbenton.edu/current-students/involvement/art-gallery/schedule-of-exhibits>

"Word & Image": an exhibition of work by Lindsey Marshall. - Nuneaton, UK until 7th February 2016



Lindsey Marshall makes beautiful textile and paper-based works. These pieces are inspired by sayings or stories, or fragments of conversation. The show uses shapes and colours to communicate meanings which may not necessarily be understood through words and in this way Lindsey explores the relationships between word and image. <http://tinyurl.com/z33nr4n> for details.

Events (distant but worth getting in your diaries)

Contemporary Craft Festival. 10th – 12th June. Bovey Tracey, Devon



The Contemporary Craft Festival was founded in 2003 and is a non-profit making company. They celebrated their 10th Year in 2013. The event has grown from 4,000 to nearly 10,000 visitors since it started and has become one of the most prestigious and much loved craft events in the UK. In

November 2013 we hit a new milestone by opening our first permanent shop on Bovey Tracey High Street. Our shop is a short walk up the hill from the Devon Guild and we are open Tuesday-Saturday every week.

<http://www.craftsatboveytracey.co.uk/> for full details of both the Craft Festival and the Shop.

Here & Now. The National Centre for Craft & Design. 1st October 2016 - 15th January 2017. Lincolnshire

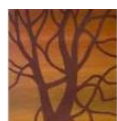


'Here and Now' will be the first major exhibition of international contemporary tapestry in the UK for over 20 years. It will be curated by Professor Lesley Millar, Director International Textile

Research Centre, University for the Creative Arts in partnership with NCCD. Over 20 artists from around the world, have been selected to exhibit at this event. More information at

<http://tinyurl.com/jayywn>

Found on the web



Riitta Siukkonen Davies

Riitta is a textile artists based in Pembrokeshire with a very wide perspective on weaving. She weaves beautiful tapestries, wall hangings, table linen, floor rugs, scarves and throws.

Incorporating an inlay weaving technique and using her own hand spun, hand dyed yarns, Riitta's distinctive work can be found in various galleries and exhibitions around the UK and her workshop is open for visitors. Read more about her and explore her work through her website at

<https://riittaweaving.wordpress.com/>

Tapestry is perfect gift for Arctic Convoy veteran Tom



Tapestry weaver, Katie Russell, has woven a series of 10 tapestries commemorating the Arctic Convoys that travelled between the UK and Russia during the Second World War, in constant danger of U-Boat attack. This article details one of her tapestries that was presented as a 65th Wedding Anniversary gift for one of the surviving veterans of those convoys, and his wife.

<http://tinyurl.com/hx4jnt9>

Adventures with a Hattersley Domestic Loom



This blog illustrates the building of a Hattersley Domestic Loom, commencing in September 2015 and is brought right up to date with entry on January 4th 2016! A fascinating story at

<http://pickingstickcloth.com/>

Textile Gallery

“West Coast Sojourn” by tapestry artists, Terry Dunne

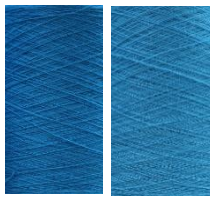


“West Coast Sojourn” is the latest addition to our large works gallery on myrtleart. This stunning piece was woven by Irish tapestry artist, Terry Dunne and is just over 1m square.

The complexity of the colour mixing is beautifully done and the dominant spiral design creates a very balanced image. This tapestry would certainly enhance any living or working space. To purchase this or other large works visit

<http://www.weaversbazaar.com/tapestry-gallery/large/>

Stop Press:



As we continue to develop a full palette of colours, there are great bargains to be found on our special offer page with discounted, discontinued and one-off colours.

Seasky 25 and Seasky 35 (shown left) are one-off colours now available in Fine (18/2) whilst stocks last. Together with Seasky2, 3 and 4 they make a very balanced tonal range **Sale still on!** Our end-of-year sale continues with significant discounts although the free

postage offer has now closed. All the items can be found on our Special Offers Page.

Visit <http://www.weaversbazaar.com/product-list/special-offers> to catch all the bargains!

Happy Weaving