

### **Who we are....**

The Mid Essex Guild is one of over 100 Guilds throughout the UK, which form The Association of Guilds of Weavers, Spinners and Dyers. There are also associated Guilds in Northern Ireland, Eire, South Africa, France, USA, New Zealand, Yugoslavia and Japan.

The Aims of the Association are:

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

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

### **Where we meet...**

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



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

The annual membership fee is £22.00, which includes a copy of our quarterly newsletter. You may come as a visitor though and the fee is £5 for the day.

### **How to contact us...**

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

Guild contact:-telephone:  
01787 462172

Or visit our website at  
[www.midessexguildwsd.org.uk](http://www.midessexguildwsd.org.uk)

If you live in the SE of the County, you may like to contact the Southend Guild:  
tel. 01702 713105 or email:  
[joanne.cliffe@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:joanne.cliffe@hotmail.co.uk)

There is a new Weavers & Spinners group in Colchester ring 07801 756 940 for details.

If you are over on the west, bordering Hertfordshire – try the **West Essex & Herts. Guild** - [weehguild.swd@gmail.com](mailto:weehguild.swd@gmail.com)

If you are not local to Essex, you can find your nearest Guild by visiting the **Association** website at: [www.wsd.org.uk](http://www.wsd.org.uk)  
And now there is an **online guild** for anyone anywhere in the world!  
[www.onlineguildwsd.org.uk](http://www.onlineguildwsd.org.uk)

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

### **More about us...**

A list of our meetings and speakers is overleaf.

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

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

Tea and coffee are provided free.

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

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

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

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

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

### **Guild Programme 2018**

Meetings are usually 3<sup>rd</sup> Sat of the month  
except for the December meeting

- Jan. 20<sup>th</sup> AGM & Show and Tell. Committee cakes  
Feb. 17<sup>th</sup> Talk and workshop. Knitting 'The Surprise Jacket' Tricia Holman Workshop-for 12  
Mar 17<sup>th</sup> Talk, demo and workshops. Blending using carders, hackles and combs; Diane and Gwenllian South. Colours and different fibres  
April 21<sup>st</sup> Enid Tivey Competition, details later. Shared Lunch & Raffle.  
May 19<sup>th</sup> Talk, demo and workshops – spinning with Gill Read and Jennie Cope. Spin in at *tba* the following day. Sale of Fibre- Marianne Cant "Fluff- n-stuff".  
May 20<sup>th</sup> Spin-in at *tba*  
June 16<sup>th</sup> Talk- Top Notch Surprise to be announced later  
July 21<sup>st</sup> a.m. Talk and demo of acid and natural dyeing the 'how' of different dyeing methods – S.Shadforth & J.Crook P.m. Workshop on beaded necklaces - L.Ottewell. Yvonne & Darren Hoskins; sale of unusual raw fleece.  
July 22<sup>nd</sup> Dyeing day at T.Robert's house – natural and other dyes.  
Aug 18<sup>th</sup> Weaving Competition. Shared lunch, Raffle. Members sales table.  
Sept 15<sup>th</sup> Talk, demo and workshops. Plying; Gill Read and Jennie Cope. Members sales tables.  
Oct 20<sup>th</sup> Talk, demo and have a go-Saori weaving; Kim from the Saori Weaving Shed.  
Nov 17<sup>th</sup> Talk, demo & workshops-Picking, Carding Combing, weaving with fleece; Hazel, Claire, Rachel. using different fleeces.  
Dec 8<sup>th</sup> Christmas Party. Shared Lunch & Raffle.

All meetings are held at the village hall, White Notley  
from 10.30 - 4pm, unless otherwise stated.  
See website for more details of meetings

## **The Mid Essex Guild Of Weavers, Spinners & Dyers**



[www.midessexguildwsd.org.uk](http://www.midessexguildwsd.org.uk)