

## Chairman's Report 2024

The Dorset Guild of Weavers, Spinners and Dyers has enjoyed a very stimulating and successful year. We have been able to pursue our twin aims of improving members skills and passing those skills on to other people. Over the year our membership has increased from 110 to 135; we are now among the largest WSD Guilds in the country.

We have enjoyed eleven all day Saturday meetings and three all day Sunday workshops. We have had several very interesting speakers covering topics such as weaving rugs from pre-used fabric, sustainability in our crafts, shibori dyeing and more. Our 'Skills Day' in January was devoted to a number of smaller workshops run 'in-house' to enable other members to try out 'new-to-them' skills. Our Open Day was open to the general public where once again we demonstrated skills in weaving, spinning, dyeing and felting to the visitors. Following Open Day, we gained quite a few new members. We had a day with a "Great Wheel", a device for spinning yarn developed in the Middle Ages and our Guild colleagues had the chance to have a go. There was a fleece fair in June which offered members the chance to stock up on raw material for the coming year. At every meeting, members have the chance to practise skills and seek advice and help from those more experienced practitioners. All our members are very willing to help each other and are especially generous in the time they offer to newcomers learning to spin, weave or dye. At most of our meetings we are able to run a 'Sales Table' where one can browse books, yarns, equipment and more. Our programme also included a fascinating trip to Coldharbour Mill in Devon where we were able to see the mill in action and engage with various talks and workshops. We opened this to other guilds to join us on the trip.

Three of our members have had bursaries from the Guild during the year, enabling them to do courses in shibori dyeing and eco printing and to attend the Association of Guilds' Conference in Devon. They have reported back on their experience and learning outcomes at our AGM in November.

Several of us were able to attend the Association Conference at Bickton College over a long weekend and we enjoyed some very inspirational speakers and, of course, the company of likeminded souls.

The National Exhibition at Hay-on-Wye, organised and run by the Association of Guilds of Weavers, Spinners and Dyers, featured six pieces of work submitted by some of our very talented members of whom we are very proud.

The Dorset Magazine wrote a feature devoted to our Guild, which appeared in September in time for Open Day. We were described as a warm and welcoming group dedicated to maintaining age-old skills.

We have had a presence at a number of show and events throughout the county, including the Dorset Show, the Melplash Show, the Dorset Arts and Crafts Association Exhibition and a number of others. This has certainly had a very positive effect on our membership. We have a very committed team who give up a lot of time to attending and demonstrating at these events which involves taking a gazebo and quite a lot of equipment. Our use of a self-storage unit has helped us to keep our equipment safe and secure.

Over the year we have purchased three new four shaft looms, three new spinning wheels and an e-spinning machine which are available to members to borrow before they commit to buying expensive equipment.

We have a new website, a Facebook page and regularly submit blogs covering the meetings so that people who have been unable to attend can keep in touch. Again, much of this is maintained by committed members.

Our committee works hard to ensure that our meetings run smoothly, with support from a sub-committee who prepare a vibrant and balanced programme for the following year. We also have a very positive relationship with a local craft supplier, Frank Herring and Son who supports us in various ways.

I think it is fair to say that we are a thriving group whose aims and objects, although devoted to heritage skills, have an increasing relevance in this day and age.

Frances Fletcher

Lead Trustee and

Former Chairperson



**CHARITY COMMISSION**  
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Dorset Guild of Weavers, Spinners and Dyers			Charity No (if any)	1200685
Annual accounts for the period				
Period start date	01/11/2023	To	Period end date	31/08/2024

## Section A Statement of financial activities

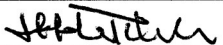
Recommended categories by activity	Guidance Notes	Unrestricted funds	Restricted income funds	Endowment funds	Total funds	Prior year funds
		£	£	£	£	£
		F01	F02	F03	F04	F05
<b>Incoming resources (Note 3)</b>						
<b>Income and endowments from:</b>						
Donations and legacies	S01	-	-	-	-	-
Charitable activities	S02	13,090	-	-	13,090	-
Other trading activities	S03	-	-	-	-	-
Investments	S04	-	-	-	-	-
Separate material item of income	S05	-	-	-	-	-
Other	S06	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Total</b>	S07	13,090	-	-	13,090	-
<b>Resources expended (Note 6)</b>						
<b>Expenditure on:</b>						
Raising funds	S08	-	-	-	-	-
Charitable activities	S09	12,187	-	-	12,187	-
Separate material item of expense	S10	-	-	-	-	-
Other	S11	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Total</b>	S12	12,187	-	-	12,187	-
<b>Net income/(expenditure) before investment gains/(losses)</b>						
Net gains/(losses) on investments	S13	903	-	-	903	-
<b>Net income/(expenditure)</b>	S14	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Extraordinary items</b>	S15	903	-	-	903	-
<b>Transfers between funds</b>	S16	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Other recognised gains/(losses):</b>	S17	-	-	-	-	-
Gains and losses on revaluation of fixed assets for the charity's own use	S18	-	-	-	-	-
Other gains/(losses)	S19	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Net movement in funds</b>	S20	903	-	-	903	-
<b>Reconciliation of funds:</b>						
Total funds brought forward	S21	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Total funds carried forward</b>	S22	903	-	-	903	-

## Section B

## Balance sheet

		Guidance Notes	Unrestricted funds £ F01	Restricted income funds £ F02	Endowment funds £ F03	Total this year £ F04	Total last year £ F05
<b>Fixed assets</b>							
Intangible assets	(Note 15)	B01	-	-	-	-	-
Tangible assets	(Note 14)	B02	3,684	-	-	3,684	1,607
Heritage assets	(Note 16)	B03	-	-	-	-	-
Investments	(Note 17)	B04	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Total fixed assets</b>		B05	3,684	-	-	3,684	1,607
<b>Current assets</b>							
Stocks	(Note 18)	B06	-	-	-	-	-
Debtors	(Note 19)	B07	-	-	-	-	-
Investments	(Note 17.4)	B08	-	-	-	-	-
Cash at bank and in hand	(Note 24)	B09	25,873	255,000	-	280,873	282,041
<b>Total current assets</b>		B10	25,873	255,000	-	280,873	282,041
<b>Creditors: amounts falling due within one year</b>							
	(Note 20)	B11	252	-	-	252	246
<b>Net current assets/(liabilities)</b>		B12	25,621	255,000	-	280,621	281,795
<b>Total assets less current liabilities</b>		B13	29,305	255,000	-	284,305	283,402
<b>Creditors: amounts falling due after one year</b>							
	(Note 20)	B14	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Provisions for liabilities</b>		B15	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Total net assets or liabilities</b>		B16	29,305	255,000	-	284,305	283,402
<b>Funds of the Charity</b>							
Endowment funds	(Note 27)	B17	-	-	-	-	-
Restricted income funds	(Note 27)	B18	-	255,000	-	255,000	-
Unrestricted funds		B19	29,305	-	-	29,305	-
Revaluation reserve		B20	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Total funds</b>		B21	29,305	255,000	-	284,305	-

Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees

Signature	Print Name	Date of approval dd/mm/yyyy
	J.F. FLETCHER	30/11/2024
Margaret Eaglesstone	M Eaglesstone	30/11/2024