

the handweavers studio

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Summer 2018

Starting something new? Ready to improve? Like to enhance your current skills? join us for a variety of courses - from an afternoon taster to 4 days...

Introduction to Weaving

Date: 7-8 & 14-15 April (4 days)
Tutor: Dawn Willey
Cost: £325 (incl £75 deposit & all materials)

Further date:
23-24 June 2018 & 30 June-1 July

This four-day workshop is the ideal way to start if you have never woven before, or want a refresher course of the basics.

Looms will be already threaded with a range of different yarns and structures so you will start weaving right away.

Over the course of the two weekends you will also learn all the steps involved in getting a loom ready to weave, and what to do to finish your cloth properly once it's woven. You also receive a substantial handout!



Introduction to Spinning

Date: 8 April (Sunday) 10am - 5pm
Tutor: Brenda Gibson
Cost: £95 (incl £25 deposit & materials)

Further date: Wednesday 13 June

In this single day workshop you'll start by learning how to prepare your fibre for spinning. Then you'll move right into spinning, first of all using a drop spindle, then moving onto a wheel.

You'll cover the basic techniques for spinning and plying using wool. Within the day you should be able to complete a small skein and be well placed to continue practising on your own.



Modern Tapestry

Date: 7 July (Saturday) 2-5pm

Tutor: Becky John

Cost: £45 (deposit £20) - all materials included

Come on your own, with friends, or family for an afternoon where you will discover a range of modern tapestry techniques that will enable you to catch the vibe of this 'new go-to craft'.

Becky will show you the techniques, and help you use a selection of them to create your own unique wall hanging to take away! Not only will you have a fun afternoon with this tutor, who brims with enthusiasm, but will add new skills to your crafting repertoire!



Terrific Tassels

Date: 9 June (Saturday) 2-5pm

Tutor: Jessica Light

Cost: £45 (deposit £20) - all materials included

Tassels never go away, but at the moment they are THE embellishment and being found everywhere...

Jessica, professional tassel maker and passementerie weaver, is going to show us how to make colourful creative key tassels that you can hang off handles, homewares and handbags.

You'll be taught two tassel making techniques, as well as how to spin your own cords and bindings, using traditional centuries old skills with a contemporary twist. Go home with a lovely tassel, or two, to be proud of!



Learn, Make & Take: learn to set up a rigid heddle loom & weave a scarf to wear home!

Date: 14 July (Saturday) 10.15 - 5pm

Tutor: Dawn Willey

Cost: £95 (deposit £25)

This workshop will introduce complete beginners to the rigid heddle loom and the world of weaving. It will suit knitters looking to try something new, spinners whose yarn collection is growing faster than they can knit, anybody fearful of complex looking looms, plus crafters who like to produce a finished item as they learn a new skill! As usual with our workshops, all materials will be provided.



Got the basics and ready to improve your skill set?

Spinning for Improvers

Date: 12 May (Saturday) 10.15am - 5pm

Tutor: Dawn Willey

Cost: £95 (deposit £25)

You're making yarn, the fibres hang together, but you have questions... and would like to expand your repertoire.

Join this workshop to discover how, and why, different fibre preparation methods, yarn drafting and plying techniques change your yarn!

We'll card and comb, spin (long draw included) and ply, examine and analyse - and have fun along the way!

You'll leave this workshop with new skills, spun samples and the confidence to make your own combination of choices for the fibres and yarns you want to spin.



Weave Textures with the Rigid Heddle Loom

Date: 2 June (Saturday) 10.15am - 5pm

Tutor: Dawn Willey

Cost: £95 (deposit £25)

Discover how a simple, but powerful, pattern pick-up stick - or two and some string - can be used to create a variety of versatile textures that will enable you to take weaving with your rigid heddle loom well beyond plain weave.

The techniques you will learn can be applied to your projects - use them with a range of different yarns to create unique textiles suitable for a variety of purposes.

This is the ideal follow-on workshop from the *Learn, Make and Take; weave a scarf* workshop.



and if you already know how to use a shaft loom...

Supplementary Warp Patterning

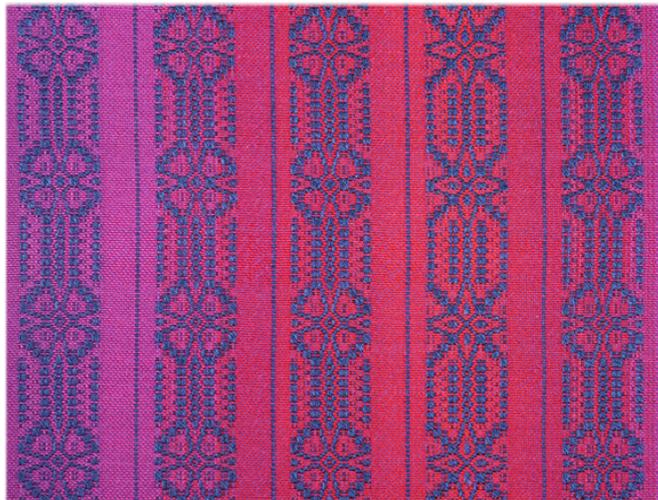
We are thrilled to have Barbara J. Walker, a well known author and weaving tutor with us from the USA - Handweavers Studio is the only location she will be teaching weave at on this UK tour

Date: 28 & 29 April (weekend)
Tutor: Barbara J. Walker
Cost: £265 (deposit £75)

Why confine yourself to only one warp? The use of two or more warps opens up new and exciting opportunities for adding pattern to cloth.

During this workshop you will explore many patterning techniques, most of which require only one shuttle!

Looms will be threaded & ready to weave a variety of structures and designs (turned drafts, large-scale patterns, small-scale motifs, loom-controlled embellishments, combining warp and weft patterning), but Barbara will also demonstrate how she dresses a loom with only one warp beam, but with more than one warp!



Monofilament: weaving with air

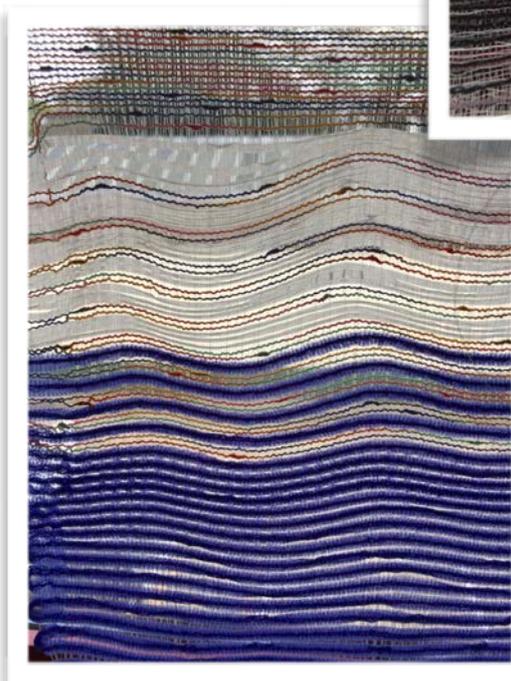
Date: 22-23 September (weekend)

Tutor: Jan Garside (www.jangarside.com)

Cost: £195 (incl £50 deposit)

Delicate threads of monofilament catch light and convey weightlessness unlike any other material. Artist weaver Jan will provide practical instruction for successful weaving with this material, and share tips and tricks gathered from her own experience.

She will be prepared with ideas and suggestions to try so that you too can weave a hanging that will make the most of monofilament's translucent quality



The following summary of Handweavers history was drawn together for Yarnmaker magazine in 2016. Historic details are taken from personal accounts written by various Handweavers' staff and owners - these are held in Handweavers archive or have been published in:

Warp & Weft (London Guild of WSD Newsletter); Issue 235, 236, 250
The Journal for WSD;J230, J237

A Brief History

Handweavers was established in 1973 by four friends, Lore Youngmark, Mike Halsey, Raie Barnett and Nancy Lee Child. They recognised the need for a shop, gallery and teaching centre for both professional and hobby weavers, spinners and dyers in the London area; each of them brought their personal talents to the enterprise. Their shop front at 29 Haroldstone Road, Walthamstow became a gallery with finished items for show and sale. Other rooms in the premises housed looms and spinning wheels for teaching, plus supplies for sale. As the years passed, the gallery aspect diminished and the shop became filled by an ever-growing selection of yarns, fibres, books and equipment. True to it's founding vision, it continued to be a friendly nurturing place for spinners and weavers - their go-to place for knowledge, support and supplies!

When Nancy (the last of the four friends) announced her intended retirement, a palpable ripple was felt throughout the London WSD community - and beyond. Happily for all, Wendy Morris, a passionate weaver, stepped into the breach along with her husband John. Together they found and transformed premises at 140 Seven Sisters Road into what, in 2009, became Handweavers beautiful new home.

Having learnt to weave at Handweavers, Wendy understood the value of such a resource to the hand-weaving community. Under Wendy's direction the Handweavers yarn selection continued to grow, encompassing a host of fascinating and often difficult to find yarns, which were made available in small sampling quantities. In addition to programming an extensive range of workshops and regular classes, she built a flagship two-year weave study course.



Today

Now in its third cycle of ownership, Dawn and Alan Willey took over at the 'helm' in April 2016. Handweavers is continuing to maintain and develop the yarn, fibre and equipment ranges to ensure that spinners and weavers of all types can find the supplies, knowledge, support and inspiration they need to nurture and enhance the enjoyment of their crafts.

Weekly Weaving Classes

Evenings: Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday 6.00 - 8.30pm

Afternoons: Tuesday and Thursday 1.30 - 4.00pm

Morning: Thursday 10.00am - 12.30pm

Our weekly weaving classes (organised into three 10 week terms - autumn, spring and summer @ £197 per term) are suitable for all levels of weaving experience - in each class there will be weavers at different stages of experience.

Every student is assigned a modern 8 shaft loom that will be 'theirs' to weave on for the term. Class size is limited to 10 people, to enable the tutor to give as much support as possible to each.

Beginners learn weaving basics, as their class tutor guides them through the entire weaving process with the Handweavers sampler (we will provide the materials for your beginner sampler) - once familiar with the process of weaving you will then be ready to work on your own projects with your tutor's continued support.

Improvers, and more experienced weavers, work on their own projects with the support of the class tutor.

If you are interested in joining one of our weekly weaving classes we will be happy to put your name on the Weekly Classes waiting list - let us know which time slot you are interested in.

the handweavers diploma

- a two-year course for weavers who want to take their weaving to another level

the handweavers diploma will provide you with an excellent grounding if you want to pursue a career as a designer-maker, or a teacher of handweaving, or simply for your own satisfaction with no particular career plans to use it professionally.

the Diploma will help you to;

- gain an intermediate to advanced knowledge and understanding of a wide variety of weave structures
- develop your weaving skills to an expert level
- build your creative skills and confidence to be innovative in your weaving.

**the next Handweavers Diploma cycle will commence autumn 2019
register your interest now by emailing Dawn,
courses@handweavers.co.uk to receive details when they are
released in August 2018**

Weave-along Days...

If you would like a taste of weaving, or the luxury of weaving without having to warp your loom first this weave-along will be right up your street!

Looms will be ready to go, dressed in a variety of yarns and a range of threadings. How you develop them is up to you - for wefts you can choose from a great variety of mainly repeatable yarns in our workshop, including high twist and stretch should you decide to experiment with finishing effects!

A Handweavers tutor will be on hand to help you get started if you're a beginner, or simply give guidance if you're more experienced.

Come on your own, bring a friend (or two), or family member. Choose to come for a half or whole day, and simply focus on producing your own unique piece of cloth, or samples, to take away.

Date: 20 & 21 July (Friday and Saturday)

Tutor: Dawn Willey

Cost: Half day morning: 10am - 12.30pm £45

Half day afternoon: 1.30 - 4pm £45

Whole day 10am - 5pm £95

Deposit; £25

For further information, or to book a place in a workshop or class, call 020 7272 1891, email us at courses@handweavers.co.uk or simply come into the shop and talk to us. We ask for a non-refundable deposit to guarantee your place and cover our costs if you pull out; the balance of the fee is payable 15 days before the workshop. (If you book within a month of the workshop we will ask you to pay the full amount at the time of booking, to keep the administrative work down.)

All workshops are held at The Handweavers Studio. Workshops generally start at 10:15 and continue until late afternoon. The workshop fee frequently includes all materials; equipment is provided, although you are welcome to bring your own if you prefer - just let us know beforehand.



