



"Wow!" was indeed the only way to describe first reactions to the **WOW: wonder of wool and the art of knit and stitch** exhibition at Rheged and, after our last newsletter about the yarn bombing/storming that launched the show, we thought you'd like to see some of the results and also a few of the other Wool Clip Wow exhibition highlights.

The aim of covering as many surfaces as possible with wool received a huge contribution from Marion who adapted and recycled our tree wraps from September - they look stunning on the stone pillars around Rheged.



And the WOW exhibition itself, as well as including a wide range of thought-provoking and beautiful work from about 20 contemporary artists (including Wool Clip friends, [Rachael Matthews](#), [Susan Crawford](#) and [Joss Wrigg](#)), also features 10 pieces from 10 different Wool Clip members, ranging from scarves to leaky boots, from woven and knitted scenery to felted shells and seascapes and from circular stitching to red carpet glamour.



Chris's rug, entitled Merry Monks Wool Gathering, includes an amazing amount of detail and is based on a Pictish stone carving found on Shetland, depicting the bringing of Christianity from across the sea. Jan's Orkney-inspired woven hanging uses the Theo Moorman inlay technique. Ellie's shoreline seascape is a great reminder of summer holiday beaches and it is all the more inspiring for felters once you spot that even the shells at the bottom are made of felt.



Marion has taken a different tack with a Cumbrian boot that has seen better days - and better hills - and Ruth's piece is also inspired by the hills and by her stock. Linda's scarf uses beautiful shades of blue in a felted and stitched nuno felted scarf.



Jean's Woolly Bear II has been stitched in a circular pattern and shows all kinds of Garden Tiger Moth detail but it is also recycled from waste materials and represents the transformation and metamorphosis of caterpillar into moth. Rebecca's inspiration for one of her trademark shawls was a Frank Sinatra song and Pam's Herdwick bowl uses fleece from her own Herdwick and Ryeland flock. Finally, Julia's full-length felted coat is entitled Entwined and makes a stunning suspended piece in the Wool Clip corner of WOW. If you know anyone planning a winter wedding next year ...!



All in all, we've been delighted to see our work alongside wool-inspired art pieces from across the UK and we'd definitely recommend a visit to WOW - the exhibition is open every day until Sunday 15 April and there are also workshops on Saturdays including felting with Jan on 11 Feb, spinning with Marion on 18 Feb, a joint Marion and Jan knit and crochet workshop on 3 March and repeats of these later in March and into April. Full details on the [Rheged website](#).

Finally, we'd love to know what you make of WOW - not just our contributions but the 20+ other works, the photography alongside and also the goods in the shop - [let us know](#).

Very best wishes,

The Wool Clip