

For all things Woollen

30 April 2024

Dear All

Spring has been elusive here in Cumbria so far this year but the lambs are in the fields and we're as busy in the Caldbeck shop as ever. It'd be lovely to see a bit more of the sun but, as many of you will already know, wool is a great fibre for all weathers.

Following on from news of Beano and Gem last month, we've two more new blogs, each focusing on a member's work. <u>David</u>'s had a letter and images of his work published in an international weaving magazine (read more <u>here</u>) and <u>Chloe</u> tells the story behind her popular Beret or Tam O'Shanter <u>here</u>.







As well as her distinctive necklaces, <u>Susanna</u>'s been working on a selection of Herdwick wool crocheted items that are ideal as plant holders but also seem to have a huge number of alternative uses too. Let us know what you use yours for as we're keen to ensure that her display in the shop inspires more people to buy!

<u>Jan</u>'s been busy teaching with workshops at venues including Rheged and <u>The</u> <u>Eden Workshop at The Appleby Hub</u> and she's also managed to fit in some weaving of her own. Her latest colourways on scarves and wraps make up for the grey skies. Jan's display is always one of the most colourful in the shop and this season is no different.

Julia is the co-operative's current chairperson (which can be a big job on its own) but she's also introducing new colourways and a range called Naturals on to her display of machine knitted accessories at The Wool Clip. The yarn is a blend of Bluefaced Leicester and Masham wool and the colours are very much Spring into Summer. Julia's now working on a headband design and wrist warmers to sit alongside the current hats and neck bands.







Finally, an appeal.

The Wool Clip has thrived since 2001 because we've always had plenty of members with a range of different skills and all willing to contribute time and effort to the co-operative as a whole. We're currently looking for new members

and there are fuller details on our website here.

If you or someone you know is adding value to wool, celebrating it with their craft skills and might be interested in being part of a co-operative, please <u>get in</u> <u>touch</u>. We're happy to chat about what's involved and keen to encourage applicants of all ages and backgrounds.

Thanks and best wishes,

The Wool Clip

PS A date for your diary. The Wool Clip is planning a busy weekend at the end of June. We'll be at the <u>Cumbrian Wool Gathering</u> on Saturday 22nd and Sunday 23rd June and we're also planning to have demonstrations running at the Caldbeck shop that weekend too. There'll be more news in our next email.