



*The Red Threde*  
Newsletter for  
*The Royal Fibre Guild of Lochac*

NOVEMBER ASXLV – 2012

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## ~ From the Guildmaster ~

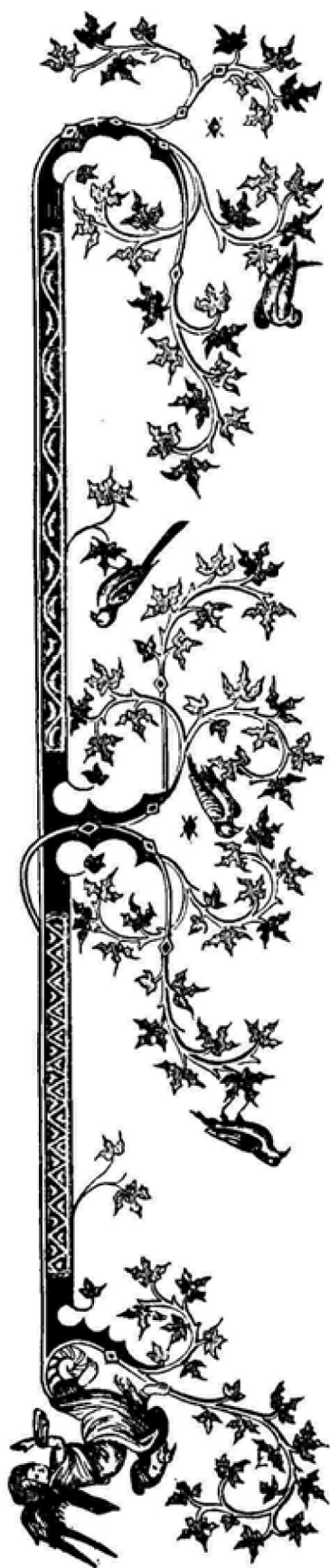
I'd like to apologise to everyone that I haven't done those things I meant to do as Guildmaster these last 8 months. Life has been unexpectedly busy almost up to December, so you should see and hear more of me next year.

May I say that the guild rests not just on my shoulders, but on those of all of you. This is your guild, and your efforts are what make it great. There are a number of ways you can contribute large and small, many requiring little experience. We have Guild officers, who will often appreciate a deputy to help with the role, and to take over the role in the fullness of time. We have local wardens, the local ministers for enthusiasm for the fibrearts who can coordinate a fibreguild gathering when a Royal Event comes to town. Cords for kingdom awards and seal tags are always appreciated. People to help collect and present award cords make my life much easier. New content for the newsletter is always needed. There are often also special projects that your Guildmaster could use help with. And there is always space for new ideas about what the guild can do for its members. There are many ways you can contribute to your guild, and I'd love to see a few more people emailing me <[fibre@lochac.org.au](mailto:fibre@lochac.org.au)> to ask how they might best help.

I'd like to take this chance to give a big thankyou to Tygrha who has produced a top quality quarterly newsletter for the guild for 18 months now. It's been much appreciated by me, and I'm sure all you readers have appreciated it too. Thanks too to Ragnhildr who is stepping into the role with this her first newsletter as Chronicler, after barely a break from being Guildmaster.

On a personal note, I'd like to share some news that has me excited. I've been invited to join the Order of the Laurel at 12th Night for my research and work on recreating a 12th C lifestyle. So I'll still be working to perfect my fibrearts along with you. I look forward to 12th Night for this reason, as well as the chance to talk with those of you who can make it to our Guild meeting there.

*Baroness Teffania de Tuckerton, Guildmaster*







## ~ *Ramblings from the Chronicler* ~

Hello again!

Thanks to Mistress Tig for passing on some lovely illustrated templates for this newsletter. I'm having so much fun with textile things I couldn't stay away and volunteered to be the Chronicler. Besides, writing an article a quarter helps get those thoughts and research pieces together, doesn't it?

The next edition will be published in time for Twelfth Night Coronation – with perhaps a special focus on Twelfth Century textiles in honour of our Guildmaster. If you have any classes you wish to advertise or information that is of relevance to new or experienced fibre workers, then please contact me via the details in Regnum where you can also find your closest Warden and website links.

*Fru Ragnhildr Freysteinnottir, Guild Chronicler*

### *Curiosity Corner or an Interesting Thought*

Why do the English call the tool to make a centrepull ball by a Scandinavian name? We have the niddy-noddy for making a skein, a lovely silly non-word. Did the viking invaders/settlers introduce the nostepinne? (probably not) Why didn't the locals need a centre pull ball? Dyeing is easier in a skein. Winding weaving bobbins is easy from a skein. Nalbinding may need a centre pull ball that doesn't roll around. Any thoughts/ I'm curious.



## ~ Book Review ~

### *The Fleece and Fibre Sourcebook*

Authors: Deborah Robson and Carol Ekarius.

Publisher : Storey Publishing LLC 2011

ISBN 13: 9781 6034 2711 ISBN 10: 1603 427 112

Oh my. I consider this a must for all serious fibre workers, even if you don't ever intend to spin. It covers all fibre producing animals (over 200 breeds of sheep, goats, camelids, bison and yak, dog etc), with a brief yet comprehensive history of the breed, pictures of the animal, the fleece washed and unwashed, spun as singles and as plies, woven and/or knitted. A full resource.

Each fibre article includes Carol's and Deborah's personal views and descriptions of working the fibre – how the raw lock felt, the behaviour of the crimp or how the guard hair handled, whether a worsted/carded preparation was more intuitive than combing. Their years of spinning and textile work come through in every comment.

For me, it is the history of the breed, the many references to breed organisations for further information and the clear pictures of the locks that I adore. A guild member was able to identify what the half fleece she had been donated, just by comparing the handling, length and style of lock with the information in the book. For the record it was mohair.

This is a book in my library that will be a constant reference. What's your ready reference book?



## ~ Resources ~

### *Library Thing*

LibraryThing.com is a website offering cataloguing facilities that has grown to a large (1.5million plus) community of readers and booklovers. My local Spinners and Weavers Guild has registered its library on LibraryThing. The benefits are that I can browse the shelves without needing to be at a meeting, can read other's comments/reviews and easily link to other books in the category or by the author.

I will admit I've loved the idea of LibraryThing every since I heard about it years ago, but the thought of actually cataloguing my library, even just my textile related books, has slowed me down. Seeing how useful this site is is finding me look in my diary to see when I have a few spare hours to start cataloguing.

Canberra Spinners and Weavers Guild -

<http://www.librarything.com/catalog/cswlibrarian> .

### *Ravelry*

Ravelry.com is another wonderful site that helps a crafter keep track of their stash or stock, projects on the go, projects queued up to do and projects that are inspiring. Rav (as it is affectionately known) is aimed at knitters and crocheters, with weavers, spinners, dyers, nalbinders, sprangers (if that's the term) all in there too.

It can hold your textile library catalogue, pattern holdings, pictures of your projects, project libraries where you can see how others have interpreted the same pattern or the yarn/fibre choices they made.

Most importantly, Rav hosts community forums, and there's many with a historical focus, including SCA and our own FibreGuild. Members chat, share photos and projects, resources and hints and tips.

### *Spinning Daily*

[www.spinningdaily.com](http://www.spinningdaily.com) is an on-line enterprise of InterWeave Press, known for it's magazines Spin-Off, Handwoven, Piecework, Cloth paper scissors and others. You can register and get daily emails full of hints, tips, shopping ads and free e-books. Current e-books include such titles as 'Spinning silk', 'plying', 'processing wool'. (I'm seeing myself get my own thumbdrive or external hard drive to save them all on safe from child-induced crashes on the family laptop.)

It's a friendly site, not just an ad for the Spin-Off magazine and others in the stable (though that is there), with chat forums, blog entries from designers and writers, galleries of member work, news on events of interest to crafters and more.





## ~ *Guild Contact List* ~

- ❖ **Website** - <http://lochac.sca.org/fibre>
- ❖ **Email List** - <http://lochac.sca.org/mailman/listinfo/fibreguild>
- ❖ **Guildmaster** - Baroness Teffania de Tuckerton  
<http://lochac.sca.org/fibre/about/contact/>
- ❖ **Webmistress** - Lady Fíne ingen uí Scolaighe
- ❖ **Chronicler** - Fru Ragnhildr Freysteinndottir  
ragnhildrlochac @ gmail . com . au (remove spaces)

## ~ *Local Wardens* ~

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| ❖ Politarchopolis (ACT)   | Fru Ragnhildr Freysteinndottir                     |
| ❖ Agaricus (Southern Sydney district, NSW)                      | Mistress Marit the Wanderer OP                     |
| ❖ Okewaite (Goulburn & Southern Highlands, NSW)                 | Mistress Damiana Tigre de Sylva OL                 |
| ❖ St-Florian-de-la-Riviere (QLD)                                | Countess Leonore d'Scotia OL                       |
| ❖ River Haven (QLD)   | Mistress Glynhyvar OP                              |
| ❖ Bordescros (Albury, Wondonga, Wagga Wagga districts, VIC/NSW) | TH Lady Lowry ferch Gwynwynwyn ap Llewelyn         |
| ❖ Ynys Fawr (Tasmania)  |  |
| ❖ Southron Gaard (Christchurch, NZ)                             | Lady Amalie von Brisache                           |
| ❖ Aneala (Western Australia)                                    | Lady Aoife inghean Uí Chonchobhair (of St Basil's) |

## ~ *Guild Masters* ~

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| ❖ Countess Margie of Glen More         | (Arrowsreach) – spinning, weaving             |
| ❖ Mistress Miriam Galbraith            | (Stormhold) – spinning, tablet weaving        |
| ❖ Mistress Rohese de Fairhurst         | (Politarchopolis) – knitting, sprang          |
| ❖ Mistress Mathilde Adycote of Menhiot | (Politarchopolis/Drachenwald) - knitting      |
| ❖ Countess Leanore d'Scotia            | (St Florian-de-la-Riviere) – spinning, dyeing |
| ❖ Mistress Damiana Tigre de Sylva      | (Okewaite) – all things string                |
| ❖ Mistress Yseult de Lacy              | (Dismal Fogs) - spinning, dyeing              |

