CHRISTMAS 2010:

Hello everyone,

All good wishes for a happy Christmastime.

We are growing in numbers and as people hear about our guild, more little groups are happening.

Keep up the enthusiasm and inspiration we share, and I hope as any of us travel around Australia on holidays and trips we all take the time to meet with other Rugmaker members.

Happy Christmas
from Miriam Miller
President

New South Wales

On Tuesday 19th October, at the Uniting Church in Nowra, Miriam Miller and Jacqui Thomson gave a talk on rug hooking and their travels overseas to attend The International Guild of Handhooking Rugmakers (TIGHR) Conference in Kentucky, USA.

Miriam and Jacqui also talked about the time they spent in The Gambia last year, teaching blind and partially sighted people to make rugs, so they can earn a living.

They took several rugs to show what the Narrawilly Proggers create and Ilka Landahl and Pat La Rance accompanied them to demonstrate rug making.

It was a very successful and happy morning. There was great interest in their rugs, and Miriam thinks maybe they will have encouraged some new members to the Guild.

Well over $500 was raised during the morning to go to the ‘Christian Blind Mission’.

<< This rug was hooked by Miriam, adapted from a painting by her good friend John Butler. It is featured as a Collectors Card in the current issue of The International Guild’s Newsletter.

The Australian Rugmakers Guild sponsors no events. The Australian Rugmakers Guild also does not sell any products. Information in the newsletter concerning both members and non-members is an informational service for the membership.
On Saturday 27th and Sunday 28th November, 2010 there was a Hanging of the Quilts all around the town of Braidwood, from verandahs and in lots of venues like Banks, Masonic hall, Churches, Fire Station and the Theatre.

There were hundreds of quilts. I think they said over 900. We were fortunate to have The old Court House to ourselves as a venue to display our rugs.

I travelled to Braidwood with Coral Christina, a Narrawilly Proggy Rugger on Friday. We were there ahead of the Opening to tackle the huge job of displaying our rugs as we were not allowed to use the walls.

Another Narrawilly member Julie Phelps and her husband David from Nowra came to the rescue. Armed with two large balls of string we managed to tie the rugs over partitions, anchoring them to chairs or whatever we could find behind the numerous partitions. Two were hung on doors and others on knobs and on ventilation grills.

Coral and I were invited to the Official Opening - which was a new experience for me as I am not into Quilts; it was a delightful and interesting evening. I was asked to speak to the invited quests about our rugs; which was a great opportunity to promote rug making. After this we were invited to dine with the organisers of The Quilt Event and in doing so learned more about this town's annual event.
On Saturday morning we were at The Court House waiting for the policeman to open up before 9am and already there were people queuing up to go in; so immediately the exhibition was under way. (This wonderful old building is no longer in use, but open to the public as an historical building.)

During the day we must have talked without a break to two or three hundred people.

Most had never seen rugging before, so they found our demonstrating enlightening, and then there were those who remembered their grandmother or mother making rugs. However, they thought it had been with wool and a different tool.

The exhibition closed a 5pm and as Coral and I had only been able to book accommodation for one night, we headed back to Milton down 120km of winding mountain road. All in all it was an extremely busy but very satisfying day.

Margaret Ryan, Marcia Turner and Ilka Landahl left Milton very early Sunday morning to look after the exhibition. Again they reported a steady stream of people during the day who were very interested in the rugs and having the extra person to help demonstrate and explain was much better. One of the organisers asked Margaret if we would be willing to put on an exhibition again next year, and she enthusiastically said yes as she had enjoyed it so much.

At the end of the day they dismantled the display and were able to bring back all the rugs.

Helen Mennie’s proggy rug

It was a relief to me not to have to return Sunday for the 1 1/2 hour drive each way up and down the Clyde Mountain, as I had found Saturday quite exhausting talking so much - however I do enjoy showing the rugs and meeting so many lovely people.

What IS Jacqui doing??

Sign-in to www.aussierugmakers.ning.com and read the Article titled “Hooking & Fireweed” under the heading “Photos & Articles”
Rug hooking at Michelago – by Maggie Whyte

On a bright sunny Sunday morning in September I drove a short 50k drive to Michelago from Canberra. Sally, a friend of mine, had asked me to come and give a beginners hooky and proddy workshop for nine lovely ladies and a very game gentleman who came in place of his partner. His partner was sick so he took her place so that he could show her the techniques when she is feeling better. What a great partner to have.

I have taught feltmaking and embroidery before but this was my first rug workshop. I had spent a fair amount of time thinking about what to teach and so forth but I did not need to worry as the ladies were just so keen to learn both hooky and proddy and enjoyed experimenting with both techniques and made small sample mats.

Two ladies had been to demonstrations in America and were very pleased when they realised that we are little more relaxed in our hooking styles here in Australia.

Everyone was so enthusiastic that they are hoping to start a group meeting once a month starting in November. I hope the group gets off the ground and I’ll be very happy to join them each month.

Happy rugging
Maggie Whyte

EDITORS NOTE:
The June/July 2009 Newsletter, included an article and this photo of a rug that Maggie had just started

Here’s the finished project -
The background is hooked in the grey greens of the Australian bush and the raised yellow blooms depict the Australian Wattle.
SOUTH AUSTRALIA

Encounter Bay Rug Camp by Judith Stephens

On November 5th/6th/7th, a group of ladies met at the Adare Conference Centre for the first South Australia Rug Camp.

There was lots of talking and laughing, and masses of food because we were doing a ‘pot luck’ for Friday dinner. The remainder of the weekend was catered, with more huge quantities of food – most of which was consumed with glee. As the weather was lovely, we walked on several occasions to the beach and also to the nearby river.

Saturday was workshop day, where we broke into groups for each individual workshop. We tried basket making (with rope and wool, using a crochet hook); hairpin lace on giant ‘hairpins’ with wool; needlefelting and we took part in a dye session with Joyce using her Cushing dyes.

On Sunday we finished our little projects, or continued with our individual hooking work.

Many ideas were exchanged and friendships forged. We even had the excitement of “things that go bump in the night” as two of our campers felt strange movements in their (separate) beds. We’re sure there is a practical explanation ......
QUEENSLAND - My Latest Rugs by Judi Tompkins

Even though she spends many hours working on this Guild’s website Judi still manages to create some interesting hooked pieces. Here is what she has to say about these two shown on her My Page on the private website.

I have identical twin nephews (39) who I helped raise which I suspect accounts for the fact that they grew up with a verrrrrry skewed view of the world! At any rate, they are both graphic artists whose work ranges from medical equipment illustration and children's books to underground comic books and computer aided design. They knew I was a hooker (I explained my new lifestyle as gently as possible!) who bemoaned the fact that I couldn't draw for squat. So, they both asked me if I would hook them something they had drawn and I told them, "Fine, but I'm new at this so it would be good if you could keep it simple". Naturally they did what they always did with my quite reasonable requests and ignored me! A few weeks later I had line and colour drawings of both "Firedog" and "Draygon rips through the fabric of tyme"

"Firedog" comes to me from Chris Smith (Mesa, Arizona) and it was his art (Moose with Boomerang) that served as the basis for one of my earlier rugs. (Yes, the same moose with boomerang he drew and tattooed on me..."But Auntie, you gotta have a tat before you're fifty!") "Firedog" was intended as a visual pun...the dog itself is on fire, not simply attending one! The whole rug is hooked in a #4 cut and I'm using blanket wool. The hat was 3-D (Walderboro style but I don't think I'm quite good enough to claim that level of expertise!) Since the line drawing was fairly uncomplicated I was able to accurately duplicate the artwork. The only deviation from his original drawing was the addition of some sparks moving away from the head.

"Draygon rips through the fabric of tyme" comes to me from Chris' twin, Tony Steele (Laingsburg, Michigan) and yes, I know his surname is different! He got married 10 years ago and took his wife's name....said there were waaaay too many Smiths!

"Draygon" is a character Tony drew for one of the video games he works on and looks suspiciously like a character on the dice associated with one of his educational spelling games. This has proved to be a "beast" of a project in every sense of the word!

I decided to sculpt the whole creature in order to make it appear to be coming through the background. I learned a lot about how I should have approached this project and probably would do things differently next time. Again I'm using blanket wool with a bit of wool knitting yarn in spots. Again, a #4 cut and I've tried to sculpt the "bits" so you can see and feel the difference between the webbing and the bones of the wings; the body and legs; the curled horns. I don't think the photo is able to provide enough depth. After I agreed to do the piece I discovered I didn't have any wool the colour of the background I wanted (he used green and I thought it would be boring) so I decided I would change the colour to a splotchy blue/black/aubergine/green but that meant I would HAVE TO DYE FABRIC! Something I haven't done hhhhhghhh! At any rate, I managed to muddle along and did some crock pot dyeing which seems to have worked.
TASMANIA:

TASCOT THREAD WASTE STOCKPILE IN DELORAINE

The Happy Hookers are salvaging Tascot Carpets recycled woollen thread for the next decade. Since the sad news of the closure of the carpet factory in East Devonport the Hookers are stockpiling a range of colours for rug makers to keep up production in Tasmania.

As a result there is more of a need to be present at Festivals & fairs to promote rug making.

Arts on Fire in Penguin  http://www.touringtasmania.info/penguin.htm

Jo Wild is selling Hook Rug Kits & Happy Hooker t-towels (all $15) at these public events following the success of the Hook a Jewel Project this September at JUNCTION 2010 in Launceston, northern Tasmania. Some of the happy hookers introduced 500 conference delegates to latchet hook rug making techniques.

http://www.lasting-impressions.com.au

As reported by Rosemary Cornish ...... On the Aussierugmakers.ning website:-

At out monthly get together at ETC in Elizabeth Town (Tasmania) last Sunday we had a visit from two ladies from Queensland. They were visiting the Deloraine Craft Fair and made a special trip to meet those of us who were happily rug making.

They were quiet surprised to see we were using the latch hook technique, and shared with us the two techniques they used. Namely 'proddy' and hooking on finer meshed backing. It was most helpful. I am not sure of their names but will follow up via email and maybe they would be interested to join this site.

It turns out one of the visitors was a member of this Guild - Yvonne Hoare from the Gold Coast.

www.aussierugmakers.ning.com  -
If you haven't already accepted the invitation to join the Guild's private members networking site and you can't find the original email — don't look any further..............................
These invitations are dropped after a couple of months, so ..................... just email Jo, at rugcraftersaustralia@yahoo.com.au and request another invite.

If you are online but don't want to join this networking website please email Jo at rugcraftersaustralia@yahoo.com.au to give permission for your name, email address and home State to be shown on the list of members posted on this private guild site. Alternatively if you are not online; to give permission for your name, and home State to be included, please contact Jo Franco at PO Box 2212, Clarkson, WA 6030.
WESTERN AUSTRALIA:
Western Australian Fibre & Textile Association (WAFTA)  www.wafta.com.au

On Tues Oct 19th Judith Stephens and Jo Franco gave a presentation on rug hooking, to approximately 40 members of WAFTA at the Association’s monthly meeting. Judith gave a brief history of the craft and discussed the different techniques used in the UK, USA and Canada. This was illustrated by a PowerPoint program which Jo had put together with photographs of rugs taken here in Australia and on their travels in Sept/Oct 2009 when they attended the 2009 TIGHR Conference in Kentucky, USA, and then travelled north to visit with rug hooking friends and suppliers in Nova Scotia. Their ultimate destination being Cheticamp, on Cape Breton Island, considered the birthplace of rug hooking in North America.

Rugs, wall hangings and small items of both traditional hooking and proddy(proggy) were discussed and passed around, while books, frames and tools, now made in Australia, were on display. Judith focused on the fact that this old craft being revived is fast becoming an art form. As both an art form and a traditional craft the benefits of using recycled materials resonates well with the artist and craftsperson alike in this time of economic and ecological concerns.

At the end of the presentation, many questions were taken from the floor— it was evident that the interest was there, as many tried their hand at a small proddy project. In fact so much interest was generated that a rug hooking group is to be formed as a sub group of WAFTA and a workshop scheduled for January.

Next on the agenda, Norma Hatchett (hookedonhessian@hotmail.com) presented her current project, a hooked “Tapestry” of just over 3 metres (9 ft) in length and 1.5 metres (4.5 ft) high. Norma works with children’s groups and also residents of aged care facilities.

This rug has since been hung in the Dining Room of the Maurice Zeffert Aged Care Hostel, Dianella, a northern suburb of Perth.

The participating group was a mix of staff, volunteers and residents from the Aged Care Hostel.

This is Norma’s second project with the group, she was invited back after the success and interest generated by her first project. This rug, hooked in panels by members of the group, was stitched together by Norma.

(The back of the tapestry shown here)

With the help of volunteers, the group continues to develop and the skills gained are producing some amazing work as well as it being extremely therapeutic for the residents.

The delivery of a lap frame with grippers, sold at the WAFTA presentation, has generated the introduction of rug hooking to yet another group this time at Mundaring, in the hills East of Perth.

Contd..
HEARTISTS Textile Art Group
- Creatively Linking Carers to the Community

Simone Hicks, leader of Heartists, a community group which meets each Friday, in Mundaring, east of Perth is also a WAFTA member. Simone is designing a large hooked creation as part of her Textile/Fibre Arts degree to be completed in 2012 and was thrilled to be able to purchase tools to assist her with this project.

It was Cyndy’s turn to trial tools when she came to Wanneroo to visit the CoW Ruggers - here she is with Jo learning how to prod, working on one of the two rugs the group is creating for two heritage houses in the area.

Cyndy McCann watches Janette Huston trial several different styles of hooks with her rug stretched taught over a frame with gripper strips. This was the first time Janette had used a frame.

New Groups by Jo Franco

It seems only a short while ago West Australia was not very well represented on the rug hooking scene. I’m still not sure what caused the change, but recently there has been a snowballing effect, as more and more is happening in WA. I believe the internet has played a big part in this change with reports on Gene Shepherd’s blog during his visit to Miriam’s Studio at Milton, NSW, in April and possibly the catalyst was reports of Australia becoming the host country for TIGHR last September.

CoW Ruggers - With permission from Janet Walker of Milton, we have turned this picture from one of her rugs shown in Miriam’s book, into a name button for our members.

In July 2010 two workshops were held in my neighbourhood at a local Library. The members were given some basic instruction and then began work on two rugs destined for a couple of heritage houses in the area. (Built in the mid 1800’s)

Since then between 8 or 10 of the original 14 workshop attendees have met at the City of Wanneroo (CoW) library between 10:00am and 1:00pm each Saturday. Others stop by when they can and ...because the door is always open and we can been seen busily prodding by the public, many stop in to find out what is going on and in turn they are encouraged to join, or go away to tell any friends who may be interested.

Two large frames (similar to one shown on page 12) were built and the rugs designed by Lyne Franke are well underway with 10 rug hookers able to be seated at the frames at any one time.

The group practiced their new skills by hooking over the outline of the original line drawing on the hessian. Then the big day came, when all the lines had been hooked and even some of the smaller areas filled with hooking - it was ready to ........ turn over and start to prod!

A local costume designer who attended a workshop given by Judith Stephens and myself in October, decided to join the group and offered to cut some of our donated fabrics on her large commercial fabric cutters. Not only was that a great help, saving us much time and allowing the group to start prodding, but as a costume designer she has a good eye for colour and has been a tremendous help to the project. So all of a sudden the group is really starting to roll right along.
Chiffon Flower Workshop - October 2010

Below are some of the participants who took part in this workshop. As it was a few days prior to the Melbourne Cup, many Chiffon flowers were destined to become “Fascinators” worn to Cup Luncheons.

(Below/Far right) a poinsettia made by the very creative costume designer, Peta, who took the workshop instructions and went a step further. She not only shaped the two different sized petals of her flower but prodded them in a different manner (working in from the edge instead of around in a circle) so they lay flat and the petals were positioned in a more realistic way. This example was made of red felt and sprayed with glitter. Right is Patrick, a young rug hooker who sometimes accompanies his mother on Saturdays and actively participates in the project. Here he is with a flower he created at school - his interpretation of the Chiffon Flower.

Far right, is by far the youngest attendee of the Group.
Vancouver Arts - Albany, West Australia

Bling Bag Workshop by Judy & Jo at Vancouver Arts Centre, Albany, Western Australia

Albany, situated on a magnificent natural harbour on the WA south coast, is approximately a 5.5 hr drive from Perth. Vancouver Arts Centre was formerly the Albany Cottage Hospital built in 1887. It operated as hospital until 1962 and was then used for various types of accommodation before a major refurbishment program began in 1980 and it was transformed into a vibrant arts and crafts centre. This information taken from the following website: http://www.albany.wa.gov.au/website/page.php?folder=17c

The Centre was an excellent location for a rug hooking workshop, and by request, another workshop will be held there at the end of January 2011.

AUSTRALIA / CANADA

Greetings from Sybil Mercer

An ATC - in another format!
Wish I could show you the real card that arrived in my mailbox the first week of December:

“Surfin Santa” is a greeting card, with the hooked portion framed and backed by the doubled over front of the card. Sybil used a punchneedle and what looks like fine silk thread for this creation. The reins are loosely attached and lay on top of the hooking.

ATC’s (Artists Trading Cards - 2.5 x 3.5 inches in size)

TIGHR members are still actively looking for Australian rug makers with whom to swap ATC’s.

If you are interested, please let the Editor know or mention it on the private members website.

Kathy Wright (USA) says:
“My thing is buttons, so each & every one of my ATC’s has at least one button on it”

< Here are some of Kathy’s creations.

Kathy has also created a template to use on her computer/printer for the descriptions that are glued onto the back of her ATC’s.

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AUSTRALIA/UK - from Jane Cobb of Lancelin, Western Australia

In mid-July while staying in the UK, I had the pleasure of visiting the Beamish Museum in the North-East of England. Their aim is to portray something of the life and work of northern people at two key points in the region’s history, the 1820s and 1913. They have done this by recreating villages and towns, allowing visitors to walk around and step back in time. This is a fabulous museum and requires a full day visit, however everywhere there are hooky/proggy rugs. Some of these rugs are old and some made on the premises as a demonstration to visitors. I was amazed at the comments of so many people saying I remember doing that as a child and hated it! I didn’t like to say that I had recently taken this up and loved it! However, I think being forced to do this in not much light, with a clothes peg and no rotary cutters, might have been a whole different ball game!

Also while in England I made a rug as shown (right) from an old picnic blanket and some kilt off-cuts which I had sent off to Scotland for. The off-cuts were very colorful, but frayed terribly, I don’t think I would use them again, the vacuum cleaner was constantly busy.

These pictures are from Beamish, a lot of rooms had the rugs, how’s the dentist?

Editors note: Jane also brought back an article from the Yorkshire Post Magazine, an interview with Jenny Salton of the West Riding Ruggers by Fiona Russell. In this article was a picture from Kirklees Image Archive of men prodding on a frame at Scholes Liberal Club, 1906. This was timely information as the City of Wanneroo (CoW) Ruggers are working on a community project - two very large rugs for a couple of heritage houses in the area. We wanted to be able to work on these as a group and needed to accommodate about 8 to 10 ruggers who show up each Saturday. The group now has two of these stretcher frames, they were designed using pictures and instructions shown in Miriam’s book Proggy & Hooky Rugs.
NEW ZEALAND:  from Judith Brook (South Island)  remarkablerugs@xtra.co.nz

Christmas in the South Island? People go to their cribs at Christmas, country people go to the coast and city people go to the country. Central Otago becomes a swarm of visitors. Sun, wine, festivals and markets and of course the rail trail http://www.newzealand.com.au/cycling-holidays/otago-rail-trail/

This TIGGER, not to be confused with TIGHR, was hooked by Judith’s niece Benita Copland who used hand cut fabric on Green Cloth.

Judith will be conducting rugmaking workshops at the Thyme Festival in Alexandra and has been working on a rug hooked of merino scraps to enter in an exhibition of Tutors at the Festival to be held 13-21 November 2010 www.thymefestival.co.nz

Judith says: “the dry bare rugged hills of Alexandra are all covered in wild thyme, planting was started by a Frenchman in the 1850s. It is all in bloom during the week of the festival - hence the name, great stuff! “

Jan Lewis - (North Island)  hi.jan@xtra.co.nz  http://www.nzgeographic.co.nz/articles.php?ID=326  and  www.waiheke.co.nz/artists.php

Jan lives on Waiheke Island in the Hauraki Gulf about a 35 minute ferrie ride from Auckland. When asked if she had any pictures of Seasonal rugs, she said - “no, I don't 'do' Christmas really, climate's all wrong”. Her work represents the island’s sub-tropical climate and the 100 miles of beaches and wineries. From all reports there are many of these. Jan has recently joined the private members website and has posted more pictures of her vibrant work along with interesting descriptions.

When asked about an interpretation for the word “crib” in Judith Brooks piece she said it was used in the Sth Island to describe a bach pronounced batch!

An alternative theory for the origination of the word is that “bach” in Welsh means small. Baches started to become very popular in the 1950s, as better roads and more available cars allowed for family beach holidays, often to the same beach every year, and hence to the construction of a bach in that spot.

One humorous definition of the bach, is -

"something you built yourself, on land you don't own, out of materials you borrowed or stole."

Also from the web ............

An iconic part of NZ history and culture, especially in the mid 20th century. “Bach” was originally short for bachelor pad but was often a family home.

Another interesting discovery was that the Otago rail trail does not refer to trains but to bicycle trails built on disused rail right-of-ways - check http://www.newzealand.com.au/cycling-holidays/otago-rail-trail/
Coming Events: As a member on this site you can add information about workshops or events. You can enter the information into a template on this site and the event will be listed in date order under this heading.

Tools & Supplies: A page (.pdf format) will be set up listing suppliers, primarily in Australia, but also those overseas who our members have reported having given good service. Anyone who is looking for a rug hooking item, can place an inquiry in the comment box. Responses received will be archived on this listing of suppliers.

Skype: Do you use Skype? have a Skype name? Would you would like to talk to other rug hookers about your rug hooking projects. If so, please advise the Editor of your Skype name and it will be added to your information on the membership list.

FAQ’s: As members join this website many questions have been asked and answered. Those answers have been compiled in a listing under this heading. Your question can be lodged on the Comment Wall, where it will be answered so that others may also see. After that it will be added to the list of FAQ’s which can be accessed by clicking on the blue link “Frequently Asked Questions”.

Membership List: If you are a member of the private networking site please check the Membership list under the heading “About Us” to make sure that your name and information is correct. If you are not shown there, please let the Editor know that it is OK to do so. If you choose not to join the private website, for whatever reason, please give us permission to show your name, email address and home State on this list.

Interesting Links: Do you have the web address of an interesting fibre blog? or a Guild or Teacher? Please advise the Editor of any links you think may be of interest to our members. This page of links is currently under way and will be posted on the site soon and will be kept updated as information is received.

Invitation - Acceptance:
To assist those who are having trouble with the “acceptance” procedure of the invitation to this site, Step by step instructions with pictures of the screens you see as you go through this process are available. If you would like a copy of these instructions please email Jo at rugcraftersaus-traia@yahoo.com.au.

TIGHR: The International Guild of Handhooking Rugmakers - MEMBERSHIP
If you or your group (special group memberships are available) are interested in signing up to TIGHR, email Jo tighr@y7mail.com
TIGHR’s private website is well underway and the AusLink Group on that site is creating much interest in Australia and things Australian as members start planning to visit in Oct 2012.

TIGHR Benefits:
The benefits of TIGHR are: spreading friendship through rugmaking around the world, the opportunity to connect regularly using the internet and contribute to research topics, conversations about tools and projects, etc.... along with the triennial travel exposure, which is communicated using the newsletter even if people are unable to attend in person.

Also the individuals are involved intimately with this organization rather than others with hierarchies that distance the members......

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ONLINE RUG HOOKING:

Some of our members belong to online rug hooking group such as The Welcome Mat and Rug Hooking Daily. The comment below by Susan was posted on one of these in response to a discussion about technology vs art/craft. Since a similar question was posed on our Guilds networking site—Susan has permitted her comments to be included in this newsletter.

Reply by Susan Sutherland 12 hours ago

I think technology does not spurn new art but enhances art. Without the internet for example, traditional rug hooking would probably have fallen to the wayside. No matter where I go I am always explaining what rug hooking is all about that it's painting with wool, etc, etc. Thank goodness for the internet as I can now tell people what to google to find out more information. My big fear with rug hooking is that it will die out if we don't attract more people. In the whole scheme of things, the rug hooking world, compared to other fibre art worlds, is very small. Let's use technology to expand our art form. While we are a 'low tech art' in a 'high tech world' we can use technology to improve our designs, and also to find new ways of doing things and the big plus of today's technology is that we can connect with other rug hookers all over the world.

In the spirit of "connecting”  Miriam Miller would like to share the following email sent to her, on Sunday, October 03., 2010

Good Morning, or should I say evening?

My name is Angela Gray and I am the Treasurer of Ebor Ruggers in York, North Yorkshire.

Via my niece, Karen Leaman who lives in Melbourne, I managed to obtain your beautiful book, which has now been added to our library. It is very inspirational and I am sure will give many of our members more good ideas for rugs and wall hangings.

We have just set up our own website and you have been listed on our links page. There are other web addresses there too, which you might find interesting. We have some superb artists in the UK who have really taken rugging to another level, literally! Isn't it wonderful to know that old skills are not only alive but positively thriving?

By the way Gill Barker, also a committee member, who writes our newsletters and also brought your book to our attention, also hails from County Durham.

Should you or any of your members ever find yourselves in the UK we extend an open invitation to visit our group. We would love to meet any fellow ruggers.

With very best wishes,

Angela Gray
www.eborruggers.com

IVA'S RUG CLEANER - This information comes from Betty Kerr (USA) who says - I have used this home-made rug cleaner for over 20 years.

For Small Rug - use 1 tsp. TIDE without bleach, 2 T white vinegar, 1 cup water
For 2 9 x 12 Rugs - use 1/2 cup TIDE without bleach, 2 cups white vinegar, 2 cups water
Mix ingredients and whisk into a foam. Brush foam on rug lightly. Leave on rug overnight. Vacuum next day.

Editors Note: TIDE is a good quality washing powder with no additives, like enzymes or phosphates

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## Australian Rugmakers Guild Newsletter - Oct/Nov/Dec 2010

### Guild business:

1. Discussions with an insurance agency regarding a Public Liability Insurance policy for Guild Members were initiated. The Board is still considering the merits of such a policy.

2. A new Guild website, a private networking site for Guild members, aussierugmakers.ning.com has been launched. If you’ve requested an invitation and it doesn’t show up, check your SPAM box as sometimes the invitations to this private members site finish up there!

3. If you would like an invitation please email Jo at rugcraftersaustralia@yahoo.com.au

4. www.rughookingaustralia@yahoo.com is no longer the Guild’s Sponsored site. It is now a general rughooking website open to anyone searching for information regarding rug hooking activities here in Australia. Hopefully we’ll have a chance to up-date it in the New Year. If you are sending articles and information to be added to the website - please specify whether it can be placed on both.

5. Guild Dues can be paid by direct/bank transfer or Pay/Pal “send money” option for information regarding this contact the Editor. rugcraftersaustralia@yahoo.com.au

### Australian Rugmakers Guild Membership/Renewal Application

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Membership fees: $10 per year due 1st July each year. (If you require receipt, include stamped addressed envelope) $15 per year for printed copy of newsletter

**Cash:** $......... **Cheque:** $......... **Money Order:** $......... **Direct Deposit:** $.........

*Online direct deposit payment can be made via information provided by rugcraftersaustralia@yahoo.com.au

**Renewal Applications** please complete all details

**Privacy Notice:** Please note your email, street address and phone number is listed in the Membership Directory. A Membership List from the Directory is available, upon request, to all Australian Rugmakers Guild members. Please mark with an (*) any of your information you do not wish to have shown on the Membership List provided to other members.

**Return application to**

Membership Chair, Australian Rugmakers Guild  
20 Langhorne Creek Rd., Strathalbyn, SA 5255

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For those with Townsend fabric cutters, looking for parts or service - check out the following link  
www.beeline-townsend.com  
email rughooker@beeline-co.com

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**GUILD NEWS:**

- **PRESIDENT:** Miriam Miller, Milton, NSW  
  narrawillyfarm@shoal.net.au
- **VICE PRESIDENT:** Judith Stephens, Strathalbyn, SA  
  jstephens45@y7mail.com
- **Treasurer:** Sue Lange Hewett, SA  
  suelange@internode.on.au
- **Secretary/Editor:** Jo Franco, Perth, WA  
  rugcraftersaustralia@yahoo.com.au