

Winter at West Moss-side

From Kate Sankey

West Moss-side
A place to meet, learn & grow

The geese have settled back for the winter now and the clocks have just changed! So its time for the wood burning stove in the hayloft workshop and warming soups!

Autumn calving is finished with Gean (my young heifer) the last to produce. I have four very beautiful bull-calves – shame they weren't heifers! I'm not long back from 5 days on Shetland – admiring cows and participating in the annual gathering and AGM of the Scottish Basket Maker's Circle. A wonderful time! I studied with Anelma a Finnish rush and birch bark weaver. I am very proud of my piece which has joined the work in the exhibition area at the Centre. I also came back with a hen basket – made by one of the other tutors – Ted Kelly from Co. Sligo. This is made out of oat straw and I'm told that the chickens queue up to lay eggs in them.

Christmas is coming! I think that the workshops pre-Christmas will give you new skills and inspiration for presents and maybe the workshops in the New Year might make great Christmas presents too. Special GIFT VOUCHERS available – which can be redeemed on any course at any time

Winter Craft Courses at the Centre

Felt Creations Workshops



Sunday 2nd December with **Jeanette Sandler**

Cost: £50 per person

Farmhouse lunch and refreshments included

Jeanette returns to provide another day of felting tuition from one of the finest tutors in the country; the October workshop was full very quickly so there is another day – 2nd December. Suitable for beginners or those who have already got hooked! Plan some ideas for Christmas and experiment with the range of beautiful wools and fibres which Jeanette brings along. Different techniques to create wall hangings, scarves or 3D pieces such as fab jewellery, pots and bags and all sorts. Great for presents.

Click the following link to book a place on this course through our web site, or call me directly on (01786) 850428:

[BOOK NOW](#) for the Felt Creations Workshop

Comments from previous attendees of Jeanette's WMS courses:

“Great fun, so many goodies to make”,

“Want to do more”,

“Amazing Day – achieved far more than I imagined”

Cane Chair Seating Weekend Workshops **STILL PLACES AVAILABLE**



10th/11th and 24th/25th November with **Susie Bishop** Please note the change of date for the first weekend.

Cost: £100 per person for 2 days tuition
Farmhouse lunches and refreshments included
Small additional charge for materials

Once again there will be two weekends for cane chair seating. Repair that pretty chair which you have in the attic or covered up to hide the damaged cane! Learn how to weave the intricate patterns of natural cane seating. If you don't have a chair then have a look in old antique or junk shops or if you don't have one then get in touch with Susie Bishop and she will help source one. You may be able to complete one in a weekend or have enough knowledge to finish off at home. But we are running two weekends so you can join either of them as a beginner or you can come on the first weekend and then join the second for one of the two days (or both!) at 10% discount!

The cost is £100.00 for the whole weekend for all tuition on the two days and lunch and should be paid two weeks before the course please. £50 each day (with 10%) off for 'returners' on the second weekend. There will be a charge for the cane paid to Susie on the day.

Click the following link to book a place on this course through our web site, or call me directly on (01786) 850428

[BOOK NOW](#) for the Cane Chair Seating Weekend Workshops

Comments from previous attendees of Susie's WMS courses:

"Very enjoyable experience, caning a chair after years of thinking about it..."
"An enjoyable and useful course. Great company and wonderful setting!"

Traditional Willow Basket Weekend Workshop



12th and 13th January with **Catherine Davies**
Cost: £100 per person for 2 days tuition
Farmhouse lunches and refreshments included
Small additional charge (approx £5) for materials

Catherine will tutor the next willow basket making course. This is a course which will cover all the fundamental techniques of 'stake and strand' round basket making the traditional way using beautiful 'brown' willow. That is willow which still has its bark on and is easy and subtle to work with.

The cost is £100.00 for the whole weekend for all tuition on the two days and lunch. Book early to avoid disappointment with fees to be paid two weeks before the course please There will be a small charge for the willow to Catherine (approx £5.00) on the day depending on how large a basket you make!
Click the following link to book a place through our web site, or call me on (01786) 850428:

[BOOK NOW](#) for the Traditional Willow Basket Weekend Workshop

Scottish Birch Craft Workshop



Saturday 19th January 2008 with **Bryce Reynard**

Cost: £50 per person

Farmhouse lunch and refreshments included

Small additional charge for materials

Bryce will return for a fun day of working with birch. A woven basket, decorations, toys and even jewellery can all be made using this versatile tree. Bark, roots and twigs all used to create unique pieces and introduce you to the techniques. Bryce uses only Scottish birch in his work although he has been inspired by the wealth of designs from Scandinavia.

The cost is £50.00 for the day for all tuition and lunch and should be paid two weeks before the course please.

Click the following link to book a place on this course through our web site, or call Kate directly on (01786) 850428:

[BOOK NOW](#) for the Scottish Birch Craft Workshop

The Totally Natural Paper Making Weekend Workshop



26th/27th January with **Charmian Pollok**

Cost: £100 per person

Farmhouse lunch and refreshments included

Small additional charge for materials

This is much more than paper making – the pieces which Charmian creates are totally unique – using Yellow Flag Iris, birch, willow, bracken...and more - all from West Moss-side or the Moss. There is an exhibition of her work at West Moss-side so come and see ...

The cost is £100.00 for the whole weekend for all tuition on the two days and lunch and should be paid two weeks before the course please.

Click the following link to book a place on this course through our web site, or call Kate directly on (01786) 850428:

[BOOK NOW](#) for the Totally Natural Paper Making Weekend Workshop

What about something different... coming soon - new to West Moss-side for 2008:

..... Batiks with Libby Yule on 2nd February

..... Yurt building with Red Kites Yurts Paul Millard on 9th February. Take a look at [Paul's website](#)

..... Willow wildlife sculptures with Anthea Naylor 16th February

..... Spooncarving with Jon Warnes date tbc.

Final Thoughts



Demand for the conference, meeting and IT facilities is growing. It is a great place for an Away Day, a formal meeting or just somewhere different to run a training event. The ten networked computers are an additional facility to make West Moss-side a state of the art venue. To discuss your needs, please email or call me for details: kate@westmoss.com or (01786) 850428.

Whether you have visited us before or are new to the Centre, I do hope you find something inspiring in the current offering and look forward to welcoming you in the very near future. Come and be creative in the workshop snug around the wood burning stove in the midst of the landscape of West Moss-side Organic Farm and Flanders Moss National Nature Reserve.

Sincerely,

Kate Sankay

Comments from West Moss-side Centre attendees 2007

"Brilliant set up and welcome, and everything else too"

"Two days of calm in an oasis of creativity"

"Great space, peaceful and inspiring"

"Being here is good for the soul – and I loved the cake"

"Really inspiring, creative day, wonderful setting!"

"Lovely meeting place very relaxing"

"very unique lady and place!"

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