

Nancy Shafee - Abridged CV

Recent & current work

I work primarily with wool – giving talks, demonstrating and teaching feltmaking and selling handmade felt fashion accessories and decorative items for homes. I also work with vintage/recycled natural fabrics, or customers' own textiles, to make coiled fabric baskets. By way of contrast, I make and sell plaster casts of hedgerow plants and seashore finds.

I exhibit regularly at venues like Contemporary Textiles at Landmark Arts and at prestigious Craft and Design (Craft in Focus) events, as well as smaller exhibitions in the South of England including Festival of Craft and Thread at Farnham Maltings.

My work is on sale at The Surrey Guild of Craftsmen Gallery and at Haslemere Museum and is also represented on the British Craft Trade Fair and SAOS websites.

I was accepted as a member of The Surrey Guild of Craftsmen in 2013 and became the chairman in 2016. Due to the coronavirus lockdown, I am still 'holding the fort' as I was due to hand over (after four years) on April 25th 2020.

I was shortlisted (one of six) for the Wool Innovation Prize in 2019 with my fledgling business, Well Urned Rest, although I also sell the urns just as decorative vessels.

I am a member of the International Feltmakers Association, Surrey Artists, Heritage Craft Association, Guildford Art Society, American Fiber Art Network and FLEWS (feltmakers, lacemakers, embroiderers, weavers and spinners) and collaborate regularly with other members, particularly on development ideas. I have been a member of Mensa for more than 40 years and support the Campaign for Wool.

My work can be seen on:

<https://www.wellurnedrest.com>

<https://www.flights-of-fantasy.com>

<https://www.thesurreyguildofcraftsmen.co.uk>

<https://bctf.co.uk/catalogue.html>

<https://www.facebook.com/fantasiesinflight>

<https://www.facebook.com/charlescottagestudio>

<https://www.facebook.com/wellurnedrest>

Background & unconnected work

After studying textile and fashion design at St Martins School of Art (now Central St Martins), I worked in the UK and Finland, and additionally produced designs for the Russian market.

Thereafter, I was a journalist and publisher for many years, including launching two of my own magazines, both still successful going concerns under their subsequent owners. I have published several books, both fact and fiction, and worked in PR and marketing in a wide range of industries, including for household names like BMW and Smallbone.

Between 2005 and 2010 I ran the private practice for a gynaecologist in Guildford. For six years, until summer 2016, I offered a locum medical PA service working mainly at BMI and Guildford Nuffield hospitals in Surrey, and the Surrey Park Clinic.

I have successfully brought up two sons, one a biochemist, now in Australia; my younger son works for Aon in Singapore.