



MAKING IT IN TEXTILES CONFERENCE & MILL VISITS



BRADFORD: 17 - 18 OCTOBER 2023
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MAKING IT IN TEXTILES IS MADE POSSIBLE WITH THE SUPPORT OF:



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THE CLOTHWORKERS'
COMPANY



THE DRAPERS'
COMPANY



THE WEAVERS'
COMPANY



THE WOOLMEN'S
COMPANY

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> DELEGATE INFORMATION

REGISTRATION & SANDWICH LUNCH: MIDLAND HOTEL (13.00 - 14.00)

Please check in and register at the **Midland Hotel** (13.00 - 14.00), where a sandwich buffet will also be available before we begin.

ACCOMMODATION: MIDLAND HOTEL & JURY'S INN

Accommodation is provided by both the Midland Hotel, where the conference takes place, and another local hotel, Jury's Inn. Printed maps are available from the conference reception desk.

All rooms are pre-allocated, and you will be given your room number when you register. To ensure this event remains free for delegates, some attendees will be required to share hotel accommodation. Tutors have been allocated individual rooms, but may not be in the same hotel as their students. To ensure that the event runs smoothly, we will not be able to accept requests for changes to rooms allocated. There will be an accommodation list near the conference reception desk, in alphabetical order by institution, and the conference event team will also be able to help you with any queries.

HOTEL CHECK IN OFFICIALLY OPENS AT 14:00

Midland Hotel: Forster Square, Bradford BD1 4HU

Guests staying at the Midland Hotel are welcome to check in before the conference begins, during the afternoon conference break, or after the conference closes and before the evening drinks reception. If your room is not ready for check in before the conference begins, you can leave your luggage in the hotel's secure room.

Jury's Inn: 2 Thornton Road, Bradford BD1 2DH

For delegates staying at Jury's Inn, we would ask that you check in after the conference finishes and before the evening drinks reception. You can store your luggage under the table during the conference, or in the secure room at the Midland Hotel.

Please note: There are no accounts open on the bedrooms; any spend charged to the room will need to be met by the guest, and any breakages or damages will also be the guest's responsibility.

CONFERENCE SEATING AND NETWORKING

This event provides an opportunity to find out more about the textile manufacturing industry and to meet experts who will give valuable insight into different roles within the industry. It is hoped that students will take the opportunity to network as much as possible to gain maximum benefit from the event and build useful contacts for the future. A table plan will be included with the delegate pack and will also be displayed in the Princes Ballroom.

SPECIAL DIETARY REQUIREMENTS

Lunch on Tuesday and Wednesday will be a sandwich buffet offering meat and vegetarian options. If you have made us aware of any specific dietary requirements, there will be a covered plate of food labelled with your name which, if not placed on the table for you, can be collected from the table at the back of the conference room.

Dinner: If you have made us aware of any dietary requirements, then an appropriate meal will be served to the table for you.

DRINKS RECEPTION AND DINNER

A drinks reception will be held in the French Ballroom at the Midland Hotel from 19:15 to 20:00 on the Tuesday evening.

Dinner will be served in the Princes Ballroom at 20:00, following the drinks reception. Two courses will be served, and guests will then be invited to return to the French Ballroom for dessert and coffee.

MILL VISITS: WEDNESDAY, 18 OCTOBER

Delegates will be visiting one mill and places will be pre-allocated. Participants from the same institution may be visiting different mills to increase the exposure to different businesses and allow experiences to be shared with peers afterwards. Delegates should have been told in advance by their tutors which mill they will be visiting.

Coaches will depart from outside the Midland Hotel. You will be advised at registration what time the coach will leave; please ensure you are ready and at the Midland Hotel at least 10 minutes prior to your coach departing. **Coaches will leave without delegates if they are not there on time.** Coaches will arrive back at the hotel for lunch prior to the afternoon conference session at 13:30.

To comply with Health & Safety requirements, the mills have already been given a 'Visitors List'; therefore we cannot make any changes to the allocation.

CHECK OUT AND EVENT CLOSURE

All delegates are asked to have breakfast and check out of their respective hotels before meeting in the foyer at the Midland Hotel in good time to leave for the mill tours. Luggage can be kept in a safe place at the Midland Hotel.

The event closes at 15:15, with delegates collecting their luggage and departing.

WIFI

There is free unlimited WiFi – the hotel staff can provide you with the WiFi code.

> QUESTIONS, CONCERNS, PROBLEMS?

If you have any issues during the conference, please contact any of the event organisers, who will be present throughout. Should you not be able to locate a member of the team, please call either of the following:

Anne Howe (The Weavers' Company): 07817 991540
Emma Temple (The Clothworkers' Company): 07725 302421



> WELCOME TO MIIT 2023

Making It in Textiles is a free, two-day conference for final-year textile degree students. First held in 2014, the conference is a collaboration between The Campaign for Wool, The Clothworkers' Company, The Drapers' Company, The Weavers' Company, and The Woolmen's Company. Our aim is to forge stronger links between educational institutions and the UK textile manufacturing industry. We are delighted that over 100 representatives from final-year textile degree courses, and their tutors, are joining us for what should be an interesting and useful event.

The idea of holding such a conference came from feedback received from course tutors, who remarked that students no longer had the opportunity to learn about the textile industry first-hand by talking to manufacturers and seeing industrial production. During the conference, you will hear from experts who work in the sector who will provide an insight into what it is like to work in the textile industry, and from alumni who have forged successful careers after graduation. A visit to a local mill will enable you to see first-hand how a modern textile business operates. We also hope that the event will provide a good opportunity for you to network with the speakers, mill representatives and students from other institutions.

There is a skills and talent gap in the textiles industry. The UK industry is experiencing resurgence, and this is creating jobs. However, there are only a finite number of pure design roles available. Textile companies need young people with a range of skills who are interested in building on their design expertise to work in areas such as supply chain management, yarn sourcing, quality control and production management.

Finally, we would like to thank all the speakers, companies hosting mill visits and those alumni returning to talk about how their careers have developed. Without them giving up their time, we wouldn't be here today.

We hope you enjoy the conference, and that you will take full advantage of the opportunity to learn more about the industry.

> ABOUT THE ORGANISERS

CAMPAIGN FOR WOOL CAMPAIGNFORWOOL.ORG

The Campaign for Wool is a global endeavour initiated by its patron, HM King Charles III, to raise awareness among consumers about the unique, natural and sustainable benefits offered by wool.

 Follow Campaign for Wool on Facebook
 @CampaignForWool |  @CampaignForWool

THE CLOTHWORKERS' COMPANY* CLOTHWORKERS.CO.UK

Founded by Royal Charter in 1528, the original purpose of The Clothworkers' Company was to protect

its members and promote the craft of cloth-finishing within the City of London. Today, its mission is to inspire and empower individuals and communities through action, partnership and financial support. It is particularly focused on UK textiles, charity governance and philanthropy – through The Clothworkers' Foundation and beyond. Although few of its present members are directly involved in the textile industry, the company continues to promote textiles, principally through the provision of apprenticeships, educational grants, technical skills development, innovative textile technology, and conserving textiles heritage.

  Follow on Facebook and LinkedIn
 @Clothworkers_Co |  @ClothworkersCo

> ABOUT THE ORGANISERS

THE DRAPERS' COMPANY* THEDRAPERS.CO.UK

Founded over 600 years ago, the Drapers' Company has evolved into an organisation that addresses contemporary issues, through its philanthropic role. It continues to strive to be an enduring force for good. Through the careful management of its endowments, it is able to support those most in need across the spectrum of education, social welfare and the textile industry in England, Wales, and Northern Ireland. The Company's membership fulfils a variety of governance roles and other responsibilities on behalf of the Company in order to meet its many charitable endeavours. This includes the Textile Working Group which identifies charitable activities where the Drapers' Company can support young people in textiles at the start of their careers.

 @DrapersCompany



THE WEAVERS' COMPANY* WEAVERS.ORG.UK

The Weavers' Company was granted its Royal Charter in 1155; as the oldest of London's livery companies, it has a rich and historic past as a textile-related, charitable and sociable organisation. Today, it is a modern company that continues to fulfil its role of support for the art and skill of weaving whilst actively helping to improve society. The Company encourages excellence in all spheres of the United Kingdom's woven textile industry by identifying, supporting, and nurturing exceptional students training for the industry, as well as young people already working within it.

 Follow The Weavers' on LinkedIn
 @Weavers_Clerk

THE WOOLMEN'S COMPANY* WOOLMEN.COM

The Woolmen grew out of the ancient guild that regulated the wool trade and was originally the body that oversaw woolpackers and wool merchants to ensure consistent standards for wool producers and wool merchants throughout the wool industry. It now combines its ancient history and traditions with an active role with the \$80bn Global Wool Pipeline Industries. Through careful evolution over 800 years, The Woolmen's Company has maintained its unique traditions whilst maintaining close emotional and business affiliations with a modern, vibrant and very environmentally friendly fibre. Through its Charitable Trust, it supports research into appropriate wool-related procedures and practices, provides bursaries for students of wool, textile, design, wool marketing and retailing and it awards prizes and medals for sheep shearing at the major agricultural shows.

 Follow The Woolmen on Facebook
 @TheWoolmen

*LONDON LIVERY COMPANIES

The Clothworkers', The Drapers', The Weavers' and The Woolmen's Companies are among the City of London's 112 livery companies. Livery companies were the first form of trade associations – many of which are hundreds of years old. Today, although not all their members are connected with their original trades, the companies continue to be keen supporters of the industry, in particular skills and education.

> AGENDA: TUESDAY, 17 OCTOBER 2023

- 13.00 - 14.00 **REGISTRATION AND A SANDWICH BUFFET LUNCH** (Princes Ballroom)
- 14.00 - 14.15 **CONFERENCE WELCOME** (Princes Ballroom)
David Collinge (Chair, The Weavers' Company Textile Committee)
- **INSIGHTS INTO THE TEXTILE & FASHION INDUSTRY**
- 14.15 - 14.25 **Introduction:**
Elliot Barlow (Manufacturing Consultant, UKFT)
Elliot has worked across the end-to-end of industry and his expertise has been forged from hands-on experience managing high-end clothing factories in London, his own consultancy business producing for multiple brands and designers in the UK, as well as senior management roles in-house and as a manufacturing consultant for the UK Fashion & Textile Organisation (UKFT). The journey starts with the importance of colour, and Elliot will introduce Wallace Sewell.
- **THE IMPORTANCE OF COLOUR**
- 14.25 - 14.45 **The Power and Attraction of Colour:**
Harriet Wallace-Jones (Partner, Wallace Sewell)
Harriet, together with Emma Sewell, established Wallace Sewell in 1992 after graduating from the Royal College of Art. They are known for their use of colour, structure, and yarn in surprising geometric formats. Inspired by paintings, they create individual contemporary fabrics with strikingly bold, asymmetric blocks and stripes of varying scales. Their diverse portfolio includes scarves for the Tate museums as well as moquette fabric designs for Transport for London's underground seating. Since Wallace Sewell's inception, Harriet and Emma are proud to have always worked in the UK, embracing the British Textile Industry for its wealth of expertise and production.
- **TEXTILE MATERIALS & TECHNOLOGY**
- 14.45 - 15.00 **Elliot Barlow**
Myth or facts, how to help make clear conscience decisions about your role as future leaders in the industry.
Elliot will then introduce Professor Stephen Russell.
- 15.00 - 15.20 **The Future Fashion Factory – Creativity Meets Technology:**
Professor Stephen Russell (Director, LITAC)
Professor Russell is the Director of the Leeds Institute of Textiles & Colour (LITAC), a world-leading research centre that brings together multi-disciplinary expertise in textile design, technology, science and engineering at the University of Leeds. He is a textile engineer with a background in both academic research and industrial product development.
A full biography for Professor Russell appears on page 22.

> AGENDA: TUESDAY, 17 OCTOBER 2023

- **MANUFACTURING**
- 15.20 - 15.30 **Elliot Barlow**
To talk about fabric manufacturing opportunities and then to introduce Amanda McLaren.
- 15.30 - 15.50 **Manufacturing at Scale:**
Amanda McLaren (AW Hainsworth)
Amanda is a highly ambitious and driven board-level executive with expertise generated over many years, within both SMEs and global manufacturing organisations. The textile sector has been at the core of her professional career, as has her drive and passion to support 'Made in the UK' design and engineering; particularly when the products are exported into a global market. Amanda joined AW Hainsworth in 2021 as Managing Director to oversee all business activity and will talk about manufacturing at scale, with sustainability at its heart.
- 15.50 - 16.10 **BREAK**
- **FINISHING**
- 16.10 - 16.20 **Elliot Barlow**
To talk about the impact, opportunities and potential futures in finishing and then introduce Paul Johnson.
- 16.20 - 16.40 **Finishing the Cloth:**
Paul Johnson (Executive Chairman, W.T. Johnson & Sons)
It is often recognised that fabrics are created in the finishing, where the aesthetics of handle and drape, and indeed performance are created. Paul is Executive Chairman of this family mill, which supports the majority of northern mills (including Scotland) in this vital last process before delivery to the client. Paul will talk about the link between design and weaving and how the limits of the 'possible' are pushed in the finishing of the fabric.
- **STARTING UP A BUSINESS**
- 16.40 - 16.50 **Elliot Barlow**
To talk about the width and possibilities in 'product' manufacturing and then introduce Margo Selby.
- 16.50 - 17.10 **Starting Up a Business:**
Margo Selby (Creative Director, Margo Selby)
Margo trained in textile design at Chelsea College of Art & Design and followed this with a postgraduate degree at The Royal College of Art, graduating in 2001. On graduating Margo initially worked as a woven textile designer for industrial mills before going on to create the unique 3-dimensional fabrics that were to become the trademark of the Margo Selby Brand. Margo will talk about starting her business, her expectations, and the realities of the workplace.
- 17.10 - 17.30 **Elliot Barlow**
Elliot will offer a perspective on the width of directions that a career within the textile industry might travel.

> AGENDA: TUESDAY, 17 OCTOBER 2023

INTERACTIVE SESSION

- 17.30 - 18.00 **Q&A Session:
Elliot Barlow**
Elliot will host an interview and question session. He will interview the technical speakers, and invite questions from the floor, directing them to the appropriate panel member.
- 18.00 - 18.15 **Closing Remarks:
David Collinge (Chair, The Weavers' Company Textile Committee)**
- 18.15 - 19.15 **BREAK (suggested check in time, if not already done)**
- 19.15 - 20.00 **DRINKS RECEPTION** (French Ballroom)
- 20.00 - 22.30 **DINNER** (Princes Ballroom)
Two courses will be served in the Princes Ballroom. Guests will then return to the French Ballroom for dessert and coffee.
- 22.30 **CLOSE**

LET'S GET TOGETHER AND NETWORK

Dinner presents a great opportunity to network with some of our conference speakers and with representatives of companies and our livery sponsors. Expect to meet people from:

- | | | |
|-----------------------------|--------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| • Abraham Moon | • Marton Mills | • The Clothworkers' Company |
| • Alex Begg | • Pennine Weavers | • The Drapers' Company |
| • AW Hainsworth | • Random Moment | • The Merchant Taylors' Company |
| • Bespoke Fabrics | • RH Gledhill | • The Textile Centre of Excellence |
| • Camira Group | • Stanley Mills | • The Woolmen's Company |
| • Humphries Weaving Company | • Stephen Walters | • UKFT |
| • Laxtons | • The Bradford Textile Society | • Wallace Sewell |
| • Margo Selby | • The Campaign for Wool | |

> AGENDA: WEDNESDAY, 18 OCTOBER 2023

07.00 - 08.30 **BREAKFAST / CHECK OUT**

French Ballroom. Store luggage securely at the Midland Hotel.

MILL VISITS

08.30 - 12.00 **Please be ready at the Midland Hotel at least ten minutes before departure.**

Delegates will be allocated to coaches for trips to one of the following:

- Abraham Moon
- AW Hainsworth
- Camira Fabrics
- Marton Mills
- Stanley Mills

Coaches will depart from outside the Midland Hotel and will return delegates to the Midland Hotel prior to lunch.

12.00 - 13.00 **SANDWICH LUNCH** (Princes Ballroom)

OPPORTUNITIES

13.00 - 13.30 **Setting Your Path for the Career Trajectory: Elliot Barlow**

Elliot will start the final session of the conference and talk about finding out how to identify career goals and which necessary tools you require to reach the key milestones, and understanding how to galvanise your experiences, skills and methods to harvest the best opportunities when navigating your chosen path.

INTERACTIVE SESSION

13.30 - 15.00 **Career Perspectives: Elliot Barlow**

Elliot will lead discussions with alumni students who will talk about their experiences in the textile industry and answer questions from delegates.

Those being interviewed are:

- Andrew Stevenson (Senior Textile Designer, Paul Smith)
- Coral Dalglish (Design Manager, Alex Begg)
- Natalie Mumford (Business Manager, Humphries Weaving Company)
- Piers Thomas (Designer at Large, Random Moment Ltd)

15.00 - 15.15 **Closing Remarks: Peter Baxendell (The Weavers' Company)**

15.15 **EVENT CLOSE / DEPARTURE**

> COMPANY INFORMATION

ABRAHAM MOON & SONS | [MOONS.CO.UK](https://moons.co.uk)



Since their establishment in 1837, MOON has continued to fuse traditional craftsmanship and methodologies with the latest technology to create authentic wool fabrics and accessories for leading fashion brands and interior designers worldwide. As one of a select few in the UK who can perform all processes at a single site – from dyeing the wool and making their own yarn, to weaving and finishing the fabric – they boast remarkable versatility and the ability to control each process to meet their exacting standards.

The MOON business was born from ingenuity and innovation. These same values flow through the company today from beautifully designed products to forward thinking manufacturing driven by a commitment to their team, customers, and the environment. Their ability to respond, adapt, and thrive has defined them as an industry leader, enabling their transition from a humble woollen mill into a premium international brand.

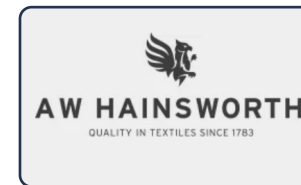
Follow on Facebook

@AbrahamMoonSons

@AbrahamMoonSons



AW HAINSWORTH & SONS LTD | [AWHAINSWORTH.CO.UK](https://awhainsworth.co.uk)



AW Hainsworth & Sons Ltd has been responsible for weaving the look of iconic England ever since the company was established in 1783. Many of the famous images that have been used across the world to celebrate Great Britain are made unforgettable through the use of Hainsworth cloth, including the Striking Scarlet of the Royal Guards, the ceremonial uniforms worn by the Royal Family during state occasions, and the military uniforms worn during the Charge of the Light Brigade.

True craftsmanship starts with the selection of the best possible fibres, a knowledge and skill passed down through the Hainsworth family over 230 years. We carefully select only the best quality fleeces from Britain, Australia and New Zealand, matching the fleece and fibre qualities to the end use of the fabric – ensuring a truly beautiful finish that no other mill can match.

Every single one of our more than 230 years' of experience is apparent in the weave quality of the fabrics that leave our mill. Through the generations we have learnt the best way to craft cloth to make it perfect for its specific end use; be it apparel, furnishings or wall coverings.

We control the weave all the way down to the placement of individual fibres within the construction, to ensure we optimise the benefits to the end application, including lustre, handle, durability and drape.

The distinctive Hainsworth finish is coveted by mills globally, yet no one can match our quality, structure, sheen or feel. Our attention to detail is pure passion and craftsmanship born of the Hainsworth heritage. Our skill, down to how many brush strokes each piece receives to achieve the striking Hainsworth finish, to the number of cuts for the perfect length of the nap, is second to none; this is what makes our fabrics stand out from the crowd as the first choice for designers.

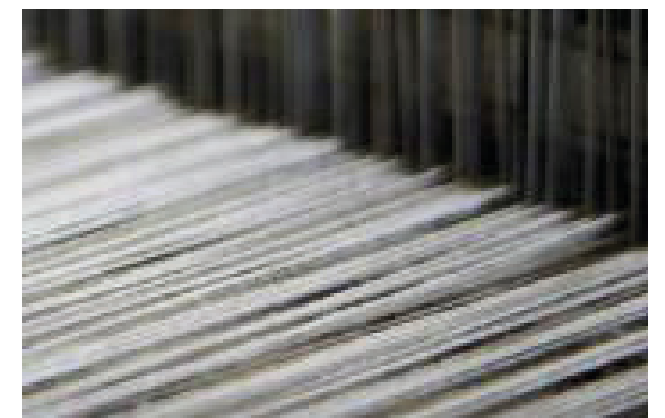
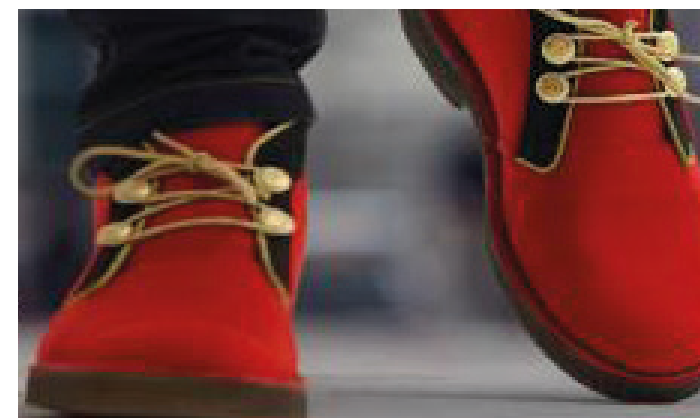
Our commitment to outstanding quality attracts like-minded designers who want their pieces to benefit from the history, innovation and passion woven into the very fabric of their creation. Top designers with a craving for heritage, and a demand for structure that never leaves their finished piece, collaborate with Hainsworth to arresting effect.

The collaboration of Hainsworth's heritage and the world of modern design ensures beautifully structured pieces that make a lasting impression, with a quality that never fades and appearance that never dulls. The stunning and true colour palette offered by Hainsworth is utilised by designers crafting statement pieces.

Follow on Facebook and LinkedIn

@AWHainsworth

@AWHainsworthLTD





Camira is a global textile innovator, designing and manufacturing fabrics for a wide range of spaces and places where we work, play, learn, meet and move: commercial office interiors; hotels, cinema and auditoria; universities and colleges; mainline and underground trains; city buses, minibuses and long-distance coaches. Fabrics are woven, knitted, and printed for a multitude of applications, including computer workstations, sofas and pods, acoustic panels and wallcoverings, headboards and sofa beds, curtains and drapery, bus and train seats, and ancillary trims in transport interiors. Clients include Transport for London, Google, Adobe, BBC, Intercontinental Hotel Group, First Group, Lloyds Banking Group and many more blue-chip companies.

Made by Camira is a mark of quality and craftsmanship, which means fully vertical manufacturing from yarn spinning and air texturing, through warping, weaving, yarn and piece dyeing, fabric finishing, lamination, digital printing, technical knitting and specialist upholstery services. Camira is based in Mirfield, West Yorkshire, with manufacturing spanning four sites in the Huddersfield area, one in Nottingham and a mainland European factory in Lithuania. The company operates over 100 looms – dobby, jacquard, wire woven and face to face – making over 8 million metres of fabric for sale in around 70 countries each year.

Camira is renowned for environmental best practice and product innovation and is a double Queen's Award winner in the Sustainable Development Category. The company has innovated ground-breaking sustainable fabrics made from harvested nettles, hemp, flax and jute, which when blended with wool create inherently flame-retardant fabrics without any additional chemical treatments. Natural fibre fabrics are also complemented by over 20 years' expertise in recycled polyesters, made from post-industrial, post-consumer, and closed loop recycled materials. Camira was recently first to market with SEAQUAL recycled fabrics made from marine plastic waste upcycled from the oceans. In 2022, Camira invested in state-of-the-art wool recycling – iinouio – to develop circular textile products made from high value wool and cashmere from both knitwear and woven textiles.

Follow on Facebook and LinkedIn @CamiraFabrics @Camira



Marton Mills Ltd is a traditional family owned and managed textile mill steeped in heritage and driven by innovative design. Nestled in the heart of Wharfedale, West Yorkshire, Marton Mills produces premium fabrics for a range of end uses. We offer creative solutions underpinned by traditional Yorkshire values – where consistent quality and exemplary service are provided as standard.

Marton Mills provides a fully integrated service; many processes are managed in-house ensuring continuity of supply and service. Offering a stock supported range with no minimum order, we can provide flexibility in production from bespoke short runs to bulk supply in a variety of compositions and designs.

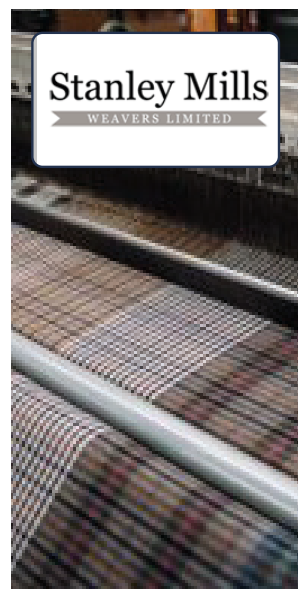
We continue to invest in new machinery and technology, recently acquiring new Dornier looms from Lindauer, Germany, and Picanol looms from Belgium. Our in-house design team has introduced a weaving software called 'Penelope', which creates hyper realistic fabric simulations, reducing the need for sample productions, and accelerating the decision-making process. These investments have significantly increased our efficiency and production capacity.

A key element of Marton Mills success can be attributed to its highly skilled workforce. We have a strong family ethos and a long service workforce stretching across multiple generations. Training is key in order to stay ahead and ensure we remain competitive in a challenging marketplace.

We recognise that the weaving industry, like many traditional businesses, has an ageing workforce and there is a risk of a significant skills gap in the future. Marton Mills is committed to raising the profile of UK Textile manufacturing, offering in-house apprenticeship schemes and working in conjunction with educational institutions and trade bodies to promote career opportunities.

Follow on Facebook and LinkedIn @MartonMills





Recognised as one of the finest weavers of worsted cloths in the world, Stanley Mills have been weaving in the heart of the textile industry, Bradford, West Yorkshire since 1890 and today export around the globe, in particular to Italy, France, Japan and the Middle & Far East.

At Stanley Mills we design, manufacture, and finish our own fabric in-house. Our reputation for weaving luxurious pure wool and cashmere suiting and jacketing of world renown is only enhanced by being one of a handful of specialist weavers of fine mohair fabrics, something of which we are very proud.

Today we integrate the traditional qualities of craftsmanship with the latest innovation and product development to meet the needs of the world's most iconic fashion brands. Our cloth is produced by a carefully controlled operation and is focused on quality and efficiency, backed up by a service borne out of experience and commitment to quality.

 Follow on LinkedIn

LUXURY FABRICS | WWW.LUXURYFABRICSLTD.CO.UK

Luxury Fabrics is the sister company of Stanley Mills responsible for all the selling and marketing activity around the world. Both companies are located in Stanley Mills. Within Luxury Fabrics Ltd are the world-famous textile businesses of William Halstead, John Foster, Kynoch and Standeven.

- William Halstead, established in 1875, is a weaver of traditional English worsteds and luxury mohair cloths.
- John Foster, established in 1819, for many years has supplied the key markets of Japan and the Middle East with superfine worsted and mohair suitings.
- Kynoch of Scotland, established in 1788, is world famous for colour twist heavy weight suitings and super soft woollen jacketing and coatings.
- The Standeven business supplies tailors around the world with an extensive range of suitings, jacketing and coatings in individual cut lengths.

The company is also the exclusive weaver of the rare Escorial wool. This fibre has unique helical properties that create an ultra-soft cloth with excellent crease recovery and resilience.

New collections are designed each Summer and Winter season. With reactive sample facilities and modern CAD software we also work with many customers to create exclusive cloths and designs. The customer list contains all the leading fashion houses, designers and retailers around the world, who work with us year after year creating strong partnerships and relationships.

Kynoch was awarded the Queen's Award for Industry 1971. John Foster was awarded the Queen's Award for Enterprise: Industrial Trade in 2006. Luxury Fabrics was the winner of the Nat West UKFT Exporter of the year 2014. We are also holders of the highly prestigious Woolmark Gold and a licensee of Woolmark and Mohair South Africa.

 @LuxuryFabrics  @LuxuryFabricsUK



Many textile firms lay claim to being among the world's leading textile companies, but W.T. Johnson & Sons can actually back it up.

The craftsmanship and innovation we display has led to us supplying fabrics to clients all across the globe. In fact, we are a world leader in the craft of fine fabric finishing – and have been since 1910.

Our team creates the highest quality finishes on an ever-increasing range of fabrics, from the finest gentlemen's worsted suiting to specialised safety clothing and upholstery. Combine this with our expertise in dyeing and producing bespoke finishes to specification and you can see how our reputation has been forged.

Still based in Bankfield Mills, Huddersfield, more than 100 years since our foundation, it is our access to soft Pennine water that enables us to produce such luxurious fabrics. Textiles are ingrained in the DNA of people around here, and thankfully for us our 90+ employees agree.

All of our processes take place in-house: all aspects of the finishing process, including milling, scouring, decatizing, drying and cropping using cutting edge machinery and equipment, as well as our very own colour laboratory for dyeing. All of this to produce our diverse range of finishes – including three of our very own registered trademarks that are used by some of the biggest names in fashion today.

We are committed to helping the next generation of skilled finishers make their mark on the industry, and this will help us to maintain our position at the forefront of the industry too. Our policy of continued investment in people and their development makes this a reality.

We believe in investing in our people and equipment; we believe in innovation and staying ahead of the game; and we believe in minimising our impact on the environment – this has been woven into our fabric since day one.

W.T. Johnson & Sons is a world-class supplier of the finest finished worsted and wool fabrics. We are passionate about what we do, and we will encourage the next generation to share our passion.

 Follow on LinkedIn





Wallace Sewell was established in 1992, by Harriet Wallace-Jones and Emma Sewell, who both graduated from the Royal College of Art, with an MA in Woven Textile Design; having previously studied for a BA in Textiles at Central St Martins. They made their start in business after winning grants from the British Crafts Council and an award of £500 from the Worshipful Company of Weavers, which enabled them to purchase their first handlooms and design their first collection.

They work closely with the British Textile Industry, with the aim to design inspiring and striking fabrics, exploiting colour and structure with innovation and surprise; challenging the industrial loom's capabilities to create iconic, contemporary fabrics in the form of scarves, blankets, and throws. Products are designed on handlooms in studios in London and Dorset and woven on power looms in Lancashire.

The design process begins with sketches, paintings, and windings for both warp and weft. Ideas are then developed through hand sampling and once finalised, production takes place in a family-run mill, fusing tradition with state-of-the-art technology, allowing flexibility to weave a variety of qualities. Fabric is then washed and pressed at the finishers to give the cloth a luxurious handle before returning to the mill for processing and despatch.

Wallace Sewell has grown over the years, exploring a broad range of projects, including creating fabric designs for Transport for London's Underground, Tram, and Elizabeth Line trains. They have also designed and produced scarves for the Tate gallery to sell alongside key exhibitions including 'Lubaina Himid' and 'Anni Albers' and recently, created a re-edition of a lost blanket design by Gunta Stölzl, to celebrate the centenary of the Bauhaus school in Dessau.

Wallace Sewell work across two main studios; Harriet from Dorset and Emma with the rest of the team out of London. The studio continually embraces new challenges and projects, developing new product ranges and fabric qualities. Their ability to fuse modern technology with traditional textile design processes has enabled them to create a distinctive and vibrant brand, which can now be found in top galleries and boutique retailers in over 20 countries.

 Follow on Facebook

 @WallaceSewell

The UK Fashion & Textile Association (UKFT) is the largest network for fashion and textile companies in the UK. We bring together designers, manufacturers, suppliers, agents, educators and retailers to promote their businesses and our industry, both in the UK and throughout the world.

We are in a unique position representing the entire fashion and textile supply chain, from spinning, weaving and knitting, right through to the catwalk.

We are headquartered in London and we have staff working in Scotland, the East Midlands, Lancashire, Merseyside and Yorkshire. Our President is HRH The Princess Royal.

 Follow on LinkedIn

 @UKFTorg



EXPLORE MORE WITH UKFT!



UKFT Rise: A community for early-stage fashion and textile brands.

WWW.UKFT.ORG/RISE



UKFT Futures: An online careers platform.

WWW.UKFTFUTURES.ORG



Let's Make It Here: An industry business directory.

WWW.LETSMAKEITHERE.ORG



> SPEAKER AND ALUMNI PROFILES



ELLIOT BARLOW
MANUFACTURING CONSULTANT, UKFT
UKFT.ORG

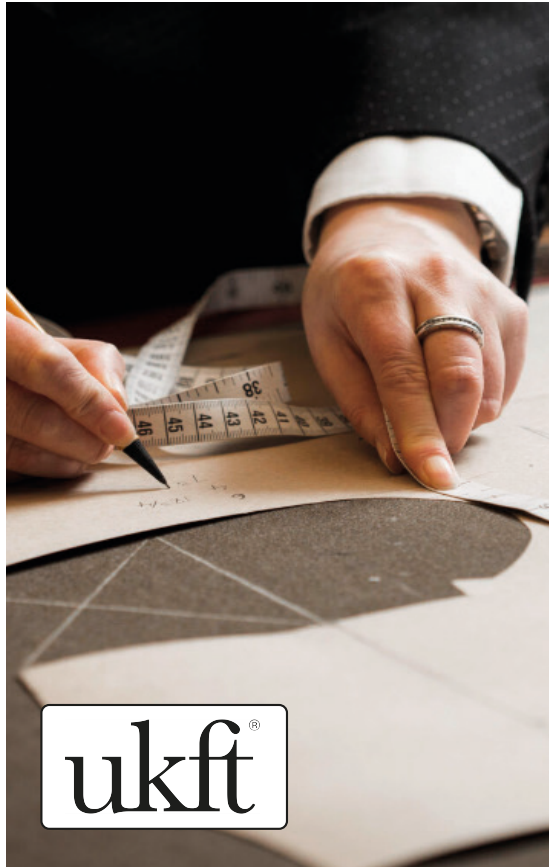
Elliot has worked across the end-to-end of industry and his expertise has been forged from: hands-on-experience managing high-end clothing factories in London, his own consultancy business producing for multiple brands and designers in the UK, as well as senior management roles in-house and as a Manufacturing Consultant for the UK Fashion & Textile Organisation (UKFT).

As a Manufacturing Consultant Elliot provides manufacturing and brand members with guidance across a wide range of topics related to the sector. He works closely with factories, textile companies and designers, improving aspects of their practice and enriching the industry as a whole.

Elliot works closely with academic providers across Postgraduate, HE and FE levels, giving masterclasses and lectures on topics such as clothing production, working with manufacturers and quality control. He also manages programmes that support individuals entering into the production side of the industry through funded schemes.

 Follow on LinkedIn

 @BarlowBespoke



MARGO SELBY, MARGO SELBY LTD | MARGOSELBY.COM

Margo Selby is the Creative Director of a design studio which specialises in woven textiles. Known for her graphic, geometric, woven patterns, Margo's design philosophy is focused on the careful interpretation of her hand-woven designs to create exceptional quality textile products with a design-led feel.

Margo trained in textile design at Chelsea College of Art and Design and then followed this with a postgraduate degree at The Royal College of Art, graduating in 2001. On graduating Margo initially worked as a woven textile designer for industrial mills. It was during this time she united her innovative hand-woven constructions with industrial machinery to create the unique 3-dimensional fabrics that were to become the trademark of the Margo Selby Brand.

Margo's expertise in weaving is central to all the product development. The design process begins with hand-woven textile concepts, which are then developed with specialist mills and artisan weavers to create unique textile products that include furnishing fabric, carpet, rugs, and accessories.

Margo Selby Studio also embraces collaboration on a wide range of projects. These are opportunities to learn from new perspectives, whilst supporting their collaborators to give their brands a new dimension with use of pattern and textile. Recent partners include Osborne and Little, West Elm, John Lewis, Alternative Flooring and Transport for London.

In addition to her practical and commercial textiles, Margo also creates one-off hand-woven framed textiles. Inspired by the Bauhaus weavers, who designed for industry as well as celebrating woven textiles as an art form, these simple geometric framed works with a modernist feel explore how colour and structure unite to create abstract colour studies.

 @MargoSelbyStudio

 @MargoSelby





Stephen is Professor of Textile Materials and Technology and the founding Director of the Leeds Institute of Textiles & Colour (LITAC) at the University of Leeds. LITAC is a world leading research institute built on nearly 150 years of teaching and research in textiles. It brings together over a hundred multi-disciplinary researchers with expertise in design, technology, science and engineering to tackle the important global challenges related to textiles, colour and fashion.

Raised on the edge of the Yorkshire Dales, Stephen studied textile technology, and then completed postgraduate research, receiving a PhD in Textile Engineering from the University of Leeds in 1993. He is an internationally known textile engineer, working in fibre science, textile materials and manufacturing, producing over 250 publications and patents, supported by research income of >£30 million.

Stephen is passionate about textile manufacturing in the UK, and the role of technology in accelerating the sustainable development and competitiveness of the textile industry, based on environmentally sustainable innovation. He is heavily involved in collaborative textile research and leads a team of researchers at the University, working on new materials and innovative textile processes.

Reflecting wide interests across the industry, Stephen has multiple high profile research roles.

Since 2012, he has been Director of the Clothworkers' Centre for Textile Materials Innovation for Healthcare (CCTMIH) at the University, working with a team of clinicians and biomaterials scientists to develop new medical devices containing textiles. Outcomes include a new patented technology for manufacturing UV light-curable collagen fibres for periodontal surgery and chronic wound care, which recently led to external investment and the formation of Hyfacol Ltd., a new University of Leeds spinout company.

In 2018, Stephen became founding Director of the Future Fashion Factory (FFF), a £6.1 million industry-led collaborative R&D partnership of over 550 companies, funded by the AHRC and the UK government's industry strategy. The FFF has invested in over fifty industry-led R&D innovation projects, developing new materials, innovative manufacturing, and recycling technologies as well as new artificial intelligence tools, to increase the international competitiveness of the UK's fashion and textile industry. Stephen is also Director of the Back to Baselines in Circular Fashion and Textiles programme, a £2 million Network Plus initiative funded by NERC to establish science-based evidence to support sustainable growth of the industry and allow informed decision-making regarding sustainability.

In addition to academic research, following external business angel investment in 2005, Stephen co-founded NIRI Ltd, a University of Leeds spinout company specialising in technical consultancy and commercial product development for clients in the global nonwovens industry.

I started my textile education at Heriot-Watt University in Galashiels, where I studied woven and knitted textile design for one year. From there, I went on to join Duncan of Jordanstone College of Art at the University of Dundee. For three years I developed skills in printed and woven textiles in the BDes Textile Design Programme. I knew woven textiles was for me because of the tactile and technical nature of the design. I loved working with yarn and testing the limits of the loom, as well as dyeing and printing.

After finishing at Duncan of Jordanstone, I took part in the New Designers exhibition, where I was lucky enough to win the Associate Prize for Weave from The Worshipful Company of Weavers. This was a great boost and really encouraged me when I started at the Royal College of Art (RCA) in the September of that year. After meeting the Weavers' Company in the summer, we kept in touch and some of us at the RCA won scholarships to further and encourage our learning.

I graduated from the RCA with a woven and printed collection for menswear, where I had developed my love for painting on the warp and manipulating ideas with printing techniques.

In the summer after graduating, I took part in the TexSelect competition, where I was awarded a prize, travelled to Paris and Hong Kong and showed my work at Première Vision. It was through this and through the contacts I made at the RCA that I met a designer at Paul Smith. I ended up interviewing for a maternity leave position in Woven Textiles and started there in July 2010.

It was a dream job as I had followed the brand as long as I could remember, and I really enjoyed the aesthetic. After 9 months at Paul Smith, I took a position at Tom Ford. I had met a designer at a mill at one of the Weavers' lunch events who put me in contact with the Design Director at Tom Ford. I worked at Tom Ford for two years, developing fabrics and print for the womenswear collection, where I travelled to the mills in Italy and developed a key understanding of the textile industry and cloth development.

In March of 2013 I had a call from Paul Smith to ask if I would like to interview for a position in menswear, which I was keen to take. It was a great move, and I am glad I took the opportunity. Tom Ford was a fantastic experience, and I have taken some valuable knowledge in textile development and garment construction back with me to Paul Smith where I am now in a position which is both challenging and enjoyable.

It has now been over 10 years at Paul Smith.



CORAL DALGLEISH, DESIGN MANAGER, ALEX BEGG



My career in textiles started at the age of 18 after I was offered a place to study BA Honours Textiles at the Glasgow School of Art. As soon as I started learning about woven textiles during my second year, I knew it was for me. I enjoyed the technical aspects of weaving and always looked to challenge people's perception of woven fabric and what can be achieved with the loom.

I graduated from GSA in 2011 and undertook several placements over the course of the 4 years, while juggling a part time job serving pizzas. A few months after graduation I was given a funded place as a young artist on Dumfries and Galloway's Spring Fling open studio event. This program offered me a bursary, free exhibition space and mentor time with a textile artist. All of this allowed me to continue weaving and further develop my graduate collection, all of which was a great experience for me and a real creative high point in my life.

In 2012 my first textiles job was within a small company called Turnberry Rug Works, a bespoke rug manufacturer. This was my first real taste of working and designing for customers. It was a real test of my time management skills and helped grow my design skills while working with a customer brief.

Later that year I was offered a one-year graduate contract with Alex Begg in their design team, which was part funded by The Worshipful Company of Weavers, and having followed the company for several years it was an opportunity I could not turn down. This first year built the foundations for me as the designer I am today, as I learned so much over a very short space of time. Having built my skills up over that year, I became a valued member of the team and was offered a permanent contract. Over the next 5 years, I entered the fast paced working environment head on, becoming the lead designer for customers based in London and in New York, and supporting the growth of our own brand Begg x co, which was super challenging and enjoyable.

In 2018, my next progression opportunity arrived when I was offered the role as the Design Studio Manager at Alex Begg. Over the past 5 years my role has changed and evolved to support the growing business, with the bulk of my role now around studio work planning and working with production to support them with their efficiency around samples. The design team itself has grown in this time and I now manage a team of ten. As a manager I like to both support and challenge the team creatively, continuing that bonding pushing curiosity that I first found at art college.



NATALIE MUMFORD, BUSINESS MANAGER, HUMPHRIES WEAVING COMPANY

Natalie graduated with a Textile Design degree from Central Saint Martins, following an early career in private sector account management. Combining her commercial experience with her creative studies she joined Humphries Weaving as an account manager, specializing in historic restoration and bespoke textile design for the luxury furnishing market.

After a decade with the business and having completed further qualifications in Leadership and Management, Natalie is now at the helm of the Humphries Weaving Company, coordinating all the business activities and leading a team of account managers. Her previous experience of major project management ensures smooth control of the business, which recently celebrated 50 years. In the same year Natalie became a liveryman of the Worshipful Company of Weavers.

Humphries Weaving is one of three weaving businesses based at Sudbury Silk Mills, the others being Stephen Walters and David Walters and Natalie also acts as Responsibility Lead for Sudbury Silk Mills, overseeing the implementation of environmental strategy. This is delivered through a steering group structure, made up of teams of people across all parts of the mill for engagement in non-commercial activity. In 2022 and 2023 Natalie was invited to speak at the UKFT Sustainability in UK Textiles conference, sponsored by the Textile Livery Group, attended by approximately 200 UK textile manufacturing industry professionals.



PIERS THOMAS, DESIGNER AT LARGE, RANDOM MOMENT LTD



I studied Fashion Design at Kingston Polytechnic, while also interning with Workers for Freedom.

I have lived and worked all around the world designing clothes and products in fashion (Max Mara) through both technical and environmental sportswear (Patagonia, Rapha, Musto, Gill, HH, Spinlock), Elite Athlete performance products (Team Sky, UK Olympic squad) and wearable technology (Seismic Powered Clothing).

I've had a design relationship with Patagonia for over three decades starting off as Designer at Large in California in the 90s before everyone had heard of them; designing their sportswear product range in the mid Noughties that brought them over into Europe; of which some items remain in their range 17 years later, driving sales of more than US\$100 million.

I've often been brought in on the brand side to increase company value through product design direction, supply chain creation or internal team mentoring. e.g: with Helly Hansen + Atlantis (sailing), Filson (hunting), Cloudveil (Outdoor), Zero Restriction (golf), Patagonia (European sportswear) and Seismic Powered Clothing (wearable technology).

I've worked with elite athletes creating performance enhancing product: resulting in three Tour de France wins, a few sailing circumnavigations in both the Vendée and Whitbread races and more than 50 Olympic medals across the London, Rio, and Tokyo Games.

With my empathetic perspective of problem articulation and global experience of solution creation I operate at all levels with a business to add value across all the 4 pillars: performance, people, planet, profitability.



> USEFUL RESOURCES

ARTS THREAD

[ARTSTHREAD.COM](https://artsthread.com)

A creative graduate website that aims to bridge the gap between education and industry, providing a hub from which design students, graduates, universities, schools and the creative industry can network worldwide. At its core is a database where recent graduates can upload their CVs and portfolios and connect with creative clients worldwide who are looking to recruit new graduates, interns and freelancers.

BRADFORD TEXTILE SOCIETY

[BRADFORDTEXTILESOCIETY.ORG.UK](https://bradfordtextilesociety.org.uk)

The Bradford Textile Society is the oldest textile society in Britain, if not the world. Its monthly programme of meetings from October to April provides an opportunity for everyone with an interest in textiles to meet and discuss a range of textile-related topics with an invited speaker, whilst the Society's annual Design Competition is one of the longest-standing student textile design competitions in the UK. The Competition is unique in its breadth of coverage and attracts over 1,000 entries from students throughout the UK.

CENTRE FOR CIRCULAR DESIGN

[CIRCLARDESIGN.ORG.UK](https://circlardesign.org.uk)

CCD aims to accelerate the transition towards designing for a circular future where textiles, materials and 'things' are designed, produced, used and disposed of in radical new ways. Based at University of the Arts London, it is a leading voice in academic design research and knowledge exchange.

COCKPIT ARTS

[COCKPITSTUDIOS.ORG](https://cockpitstudios.org)

Cockpit Arts is an award-winning social enterprise that is home to 150 of the world's finest makers across two centres in central and south London. Through their business support programme, Cockpit Arts help craft practitioners at the start of their careers, as well as those who are more established, to grow and build successful and thriving businesses both in the UK and internationally. They work with a wide range of talented individuals, spanning every kind of craft. Highly sought-after, a place at Cockpit is a mark of quality.

FASHION FOUNDRY

[FASHIONFOUNDRY.CO.UK](https://fashionfoundry.co.uk)

Fashion Foundry is a new business incubator and talent hub for fashion and textile designers based in Scotland. It provides business support for fashion and accessory designers through a tailored programme of practical workshops, advice and bespoke mentoring as well as offering access to sampling and sewing facilities.

MATERIAL LAB

MATERIAL-LAB.CO.UK

Material Lab, is a design resource studio and materials library in London. It was created in 2006 in response to the needs of the architectural and design community and provides a platform for inspiration and creativity for surface coverings.

LET’S MAKE IT HERE

LETSMAKEITHERE.ORG

Let’s Make it Here is a free to use industry business directory for designers, brands and retailers who want the convenience of manufacturing closer to home or are looking for a distinctly British look for their collections. It is produced by the UK Fashion and Textile Association.

MAKE IT BRITISH

MAKEITBRITISH.CO.UK

Make it British is the source of information on British-made brands and UK manufacturing. The site founder’s aims are, not only to help users find products made in Britain, but to match founders with factories to help those who want to manufacture in the UK, connect with people who can make it for them.

NEW DESIGNERS

NEWDESIGNERS.COM

New Designers has been championing the future of design since 1985. It is the longest running and leading design showcase in the country that since inception has launched over 100,000 new designers into the professional world. New Designers takes place at the Business Design Centre in London each July and brings together 200 flagship university design courses showcasing the country’s finest design students.

TEXTILE FUTURES RESEARCH COMMUNITY

ARTS.AC.UK/COLLEGES/CENTRAL-SAINT-MARTINS/RESEARCH-AT-CSM/TEXTILE-FUTURES-RESEARCH-COMMUNITY

Based at the University of the Arts London (Central Saint Martins), TFRC is a community of practice-based academic researchers who explore how materials and textiles can enable more inheritable futures. Research examines opportunities for textile and material developments ranging from social to sustainable, as well as technological and craft innovation.

TEXTILES SCOTLAND

TEXTILESCOTLAND.COM

The Scottish textile industry has been at the forefront of high value manufacturing and global exporting since the 1700s. Today it is flexible, innovative and market driven supplying world-leading brands across fashion, interior and technical textiles. Textiles Scotland became part of the UKFT in 2019 and through its Industry Leadership Group creates a broad strategy for the textile industry in Scotland and acts as an interface between the industry and government. Smaller dedicated ILG work groups help manufacturers and brands export around the world and work with employers, education providers and other stakeholders to raise the skills and productivity of those working in the Scottish fashion and textile industry.

THE DESIGN TRUST

THEDESIGNTRUST.CO.UK

Whether starting or growing a craft or design business, The Design Trust, through its specialist online courses and memberships helps professional designers and craftspeople worldwide. It provides practical and strategic business knowledge and step-by-step action plans, that help support both emerging and established designers to create and run a successful business.

THE SLOW TEXTILES GROUP

SLOWTEXTILESGROUP.COM

Slow Textiles Group is an international Sustainable Textiles Design Management Company based in London. Members work to make changes across the global textile industry, and by default those industries that connect with textiles, by pushing the boundaries of textiles practice through new methods of work and working processes.

THE WEAVE SHED

THEWEAVESHED.ORG

The Weave Shed is a website for weave designers with a portfolio practice, payee, mills, independent, designer makers, tapestry, artists, educators, and students. It is a community site that provides a portal to weave resources, alongside an active blog featuring weave-related stories, news, up and coming events and featured weavers.

UKFT

UKFT.ORG

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UKFT RISE

UKFT.ORG/RISE

A community for early-stage fashion and textile brands.

UKFT FUTURES

UKFTFUTURES.ORG

A new and exciting online platform promoting careers in the UK fashion and textile industry. The platform allows uses to explore opportunities and find their path within the industry.



#MiiT2023

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