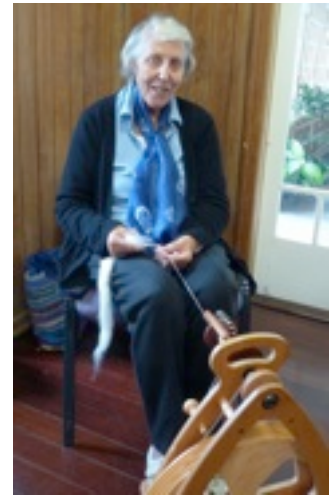


SYLVIA LANGTREE
Spinner and Weaver



In 1977, Sylvia was given an Ashford traditional Spinning wheel as a gift for her birthday and so began a love of spinning and weaving. She joined the local group of Sutherland Shire Spinners and Weavers and besides learning many facets of spinning, weaving and dyeing at their workshops, she also made lifelong friends.

By 1981, Sylvia's family had woolly jumpers and scarves galore, so she then joined the Society for Arts and Crafts NSW, a craft co-operative located in The Rocks, Sydney. Soon she was selling her creations to tourists from around the world. With such an outlet, she was able to experiment with many fibres, from silk which she produced from her own silk-worms, to bamboo, tencel (from trees), alpaca, soy silk, camel and dog hair to mention just a few!



Sylvia's craft soon took over the whole house, with floor looms in the garage and spinning wheels in the bedrooms and lounge, dyeing in the kitchen and on the back patio, even a shed in the back garden full of fleeces ready to spin. Later, a sunroom was added to accommodate more weaving looms. Remarkably, the family did manage to fit in their belongings too.

Then they moved to Queensland!!

The weaving looms had to go and friends gladly took most of the fleeces. Farewell to her friends in Sutherland and The Rocks and hello to members of Wallace House and new friends in her retirement village. Sylvia says that her Ashford spinning wheel has given her many happy hours at her craft and her new "Ashford Joy" is giving her just that – JOY!

