

I went to Hay-on-Wye for the literary festival, and as well as buying lots of books, I bought some undyed alpaca fibre in fawny-grey colours...



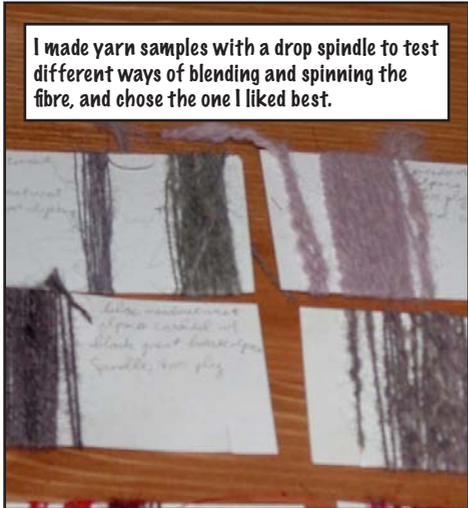
...and dyed it lilac and pink with cold-water dyes, leaving some grey showing through.



And this is the spinning wheel on which I made it!



Hand-carding fibres is tiring work, so I bought this drum carder, which does the same job...



I made yarn samples with a drop spindle to test different ways of blending and spinning the fibre, and chose the one I liked best.



I used these hand-carders to tidy up the individual fibres ...



...but much more quickly.



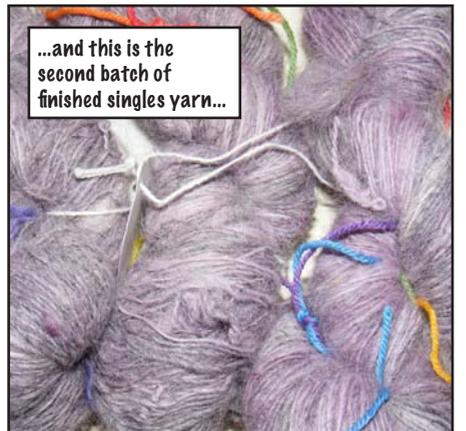
This is the second batch of singles still on the wheel...



...trying not to mix the colours up too much, to produce these ready-to-spin 'rolags'.



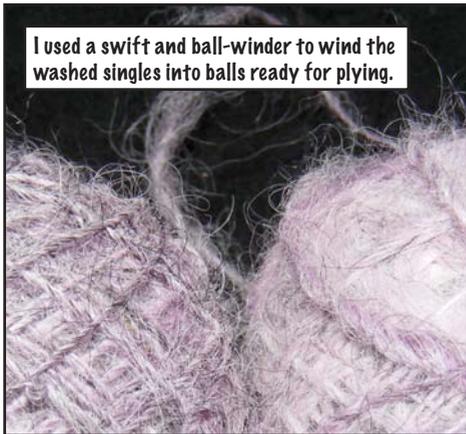
This is the first batch of spun yarn, called 'singles' because it's single-ply.



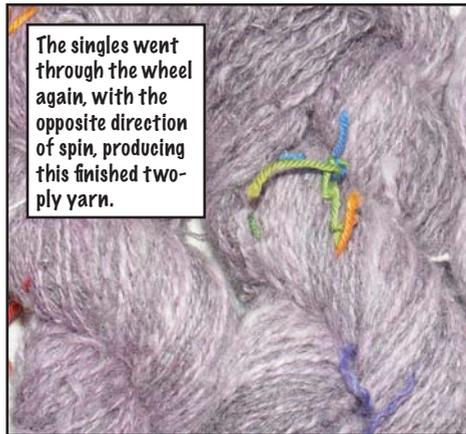
...and this is the second batch of finished singles yarn...



...which I washed, and hung up to dry.



I used a swift and ball-winder to wind the washed singles into balls ready for plying.



The singles went through the wheel again, with the opposite direction of spin, producing this finished two-ply yarn.



This is the loom set up with the warp threads, and ready to weave.



Here is that warp with some weft added...

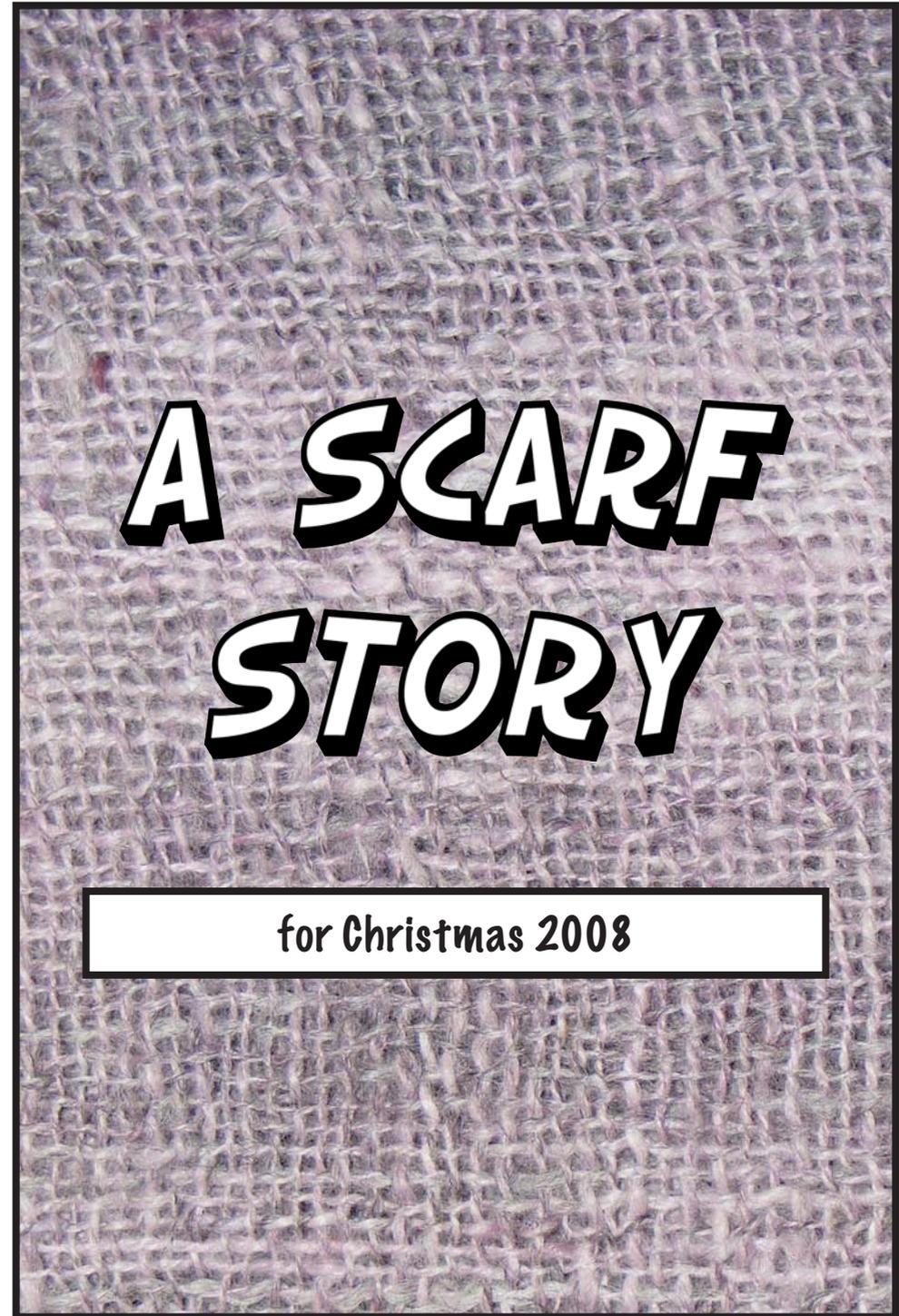


I untied one end of the warp and cut the other to take the weaving off the loom...



...and tied the fringes to finish the scarf.

**Merry Christmas!**



# A SCARF STORY

for Christmas 2008

(Hand wash gently in warm water; don't machine wash or tumble dry.)