

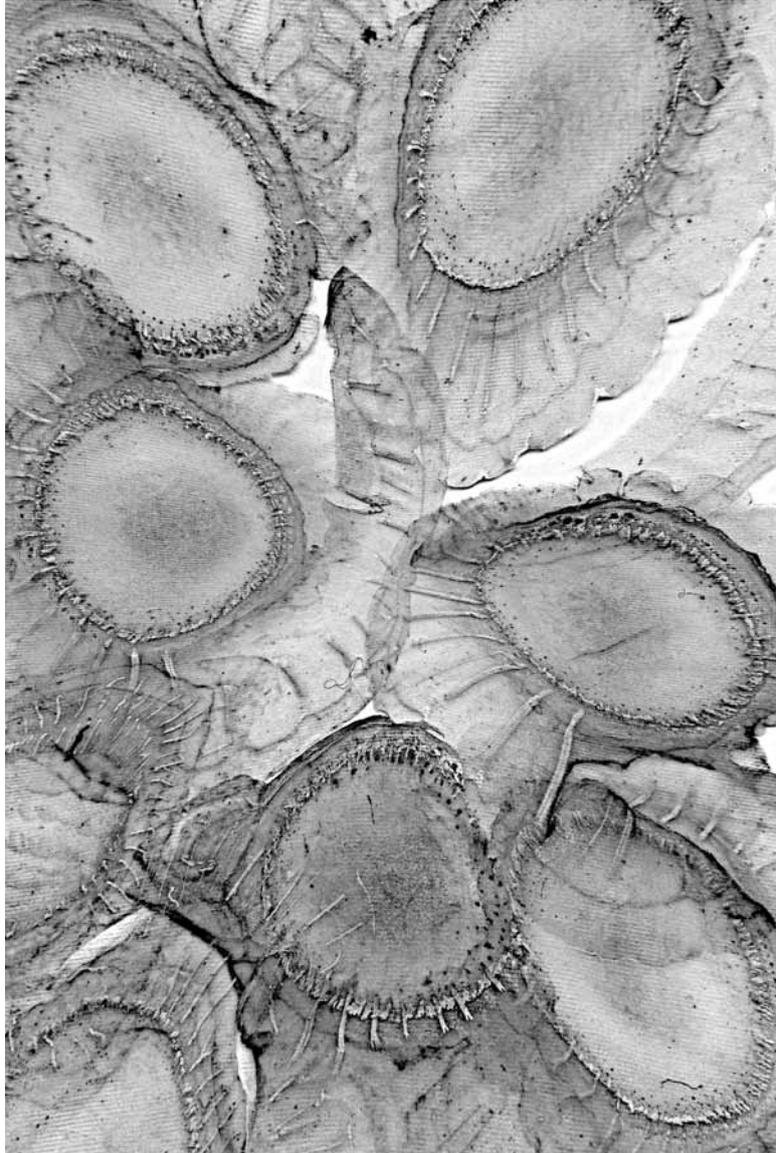
Newsletter of Papermakers of Victoria Inc.

Registered No. A0018775V

*For all those with a love and understanding
of paper as a medium in its own right.*

Volume 27 Number 4 July/August 2015

ISSN 1034-6805



Fennel papyrus (aka proto paper), an example of one of the explorations of the MAD team. See the update of the MAD project on page 10.

- 4. & 6. Annual Reports
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- 9. What's This Stuff?
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- 10. Book Page
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- 11. 2015 Yearbook
- 11. Paper Sample
- 12. Naghammadi Workday
- 12. Upcoming Workshops
- 12. Paper Currents Images

PRESENT: 22 members present as per sign-in book

WELCOME: to all present

APOLOGIES: Carol Downey, Mary Newsome, Anne-Marie Power, Beverly Bennett, Andrew Prince, Jo Stone, Val Forbes, Sandy Ward

1. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES:

That the minutes of the meeting held on 11 April 2015 be confirmed.

Moved: Chris Smith Seconded: Barb Adams Carried

2. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE PREVIOUS MEETING

2.1 Stonehouse Gallery Exhibition
2 April- 29 April 2015

This small exhibition was very successful and was an opportunity to expose the diversity of paper.

2.2 Biennial Year Book Barb and Chris Rose

The theme 'Images of Light' has been inspired by the International Year of Light. The book will consist of circles bound onto ribbon.

Further details will be published in the July/August Deckle Edge.

2.3 Report on Emergency Trial Evacuation Session Barb

Attending on behalf of the group, Barb described the session as most informative and said that our meeting procedures follow what is required by BHCAC

2.4 Lost Trades Fair in Kyneton

Details of participation (date, cost) will be followed up and reported at the next meeting. If we were to have items to sell we would need to have Working Bees.

3. CORRESPONDENCE REPORT
(full copy available on file)

4. TREASURER'S REPORT

1. Balance as at 13 June 2015
General Account \$545
Exhibition Account \$247 + \$4102 = \$4349

Tania explained that the Term Deposit Account is now closed, as once \$1000 was transferred to the General Account- approved at the last meeting and required to cover outstanding bills- the minimum amount required in a Term Deposit Account (\$5000) was not reached, so for the moment \$4102 has been placed in the Exhibition Account while she explores options. **We were reminded that subscriptions are now due.**

2. Current membership: 76 members at June

That the financial report be received:

Moved: Tania Di Bernardino
Seconded: Jo Peake
Carried

5. WORKSHOPS & DEMONSTRATIONS

5.1 Workshop Program

The Frottage workshop with Sue Pavlovich, scheduled for this Sunday 21 June, needs one more participant to go ahead. Bookings will remain open until Sunday evening 14 June.

Barb Adams is running an Introduction to Making Paper this Thursday 18 June.

Some members felt that more explanation of processes covered in workshops may assist in gathering more numbers.

6. PUBLIC RELATIONS: WEB, NEWSLETTER

6.1 Web report

Angela is currently updating the Mapping Common Ground images, matching names to works. There was discussion about developing a Facebook page.

6.2 Deckle Edge

Cecilia noted that everyone loves paper samples in their Deckle Edge and that any donations of 10 sheets of A4 sized handmade paper would be gratefully received.

7. LIBRARY- Jo

Donations from the collection of Valda Quick have been added to the library this month.

8. STABLES STUDIO

8.1 All bookings need to be made with Carol Downey

8.2 Andrew Prince has spent time improving the facility, taking note of suggestions from Ann and Antje. The group is grateful for his assistance.



Editor: Cecilia Sharpley
Layout & Design: Gail Stiffe
All *Deckle Edge* correspondence to: Cecilia Sharpley, The Duckpond, 33 Chum Creek Road, Healesville, Victoria 3777 or email to editor@papermakers.org.au

Deadline for all copy:
1 January, 1 March, 1 May, 1 July, 1 September, 1 November

The opinions expressed in this newsletter are those of individual contributors and are not necessarily those of Papermakers of Victoria Inc.

2. Current membership: 76 members at June
That the financial report be received:
Moved: Tania Di Bernardino
Seconded: Jo Peake
Carried



Papermakers of Victoria Inc.

President
Christine Smith (03) 5975 7849
Mobile: 0488 251 573 christine17@aol.com.au

Vice President
Alix Johnston (03) 9899 4009

Secretary
Judith Lawler (03) 9592 3784 Mobile: 0418 582 642 glawler@bigpond.net.au

Treasurer
Tania Di Bernardino (03) 9455 3897
tania@zartart.com.au

Committee
Antje Bauer Angela Vetsica (03) 9800

1660 Jenny Longley (03) 5674 6002

Library
Jo Peake (03) 9583 8376

Membership
Jan Jorgensen (03) 9597 0207
janfredjorgo@gmail.com

Publicity & Promotions
Tania Di Bernardino & Antje Bauer

Exhibition Co-ordinator
Tania Di Bernardino (03) 9455 3897

Workshop Co-ordinator
Jenny Longley (03) 5674 6002 Mobile: 0407 856 311 jennylongley@bigpond.com

Materials Officer
Tania Di Bernardino (03) 9455 3897

Stables Co-ordinator
Andrew Prince (03) 9457 1826 Mobile: 0400 866 194 patient.tortoise@gmail.com

Stables Roster
Carol Downey (03) 9459 5476 cdowney@hotkey.net.au

Webmaster
Angela Vetsica webmaster@papermakers.org.au

Archives
Helen McPherson 0455 202 156
helenkmcpherson@hotmail.com

Recycling Officer
Anne Marie Power (03) 9654 1541
ampower2@gmail.com

Collage Pack Co-ordinator
Ursula Simmons

Meeting Day Host
Tricia Alexander

Trading Table
Antje Bauer

CITY OF



WHITEHORSE

BOX HILL COMMUNITY ARTS CENTRE



Papermakers of Victoria is supported by The City of Whitehorse and the Box Hill Community Arts Centre.

8.3 Stables Fee structure

Annual Stables Fee is \$30 (payable now with Subscriptions- 1 July 2015 to 30 June 2016)

Or **\$10 per visit** (as a visitor, individual or part of a *group* where *each member* is to pay \$10) The person running an activity does not need to pay \$10. If there is a materials fee, then this is *in addition* to the \$10. If there is a materials fee, this needs to be advised by the tutor *prior* to the activity so that participants can come prepared. The sign-in book, already at The Stables for insurance purposes, is to have another column added where the \$10 fee payment can be recorded. These measures are necessary to ascertain that we are covering the cost of the facility.

8.4 Inventory of Stables (and BHCAC) Equipment

Antje has been working hard on this and needs assistance. A working bee is planned at The Stables and a date is proposed in January 2016 (tbc).

9. YABBERS REPORT

Dorothy reported that the group is making a concertina case to carry cards. A 'Christmas in July' meeting is planned at which cards will be exchanged with the theme of 'Ginger'.

10. PAPERMATES REPORT

Tricia Alexander reported that the group is working towards an exhibition of kimono of different sizes made from flax.

11. OCCASIONAL PUBLICATION- PROTO PAPERS/ VEGETABLE PAPYRUS

Dineke
Report tabled.

Dineke reported that the MAD group hopes to release the publication at or near the date of the Valda Quick Exhibition 2016. The samples shown were exquisite and we were told that vegetable papyrus is expensive and time consuming to make (a single sheet between A5 and A4 size currently sells from overseas suppliers for \$13). There will be two versions of the publication:

1.The Standard version will have 20 different samples enclosed and give 'how to' information and include relevant trivia and mythology. 50 boxes will be made with an estimated sale price of \$120- \$150. Expressions of interest are welcome- with no obligation- to Dineke at macreate@iprimus.com.au. Those on the list will have priority purchase status when the edition is finished.

2.There will be 15 copies of the Deluxe version which will contain in addition to the standard version, several extra samples of the more difficult, costly and unusual vegetable papyrus. Seven of these will be

available for purchase by auction on the Papermakers website with the starting price of \$300.

To comply with Legal Deposit requirements, copies of both publications will be given to The National Library of Australia and The State Library of Victoria. Copies of both will also be lodged with The Queensland Library, because of its status and commitment to book and paper arts and culture, the PoV archives and the PoV library. To assist with expenses MAD has generated beautiful postcards for sale.

12. OTHER BUSINESS

12.1 Gift for Tony Quick
After considered discussion, it was decided that a book voucher from Readings to the value of \$100 was the most appropriate choice.

12.2 Tricia McGaughey noted that at Federation Square once a month on a Monday in the Atrium there are opportunities to teach various artistic skills within this free programme. She is going to make enquiries and report back to the group re the possibility of PoV demonstrating paper making and attracting new members.

12.3 AGM- 1 AUGUST 2105

The group was advised that both our President and Vice President would not be available for re-election because they will not be in Melbourne. The positions of Secretary, Treasurer and Workshop Co-ordinator will be filled for one more year.

Therefore we need two members to offer to be President & Vice President for 2015/16

Your gesture will ensure the viability of the group. Please contact Christine Smith via email christine17@aol.com.au

13. NEXT MEETING - COMMITTEE & ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Date: 1 August 2015
Committee Meeting at 10am;
Lunch at 12pm, AGM at 12.45pm;
General Meeting 1 pm; Guest Speaker, Jenny Laidlaw at 2 pm.

Venue: BHCAC- a.m. Dry Craft East: p.m. Dry Craft West

Lucky Draw: 'The Pop-Up Book' by Paul Jackson

Helping hands: Helen and Gail

Please bring afternoon tea to share

MEETING CLOSED AT: 2.35 pm



Paper MATTERS

President
Christine Smith

Situated along sandy, coastal tracks between stands of Banksia and Casuarina, the unusual floral notes of Cootamundra Wattles signal Spring's approach. Soft sunsets of indigo, peach and rich gold, ripple on tide and buds swell promisingly as eager sap moves hidden within bare limbs of trees. Our nearby estuary entrance, connecting watercourse from creek to bay, reconfigures itself for the umpteenth time - always changing and evolving. I am encouraged to reflect on nature's rhythms and cycles. The calendar with human components demands it too. It is that time of year where our AGM is fast approaching. How will we shape our next year?

I wish to encourage members to share their organisational and leadership strengths, creative discoveries and artistic pleasures to keep our group evolving. May writers and photographers flourish. Please consider that whatever skills you personally can bring to Papermakers of Victoria, these attributes will collectively ensure a strong continuity of this vibrant group.

At our most recent General Meeting, members were treated to a stunning display of utterly intriguing 'Vegetable Protopapers', imaginative cards and wildly different bookmarks courtesy of the MAD group.

Marianne, Ann and Dineke have worked with visionary zeal on this elaborate project over a long period of time and it was a privilege to gain previews of their extensive experiments: unique papers of finely sliced, cooked, reassembled and compressed plant matter, distinctly different from our usual perceptions of handmade papers composed of pulp from grasses, weeds, bast, cotton linters or eucalyptus fibres.

Special thanks to Barb Adams who braved challenging circumstances at the Stables for a productive mid-winter workshop in Recycled Paper Making.

In her recent successful Frottage workshop at the Stables, Sue Pavlovitch took participants on an exploratory journey of a different kind - creating rubbings as a vehicle to record significant memories, places and notable objects.

The concept of paper and its relationship to 'dimensions of time' will be on display at our next meeting. Members are invited to display the results of their eco-dyed papers and fabrics prepared over many months in pickling jars, transformed into individual artworks at will.

Yabbers have been busy preparing cleverly constructed concertina folders for their post card exchange and Papermates' recent stitching circle using luscious thread varieties on handmade paper reminded those papermakers involved of the sheer therapy and stillness possible, while pursuing the gentle art of embroidery.

This note also marks my last official column as President as I prepare to reconnect with the International Teaching world. I am sure living for periods of time in Mother India will be truly insightful and fascinating. Although many unknowns lay ahead, I look forward to a growth of knowledge and continue sharing further paper matters with you.

Sincere thanks go to my dedicated committee and enthusiastic, voluntary helpers throughout the year. I trust that a sound legacy has been left whilst in office and observe that quite a distinctive year in our history has been shaped.

Enjoy reading the Annual Report, which accompanies this edition of the Deckle Edge.

Continued on page 4 >

FIVE-MINUTE FORUM:

Winter sales at Neil Wallace and Melbourne Etching Supplies

Open Melbourne. The Queen's Hall at the State Library will be open to visit on 25/26 July. Conservation lab is also open but bookings are required for this. See website.

Stitched Up Textile Festival in Wangaratta 4-12 July

2nd Tamworth Contemporary Textile Triennial @ Hawthorn Town Hall 9 June-26 July

Gail showed her shared American handmade book

President's ANNUAL REPORT

This has been a distinctive year for Papermakers of Victoria: one of research, industry, creativity and necessary reflection.

Seven new members have been welcomed and the membership now hovers in the mid 70's range, dispersed across Australia, but also with a scattering of International members.

The elected committee for the past year comprised: Christine Smith (President), Alix Johnston (Vice President), Judith Lawler (Secretary) Tania Di Berardino (Treasurer), Jenny Longley, Angela Vetsica and Antje Bauer (Ordinary Members). Non-committee members additionally volunteered for the following positions: Deckle Edge Editor, Cecilia Sharpley with assistants Beverly Bennett, Christine Smith and Val Forbes; Cutting Edge Editor, Ann Baxter, Web Master, Angela Vetsica, Membership Secretary, Jan Jorgensen, Workshop Coordinator, Jenny Longley, Meeting Day Reporters, Dorothy Simpson and Christine Tyrer, Meeting Day Host, Tricia Alexander, Library, Jo Peake, Publicity and Promotions, Antje Bauer and Tania Di Berardino, Trading Table, Antje Bauer, Materials Officers, Tania Di Berardino and Antje Bauer, Stables Coordinator, Andrew Prince, Stables Roster, Carol Downey, Collage Pack Coordinator, Ursula Simmons, Exhibition Coordinators, Tania Di Berardino and Marianne Little, and Christmas Book Swap Coordinator, Mary Newsome.

The speaker for the Annual General Meeting was Christine Johnson. Christine described her fascination with botanical illustrations, work practices and spoke of her time as one of the State Library of Victoria's 'Creative Fellows'.

As new Workshop Coordinator, Jenny Longley provided a comprehensive offering of classes and demonstrated initiative with her publicity brochure to encourage participation at workshops through a wider audience. Workshop themes included: Book Art themes, Single Sheet Coptic Binding, Cyanotype, Meditative Drawing, Frottage and Paper Making Workshops. Numbers of participants in workshops have ranged from three to a full house.

Seasonal Studio Days have been well attended by members, with two highlights for the year: the combined Papermakers of Victoria and Victorian Bookbinders' Guild 'Papyrus' Papermaking Day was a huge success under the proficient organisation of Anne Pitkethly, and a day of experimental 'Vat Books, Linked & Pocket Pages' was also outstanding, led by Marianne Little and Barb Adams.

The Stables Studio has also been used by sub-groups of Papermakers of Victoria for their respective meetings and thematic activities.

Adjusted studio rates have helped to meet ongoing studio costs with the ultimate goal being for them to be self-supporting as with our use of Box Hill Community Arts Centre. The fee structure will need regular review.

Release of the celebration limited edition, 25 years 'Silver' book was capably managed by Jo Peake and assisted by Annie Carter plus other volunteers.

Andrew Prince has steadily worked on technical improvements at the Stables such as lighting, and Helen McPherson has provided assistance with ongoing equipment maintenance - especially the beaters.

Dineke McLean, Marianne Little and Ann Baxter have continued to research 'Vegetable Protopapers' extensively with astounding results achieved. A professionally produced card range came up for sale at mid-year.

The website has continued to function as our public face and Angela Vetsica continues to work on this to continually improve our services.

Cecilia Sharpley, Tony Quick and Beverly Bennett have worked tirelessly to ensure our newsletter is punctually delivered, of a high quality and always informative.

Ann Baxter was official thanked and farewelled for her very significant contribution with The Cutting Edge which has now come to the end. Ann also ran a fabulous, artists' getaway, 'Creative In Castlemaine', much to the delight of visiting city members.

A new online full-colour version of The Deckle Edge will be launched by Gail Stiffe just prior to the August AGM, as well as a

continuation of our traditional hard copy Deckle Edge complete with regular handmade paper samples. New membership structures have culminated from member surveys, feedback and extensive discussions by the committee.

To help boost the group's finances and continue our mission of public education about handmade paper, various stalls have been manned during the course of the last year. POV had a strong presence at Geelong Fibre Forum, Ruffy Artfest and its first appearance at Grampians Texture this year. Thanks to Coordinators on each of these occasions: Christine Smith, Dorothy Simpson and Kaye Cross plus all members who made these stalls a possibility. Barb Adams also deserves special mention for the many small books donated to our stalls for sale.

Marianne Little, assisted by Gail Stiffe, Barb Adams and Dineke McLean, coordinated a very successful mini showcase/exhibition titled 'Paper Currents' at Stonehouse Gallery in Warrandyte over Easter, and on subsequent weekends members promoted the craft and organisation to the broader public. A wide audience was also attracted to our major 'Valda Quick Biennial Exhibition - Mapping Common Ground' last November, which showcased over sixty works of art from Papermakers of Victoria. This was held at Wandin in an historic homestead and made possible through the energy and efforts of papermakers and artists over many months. Particular mention needs to be made of Chris Rose, Barb Adams, Jenny Mockett, Alix Johnston, Tania Di Berardino, Gail Stiffe and Christine Tyrer for their contributions to this major undertaking. Weekend displays of papermaking further reinforced our presence with the public.

General Meeting Activities this year have included Rapt-Up, Christmas raffle with Tania Di Berardino, Natural Dyeing using bundle, steep and store methods with Christine Smith, String-Making with Jo Stone and Card Making with Antje Bauer. Antje has also been industrious throughout the year with stocktaking and ensuring our publicity/sales box has been kept brimming with goodies. She has also started work to tidy our storage facilities at both BHCAC and Bundoora, which is no small feat and an ongoing mission.

Tony Quick kindly provided donations of memorabilia from Valda's art stashes, the sale of items helping further with POV's fund raising efforts.

To celebrate the 150th Edition of The Deckle Edge, Tony produced a wonderful collage cover featuring many past editions of the newsletter. Barb Adams also enclosed a handsome, embossed bookmark in handmade paper as a keepsake within the same newsletter.

Papermates and Yabbers have met regularly to share knowledge, further develop their skills and embrace friendships linked to paper.

In order to better meet our financial commitments, and to address the changing needs of the organisation, an additional, mini AGM was held this year. Voting resulted in the adoption of a new two-tier membership structure to put us on a stronger footing for the future.

Plans have been laid for a follow up binding day with the Victorian Bookbinders Guild, the 'Images of Light' book project is in its planning stages and POV's Calendar of Events for next year is starting to take shape.

— Christine Smith

Frottage Workshop

With Sue Pavlovich – Sunday 21st June 2015



No surface was safe from paper and pencil wielding members

An eager group of participants gathered at the stables to learn Frottage techniques from Sue Pavlovich, who has been using this technique for several years.

Frottage is the technique of obtaining an impression of the surface texture of a material, such as wood, by placing a piece of paper over it and rubbing with a soft pencil or crayon. The drawing can be left as it is or used as the basis for further refinement. While similar to brass rubbing intended to reproduce an existing subject, frottage differs by being more random in nature.

Sue showed us a short YouTube clip of the artist Max Ernst who developed the technique in 1925. Ernst was inspired by an ancient wooden floor where the grain of the planks had been accentuated by many years of scrubbing. The patterns of the graining suggested strange images to him. He captured these by laying sheets of paper on the floor and then rubbing over them with a soft pencil.



Jenny's tree rubbing onto fabric

We were inspired by samples of Sue's work she had brought along to show us. Very large pieces that were the result of memories of a trip she took to Fox Glacier in New Zealand. The sharp jagged surface of the glacier was recreated by rubbing over several different textures. Another piece several meters long had been worked by rubbing over draped cloth.

By now we were all enthusiastic to get started, and worked as a group on a giant installation. A huge roll of paper was unravelled onto the stable floor and taped up onto the wall. Some textured materials were placed between floor and paper, such as rusty metal tiles, a sushi mat and crumpled gauze cloths. We wrapped our feet in woven printmakers' cleaning cloth, taped up with masking tape at the ankles and with foot socks attached, walked over broken up pieces of crayons, dry pastels and shards of charcoals. Sprinklings of ochres, dyes and graphite were variously rubbed in with feet and hands layer upon layer.



The stable floor and wall was put to good use

With places to go and trees to wrap around the park, we dispersed to pursue our own experiments. Fabric was pinned to trees and hard wax crayons applied to create patterns. Hoshosheets were used and by moving the paper randomly while taking rubbings, suggestive landscapes were created. Some used string and other items under their paper to create more controlled patterns.

We were particularly lucky with the weather; the sun shone providing a dry landscape upon which we could fully utilise the exciting array of textures available. We all agreed it had been an inspiring workshop and many thanks to Sue for travelling over three hours each way to share her enthusiasm for this art form with us.

— Jenny Longley

Minutes 2014 AGM

PAPERMAKERS OF VICTORIA INC
Minutes of 25th Annual General Meeting held on 2nd August 2014 at the Box Hill Community Arts Centre

PRESENT 29 people as listed by name in the attendance register.

CHAIR Barb Adams

APOLOGIES

Annie Carter, Alix Johnston, Val Forbes, Jan Jorgensen, Mary Newsome, Marie Revill, Ursula Simmons, Jo Stone, Sandy Ward, Carol Downey

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

That the minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on the 3rd August 2013 at the Box Hill Community Arts Centre be confirmed.

Moved: Barb Adams Seconded: Cecilia Sharpley Carried

ANNUAL REPORT

A report by the President on the affairs of the organisation during the past twelve months has been published in the Deckle Edge.

That the Annual Report as published be received and adopted.

Moved: Barb Adams Seconded: Jo Peake Carried

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

Financial statements of Papermakers of Victoria Account Numbers 1 (General) and 2 (Exhibition) for the twelve months ended 30 June 2014 were published in the Deckle Edge and presented to the meeting by the Treasurer. That the Financial Statements be received and adopted. Moved: Tania Di Berardino Seconded: Tricia Alexander Carried

ELECTION OF OFFICE BEARERS

President:

Vice President:

Secretary (incorporates Public Officer): Judith Lawler

Treasurer: Tania Di Berardino

Members: Chris Smith, Jenny Longley, Alix Johnston, Angela Vetsica, Antje Bauer

Motion: 'That the Committee Nominees be accepted and that the Committee meet soon to resolve the positions of President and Vice President'

Moved: Barb Adams Seconded: Tricia McGaughey Carried

Financial Statement July 2014 - June 2015

INCOME

Pov General Account

Membership 70 x 40	\$3,000.00
Materials/Trading Table/Library	\$520.00
Entrance Fee Meeting Days	\$947.00
Stables Usage	\$115.00
Workshops	\$4,200.00
Alcove Art Shop/Paper Packs	\$156.00
Stables Subscriptions	\$450.00
Bank Interest	\$193.00
Occ.Pub./SilverBook/Fibre Forum	\$775.00
Miscellaneous	\$110.00
Christmas Envelope/ONYCancerCentre	\$105.00

TOTAL INCOME: \$10,568.00

ACCOUNTS REPORT FOR 2015

Westpac General Account	\$890.00
Westpac Exhibition/ Term Deposit Account	\$4,324.00
TOTAL:	\$5,214.00

APPOINTMENT OF ASSISTANTS (non-committee positions)

Editor-in-charge: Cecilia Sharpley, Asst Editor Research: Christine Smith, Asst Editor Distribution: Beverly Bennett, Book Page Reporter: Val Forbes, Meeting Day Reporter: Christine Tyrer, Cutting Edge Editor: Ann Baxter, Workshop Coordinator: Jenny Longley /Val Forbes, Librarian: Jo Peake, Web Master: Angela Vetsica, Membership Secretary: Judith Lawler, Stables Studio Coordinator (incl Equipment): Andrew Prince, Stables Roster: Carol Downey, Meeting Day Host: Tricia Alexander, Publicity & Promotions Officer: Tania di Berardino/ Antje Bauer, Exhibition Coordinator: Tania Di Berardino, Materials Officer: Tania Di Berardino, Archives Officer: Helen McPherson, Recycling Officer: Mary Newsome/A M Power, Collage Pack Coordinator: Ursula Simmons, Trading Table: Antje Bauer

GRADES OF MEMBERSHIP FEES FOR 2014/15

The Committee recommended that the current fees for overseas subscriptions be remain the same and the Australian rates

EXPENDITURE

Deckle Edge/Newsletter	\$2,850.00
Postage & Stationary	\$750.00
Workshops	\$3,700.00
Room Hire (BHCAC)	\$650.00
Petty Cash	\$150.00
Subscriptions (BHCAC)	\$25.00
Stables (inc.Insurance)	\$790.00
Occ.Pub./Silver Book/Snake Book	\$130.00
Insurance	\$850.00
Consumer Affairs	\$55.00
Gifts	\$175.00
Miscellaneous	\$240.00
Christmas Envelope/ONY Cancer Centre	\$105.00
Web	\$550.00

TOTAL EXPENDITURE: \$11,020.00

NET PROFIT/LOSS -\$452.00

remain the same. That the member subscription rates be Individual \$40, Family or Group \$50, New Zealand and the Pacific \$47. Elsewhere overseas \$52. Moved: Barb Adams Seconded: Beverly Bennett

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Acknowledgement was made of the much appreciated contribution of Barb Adams as President, Jenny Mockett as Vice President, Chris Rose as Secretary and Val Forbes in her role as Workshop coordinator.

Barb Adams thanked all members who had worked on the Committee.

The meeting closed at 1.41pm

Don't forget - if you have any problems with your papermaking, any unusual results you'd like explained, any strange or incompre-hensible terms you've come across in your reading about paper, you can ask the Vat Person for the answer.

The vat of all wisdom.

Address queries:

c/o The Editor,
editor@papermakers.org.au



Notice of Annual General Meeting

The Annual General Meeting of Papermakers of Victoria Inc. will be held in the Dry Craft West room, Box Hill Community Arts Centre, Cnr. Station and Combarton Streets, Box Hill, on Saturday 1 August 2015 at 12.00pm

The business of the Annual General Meeting will be:

1. To confirm the minutes of the Annual General Meeting Saturday 2 August 2014
2. To receive a report on the affairs of the association for the past twelve months.
3. To receive and consider a report on the finances of the association for the past twelve months.
4. To elect a President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer and three Ordinary members to the committee.
5. To consider any special business, notices of which must be given in writing to the secretary by 26 July 2015

Nominations

A nomination form is enclosed for the election of office bearers and committee members . All nominations must be signed by two members, and the candidate must agree to being nominated. Forms should be returned to: The secretary, Papermakers of Victoria, P O Box 315 Box Hill, Victoria 3128 by 26 July.

Speaker for AGM

Jenny Laidlaw

Jenny is a full time and committed artist. With strong environmental ethics, and a love of the enchanting Australian outdoors, my work takes you on a journey into a world where the line of memories and reality are blurred. My new series of children's artworks are full of detail and vibrant colour.

Images of Jenny's delightful work can be seen on her website:

www.jennylaidlaw.com.au

RENEWAL OF MEMBERSHIP – 2015/2016

Annual fees were due on 1 July, so if fees remain unpaid, I'm afraid this will be your last copy of the Deckle Edge.

Membership Fees:

Single membership which includes emailed newsletters
AUS\$45

Single Membership which includes hard copy, mailed
newsletters AUS\$60.

A cheque or money order should be made payable to
Papermakers of Victoria Inc.

Prospective overseas members should send a bank cheque
in Australian dollars.

Fees may also be paid by electronic funds transfer, as
follows:

Papermakers of Victoria Inc. Westpac Banking Corporation,
BSB 033055, Account No. 273680

Please ensure that any direct deposits into the account,
clearly identify the payer.

Stables Studio Fees:

A single payment to cover all visits for the year \$30

Individual visit payments \$10 per visit

Membership forms can be downloaded from the PoV
website.

Paper Manufacturing in the Colony of Victoria

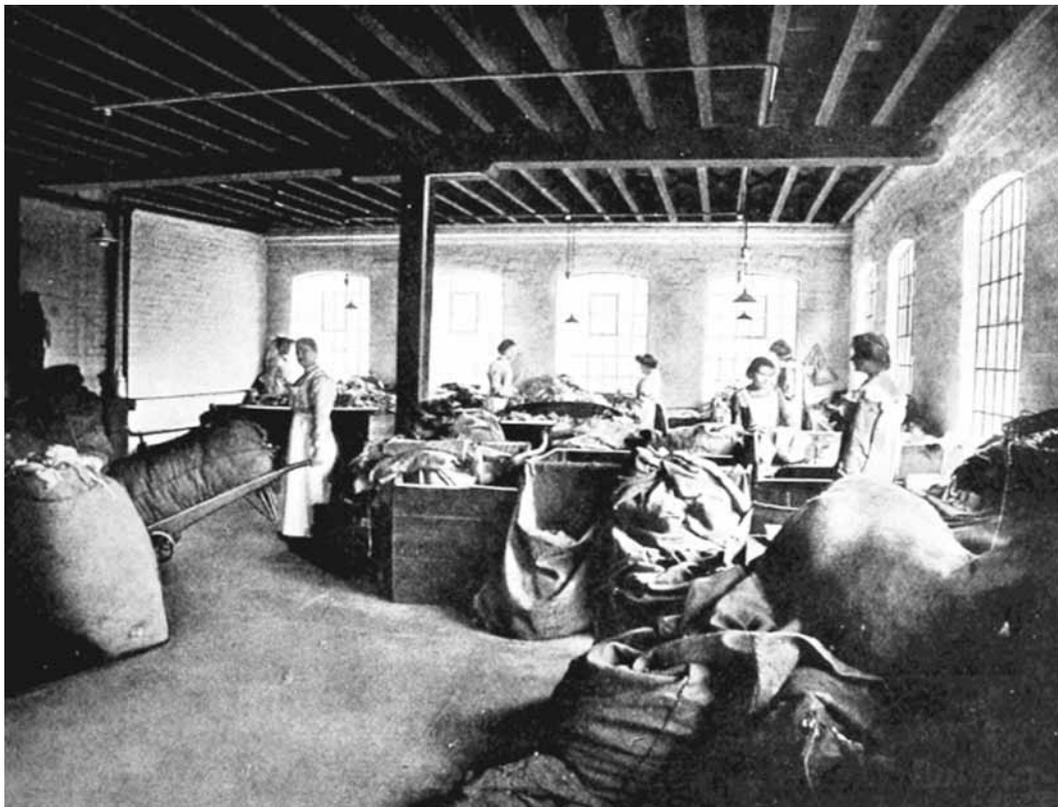
The Gold Rush of 1852 brought people and prosperity to the newly formed Colony of Victoria. Gold-seekers from around the world began pouring in. The population grew rapidly. Demand for goods and services soared.



Canvas town, Melbourne, 1852

Temporary accommodation for the thousands who poured into Melbourne each week during the gold rush
State Library of Victoria

Paper was a commodity in short supply. A local paper manufacturing venture was proposed. On 13 September 1853, an advertisement appeared in the *Argus*: "A thorough practical Papermaker is desirous of meeting with a capitalist to join him in establishing a paper manufactory near Melbourne; apply to Jones and Co., 36A Elizabeth Street." However, investigators who professed to have knowledge of the requirements of paper manufacturing gave conflicting estimates of the costs and possible income of a local mill. It was decided not to proceed. At about the same time, an attempt was made in Geelong to establish a



Sorting rags for the manufacture of paper

Gutenberg

paper mill. The cost of establishing this project was a barrier and the idea was abandoned. These tentative beginnings failed.

As people returned to Melbourne from the gold fields, the government of Victoria was keen to promote economic innovation. Government bonuses and subsidies were offered to firms, tariffs were implemented and manufacturing became the biggest sector of the Melbourne economy. With this came an increasing demand for printed material and packaging which made the local manufacture of paper inevitable.

To garner ways forward for the colony, in 1860, a Government sponsored essay competition was instigated. An essay discussing the potential of the papermaking industry was one of the prize winners. A copy of this essay is in the archives of the Royal Society and is reproduced on the website of Alexander Romanov-Hughes.

The writer begins with an evaluation of the cost of imported paper to the colony. It is remarkable that at the same time as paper was being imported, rags were being exported.

In the year 1858 we imported paper, in the form of stationery and paper-hangings, to the value of about £200,000. During the same year we exported 516 tons of rags, which was probably not one half the quantity of rags that might annually be obtained here, because, in the first place, it is not generally known that rags are purchased in the colony, and, in the second place, the price given is so trifling as compared with their market value at home that few would care to save them for sale. As long as rags are purchased for exportation the price given will be very small; were paper-mills to be established here a larger price would be offered, and we should not then be in the habit of seeing cast off wearing apparel among our numerous rubbish heaps, or in the back yards and right-of-ways of our city and towns.

The writer goes on to discuss the cost of paper production. The impact of machinery on lowering the cost of labour is shown to be significant:

Up to the commencement of the present century paper was made entirely by hand, when the labour was cost about 16 shillings per cwt.; the cost is now about 1 shilling per cwt.

Machine production has further cost efficiencies: Independent of the great superiority of machine over hand-made paper, manufacturers are not troubled with combination of workmen forming strikes, which was one of the serious drawbacks to the manufacturer of hand-made paper, another drawback being the large amount of waste, generally about 20 per cent., whereas by machinery it is a mere nothing.

In addition, the ability to control the thinness, width and length of machine-made paper is put forward an advantage:

Even in 1834 tissue paper was used in the potteries 1,200 yards long; this length of paper, or in fact any great length, had never been made by hand labour.

To overcome any shortage in the supply of rags, the writer next discusses the potential to source plentiful, local raw materials within Victoria. Plant materials are named as proven substitutes. The stems and leaves of the sword-rush and the roots, stems and leaves of the Australian marshmallow can be obtained without difficulty. Maize and flax can be easily grown in Victoria. Further afield, the cotton tree, as grown north of the River Murray, is a possibility. In addition, the newly-discovered 'paper plant', indigenous to Wisconsin, North America, is identified as a plant that would have little difficulty in acclimatizing to Victoria and would be a valuable source of fibre.



Left to right: Sword-rush, Australian marshmallow, maize, flax and cotton

Without being specific, the writer adds there are: several trees and plants indigenous to the colony, the bark of which might be converted into the coarser, if not the finer, kinds of paper. In this, the writer may have in mind the bark of some acacias, casuarinas, eucalypts and melaleucas.

The writer reaches the conclusion:

We have, therefore, abundant sources of material suitable for the manufacture of all kinds of paper, and, as I have before shown, since 1834 it has been made in England with machinery so perfect as to require a very small amount of manual labour to produce miles or tons of paper. Even at the present rate of wages, with imported machinery propelled either by the Yan Yean water or the Yarra Falls, paper might yet be made in Melbourne as cheap as that imported.

The need was obvious. In the colony, uses for paper were increasing. In the notes to the prize-winning essay, is the brief statement that newly-patented "bitumenised paper pipes are now under production in Melbourne". Today, these pipes have been found to have been used on the goldfields. A report by the Royal Society, published in the *Argus*, 27 August, 1860, gives a description of their manufacturing process. "A roll of paper is passed through a reservoir of molten bitumen and then coiled tightly around a mandrel to form a tube." When hardened, the tube was said to be remarkably strong and durable, while being so much cheaper and lighter than iron pipes. Innovations such as this required a cost-effective and reliable source of paper.

1860 was a turning point in the introduction of paper manufacturing in Victoria. The colony could no longer depend on imported paper. Investigations into the suitability of locally sourced fibres for the production of all types of papers became a preoccupation of Victorian scientists and industrialists alike. The story to 1900 will continue in a future edition of the *Deckle Edge*.

— **Anne Pitkethly**

I gratefully acknowledge Alexander Romanov-Hughes for generously sharing information contained in my writing. I refer to Alexander's website: <http://home.vicnet.net.au/~paper/>. I also acknowledge Peter Davie, Susan Lawrence and Jodi Turnbull, *Australasian Historical Archaeology* 29:24-32.

WHAT'S THIS STUFF?

In the previous issue of *Deckle Edge*, Dineke wrote a great explanation, complete with diagrams, about the difference between Cotton Linter and Eucalyptus Pulp.

It occurred to me that others may have one or the other (or both), and I believe some people still have a supply of Abaca, but are not sure which one is which. I confess I trotted off happily to Beverly's to offer her my sheet of cotton linter, only to find that what I had in my hand was eucalyptus pulp.

Now I know that the eucalyptus pulp comes in a stiff board like sheet, with a very rough, almost corrugated surface. Cotton linter on the other hand looks very much like a smooth white sheet of paper.

Abaca, as it is called in the Philippines is also known as Manila. For those fortunate enough to possess some raw fibre purchased from a previous PoV materials buying scheme.

Abaca comes in three grades of fibre: Bandala: the coarsest and strongest fibre from the outer

layer of leaf stalks. Lupis, from the middle layers and Tupos which is the finest and weakest fibre from the inner leaf stalks.

The strongest fibres are made into marine cordage and ships' cables because they are able to withstand salt water. Abaca or manila processed for paper making may have been sourced from old ropes which have been cut into short lengths, dusted and boiled under pressure with caustic soda. This fibre will be pale yellow. Alternatively the fibre sheets may have been made from dry abaca resulting in a creamy colour. These fibres make strong pliable papers. It is important to soak these pre processed fibres for 24 hours to ensure full hydration prior to sheet formation.

See below the fibre structure of abaca/manila as seen under a microscope.

— **Cecilia Sharpley with Abaca notes supplied by Dineke McLean**



MEETINGS

All general meetings held at Box Hill Community Arts Centre

Saturday 1 August

10am Committee Meeting Dry Craft East
12noon AGM
Dry Craft West Guest
Speaker: Jenny Laidlaw
Pickled Papers Miniature Exhibition

Saturday 10 October

10am Committee Meeting Dry Craft East
12noon General Meeting Dry Craft East

Activity: *Flag Book*

Saturday 5 December

10am Committee Meeting Dry Craft East
12noon General Meeting Dry Craft West

Activity: *12 Days of Christmas/Rapt up Display*

STABLES STUDIO

All Members Welcome
(\$10 Materials Fee may apply)

Sunday 16 August

Scandinavian Christmas
Star Marianne Little

Sunday 22 November

Spring @ The Stables
Card Making OR Yearbook Collation

WORKSHOPS & OTHER ACTIVITIES

Tuesday 18 August

Barb Adams
Introduction to Paper Making
Stables Studio

Saturday 12 and Sunday 13 September

Marama Warren
Finding Content
Stables Studio

Saturday 3 October

PoV Market Stall
Geelong Fibre Forum

Sunday 11 October

Committee Planning Day
Stables Studio

Sunday 25 October

Gail Stiffe
Plant Fibre Paper Making
Stables Studio

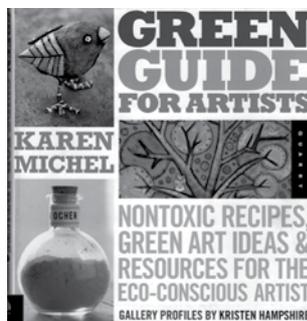
Saturday 14 & Sunday 15 November

Liz Powell
Altered Books
Stables Studio

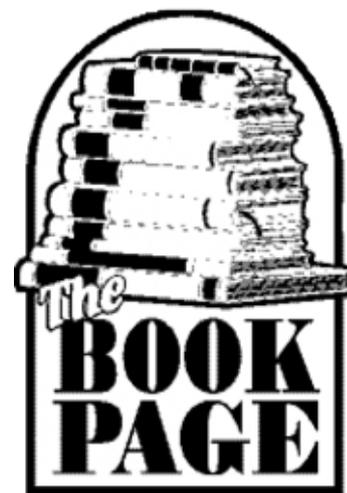
For further details see the PoV website www.papermakers.org.au

Book Review: Green Guide for Artists by Karen Michel.

Nontoxic Recipes, Green Art Ideas & Resources for the Eco-Conscious Artist.
www.quarrybooks.com



The author's goal is to encourage the reader to look at art-making processes and to make greener choices, using materials that leave little or no impact on the environment. Labels should be checked on the products before purchase avoiding toxic products that will compromise the long-term health of the user, or harm the environment and dispose of waste in a safe manner.



The book contains pointers on alternative products to use and has many useful recipes for making paint and adhesives. There is a section on reusing and recycling materials to make new art works and an Artists' Gallery. The chapters include: Greening Your Studio, Green Recipes, Green Products, Artists' Gallery.

Although I haven't as yet made any of the recipes, I think the book will be a useful resource when the time comes. It is set out in an easy to read manner with photos and clear explanations. The resource section has a list of web sites for more information although it is USA based.

— Christine Tyrer

OCCASIONAL PUBLICATION UPDATE

An enormous amount of work has been done by the MAD group (Dineke, Ann and Marianne) to produce samples of vegetable papyrus for the next Occasional Publication. Due to current circumstances the original concept for this publication is at present under review.

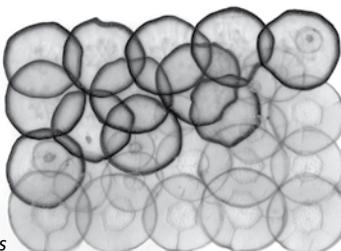
In the meantime, MAD has produced a tantalizing array of cards plus envelopes featuring some of the samples, which will be available for sale at PoV meetings at the introductory

members' only price of \$2.50 each or 5 for \$10. The cards will retail to the general public at other events.

Some images are scans of the original vegetable papyrus and others have been 'computer tweaked'. The cards are blank inside and printed on 200gsm Fabriano Academia paper using high quality durabrite inks.

Sales of these cards will greatly assist with the cost of continuing work on the final publication.

images from some of the cards



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Unit 1,
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tonyquick1@bigpond.com

2015 YEAR BOOK

'Images of Light'

This is a project for members of POV, working with the theme of LIGHT.

Each person makes approximately 30 sheets of paper from recycled board or plant fibre. This book will have circular pages (21cm diameter) which will be bound into a book and each participant will receive a copy. When we know the number of participants, you will be notified so you know how many pages to make.

We will also make two extra copies, one for the library and one to auction.

To assist you in the making of your circular pages we will have a

CIRCLE MAKING DAY at the Stables Studio - BYO pulp and Mould. Chris & Barb will be there to help.

Later we will have a BINDING DAY. This will take the form of a free workshop for anyone who wants to come and bind their book and help with binding another one for someone else.

TIMELINE

Expressions of interest to barb@barbadams.com by 1st September 2015

Notification of number of pages to participants - 2nd September 2015

Circle making day - Saturday 19th September at the Stables Studio

Pages to Barb - Sunday 15th November

55 Woodhouse Grove, Box Hill North 3129

Binding Workshop - Sunday 22nd November at the Stables Studio

You will receive your book at the December meeting or by post at your own cost.

If you are a distant member, or a member who doesn't usually get to meetings, we would especially like you to join in if you can.

To assist those who may find it difficult to know where to start, Barb and Chris have drawn some helpful sketches. The intention is for you to use these images to trigger your own original ideas for your book.

Questions, offers of help and notification of participation to:

Chris Rose - gavchrisrose@hotmail.com

Barb Adams - barb@barbadams.com

Paper Sampler

Papyrus and Ginkgo Paper

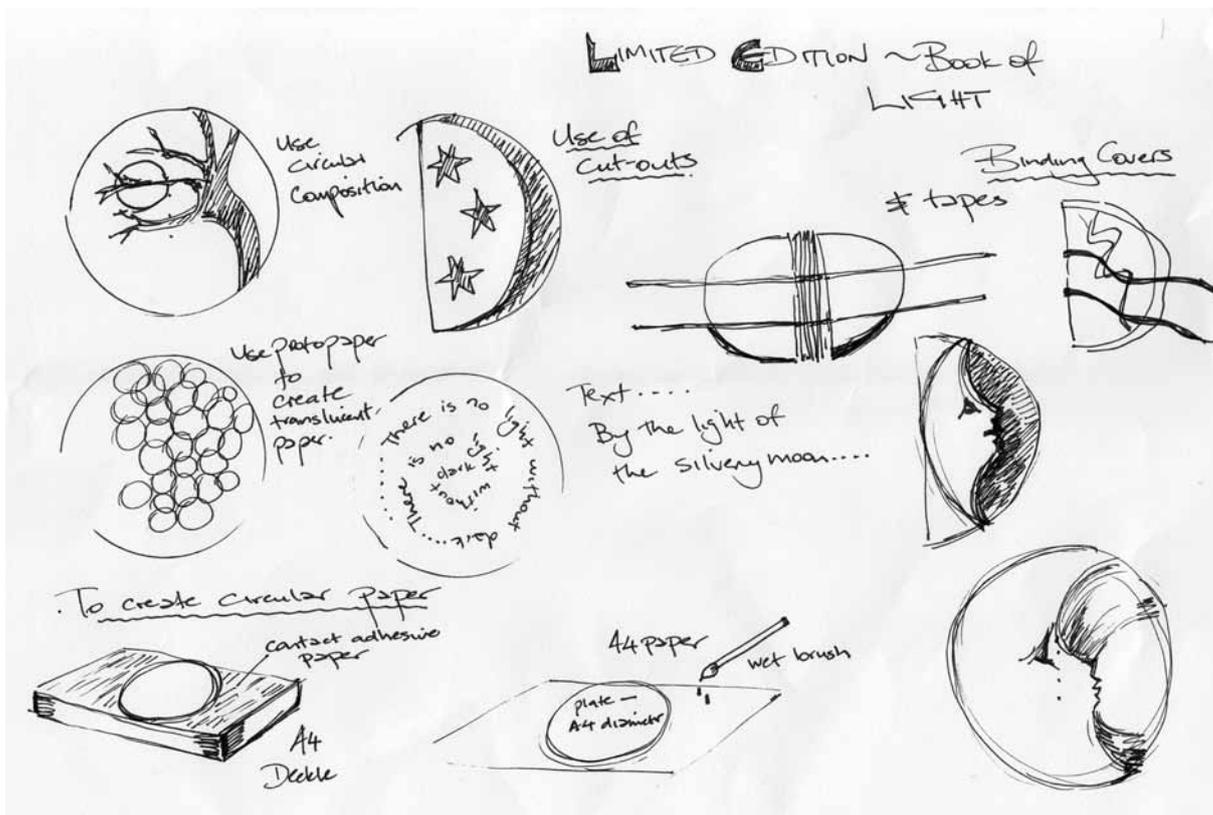
50% Healesville Papyrus : stored dry, cut, cooked 1hour in 5% caustic soda.

50% Golden Ginkgo leaves collected from Coolart Homestead, Somers and pulped so long ago I have no idea of the details.

Both pulps were beaten a short time in a vitamizer before being added to the vat with cornflour size to add crispness and strength.

When held up to the light the transparent Ginkgo spots are visible.

Barb Adams



UPCOMING WORKSHOPS

INTRODUCTION TO PAPERMAKING

Tuesday 18 Aug 2015 10am - 1pm

Stables Studio

\$50 for members, \$55 for non-members

Tutor: Barb Adams

This workshop will introduce you to the skill of hand papermaking with recycled pulp.

You will learn about the preparation and choice of materials for pulp, how to form a sheet of paper and the pressing and drying of your paper.

Pulp, cloths and notes will be provided by the tutor.

This workshop would also be suitable for papermakers who can make paper and want to extend their skills.

At the end of the workshop you will have many sheets of beautiful paper to use as you wish. Tea and Coffee provided. BYO lunch

If paying online, please enter the word 'Introduction' and your surname in the recipient's information section

FINDING CONTENT

Saturday 12 Sep 2015 & Sunday 13 Sep 2015 - 10am - 4pm

\$150 for members, \$170 for non-members

Tutor: Marama Warren

In this hands-on workshop, Marama will discuss ways to identify and develop themes for artists' books and will provide tools to aid the book artist, examples and basic materials.

Over two days, students will learn skills to develop text and images including practical exercises such as writing prompts and techniques with the non-dominant hand.

Marama will engage with and encourage students to identify and develop themes using images through mark making, creative word play, collage and stamping. We will experiment with placing words and images, selecting papers and layouts to develop layers of content for their blank books.

Images and further details can be found on the PoV website.

If paying online, please enter the word 'Content' and your surname in the recipient's information section

Online registration for workshops

Our website offers an option to book and pay for workshops on-line. This speeds up the application process. Full payment is required to confirm your booking. Your reservation will be held for a week and a confirmation email will be sent when we receive your payment. You may still select the option to pay by cheque or money order (via post) during the booking process if you prefer.

When making an online payment it is ESSENTIAL to identify your payment with your surname and the name of the workshop. This is done via your bank's website when transferring money to the PoV account. PoV account details are provided while you are booking a space and also in the email, which is automatically sent when you register.

Applications for Workshops
Payment methods:

Electronic funds transfer (preferred): Papermakers of Victoria Inc., Westpac – Hampton: BSB: 033-055, Account no: 273-680 and put your surname in the 'to account description'. Alternatively, cheque or money order to be made payable to Papermakers of Victoria Inc.

Refund Policy

A full refund will be made if PoV cancels the workshop for any reason. If an applicant withdraws for any reason before the closing date a full refund will be made. If an applicant withdraws on or after the closing date a replacement participant needs to be found by the applicant, or a 50% fee will be charged with 50% of the workshop fee being returned. The PoV Committee will consider exceptional circumstances.



Sandy Ward's scroll

Nag Hammadi Workday

Dear POV Members,

Earlier in 2015 some PoV members expressed interest in a combined get together with members of The Victorian Bookbinding Guild and Papermakers of Victoria.

For Part 1 of our shared activity many of you successfully made papyrus paper out at the Stables. Further to this, I have been in contact with the President of VBG Jim Finger, and both he and Liz Forbes are preparing for Part 2 of the combined activity. The two experienced binders will guide us through assembly.

Instruction will be provided for a modified Nag Hammadi Binding Style at The Stables, Bundoora on September 20th rather than the original planned date of July 12th. This change is due to it being mid-Winter plus the fact that it would be too expensive to run the activity at the Bookbinders' usual meeting venue.

In readiness for this activity, we are fortunate indeed that Jim has been able to purchase 10 kangaroo skins @ \$10 each, which will be easier to work with than the original leather type. There will also be a small materials fee additional to this.

Jim will do the paring of the leather in advance for us so that we can complete the activity in a single day as otherwise it would have been quite challenging to achieve this.

He has requested that you have your own A5 papyrus paper sheets ready (at least 6 pages each) plus off cuts or additional papyrus which can be used when gluing the inside of the covers.

As your President, I am now seeking a firm indication of numbers for attendance on September 20th. There is space for 10 participants, maximum. This is not a formal workshop as such but rather a skill-sharing day. Further details will be provided closer to the event.

Please respond quickly by email to me if you are able to attend, so that we can finalise numbers.

I am sure this will be a unique and engaging activity and that we can make our visiting guests once again very welcome!!

Hoping to hear from you soon.

Kind Regards,

Christine Smith

(President of Papermakers of Victoria)

Images from Paper Currents



Marianne Little with her works



Liz Powell's piece from the exhibition