

# DECKLE EDGE

NEWSLETTER OF PAPERMAKERS OF VICTORIA INC.

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FOR ALL THOSE WITH A LOVE & UNDERSTANDING OF PAPER AS A MEDIUM IN ITS OWN RIGHT.

WWW.PAPERMAKERS.ORG.AU

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#### **DECKLE EDGE**

**EDITOR: CAROLE HAMPSHIRE** 

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RUST WORKSHOP, PHOTO BY LEANNE POOLE

**ALL DECKLE EDGE CORRESPONDENCE TO:** 

https://papermakers.org.au/contact-us/

**DEADLINES FOR COPY:** 

1 MARCH, 1 JUNE, 1 SEPTEMBER, 1 NOVEMBER

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

#### **NEXT MEETING**

SUNDAY 11TH APRIL 12 NOON - 4PM BOX HILL COMMUNITY ARTS CENTRE

We will have a forum on display options for presenting exhibition works; members are asked to bring along something they are working on for the exhibition and ideas for presentation will be discussed. We will also be presenting a session of hints on getting good photographs of your work. Please remember to book online via the website as numbers are still limited. Cost is \$5.

#### **NEW MEMBERS**

A WARM WELCOME TO: JENNI STRACHAN, LYNDAL THORNE, TANIA LOWE, CASSANDRA BAKER, LEA WEARNE, JILL ELLIS, JO-ANNE BRITT, ZOE IRVING, SUSAN MCBRATNEY

### **SUPPORTED BY**



BOX HILL
COMMUNITY
ARTS CENTRE

## PAPERMAKERS OF VICTORIA

#### **PRESIDENT**

Gail Stiffe 0424 333 136 papermakersofvictoria@gmail.com

#### VICE PRESIDENT

Laraine Peters laraineemilypeters@yahoo.com.au

SECRETARY & PUBLIC OFFICER Anne Pitkethly

pitk@alphalink.com.au

TREASURER
Jenny Longley
0407 856 311
jennylongley@bigpond.com

#### COMMITTEE

Tricia Alexander Helen McPherson Leanne Poole

#### LIBRARY

Jo Peake (03) 9583 8376

#### MEMBERSHIP

Jenny Longley 0407 856 311 jennylongley@bigpond.com

#### **PUBLICITY & PROMOTIONS**

Ruth Ault publicity.for.papermakers@gmail.com

CHRISTMAS BOOK SWAP Beverly Bennett (03)9870 6436

WORKSHOP CO-ORDINATOR

MATERIALS OFFICER Antje Bauer (03) 9876 3305 STABLES CO-ORDINATOR Antje Bauer (03) 9876 3305

#### STABLES ROSTER

Carol Downey (03) 9459 5476 caroldowney 14@gmail.com

#### **WEBMASTER**

Barb Adams webmaster@papermakers.org.au

#### ARCHIVES

Helen McPherson 0455 202 156 helenkmcpherson@hotmail.com

COLLAGE PACK CO-ORDINATOR Ursula Simmons

MEETING DAY HOST

Tricia Alexander, Bernadette Towan

#### **SOCIAL MEDIA**

Leanne Poole Trading Table Jan Jorgensen

# GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

PAPERMAKERS OF VICTORIA INC. GENERAL MEETING

HELD AT THE BOX HILL COMMUNITY ARTS CENTRE AND ON ZOOM SATURDAY 6 FEBRUARY 2021

**PRESENT** 17 members present as per Registration list. Zoom participants: Letty Lawrence, Marie Revill, Andrew Prince.

**APOLOGIES** Jo Peake, Bernadette Towan, Laraine Peters, Anne Page, Chris Walta

#### CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

That the minutes of the General meeting held on Saturday, 10th October, 2020 be confirmed.

Moved Leanne Poole Seconded Carole Hampshire Carried

#### **MATTERS ARISING**

Exhibition: Susan McCormack reported

- Gasworks confirmed.
- Four week block Monday 16 August Sunday 12th Sept
- · Opening to be Saturday afternoon, 21 st August
- Following up on hire of display cases.
- Catalogue covers made; March 7th Banner making day at the Stables -participants asked to bring pulp.
- Invoice for \$200 deposit coming.
- Gasworks handle all sales and take commission.

Barb Adams is collecting members' momigami raincoats for the Exhibition.

#### Workshops and Demonstrations

- Barb's Indigo and Rust workshop, 27th/28th Feb, full.
   Gail Stiffe's T shirt and Jeans to Paper work shop, 21st March one slot left.
- Need to change date of Gail's April, Watermarks workshop. Present date Anzac Day. Chris Smilth enrolled. To discuss suitable date.
- Request for someone to run a Beginners Papermaking Workshop.
- Request for Workshop ideas to run in second half year.
- Leanne has contacted Ema Shin, Japanese Woodblocks.
   Ema brings all materials. Requires materials fee.
- Moulds and Deckles making day being negotiated with lan Payne.

#### Paper and pulp from Nepal

Gail has this available.

CORRESPONDENCE REPORT (copy available on file)

Of note Box Hill Community Arts Centre dates for 2021 confirmed. Applied for Smarty Grants fee relief.

#### TREASURER'S REPORT

As per treasurer's report circulated.

From 1/07/20 to 2/02/21 Income \$7068.47 Expenses \$3063.90 Cash Profit \$3804.57

Current membership is 77

Ideas for purchases - Stables upgrade: Address ergonomics of papermaking at the stables: eg table risers for tables; Dolly wheels to reduce need to lift/carry heavy buckets of water; vacuum cleaner; extra chairs; new beater (secondhand or alternative to Reina which is too expensive).

That the Financial Report be received:

Moved Jenny Longley Seconded Chris Smith
Carried

#### **GENERAL BUSINESS**

#### Calendar of activities for 2021:

Published in email of Gail's dated 19th January, 2021

#### Sunday April 11th Social Meeting, Box Hill:

Displaying and photographing art works. Call on members to bring different ways of displaying art works to meeting for ideas and inspiration. Leanne share how to photograph. Ask Exhibition Committee to share photographs of St Kilda art space, to give members a sense of what space is available to them.

#### Stables Bundoora:

Need to book ahead online when planning to visit to Bundoora Stables. First book with Carol Downey, who will give you code for on-line Stables Booking.

#### Zoom chat:

Volunteer members are now coordinating Zoom chats once a month. 1st Tuesday at 3pm (Bernadette Towan) and 3rd Thursday at 7.30pm. Closed loop email list to receive link to 700m chats.

#### Play Day May:

Weekday Bundoora, Second Tuesday, 11th May. Preparation for Exhibition, come along to gain support and motivation for entries. In need of a coordinator.

#### Workshops:

If we include Membership fee in what we pay Tutors, our Insurance Policy enables us to cover Tutors.

#### Website

Excellent. Password protection taken off Members Gallery enables browsers to see the diversity of what we are doing. Great way to encourage membership.

#### Social Media

Facebook 377 followers Instagram 1239 followers Leanne keeping sites up to date.

#### Deckle Edge

Carole offered thanks to Summer contributors. Feedback called for. Layout done in USA so there is a time lag. Call for articles for Autumn edition.

#### **Papermates**

Met at Stables in January working with fibres.

#### **Yabbers**

First meeting was at Gail's. Made paper for Exhibition catalogue covers. Next meeting at the Stables to do printing.

Numbers in these two groups are getting too big for in people's houses. Do we need another group? Suggest a third group, once a month, in the Northern suburbs with the Stables as a venue. Suggest 1st Friday each month, Carole, Anne and Antje interested.

#### OTHER BUSINESS

Clean up Stables Day

Yabbers got volunteered to do it on their printing day 24th February.

#### Collaborative book project

Leanne and Susan propose a book exchange. Similar to the postcard project, call for participants and then based on numbers, schedule a path for each person's book. This would allow for participation of overseas and interstate members. Each person would have say in the structure of their book and send the starter kit out to the first person on their list. Each person would have approximately 1 month to add and send on. Overseas participants could send their book to Aust for circulation. Document with details being prepared. Would envisage 10 – 12 participants.

MEETING CLOSED 2.09pm

#### **NEXT SOCIAL MEETING**

Date: Sunday, 11th April, 12 noon Box Hill Community Arts Centre

Activity: Displaying and Photographing Art works

for Exhibition.

Helping Hands: Volunteers called for.

# TALKING PAPER SUMMER



**GAIL STIFFE** 

How wonderful to be able to meet each other and access the Stables and run workshops and member days again. Our first two workshops for the year were fully subscribed and both Papermates and Yabbers held meetings at the Stables. We have a new group starting up that will meet at the Stables once a month on a Friday. It will usually be the first Friday but for March and April will be the second Friday.

Speaking of the Stables we have purchased some new equipment to assist with ergonomics. We have a sturdy cart that can be used for carrying things to and from the cars or when draining vats. We have table raisers in a couple of sizes for reducing the back strain while papermaking and Helen has set up a pulley system for lifting the rollers on the Lander beater to make it easier for cleaning.

We trialled some of the equipment at the Stables last weekend when we had a crew working together on a banner for our exhibition. Hopefully it will hold together well and will make a great addition to our exhibition display. Elsewhere in the Deckle Edge you will find the entry form for the Exhibition, we look forward to lots of entries showing a range of works with and from paper.

Thank you to Bernadette and Anne for organising our ongoing zoom sessions, they are an ideal vehicle for sharing what the membership has been up to. At the session on the 18 th March Anzara Clark talked about the Mandurah Wearable Art Show where for the first time there will be a paper category and she is coordinating it and encouraging people to enter.

Our next general meeting is going to be held on the second Sunday in April, which is because the first Saturday is Easter and the rooms at Box Hill are not available on the second Saturday. Our plan for that meeting is to have a session on photographing and preparing works for exhibition. If you have some works ready for the exhibition you might like to bring them along and get some hints on display and photography. You will need to book through our website again and the link is already there on the first page of the website.

# INDIGO & RUST WORKSHOP WITH BARB ADAMS

**CAROLE HAMPSHIRE** 

Barb Adams' 'Indigo and Rust' workshop was not only the first to run this year but the first for a whole year. It was completely booked out and I had been lucky enough to take advantage of a spot when one participant had to drop out. The workshop was divided into two sessions over two days: dyeing and making a book.

Everyone was eager to get dyeing their various bundles of goodies, scarves, cloth, pages and concertina books. But first Barb talked to us about the dyeing process including making up the indigo dye vat. She was using a synthetic indigo dye which is easier for beginners. We made up three vats to give everyone space to dip their projects and to experiment. Most bundles need to be soaked in water before going into the vat and it is important to support delicate structures and handmade paper with mesh. We also learnt to minimise the introduction of air to the vat by, if possible, sliding the paper carefully down the side of the vat and covering the vat when not in use. There should ideally be no splashing in the vat, this means avoiding dripping. Everything can be done slowly and ponderously, ideal for a first workshop where everyone is a little shell-shocked after the extensive lockdowns.

The other dyeing station was the rust one, this could either be done separately or after the indigo. Two lots of three baths were prepared: caustic soda, ferrous sulphate and tea (made from cheapest tea bags). You can use kitty litter trays for these baths if trying this at home.

Some wonderful results were achieved as we began to get more intrepid and experimental. For best results the paper and fabric need to be washed in clean water then dried. With handmade paper this must be done very carefully and with mesh for support.

We then let our papers and fabrics dry overnight before our second workshop day began and we could commence putting our books together.



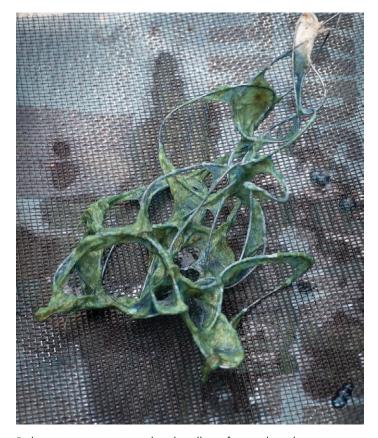
Indigo vat with bundles on wooden dowels.



Effective use of circular resist and folding.



Indigo dyed threads for bookbinding.



Delicate wire armature with pulp still wet from indigo dyeing.

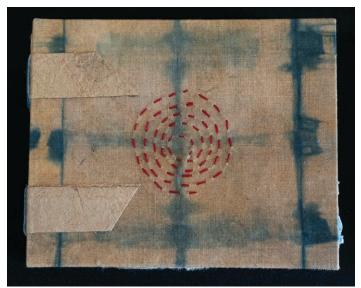
The second day we were ready to begin assembling our book; everyone was happy with their various papers and eager to see the outcome. There were lots of decisions to be made and some careful stitching with our dyed threads.

Eventually, most of us managed to finish our book (or the majority of it) and we had a lovely show-and-tell session. We each talked about our favourite pages and signatures.

Thanks to Barb's generous nature, we all felt our creative side had been nurtured. Everyone left having enjoyed a wonderful weekend of creativity and friendship.

#### CAROLE HAMPSHIRE

All photos by Leanne Poole. A selection of books created at this workshop are also featured on the cover of this edition of the Deckle Edge.



Contrasting stitching and unusual tapes.



Innovative cover with teabag and washer.



Inside cover on book making day.

# TANVEER'S JOURNAL

#### **ANNE PAYNE**

I have had a lovely few months of discovering the pleasure of eco dyeing, indigo dyeing, experimenting with watercolours and combining these in making some journals.

The first was for a fellow volunteer at Blackburn Lake Sanctuary.

Tanveer and her family of husband and two boys arrived from India about 4 years ago. They have fallen in love with the Australian bush and Tanveer has subsequently joined our Education Program team of volunteers that provide sessions for school students in bushland reserves in the City of Whitehorse. Tanveer loves to record and monitor her sightings, so I made her a journal of various different pages to do this, along with some pockets to save anything collected. I made the two little boys some tiny books also.

I'm looking forward to seeing how they use them as they were very excited after I had left them on their doorstep as a surprise.

ANNE PAYNE

All photos by Anne Payne.



Detail of eco dyeing on paper.



Journal for Tanveer with pockets.



Tanveer's Journal.

## **PAPERMATES**

#### FEBRUARY MEETING

There was a buzz in the air when the group met on the 8th February for our second meeting since the first lockdown in March 2020. Everyone seemed to be excited about catching up and also working together not on zoom.

Surface treatments was the theme, and after perusing many books, we decided to run with the 'Decorative Surface Techniques' compiled by Dineke McClean and published by PoV in 2012.

I set up five workstations with written instructions at each section to guide the participants. My intention was to explain each method and then leave everyone to do their own thing. However, everyone seemed so excited about having a go that chaos reigned and they all took off to explore all of the techniques. So, not having any teacher training behind me I just let them run with it. I realised that most of the long-term members probably had used a few of the methods before, so I tried to concentrate on helping our new members, I hope I didn't let them down.

Bernadette took over the 'Magic Colouring Bottle' which uses methylated spirits and food colouring cartridge and handmade paper to create rainbow like trails of colour seeping up the surface of the paper.



Papermates practising surface treatements.



Metho and dyes workstation.



Watercolour overlay on wax crayon stamps.



Verdigris bowl.

Our second station was 'Indian Wood Block Rubbings'. Here we used wood blocks, wax crayons, and very thin, but strong paper to make the rubbings, by inverting the paper over the carved wooden blocks, in whatever patterns. The colour was then set by placing baking paper over the paper pattern and ironing the surface. At the next station, we were using cold wax to either dip a stamp into or painted an image onto paper with the wax. Left these to dry, then painted over the images using paper dyes or watercolour paints. Left to dry again, then placed newspaper over the paper and proceeded to iron over the paper until the wax was removed from the paper.

For our next method, paper with textured finishes, acrylic paint, watercolour paint and Verdigris wax. The paper was painted with burnt umber paint and left to dry. Then apply watercolour - yellow oxide over the paper, leave to dry. The third coat is applied by dipping a soft cloth in the Verdigris wax and rubbing this over the textured paper. Apply varnish the next day (optional).

Our final method was called "crystal or earth elements paper". We used sized paper for this and acrylic paint. The paint was mixed with a flow medium to get a creamy consistency. Spray the paper with water, apply the paint and allow to flow over the paper. Cut a piece of plastic wrap larger than the paper and lay it down over the paper and then scrunch the wrap, allowing it to wrinkle and fold. Now this is the big test, leave to dry for a couple of days before removing the plastic, no peeking! We had lots of fun, plenty of laughs and hopefully the participants went home with a few new ideas.

#### PATRICIA ALEXANDER

All photos by Patricia Alexander.

## **YABBERS**

## CHRISTMAS, JANUARY AND FEBRUARY MEETINGS

Towards the end of November 2020 we were able to have a covid-safe meeting to exchange Christmas cards and view each other's work on the show-and-tell table. I was able to take a lovely photo of everyone in the Summer Sunshine.

In January 2021 we met up at Gail's as we could work outside at various sites in her garden and be spaced apart. We set up vats for paper-making and pulped some Nepalese paper mainly blue. Gail had some cream pulp too. The idea was to make some catalogue covers for the Water exhibition later in the year. Some of us had kept making paper during the lockdown and some of us were quite rusty (myself included). We made a good number of successful covers and at the moment will not need any more.

In February we had decided to meet at the Stables and take advantage of the printing press, not to mention the fact that we could, finally, meet in person with less stringent rules. We were one of the first groups to meet at the Stables since COVID-19 hit and the premises had been closed. Not surprisingly the workshops were very dusty and required a good Summer (aka Spring) clean! Everyone got busy and the cobwebs were soon disposed of and any dead rats too.

Gail brought lots of supplies and demonstrated how to do monoprints, drypoint prints and collagraphs for those of us who were new to printing or just a bit rusty. The drypoints were done on a stiff piece of acetate and if we hadn't made our own, she had some lovely shell designs she'd made at home. We also used an acetate sheet for our monoprints arranging our flat objects on it, in my case a feather and a skeleton leaf. Gail had two pieces of plastic netting that worked well as the photos demonstrate.

Everyone went home with some prints and lots of ideas.

**CAROLE HAMPSHIRE** 



Christmas Yabbers covid-safe meeting.



Fern monoprint.



Feather and leaf monoprint. All photos by Carole Hampshire.

# PAPERSTABLE FRIDAY GROUP

MARCH MEETING

At the last meeting we discussed the possibility of setting up a new group in the Northern part of Melbourne. We settled on the first Friday of the month as this doesn't clash with any other meeting.

At the first session on 12th March we finished the Water banner for the upcoming exhibition. We also discussed a possible name but are still undecided!

As we are meeting at Bundoora Stables, we decided the group would concentrate on papermaking and printing; all the facilities being available there.

For further information see contact details on the website.



The letter A. Photo by Carole Hampshire.



Hands to hold down the stencil. Photo by Carole Hampshire.



Carole holding up water banner. Photo by Gail Stiffe.

# WATER EXHIBITION 2021

## PAPERMAKERS OF VICTORIA

Papermakers of Victoria invites you to participate in The Valda Quick Biennial Paper Arts Exhibition.

This year the theme is 'Water'. Water is integral to our papermaking process, and we look forward to members' interpretation of the theme. You are free to interpret the theme however you like and as we have so much space up to four pieces can be entered.

It's going to be held at Gasworks Arts Park in Albert Park. Gasworks is a wonderful venue which has parkland next to the gallery for a wander after viewing the exhibition, and it also has a lovely outdoor coffee shop.

The exhibition runs from 16 August - 12 September. The opening will be held on Saturday 21 August 2-4pm. The entry form is provided on the following page, and there will be copies available at the next POV meeting at BHCAC on 11 April.

**EXHIBITION TEAM** 

## THE VALDA QUICK BIENNIAL PAPER ARTS EXHIBITION

### **WATER**

16 August - 12 September 2021

#### **EXHIBITION CONDITIONS OF ENTRY**

#### PREREQUISITES ARE:

- 1. Entrants must be current POV members and all entries must have been completed since the last exhibition in 2019.
- 2. Number of entries: limit of 4 entries per POV member with entry form attached to each entry and one sent to Susan McCormack by 15 May 2021.
- 3. Cost of entry: \$15 for the first entry and \$5 for each addition entry. \$30 max.
- 4. Size limit: 1 square meter- if you will be entering a work larger than this please contact Susan McCormack.
- 5. Artwork must be clearly labelled with artist's name, title and sale price.
- 6. Content of art work: Paper in all its forms is celebrated by POV. It would be preferable if artwork contained handmade paper however this is not mandatory, nor is it necessary for the paper to be made by the person submitting the artwork.
- 7. Exhibition ready: work should be presented ready to hang, and attach a description of desired display format if necessary. Display cases will be available.
- 8. Entries may be for sale: 25% + GST Commission will apply
- 9. Timeline: entry form to Susan McCormack by 15 May. Fees to Papermakers of Victoria by 15 May.

#### DELIVERY AND RECEIVING OF ART WORKS

#### POV Members can deliver their artwork:

- to the POV meeting on 7 August.
- to Gasworks Arts Park between 2-4pm on Sunday
- to Gasworks Arts Park between 7.30-10.30am on the morning of 16 August. Artworks must be delivered by 10.30am at the latest.

Collection of unsold artworks: from Gasworks Arts Park on 12 September before 4pm.

# THE VALDA QUICK BIENNIAL PAPER ARTS EXHIBITION WATER 16 August – 12 September 2021 **ENTRY FORM FOR GENERAL EXHIBITION**

Artist's name		
Address		
Postcode		
Email		
Phone / Mobile		
Description of Art	work (Please circle)	
• E	2D Wall Piece Books & Stationery BD Work Group Work Other - please describe	
Title of Work		
Dimensions (in centimetres)		
Н	W D	
Materials used		

Description of Art Work (50 words or less)
Sale Price of Art Work (Allow for 25% + GST commission)
(Allow for 25% Commission)
Tick if agreeable to artwork being photographed for publicity purposes
. , , , ,
I agree to terms and conditions of entry
C
Signature of Artist
This form is required with or without Artwork by 15 May.
Please email form to Susan McCormack:
mccormacksjs@yahoo.com.au
ENTRY FEE PAYMENT
EFT
Account Name: Papermakers of Victoria
BSB: 033-055
Account Number: 273699
Please include surname and number of entries eg. Jones 2 entries
Cheques to: Papermakers of Victoria

# UPCOMING WORKSHOPS

#### WATERMARKS

Saturday 24 April 2021 10am - 4pm

Location: Stables Studio

Tutor: Gail Stiffe

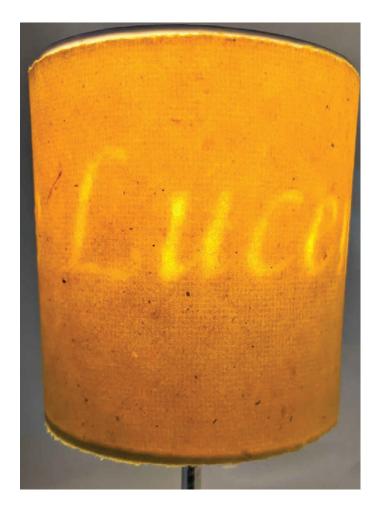
Cost: \$80 for members and \$120 for non-members

Registrations close 20 April 2021

Learn about the history of watermarks and how to make permanent and temporary watermarks for your own moulds. Make watermarks from a variety of materials and use them for identification and as an art form.

You will also learn how to select and prepare pulp suitable for watermarks and will have the option of making a watermarked table lamp.

Materials Fee \$10 plus optional \$15 for lamp and globe.







Photos by Gail Stiffe.

# UPCOMING WORKSHOPS

#### **HANJI LAMP**

Three Day Workshop

15 to 17 May 2021 10am - 4pm

Location: Hands on Paper Studio, Glen Iris Victoria

Tutor: Jan Coveney

Cost: Members: \$240 Non-members: \$280

Participants will acquire a good knowledge of what Hanji paper and craft is, its origins, strengths and practicalities as well as discovering a completely new craft and set of skills. (They may then wish to compare it with the papers they are currently making.)

Step by step instructions are provided to students during the 3-day workshop and they will be given a detailed worksheet to take home.

All papers will be provided for this piece but in the future students may wish to use some of their own handmade papers.

The students will take home a lamp and have the skills to continue doing this unique paper craft.

Materials fee \$30

Day 1 An introduction to Hanji and what it is. There will be a choice of making either a 4 or a 6 sided lamp. Cut lamp using instructions out of a 3mm thick cardboard. Begin gluing some of the inside papers . Assemble base and lid. Leave to dry overnight.

Day 2 Assemble the remaining pieces including the sides of the lamp. Begin cutting out and gluing papers onto the cardboard. Add lighting fixture. Leave to dry overnight to dry.

Day 3 Paper lid and base. Cut out designs to go onto the lamp. Brush on finishing lacquer to give the paper strength and durability.





Photos by Jan Coveney.

# UPCOMING WORKSHOPS

### **NATURAL INKS** & HANDMADE BRUSHES

Sunday 15 August 2021 10am - 4pm Location: Stables Studio

Tutors: Gail Stiffe and Sue Cust

Cost: Members \$80 Non-members \$120

Learn how to make inks from various natural materials including avocado, tea, acorns etc then make some brushes to use with the inks.





Photos by Sue Cust.