

FUTURE PROJECTS

Handprinting Topics *by Graham Williams*

For a large part of some sixty years, I have been researching and developing techniques to arrive at a well printed page. Some of these are simple ideas that were not apparent to me when I first tried a lino block. Others are attempts to print wood engravings and retain all the depth and three dimensions that has been engraved into some of them. So, I think it's time to pass these tips and wrinkles on to others, beginning with these three books.

Dampening Paper

Printers up to a couple of hundred years ago had to dampen most of the paper they printed on. Then came industrialisation that produced paper that didn't need dampening. But any decent paper will print much better on a hand press if it is dampened. Experience has shown me that the old and very simple way of dampening is the best, and then it has to be dried and pressed. The improved quality that dampening gives to paper makes it fundamental to good hand presswork.

Make-ready

This puts fear into the hearts of some engravers, I know because they have told me so. But appropriate make-ready is one of the greatest skills in making prints from woodblocks, and it isn't as difficult as engraving. This book will show both simple and complicated make-readies and how they are built.

Ink & Inking

One thing I have seen on Instagram is how some others ink a block, and I remember doing it that way years ago. I realise that I have found ways of using a roller that are much more effective. The inks we have available are constantly changing but knowing how, why, and when to adjust them is something I have researched a lot. This book will help most of those who ink by hand.