

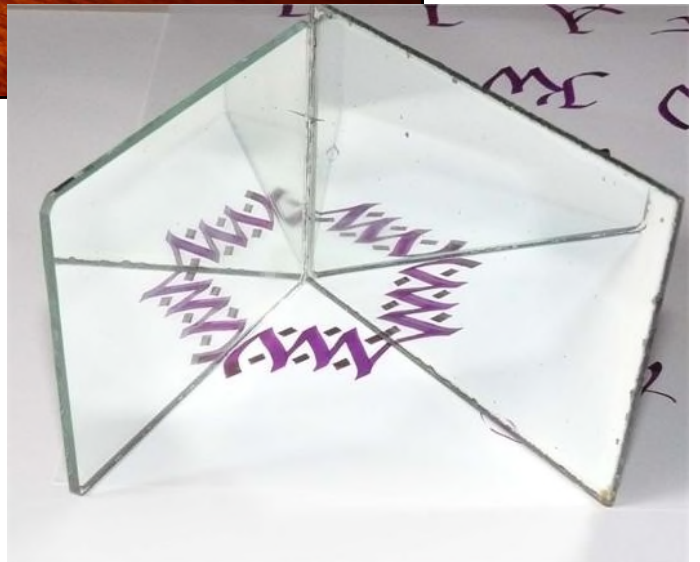
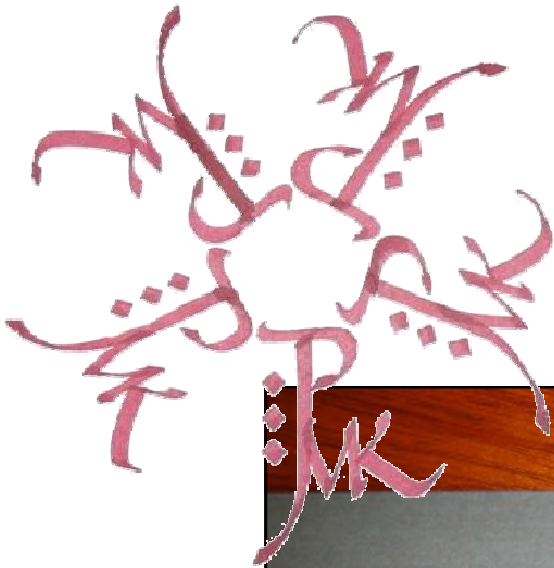
A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P
Q R S T U V
O P Q R S T U V
W X Y Z A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P
Q R S T U V W X Y Z A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P
Q R S T U V W X Y Z A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P

Alphabetical
order

canberra
CALLIGRAPHY
society



Newsletter 169 - August 2010



For your diary

Sunday 22nd August 1:00—4:30 AGM + folded books Joan, Jill & Angela Lunch provided by the committee
Saturday 4th September St. Clements Spring Fair Galong Theme: Oranges and Lemons
Sunday 26th September 1:30—4:30 Spencerian Marg Peachey
23rd & 24th October 9:30—4:30 both days Ampersands etc. Gemma Black
Sunday 28th November 1:30—4:30 Half Uncial Christine Wilde
Saturday 4th December 12:30 Christmas Lunch A Bite to Eat, Chifley shops Bring a card to swap

Postal Address

The Secretary CCS
PO Box 291
Jamison Centre
ACT 2614

Web Address

www.canberracalligraphysociety.org.au

Thank you to:

Wrap writer: Karen Woodhall

Committee 2009 - 2010

President

Jill Robertson
6259 0576
robertsonjj@optusnet.com.au

Vice President

Angela Hillier
6251 1275
antnange@grapevine.com.au

Secretary

Joan Adler
6251 8875
joanadler2@bigond.com

Treasurer

Maureen Worsnop
6254 4979
worsnopmm@grapevine.com.au

Editor

James Hislop
6231 5720
jameshislop@ieee.org

Librarian

Lyndell Dobbs
6258 4245
bdobbs@tpg.com.au

Workshop Co-ordinator

Christine Wilde
6231 9922
cm.wilde@bigpond.net.au

Committee Members

Reta Gear

6231 4209
reta.gear1@bigpond.com

Karen Woodhall

6292 5853
karen.woodhall@practicalpc.com.au

Cover: some of the Freehand Roman and Copperplate writings that have been produced recently by members in workshops.

If you would like to receive this newsletter in PDF format and are not yet doing so, please email James Hislop, and let him know at jameshislop@ieee.org

President's Report

Dear Calligraphers,

August is rolling on already and that means that it is the time for our Annual General Meeting. We will be meeting at **1pm on Sunday August 22nd** to have lunch together at Urambi Village Hall, and then have the business meeting and elections. I am already scouring my photo collection to put together a visual presentation of our year. After the formal part of the day we will enjoy a new sort of workshop - one where we make book sculptures. This is a fascinating thing to create and gives you plenty of time to chat to those around you.



We have had another busy time with the Society in the last couple of months. Part of this has been in arranging to have a viewing of some of the medieval manuscripts that are held in the National Library. We are very fortunate to be in the national capital where there is so much for us to enjoy. Of course we can go and ask to see these treasures as individuals, but there is something special about going with other people who share your passion and understanding of these manuscripts. Only ten people can go at once, so if there is a great response, then we will arrange a second visit. At the moment we are looking at lunchtime on Monday September 6th.

You will see the reports on other pages about our recent workshops. We had a fascinating time with Elizabeth Delaney at our June workshop when we attempted to design our own letters that interacted with those around them. Have a look at what we produced! Thanks Elizabeth for your first workshop for us - I am sure it won't be the last! I had fun at the July workshop watching as people tried to follow what I was on about when doing Freehand Roman. Some magnificent monogram patterns were achieved that day too.

On Saturday September 4th we are going on another sort of excursion, this time further afield than usual. We are running a stall at the **St Clements Spring Festival of the Arts** in Galong. If you are in the Yass district, do come and check us out. We will be demonstrating and teaching calligraphy as well as selling work and making badges for people. It should be fun!

Don't forget to think of people to nominate for positions on our committee for the coming year. I want to thank all the present committee for all the hard, and sometimes tedious, work they have put in for our Society this year. We have had some great workshops and the trend will continue into the future as there are already some great times in the pipeline for next year.

Keep the ink wet on your pen,

Jill

The CCS welcomes its newest member,
Sara Pozgay.

<i>On other pages</i>	
Interactive letters	4—5
Freehand Roman	6—7
Sturt Winter School	8—9
Library News	11
Back Page	12



Eckersley's **BRADDON** store offers a 10% discount to members of CCS on presentation of your current membership card.
42 Mort Street, Braddon

Phone: (02) 6257 1711 www.eckersleys.com.au

Interactive Letters

The workshop of 27th June, “Interactive Letters”, was presented by our own society member Elizabeth Delaney. Elizabeth had previously attended workshops given by the Canadian artist and calligrapher Roberta Huebener, and wished to share with us the beautiful letters in her “Sator Square” example.

A “Sator Square” consists of five Latin words which can be read from top to bottom, bottom to top, right to left, and left to right (a palindrome, in other words)



The earliest known appearance of the square was its discovery in the ruins of Pompeii, which was buried in the ash of Vesuvius, in 79 AD.

Roberta’s example provided us with the letters A, E, O, P, R, S, N and T. We were instructed by Elizabeth on how to form these attractive

contemporary letters, using a grid which she provided.

We examined the letters to find the source of their “energy” and concluded that it was mostly due to the split stem, and extending texture lines. We also noticed that the stems were slightly wider at the top, and that the S has beautiful teardrop-shaped negative spaces.

The body of each letter is designed to fit snugly into a square, but the texture lines

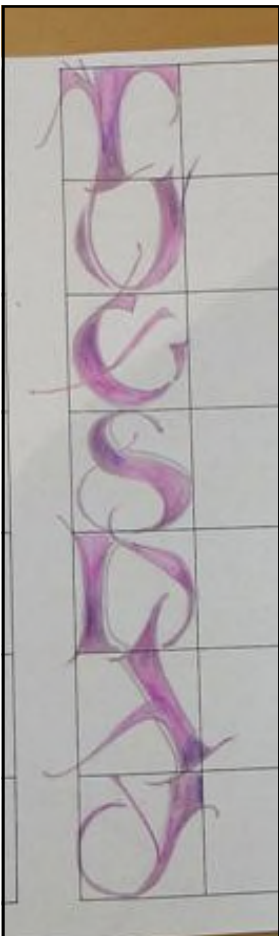


bounce out into neighbouring blocks. The modern look of the letters is achieved by using a wedge, or half-teardrop shape to form the rounded sides of the O which creates a narrow oval centre. This shape also appears in the E. We were encouraged to start making our own letters, to fill in the rest of the alphabet. B and K were based on the R. The letters C, D, G and Q were based on the O. We used the T to create our F, H, I, J and L.

Elizabeth suggested that we look at Versals to find forms for the remaining letters M, U, V, W, X, Y and Z.



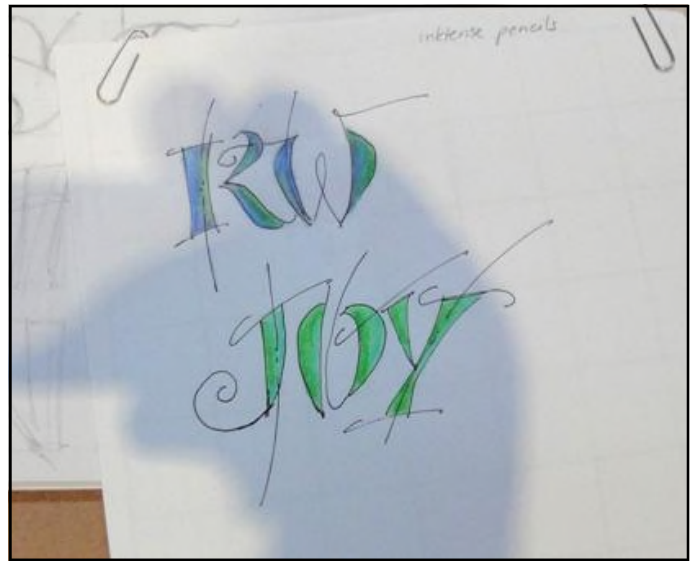
May I suggest using “Lombardic Capitals” (or Initials) – as they have an oval shape that lends itself to the “wedges”, and also have a stem constructed from two opposing concave strokes.



After tea we had a go at using our new letters to write a word on our grid, attempting to place them in such a way as to allow them to interact with conjoining serifs, and extended texture lines. If time allowed, the next task was to add some colour and shading. We were all reluctant to stop working at packing-up time, and I'm sure that many of us will continue to develop this lovely script further.

Thank you Elizabeth, for a truly inspiring workshop, and for sharing Roberta Huebeners' “Sator Square” with us.

For a translation of the Latin words, Google

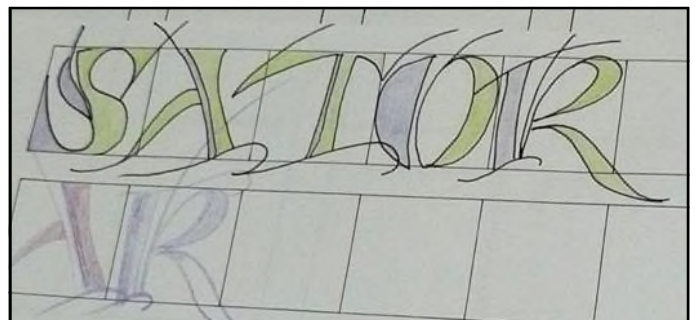


“Sator Square”.

Further information on Roberta Huebener can be found on the web at <http://www.convergenceart.com/Roberta%20Huebener.htm>

To find Lombardic Capitals, see “The Calligrapher’s Bible” by David Harris. Or Lombardic Initials; “Creative Calligraphy” by Malcolm Couch.

Karen Woodhall



FREEHAND ROMAN

FREEHAND ROMAN WORKSHOP

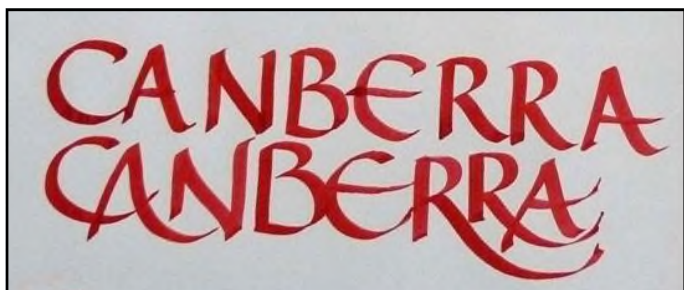
with Jill Robertson

25 July 2010

An enthusiastic group gathered to see what Jill had in store for us. We were certainly not disappointed. We started with a warm-up of quickly drawn capitals right handed, left handed THEN backwards — which Jill recited for us — very impressive.

Our exemplar for a Freehand Roman was based on the letter proportions for formal Roman Capitals. Our project today was to understand these proportions and then look at ways to create an interesting informal version.

Firstly determine which part of a letter could be naturally extended to join to the next letter; e.g. centre strokes, extensions on down strokes or upstrokes, foot of the K and L, the tail of Q. This is where the experimentation comes in. Look at spacing within the words and between words. Create a rhythm; movement up and down gives life to a piece. Play and experiment until you are happy with the result. You will find there are endless possibilities and be aware that not all letters can be extended.



Some letters can be combined with a single stem. This led us on to Monograms and Ciphers.

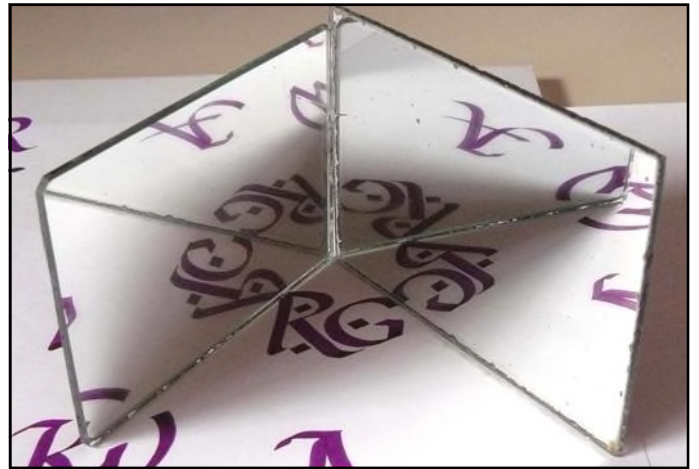
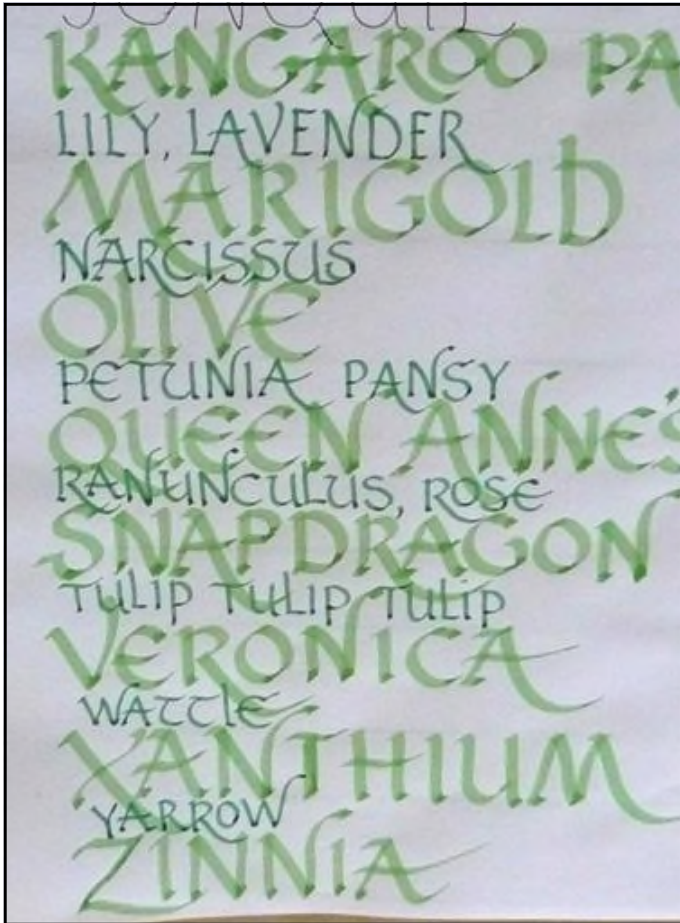


A monogram has 2 letters that share a combined stroke and a cipher has 2 independent letters. Jill had asked us to bring along small mirrors. I for one had no idea what they would be used for. If you hinge together 2 rectangular mirrors and then place them around your monogram or cipher the image will show you how it would look as repetitions around a circle. How amazing and how marvelous to see an immediate result. So in the short time left we worked on our monograms/ciphers. Jill provided us with a backing sheet with the possibilities of 5, 6 or 8 divisions. Again a lot of possibilities and an excellent basis to continue at home and fine tune. Anyone who completes their monogram/cipher please bring it along for show and tell at the AGM.

Thanks Jill for a great workshop. The ideas you have provided us with are greatly appreciated.

I must not forget Reta's scrumptious apple slice for afternoon tea. Perhaps she will provide us with the recipe.

Pam Kemp



STURT WINTER SCHOOL

4-9 JULY

Tutor - Gemma Black

Twelve ladies attended this workshop for 4½ days intensive tuition. The Winter School is relatively new and has about 100 students, but the Summer School, which has been going for many years, has about 250. I liked the quieter Winter School. It was very cold in Mittagong but our single rooms were heated as was the classroom. All meals (cafeteria style) were provided to 'boarders' and were very good. Many people lived locally or stayed in hotels and arranged to have lunch only. Sturt Winter School is held adjacent to Frensham School where we had classes, ate and slept.

Gemma focused on three hands using pointed pens. She prefers the conventional pointed nib to the winged nib or winged penholder. We were given pages of verse from the net to select some lines. The Friends of Sturt had a jumble sale and we individually bought all their paper products, some of which were used at the workshop, particularly the long dark brown perfectly cut strips of textured card.

We spent some time on conventional sloped copperplate, then moved to drawing large

words in pencil and filling them in with pencil or colour. The second hand was interesting to do as it was copperplate written vertically without any slant at all – very attractive and less formal than the sloped hand and could have many uses. The third



hand we were introduced to was named "Contemporary Kecsigs" after its designer Mike Kecsigs. The 'O' and related letters are slanted as in conventional copperplate, but the downstrokes are vertical. You write with your pen coming in to your chest and the paper at a steep angle, even for the downstrokes, and most letters have serifs. It is unusual and a bit hard to read and write at first, but after struggling with it for a while, we quite liked it.



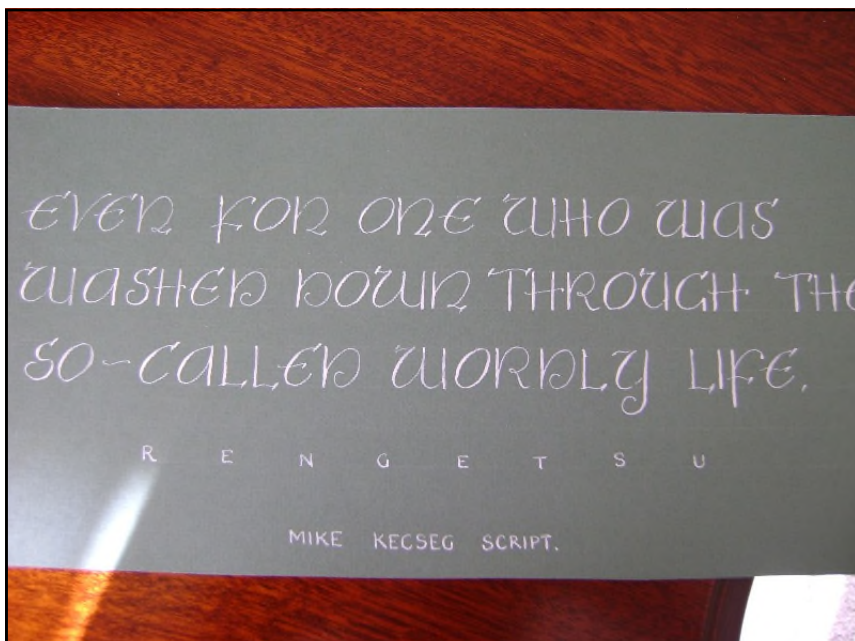
A diversion was to mix a very old and mouldy packet of 1940/1950s powdered school ink in water. Gemma halved the quantity of water when she mixed it in a large glass jug and it was then decanted into our containers. It looked a bit turquoise but even at double strength it was too weak.

We made small simple folded books using linen thread and our long thin brown strips folded into various configurations. We made covers using gold or silver leaf and were shown simple embossing, cutting the shapes out of plastic milk bottles.

Gemma was an enthusiastic and generous teacher and we all enjoyed the week.

At the end of the Winter School all classes exhibited their work in their rooms and a few hours were allocated for everyone to wander around and see what the knitters, jewellers, painters, potters, weavers etc had created. The display was very impressive.

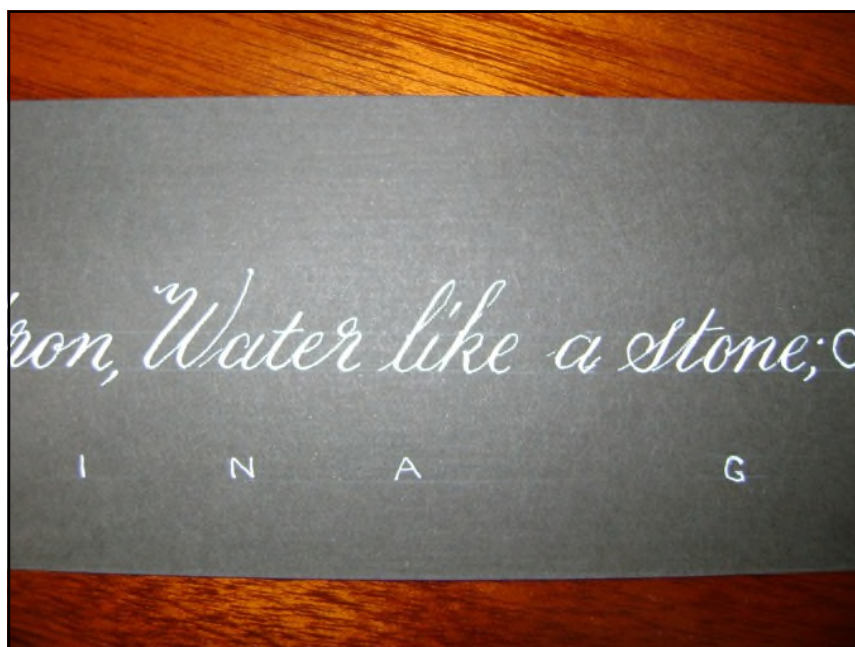
Sturt is an internationally recognised centre and invites top craftspeople to be residents and run courses. There are specialised woodwork, pottery, weaving and jewellery departments as well as year-round weekend workshops of general interest. The Gallery and Shop are of the highest standard and it's all so close to Canberra. Refer www.sturt.nsw.edu.au, tel. 4860 2083.



Joan Adler.



Images provided by Ann Streeter and Joan Adler.



Galong Spring Festival

The society will be making an appearance at the Galong Spring Festival on Saturday 4th September this year. We will be doing demonstrations and displaying our work, fairly similar to what we normally do at the Canberra Show in February. If you have any pieces for sale, you are welcome to take these and put them up for sale. St. Clements will not be taking any commission. The theme for the fair is 'Oranges and Lemons.'



Spring Festival
of the Arts

Saturday
4 September 2010
Commencing 10am



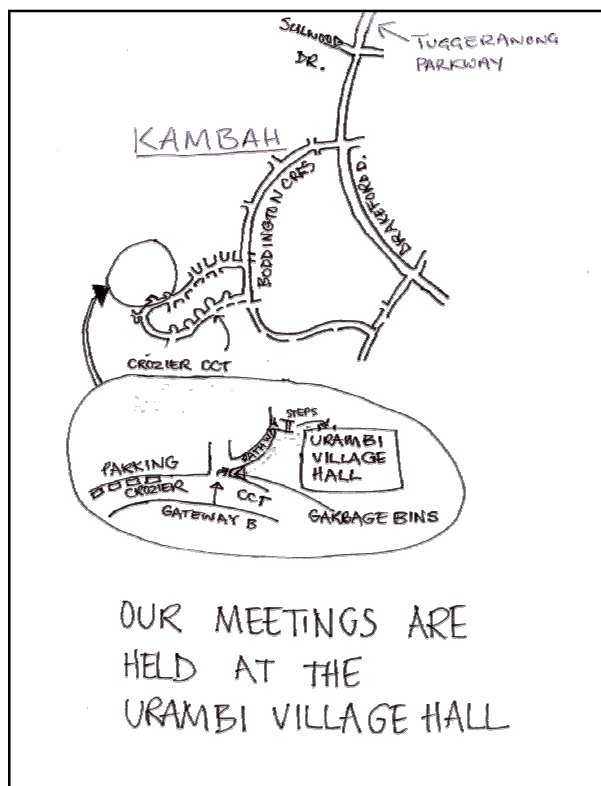
ST CLEMENT'S
RETREAT & CONFERENCE CENTRE
GALONG NSW

Equipment for *Bookmaking* workshop

22nd August

Please bring

- pencil
- strong bladed knife (a scalpel may be too weak)
- steel ruler max 30 cm
- small cutting mat
- bone folder if you have one
- a new government



Equipment for *Spencerian* workshop

26th September

Please bring

- usual calligraphy equipment including copperplate nibs and layout paper
- A4 piece of hot pressed water colour paper
- a short verse

News from the Library

NEWS FROM OTHER CALLIGRAPHIC SOCIETIES

THE EDGE — CLAS



This edition is solely dedicated to the International Research Centre for Calligraphy at the University of Sunderland. The aim of the centre is to promote in depth research in calligraphy, particularly within an educational and academic context.

There are some lovely examples of student's work which demonstrate the concepts and ideas behind the centre.

CAPITAL LETTERS

Calligraphy Society of Ottawa

Capital Letters features some interesting exhibits from their Annual Exhibition and Gallery - worth having a look for interest and inspiration. The society has made a decision to feature an artist in each edition. This time it is Bev Gerschkovitch who is one of this society's inaugural members. The society intends to feature one or more member's work in each publication.

<http://cso.ncf.ca>

SCRIBES SA

Calligraphy Society of SA

Has a fascinating article on perspectives on Eastern Calligraphy. The SA society's exhibition is also featured in the magazine.

CALLIGRAPHY OF KAPITI

Attention beginners! Great article for beginner

calligraphers – Back to Basics Beginners Corner. This is to be a regular column covering the basics of calligraphy.

COLOPHON

Australian Society of Calligraphers.

Features the calligraphic works on display at the Royal Easter Show from the novice class right through to 'off the wall' as well as an interesting article on blogging and its role in communicating with other calligraphers.



INKSPIRATION

Calligraphy Southscribes.

Some lovely examples from a workshop entitled 'Backgrounds and Layering'.

POSTSCRIPT

Calligraphy Society of Victoria

I particularly liked Margaret Morgan's 'Te Deum' which was an exercise in using a restricted palette and explores the use of positive and negative letter shapes. This particular piece was chosen for the Berlin International Calligraphy archive.

<http://www.calligraphysocietyvictoria.org.au>

OXFORD SCRIBES

Anyone interested in lettering on glass should take a look at this latest edition of the Oxford Scribes.

BACK PAGE



NATIONAL
LIBRARY
OF AUSTRALIA

The Society will be conducting an outing to the National Library on Monday 6th September to view a collection of their manuscripts. We will meet at the entrance to the library at 11:55. Numbers are limited to just ten people. Bookings to Christine Wilde.

If you don't make it to this visit, we will arrange more visits later or you can arrange your own visit to the National Library at any time. Just call the library, ask them to see a manuscript and they will have it waiting for you. Alternatively, you can give them a request of what you would like to see. Viewing times are at 9:30 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. each day.

STOP PRESS — SPORTS NEWS



Proving that calligraphers have a life outside of their nibs and ink, Ann Streeter will be representing the ACT in lawn bowls at Tweed Heads.

Good luck,
Ann.



Annual General Meeting

The annual general Meeting of the society will be held on Sunday 22nd August, the day after the federal election. At the AGM all positions are declared vacant, but like George Orwell, some are more vacant than others.

New office bearers are needed to fill the vacancies. So please get behind the society and support it. It's your society.

Lunch will be provided by the committee, starting at 1:00 p.m. Following the formal business, we will have a quick workshop making book sculptures. All of the books will be provided. You just need to bring the materials listed on page 10.

James.



Some book sculptures to whet your appetite for the workshop after the AGM.