

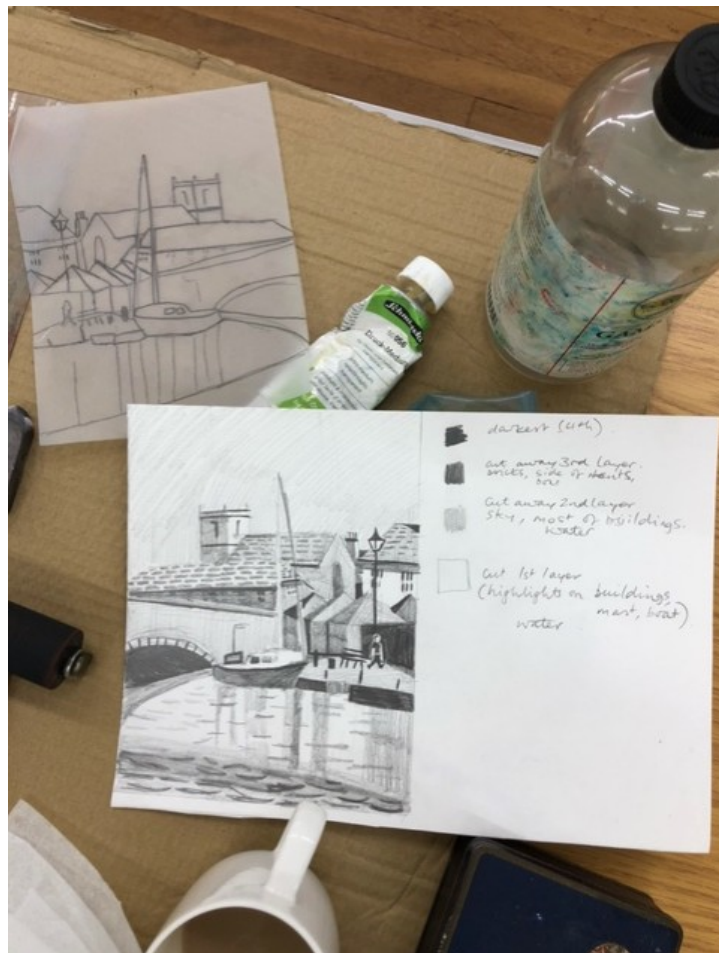
LISA TAKAHASHI – LINOCUT PRINTING

Lisa gave us a most entertaining evening as she demonstrated her lino cutting techniques as we sat around her table.



She is a most accomplished artist from Taunton who has exhibited at the RA Summer Exhibition amongst others. She clearly explained the difference between single 'Reduction' lino prints as she demonstrated and multi blocks which give you the advantage of overlapping colours to create additional tones/colours.

She produced a sketch of Wareham, in tones drawn to show 4 'layers of intensity'. This she traced and flipped to create a reversed picture on the lino.



Her lino was Battleship Grey and biodegradable, made of linseed oil and wood shavings on a hessian backing. At home she uses a Victorian cast iron proofing press, but on the small scale she uses a baren (Japanese compressed pad covered in a bamboo leaf) very smooth for rubbing the back of the paper with less burnishing pressure, giving you texture control. Her tools are resharpenable Swiss Stainless steel with mushroom wooden handles - 5 tools only of varying thicknesses and flatness. You have to be aware of thinking negatively, counterintuitive, making constant decisions about what to keep and what to cut away for each colour. Work from light areas to dark. She constantly says, "this is going to stay the colour I have printed it, so it is going to have to go".

It is a very structured process where you make most decisions at the outset. The first layer is to cut away the white areas and print in pale blue onto Husho vegetable based paper. She mixed her inks on an acrylic sheet, oil paints plus a linseed print making base to give it tackiness.

Once mixed, she rolls onto the Lino delicately to avoid 'chatter' (unwanted blobs) in some areas. The cleaner she uses is Gamsol which is non toxic. Cut away 2nd time to cut away the areas you want to keep blue.



To maintain registration of colours she employs x2 tabs with holes on the top which locate onto Ternes Burton pins.



Second print



Final cut

