

BOTANICAL PRINTING WORKSHOP REPORT
SUPPORTED BY ABPCC AND FRED. OLSENS RENEWABLES
11TH AUGUST 2024



Betty Snow and Erika Allerstorfer kindly came to share their expertise in and enthusiasm for Botanical Printing with 4 residents from the ABPCC catchment.

Botanical printing is a natural dyeing technique that uses leaves, flowers, and other plant materials to create patterns and colours on fabric or paper.

The whole day was wonderful, including the weather – allowing us to work inside and out. We foraged for leaves then set to work.



Betty had prepared hand-outs and had organised the day to perfection. In the morning we learned how to print on paper (50% cotton rag)



We laid out the leaves on the wet paper. Then covered the sheet with an 'iron blanket'. The sheet and blanket were tightly rolled, then secured with elastic bands. Then the paper is boiled for an hour in a natural dye bath. After cooling they are unrolled for the great reveal!





In the afternoon we worked on fabric – both linen and bamboo.

Both processes include using fish kettles, boiling or steaming to transfer the colour from the plant material onto either the paper or the fabric. This we did outside.





We all learned so much and thoroughly enjoyed our day together.
We are keen to do more and feel that the workshop has given us the skills and know - how to do just that.
We are very grateful to the CC and Fred. Olsens Renewables for supporting this project.
It was a great day of both learning and socialising. Four more local people now know how to do botanical printing!

