



CURATORS
DAWN COLE
JOHN McKIERNAN

ARTICLES
JOHN McKIERNAN

DESIGN
DANIEL CRAWFORD
www.typeandnumbers.com

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Welcome to issue one of the Fourth Portal newspaper, where we focus on the versatility of paper as a material, a process and a business.

The Fourth Portal is a social gathering space in Gravesend, Kent, merging work, learning, shopping and technology. Twenty years in development, it uses objects, materials, art, local history and technology to stimulate conversations and forge connections, attracting people from all generations and diverse backgrounds.

Industrial papermaking was a vital part of the Gravesend and Northfleet landscape for over 100 years. The papermaking process has hardly

changed in centuries, yet it has stimulated numerous innovations, both technological and social. Issue one highlights not only the versatility of paper but also the ingenuity of the human mind and innovation.

DAWN COLE, PRINT ARTIST-IN-RESIDENCE

The Fourth Portal print artist-in-residence, Dawn Cole, conceived and initiated the Versatility of Paper project following her in-depth research into the print and paper industry of Gravesend and Northfleet. Dawn's practice focuses on print, paper, memory and story gathering through workshops and visual art. To learn more about Dawn visit www.dawncole.co.uk

We would like to thank every artist who responded to the call-out and submitted work. The initial artist call-out for the Versatility of Paper was kindly supported by the Essex Cultural Diversity Project.

The Fourth Portal would like to acknowledge the ongoing support of Gravesham Borough Council and thank the officers and those elected for the warm welcome to this incredible town.

And finally — but not least — a huge thank you to the residents of Gravesend who have supported and advocated for the Fourth Portal since day one. We would not be doing this without you. Cheers!

