

A TOUCH OF GLASS

Newsletter of the Creative Glass Guild of Queensland September 2022 Edition

What's new from the President

Hi everyone,

First of all, thank you for your patience while our Red Hill premises are undergoing renovations.

I trust you are all keeping up your glass skills in anticipation of the Council's hand-over of our premises back to us, currently scheduled for sometime in October.

Christmas Gala Day

We are organising a Christmas Gala Day in lieu of our Exhibition and Christmas party, as well as celebrating the reopening of the Guild after our renovations.

Our Gala Day will be held at the Guild on Saturday 3rd December from 8.00am to 2.00pm. The day starts with a Christmas breakfast and catch up for Guild members from 8.00am, followed by an open day for the public from 9.00am.

Call for volunteers

We will be seeking volunteers to help with preparations and assist with activities on the day, when we plan to conduct tours of the new facility, demonstrations of our craft, sales of our art, class bookings etc. More on that coming very soon.

Members are invited to book a table to sell their glass art. This should prove to be a good time to prepare Christmas gifts and decorations.

Please email info@creativeglassguild.com.au to reserve your space.



A whale watching boat by Deb Gallon will be part of our Stage 2 splashback

- Please note that members selling will need to set up, man and pack up their own space/table. Perhaps you could join together as a group of two or three and share in the fun.

- The Guild will not be taking commission on sales.

It is hoped that spaces can be made available within the airconditioned Guild, but spaces will be filled in order of response. We expect to have one or two shade tents outside as well.

Splashback Stage 2

Thanks to everyone who worked on Stage 1 of our Splashback project. We are looking forward to installing it as soon as we are back at Fulcher Road, so everyone can enjoy it.

The design for Stage 2 and Stage 3 is now done and we will be seeking volunteers to start making the various fused pieces for Stage 2 soon.

A start date is dependent on the Guild being ready for use.

It is hoped Stage 2 will be completed by the end of 2023 and Stage 3 by the end of 2024. We will be using a combination of mosaics, lampwork, fusing and painted pieces.

The Aussie beach theme is being carried on through the next stages with a headland complete with lighthouse, kids playground, picnic areas, cliffs, hang gliders, helicopter, Moreton Bay pine trees, Kombis, fisherman, 4WD with camper trailer, beach buggy, rock pool, surfers, whale, dolphins, whale watching boat, mermaid, and so much more. There's even a Mr Whippy van.

It will be wonderful to get back into our glass activities at Red Hill after what seems to be a very long break.

I look forward to catching up with you all.

Best wishes, Chris

Mosaic scarf sends message of hope and support

Mosaicists from the Creative Glass Guild have contributed 34 beautiful pieces to the 'Hanging by a Thread: Mosaics for Afghan Women' scarf project.

Guild mosaics tutor, Catherine Conaty, helped to coordinate the Queensland contribution comprising 91 scarf pieces, which are on display in the Brisbane Square Library during September and October.

Traditional costume

In her address at the launch of the project, Catherine explained that the glass mosaic artwork was a celebration of colour, texture and intricate patterns, honouring the traditional costume of Afghan women. But while the artwork made a wonderful display, the intention and meaning behind this piece was so much more.

Afghan culture

The creation of scarf pieces represents the resilience of Afghan culture beyond its own borders and serves as a reminder that our own freedoms are 'hanging by a thread' and can change in a moment.

The response to this project has been astonishing with the creation of over 1200 scarf pieces from artists in 47 countries around the world.

The completed scarfs are going on display in galleries, museums and libraries to



Mosaics tutor, Catherine Conaty, stands by the giant mosaic scarf which comprises 91 separate pieces produced by Queensland mosaicists, each reflecting the traditional costumes of Afghan women.

highlight the plight of Afghan women, and to show a message of solidarity and support.

The concept for the project, backed by the United Nations International Year of Glass 2022, was for artists from around the world to contribute a glass mosaic scarf piece 10cm x 25cm using traditional designs as inspiration.

One third Australian

What is amazing is that around one third of participants from around the world are from Australia. Under the co-ordination of the Mosaic Association of Australia and New Zealand, scarves have been created in Qld, NSW, Western Australia, Tasmania, Victoria, South Australia and New Zealand, many of which also launched

the project on the International Day of Peace.

It is hoped that all the scarves from Australia will go on display together in Canberra for next year's International Day of Peace. Joined together, they will be 18 metres long!

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www.creativeglassguild.com.au

Workshop/Sales:
Saturdays, 9.00am-12.00pm

General meetings: Bi-monthly on first Monday of the month at 7.00 pm
(Notice will be emailed to members).

Management Meetings: Alternate months or earlier if required



Reno update

It's all hastening slowly for our Guild renovations. As the photo shows, the frames for our new front and sides stairs are installed, but no treads yet.

The painting is almost completed, and concrete pouring for our new paths and driveway should be happening this week.

We are also planning a storage garage in the backyard to house our display materials etc. We are hopeful of being into our renovated premises in October, so fingers crossed!

Romans lead the way with windows

The Romans were the first to use a primitive form of glass in windows.

Made from blown glass jars flattened into small crude sheets, early window glass was dark in colour with visible bubbles, ripples, imperfections and uneven thickness.

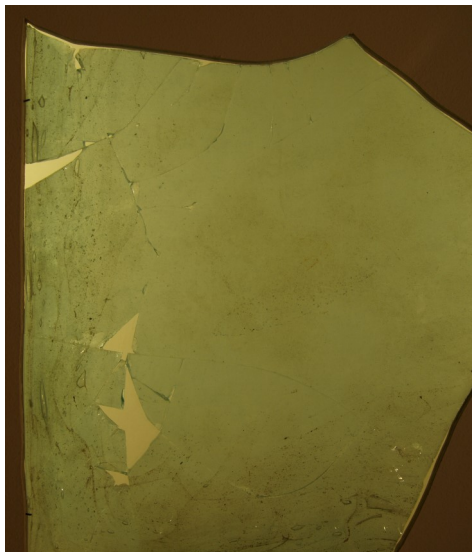
Views obscured

While some daylight entered the building, views of the outside through the glass were obscure and distorted. Using glass in windows gradually spread northward through Europe. In turn, wealthy classes were early adopters of the new, expensive material, and demand

created a need for a better quality product in larger sizes.

In the 7th century, Syrians developed the "crown" method for forming flat glass, whereby the molten glass was taken in lump form and spun on a cylindrical disc to flatten the glass. Interestingly, this method remained the most common way to produce flat glass for the next 1000 years.

Pictured below left is antique Roman glass found in a Roman castle in Straubing, Bavaria, Germany, dated to approx. 1st to 4th century AD.



Diary Dates

- Sat 3rd December is the date set for a Christmas Gala Day at the Guild to celebrate our reopening, the completion of our renovation project, have a social catch up for Christmas, display your projects, hold a market to buy/sell your glass creations, award our lifetime members for hanging out with us for the past 10 years, and to eat cake! Bring your friends and family - everyone is welcome.
- Our 2023 Exhibition - Mt Coot-tha auditorium has been booked for 6th to 8th October 2023 for our *Glass at the Gardens* Show & Sale.
- Next General Meeting is scheduled for Monday 7th November at 7pm on Zoom.

festival of glass

After a couple of years of COVID-related cancellations and postponements, the annual Festival of Glass held in Drysdale on Victoria's Bellarine Peninsula is back.

Held in September this year, the Festival again promoted all forms of glass art across the full spectrum of hot and cold glass techniques, including flamework, studio/furnace glass, kiln formed glass, etching, stained glass, leadlight, mosaics and beadwork.

Initiated in 2011, the annual Festival of Glass has grown from a one-day event at one venue to a series of events at venues across the North Bellarine, and it remains the only event of its kind in Australia.

This year, the Festival of Glass included a variety of events to promote and celebrate glass art, including an Expo featuring the work of forty plus artists, demonstrations and workshops by local and interna-



tional glass artists, awards promoting excellence, exposure and peer recognition, a Treasure Hunt with prizes commissioned from glass artists, public glass art installations, and professional development and mentorship programs.

If you didn't manage to get there this year, why not put it in your diary for a visit in September 2023.

Pictured above and below: Members of Victorian glass and beadmakers' clubs demonstrate their skills and creations at the 2022 Drysdale Festival of Glass held in September.





Around the Guild

We may be in renovation recess, but things are still happening at home. Pictured (clockwise from top left) are some interesting activities by a variety of Guild members:

1. Catherine Conaty's picture-perfect self portrait entitled 'Tools of the Trade' won second prize in the Creative Glass Art category at the Brisbane Royal National Show (the Ekka). Congratulations Catherine!
2. Katrina's colourful mosaic stepping stones are finally installed in her garden.
3. Lyndall's exotic shardy fish is comprised of two cent coins (for scales), glass shards and smalti.
4. Who loves grouting? Judy was part of the CGG team who contributed to the giant 'Hanging by a Thread' mosaic scarf project supporting Afghan women.

