



A TOUCH OF GLASS

Newsletter of the Creative Glass Guild of Queensland December 2024 Edition

'Tis the season to be glassy



2024, WOW, what a year.

As we draw towards the end of 2024, I want to sincerely thank all members who have put in so much effort to maintain and improve the Guild over the last twelve months. Without you, we would not exist.

Great achievements

We have achieved some great things this year. From the updated Constitution to a most successful Showcase, we have been like a duck swimming on a lake; calm and composed on top while paddling like mad below.

Our achievements go out and beyond the Showcase as our main event though. Our contribution to MAANZ with our members' rondels, that will be dis-

Guild President Scott McGeoch gives his end-of-year wrap-up

played forevermore in South Australia, is commendable.

We continue to engage with external artistic organisations, looking for opportunities to promote our interests and display our fine work.

Bespoke courses

We will seek opportunities to engage external tutors to run bespoke courses of interest to us, such as the Pal Tiya course arranged by Lyndall and Deb.

Above: This amazing gingerbread house was the centre-piece of our 2024 Showcase Christmas display. It was crafted with love and skill by the Guild's leadlighting and copper-foiling tutor, Jenny Keys..

We have established the beading room, made the sandblaster operational, and we have remained committed to making small improvements to the facility for all to benefit.

Regretfully, we say goodbye to some of our expert tutelage. Although Catherine Conaty and Kym Braithwaite are still with us, they have wound back their availability to run classes.

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President's Wrap-up

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I want to personally thank Catherine and Kym for their years of mentorship, hard work and dedication that they have devoted to our niche organization.

It would be an apt time for all of us to look back at ourselves and our own achievements as well.

Exquisite creations

Look at the exquisite art that you have created, and be proud of it. You have brought a little more beauty to the world. Enjoy your creations. Absorb the pleasure that they bring.

This year saw us develop a habitual relationship with Axxess Glass to ensure we maintain our ability to supply product to members. They are a fantastic team and, in addition to regular consumables, are most happy to go out of their way to order in and supply us with product that is difficult to obtain within Australia. A win for all.

There are changes afoot in the glass industry within Brisbane. Albion Glass is shutting up shop

in the new year, there is an unknown future for Hartley Williams, and Donna Cains (Cains Cottage) has now hung up the gloves and will no longer be offering courses which she has run out of Hartley Williams and her home for the last 28 years. Donna is keen to become a member of the Guild and I look forward to bringing her on board.

Next year, we hope that our continual improvements will gain further traction to make the Guild an even more enjoyable place to meet and practice our glass skills, where we can make superb art for private or public display.

New ordering system

A new (reinvented) ordering system hosted on the computer upstairs allows you to place an order for specific items, whether it be from a unique copper-foiler to a specific sheet of glass. If you find that stocks are depleted or running low, add them onto the list so that we can get them ordered in promptly.

Finally, I want to wish you all a Merry Christmas and a happy

2025 to come. Stay safe and I hope to see you all next year in good health and high spirits. Again, thanks to all for your contributions, no matter how big or small.

Scott McGeoch
President

Chihuly blooms

Don't forget to include South Australia in your future travel plans, with Dale Chihuly's *Garden Cycle Exhibition* up and running with its Australian debut, exclusive to Adelaide Botanic Gardens. This Exhibition of vibrant, large-scale glass artworks runs from 27 September 2024 to 29 April 2025.



Date Claimer

Christmas Closure: Sunday 22nd December to Sunday 12th January

Guild Stocktake: Saturday 4th January 2025

Next General Meeting: Monday 3rd February 2025
(7.00pm Mondays on Zoom)

AGM: Monday 3rd March 2025
(7.00pm on Zoom)

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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

Showcase 2024—a success story

Another successful Showcase was organised in November, a little later in the year than usual, but timely to benefit from Christmas shopping.

This was reflected in near-record sales of 990 items produced by Guild members. Over the weekend, we welcomed 680 visitors through the doors at Mt Coot-tha, 50 fewer than last year, but we nevertheless sold 400 more items than in 2023.

All up, we collected \$26,600 in takings, as well as taking in \$8,000 for course bookings over the three weeks after the event. The Showcase was never designed to be a big money-spinner for the Guild, as our profit after outgoings was around \$2,000.

We had higher expenses this year due to the construction of a number of new display stands, courtesy of member Ken Ede.

All in all, the Showcase was judged to be an excellent promotional activity to take the Guild's name, products and reputation to the wider community.



Wrap Up Creative Glass Guild Showcase 2021

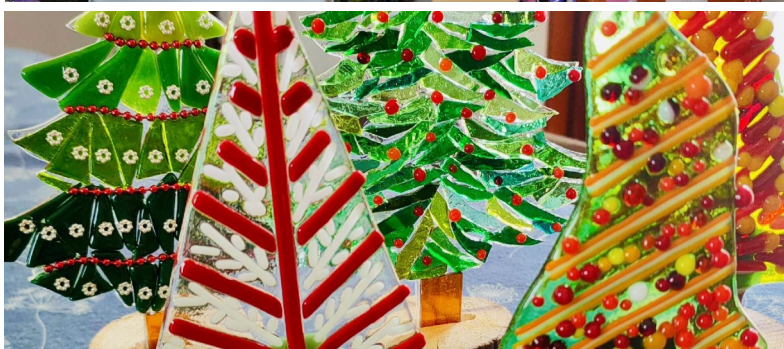


Pictured are some of our enthusiastic volunteers welcoming the crowds of visitors who admired members' creative efforts. It is gratifying to see how our volunteers come together for the occasion to create this important event. Special thanks to Sally Jelbert for photos and promotional activities, resulting in 4,000 Instagram views.

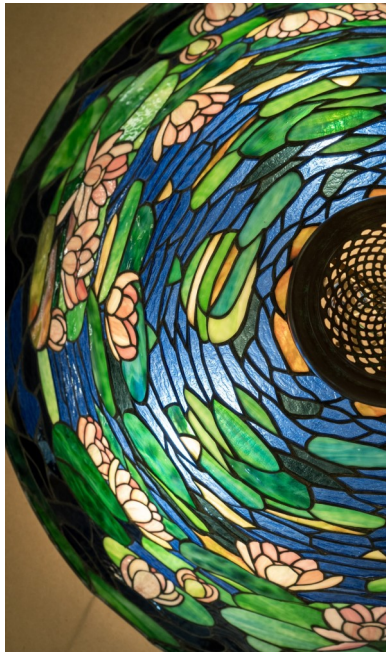




Despite lots of hard work and wet weather, our volunteers managed to put on a happy face to meet and greet our Showcase visitors over the weekend.



And here's more Showcase activity...



Oh, come all ye Christmas tree foilers

A group of copperfoil enthusiasts gathered together again this year to produce some glassy gift ideas.

Under the direction of tutor Jenny Keys, participants in the Copperfoiled Christmas Tree Workshop created self-standing Christmas tree table decorations—and had heaps of fun along the way.

What a great Christmas gift for family and friends!



Beads made in Japan

Japanese art is renowned for its simplicity, profound grace and is unbounded by convention. These elements are central to the

beadmaking techniques of Japanese glass artist, Daisuke Takeuchi, who runs three day workshops in Japan, combining lampwork with mosaic techniques. Illustrated are 'dragonfly balls' produced using these unique and beautiful applications.





*Wishing all our
members, friends and
Guild family a very
merry Christmas and
a safe and enjoyable
2025.*