

The Stained Glass Museum



Newsletter

Spring 2017

THE STAINED GLASS MUSEUM

Registered Charity: 1169842

Accredited Museum: 574

PATRON

HRH The Prince of Wales

TRUSTEES

Chairman: Dr Jeffrey West

Trustees: Sarah Brown

Anna Eavis

Martin Harrison

Prof. Jean Michel Massing

Dr Richard Shepard

**Keep up-to-date with news
from The Stained Glass Museum**

Visit our website: www.stainedglassmuseum.com



Follow us on Twitter [@stainedglassmus](https://twitter.com/stainedglassmus)



Like [The Stained Glass Museum](https://www.facebook.com/stainedglassmuseum) on Facebook

Looking ahead

Welcome to our first newsletter of 2017 and also the first newsletter of The Stained Glass Museum as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (registered charity: 1169842). Established in October 2016, the CIO is the successor organisation to The Stained Glass Museum Trust, which will be closed by Trustees later this year. These governance changes have provided an updated constitution and organisational structure which we hope will stand the museum in good stead for the future.

Over the last few months, with the encouragement of our new Learning Officer, our small team of staff have also been continuing to think creatively about diversifying audiences, enhancing our engagement with visitors and developing learning opportunities at the museum, for both schools and families. Several thousand copies of the museum's new gallery guide, [The Stained Glass Museum: Highlights from the Collection](#), published by SCALA also arrived at the museum shop. This guide features high-quality colour photographs and a carefully-chosen selection of windows both currently on display and from the reserve collection.

As usual this newsletter brings reports of recent activities and important information about upcoming events. As well as our Study Weekend in Wales, 21-23 April 2017, we have a number of upcoming events and lectures. As part of Ely Cathedral Science Festival arranged a [lecture on Stained Glass and Science](#) to be delivered by Dr David Dungworth on 20 May. We have also arranged an [exclusive visit](#) to St George's Chapel, Windsor Castle and Eton College for Friends on 17 July 2017, so please don't miss out and book ahead!



Curator, The Stained Glass Museum

Collections

Recent Acquisitions

Two Minstrels, 1880s

Designed by William Morris, and made in the studio of Morris & Co.

Stained glass panel in an iron frame, 755 x 843mm.

Bequeathed by Eila Grahame with Art Fund Support

ELYGM: 2016.14



A stained glass panel depicting two minstrel musicians, designed by William Morris and made in the studio of Morris & Co., probably 1870s-80s. This panel was acquired by the Museum through the Art Fund bequests committee. The panel has a number of unsightly lead repairs, and is currently at York Glaziers Trust for conservation work.

Image of Justice, 1890s

Designed by J.W. Lisle and made in the studio of C.E. Kempe & Co.

Stained glass panel set in plain glazed wooden frame, 340 x 391mm

Donated by The Kempe Trust

ELYGM:2016.15



A stained glass panel depicting an Image of Justice, dating to the 1890s, given by The Kempe Trust.

We are grateful to Adrian Barlow and the Kempe Trust for donating this panel depicting the blindfolded Virtue of Justice, holding a sword and a set of scales.

It is a fairly small panel, very delicately painted and enlivened by silver stain. There are a few lead repairs to the panel.

Both these panels have significantly augmented our late nineteenth-century collection. Although works by both Morris & Co. and Kempe can already be seen in the Museum gallery, the Morris & Co. musician angels and Kempe portrait of the Duke of Clarence are on loan to the Museum. The addition of these panels has therefore strengthened the representation of these well-known and celebrated studios in our permanent collection.

We hope that we will be able to put them on display later in the year.

Developing a manifesto for our museum

Our visitors 2015-16

For the eighth successive year The Stained Glass Museum received another record number of visits during 2015-16. A total of 20,987 visitors entered the Museum gallery, a 15% increase on the previous year. A further 5,022 visitors came to the Museum shop.

Following a comprehensive 'Audience Finder' survey of our visitors, we have gained more insight into our current visitors and their perceptions of the museum. At a recent Staff Away Day at the Fitzwilliam Museum in January we began to analyse this data, and think about how we might expand and diversify our audiences and improve visitor's experience of the museum and engagement with our collections.



"We believe that our museum is relevant in the 21st century because stained glass has a universal appeal through its play of light and colour"



Future Proof Museums workshop

As part of a Future Proof Museums development programme the Museum is participating in, some of our team of staff and volunteers spent an interesting and very inspiring afternoon at an interactive workshop on Thursday 9 February 2017. The workshop aimed to kick-start the writing of a Museum Manifesto, to help us better engage with our visitors and vice versa.

It started off with us using post-it notes to answer questions on the various boards placed around the room, including (amongst others) 'What makes us relevant in the 21st Century?', 'Why are visitors not customers?' and 'What do you think we can bring to those in the local community?' Each question was carefully worded and appeared to be unrelated to any of the other questions, but we later discovered that this wasn't entirely true!

When we were paired up and tasked with grouping the post-it notes into similar themes, we discovered many overlapping responses that tied in neatly. This all goes to show that our fundamental beliefs and passion for what we collectively do at the SGM, and why we exist was clear to see.

Andrew McIntyre, who brilliantly ran the workshop, commented he had rarely seen such unanimous passion from a team, it was very clear that we all care about, and are proud of, our museum. It was obvious to him that we may all have different roles to play within the organisation, but that we all want to achieve the same goals.

Our collective efforts will help to shape a manifesto for our museum, and we look forward to sharing this with all our supporters later in the year. As the saying goes: onwards and upwards!

Italia De Santis
Visitor Services Assistant

Events

Science and Stained Glass

A lecture by Dr David Dungworth (Historic England)

Saturday 20 May 2017, 7pm

South Transept, Ely Cathedral

Science and Stained Glass



Stained glass is a unique and colourful art, popular since the medieval period. But what can science tell us about the making of stained glass windows? Find out more about the ingredients used in glass manufacture, the techniques of forming, colouring and decorating stained glass.

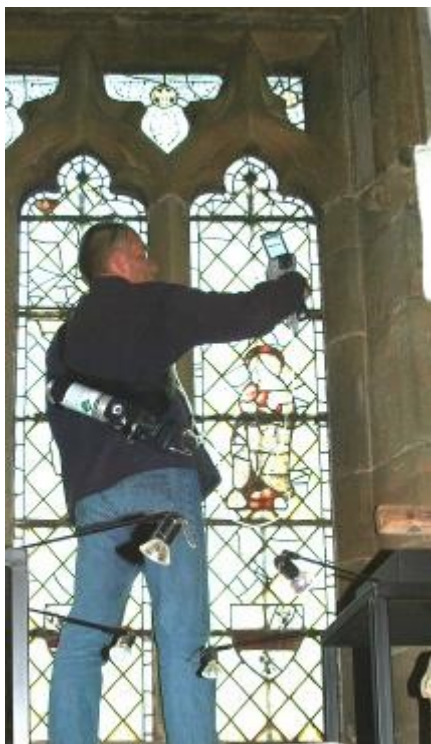
David Dungworth is a heritage scientist with Historic England. He obtained a PhD from Durham University on the use of bronze and brass during the Iron Age and Roman periods in northern Britain through chemical analysis (XRF). After working for the University of Sheffield, David began work with English Heritage in 1999. He co-directed the excavation of the 17th-century glass production site at Silkstone, South Yorkshire and has carried out the scientific investigation of glass from Silkstone and many other sites in England. David has carried out the scientific examination of hundreds of fragments of historic window glass, including stained glass from Hampshire, Yorkshire and Warwickshire.



This lecture has been organised by
The Stained Glass Museum
for [Ely Cathedral Science Festival](#),
18 May - 18 June 2017

Tickets:
£7.50 Adults
£4 Students/Children under 16

[Book tickets online](#), by phoning 01353
660347, or by post using the slip below.



SCIENCE & STAINED GLASS LECTURE BOOKING FORM 20 May 2017

Name _____ Email _____

Address _____

_____ Tel _____

I would like to book the following tickets:

_____ **Adults @ £7.50 each**

_____ **Students/Children under 16 @ £4 each**

Please find enclosed payment for _____

Please make cheques payable to 'The Stained Glass Museum'.

Royal Chapels in Windsor & Eton

Visit to St George's Chapel, Windsor and Eton College Chapel

Exclusive visit for Friends of The Stained Glass Museum

Monday 17 July 2017, 10am-4.30pm



We are delighted to have arranged an exclusive visit for Friends of The Stained Glass Museum to St George's Chapel, Windsor Castle and Eton College Chapel on Monday 17 July 2017.

Left: Window in St George's Chapel, Windsor, depicting King Edward IV and his 'White Queen', Elizabeth Woodville, both of whom are buried in the Chapel.

In the morning we will visit St George's Chapel (a Royal peculiar founded by Edward III in 1348 and chapel of the Order of the Garter) in the grounds of Windsor Castle, guided by Sarah Brown, editor of *A History of the Stained Glass of St George's Chapel, Windsor* (2006).

In the afternoon we will make the 20-25 minute walk (or short taxi ride) to Eton College, founded in 1440 by Henry VI. Here we will visit Eton College Chapel to see its outstanding and important early C16 wall-paintings, and its stunning 20th century stained glass by Evie Hone, Moira Forsyth and Piper/

Reyntiens (along with a mid-Victorian window that survived WWII bombing), guided by Jasmine Allen, Curator of the Stained Glass Museum.

Right: A sample panel by Evie Hone, for the east window of Eton College Chapel. Reproduced by permission of the Provost and Fellows of Eton College.

We will also be met by Rebeca Tessier, Collections Cataloguer and Museum Officer at Eton College, who will show us some of the College's collection.

Between the morning and afternoon guided tours, there will be some free time (for lunch and exploring Windsor Castle)



Since Eton College is a working school we will provide the College with a list of delegates' names in advance of our visit.

Please note that numbers are limited for this visit, so book early to avoid disappointment!

Cost: £50 per person (includes entrance to Windsor Castle and donation towards conservation of Eton College collections). *Please note lunch is not*

Royal Chapels in Windsor & Eton

17 July 2017, 10am-4.30pm

Bookings: Please make cheques payable to 'The Stained Glass Museum'.

Name _____ Email _____

Address _____

_____ Tel _____

I would like ____ tickets for the Royal Chapels visit on 17 May 2017

Cost: £50 per person. Please find enclosed a payment for _____

Recent Events

Autumn Lectures

Our 2016 autumn lecture series, held in September and October, included a strong set of speakers on the theme of new research into 20th century stained glass. Andrew Loutit, gave a talk on the work of Theodora Salusbury (1875-1956); Alan Brooks spoke about the many stained glass artists using the Lowndes & Drury Fulham workshop in the post-war period; and Diana Coulter spoke about stained glass artist and painter Keith New (1925-2012). The Museum also participated in the Glaziers' Art Fair, organised by the Worshipful Company of Glaziers, and held at Glaziers' Hall in London during October.

Heraldry Study Day

Museum Friend and heraldic expert, Chloë Cockerill, led a fantastic Heraldry Study Day entitled 'Mitres, Martlets and Mantling' in September 2016 with talks and a special tour of heraldry in Ely Cathedral and The Stained Glass Museum. Attended by 26 people, we were welcomed by a set of Royal beasts, and given a thorough introduction to the language of history and its use. This was followed by a talk on peerage and family arms. After lunch we enjoyed looking more closely at examples of heraldry in stained glass at The Stained Glass Museum, both on and off display. This included some recently acquired medieval shields. Finally, Chloë led a tour around Ely Cathedral to look at examples of ecclesiastical arms and heraldic devices in situ - in the stained glass, on monuments, in the tiled floors and cassocks. Thank you to Chloë for sharing her expertise and leading a really interesting day.

Heritage Weekend

Participation in national Heritage Weekend in September was again very successful, and we received 134 visits during our open evening, and the Curator conducted a fully-booked tour of the gallery.

Thanks to everyone who attended our events in 2016.



A commemorative window for Capability Brown - completion

In November of last year, together with our new Chairman, Jeffrey West, I visited Fenstanton Church Centre to celebrate the recent installation of a stained glass window made to commemorate the 300th anniversary of the birth of landscape gardener, Lancelot 'Capability' Brown (1716-83). Several rows of seats were filled with representatives from the local area, as well as national organisations. The hubbub of polite conversation, covering the usual subjects - local history - gardens - and art - was silenced when the important guests arrived, a space reserved for them at the front of the hall ...

The artists filed in... 31 in total, representing two classes of Year 2 pupils from Fenstanton & Hilton Primary School. They were here to celebrate the completion of their window, designed to commemorate Capability Brown and his transformation of the English countryside. The children designed the window following a visit to the Stained Glass Museum. With the help of their teacher, Marion Barber, they created a scene directly inspired by Capability Brown's gardens and landscaping (having also visited Wimpole Hall), which was then expertly transformed into stained glass using traditional methods by glass artist Sarah Hunt, who is also a Workshop Tutor at The Stained Glass Museum. Sarah's extraordinary rendition of the window, remains entirely faithful to the children's design, lending its unique character. The pieces of coloured fused glass in the border were made by the pupils.



Not only have these children been part of an incredibly successful project to create a vibrant, relevant and playful window for their local community, that would remain in the building for many years to come, but it was clear that they had also been on an enriching journey of creative learning, developed new skills, and formed lasting memories. More than six months after their visit to The Stained Glass Museum, the children remembered their encounter with an unusual medieval character, a monk named Theophilus, and what he had taught them about making stained glass.

It was a privilege to witness the children talking about the project, and their interactions and insights were a testimony to the hard work by many adults who had inspired and guided them. I was reminded that learning is at the heart of what we do - and that it has the potential to enrich lives.

Congratulations to all involved in this successful project, including Marion Barber and Sarah Hunt, and with special thanks to Judith Christie, a Friend of The Stained Glass Museum, and member of the Fenstanton CB300 group and Cambridgeshire Gardens Trust (CGT), who initiated the project and delivered it in conjunction with Jill Donnelly, volunteer co-ordinator for Young Art projects for Cambridgeshire NADFAS. We were delighted to play a part in this project, funded by the HLF, NADFAS at national and area level and by Huntingdon DFAS, and the parish councils of Fenstanton and Hilton.



Louise Haselgrove Learning Officer

My passion for museums stems from their limitless capacity to act as springboards for creative and playful learning. They instinctively engage our hearts and minds, and with a little imagination can also, importantly, engage our hands. Embedding this holistic approach to learning has very much been the focus of my first five months in post at The Stained Glass Museum, a museum with a collection that commemorates and celebrates over 800 years of the hands-on art of making stained glass.

A commitment to celebrating ‘making and doing’ is very much at the heart of the experiences I hope to offer our audiences. Workshops for schools have seen the addition of new activities that promote hands-on experience and play; from interactive storytelling to increased opportunities to experiment with traditional techniques, engagement with our collection is now becoming a more active experience for young minds.



We also have a renewed focus on working toward becoming a 'family friendly' museum, and a range of in-gallery resources designed to support our 'hearts, hands and minds' learning ethos are currently in development. These include a set of free-to-use discovery bags generously grant-funded by Cambridgeshire County Council. Particularly aimed at supporting families visiting with younger children, these bags contain activities that encourage playful learning around our displays, and provide a positive solution to their 'hands-off' conservation needs.

Our children's glass fusing workshops continue to be popular, and it is our intention that the 2017 programme should see a greater variety of events for families as a whole, providing opportunities for them to learn and participate in activities together. We also hope to develop a more visible presence within our local community, providing a greater number of advocacy activities at festivals and events within the city.

I very much look forward to sharing progress on these projects with you in forthcoming newsletters.



Louise Haselgrove
Learning Officer

Museum Shop and Workshops

The museum gift shop has enjoyed continued success in 2016, our most successful year to date, despite the tough retail market experienced by many throughout the last year. The museum had a busy few days during the annual Christmas Fair hosted by Ely Cathedral. We had an expanded range of traditionally made, hand blown glass baubles in different colours and shapes for sale, which proved a triumph again. Another retail success has been our range of Stained Glass Museum glass coasters, featuring pieces from our collection, they have struck a balance between beautiful and useful for many of our visitors! Gift vouchers for our one-day workshops proved to be a popular Christmas gift again this year.

We hope to further streamline and revitalise the shop throughout 2017 by introducing some new ranges and expanding upon The Stained Glass Museum branded gifts. We also hope that visitors will purchase copies of our new guide, 'The Stained Glass Museum: Highlights from the Collection' as a lasting souvenir of their visit.

Our workshops programme has also continued successfully, with participants travelling far and wide. Children enjoyed making fused glass Christmas decorations over the school holidays while adults have enjoyed the expanded programme, now including copper foiling and a range of glass fusing options. As we begin the 2017 programme, we continue to explore new themes, including an already fully-booked Charles Rennie Mackintosh themed leading & glazing course, and a fused glass jewellery making session later this spring. As a reminder, Friends of the museum are entitled to a 10% discount on all workshops, so if you want a fun day out to enhance your skills, do book yourself onto one of these popular workshops hosted here at the museum!

Our next workshops are:

[Copper Foiling](#) 25th February

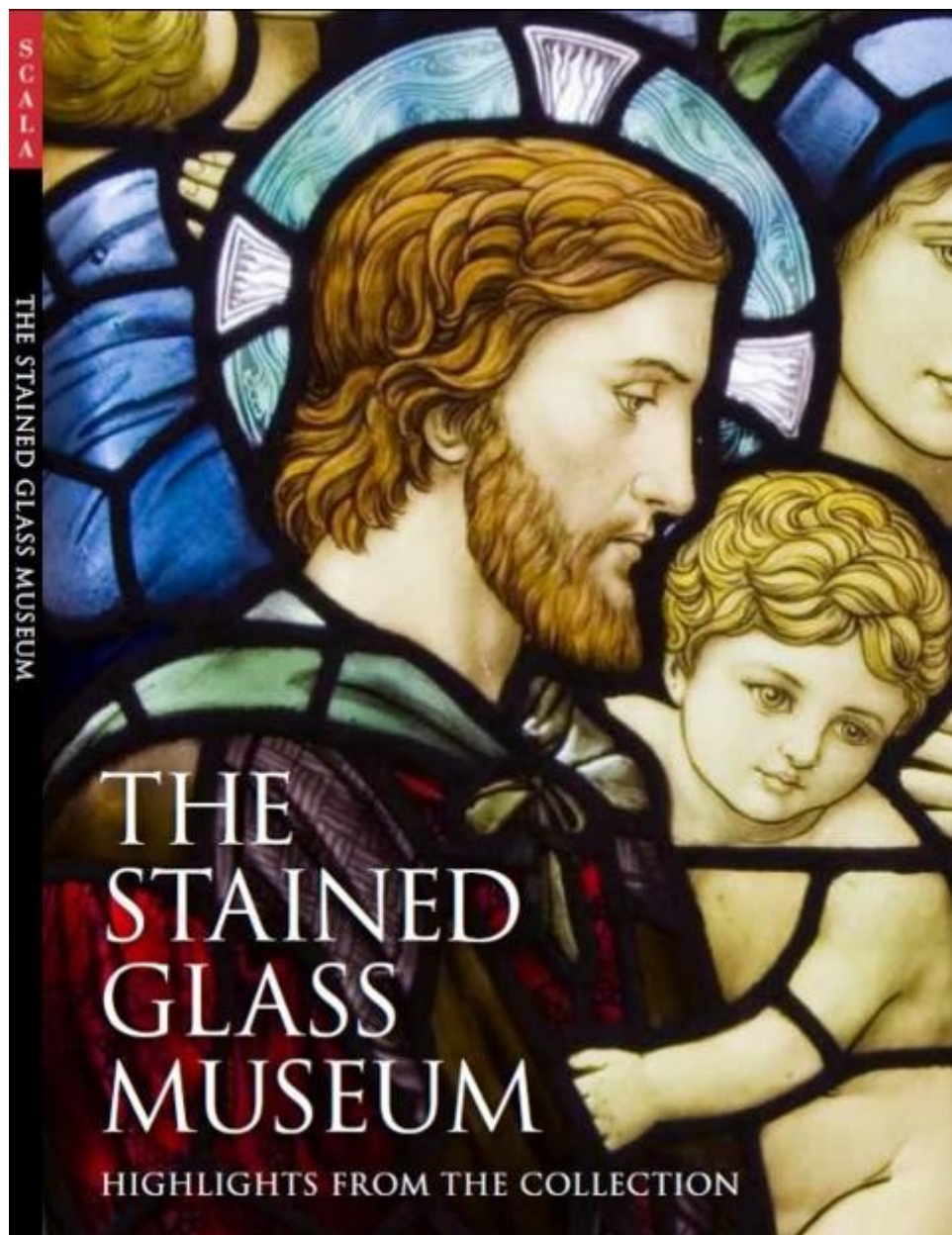
[Half Day Glass Fusing](#) 25th March

[Painting](#) 8th April

[Metal & Glass Fusing](#) 9th April

For more information visit our [Workshops page](#)

Now available to purchase from the Museum shop



The Stained Glass Museum

www.stainedglassmuseum.com



The Stained Glass Museum is an independent museum and registered charity that exists to collect, exhibit, and interpret stained glass for the enjoyment of all.

The Museum does not receive any government or local council funding. We rely on paying visitors, donations, and small grants to exist. By being a member of our Friends organisation you are actively supporting the Museum's development - thank you!

We are very grateful to all those who have supported the Museum with grants or donations during the last year, especially:

The Art Fund, The Barbara Whatmore Charitable trust, The Glaziers' Trust, The Headley Trust, The Matthew Wrightson Charitable Trust, The J.S.F. Pollitzer Trust, The Wyss Foundation, The Decorative Arts Society, The V&A Purchase Grant Fund, SHARE Museums East, East of England Rural Development Programme, and several individual donors

The Stained Glass Museum, South Triforium, Ely Cathedral, Ely, CB7 4DL
info@stainedglassmuseum.com www.stainedglassmuseum.com 01353 660347

Registered Charity Number: 1169842
Accredited Museum No. 574