

THE GLASS FORGE



SPRING
NEWSLETTER



LOCKDOWN!

I have been busy in my studio working on several new designs and I'm really pleased to announce the following addition to my product range:

- Spring collection of tea lights based on snowdrops and daffodils.
- 'Quirky Tweets' - although this is still very much in its infancy, I have introduced a suncatcher design based on a bird. This range offers something a little bit quirky and is based loosely on a robin.
- Sunflower bowl - for those who love sunflowers this is a beautiful bespoke addition to my bowl range. Check out this new design on my website.
- 'Wishing Sticks' - please see featured article below.
- Trinket Dish - a new range of small dishes will be appearing soon. The Blossom Tree and Mosaic Dish are the first of my new ideas to come out of the kiln.
- Fused Glass Card Range - for milestone birthdays. If you are looking for a bespoke keepsake birthday card, then check out this range.
- 'Wonky House' Tea Light - a tea light with a fun design element.
- Make at home kit - fused glass craft kits which you can do at home.

Spring is My Favourite Time of the Year

Welcome to the spring edition of the Glass Forge newsletter. So much has happened since I last put pen to paper and wrote my Winter addition.

Spring is my favourite time of the year, not only because of the beautiful spring flowers, but their suggestion of hope and new beginnings. This could not be more appropriate given that we have all been in lockdown for such a long period. It is just wonderful to see that the Covid numbers are coming down and restrictions are being eased at last. It is also wonderful to see life in our local area resume, particularly in our local towns. Our support for local businesses is ever more important in these difficult times.

Well, I have so much to tell you.... I did my first virtual Christmas Event which went extremely well and was a great success. Thank you, Dales Christmas Market, for organising such a great event.



“when all at once I
saw a crowd, a host, of
golden daffodils:
Besides the lake,
beneath the trees,
fluttering and dancing
in the breeze”

William Wordsworth



WISHING STICKS

The wishing stick concept is based on a story from 1926, which relates to a small boy who found a coloured piece of glass on the floor of his father's mill. With curiosity, he held it up to the light and the sun shone through creating wonderful displays of coloured rays all around him. So magical was this that he made a wish upon the piece of glass which to his amazement came true! Though this story may or may not be true, I thought it was a lovely story to share (though I don't know what he wished for!).

You could instantly add a little colour to your window (and perhaps make a wish too!). This little suncatcher is made from transparent coloured glass which is fused together with embellishments to add additional interest and depth to this cheerful piece.

This suncatcher comes with a hanging ribbon and is presented in a lovely gift box that would make an ideal gift to brighten someone's day.





STRICKIES CREATIVE HUB - NEW LITTLE SHOP

I have also been busy behind the scenes making items for my new little shop. This is a great adventure for me and the next step in the development of my business. Who knows what the future will bring! My little unit is upstairs in Strickland & Holt. The Creative Hub and is a space for Designer/Makers, Antique Dealers, Retailers and more.

For those customers who are not familiar with this store, Strickland & Holt is an independent, family run store. Fondly known as 'Strickies' by most people in the local area, it has been part of Yarm for over a century.

This space has given me a wonderful opportunity to physically showcase my products rather than on a virtual basis via my website. It would be great for customers both old and new to call in and see me. Although I have only been there for a few weeks, it is already proving to be successful, so thank you for all those who have purchased items and supported me. It is much appreciated.

"The things we love tell
us what we are".

Thomas Aquinas.



SNOWDROPS TEA LIGHT

As it is spring, I thought I would include photos of my spring flower range of snowdrops and daffodils. This idea came on the back of a customer's commission who asked for a piece of glass with a snowdrop design. This is lovely addition to my tea light range and is proving very popular.

A LITTLE BIT ABOUT ME

As I am acquiring more subscribers to my newsletter, I thought it might be nice to give a little introduction about me and how The Glass Forge came about. For those who don't know me, I started this journey in May 2019, following a long career working in finance. I embarked on this wonderful creative journey as a hobby and to learn a new interest, following finishing work, but my interest developed much further and fused glass soon became a passion of mine and The Glass Forge was born.

I have always admired the art of stained and fused glass and loved to buy creative pieces of glass for my home, although at that time I did not realise the pieces I bought were in fact fused glass. Glass fascinates me and I love the colours and textures that can be created, as well as the way that light transmits through it. It is truly beautiful.

My introduction into glass fusing happened quite by chance whilst on a mini break in Ripley, Surrey, where I came across a beautiful glass gallery which offered beginners workshops in glass fusing. I signed up for a day's course and from that moment I was hooked! You could say that I didn't set out to choose glass, but that glass found me.

I couldn't have done this journey without the support of my husband, family, friends, neighbours and customers. Also, I must mention the shops who have supported me and have displayed my art. A big thank you and also a big thank you for all the repeat business... I must be doing something right!



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