

David Willars: Manchester's Decorative Glass Industry Reappraised Tuesday, 17th April 2018



Manchester led the world into the industrial revolution of the late eighteenth and nineteenth centuries. Although 'King Cotton' was at the heart of the developing metropolis, other manufacturing industries developed and grew to fill the demands of a rapidly rising population. The decorative glass industry of Manchester grew from the 1820's when a group of Warrington glassmakers moved twenty miles east and built a high class business using traditional techniques before branching out into new methods, colours and finishes. By the end of the century the glass trade was in rapid decline and any lead held by Manchester was ceded to the larger north-east companies and cheaper imports. Against this background it is now time to step back and reappraise the contribution made by the Manchester companies to the Victorian decorative glass industry.

David, who was recently appointed Chairman of the Glass Association, has made a study of the glass industry in the north west since retiring five years ago.

Meeting Place: The Art Workers' Guild, 6 Queen Square, London WC1N 3AT (Ground Floor

Lecture Hall) (Gradidge Room, first floor - please give notice if you need help with

mobility)

Co-Hosts:

Time: The lecture will start promptly at 19.15. Coffee and light refreshments are provided from

18.30. The meeting will finish by 21.00

NB There is a charge of £10 each per meeting.

Queen Square lies between Southampton Row and Gt. Ormond St. It can be reached by Underground using either Russell Sq. (Piccadilly) or Holborn (Piccadilly and Central). Buses 68, 91, 168 and 188 run along Southampton Row and 19, 38, 55 and 505 along Theobald's Rd. Access by car is one-way only: take the first turning to the left off Theobald's Rd (after the junction with Southampton Row) into Old Gloucester St which continues into Queen Sq. The Artworkers' Guild is half way along on the left. The congestion charge finishes at 6.00. Cars may readily be parked in the square after 6.30 free of charge.

Contact 'phone/email for queries/emergencies.....