Only a few more weeks to vote and every vote counts!

**Voting closes 31st July!**

We’ll be announcing the winners of our 2009 Selected Awards in August here on our website and also in our next e-Newsletter which you’ll be able to download in August.

Don’t miss our special Awards issue of craft&design magazine, January/February 2010, on sale 3 December 2009. We’ll be featuring the work of all the winning designer makers with the overall winner taking pride of place on the front cover!

[www.craftanddesign.net/awards](http://www.craftanddesign.net/awards)

---

“I’d estimate that about 60% of creative businesses are stable, about 10% are experiencing a downturn, and the remaining 30% are actually doing better than ever,” Pete Mosley, Business Editor, craft&design Magazine, July/August 2009 issue number 204

“...bit by bit, the good times are returning to the craft shows,”
Ed Burke, E&M Glass, glass artist and craft&design magazine Diary Writer

---

**Craft is Coming into its Own!**

The feedback we’re getting at craft&design is that at long last top quality craftsmanship is coming into its own! British designer makers of fine furniture, glassware, jewellery, gold and silversmithing... many have reported excellent sales in the first half of this year.

Maybe the economic problems are actually working in their favour for a change, as those with money to invest look towards buying into the heritage of British craftsmanship and give the cold shoulder to the banks and building societies.

And television has ‘discovered’ craft now, too! It was especially good to see some of our professional makers featured on TV recently in ‘Kirstie’s Homemade Home’ on Channel 4 - ‘proper’ crafts on ‘proper’ TV at long last! You can read about one of them, stained glass artist Amanda Winfield, in the July/August issue of craft&design magazine.

Not only did Kirstie Allsopp show just how skilled these craftspeople are, she also encouraged viewers to go out and buy from British designer makers and maybe try their hand at making something themselves, too.

The excellent news is that we’ve just heard from a different TV production company about an opportunity for people to get involved with a new TV series that’s scheduled to start filming soon - you can read more about that further on in this e-Newsletter!
Art in Action

Be sure not to miss Art in Action this year, one of the most exciting art and craft events of the year with so much to see and do, you’ll want to stay forever!

Visitors will be spoilt for choice with a varied selection of practical classes, lectures, fine wine, artisan food, live music and performing arts - there really will be something for everyone.

And be sure to visit the craft&design Magazine stand and meet the team in the Craft Market Marquee in the West Field - we’ll all be there at some time during the show:

Angie Boyer, Editor
Paul Boyer, Publishing Director
Rachael Chambers, Contemporary Craft Editor
Michael Ball, Website Manager
Pete Mosley, Business Editor

Plus Heather Fox, Silver Kitsune Jewellery, our invited demonstrating artist on the craft&design stand this year.

There’ll be some superb designer makers tempting you with their work in the Craft Market marquee and when you venture out into the rest of the show, head for the Metalwork and Jewellery Marquee to see Daniela Dobesova and Rebecca Joselyn, our Winners at BCTF in 2006 and 2007, we think you’ll agree that they’ve both come along rather nicely with their work since then!

Art in Action is at Waterperry near Oxford from 16 until 19 July.

Art in Action 2009 Ticket Offer

Weekend Special Offer for readers of craft&design

£10 off 2 standard Adult Tickets plus 2 children free* for Saturday or Sunday, 18-19 July. That is £20 for 2 adults and 2 children. This offer applies only to tickets purchased online before 10 July 2009 using the promotional code: CRADES

Please note: When you have booked you will receive an email confirmation; THIS IS YOUR TICKET. You must bring it with you to the event to gain entry.

* Age 17 or below

To apply go to www.artinaction.org.uk

Development and Marketing through a group or association

by Karen Faulkener-Dunkley www.kfdjewellery.com

In the current financial climate it is more important than ever that we are proactive in developing our creative talent, honing our practical skills, marketing our products and clinching that all important sale. Joining a group of like-minded people can be a vital part of developing and promoting talent in a given area.

As a jeweller living a rural Cambridgeshire, I find conversing and sharing ideas with other creative people both inspiring and rejuvenating. When I heard about the ACJ I knew that it was an organisation that I would find enormously beneficial.

This is the story so far...

The Association for Contemporary Jewellery (ACJ) was founded as a membership association in 1997 to promote, represent, understand and develop contemporary jewellery in the United Kingdom and abroad. The ACJ organises conferences, lectures, seminars and workshops for its members, as well as publishing a quarterly newsletter featuring news, reviews and information. The ACJ is open to everyone who has an interest in contemporary jewellery. The organisation includes both professional and enthusiastic hobbyist jewellers, lecturers and students as well as gallery and shop owners. In fact anyone with a passion for jewellery can become a member.

The ACJ-Cambridge is a regional branch of the ACJ, formed in 2008 to develop a network of jewellers in our local area. We meet once a month to discuss current issues, share knowledge, stimulate ideas and plan exhibitions to promote contemporary jewellery in the eastern region and beyond. A year from the group’s initial formation, we have grown from a handful of members to our current sixteen strong team.

We are a very eclectic mix of individuals with vast ranges in background, training, age and design styles. Some of our members are full time jewellers, who sell direct to the public at design shows and through galleries. A number of our full
Do You Love Traditional or Contemporary Crafts?

Ever Dream of Creating a Masterpiece With Your Own Hands?

Are You Excited About Working With Wood, Metal, Stone, Thatch, Textiles or Glass?

If you want to learn a brand new skill that could change your life forever then TV production company Ricochet would love to talk to you.

They’re making an exciting new series for a terrestrial UK channel and are looking for people to take part in an immersive and intensive course under the mentorship of some of the UK’s top Craftsmen and women.

If you are interested in finding out how you could craft your own masterpiece and learn a great new skill then please contact: mastercrafts@ricochet.co.uk or call Tony Dillamore on 01273 224 800

time jewellers are also lecturers in the subject and teach in a variety of schools and colleges around the county. Several of our members are part-time jewellers, juggling their creative talents with other unrelated jobs and/or young families. Our backgrounds are all very different, whilst some have had formal training up to degree and post graduate level, others are either self taught, or have only attended a few short courses. The materials we use to create our jewellery vary greatly within the group. Precious metals and stones, semi-precious stones, textiles, glass and recycled material are all used to create unique and fabulous work.

We see our group as a real support network, working together to run exhibitions, functions, workshops and talks; supporting newer members who are maybe lacking in confidence and invigorating the more experienced jewellers to encourage fresh work. At Cambridge we are an increasingly active group. We have a varied skills base, a vast amount of experience, good contacts and more ideas than we have yet had time to put into action.

As a fairly new group we have spent a great deal of time this year planning events and exhibitions. In May we had a business presentation from Bruce Faulkner-Dunkley, Managing Director at Swedish Orphan International, UK, entitled People with Passion & Pride in Performance. Although Bruce works for a pharmaceutical company, the sales and marketing principles he applies are valid for all businesses, especially to the sole trader designer/maker. We all came away from the presentation with something to think about and to apply to our individual businesses.

On 16th July this year, the wholesaler, Di-Perle, is visiting us from Germany. An excellent range of natural and dyed freshwater pearls with prices to fit all pockets will be available for sale. Admission is free and all are welcome, please see our website for venue and times.

Later in the year on 8th October we will be visited by Marcus MacCallum. Established in Hatton Garden in 1984, Marcus McCallum specialises in supplying rare and one-off stones to the trade. They have an extensive and constantly changing stock of good-quality freshwater pearls and semi-precious stone beads. All of their stock is personally selected from specialist suppliers and cutters around the world. Again everyone is welcome and admission is free, see website.

We are launching a new exhibition, The Jewellery Roadshow - ACJ Cambridge, in August this year. The idea is to create a travelling exhibition which will be continually travelling from gallery to gallery. Much of the work in this exhibition will be unique and different from work exhibited elsewhere. The Jewellery Roadshow will be launched on 29th August, with Alison Bartram of the Heart Gallery in
New Gallery Opens in Buxton

For 12 years the members of High Peak Artists’ & Craft Workers’ Association exhibited together in the crumbling old Pump Room building on The Crescent in Buxton. But that has all now changed with the group’s move to a purpose designed exhibition space within the Pavilion Gardens complex in the heart of Buxton – ‘Gallery in the Gardens’. Part of the Phase II refurbishment of the Gardens complex, the space incorporates the new gallery, a full service Tourist Information Centre and a retail boutique and sits alongside a smart new restaurant and art café.

Recently, members of The High Peak Artists’ & Craft Workers’ Association have been challenged to step outside their comfort zone and produce a piece of work in their own medium, but with a botanical theme, for an exhibition entitled ‘Entente Art Florale’. The work created will be showing in the Art Café at the Pavilion Gardens, Buxton from the 7th to 31st July.

‘Gallery in the Gardens’ is open every day except Christmas Day from 9.30am – 5.00pm. Admission is free. T: 07849 673058

Contact details for ACJ Cambridge:
www.acjcambridge.co.uk
E-mail: info@acjcambridge.co.uk

There is a Directory of UK Craft Guilds and Associations online and also in the July/August issue 204 of craft&design magazine

ACJ-Cambridge Event list:

- July 16th 2009 Di-Perle visit 5.30p.m – 8.30p.m at Cambridge Regional College
- October 8th 2009 Marcus MacCallum visit (times and venue to be confirmed)
- 29th August – 28th September 2009 The Jewellery Roadshow – ACJ Cambridge launch, Heart Gallery, Hebden Bridge
- 10th October 2009 to January 2010 The Jewellery Roadshow – ACJ Cambridge, Primavera in Cambridge

With Alison’s enthusiasm, dynamic drive and wide ranging marketing skills and our creativity, the exhibition is guaranteed to get off to a flying start. We then bring the Roadshow home to Cambridge, where we are exhibiting at the well established and renowned Primavera Gallery www.primaverauk.com where the owner, Jeremy Waller, is enthusiastically supporting our group. The exhibition runs from 10th October until January 2010. Visits from other suppliers, workshops, talks, presentations and exhibitions are all in the pipe line. Watch this space.

As with all self run groups you get out of it what you put into it. I have spoken to several members of different branches of the ACJ. Some groups seem very active; they run workshops, take part in exhibitions and have regular meetings, but other groups seem less proactive and are happy to sit back and wait for the quarterly newsletters. There is no right or wrong here, but if you want to achieve specific objectives within your group it is up to you to promote your goals and get the ball rolling. Generally I feel that being a member of a group of like minded, goal oriented people is both rewarding and beneficial, both personally and for my business. We are working together to inform, educate, support and promote jewellers both locally and nationally, whilst raising the profile of contemporary design.

The ACJ is a national organisation, with branches spread across the country. If you wish to become a member look at the website for details www.acj.org.uk.

If there is not a local branch near to where you live, why not contact the central organisation for details of how to start your own group and be pro-active in your area!
Bedfordshire's Premier Craft Experience

**WREST PARK CRAFT & DESIGN FESTIVAL**

29th, 30th & 31st August

Traditional classic skills & contemporary design led crafts in a stunning setting

There cannot be any more idyllic place to spend a summer's day than the gardens of Wrest Park House at Silsoe in Bedfordshire. Over the August Bank Holiday weekend these gardens become the venue for one the country's best Craft & Design shows and yet the tranquil and serene setting is not spoilt – rather the ambience is enhanced. The House and Gardens are the responsibility of English Heritage and it is certainly one of their most beautiful properties. The mansion state rooms have recently undergone a major refurbishment and the gardens too are magnificent with acres to explore.

This is the 20th year of the Festival, organised by Romor Exhibitions Ltd of Bedford. The Festival is recognised as one of the few such events in the country, dedicated to promoting our wonderful craft heritage and celebrating the skill of the designer-maker and craft worker. Every craft exhibitor designs and makes every item on display, so visitors are not only able to purchase unique products, but can talk to the person who made it – and even commission special pieces. Nothing here is bought in or 'handcrafted' in factories!

Many of the designer-makers and craft-workers demonstrate their work, giving visitors an insight into the skills required to create such quality items. However, such skilfully created work does not need to be expensive – there is something for everyone and every pocket.

Wrest Park is situated midway between Bedford and Luton, on the A6. MK45 4HR

Adults £6.50, Seniors £5.50, Children £4.50. Under 5's free. 50% reduction for English Heritage members.

And, if you cannot be there in August, Romor Exhibitions are holding two special events within the mansion later in the year – perfect for Christmas shopping.

[www.romorexhibitions.co.uk](http://www.romorexhibitions.co.uk)

---

Sussex Guild ‘Crafts in Action’
6-9 August at Michelham Priory, Upper Dicker, Hailsham BN27 3QS

Meet some 40 members of The Guild and guest exhibitors, many makers will be demonstrating their craft and there will be a storyteller as well as children’s workshops for adults and children alike. A wonderful opportunity to talk to the makers, to see and buy a stunning range of fine crafts.

Sussex Guild Contemporary Craft Fair
29-31 August at Pashley Manor Gardens, Ticehurst, Nr Wadhurst TN5 7HE

A wonderful opportunity to meet Guild members exhibiting and selling their fine contemporary handmade work including ceramics, woodworking, jewellery and so much more.

For details [www.thesussexguild.co.uk](http://www.thesussexguild.co.uk) or [www.pashleymanorgardens.com](http://www.pashleymanorgardens.com)
Studios to Let at Ganol Barns Craft Centre

Ganol Barns Craft Centre is a group of stone built ex-farm buildings which are centred around a pretty, quaint courtyard. It is in an area of outstanding natural beauty surrounded by some of the best coastline and beaches in Britain, which has a thriving tourist trade. The light and sea are very unique and compare favourably with Cornwall, but at a more affordable price. Being on a peninsular the place has the feel of an island with the sea never more than five miles away and surrounded by Snowdonia, it really is a pleasure to go to work, even on a dull day.

The Craft Centre already has a pottery and a stone sculptor on site, as well as a very vibrant and varied gallery and the tearooms are due to open soon. Now Ganol Barns Craft Centre is ready to grow and has recently taken over some more buildings to convert into crafts/artists studios.

Individually designed and approximately 15ft square, the studios will all be lockable and secure, with twenty four hour access and toilet and washing facilities on site. The cost per unit will be £50p/w including rates, with electricity and water rates extra, depending on what people use.

For more details:
Ganol Barns Craft Centre
Sarn Melleytrn, Pwllheli, Gwynedd LL53 6BW
E: thebarngallery@live.co.uk

Exciting News for Guerilla Embroidery!

Guerilla Embroidery is a young creative business, specialising in free machine embroidered textiles. Inspired by the patterns and colours seen in nature, each piece is developed organically and intuitively in fabric and thread. The designer, Sarah Terry, applies her ideas to handmade bags, purses, accessories, and customised clothes with each creation becoming an individual work of art.

Sarah’s exciting news is that one of her projects has been included in a new book, ‘Stitched Jewels’, by Marthe Le Van. The book presents 25 exquisite projects incorporating cloth, textiles and other materials, all created by top designers and all unique, beautiful and fun to make.

‘Stitched Jewels’ is available now in the USA or as a pre-order in the UK through www.amazon.co.uk (UK publication date 7 July 2009). www.guerilla-embroidery.com

Unique embroidered accessories and gifts. Custom work welcome.

Ceramics by Kathy Peak at Ganol Barns Craft Centre

The new issue of craft&design magazine is on sale this week!
The July/August issue 204 is on sale this week with our annual Directory of UK Craft Guilds & Associations. Vital information for all professional and hobby artists and craftspeople who want to meet like-minded people, network with other makers and create opportunities to sell their work.

Order direct from us online or find a stockist near you.

www.craftanddesign.net

The Creative Magazine for Creative People

Art in Action, an event to launch the magazine:
Sculpture, jewellery, batik, woad, bookbinding, wool & perfume...
Crafts & Galleries, touring free to all artists
Pop-Up to survive the recession

www.craftanddesign.net

Ceramics by Kathy Peak at
Ganol Barns Craft Centre