

# WANGANUI GLASS GROUP NEWSLETTER

FEBRUARY 2011

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## Welcome!

Welcome to the first newsletter for 2011. There are a lot of interesting things in the works for 2011, and the new Committee is eager to share those developments with you. Starting with this newsletter, we will be sending one out every other month. The newsletter will be sent to Members of the group as well as to people on our mailing list so it is an opportunity to keep everyone updated on what is happening - classes, openings or exhibitions. Please ensure we have your correct contact details.

## February 23<sup>rd</sup> Get-Together, a “not to be” missed BBQ!!!

We are going to hold a BBQ to give the Committee and Members the opportunity to meet and greet each other and welcome the new students. In addition, it's a chance for the Committee to get feedback from you, the Members, as to what the Wanganui Glass Group does well and/or what improvements you feel could be made.

**Where:** Glass School  
**When:** Wednesday, 23<sup>rd</sup> February  
**Time:** from 5.15 pm.....

### Are you able to attend?

For catering purposes please let Katie Brown know whether you are OR are not able to attend - this will confirm we have the right contact details for you. She may be reached by e-mail on [katie@katiebrownglass.com](mailto:katie@katiebrownglass.com) or by phone 347 1921.

Please mark the BBQ date and come along, and bring any ideas to help make this year's Festival the best ever - we want your input ☺

## Committee

At the Annual General Meeting held last November, a new Committee was elected and their contact details are listed below.

The committee is eager to hear Members' views on ways to improve the Glass Group so if you have any recommendations that you would like considered, please contact a Committee member.

**Lynne Vinson**, Chair. Ph. 027 447 7897  
[lynne@justlooking.co.nz](mailto:lynne@justlooking.co.nz)

**Diana Doyle**, Treasurer. Ph. 06 345 0489  
[doylegd@gmail.com](mailto:doylegd@gmail.com)

**Samantha Jones**, Secretary. Ph. 027 289 6558  
[sam.jones@bluebottle.com](mailto:sam.jones@bluebottle.com)

**Katie Brown**, Ph. 0272 482 9944  
[katie@katiebrownglass.com](mailto:katie@katiebrownglass.com)

**Karen Ellett**, Ph. 06 347 1921  
[ellett3@hotmail.com](mailto:ellett3@hotmail.com)

**David Penn**, Ph. 027 292 0396  
[d.penn@webquest.co.nz](mailto:d.penn@webquest.co.nz)

**David Traub**, Ph. 021 113 7970  
[d.traub@infogen.net.nz](mailto:d.traub@infogen.net.nz)

**Lari Steward**, [lari\\_steward@hotmail.com](mailto:lari_steward@hotmail.com)

**Wilt Hodges**, [wilt.hodges@gmail.com](mailto:wilt.hodges@gmail.com)

**Nigel Jones**, [n.jones@ucol.ac.nz](mailto:n.jones@ucol.ac.nz)

**Lionel Teer**, [l.teer@ucol.ac.nz](mailto:l.teer@ucol.ac.nz)

## Glass Festival 2011

The dates for the 2011 Festival are the **16th - 25th of September 2011**, 9 days to include two weekends. Although the Committee is still finalising all aspects of the Festival, we can confirm that **Australian Glass Blower Nick Mount**, and **British Caster David Reekie**, will be the Visiting Artists for this year's event. They will each be giving a public lecture as well as a hands-on workshop.

Listen up for more on the Festival in the coming weeks.

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### We want to hear from you

The WGG newsletters will come out in February, April, June, August, October and December.

If you have any thing that you want included in the WGG newsletter, please e-mail it to David Traub, [d.traub@infogen.net.nz](mailto:d.traub@infogen.net.nz) by the 1st of that month.

### Subscriptions

Annual subscriptions to the Wanganui Glass Group are due in March. Good news! At the first Committee meeting we decided to lower the rates for all members. The new rates are:

Full members	\$25.00
Students	\$15.00
Friends of the WGG	No Charge

### Obituaries

It is with sadness we have to report the passing of two renowned and wonderful artists in our industry.

**Sarah Courtney-Plant** (12<sup>th</sup> August 1967 to 21<sup>st</sup> January 2011)

On January 21<sup>st</sup> 2011, with grace and beauty, Sarah peacefully passed away. Sarah is most noted for her work with sandblasting, painting and engraving on glass panels, however her art practice covered a wonderfully vast range of materials and media. She had an amazing ability to turn the banal, the everyday, the useless and unwanted into something beautiful and valuable. Her creativity was exhilarating. Sarah didn't try to preach any philosophy, but instead made magic out of the crazy life that surrounded her. "She saw everything as an artwork," said Ben Plant, her husband. "In that sense she was a poet, constantly lyricising the little moments of her life".

The Wanganui Glass Group wish to extend our sincere condolences to Sarah's family.

**Paul O'Halloran**

Sadly, our friend and colleague Paul O'Halloran passed away on Tuesday, 1st February 2011. Married to Rachel Jean, Director and film producer of Isola Productions, Paul was the loved father of two children, Frankie and Violet.

After a life long battle with Cystic Fibrosis, Paul underwent a double lung transplant not so long ago in 2006. He was the longest living survivor in New Zealand of this condition. He survived to tell the tale of hell and back. (<http://www.stuff.co.nz/auckland/local-news/central-leader/513775>)

Some of you will have visited the studio in Helensville, Isola Productions, the hot shop which ran for the last time in January this year. Paul's continuous efforts to encourage glass artist's to share experiences and information, his steadfast willingness to organise international visiting artists such as Dante Marioni, Richard Marquis, Ben Edols, Tom Rowney, & Giles Bettison amongst assisting others more local to the scene by providing them employment and opportunity through hot shop access was and remains to be exemplary.

As with Sarah, the Wanganui Glass Group wish to extend our sincere condolences to Paul's family.