

Glass: past, present and future?

**A talk by Emeritus Professor John Parker
Curator, Turner Museum of Glass, Sheffield University**

Whirlowbrook Hall, S11 9QD, Thursday 2nd May, 7pm buffet, 8pm talk

Our speaker this evening, Professor John Parker, is an alumnus of Christ's College, Cambridge and graduated with first class honours in Natural Sciences in 1967. Following a PhD in the Department of Mineralogy and Petrology, he was appointed to a lectureship in the Department of Glass Technology at Sheffield University. It was the first department of its type in the world founded in 1915 at a time when the quality of glass used in gun sights and binoculars was vital for the war effort. Work imbued John with his love for teaching and a fascination for research in glassy materials both commonplace and arcane; he has published over 200 papers and books. He has held a number prestigious appointments in the field of glass science including President of the Society of Glass Technology, President of the European Society of Glass Science and adviser to the International Commission on Glass. Following his retirement, he was appointed curator of the Turner Museum of Glass in Sheffield which is named after the first Professor of Glass Technology, W.E.S.Turner.

As an introduction to his talk, John will bring to life Professor Turner, a man of outstanding vision who was a major influence in turning glass production from an art into a science. This will lead onto the history of glass-making going back into early history. Then the focus will narrow down to the role played by South Yorkshire and what made Turner specialise on glass in a city built on steel. It will be shown how the past was influenced by the availability of raw materials and energy, uncover the role of technological breakthroughs and examine how glass manufacture has been moulded by societal change and world wars. Some surprising modern applications for glass will be covered and possible future applications imagined. Finally, Turner's legacy will be explored concluding with his vision for the Turner Museum of Glass.

Cost is £18.50 per person (incl. buffet). **Please book by 11 April.**

For queries, please contact Norman West – email: normanwest@blueyonder.co.uk tel: 0114 2960797.

To pay by bank transfer: please email the attendee details, per the slip on the next page, to Norman West at normanwest@blueyonder.co.uk and transfer the correct amount to:

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I/we will be attending the talk and buffet on Thursday 2nd May.

I include a cheque / have paid by bank transfer **(delete as appropriate)**.

Name	College and Matriculation Year (if applicable)