



# WILKINSON

*We're so excited to announce*

## **Glass blowing at Wilkinson's**



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When producing and manufacturing chandeliers at Wilkinsons, we pride ourselves on using the finest and best quality parts and components. That's why we use hand blown lead crystal parts on majority of our chandeliers and fittings.

For many years we have outsourced any items we required hand blowing, and have been using Carl Nordbruch for the past 19 years. Carl has over 30 years experience in the glass industry. He started his career at the Isle of White glass in 1987, whilst there he also became a floor manager at Gozo glass. After this Carl then went on to teach as a technical demonstrator at Wolverhampton

University. Within a couple of years he decided to study for a masters degree at the Royal College of Art London, following on from this he began to blow glass at his own premises and for a short period working with Neil Wilkin before he then opened 'The Glassblowers' on the Isle of White'. Throughout Carl's career he has been involved in many various solo and joint exhibitions and private and national collections including the V&A.

We are very excited to have him and his colleague Peter here with us and to continue to have all of the wonderful hand blown glass they produce for our chandeliers, fittings, reproductions and repairs. Over the past few weeks Carl, Peter and David have been moving the furnaces, ovens and kilns from the Isle of White into our premises to get up and running as soon as possible.

Once fully up and running Wilkinson's are planning on hiring an apprentice who will be able to learn the talents of glass blowing from Carl and carry on Carl's great work for years to come. We're also hoping to introduce visitor days and demonstrations in the near future to those who are as fascinated as we are about the glass blowing process.

This short video is a very interesting insight into how Carl and Peter produce the great pieces of glass they blow.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dURWymklryA://>

Here is an example of what having a new hand blown glass bowl can look like, In this example you can see a bowl that is beyond repair, with large pieces of the glass missing. A new piece is blown matching the sizing and thickness of the original, cut to the right size and attached to the original stem to create a bowl that is indistinguishable from the original.



Keep an eye on our website and social media for updates of when we are fully up and running.

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This month we had this antique mirror with a broken border come to us for restoration. We will remove the broken section from the mirror, hand cut a piece of glass the same shape and size by hand and bevel, antique silver to marry up with the original pieces and fit in place on the mirror. Restoring the mirror back to its former glory.

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## **We are still here....**

However due to the unfortunate situation around the world at the moment, we have decided it best for all of our staff to close our workshops following government advice.

We are still monitoring emails if you have any enquiries. Email - [enquiries@wilkinson-ltd.com](mailto:enquiries@wilkinson-ltd.com)



We wish you all well and please stay safe.

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