

EXTENDED OPENING OF OUR CURRENT EXHIBITION:  
*CRAFTING A PASSION FOR DESIGN: 20TH CENTURY CERAMICS &  
TEXTILES FROM FROM THE COLLECTIONS OF KEN STRADLING AND  
THE TARGET GALLERY*



Thanks to the generosity of the lenders, Ken Stradling and the Target Gallery, and by popular demand our current exhibition will now close on **7 December 2014**. One visitor commented: *'the incorporation of the textiles and ceramics with the Russell furniture made for a good display.'*

Plans are underway for our next show in Spring 2015, entitled *'Teaching the Machine Manners: Gordon Russell and the legacy of the Arts and Crafts Movement.'*

# ANARCHY & BEAUTY: GORDON RUSSELL AT THE NATIONAL PORTRAIT GALLERY

The work of both Gordon and Dick Russell are well represented in the National Portrait Gallery's current exhibition *Anarchy & Beauty: William Morris and his Legacy 1860-1960*. In this exhibition the curator, Fiona MacCarthy, has focussed on those artists, designers, architects and visionaries who were influenced by Morris and his concept of 'art for the people'.

Ranging from the work of his contemporaries through to iconic furniture of the 20th century this exhibition reflects Gordon Russell's argument that 'there is no logical reason why well-designed things should not be available to all of us.' The final flourish to the show is

Terence Conran's 1950s cone chair. <http://www.npg.org.uk/whatson/anarchy-beauty-william-morris-and-his-legacy-1860-1960/>



Fiona MacCarthy has kindly agreed to open the GRDM's Autumn 2015 show on the British modernist designer couple Dick Russell and Marian Pepler.

## GORDON RUSSELL DESIGN NUMBER 830 ON DISPLAY AS PART OF *REAL CRAFT* EXHIBITION AT NEW BREWERY ARTS – 4 OCTOBER TO 16 NOVEMBER 2014



Chris Eckersley, the curator of this exhibiton, is a long time fan of the Gordon Russell, the man he considers took British furniture design and production into the twentieth century. He was delighted that the GRDM agreed to lend this early table by Gordon Russell for his *REAL CRAFT* exhibition.

# TANYA HARROD:THE NEW JERUSALEM

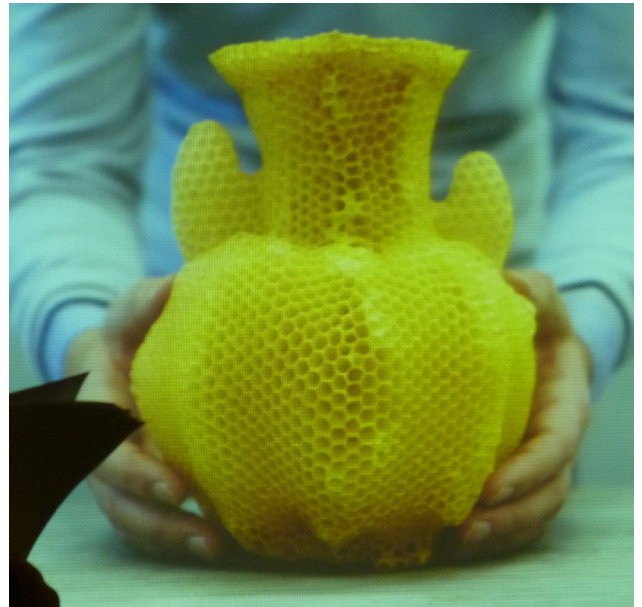
Are Crafts really making a comeback? Tanya Harrod and most of the audience at the Gordon Russell Museum on Monday 27 October thought so.

In a fascinating trawl through some of the best of the 20th century makers and some beautiful objects it was not hard to win the hearts of those already interested in how things were made, the people who made them, the co-ordination of design, material and function.

There seems to me nothing more interesting than how man and woman have taken the basic building materials of wood, clay and then glass, metal and now plastic and other chemically produced elements to make objects that have both function and beauty. I know that those who take the trouble to look at the world, can appreciate the efforts made by craftsmen in shaping the world around us. Broadway is a quintessential arts and crafts town and the Gordon Russell museum a little gem dedicated to one of the best designers and makers of furniture in the 20th century.

The question remains, however, are the younger generations really interested in the how and why or do they only care if it works and “can’t be bothered” to enquire further? The answer is surely that some are but many are not. It was agreed that it’s a failure of the educational system that does not devote enough time to analysing how things are designed and made and actually giving students the opportunity to handle objects. We hope by the efforts of Richard and the team at The Gordon Russell Museum and our own individual efforts we can keep the spirit of Craft alive and inspire new generations.

*Report by Rupert Otten  
Founder and manager Monnow Valley Arts, Walterstone, Herefordshire*



## WINCHCOMBE ARCHIVE COLLECTION BOOK LAUNCH & FOUNDING EXHIBITION



Please see attached flyer for information on this exhibition of studio pottery by Michael Cardew. The GRDM Members Forum have the opportunity to attend a special handling session of Cardew’s pottery guided by the curators, John Edgeler and Helen Brown.

Why not join the Forum? Application forms are available from [grdmuseum@gmail.com](mailto:grdmuseum@gmail.com). Annual subscription £25 for a couple or single person with a friend.

## BLOXHAM SCHOOL'S 6<sup>th</sup> FORM VISIT

An enthusiastic group of sixth formers from Bloxham School, Oxford visited the GRDM this month to discuss Gordon Russell's designs on display.



Please contact the GRDM Education Team at 01386 854695 or email: [info@gordonrussellmuseum.org](mailto:info@gordonrussellmuseum.org) to arrange a visit for your students.

## THE GORDON RUSSELL STORY

Jeremy Broun has recently posted a short video on YouTube of his interview with Ray Leigh for his 'Furniture Today 3' DVD. See <http://youtu.be/zs533BjnKJA>

For information on this and other DVDs see [http://www.jeremybroun.co.uk/handcrafted-furniture/part\\_three.htm](http://www.jeremybroun.co.uk/handcrafted-furniture/part_three.htm)

## GIFT AID DONATIONS

The GRDM was delighted to record that in August the Gift Aid donations were up by 66% thanks to the efforts of the stewards. Keep up the good work.