

## John Carmichael

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**From:** "Alan Shuttleworth" <[ashuttleworth@yahoo.com](mailto:ashuttleworth@yahoo.com)>  
**To:** <[jlcar michael@comcast.net](mailto:jlcar michael@comcast.net)>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 11, 2006 2:27 PM  
**Subject:** Re Glass Sundial

Dear John,

Thank you for your interest in the sundial I exhibited at the recent meeting of the British Sundial Society. I made the dial last spring while I was attending a course at the International Glass Centre in the West Midlands. During the course we learned a variety of techniques from cold working through to kiln formed and blown glass. The sundial was the final piece I produced for the leaded glass unit and is indeed based largely on your own design for the Oxford dial.

I had been thinking along the lines of glass or reflecting sundials for a while and researched a number of designs which resulted in the dial you have seen. There are a few points with my design that you might find of interest:

I toyed with a number of shapes for the dial and settled on the progression from the inner circle through an ellipse to the rectangular frame. Being new to designing sundials I had looked at an analemmatic dial, the ellipse in this window dial being that which would be used at the same latitude as the window dial itself.

Each segment of the dial is divided into the quarter hours by the use of sand blasted strips on alternate faces of the glass. This allows the shadow off the gnomon to show up on the glass and gives the impression of many smaller segments of glass.

When I constructed the dial I took a number of photos which give an indication of the steps I took. I have put these on the internet for you so that you can see the process I followed.

<http://myweb.tiscali.co.uk/shuttleweb/sundial/sundial.htm>

They are not in any particular order but I am sure you can see how I went about the process. Having the ellipse in the design made the construction particularly frustrating as all the pieces tended to twist and move as I tacked them into place.

The dial was designed to go in a South facing window where I live in Sidmouth, Devon, England (50 68 N 3 23 W). I now don't think that I will mount it in the window and will instead display it on the wall.

The size is roughly 17" by 21" for the leaded panel itself and the metal central circle and gnomon are made of brass. There are no adornments or mottos at the moment and the hours are marked with Roman numerals in brass.

Well I think that is about all I can think of at the moment. If you are interested I have also put a few photos on the web of some of the other glass working I did during my course.

<http://myweb.tiscali.co.uk/shuttleweb/glass/glass.htm>

Thank you for your excellent web site on glass sundials and the inspiration that lead to me construct my dial. If you have any questions that I might be able to answer please feel free to email me. I am actually leaving the UK on Sunday to join a conservation project in Mexico so may be a while in responding to emails but will reply when I am able to access the internet again.

Best regards.

Alan Shuttleworth

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